

Onward, Christian Soldiers



PRAYER JOURNAL

By Military Christian Fellowship Singapore

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Printed in Singapore.

Military Christian Fellowship Singapore
ONWARD, CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS
PRAYER JOURNAL

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FOREWORD

How to be a Good Christian Soldier

“Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.”

2 Timothy 2:3



If you read the epistle of Paul, you will be impressed by his many references to soldiers, and their disciplined life. The apostle had an intimate knowledge of Roman soldiers as he was guarded by them around the clock during his two imprisonments. He looked at the soldier's armour and he wrote the well-loved passage on the Christian armour (Ephesians 6:11-17). In his pastoral letter to Timothy, he recommended the disciplined life of a soldier A Christian minister must “endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.”

FOREWORD

There continues to be a lingering feeling that it is difficult to be a good soldier as well as a good Christian. Look at it another way. If you try to be a good Christian, you will fail to be a good soldier. There appears to be a conflict in the two areas of the life of a Christian soldier. The worldly thinking is that you have to appear soft in public to be godly. To rise up the ladder in the military profession is “unchristian”. Yet the apostle Paul instructed the young pastor that if he, Timothy, aspired to be a good pastor, then he had to have the qualities of a good soldier. (2 Tim 2:3-4).

A good soldier, firstly, is trained to endure hardship. He is physically tough. He is no sissy. He does not cringe in the face of problems but faces them squarely. He is prepared for hard work and if necessary, to make sacrifices. Therefore when facing his enemies, a good soldier stands his ground, confident and prepared.

Secondly, a good soldier is mentally prepared for war. He is single-minded. He is not distracted by side issues. He has his direction and sets his sight on specific goals. He is not entangled by civilian affairs. The Christian life is a warfare. We fight not against flesh and blood. Our adversary is the ruler of darkness. We fight against spiritual wickedness. A good Christian soldier fights to win, to overcome sin and vanquish Satan by the power of the risen Christ.

Lastly, a good soldier is loyal to his commander. He is totally committed to his cause. He will do everything to please him. After all, the commanders chose him to be his trusted soldier. The Christian's commander is Jesus Christ. We call upon Him as Lord and Saviour. There is a strong parallel between a good Christian and a good soldier. They have similar qualities of endurance, single-mindedness and loyalty. Hence Paul says, “Be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.” (2 Tim 2:1).

By the late

LTC (Ret) Reverend Dr Patrick Tan

Founder, Military Christian Fellowship Singapore

Reproduced from Onward Soldiers (1st Quarter 1994)

ABOUT MILITARY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP (MCF)



The ministry of MCF Singapore was inaugurated in 1970 with the aim of providing Christian witness to service personnel in the SAF. Over time, the ministry of MCF was extended to detainees in the SAF Detention Barracks, MINDEF Civilian staff, and families of MCF volunteers and their friends. MCF's Ministry primarily revolves around fellowship with Christian service personnel, emphasising spiritual growth through prayer, discipleship and worship. All leaders of MCF are expected to be service-oriented just as Christ was when He was on earth. This is inspired by God's Word as contained in Matthew 20:27 (KJV):

“Whosoever will be Chief among you, let him be your servant.”

Hospitality is another aspect of MCF's ministry in which we place great importance. We receive foreign visitors, both civilians and military personnel who stop by Singapore. These are golden opportunities for us to extend hospitality and show God's love to fellow overseas brethren-in-Christ.

Connect with us to find out how you can volunteer/serve with us at singmcf@gmail.com.

ABOUT MILITARY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP (MCF)



Visit by the Korean Navy in 2016 with MCF Founder Rev (Dr) Patrick Tan giving the MCF Commemorative Plaque to the Chaplain of the ship

Pastor Henson Lim, Guest Speaker at MCF Annual Thanksgiving and Prayer Dinner 2016



Pastor Darren Tan, Guest Speaker at MCF Prayer for Nation and SAF 2016

**Pastor Ian Toh, 316 Church,
Guest Speaker at MCF
Annual Thanksgiving and
Prayer Dinner 2017**



**Bishop Kuan Kim Seng
giving the Benediction at
MCF Annual Thanksgiving
and Prayer Dinner 2017**



**MCF Sharing during
Chapel Session in
ACJC, 2017**

INTRODUCTION



I received Christ in 2000 during my National Service, and fell in love with God's Word after a Christian Officer came to lead Bible Study in my camp every Wednesday night. Since then, I have discovered that our spiritual battles against sin and temptation can be won through 1) praying God's Word, 2) steadfastness in depending on God's power to overcome, and 3) staying connected in a community of like-minded Christian believers for accountability and encouragement. Paul tells Timothy to "fight the battle well, holding on to faith and a good conscience." (1 Timothy 1:18-19).

This book contains prayers that you can use weekly or every day, with Prayer Milestone pages to help you chronicle and remember the significant turning points in your prayer journey. There are also additional resources in the Annexes of this book: 1) to spur you on towards approaching God as your PAPA, 2) 'Emergency Prayers' to stay on course, 3) scriptural support for Christian Soldiering that has been extracted from '100 days', a classic devotional book for the military used by the US and UK military ever since 1924,

INTRODUCTION

4) to encourage you on to find a place for your regular prayer moments with God and 5) a highly recommended one-year bible reading plan to dig deeper in God's Word as a spiritual discipline. It is our prayer that as you journey through this book, you will grow in faith and be better equipped to take your place in the fight.

As you begin this prayer journal, we want to pray with you as follows:

“Almighty God, how grateful we are that You're patient with us—willing to teach us, to speak with us, and have us speak with You. You're so willing to meet each and every need we have. We pray Your Word in 2 Timothy 4:7, for us to also be able to having done all, be able to declare with Apostle Paul, that we have fought the good fight, finished the race and kept the faith. Raise us up as strong Christian Soldiers, obedient Servants of God. You love us unconditionally and want the best for us. We pray You make us sensitive to what You are saying. Correct in our hearts anything that would cause us to be disobedient in any way. Help us be willing to do whatever You have commanded us to do. Show us Your Will that we can walk in it. It is not about us, but about You in us. That whatever we can accomplish, it is not merely by our education, our intelligence or our gifts, but we want to accomplish by praying effectively in faith on our knees in devotion to You no matter what.

For those who have never trusted You as their Saviour, help them to understand that the first prayer You listen to from them is a prayer of confession, repentance, and surrender of their life to You as their Lord and Saviour. We pray the Spirit of God will seal precious truths in the heart of every person who reads this journal today, tomorrow, and for years to come. May this book ignite fellow Christian soldiers to develop a close and courageous walk with You, and listen to You speak in prayer. To You be the glory, honour, power and praise.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.”

Onward, Christian Soldiers!

Journeying with you,

CPT(NS) David Jeremiah Mok

Military Christian Fellowship Singapore

A Christian Ministry to the Lord's people with a military background

PRAYING FORWARD

18 | **Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.**

19 | **Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.**

20 | **For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.** - Matthew 18:18-20 (ESV)

Jesus said that there is power in prayer agreement (v19). To be able to “agree” is to be able to respond with “Amen” when another prays (which means, and “so shall it be” - a statement of agreement). When tasked to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land, Moses prayed, “If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here” (Exodus 33:15). God’s presence is a mark of His favour, blessing and authority.

Each day’s devotional contains a short inspirational reading, followed by a prayer.

We are praying for you as you begin this journey of praying for yourself consistently and effectively as a Christian Soldier. You are also encouraged to find another Christian Soldier to go through this prayer journey with you. When you have a partner to encourage you, it really makes a difference. It can make a difference in your life and theirs.

May God do incredible things in your life as you begin this prayer journey!

GOD IS WORKING IN YOU

Today's Verse:

For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

- Philippians 2:13 (NLT)

In the life of every Christian, God is at work. He is working to mould us into His image and to give us the power to walk in obedience to Him. Too often we think it is about discipline, effort, and doing our best. There are times when we feel like nothing is happening spiritually. We feel like we will never gain that maturity in Christ that we desire. Sometimes it feels like we have done all we can do. The wonderful news is that God is at work in us.

Every good and godly desire we have comes from God. He is the source of all our power, strength, and desire. He is working in us to bring about what pleases Him.

God began the work by drawing you to Himself. Then when you gave your heart to Christ, He placed His Holy Spirit within you. Now, day-by-day, He is working within you to give you the desire to follow Him. He also gives you the power to live an obedient life.

As you pray today, remember that God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to live a life that pleases God.

Praying the Word:

Father, today I pray we will remember You are working in us. I pray that we are encouraged knowing You are not only giving us the desire to serve You, but the ability and power to do so. Thank You that You are working in us to make us into the people of God You want us to be.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

WHERE IS YOUR “TREASURE”

Today's Verse:

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

- Matthew 6:21

If something is of genuine value to you, there's no disguising it. The worth you place on the various things in your life is evident by your priorities. That which means the most to you will get the lion's share of your time and attention. That which you treasure, you treat like a treasure. When your idea of a treasure aligns with God's idea, life-changing things happen. And the Bible certainly is his idea of a treasure.

Consider these characteristics of treasure –

1. Treasure requires some digging. Not all of Scripture's riches are obvious. Some are buried below the surface and can be discovered only through careful study and research. Get started with the Bible Reading Plan located in Annex E of this journal, and start digging into God's Word to build your personal Word life. If the lifting gets too heavy for you, ask a trusted Christian friend or church leader to help you.
2. Treasure has lasting value. Conventional treasure is valuable only as currency—or perhaps for display purposes. Once it's been spent or enjoyed, it loses its lustre. The wealth of Scripture, by contrast, lasts a lifetime—with no depreciation at all. In the Bible's pages you'll find everything you need to know about
 - Building a personal relationship with the Creator and Sustainer of the universe
 - Making wise decisions in every area of your life
 - Using your God-given gifts and abilities to their fullest extent
 - Repairing broken relationships

The bounty of God's Word will be as valuable to you when you're 100 as it was when you were 10!

With great treasure comes great privileges to help another. Do you know someone facing difficulties? Another going through a relationship crisis? Someone facing indecision with a major life decision? Maybe a friend or colleague is struggling with feelings of guilt, shame or worthlessness. You have a wealth of encouragement, inspiration and guidance in your possession. Find ways to share the treasure you have with others in your life.

WHERE IS YOUR “TREASURE”

Praying the Word:

Father, we want to place significance in what Your Word declares as treasures of great worth, that which holds eternal value. When persuasive advertisements of the world tell us that we will find greater happiness through purchasing more treasures on earth, we need the Spirit's prompting. Remind us that material accumulations last only for a season, but spiritual gifts endure forever. We want to store up treasure in Heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy and thieves do not break in and steal. Help us to find contentment in You because You are of great worth. The treasure of a vibrant relationship with You brings much greater joy and fulfillment than any of the temporary treasures of this world. So we ask You to help me to find proper placement with the material goods needed for our earthly journey and the treasures we should seek that have eternal significance.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.



AVODAH

Today's Verse:

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters

- Col 3:23

So often we think of worship as something we do on Sunday, and work as something we do on Monday. This dichotomy is neither what God has designed nor what He desires for our lives. We can view work as an extension of ministry. They're not competing for time, but complementing. The key is not to make a distinction between work and ministry because of the understanding of this one word, "Avodah". "Avodah" is a Hebrew word used in the Bible whose root has three distinct yet intertwined meanings – worship, work and service. For example, in Exodus 8:1, "This is what the Lord says, 'Let my people go, so that they may worship (avodah) Me'." In Exodus 34:21, "Six days you shall work (avodah), but on the seventh day you shall rest..." In Joshua 24:15, "But as for me and my household, we will serve (avodah) the Lord." What Joshua meant was that he and his household pledged loyalty to the Lord by worshipping Him through work and service. It's a powerful image to think that the word for "working in the fields" is the same word used for worshipping God. This tells us that God's original design and desire is that our work and our worship would be a seamless way of living. In other words, your work is your worship. Your work outside of church is as spiritual unto God as your worship in church. Your work is as spiritual as preparing for a Bible study. When you realise that whatever you do is a worship unto God, everything changes. You'll want to give God nothing but your best, both in the big and small tasks.

One of the areas you become more aware of is the area of "excellence". The story of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba in 1 Kings 4 tells us that the Queen of Sheba "saw" all the wisdom of Solomon. Wisdom is invisible. So how can you see wisdom? Unless it's manifested through excellence. The queen wasn't just impressed with the exterior of the buildings and the obvious. She was in awe of the details of the interior, the food and how King Solomon's staff organised and conducted themselves. It's hard to impress a queen. And for her to even notice the staircase in Solomon's house, that must be some impressive staircase!

Excellence is prophetic and powerful because it reveals and declares the nature of God. All the buildings, constructions, infrastructure, food, servants, their clothing, furniture, and even the staircase cried out and declared His nature. So much so that after the queen had seen all these, we're told "there was no more spirit in her", or one translation describes as "she nearly fainted". The queen went on to commend King Solomon and acknowledged God in verses 8-9, "Happy are your men and happy are these your servants..." and "Blessed be the Lord your God, who delighted in you..." This is the effect you create in people

AVODAH

when you conduct yourself with excellence. The people around you and under your care are happy and God is glorified.

Being excellent is another way of preaching the Gospel. The reality is that sometimes people SEE what we do before they will HEAR what we have to say! Excellence is not perfectionism. Excellence is doing the best you can with what you have at every moment. Jim Elliot once said, “Wherever you are – be all there.” Make it your ambition to live out your gifts and talents to the fullest. Andrew Carnegie said, “An average person puts only 25% of their energy and ability into their work. The world takes its hat off to those who put more than 50% capacity in, and stands on its head to those few and far between souls who devote 100%.” In other words, there are no menial jobs, only menial attitudes.

Praying the Word:

Almighty God, may You become central to every sphere of our lives; help us become more aware of You wherever we go and in whatever we do. Empower us to be a people whose worship, work and service cause people to glorify our Heavenly Father. It is You whom we serve.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

PERFECT PEACE

Today's Verse:

You will keep the mind that is dependent on You in perfect peace, for it is trusting in You.
- Isaiah 26:3 (HCSB)

God promises peace to those who trust in Him. This verse not only promises peace but “perfect” peace. This is a constant peace; a peace that goes beyond natural understanding. It is the peace that settles in our heart even when the world around us is falling apart. This peace is not dependent on the situation. It is a peace that can come only from God.

This verse tells us that if we depend on God, He will fill us with His peace. Depending on God is putting our trust in God. It is a moment-by-moment reliance on Him. It is seeing God as the true source of all we need. It is a confession that God is good, and He can be trusted.

As you pray today, pray that you put your trust in God. Pray you not only obey God but look to Him for all you need. As you trust God on a moment-by-moment basis, you will experience peace as we have never experienced before.

Praying the Word:

Father, I pray we will experience Your perfect peace today. I pray as we put our faith, trust, and hope in You, You will cover us with Your perfect peace. Thank You for this promise, and I pray we will walk in Your peace today.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

OUR RICHES IN CHRIST

Today's Verse:

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might.

- Ephesians 1:18-19 (NASB)

Once there was a farmer in west Texas who struggled to feed his family. Life was hard and keeping the family farm afloat was a constant battle. They lived in continual fear that the next drought or weak crop would mean the loss of everything.

One day while drilling a water well the unexpected happened. Instead of hitting water, they struck oil! Oh, how things changed for this farmer. Gone were the worries of losing the farm or surviving until the harvest. For years they had struggled, worried and lived in fear while sitting on millions of dollars of oil.

So often we have a “get by” attitude when it comes to our walk with Christ when God has lavished us with His riches.

In this verse, Paul prays that God would open our eyes to the incredible riches we have in Christ Jesus. Like the farmer, we have incredible blessings available to us, but our eyes need to be enlightened. We are not poor Christians hoping to last until we die, or Jesus comes; no, we are the saints of God. We have tremendous riches, power, and hope through Jesus Christ.

Today, pray that God opens your eyes to all your riches in Christ.

Praying the Word:

Father, I pray we see our riches in You. Open our eyes to a new vision of all You have done for us. Let us see all You have for us, and all You want to do through us.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

ABIDING IN CHRIST

Today's Verse:

Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.

- John 15:4 (NASB)

In this chapter, Jesus said He is the vine, and we are the branches. The vine supplies everything the branch needs for life and growth. Jesus said that unless we are abiding in Him, we will never please God.

To abide means to make yourself at home. Abiding implies staying a while. So many Christians want to see Jesus on Sunday; then check back with Him next week. Those who learn to abide, connect with God on a continual basis. Abiding means walking with Him on a moment-by-moment relationship.

Today, pray that you look to Christ for all our strength. Ask God to remind you that you can't do anything outside of the power of Christ freely flowing within us. Pray that throughout your day, you will "make yourself at home" with God.

Praying the Word:

Father, help us to rest in You today. I pray You remind us that the source of our strength is You. Help us remember the Christian life is not about performance, but about a relationship with You. I pray we makes ourselves at home with You and allow You to fill us completely. Remind us today that the only way to please You is to allow Your Spirit free reign in our lives.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

GOD'S ABILITY IN ME

Today's Verse:

For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

- 2 Corinthians 6:16 (KJV)

Few Christians seem to be conscious of the fact that God lives in them. They couldn't be and still talk the way they do.

What do I mean? When a need arises in their life, some Christians are quick to say, "No, I can't do that." Why? Because they're trusting in themselves, or the flesh, to put them over. They know they don't have the ability in themselves to do it. However, if we are conscious that God is in us, then we know He has the ability to do anything. So we can stop saying, "I can't," and we can begin saying with confidence, "I can - because I'm trusting God! I can - because God is in me! I can - because greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world!"

No matter what you face, and you may be facing seemingly impossible obstacles in your life, you can say, "God will put me over! He'll make me a success! The Greater One indwells me!"

That's scriptural believing. That's faith talking. And it will put the Greater One to work for you!

Praying the Word:

Father, You care about every detail in the lives of Your children. The Spirit of God indwells us. We trust the Indwelling One. He has the ability. We can do all things - because the Spirit of God is in us. We can - because You have all the ability. We are so grateful that we don't have to be anxious for anything because You are the source of inexhaustible supply when we place our heart alongside of Your plans and purposes. Show us how to have the kind of trust in Your ability to hear and answer prayer. May Your Name be glorified as You move in response to the prayers of Your people!

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

A LIFE OF FAITHFUL SERVICE

Today's Verse:

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

- 1 Peter 4:10

Finding a way to help others is an expression of faith. It shows that we believe in the sovereignty of God. We don't have to wait until the pain in our life is gone, because we know God can use it for good.

Finding a way to help others requires that you ask two questions: "What is God doing?" and "How can I get into the flow of His activity?"

When we ask these questions, ideas will come. And once we begin doing this, the "why is this happening" question, which once seemed so important, becomes irrelevant.

The best answer to why is always what. When we stop asking, "Why has God allowed this?" And begin asking, "What does he want me to do with it?", we're ready for God to start his work in us, and that prepares us for service.

"I do not feel obliged to believe that the same God who has endowed us with sense, reason, and intellect has intended us to forgo their use."

- Galileo Galilei (1564-1642)

Praying the Word:

Loving God, we come to You in thanksgiving, knowing that all we are and all that we are are gifts from You. In faith and love, help us to do Your will. We offer to You this day all the facets of our lives, whether it be at home or at work – to be patient, to be merciful, to be generous, to be holy. Give us the wisdom and insight to understand Your will for us and the fervour to carry out our good intentions. We offer our gifts of time, talent and possessions to You as a true act of faith, to reflect our love for You and our neighbours. Help us to reach out to others as You our God have reached out to us.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

WHAT HAPPENS IN YOU IS MOST IMPORTANT

Today's verse:

Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, 'Unless these men stay with the ship, you cannot be saved'

- Acts 27:31

Life is not fair. You will have problems, difficulties, and hurts that will make you better or bitter. You will either grow up or give up. Either you'll become who God wants you to be or your heart will become hard. You have to decide how you are going to respond to the tough times in your life. How will you handle it?

When you go through those difficult times, what happens to you is not nearly as important as what happens in you. That's what you take into eternity — not the circumstances but your character.

In Acts 27, we learn three ways you shouldn't respond in trials:

1. **Don't drift.** "The ship was caught by the storm and could not head into the wind; so we gave way to it and were driven along" (Acts 27:15). The ship carrying Paul and other prisoners to Rome was in the middle of the Mediterranean and hadn't seen the sun for 14 days, so they couldn't get any bearings, and they started to drift.

When they face difficulty, some people start drifting through life. They have no goal, purpose, ambition, or dream for their life. Today, we call this "coasting." The problem with coasting is that you're headed downhill. Life is not a coast. Life's tough. Don't lose your ambition or your dream just because life gets hard.

2. **Don't discard.** "We took such a violent battering from the storm that the next day they began to throw the cargo overboard" (Acts 27:18). The men in charge needed to lighten the ship, so they threw the cargo overboard, then the tackle and the food. They were discarding things they needed because the storm was so tough.

When you get in a storm and the stress gets unbearable, you tend to start abandoning values and relationships you would not let go of in better times. You say, "I'm giving up on my marriage. I'm giving up on my dream to go to college."

God says, "Stay with the ship!" For example, have you done that in your marriage? Have you said, "Divorce is not an option for us; we're going to make it work"? If you haven't, you'll always be tempted to walk out. If you don't throw away the key, you'll never develop the character God wants you to have. God can change situations and personalities. He can change you. I've learned from personal experience that it is never God's will to run from a difficult situation. God wants you to learn, grow, and develop, and he is there with you all the time.

WHAT HAPPENS IN YOU IS MOST IMPORTANT

3. **Don't despair.** "We finally gave up all hope of being saved" (Acts 27:20b). After 14 days in total darkness and after giving up their cargo, tackle, and food, the passengers finally give up hope. But they'd forgotten one thing: Even in a storm, God is in control. He hasn't left you. You may not feel him, but if you feel far from God, guess who moved?

God is with you in the storm, and he'll help you through it. He is testing you to see if you'll trust Him.

Praying the Word:

Father, we want to place our full confidence in Your sovereign plan for our lives. We recognize that trials are included in the school of faith helping us to grow and mature. It also helps us to feel the pain of others who will undergo similar trials prompting us to undergird them with prayer. When we overcome trials in life we also provide positive example to the godly as well as the ungodly. So, Father, we pray for the joy that comes with knowing that You are working Your purpose in our lives through not only the blessings we enjoy from day to day but also the trials we endure from time to time. We thank You for Jesus who helps us to endure and overcome.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

BRINGING OUR EMOTIONS THROUGH THE FIRE

Today's verse:

But, O LORD of hosts, who judges righteously, Who tries the feelings and the heart

- Jeremiah 11:20 (NASB)

Emotions are like the waves of the ocean; they can overtake us without notice, they can dash against us and all those around us like mighty breakers over the reefs of life many times bringing harm to all in their path. Our emotions will put our very heart on parade in pomp and circumstance for all to view. Some will cheer from the sidelines finding great amusement at the spectacle before them, while others will raise their trumpets of judgment from the sideline of self-righteousness. Whatever platform we have placed ourselves upon or even buried ourselves beneath, we all have emotions that we have to deal every day; in and through every situation. I don't believe any of us have been, or are, immune from the affects of our own feelings or the feelings of others. Emotions affect every area of our lives and none of us can escape encountering them. We can't get away from ourselves, no matter how far we run.

God created us as emotional beings; to feel, think, react and act. We can feel love, warmth, comfort, hope, joy and inner peace. But we can also feel, anger, hurt, fear, hate and lust. But, what are we to do with these, how are we to harness them for good? I believe Jeremiah 11:20 gives us the answer when he says; God, the Lord of Hosts, is the One who scrutinizes our emotions and our hearts. He tries them, He weighs them in His holy scales and if necessary He even sends them through the fire to purge out what is harmful. It's not always the emotion itself that is bad but rather how it is expressed, used or shared. Every emotion God gives us we can use for good but, in order for us to do that, we must allow God to try them and search them. God will not scrutinize our emotions without examining our heart. The heart is the well that our emotions flow from. As Purge my emotions, that I may be found as gold in thy sight.

Praying the Word:

Father, our thoughts and emotions often feel out of my control. Right now, I purpose and declare that what my mind dwells on will come into alignment with Your Word. Today I choose thoughts that are true, honest, and just. When thoughts come into my mind that are not in accordance with these criteria, I will replace them with thoughts that do. Thank You for Your grace to return to thoughts that are true, honest, and just whenever my mind strays.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

LIVING WITH THE WIND IN YOUR FACE

Today's Verse:

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

- Romans 8:28 (KJV)

The winds of life blow in both directions. Sometimes with the wind to our back circumstances we encounter are encouraging, helpful, and inspiring. They push us forward with renewed vigour and determination. Then there are times when we live with the wind blowing fiercely in our face. These are the times when adversity, trials, and devastating circumstances almost consume us, and we find ourselves leaning hard upon the faithfulness of God in child-like trust.

When we are loyal and committed to God, we can rest in His providential care, His interceding for us, and His plan and purpose in our lives. So often we look at our circumstances as if God had no part in engineering them. "God certainly can't be in this"...and we relate to them with indifference and respond as if they were coincidental. It is "in all things" that God designs His purpose for our lives. Not all things are pleasant, but they are necessary to "bend our heart and will" to be "conformed to the image of His Son" (Romans 8:28-29).

Peter tells us that "the trial of our faith is precious" (1 Peter 1:7). When the winds of life blow in our face, God may be working to impart, or bring to maturity, His grace within our lives. In either situation, we can take comfort that His hand of grace and love is upon us for our good and His glory.

How imperative it is for us to be sensitive to the "working of the Holy Spirit" within our lives. How merciful and gracious God is to awaken us, prompt us, and penetrate our hearts when we need to align our lives anew to His will. Thus, the "winds of the Spirit" blow within us to focus our hearts once again on HIM alone.

Oswald Chambers wrote, "God does not give us overcoming life. He gives us life as we overcome. God never gives strength for tomorrow, or for the next hour, but only for the strain of the moment." It is in common practical everyday things that God wants to reveal to us His overcoming mercy and grace. Oh, that we might see His hand in ALL things. However, the winds may blow, to the believer, it is the Lord that is in control. So, let it blow as it will, for "HE doeth all things well, and will perfect, and bring to maturity, that which He hath begun" (Philippians 1:6, KJV).

LIVING WITH THE WIND IN YOUR FACE

As the winds of life blow, we need an intense narrowing of our interests and concerns on earth and enlarge our devotion to God. We need to refine the direction of our heart, concentrate on His will in our life, and seek to surrender every phase of our life to the control of His lordship. Then the interweaving of the "tapestry of our life" will reflect the beauty of His design and reveal the magnitude of His abounding grace.

The cords of His choosing will include the dark colours that take us into distressing and difficult times. But these form the background and serve to highlight the glorious colours that radiate His care and compassion for us. May we yield to the "winds of the Spirit," that we may be all He wants us to be, and the channel of blessing through which the Holy Spirit can flow freely and fully for His glory.

"He bringeth forth the wind out of His treasures" (Jeremiah 51:16, KJV).

Praying the Word:

Our Lord Jesus, You are the Peace speaker who controls the winds and waves. All of Your creation must submit to Your bidding. Nothing escapes Your attention nor can anything exceed Your power or authority. Help us to trust You during the times of calm and during the tidal waves of life; the wind in our face. You're an ever-present, ever-powerful God who is ever-worthy of all our ever-lasting praise.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

THE “GO” OF RELATIONSHIP

Today’s Verse:

Whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two.

- Matthew 5:41 (KJV)

Our Lord’s teaching can be summed up in this: the relationship that He demands for us is an impossible one unless He has done a supernatural work in us. Jesus Christ demands that His disciple does not allow even the slightest trace of resentment in his heart when faced with tyranny and injustice. No amount of enthusiasm will ever stand up to the strain that Jesus Christ will put upon His servant. Only one thing will bear the strain, and that is a personal relationship with Jesus Christ Himself— a relationship that has been examined, purified, and tested until only one purpose remains and I can truly say, “I am here for God to send me where He will.” Everything else may become blurred, but this relationship with Jesus Christ must never be. The Sermon on the Mount is not some unattainable goal; it is a statement of what will happen in me when Jesus Christ has changed my nature by putting His own nature in me. Jesus Christ is the only One who can fulfil the Sermon on the Mount. If we are to be disciples of Jesus, we must be made disciples supernaturally. And as long as we consciously maintain the determined purpose to be His disciples, we can be sure that we are not disciples. Jesus says, “You did not choose Me, but I chose you. . . .” (John 15:16). That is the way the grace of God begins. It is a constraint we can never escape; we can disobey it, but we can never start it or produce it ourselves. We are drawn to God by a work of His supernatural grace, and we can never trace back to find where the work began. Our Lord’s making of a disciple is supernatural. He does not build on any natural capacity of ours at all. God does not ask us to do the things that are naturally easy for us— He only asks us to do the things that we are perfectly fit to do through His grace, and that is where the cross we must bear will always come.

Praying the Word:

Almighty God, we pray that we will be taken into a deeper, more meaningful relationship with You, where we will grow in faith and hear the still small voice within our souls. Help us to be attentive to Your call that will cause us to walk in Your righteousness. Walk with us Father and take us to new levels where we can experience an outpouring of Your love and mercy. We hunger and thirst for the things of You! We believe in You Lord and we thank You for giving us what we need, according to Your will. These things we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Saviour,

In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR CONVICTION

Today's Verse:

Let us not judge one another anymore, but rather determine this--not to put an obstacle or a stumbling block in a brother's way.

- Romans 14:13 (NKJV)

I grew up with a good, moral background, and I even went to church, but I wasn't a Christian. In those days I really enjoyed beer. When I received Christ as a young man, I joined a church which preached total abstinence from alcoholic beverages. I wasn't a drunk, so I decided to scratch that rule and keep my beer.

My beer-drinking wasn't excessive, but two years later the Lord convicted me about it. With the conviction came the power to obey. So I gave it up. I'm so glad that no one laid a guilt trip on me or made an issue over my drinking an occasional beer.

Sometimes we are tempted to play the role of the Holy Spirit or the conscience in someone else's life on issues where the Scriptures are not crystal clear: "Christians don't drink or smoke"; "You should spend at least 30 minutes a day in prayer and Bible study"; "Buying lottery tickets is not good stewardship." I'm convinced that the Holy Spirit knows exactly when to bring conviction on issues of conscience. It's part of the process of sanctification which He superintends. When we attempt to play His role, we often do little more than convey criticism and rejection. Our job is to accept people and let the Holy Spirit bring conviction in His time.

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation, not condemnation. Paul wrote, "God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:19, NASB).

Praying the Word:

Lord, we recognise that there is a time and place to confront Christians about immoral behaviour. However, when we do so, it is only because we care about their relationship with You and desire to protect them. Teach us to confront others in love when we must, and to accept others in love as You have accepted us.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

PASSION FOR HIS PRESENCE

Today's Verse:

Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints.

- Ephesians 6:18 (ESV)

Prayer is the focal point of the Christian life. Through prayer, we have access to the very throne room of God. We can pray for someone on the other side of the globe and know God's hand can move immediately.

As we look through the Bible, we see men and women calling out to God in prayer. Our world, our churches, and our families are desperately in need of prayer.

When Christians become people of prayer, things begin to change. We are the most powerful when we are on our knees."

As we pray today, ask the Lord to give you a renewed passion for entering into the presence of God through prayer. Bring your own needs and the needs of those around you to the Lord in prayer.

Praying the Word:

Father, we pray You will help us in our prayer life. We contend for Your presence in our lives, and ask that You build within us a deep hunger and desire to spend more time with You in prayer. We pray we will give ourselves, as never before to becoming men of prayer. Help us not stagnate or backslide, Your Word promises that as we draw near to You, You draw near to us (James 4:8b). Give us new confidence and passion as we spend time with You.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

FIX YOUR EYES ON JESUS

Today's Verse:

Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

- Hebrews 12:2 (NASB)

When you run a race, there is only one thing that matters - crossing the finish line. The runner gives his full attention to the finish line. If he gets distracted, begins worrying about how others are doing, or looks into the stands, he is done for.

Life is full of distractions, but success is found only as we focus on Christ. If we take our eyes off Christ, we open ourselves up to all sorts of deceptions.

The only way to follow Christ is to fix our attention on Him. If we are going to follow Christ, we have to be watching and listening to what He has to say and where He is leading. There are so many shiny objects that can grab our attention. If we don't fix our attention on Christ, we will be distracted.

Fixing our eyes implies that we put our full attention on Him. We have a single focus - the Lord Jesus.

As you pray today, pray you place your complete attention on Christ. Pray you follow Christ wherever He leads. Ask the Lord to help you keep your eyes on Christ and avoid the distractions that are thrown your way.

Praying the Word:

Father, we pray that we can keep our total focus on You. We pray that we can run toward You as an athlete runs toward the finish line. We ask that You help us avoid all the distractions that come our way, and help us to focus on You.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

WAR FOR SPIRITUAL VITALITY

Today's verse:

You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.

- Psalm 32:7

Worldly cares are like weeds that grow up and slowly choke out the Word of God. The strangling process may be slower and less obvious than major attacks, but it is effective. In this war for our Spiritual Vitality, how can we fight an enemy that is barely noticeable?

The quickest way into God's protective presence is through praise. Regardless of how we may feel, press on. Praise is an act of our will, not our emotions.

The Bible specifically talks about a "sacrifice of praise". And eventually, the Lord's peace and presence comes. His truth and reality start to take hold and the world's attacks begin to appear for what they really are - a dripping faucet. And a dripping faucet cannot possibly withstand the overwhelming flood of God's love.

Praying the Word:

Almighty God, we seek refuge in You. We seek Your protective presence as surely as if we were under heavy Attack. You are our hiding place; You will protect us from all trouble and surround us with songs of deliverance.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

THE LORD WILL PROVIDE

Today's Verse:

Beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He explained to them what was said in all scriptures concerning Himself.

- Luke 24:27

In Genesis 22:9-14, it records for us:

- 9 When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood.
- 10 Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.
- 11 But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!"
"Here I am," he replied.
- 12 "Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son."
- 13 Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram[a] caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son.
- 14 So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided."

The love of a parent for his or her child is indescribable, all-consuming. And yet, because the Lord commanded it, Abraham was willing to destroy the object of that love; the only Son that Someone else provide a sacrifice for. First through a ram, then centuries later, through God's sacrifice of His own Son. "The Lord Will Provide." What a perfect name for Abraham to give that mountain. What's more perfect still is that many historians, archaeologists and scholars believe that it was on that same mountain, centuries later, that God sacrificed His own Son, making the ultimate provision - the provision of eternal life.

THE LORD WILL PROVIDE



Praying the Word:

Father God, how typical that is of You - asking us to do difficult things and then stepping in and actually doing them Yourself. What a loving, providing Father You are - insisting upon perfection from us, and then stepping in and being that perfection, Yourself. I yield to Your empowerment in my life. Empower me to do Your Will.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

THE URGENCY OF PRAYING IN THE BATTLE

Today's verses:

Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

- 1 Peter 5:8 (NKJV)

With all prayer and supplication, in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints.

- Ephesians 6:18 (NKJV)

Both Peter and Paul knew the ferocity of the enemy's attacks. Hence, it is little wonder that they called believers to be ever alert: Their words are strong and pointed, as both apostles understood that all believers are targets of the enemy. No follower of God is immune from the attacks of the one who will devour whom he can. If the enemy was brazen enough to attack Peter, Paul, and Jesus Himself (Matthew 4:11), surely we should not expect anything less. The battle is on, whether we like it or not.

C. S. Lewis reminds us through the senior demon Screwtape how Satan attacks us: "The best thing, where it is possible, is to keep the patient [the human being] from the serious intention of praying altogether." Indeed, prayerlessness is a primary indicator that a believer may have already lost the battle. Moreover, we must not miss the Apostle Paul's mandate to pray for all believers with persistence and perseverance. Because the battle is real for all believers, intercessory prayer for each other is a non-negotiable. Most of our praying, however, is more reactive than proactive; that is, we start praying only after we learn of a losing battle (e.g., a family is in trouble, a young person is wandering, or a church is divided). The devil aims his arrows, hits his target—and then we decide to pray. Frankly, praying for others is hard work, and discouragement sets in quickly. It is easy to fall asleep on the watch just as Jesus' own disciples did (Luke 22:45-46). Nevertheless, might the enemy win fewer battles if we strategically, intentionally, and urgently prayed more often for each other?

Praying the Word:

Holy Spirit, draw our wandering hearts back to the urgency of prayer. Keep us aware of the dangerous plans of the enemy of our souls. Make me effective for the sake of God's kingdom. Infuse my prayer life with fresh power and purpose so that in the name of Jesus Christ, we will win the battles set before us.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

BRING GLORY TO GOD

Today's Verse:

Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

- 1 Corinthians 10:31 (NASB)

As a Christian, how we live reflects on our Heavenly Father. Every day we have the choice to either bring Him glory or to live for ourselves.

Today's verse encourages us to glorify God in everything we do. To bring glory to God is to bring honour to Him. We can bring glory to God in the simplest of chores, as we do them to honour Christ. Our concern must never be our rights, but what will bring glory and honour to Jesus. Bringing glory to God in everything we do is an intentional choice we must make every day.

As we choose to live a life that brings glory to God, it puts a new twist on how we look at life. It is no longer what I want or what I think, but what is honouring to God.

Today as you pray, ask God to remind you that everything you do today should bring glory to God. Pray that you choose to honour God in the small and large things of life.

Praying the Word:

Father, I pray that today we will bring glory to You in everything we do. From our public actions to our inner thoughts, we pray we choose to glorify You in every area of our lives. We pray we honour You in every action and attitude today.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

THREE INDISPENSABLE TRAITS

Today's verse:

We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ

- 1 Thessalonians 1:3

In the opening verses of 1 Thessalonians, Paul describes ten distinctive traits of the Thessalonian believers: (1) They had a working faith, (2) they had a labouring love, (3) they exhibited an enduring hope, (4) they displayed humility before God for His election and power, (5) they were genuine imitators of Christ, (6) they had joy in the midst of trouble, (7) they lived exemplary lives, (8) they had zeal in their witnessing, (9) they demonstrated transformed lives, and (10) they expectantly awaited the return of the Lord Jesus. To summarize, Paul said that the Thessalonian believers were characterized by faith, love, and hope—the three indispensable traits of a genuine Christian.

Each of these traits is outgoing, not inward; active, not passive; visible, not hidden; public, not private. Faith is active toward God. Love is active toward other people. Hope is active toward our expectation of the Lord's return.

Faith is anchored in the past, in actual historic events, as we look back to the Lord's saving work on the cross. Love is anchored in the present, as we practice Christlike love toward the people around us. Hope is anchored in the future, in the trustworthy promises God gave us in His Word.

Every genuine Christian trusts in God's Word, puts his or her beliefs into action toward others, and is confident of his or her ultimate destination. These three traits—faith, love, and hope—prove that we follow Christ, not just on Sunday but every day of the week.

Praying the Word:

Lord, we thank You for the example of the Thessalonians who lived out their faith in the midst of desperately difficult circumstances. We praise You for granting them great faith that inspires us today. We ask for Your Holy Spirit to work in us that same faith, love, and hope that endures all things as we keep our eyes on Jesus.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

GOD IS WITH YOU

Today's Verse:

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

- Romans 8:31 (ESV)

It's easy to feel overwhelmed by the challenges of day to day living. It's easy to feel like we are all alone, facing our problems. At times it can even feel like everyone is against us. We can feel like the little boy David facing an entire row of Goliaths. Just like David, we must understand that when God is on our side, no one can defeat us.

As we face every new day, we face it with the understanding that God is not only with us but for us. God is on our side. We can have new confidence when we remember that we don't travel alone, the God of the universe is with us, and is working for us.

Can any attack of Satan overcome us, when we know that God is on our side?

As you pray today, pray you remember that God is on your side. You don't face the problems and pressures of today alone; you have God on your side. Your giants will fall, as you partner with God to fight for you.

Praying the Word:

Father, remind us that You are on our side. Help us to see that since You are with us, nothing can stand against us. Help us as we face our personal giants, to see that You are fighting for us. We pray we will sense Your presence, and strength throughout our day.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

LEAVE A GODLY HERITAGE

Today's Verse:

For I am mindful of the sincere faith within you, which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am sure that it is in you as well.

- 2 Timothy 1:5 (NASB)

So many people put on a good show for Sunday morning but live a different life in the privacy of their homes. Faith that lasts from generation to generation must be a sincere faith. True faith in Christ is never hypocritical or deceptive. It never puts on a front for others but is filled with honest love for God.

This verse lists three generations of believers: Timothy, his mother Eunice, and his grandmother Lois. What a wonderful comment on the faith of Lois. What a great heritage, to see your faith in Christ passed down to your children and to your children's children.

Today as you pray, that you live your life in such a way that future descendants will not only see your faith but will pass that faith along to their children. That you will live out a sincere faith before those who know you best.

Praying the Word:

Father, today we pray we develop such a sincere faith that those closest to us will see our genuine love for You. We pray we will leave a godly heritage of true, honest, and sincere faith in You.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

FINDING YOUR PURPOSE

Today's Verse:

For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith.

- Romans 12:4-6 (NASB)

God made each of us for His purpose. While our culture looks at life as one gigantic accident; the Christian sees life as the fulfillment of God's purpose.

We are each made for a purpose. God has called and empowered us for His special use. Our gifts, talents, passions, and experiences all come together to create a special set of skills which God uses for His glory.

As members of Christ's body, we each have a special function. The secret to finding fulfillment and satisfaction is walking in the purpose God made for us. As we discover our gifting and purpose, we can use those gifts for His glory.

As you pray today, pray you will discover God's purpose and gifts in your life. Ask God to show you the purpose He created you for, and how you can use your gifts to serve others.

Praying the Word:

Father, we pray You will show us Your purpose for our lives. We pray we will discover the gifts and talents You have given us and will use them for Your glory. Help us see our purpose in the body of Christ, and as we walk in that purpose, we pray we find fulfillment and satisfaction in You.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

HUNGERING AFTER RIGHTEOUSNESS

Today's Verse:

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

- Matthew 5:6 (NASB)

When you're hungry, that's all you think about. Every commercial, every billboard, every fast food store calls out your name. It seems like food is all you can think about. When you finally do get to eat, it just seems to taste a little better when you are hungry.

Jesus promises that when we hunger after righteousness, we will be satisfied. Righteousness is a right standing with God or rightness. The only way we can live righteously is to live in unbroken fellowship with Christ. Hungering after righteousness isn't about religion, or having a holy attitude. It is not about working more or trying harder. Righteousness is the gift Christ gave us on the cross. The Bible says God has placed Christ's righteousness in us!

The only thing that can truly satisfy is living in the righteousness Christ has given us. In other words, living like the person, Christ has made us.

Today as you pray, pray you live up to all Christ has already done in you. Pray that you will seek after God's presence in your life today. Ask God to show you that the only true satisfaction in life is found in an intimate relationship with Him.

Praying the Word:

Father, today help us to have a hunger for You. Help us realize that You have given us a right standing by the death of Your Son Jesus on the cross. Let us see that You have placed "rightness" within us. Today, help us to live like the person You have made us to be. We pray we will seek after no other satisfaction higher than our relationship with You.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

GOD IS WORKING FOR OUR GOOD

Today's Verse:

"And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose."

- Romans 8:28 (NASB)

The late Admiral James Stockdale, who was imprisoned and tortured for seven years in the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" during the Vietnam War, considered Job to be his favourite book in the Bible. He said he leaned heavily on the story of Job's misery and eventual deliverance throughout his ordeal. Upon his release, he eventually landed in the classroom and began a tradition of teaching military personnel about the lessons he learned and how they, too, could endure times of trial and tribulation. But he started off each class each year with a single and instructive statement that is at once cold but true: "Life isn't fair. Get over it."

God never promised life would be easy. He never promised exemptions from problems, disappointments, setbacks, and difficulties. Sometimes life is hard. Sometimes we may feel like we can't go another day. Yet we have God's promise that He is working on our behalf. God has an amazing ability to take our deepest disappointments and turn them around. As we acknowledge God's hand at work, some of the most devastating times can become our greatest blessings.

We may not see them at the time, we certainly can't understand why we are going through them, but if we remain faithful, God can transform our greatest struggles into objects of His glory. Isn't it great to know that He is actively working on our behalf to bring things together for our good?

As you pray today, ask God to remind you that He is in control. No matter how difficult the situation, God can work it for your good. Ask God to help you see that your greatest problem can be turned into a blessing from God.

Praying the Word:

Father, we pray that we will be reminded today that You are in control. Even at times when we can't immediately see it, You are working things for our good. Thank You that You take our greatest problems and use them to create wonderful blessings. Help us today to trust in Your goodness as we go through our day.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

PURSuing GOD AMIDST SUFFERING

Today's Verse:

Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

- 2 Corinthians 12:8–9 (ESV)

Is the suffering that comes to the Christian because of persecution the same as the suffering that comes from cancer? Do the promises given to one, apply to the other? My answer is yes. All of life, if it is lived earnestly by faith in the pursuit of God's glory and the salvation of others will meet with some kind of obstacle and suffering. The suffering that comes to the obedient Christian is part of the price of living where you are in obedience to the call of God.

In choosing to follow Christ in the way he directs, we choose all that this path includes under His sovereign providence. Thus, all suffering that comes in the path of obedience is suffering with Christ and for Christ — whether it is cancer at home or persecution far away.

And it is "chosen" — that is, we willingly take the path of obedience where the suffering befalls us, and we do not murmur against God. We may pray — as Paul did — that the suffering be removed (2 Corinthians 12:8); but if God wills, we embrace it as part of the cost of discipleship in the path of obedience on the way to heaven.

All experiences of suffering in the path of Christian obedience, whether from persecution or sickness or accident, have this in common: They all threaten our faith in the goodness of God, and tempt us to leave the path of obedience. Therefore, every triumph of faith, and all perseverance in obedience, are testimonies to the goodness of God and the preciousness of Christ — whether the enemy is sickness, Satan, sin, or sabotage. Therefore, all suffering, of every kind, that we endure in the path of our Christian calling is a suffering "with Christ" and "for Christ."

With Him in the sense that the suffering comes to us as we are walking with Him by faith, and in the sense that it is endured in the strength He supplies through His sympathizing high-priestly ministry to us (Hebrews 4:15). And for Him in the sense that the suffering tests and proves our allegiance to His goodness and power, and in the sense that it reveals His worth as an all-sufficient compensation and prize.

PURSUING GOD AMIDST SUFFERING

Praying the Word:

Father, we see the greatest example of temporal suffering in the person of Jesus Christ. By giving His all to pay the full ransom for our sins He underwent inhumane persecution to the fullest extent of giving His life through death that we might live. What seemed a hopeless cause turned into a victory above all other victories when His resurrected body made it possible for us, as His followers, to join in His eternal glory. But for now, we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in His glory. We like the glory, but are repulsed at the idea of suffering, and are mindful of those presently undergoing injustice and persecution, as well as the families undergoing tremendous stress and often grief. Fix in our hearts and minds the needed perspective that it's just a little while that we suffer, but it's for eternity that we share in Your glory. May we be found faithful along the way!

In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

DID PRAYER DELIVER THE BOYS IN THE CAVE

Today's Verse:

Call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you and you will honour me

- Psalm 50:15

The agonizing 18-day ordeal and successful 3-day rescue of 12 school-age boys and their soccer coach from a flooded cave in Thailand captivated the world's attention. Throughout the nearly three-week ordeal, both social and traditional media were replete with calls for prayer – for the boys, their coach and the Navy Seals who ultimately coordinated and assisted in their dramatic rescue. In times of crisis, even the marginal believer, and sometimes even the agnostic, will often call on the divine for intercession and relief – and for good reason. However, did all of the prayers from around the world deliver these boys to safety from the dreary and darkened flooded cave? More simply and bluntly put, did the Lord first need to hear from us before enabling the rescue? At the heart of such a question is a bigger one yet: If God is in control and sovereign over all things, why do we pray at all?

Writing in the New Testament, James tell us that “The prayer of a righteous person has great power” (James 5:16), a truth that should both comfort and embolden any believer who is burdened.

We should also pray for many other reasons:

First and foremost, we're commanded to do so – and because Jesus Himself modelled a life of prayer. Jesus even told us how to pray, sharing what is now known as “The Lord's Prayer.” The apostle Paul wrote expansively on the subject of prayer, suggesting that we're to “Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer” (Romans 12:12). He also said we're to “devote” ourselves to prayer (Colossians 4:2).

Second, we pray in order to deepen our relationship with the Lord. After all, you can't really love someone unless you really know them – God included. Quiet conversations with the Lord allow us to connect with Him on a deeply personal level.

Third, we pray in order to better discern God's will for our lives. Decisions in life aren't always black and white, and we need divine help in order to make wise choices. It's the wise believer who humbly brings their petitions to the Lord.

“God will either give us what we ask or give us what we would have asked if we knew everything he knows,” wrote Dr. Tim Keller.

DID PRAYER DELIVER THE BOYS IN THE CAVE

We know that God allowed His own Son to suffer, and we know that He uses suffering to accomplish His purposes – though we're rarely able to piece together this mysterious puzzle of pain to see what all those purposes are.

Praying the Word:

Father, we are grateful for the power of prayer. It has sustained us in times of trouble and deepened our walk with You. Sometimes, we cannot make sense of the seemingly senseless things that happen around us. May You anchor us to Your will and way and teach us to trust You even when we don't understand.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

BROKEN CISTERNS CAN'T HOLD WATER

Today's verse:

For My people have committed two evils: they have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, and hewn themselves cisterns; broken cisterns that can hold no water.

- Jeremiah 2:13

Biblical principles are vital. However, they can never, ever replace living contact and fellowship with God. The moment we start depending only on the revelations of the past is the moment we start to dry up. When we begin to rely on the memory of a time we experienced the presence of God in the past instead of connecting to Him in the present—hearing His voice, experiencing His presence, and fellowshiping with Him today—the tide of the Spirit within us ebbs.

We become like broken cisterns because as important as scriptural principles and spiritual memories are, they have no power in themselves. Apart from living contact with God, they cannot hold the water of life.

If we want the rivers of the Spirit to keep flowing through us, we must go continually to the throne of God to fellowship with Him. We must draw from the fountain of living waters every day.

Praying the Word:

Gracious Lord, we will never fully plumb the depths of prayer, but day by day we learn new things about Your character and the purposes of Your kingdom that require us to pay attention with all of our hearts. Fill us to overflowing with the desire to seek You, even in the ordinary, everyday moments of our lives. Draw us close so we may enjoy intimate fellowship together throughout all the days of our lives. Teach us to pray Lord Jesus!

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

THANK YOU LORD

Today's Verse:

Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

- 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Do you ever say, "Thank you, Lord!" for what could have happened to you but did not? The human tendency is to say, "Thank you!" for the pleasant things that happen such as when you get a pay raise, or when someone gives you a well-deserved compliment, or your son's team wins; but what about giving thanks for what could have happened but did not?

There was a couple who sat in church as a memorial gift was presented to the congregation in memory of a young man who had given his life in the military service of his country. As the presentation was completed, the mother wiped a tear from her eye and nudged her husband. "Let's do the same for our son," she whispered.

"Why," countered the dad, "nothing's the matter with our son-he did not die."

"That is just it," responded the mother. "We ought to be just as thankful because he didn't."

Gratitude has become a lost art in the lives of many people. We are so busy putting in our orders as to what we want from heaven's storehouse, that we have forgotten how to say, "Father, thank you for what you have done," and part of gratitude is saying, "Father, thank you for what you, in your wise providence, have kept from happening."

There is only one way that you can really learn gratitude for what does not happen, and that is by relinquishing the control of your future to His will and accepting the fact that He really knows best. The Apostle Paul taught us by his life that we may make our plans but God directs our steps, and when He points us in a different direction, we must just as joyfully say, "Thank you, Lord, for what did not happen," as we say, "thank you," for what did happen. Yes, Lord, we pause to say, "Thank you...thank you for what did not happen."

When Paul wrote to the Thessalonians he wrote, "Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Yes-give thanks for what does happen as well as what does not happen. As Proverbs 16:9 says, "In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps."

THANK YOU LORD

Praying the Word:

Father, it is impossible for us to give sincere thanks to You unless we come to You with grateful hearts. Open our eyes to see and verbalize the little blessings that come especially when we are walking through dark clouds of difficulty. Our daily blessings, by far, outnumber our troubles. Good health, comfortable shelter, a loving family, steady work, caring friendships and many other blessings seem all too common and we often take them for granted. At times I even feel entitled to these blessings. Help us not to wait until trouble erupts before we look to You. Instead we want to be grateful for Your goodness toward us for past blessings and to remain confident that You will be just as faithful in providing for our future needs. And remind us to never take personal credit but realize that all good things are from You.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

INCREASING YOUR SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY

Today's Verse:

Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals."

- Revelations 5:5

Our roar must be heard. No matter which generation we belong to, we must have a wartime mentality. Always alert, always aware. Jesus will return as King of Kings! In the Bible, church is called the Bride of Christ, but we are also called to be a good Soldier of Christ (2 Tim 2:3). And one of the names of our God is Jehovah Sabaoth, our Lord of Angel Armies.

In Revelations 5, Jesus is both Lamb and Lion - and He will judge the world as the Lion of Judah. When lions roar, it speaks of majesty, and there is that Roar in us that we need to utilise.

Do not be ignorant of the enemy. We must learn how to handle the forces of darkness. We are not to be ignorant. The Devil's two basic forms of warfare are using elimination and defilement. Satan wants to cause division and corruption, and we must endeavour to keep the unity of the Spirit, and unity of faith and doctrine.

Praying the Word:

Almighty God, thank You that this is our moment to be bold and courageous in prayer. This is the time for backslidden and lukewarm Christians to get back with Christ. Like lions roaring, we pray You use our prayers to bring unity and purity in the Body of Christ. We may all be facing different battles at different times, but with You - we win the war. Use us to prepare the way of the Lord!

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

THE SOURCE OF JOY

Today's Verse:

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Romans 15:13

In a world of anxiety, stress, and depression, God's Word gives us the promise of joy.

Joy is a central theme in the Christian life. Joy is the second fruit of the Spirit. Joy is the celebration of our life in Christ and our trust in Him. It doesn't mean that everything is always going to be perfect for us, and it is no guarantee of a problem-free life. But, it is the confident expression that He is in control. Joy has far more to do with the inner heart than it does with the outer circumstances.

The source of our joy is not our situation, but our belief in God. Throughout the book of Psalms, David declares there is abundant joy in the presence of God. Joy is the heart attitude of the person walking in fellowship with the Lord Jesus. When we walk in God's presence, we experience joy.

As you pray today, pray that joy and peace become the natural expressions of your life. Pray you are filled with the Holy Spirit's power so that you are full of hope. Agree with the Apostle Paul in praying that joy and peace will overflow in your life as you put your trust in Christ.

Praying the Word:

Father, today we pray we be filled with Your joy and peace. We pray we walk in Your presence today and experience the abundant joy which comes from being filled with Your Holy Spirit. We pray we will not look at our circumstances alone, but will look to You, knowing You are in control of our lives. Fill us with Your joy and peace today.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

MILESTONE JOURNAL

Part A

“So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.”

- Isaiah 55:11 (ESV)



Answered prayers are defining moments in our journey with Jesus, precious testimonies of our walk with Him.

Start chronicling your spiritual journey as a Soldier into the heart of God with these Milestone Journal pages.

Tips for using this first part of the Milestone pages:

1. Take time to remember and draw on the power of the revelation of these personal encounters as you journey ahead.
2. Share your stories as a witness of who God is in your everyday life as a Soldier.
3. Encourage yourself to move in praise and faith till your next breakthrough.
4. Inspire others to build up their personal legacy of faith through these testimonies.

MILESTONE JOURNAL PAGES

Part B

In this second part of the Prayer journal, we will be asking the question:

What are God's Plans for you as a Christian Soldier?

Before we go into details, we must firstly understand that the presence of the God is ever with us, willing to direct and lead our every step if only we seek Him (Ps 32:8). The Holy Spirit is our Guide and Comforter. He will show us all things concerning Christ for the Holy Spirit is **"the Spirit of truth...and will guide you into all the truth"** (John 16:13). However, there is a difference between one sincerely seeking heavenly advice, and another who has already had the decision made up and was just asking for a mere formal endorsement from heaven. For example, two things are definitely God's will for our lives. 1 Thessalonians 4:3 says, **"It is God's will that you should be sanctified; that you should avoid sexual immorality."** 1 Thessalonians 5:18 says, **"give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."** Any action or decision that is consistent with these two scriptural instructions should be acted upon swiftly. Follow the way of the Lord and **"guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it"** (Prov 4:23). We must not deceive ourselves, for God is not to be mocked (Gal 6:7–9). Check your motives first before the Lord. There is divine peace, joy and blessing when we are walking according to His sovereign will.

MILESTONE JOURNAL PAGES

Think about these two points:

1. God is a Planner

Hebrews 11:10 God is architect and builder of the future city.

Psalms 20:4 God makes plans succeed.

1 Chron 28:11-19 David gave plans for the temple to his Son. Also the instructions for the allocation of tasks and specific work to be done. The instructions were put into writing.

Jere 29:11 God has many plans to prosper you.

Proverbs 21:5 You must be diligent to plan.

Psalm 33:11 God's plans last forever, and purpose of His heart endures the generations.

Proverbs 19:21 The Lord's purpose will prevail.

2. The Best Plans come from God

We cannot build something we cannot see. The builder needs to see the blueprint. Albert Einstein said imagination is more important than knowledge. And the visions are born out of values - for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also (Matthew 6:20).

In the following section, you will find a roadmap that can serve as guideposts for you to write down the plans that God reveals to you personally.

Yours will be unique and as impactful as you want to trust and believe God for it to be (Jeremiah 29:11).

MILESTONE JOURNAL PAGES

You do not need someone else to define and follow someone else' house, but you can visualise and discover the plans ahead for your life. Your visualisation will be different from others, and you must nurture, internalise and speak the vision that God gives you. Then what you say, how you say, when you say and who to say it to matters.

The roadmap is using the mnemonic of 5 'G's, to **Get** started with God, **Grow** in God, **Glow** for God, **Go** for God and finally **Give** to God. During National Service and beyond.



Start chronicling your spiritual journey as a Soldier into the best plans of God with this next part of the Milestone Journal pages.

A. GET STARTED WITH GOD



A Vision is birthed out of values, and it needs to be clarified with God. Not your parents, friends, superiors know exactly why you were created except your Creator God.

Seek Him in the secret place. You can refer to Annex A on the PAPA prayer to begin with, which helps get you started in a posture of prayer whereby you are the audience and God has your fullest attention.

Then be yourself, do not try to project an image you are not. Do not try to copy your pastor, your leaders, because ultimately people only trust your reality. Be the best version of yourself. You are the message, and if you want to speak of excellence, be and look and show excellence. If you want to speak of finding enjoyment in Christ, it should already be something you are doing and it overflows.

Be clear, logical, focused when you are talking with God, because you have limited time with God at the start of each day before you go about and follow the routines and demands of the day. Reply to God from your heart, and let God unfold His vision to you.

B. GROW IN GOD

Be passionate. There has got to be passion when you are pursuing God, excited and creative - it does not have to be someone else's way, and you can speak what you have internalised via prayer, meditation on God's Word, and then proclaim the truths of God's words that you have tested out in your own life. Be relational, and ask how others around you are doing today. Jesus wants disciples who can listen well, create conversations, follow up on critical life events that others have shared with you. Utilise the different channels via WhatsApp, Facebook etc to communicate. Help yourself grow fitter physically as well. Produce checklists and list down your goals, to get organised. Do your push-ups, sit-ups, squats, lunges, whatever it takes.

Create structure. Have a healthy body, maximise the time in NS to get fit. The body has respiratory systems, immune systems, multiple systems that overlap with processes and are not isolated - your heart works with your kidney etc and understanding how your body works helps you work your whole body well. The whole body is not just a big eye. Get organised especially during the time you have to yourself, and not overlook the areas of your life that need to be disciplined and strengthened for God to be glorified through it. Get organised, because if you are not organised, you will forget. A man without an organised system of thought will always be at the mercy of a man who has one. Structure drives behaviour, just like how Singapore is transformed by the enterprising spirit of our pioneers. Singapore would not be where it is today as a successful nation worthy of emulation, without right structures put into place. For spiritual growth, prayer and bible reading should be number one, and so on. In a nutshell, the quality of your life is determined by the quality of your thinking. If you want to grow the quality of your life in God, change the quality of your thinking to be aligned with God's Word and His promises.

C. GLOW FOR GOD

Create new healthy habits and positive values that help you go the distance. Not exercising for the sake of it, but achieving fitness success and consistently training for the right values. Likewise, the spirit and motivation behind praying repeatedly and daily is the desire to honour God. We want people to see the values God gives us.

These are the vital functions (excellence in fitness, enjoyment in God) that we want to perform every day. We want to be a lightbulb every day.

Honour God first, to change habits that are unhealthy (unsustainable and won't last), and develop new habits.

If the method you are using now to cope with stress is not working, enhance it. Change it up, and explore new methods. Up this segment of your life, narrow down the focus to some of these things so you can scale up the positive changes, and build it up to something bigger.

When you are clear about your values, you can communicate them over and over again - and God can give you opportunities to do so in fresh ways each time. Each time a good habit and value is communicated and observed in you, people can appreciate what you stand for.

For example, start good habits to appreciate people, by simply asking how they are doing, when's their birthday, send a greeting even when the birthday falls on a day you are out of camp. This is valuing appreciation, and not just say it, but mean it.

Going further:

- 1 Identify 5 people in your circle who may or may not know the Lord Jesus.
- 2 Take 5 minutes a day to pray for & bless these 5 people for a revelation of Jesus to break out in their lives, 5 days a week, for 5 weeks.
- 3 On the fifth week, ask what is going on in the lives of these 5 people that you can help in practical ways.

Why? This commitment demonstrates our agreement with the Father that Jesus would be revealed to these people (John 17), and by speaking blessings over them (in their absence).

D. GO FOR GOD

Turn your breakfasts, lunches and dinners into opportunities to share life - to pray and bless others. Don't only choose to be around people that you have good standing with. May the Lord help you reach out to everyone around you, and help you to be a blessing and testimony to them.

Remember Hebrews 10:24-25 “And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

The buddies that we make in National Service will be our friends for life, and these can be the ones we continually pray for - making our time in NS faithful and fruitful as unto the Lord.

E. GIVE TO GOD

Singapore is a very busy country, and a major bank now has a slogan that goes, "Live more, bank less." How do we get more effective in giving back to God?

Discern between busyness and effectiveness. The Kingdom of God is paradoxical - always the first shall be last, to live is to die, slow is fast. Jesus came to live and die not arriving as a King but born into a manger and dying on the Cross. You can even effectively lead people when you are not the leader. It is hard when you are not the superior. However, great leaders can lead even if they are the lowest in rank. The key is to be humble, and honour the leaders in position. You do not become a leader by criticising other leaders. You want to become a disciple that wants to make disciples the way Jesus did. This form of discipleship does not happen overnight. It is something you need to pray about. God will carry you through the conversations one at a time with people to truly make a difference in the lives of those around you. Slow is fast.

If you want lasting and transformational change, it does not start big. Everything that makes big shifts, it starts small. Even for the introduction of a breakthrough device like the iPhone, if it is foreign to the people around, there will be resistance and takes time. If you say you have a new way of doing life and the other person is wrong, it will not work overnight. Bring in the new habits - but know that it takes time and patience for God to mould you. God will entrust you with something small before He entrusts you with something bigger, and you may have to suffer, be trained in patience and it will be a gradual process before people around you get visibly impacted. Small is big.

You are not going to change the world just by reading more books, but you can by putting these practices, processes in place, with the right values and habits. Quickest way to get people to follow your lead, is to have them see your value. Want to change your environment? You have to do it relationally, one person at a time. Then it will be from slow to fast. If you cannot do it yourself, you cannot export it. Jesus started the global plan of salvation relationally with his inner circle and small group of disciples. Give from the inside out. Less is more.

ANNEXES

- A. The PAPA Prayer
- B. Emergency Prayers
- C. The Christian and War
- D. A Place to Pray
- E. Bible Reading Plan

ANNEX A

THE PAPA PRAYER

This is for people who long to hear God’s voice – to know God so well that His life actually becomes theirs.

P: Present yourself to God without pretense.

Be a real person in the relationship – tell Him whatever is going on inside you that you can identify. To begin with, have you:

1. Ever asked for something from God that you didn’t get?
2. Ever really needed to hear God’s voice and were not sure how to do so?

Jesus said, “I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven.” (Matthew 16:19).

Keys represent the authority, the privilege, the access. Jesus gives us the keys of His Kingdom and through Him, we have the right to come before God in prayer.

“As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God.” (John 1:12, KJV). As His children, we have the right to come before our Heavenly Father in prayer.

However, we sometimes come upon a situation and we can forget to use our key of prayer to move powerfully in and through it. Whenever we lost sight of our prayer key, we can ask Him to help us find it again and keep moving forward in prayer.

A: Attend to how you’re thinking of God.

Ask yourself, how am I experiencing God right now? Is He a vending machine, frowning father, a distant, cold force? Or is He your gloriously strong but intimate Papa?

The first thing in prayer is to get God – if you get Him everything else follows – allow God to get at you, to invade you, to take possession of you and then He pours His very prayers through. Jesus wanted nothing more than to let everyone see how wonderful His Father was – even if it cost Him His life – and that life – His Life is now in us – His passion and purpose are in our hearts. Now when we take time to just be with God – we start to sense His rhythm and we start responding to His love by falling in love with Him – it is a dance where He leads.

P: Purge yourself of anything blocking your relationship with God.

When you purge yourself before Papa, when you abandon yourself to holiness, you think more of how you fall short of God's holy way of relating, than of how others fail you or how badly you feel or how difficult your life may be. It makes you hate your sin, not yourself. And that focus doesn't leave you discouraged. Broken, yes. Despairing, no. You know that purging lights up the path of holiness, the road paved by grace that leads into God's presence.

A: Approach God as the first thing in your life.

Approach God as your most valuable treasure, the Person you most want to know. Repent of even valuing your satisfaction in Christ more than Christ Himself, and focus your committed wholly back to Christ and Christ alone. Prayer then becomes more about us hearing God than about Him hearing us – we are the audience.

This is how the PAPA Prayer can be like:

P: “God, I’m feeling excited about the possibility of knowing You better. Help me move forward in prayer with You.”

A: “You are my gloriously strong, yet intimate Papa. I see You as eager to be closer to me every day. I love that. Lead me into Your highest purposes for my life.”

P: “Purge me of anything hindering my relationship with You. My highest desire is to know You better.”

A: “Papa, I come to You just as I am. You are my most valuable treasure, and I want to hear You more than You hearing me. I want to know and learn more about You than I want anything else. Would You come and be the first thing in my life every day.”

Reference:

<http://shell.cowpersmith.org/2014/08/book-summary-the-papa-prayer-by-larry-crabb/>

ANNEX B

EMERGENCY PRAYERS

PORNOGRAPHY

Father God, I come humbly before You. I thank You Lord that You love me. That nothing in my life can be hidden from You. Everything in my life is naked and laid bare before You. Lord Almighty, the creator of the heavens and the earth. Lord, I come clean before You. I ask of You for Your forgiveness of my sins of indulging, of flirting, of getting involved with things that are unclean. I take the precious blood of Jesus to cleanse my eyes, to cleanse my mind, to clear away the neurological pathways in my brain that has been dirtied, with images, with pictures, with movies that I've watched, with pornography and everything that is unclean. I take the precious blood of Jesus, to cleanse my spirit and my body, to cleanse my mind, to cleanse my eyes, my ears, my mouth, my hands, my heart and my feet. I thank You Lord for Your cleansing power. I take the blood of Jesus to cover every ground previously given to the evil one to defile me, to cause me to fall again and again. I thank You Lord, as I commit my life to You and declare Jesus, You are Lord of my entire life. In Jesus name, I come against every unclean spirit, every defiling spirit, every vulgar spirit. Get out of my life. You have no more hold over me, I am cleansed, I am covered by the blood of the Lamb. I am the Son/Daughter of the most-high God. I ask for Your strength, I ask for Your grace, to have self-control and discipline in all these areas of my life. To walk in holiness as a special child because You are the special God. I give my life to You to walk in victory over this area of my life. I pray all this in Jesus' Name, Amen.

MENTAL HEALTH

Father God, I thank You that You want me to walk with the mind of Christ. A mind that is wholesome, a mind that is clear so that I can pray. I commit my mind to You, this gateway to my belief system. I ask that You would clear it, that You would help me fill my mind with the word of God, with Your precious thoughts. To be filled with Your love Father, with Your light Lord Jesus, and with Your life Holy Spirit. And with some of us who are troubled from time to time, with wrong thoughts, with ungodly beliefs, Lord right now, I ask of You to remove these thoughts from my mind and to replace them with godly beliefs. Lord would You revive me, to be anchored in Your promises and to allow Your Spirit to strengthen my spirit-man. To revive my soul and to look to You always from where my help comes from. And to conquer every depression and every suicidal thought. Lord, would you also intervene in my brain, and rearrange the chemicals, the neuro transmitters to be in healthy alignment, healthy equilibrium. So that I will walk with a good mental health, with a mind of Christ. Help me in this area Lord. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Adapted from: <https://www.bbtc.com.sg/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/PRAYER-TRANSCRIPT.pdf>

ANNEX C

THE CHRISTIAN AND WAR

Respect is due to those who honestly think that the principles of Christianity and those of the Fighting Services (Military) are so opposed that no true Christian can join the latter. However, consider the following:

1. War is the result of man's sin (James 4: 1). Fallen man, until redeemed by Christ, will always tend to act for selfish advantage.
2. While killing by an individual on his own behalf is always condemned in the Bible (Exodus 20: 13; Leviticus 24: 17; 1 John 3: 15), taking of human life in the execution of justice or in battle is never made the responsibility of the individual. The same Law which condemn the unlawful taking of human life (i.e. murder) actually specified the death penalty (i.e., the lawful taking of life) as the only fit punishment for certain crimes.
3. In the New Testament, where many officers and soldiers are mentioned, they are never told to abandon their calling. See Luke 3: 14 and 7: 1-10 and 1 Cor 7: 20; Hebrews 13: 17. In Acts 10:1-33, we find an officer, Cornelius, conspicuous for being a true Christian (v 2,22 & 30).
4. The Christian's armour is typical of warfare (Ephesians 6: 11-18; 2 Timothy 2: 3). If it were wrong to take part in warfare, would it be compared in this way? Evil professions such as prostitution are always used as examples of wicked conduct (Ezekiel 16: 28).
5. Many great and godly men of the Bible were highly proficient military leaders – Abraham, Moses, Joshua and King David. Many officers and men have proved the reality of God in their profession, and have found He helps them to be more efficient. If the profession of arms were wrong, would this be the case?

6. Notice Matthew 5: 9 says “Blessed are the peace-makers” not the “pacifists”. Is it really moral to do nothing to put right an evident injustice, e.g., the response by Britain to the unprovoked aggression of Nazi Germany against Poland in 1939? If the earlier policy of appeasement (urged by pacifists) had continued, Hitler would have remained free to murder Jews and subjugate many peoples with extreme cruelty. Every sane person should loathe war and do everything possible to prevent it. True peace (a positive condition, not mere absence from war) follows righteousness. Note that the order in Isaiah 32: 17; Romans 14: 17; 2 Timothy 2: 22 and James 3: 17. The Christian outlook “Righteousness at any costs”, and not “Peace at any price”, for “Righteousness exalts a nation” (Proverbs 14: 34).
7. Action by the Armed Forces is often of exactly the same nature as action by the police. Romans 13: 1-7 explains the duties of governments to protect the weak against the strong and to punish the wrongdoer while rewarding the just. Part of that delegated authority from God is the ultimate sanction of taking human life (4). Those who exercise such authority are accountable to God; our responsibility is to submit to the authorities (1Peter 2: 13), up to the point where their commands are unlawful, and to pray for them (1 Timothy 2:1&2).
8. It should be noted that we live in a provisional world order. This world will never be brought to total justice, righteousness and peace – these will only be experienced during Christ’s 1,000-year reign (Rev 20: 4-7) and in the New Heaven and the New Earth (Rev 21: 1). We can never be utopians because of the Fall of Man has excluded such an eventuality. We are not passive though. We must do all we can to relieve suffering and injustice and to improve the lot of our fellow man. Christians should be active in politics, in Third World relief and development projects and the like, provided we never lose sight of the greatest need of mankind, which is to know the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Source: <http://www.ocfusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/100-days-2013-web.pdf>

ANNEX D

A PLACE TO PRAY

“But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you”

— Matthew 6:6

As we establish a habit of prayer, we also need to pick a quiet place for prayer where we won't be interrupted. Christ went into the wilderness to be alone with His Father, but for most of us, it will probably be a room in our home. Wherever it is, it will be like an altar where we meet with God to share our concerns and have fellowship with Him.

Because Jesus lived an itinerant lifestyle, His place of prayer changed as He travelled, but prayer was always a priority in His life and should be in ours as well. Here are some of the features and benefits of having a dedicated prayer space:

IT'S A PRIVATE PLACE. Jesus said to go into an inner room and close the door (Matt. 6:6). If we are really serious about finding a quiet area to be alone with the Lord in prayer, He will provide one. It may require a little creativity and adjustment on our part, but God wants to meet with each of us privately so we can develop an intimate relationship with Him.

IT'S A HOLY PLACE. When we habitually meet with the Lord in the same place each day, it becomes holy because it is set apart to worship and commune with Him. It becomes a visual trigger. We quickly adjust to the setting and are immediately ready to talk to the Father—because that's what happens there. Some of the greatest things He accomplishes in our lives are the result of the relationship we have with Him in that secluded place of prayer.

IT'S WHERE OUR BATTLES ARE FOUGHT. Every time we go through difficult situations or conflicts with people, we should bring our concerns to our heavenly Father and engage Him in helping fight our battles. We need His guidance, assistance, and wisdom to know how to respond and what to do. There will be times when no one else can help us, but He is always there to comfort, strengthen, and encourage us.

IT'S WHERE WE DEAL WITH OUR SINS. As we open His Word and our hearts before Him, we have an opportunity to confess our sins and ask Him to convict us of anything in our lives that is contrary to His desires for us. As we pray, we must give the Lord time to speak to our hearts. Sometimes He uses a passage of His Word to convict, encourage, or direct us, and at other times His Spirit communicates inaudibly with us in our hearts.

IT'S WHERE WE DEVELOP AN INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LORD. There are times when we pray with others or together as a family, but it's only in our private times with the Lord that we grow to know Him intimately and have the freedom to honestly and openly share our hearts with Him. This is the most important activity of our lives—communing and fellowshiping with the Lord Jesus Christ.

IT'S WHERE WE LAY DOWN OUR BURDENS. God daily lifts our burdens, carries our concerns, and forgives our sins when we confess them.

IT'S WHERE WE WEEP OVER OUR TRIALS AND HEARTACHES. When we go into our prayer room and cry out to God, He understands and mends our broken hearts.

IT'S WHERE WE FORGIVE OTHERS. The Lord not only forgives our sins but helps us battle through our hurts so we can forgive others.

IT'S WHERE WE ARE STRENGTHENED. In this holy place we have the privilege of discussing every area of our lives. As we pour out our hurts, sorrows, and burdens, the Lord comes to strengthen us.

Where do you go to pray? Having a dedicated place to come before God helps us focus and prepare our hearts to hear from Him. It can simply be a chair, an office space, your bunk, even a stairwell or carpark. Wherever you find conducive to meet with you God regularly. Bring this journal, or any notebook along where you can jot down what God says, and write down any things you want to list down that could become a distraction to continuing your prayer time with God. Then keep on praying and hearing from Him who holds all of the right answers, the wisdom from above that is “first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere” (James 3:17). Even when we're on the go, we can set aside a time and place to talk with God, which ought to be our greatest priority every day.

Adapted from: <https://www.intouch.org/-/media/intouch/get-involved/pray/seasons-of-prayer/making-prayer-a-priority>

ANNEX E

BIBLE READING PLAN

“I have put my words in your mouth and covered you with the shadow of my hand”

- Isaiah 51:16a

“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”

- Romans 12:1-2 (KJV)

“So here’s what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don’t become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You’ll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.”

- Romans 12:1-2 (MSG)

This is a Bible reading plan that includes three passages each day (one from the Old Testament, one from the Poetical Books, and one from the New Testament) and time for reflecting on an aspect of God’s character on every Sunday.

Check the box once you’ve completed that day’s reading to help you stay on track. By dividing the Bible into 365 daily readings, your goal of reading the Bible in a year can easily be accomplished. Enjoy spending intentional time with the Word of God and note down how it has transformed your life!

Adapted from: https://media.swncdn.com/cms/pdf/BST-144-2018biblereadingplan_bst.pdf

BIBLE CALENDAR

MONTH 1

<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Reflect on God as Creator			
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Gen. 1-4	Ps. 1		Matt. 1
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Gen. 5-9	Prov. 1		Matt. 2
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Gen. 10-14	Ps. 2		Matt. 3
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Gen. 15-18	Prov. 2		Matt. 4
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	Gen. 19-22	Ps. 3		Matt. 5
<input type="checkbox"/> 7	Gen. 23-25	Prov. 3		Matt. 6
<input type="checkbox"/> 8	Reflect on God as Healer			
<input type="checkbox"/> 9	Gen. 26-27	Ps. 4		Matt. 7
<input type="checkbox"/> 10	Gen. 28-31	Prov. 4		Matt. 8
<input type="checkbox"/> 11	Gen. 32-34	Ps. 5		Matt. 9
<input type="checkbox"/> 12	Gen. 35-37	Prov. 5		Matt. 10
<input type="checkbox"/> 13	Gen. 38-42	Ps. 6		Matt. 11
<input type="checkbox"/> 14	Gen. 43-44	Prov. 6		Matt. 12
<input type="checkbox"/> 15	Reflect on God as Provider			
<input type="checkbox"/> 16	Gen. 45-47	Ps. 7		Matt. 13
<input type="checkbox"/> 17	Gen. 48-50	Prov. 7		Matt. 14
<input type="checkbox"/> 18	Ex. 1-2	Ps. 8		Matt. 15
<input type="checkbox"/> 19	Ex. 3-4	Prov. 8		Matt. 16
<input type="checkbox"/> 20	Ex. 5-6	Ps. 9		Matt. 17
<input type="checkbox"/> 21	Ex. 7-8	Prov. 9		Matt. 18
<input type="checkbox"/> 22	Reflect on God as Almighty			
<input type="checkbox"/> 23	Ex. 9-10	Ps. 10		Matt. 19
<input type="checkbox"/> 24	Ex. 11-12	Prov. 10		Matt. 20
<input type="checkbox"/> 25	Ex. 13-14	Ps. 11		Matt. 21
<input type="checkbox"/> 26	Ex. 15-16	Prov. 11		Matt. 22
<input type="checkbox"/> 27	Ex. 17-18	Ps. 12		Matt. 23
<input type="checkbox"/> 28	Ex. 19-20	Prov. 12		Matt. 24
<input type="checkbox"/> 29	Reflect on God as Alpha and Omega			
<input type="checkbox"/> 30	Ex. 21-22	Ps. 13		Matt. 25
<input type="checkbox"/> 31	Ex. 23-24	Prov. 13		Matt. 26

MONTH 2

<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Ex. 25-26	Ps. 14		Matt. 23
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Ex. 27-28	Prov. 14		Matt. 24
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Ex. 29-30	Ps. 15		Matt. 25
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Ex. 31-32	Prov. 15		Matt. 26
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Reflect on God as Lord of All			
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	Ex. 33-34	Ps. 16		Matt. 27
<input type="checkbox"/> 7	Ex. 35-36	Prov. 16		Matt. 28
<input type="checkbox"/> 8	Ex. 37-38	Ps. 17		Mark 1
<input type="checkbox"/> 9	Ex. 39-40	Prov. 17		Mark 2
<input type="checkbox"/> 10	Lev. 1-3	Ps. 18		Mark 3-4
<input type="checkbox"/> 11	Lev. 4-5	Prov. 18		Mark 5
<input type="checkbox"/> 12	Reflect on God as Counselor			
<input type="checkbox"/> 13	Lev. 6-7	Ps. 19		Mark 6
<input type="checkbox"/> 14	Lev. 8-10	Prov. 19		Mark 7
<input type="checkbox"/> 15	Lev. 11-12	Ps. 20		Mark 8
<input type="checkbox"/> 16	Lev. 13-15	Prov. 20		Mark 9
<input type="checkbox"/> 17	Lev. 16-17	Ps. 21		Mark 10
<input type="checkbox"/> 18	Lev. 18-20	Prov. 21		Mark 11
<input type="checkbox"/> 19	Reflect on God as Faithful			
<input type="checkbox"/> 20	Lev. 21-22	Ps. 22		Mark 12
<input type="checkbox"/> 21	Lev. 23-25	Prov. 22		Mark 13
<input type="checkbox"/> 22	Lev. 26-27	Ps. 23		Mark 14
<input type="checkbox"/> 23	Num. 1-3	Prov. 23		Mark 15
<input type="checkbox"/> 24	Num. 4-6	Ps. 24		Mark 16
<input type="checkbox"/> 25	Num. 7-9	Prov. 24		Luke 1
<input type="checkbox"/> 26	Reflect on God as Author			
<input type="checkbox"/> 27	Num. 10-12	Ps. 25		Luke 2
<input type="checkbox"/> 28	Num. 13-15	Prov. 25		Luke 3

BIBLE CALENDAR

MONTH 3

□ 1	Num. 16-18	Ps. 26	Luke 4
□ 2	Num. 19-21	Prov. 26	Luke 5
□ 3	Num. 22-23	Ps. 27	Luke 6
□ 4	Num. 24-26	Prov. 27	Luke 7
□ 5	Reflect on God as Redeemer		
□ 6	Num. 27-29	Ps. 28	Luke 8
□ 7	Num. 30-33	Prov. 28	Luke 9
□ 8	Num. 34-36	Ps. 29	Luke 10
□ 9	Deut. 1-2	Prov. 29	Luke 11
□ 10	Deut. 3-4	Ps. 30	Luke 12
□ 11	Deut. 5-6	Prov. 30	Luke 13
□ 12	Reflect on God as Helper		
□ 13	Deut. 7-8	Ps. 31	Luke 14
□ 14	Deut. 9-10	Prov. 31	Luke 15
□ 15	Deut. 11-12	Ps. 32	Luke 16
□ 16	Deut. 13-14	Eccl. 1:1-11	Luke 17
□ 17	Deut. 15-16	Ps. 33	Luke 18
□ 18	Deut. 17-18	Eccl. 1:12-18	Luke 19
□ 19	Reflect on God as Peace		
□ 20	Deut. 19-20	Ps. 34	Luke 20
□ 21	Deut. 21-22	Eccl. 2:1-17	Luke 21
□ 22	Deut. 23-24	Ps. 35	Luke 22
□ 23	Deut. 25-26	Eccl. 2:18-26	Luke 23
□ 24	Deut. 27-28	Ps. 26	Luke 24
□ 25	Deut. 29-30	Eccl. 3:1-8	John 1
□ 26	Reflect on God as Messiah		
□ 27	Deut. 31-32	Ps. 37	John 2
□ 28	Deut. 33-34	Eccl. 3:9-22	John 3
□ 29	Joshua 1-2	Ps. 38	John 4
□ 30	Joshua 3-4	Eccl. 4:1-6	John 5
□ 31	Joshua 5-6	Ps. 29	John 6

MONTH 4

□ 1	Joshua 7-8	Eccl. 4:7-16	John 7
□ 2	Reflect on God as Friend		
□ 3	Joshua 9-10	Ps. 40	John 8
□ 4	Joshua 11-12	Eccl. 5:1-9	John 9
□ 5	Joshua 13-14	Ps. 41	John 10
□ 6	Joshua 15-16	Eccl. 5:10-20	John 11
□ 7	Joshua 17--18	Ps. 42	John 12
□ 8	Joshua 19-20	Eccl. 6:1-6	John 13
□ 9	Reflect on God as Lion and Lamb		
□ 10	Joshua 21-22	Ps. 43	John 14
□ 11	Joshua 23-24	Eccl. 6:7-12	John 15
□ 12	Judges 1-3	Ps. 44	John 16
□ 13	Judges 4-6	Eccl. 7:1-13	John 17
□ 14	Judges 7-9	Ps. 45	John 18
□ 15	Judges 10-12	Eccl. 7:14-29	John 19
□ 16	Reflect on God as Love		
□ 17	Judges 13-15	Ps. 46	John 20
□ 18	Judges 16-18	Eccl. 8-1-9	John 21
□ 19	Judges 19-21	Ps. 47	Acts 1
□ 20	Ruth 1-2	Eccl. 8:10-17	Acts 2
□ 21	Ruth 3-4	Ps. 48	Acts 3
□ 22	1 Sam. 1-3	Eccl. 9:1-10	Acts 4
□ 23	Reflect on God as Capable		
□ 24	1 Sam. 4-6	Ps. 49	Acts 5
□ 25	1 Sam. 7-9	Eccl. 9:11-18	Acts 6
□ 26	1 Sam. 10-12	Ps. 50	Acts 7
□ 27	1 Sam. 13-15	Eccl. 10:1-11	Acts 8
□ 28	1 Sam. 16-18	Ps. 51	Acts 9
□ 29	1 Sam. 19-21	Eccl. 10:12-20	Acts 10
□ 30	Reflect on God as Strength		

BIBLE CALENDAR

MONTH 5

□ 1	1 Sam. 22-24	Ps. 52	Acts 11
□ 2	1 Sam. 25-27	Eccl. 11:1-5	Acts 12
□ 3	1 Sam. 28-29	Ps. 53	Acts 13
□ 4	2 Sam. 1-2	Eccl. 11:6-10	Acts 14
□ 5	2 Sam. 3-4	Ps. 54	Acts 15
□ 6	2 Sam. 5-6	Eccl. 12:1-8	Acts 16
□ 7	Reflect on God as Sovereign		
□ 8	2 Sam. 7-8	Ps. 59	Acts 17
□ 9	2 Sam. 9-10	Eccl. 12:9-13	Acts 18
□ 10	2 Sam. 11-12	Ps. 60	Acts 19
□ 11	2 Sam. 13-14	Job 1	Acts 20
□ 12	2 Sam. 15-16	Ps. 61	Acts 21
□ 13	2 Sam. 17-18	Job 2	Acts 22
□ 14	Reflect on God as Shepherd		
□ 15	2 Sam. 19-20	Ps. 62	Acts 23
□ 16	2 Sam. 21-22	Job 3	Acts 24
□ 17	2 Sam. 23-24	Ps. 63	Acts 25
□ 18	1 Kings 1-2	Job 4	Acts 26
□ 19	1 Kings 3-4	Ps. 64	Acts 27
□ 20	1 Kings 5-6	Job 5	Acts 28
□ 21	Reflect on God as Hope		
□ 22	1 Kings 7-8	Ps. 65	Rom. 1
□ 23	1 Kings 9-10	Job 6	Rom. 2
□ 24	1 Kings 11-12	Ps. 66	Rom. 3
□ 25	1 Kings 13-14	Job 7	Rom. 4
□ 26	1 Kings 15-16	Ps. 67	Rom. 5
□ 27	1 Kings 17-18	Job 8	Rom. 6
□ 28	Reflect on God as Rest		
□ 29	1 Kings 19-20	Ps. 68	Rom. 7
□ 30	1 Kings 21-22	Job 9	Rom. 8
□ 31	2 Kings 1-3	Ps. 69	Rom. 9

MONTH 6

□ 1	2 Kings 4-5	Job 10	Rom. 10
□ 2	2 Kings 6-8	Ps. 70	Rom. 11
□ 3	2 Kings 9-10	Job 11	Rom. 12
□ 4	Reflect on God as Restorer		
□ 5	2 Kings 11-13	Ps. 71	Rom. 13
□ 6	2 Kings 14-15	Job 12	Rom. 14
□ 7	2 Kings 16-18	Ps. 72	Rom. 15
□ 8	2 Kings 19-20	Job 13	Rom. 16
□ 9	2 Kings 21-23	Ps. 73	1 Cor. 1
□ 10	2 Kings 24-25	Job 14	1 Cor. 2
□ 11	Reflect on God as Center		
□ 12	1 Chron. 1-3	Ps. 74	1 Cor. 3
□ 13	1 Chron. 4-6	Job 15	1 Cor. 4
□ 14	1 Chron. 7-9	Ps. 75	1 Cor. 5
□ 15	1 Chron. 10-12	Job 16	1 Cor. 6
□ 16	1 Chron. 13-15	Ps. 76	1 Cor. 7
□ 17	1 Chron 16-18	Job 17	1 Cor. 8
□ 18	Reflect on God as Living Water		
□ 19	1 Chron. 19-21	Ps. 77	1 Cor. 9
□ 20	1 Chron. 22-24	Job 18	1 Cor. 10
□ 21	1 Chron. 25-27	Ps. 78:1-24	1 Cor. 11
□ 22	1 Chron. 28-29	Job 19	1 Cor. 12
□ 23	2 Chron. 1-3	Ps. 78:2-48	1 Cor. 13
□ 24	2 Chron. 4-6	Job 20	1 Cor. 14
□ 25	Reflect on God as Perfector		
□ 26	2 Chron. 7-9	Ps. 78:49-72	1 Cor. 15
□ 27	2 Chron. 10-12	Job 21	1 Cor. 16
□ 28	2 Chron. 13-15	Ps. 79	2 Cor. 1
□ 29	2 Chron. 16-18	Job 22	2 Cor. 2
□ 30	2 Chron. 19-21	Ps. 80	2 Cor. 3

BIBLE CALENDAR

MONTH 7

MONTH 8

□ 1	2 Chron. 22-24	Job 23	2 Cor. 4	□ 1	Isaiah 11	Job 36	Col. 1
□ 2	Reflect on God as Everlasting			□ 2	Isaiah 12	Ps. 93	Col. 2
□ 3	Ezra 1-2	Ps. 81	2 Cor. 5	□ 3	Isaiah 13	Job 37	Col. 3
□ 4	Ezra 3-4	Job 24	2 Cor. 6	□ 4	Isaiah 14	Ps. 94	Col. 4
□ 5	Ezra 5-6	Ps. 82	2 Cor. 7	□ 5	Isaiah 15	Job 38	1 Thess. 1
□ 6	Ezra 7-8	Job 25	2 Cor. 8	□ 6	Reflect on God as Father		
□ 7	Ezra 9-10	Ps. 83	2 Cor. 9	□ 7	Isaiah 16	Ps. 95	1 Thess. 2
□ 8	Neh. 1-3	Job 26	2 Cor. 10	□ 8	Isaiah 17	Job 39	1 Thess. 3
□ 9	Reflect on God as Refuge			□ 9	Isaiah 18	Ps. 96	1 Thess. 4
□ 10	Neh. 4-5	Ps. 84	2 Cor. 11	□ 10	Isaiah 19	Job 40	1 Thess. 5
□ 11	Neh. 6-7	Job 27	2 Cor. 12	□ 11	Isaiah 20	Ps. 97	2 Thess. 1
□ 12	Neh. 8-10	Ps. 85	2 Cor. 13	□ 12	Isaiah 21	Job 41	2 Thess. 2
□ 13	Neh. 11-13	Job 28	Gal. 1	□ 13	Reflect on God as Light		
□ 14	Esther 1-2	Ps. 86	Gal. 2	□ 14	Isaiah 22	Ps. 98	2 Thess. 3
□ 15	Esther 3-4	Job 29	Gal. 3	□ 15	Isaiah 23	Job 42	1 Tim. 1
□ 16	Reflect on God as Victor			□ 16	Isaiah 24	Ps. 99	1 Tim. 2
□ 17	Esther 5-6	Ps. 87	Gal. 4	□ 17	Isaiah 25	Song 1:1-7	1 Tim. 3
□ 18	Esther 7-8	Job 30	Gal. 5	□ 18	Isaiah 26	Ps. 100	1 Tim. 4
□ 19	Esther 9-10	Ps. 88	Gal. 6	□ 19	Isaiah 27	Song 1:8-17	1 Tim. 5
□ 20	Isaiah 1	Job 31	Eph. 1	□ 20	Reflect on God as Truth		
□ 21	Isaiah 2	Ps. 89:1-26	Eph. 2	□ 21	Isaiah 28	Ps. 101	1 Tim. 6
□ 22	Isaiah 3	Job 32	Eph. 3	□ 22	Isaiah 29	Song 2:1-7	1 Tim. 7
□ 23	Reflect on God as High Priest			□ 23	Isaiah 30	Ps. 102	2 Tim. 2
□ 24	Isaiah 4	Ps. 89:27-52	Eph. 4	□ 24	Isaiah 31	Song 2:8-17	2 Tim. 3
□ 25	Isaiah 5	Job 33	Eph. 5	□ 25	Isaiah 32	Ps. 103	2 Tim. 4
□ 26	Isaiah 6	Ps. 90	Eph. 6	□ 26	Isaiah 33	Song 3:1-5	Titus 1
□ 27	Isaiah 7	Job 34	Phil. 1	□ 27	Reflect on God as Holy		
□ 28	Isaiah 8	Ps. 91	Phil. 2	□ 28	Isaiah 34	Ps. 104	Titus 2
□ 29	Isaiah 9	Job 35	Phil. 3	□ 29	Isaiah 35	Song 3:6-11	Titus 3
□ 30	Reflect on God as Humble			□ 30	Isaiah 36	Ps. 105	Philemon
□ 31	Isaiah 10	Ps. 92	Phil. 4	□ 31	Isaiah 37	Song 4:1-8	Heb. 1

BIBLE CALENDAR

MONTH 9

□ 1	Isaiah 38	Ps. 105:23-45	Heb. 2
□ 2	Isaiah 39	Song 4:9-16	Heb. 3
□ 3	Reflect on God as Deliverer		
□ 4	Isaiah 40	Ps. 106:1-24	Heb. 4
□ 5	Isaiah 41	Song 5:1-8	Heb. 5
□ 6	Isaiah 42	Ps. 106:25-48	Heb. 6
□ 7	Isaiah 43	Song 5:9-16	Heb. 7
□ 8	Isaiah 44	Ps. 107:1-23	Heb. 8
□ 9	Isaiah 45	Song 6:1-5	Heb. 9
□ 10	Reflect on God as Protector		
□ 11	Isaiah 46	Ps. 107:24-43	Heb. 10
□ 12	Isaiah 47	Song 6:6-13	Heb. 11
□ 13	Isaiah 48	Ps. 108	Heb. 12
□ 14	Isaiah 49	Song 7:1-5	Heb. 13
□ 15	Isaiah 50	Ps. 109	James 1
□ 16	Isaiah 51	Song 7:6-13	James 2
□ 17	Reflect on God as Eternal		
□ 18	Isaiah 52	Ps. 110	James 3
□ 19	Isaiah 53	Song 8:1-7	James 4
□ 20	Isaiah 54	Ps. 111	James 5
□ 21	Isaiah 55	Song 8:8-14	1 Peter 1
□ 22	Isaiah 56	Ps. 112	1 Peter 2
□ 23	Isaiah 57	Ps. 113	1 Peter 3
□ 24	Reflect on God's Kindness		
□ 25	Isaiah 58	Ps. 114	1 Peter 4
□ 26	Isaiah 59	Ps. 115	1 Peter 5
□ 27	Isaiah 60	Ps. 116	2 Peter 1
□ 28	Isaiah 61	Ps. 117	2 Peter 2
□ 29	Isaiah 62	Ps. 118	2 Peter 3
□ 30	Isaiah 63	Ps. 119:1-8	1 John 1

MONTH 10

□ 1	Reflect on God's Goodness		
□ 2	Isaiah 64	Ps. 119:9-16	1 John 2
□ 3	Isaiah 65	Ps. 119:17-24	1 John 3
□ 4	Isaiah 66	Ps. 119:25-32	1 John 4
□ 5	Jer. 1-2	Ps. 119:33-40	1 John 5
□ 6	Jer. 3-4	Ps. 119:41-48	2 John
□ 7	Jer. 5-6	Ps. 119:49-56	3 John
□ 8	Reflect on God's Patience		
□ 9	Jer. 7-8	Ps. 119:57-64	Jude
□ 10	Jer. 9-10	Ps. 119:65-72	Rev. 1
□ 11	Jer. 11-12	Ps. 119:73-80	Rev. 2
□ 12	Jer. 13-14	Ps. 119:81-88	Rev. 3
□ 13	Jer. 15-16	Ps. 119:89-96	Rev. 4
□ 14	Jer. 17-18	Ps. 119:97-104	Rev. 5
□ 15	Reflect on God's Generosity		
□ 16	Jer. 19-20	Ps. 119:105-112	Rev. 6
□ 17	Jer. 21-22	Ps. 110:113-120	Rev. 7
□ 18	Jer. 23-24	Ps. 119:121-128	Rev. 8
□ 19	Jer. 25-26	Prov. 1	Rev. 9
□ 20	Jer. 27-28	Ps. 119:129-136	Rev. 10
□ 21	Jer. 29-30	Prov. 2	Rev. 11
□ 22	Reflect on God's Compassion		
□ 23	Jer. 31-32	Ps. 119:137-144	Rev. 12
□ 24	Jer. 33-34	Prov. 3	Rev. 13
□ 25	Jer. 35-36	Ps. 119:145-152	Rev. 14
□ 26	Jer. 37-38	Prov. 4	Rev. 15
□ 27	Jer. 39-40	Ps. 119:153-160	Rev. 16
□ 28	Jer. 41-42	Prov. 5	Rev. 17
□ 29	Reflect on God's Wisdom		
□ 30	Jer. 43-44	Ps. 119:161-168	Rev. 18
□ 31	Her. 45-46	Prov. 6	Rev. 19

BIBLE CALENDAR

MONTH 11

<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Jer. 47-48	Ps. 119:169-176	Rev. 20
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Jer. 49-50	Prov. 7	Rev. 21
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Jer. 51-52	Ps. 120-121	Rev. 22
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Ezekiel 1-3	Prov. 8	Luke 1
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Reflect on God as Beginning		
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	Ezekiel 4-6	Ps. 122-123	Luke 2
<input type="checkbox"/> 7	Ezekiel 7-9	Prov. 9	Luke 3
<input type="checkbox"/> 8	Ezekiel 10-14	Ps. 124-125	Luke 4
<input type="checkbox"/> 9	Ezekiel 15-18	Prov. 10	Luke 5
<input type="checkbox"/> 10	Ezekiel 19-22	Ps. 126-127	Luke 6
<input type="checkbox"/> 11	Ezekiel 23-26	Prov. 11	Luke 7
<input type="checkbox"/> 12	Reflect on God as Maker		
<input type="checkbox"/> 13	Ezekiel 27-29	Ps. 128-129	Luke 8
<input type="checkbox"/> 14	Ezekiel 30-32	Prov. 12	Luke 9
<input type="checkbox"/> 15	Ezekiel 33-35	Ps. 130	Luke 10
<input type="checkbox"/> 16	Ezekiel 36-38	Prov. 13	Luke 11
<input type="checkbox"/> 17	Ezekiel 39-41	Ps. 131	Luke 12
<input type="checkbox"/> 18	Ezekiel 42-45	Prov. 14	Luke 13
<input type="checkbox"/> 19	Reflect on God as Rock		
<input type="checkbox"/> 20	Ezekiel 46-48	Ps. 132	Luke 14
<input type="checkbox"/> 21	Dan. 1-2	Prov. 15	Luke 15
<input type="checkbox"/> 22	Dan. 3-4	Ps. 133	Luke 16
<input type="checkbox"/> 23	Dan. 5-6	Prov. 16	Luke 17
<input type="checkbox"/> 24	Dan. 7-8	Ps. 134	Luke 18
<input type="checkbox"/> 25	Dan. 9-10	Prov. 17	Luke 19
<input type="checkbox"/> 26	Reflect on God as Gardener		
<input type="checkbox"/> 27	Dan. 11-12	Ps. 135	Luke 20
<input type="checkbox"/> 28	Hosea 1-2	Prov. 18	Luke 21
<input type="checkbox"/> 29	Hosea 3-4	Ps. 136	Luke 22
<input type="checkbox"/> 30	Hosea 5-6	Prov. 19	Luke 23

MONTH 12

<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Hosea 7-8	Ps. 137	Luke 24
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Hosea 9-10	Prov. 20	Matthew 1
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Reflect on God as Giver		
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Hosea 11-12	Ps. 128	Matt. 2
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Hosea 13:-14	Prov. 21	Matt. 3
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	Joel	Psalm 139	Matt. 4
<input type="checkbox"/> 7	Amos 1-3	Prov. 22	Matt. 5
<input type="checkbox"/> 8	Amos 4-5	Ps. 140	Matt. 6
<input type="checkbox"/> 9	Amos 6-7	Prov. 23	Matt. 7-8
<input type="checkbox"/> 10	Reflect on God as King of Kings		
<input type="checkbox"/> 11	Amos 8-9	Ps. 141	Matt. 9
<input type="checkbox"/> 12	Obadiah	Prov. 24	Matt. 10
<input type="checkbox"/> 13	Jonah 1-2	Ps. 142	Matt. 11
<input type="checkbox"/> 14	Jonah 3-4	Prov. 25	Matt. 12
<input type="checkbox"/> 15	Micah 1-3	Ps. 143	Matt. 13
<input type="checkbox"/> 16	Micah 4-5	Prov. 26	Matt. 14
<input type="checkbox"/> 17	Reflect on God as Savior		
<input type="checkbox"/> 18	Micah 6-7	Ps. 144	Matt. 15
<input type="checkbox"/> 19	Nahum	Prov. 27	Matt. 16
<input type="checkbox"/> 20	Habakkuk	Ps. 145	Matt. 17
<input type="checkbox"/> 21	Zephaniah	Prov. 28	Matt. 18
<input type="checkbox"/> 22	Haggai	Ps. 146	Matt. 19
<input type="checkbox"/> 23	Zech. 1-3	Prov. 29	Matt. 20
<input type="checkbox"/> 24	Reflect on God as Emmanuel		
<input type="checkbox"/> 25	Zech. 4-6	Ps. 147	Matt. 21
<input type="checkbox"/> 26	Zech. 7-8	Prov. 30	Matt. 22
<input type="checkbox"/> 27	Zech. 9-10	Ps. 148	Matt. 23
<input type="checkbox"/> 28	Zech. 11-12	Prov. 31:1-9	Matt. 24-25
<input type="checkbox"/> 29	Zech. 13-14	Ps. 149	Matt. 25-26
<input type="checkbox"/> 30	Malachi 1-2	Prov. 31:10-31	Matt. 26-27
<input type="checkbox"/> 31	Malachi 3-4	Ps. 150	Matt. 28

REFERENCES

MCF would like to acknowledge contents and articles that have been referenced and adapted from the following (in alphabetical order by surname):

- Dr Neil T. Anderson
- Pastor Joey Bonafacio
- Oswald Chambers
- Dr Larry Crabb
- Jim Daly
- Pastor Daniel Foo
- Kenneth E. Hagin
- Richard (Dick) Innes
- Pastor Kevin Koh
- Pastor Bill Meyers
- Reverend Dr Jack Sin
- Dr Charles Stanley
- Reverend Dr LTC (Ret) Patrick Tan
- Pastor Rick Warren
- Pastor Rick Zachary

Many others who have contributed to the production of this journal and its contents.

