

PO BOX 21930

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1 April 2024

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Praise the Lord! We are so blessed to be able to study God's Word every day. I pray for you to receive all that God has for you this month through Jesus and His wonderful Word. If you know of anyone else who would benefit from these devotions please get some for them.

Gladly in His Service,

DR. 9--

Dr. Jason B. Brittain





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Monday April 1

Scripture Reading: Judges 6-7 Luke 8:1-21

Praise the Lord! I want to commend you for choosing to be in God's Word every day. Psalms 119:105 says, "Your Word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path." If you are ever in a situation where you don't know what to do, you can turn to the Word for help. You may search for a verse that helps you or may ask someone else if they know of some part of God's Word that applies to what you are dealing with. This is a good thing to do at times like that.

Here is something else that is good. Being in God's Word on a consistent basis, *like every day* can and will help you. Many times what we study and think about will be preparing us for something that is to come. We don't always know what is coming, but God knows. He is always with us. I am sure you know that, but take a look at Deuteronomy 31:8, "The Lord Himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." This verse clearly tells us that God is always with us and it tells us that He will never leave us. That is great news but this verse also tells us some more. Look at this part of the verse, The Lord Himself goes before you and will be with you.

God is always with us to help us AND God Himself goes before us. So when something surprises you, know that God already knew it was going to happen and He even went ahead of you. We may be surprised but God is never surprised and He can and will help you. So, when you need some verses to guide you and help you, He already knew you were going have the need and He is already ready and willing to help you. Can you say, "Thank You, Jesus!"?

Prayer: Lord, I am so thankful for Your Word. I know that Your Word is always right and I know that Your Word is powerful to help me and to guide me. I want to study Your Word consistently so I can be prepared for whatever I face and I want to be prepared to share Your Word with others when they need it. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Tuesday April 2

Scripture Reading: Judges 8-9

Luke 8:22-56

Praise the Lord! Yesterday, I showed you Deuteronomy 31:8 that says God will go before us and that He will never leave us. For today, I want to show you the context of when that verse was spoken.

Moses was coming to the end of his life and God was speaking two things to them. He was telling them that Joshua was going to be their leader and that He would go ahead of them and fight for them. Deuteronomy 31:1-6, "Then Moses went out and spoke these words to all Israel: "I am now a hundred and twenty years old and I am no longer able to lead you. The Lord has said to me, 'You shall not cross the Jordan.' The Lord your God Himself will cross over ahead of you. He will destroy these nations before you, and you will take possession of their land. Joshua also will cross over ahead of you, as the Lord said. And the Lord will do to them what he did to Sihon and Og, the kings of the Amorites, whom He destroyed along with their land. The Lord will deliver them to you, and you must do to them all that I have commanded you. Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you."

I have several things to cover from these verses for today and more tomorrow. These people were going where they had never gone before. They were going to fight enemies and battles they had never fought before. God wanted them to know that He would go ahead of them and he would defeat their enemies. God is still doing these things for us today. Believe it.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for knowing everything I am going to face as I live for You. I believe You know all things and I know that You are helping me in all things. Help me to renew my mind to these truths and help me to stand in faith. I know that giving my life to You was the best decision I ever made. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Wednesday April 3

Scripture Reading: Judges 10-11

Luke 9:1-36

Praise the Lord! Look at this part of the verses I wrote out to you yesterday, "The Lord your God Himself will cross over ahead of you. He will destroy these nations before you, and you will take possession of their land. Joshua also will cross over ahead of you, as the Lord said. And the Lord will do to them what He did to Sihon and Og, the kings of the Amorites, whom he destroyed along with their land." God's people were going where they had never been before and they were going face battles they had never faced before. All that is true, but God knew where they were going and God knew who they were going to face AND God knew that He was going to help them.

We serve the same God. He is still all-knowing and He is all-powerful. If we ever feel overwhelmed and don't know what to do, we need to turn to Him. Look at Philippians 4:19, "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus." I know that this verse is talking about finances and I certainly don't want to take away from that truth, but did you notice this verse says that Our God will meet all our needs. Finances? Yes. Direction? Yes. Protection? Yes.

Our part is to believe. John 6:28-29 say, "Then they asked Him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one He has sent." I am sure the people in Deuteronomy needed to believe and we need to believe too. We needed to believe to be saved and we need to believe that God can and will meet all our needs just like He met our needs when He saved us.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for saving me when I was lost. I know that believing in You for my salvation is what I needed to do. Now, I want to believe You to take care of everything I face in life. I know that You are all-knowing and all-powerful and I know that You are always with me. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Thursday April 4

Scripture Reading: Judges 12-14

Luke 9:37-62

Praise the Lord! I have been writing about a section of verses in Deuteronomy 31. Look at the last part, "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you." God told them to strong and courageous. He told them not to be terrified. Let me remind you that they were going where they had never been before and they were going to face battles they had never faced before. Has God ever asked you to go somewhere you have never been or asked you to do something you have never done before? When He does we need to be strong and courageous and we need to not be terrified.

We can do those things because the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. When God is with us He will take care of us. When we believe He is with us we are doing our part and He will do His part. Please don't miss the last part of these things, He will never leave you nor forsake you.

Here are some more Scriptures to go along with these. Ephesians 6:10, "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might." I like that this tells us to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might.

Psalms 27:14 says, "Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!" There may be times when we need to be strong and not quit even if we have to wait for the Lord. Believe me, He has plenty of power and His timing is always right. (Did you need that that reminder today?)

Prayer: Lord, I am so thankful for Your Word. I know that Your Word is always what I need to know and believe. Help me believe the things You are showing me and help me to never quit. I know that You are with me and I know that You will never leave me. I love You so much. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Friday April 5

Scripture Reading: Judges 15-17

Luke 10:1-24

Praise the Lord! I hope you are doing your Scripture Readings that I put on here every day. We are so blessed to be able to read and study God's Word and it is always beneficial for us.

In Luke 10, Jesus sent His disciples out to minister in His Name and authority. They believed and they went. God blessed them. Verse 17 says, "The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in Your Name." Praise the Lord! They believed, they went and God backed them up. Don't miss that they knew it was all done in *His Name*.

Look at what Jesus said to them in verse 18, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you." What a wonderful promise. This promise is for us too. Jesus has given us power and authority over all the work of the enemy. We need to believe, to step out in faith and never quit.

Look at what Jesus said next in verse 20, "However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." God gave them power and authority but He didn't want them to ever forget that they had that power and authority because they were saved. We all need to remember this. We need to know and remember that all the blessings we have the all the power and authority we have is from God. If we weren't saved we couldn't do anything.

Prayer: Lord, I know that I was completely lost without You and I know that giving my life to You was the best decision I ever made. I also know that I couldn't do anything without You but I also know You have saved me and I do all things with Your help and in Your Name. Help me to do mighty things in Your Name and in Your authority. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Saturday April 6

Scripture Reading: Judges 18-19

Luke 10:25-42

Praise the Lord! Psalms 92:1-2 say, "It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, O Most High, proclaiming Your love in the morning and Your faithfulness at night." It is great to start your day by remembering and proclaiming God's love. Then it is great to end your day by remembering His faithfulness at night.

What we set our mind and attention on is important. Look at Colossians 3:1-4, "Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory."

Matthew 6:33-34 go right along with these these things. "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." When we seek Jesus and His ways first it will help us with everything else. Jesus even says that He will help us with all the other things in our lives.

Verse 34 even gives us some more great advice. Don't worry about tomorrow. God will be in your tomorrow when you get there and He will help you through it. The more you set your mind and attention on Jesus and His goodness the less time you will have to worry.

Prayer: Lord, I am so thankful for Your love and Your faithfulness. Help me to remember Your goodness and help me to praise You. I know that You are always worthy of my praise and I also know that starting my day and ending it remembering how wonderful You are will help me. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Sunday April 7

Scripture Reading: Judges 20-21

Luke 11:1-28

Praise the Lord! Here's a wonderful promise for you today. Isaiah 54:17 says, "No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and this is their vindication from Me," declares the Lord." What a wonderful promise. Here's a question that I would like to ask you about this wonderful verse: "What if we really believed it?"

We know God is with us and we know that He will never leave us. We know that He loves us and we know that He promises to protect us. How about these verses? John 10:28-30 say, "I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one." When Jesus said that He gives us eternal life doesn't that give you confidence? I could say that He has started a good work in our lives and He won't quit, but when we think about that we sometimes only think about this life and this verse goes way beyond that. Jesus has given us eternal life. That covers our lives in the here and now and for all eternity.

Here is how safe we are. Jesus holds us in His hand AND God the Father holds us in His hand. No one can snatch us out of Jesus' hand and no one can snatch us out of the Father's hand. To me this is saying that we are protected and we are double protected.

I have to end with this: "What if we really believed this?"

Prayer: Lord, thank You for saving me and thank You for promising to keep me safe in Your hand. Thank You Father that I am in Your hand too. I do believe these promises and I am so thankful that they are eternal promises. I also believe Isaiah 54:17. Help me to remember these promises. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Monday April 8

Scripture Reading: Ruth Luke 11:29-54

Praise the Lord! Look at 1 Samuel 12:23-24, "As for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by failing to pray for you. And I will teach you the way that is good and right. But be sure to fear the Lord and serve Him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things He has done for you." First of all, this is Samuel praying for the Israelites who had sinned. They had just won a victory over the Ammonites with King Saul as their leader.

It is interesting that Samuel prayed for them at this point. You see, Samuel was being replaced as the leader and yet he was willing to pray for them. He even said it would have been sin for him if he failed to pray for them. When we know that God wants us to pray for people we need to take it seriously.

Then Samuel went on and instructed them about how they should live. He told them that God had been faithful to them and they needed to be faithful to Him. And he reminded them of all the great things God had done for them. Has God done some great things in your life? Don't forget. Remember what He has done and don't ever quit living for Him.

Now, I have a question for you. Are there some people that you feel like God wants you to be praying for consistently? They may be family, friends, missionaries or people you know who are in need. Whoever they are, be praying for them consistently. Keep in mind that God hears your prayers and He answers them. We need to do our part and we need to have faith that our prayers will make a difference.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for speaking to me about prayer. I want to be faithful to pray for those You want me to be praying for. I know that You hear my prayers and I know that You answer my prayers. Help me to hear who You want me to be praying for. I am so thankful for Your good work in my life. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Tuesday April 9

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 1-3

Luke 12:1-34

Praise the Lord! Look at Luke 12:13 from our Scripture Reading for today. "Someone in the crowd said to Him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." I was thinking about this one day and I realized what a great opportunity this man had. I don't know if he was the only one asking questions or if there were a lot of people asking Jesus about things. I do know that this man got his question through to Jesus. As I was thinking about this, I realized that this was a special privilege. Jesus was listening to him and he could have asked Jesus anything he wanted.

He asked Jesus to straighten his brother out concerning an inheritance. What do you think about this question? In my thinking I put myself in this situation. If I had Jesus' attention and I could ask Him anything I wanted I hope I would ask for something better than this.

Well, look at Jesus' answer. Luke 12:14-15, "Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed Me a judge or an arbiter between you?" Then He said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." Now I am sure you would agree that this was probably not the answer this man wanted. I don't want to diminish what Jesus said. I am sure this is what that man needed to hear. The biggest issue he was dealing with had to do with possessions and Jesus even spoke to him about greed. I hope he got the truth that Jesus was speaking to him. I am also sure that Jesus wants us all to know that our lives don't consist only of the things we have and I hope we aren't greedy.

Prayer: Lord, I am so thankful for Your Word and all that You speak to me from it. Help me to take time to really think about Your Word more. I don't ever want to be in too much of a hurry when it comes to Your Word. I want to see the things that are easy to see and I want meditate on Your Word to get more. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Wednesday April 10

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 4-6

Luke 12:35-59

Praise the Lord! Look at what David wrote in Psalms 4:1, "Answer me when I call to You, my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer." David was asking God to answer his prayers. I suppose some people might think David shouldn't have spoken to God like this but I don't think that is right. God wants us to speak to Him and He wants us to be honest with Him. I don't know if David was having some doubt about God answering him or not, but if he was, praying to God about it was surely the right thing to do. David asked God to give him relief, to have mercy on him and to hear his prayers. Those sound like good things for us to pray about too.

Look at verse 2, "How long will you people turn my glory into shame? How long will you love delusions and seek false gods?" There were evidently some people who were way off track. They loved delusions and they sought false Gods.

David spoke these things to them in verse 3, "Know that the Lord has set apart His faithful servant for Himself; the Lord hears when I call to Him." David knew that God had called him and he was willing to tell these people that. In our days there are all kinds of people who are off track. Look at 2 Timothy 3:1-3, "But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good." We need to stand for God like David did.

Prayer: Lord, I know You have called me and I know that You have saved me. I want to stand firm in my relationship with You no matter what others do. I also know that You hear and answer my prayers. I know that You give me relief and I know that You have mercy on me. Help me to stand firm in You and Your love. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Thursday April 11

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 7-9

Luke 13:1-21

Praise the Lord! Let's start with Isaiah 65:24, "Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear." God is so wonderful. He knows what we need and He can even answer before we ask and right while we are asking. Now, we should still pray because God tells us to pray.

There was a time when Daniel was praying and look at what God spoke to him in Daniel 10:12, "Then He continued, "Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them." When we pray and live how God wants us to live He is ready and willing to respond and answer our prayers.

Here's some more on this. 1 John 5:14-15 say, "And this is the confidence that we have toward Him, that if we ask anything according to His will He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of Him." God hears our prayers and He answers them. If this is giving you more confidence, embrace what God is producing in your life through His Word.

Psalms 50:15 says, "Call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me." God invites us to call on Him in the day of our trouble. Can you say, "Thank You, Jesus!"? Here's one more. Mark 11:24 says, "Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." Pray and believe!

Prayer: Lord, I am so thankful for Your Word and I choose to believe. Help me to pray, pray and then pray some more. I know that You hear me. Help me to know Your will and help me to pray in accordance with Your will. I also ask You to lead me about what to pray and to know that I will receive as I pray in line with Your Word. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Friday April 12

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 10-12

Luke 13:22-35

Praise the Lord! Look at Luke 13:22-24, "Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as He made His way to Jerusalem. Someone asked Him, "Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?" He said to them, "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to."

Look at what Jesus said in John 14:1-4, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in Me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with Me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going." Jesus has prepared a place for all who believe in Him.

John 14:5-6 say, "Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we don't know where You are going, so how can we know the way? Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." Jesus is the way, the truth and the life and He is the only way to the Father.

Look at what Jesus clearly said, "No one comes to the Father except through me." Jesus is the only way to the Father. Thank God that we know Jesus and thank God that we have given our lives to Him. Because He is our Lord and Savior we are saved and we are safe in Him. His sacrifice on the cross opened the way for anyone to be saved who will give their lives to Him.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for dying on the cross for my sins so I could be saved. I know that You are the only way for anyone to be saved and I am so blessed to have given my life to You. I also want to help others to come to You for salvation. Help my life and my testimony to help others to find salvation in You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Saturday April 13

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 13-14

Luke 14:1-24

Praise the Lord! Romans 8:26 says, "In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us through wordless groans." Have you ever had a time when you wanted to pray about something but you didn't even know what words to use? This verse tells us that the Holy Spirit will help us in those times of weakness. When we don't know what to pray for, the Holy Spirit Himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. We may not understand how this works but we can choose to believe it does.

Look at the next verse, "And He who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God." The Holy Spirit intercedes for us in accordance with God's will. What a blessing. Haven't there been times when you wanted to pray for God's perfect will to be done and yet you weren't even sure what His perfect will was? Well, in those times the Holy Spirit knows God's will and He prays God's perfect will for us. Again, we need to believe.

As this process takes place look at what Romans 8:28 says, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose." We love God and we are called according to His purpose. So, we can know that all things work together for our good. Again, we need to believe! I want you to get two things today. The Holy Spirit is helping by interceding for us and we need to believe what God is saying to us.

Prayer: Lord, I choose to believe. I know that Your Word is always true and I know that the Holy Spirit is helping me in every aspect of my life. Help me to know that You know what is right for me and help me to have faith. I am never going to quit living for You and I am going to see Your perfect will done in my life. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Sunday April 14

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 15-16

Luke 14:25-35

Praise the Lord! Yesterday, we started looking a section of Scriptures in Romans 8 and for today look at Romans 8:29, "For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters." Now, before I write to you about this verse I want to remind you of what the verse before it says. Romans 8:28 says, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose." God is always working for our good. He has called us according to His purpose.

Now, verse 29 says that God *foreknew us* and He has *chosen us*. He is working in our lives to conform us to the image of Jesus. It is sure good that we know He is all-powerful and all-knowing. His power means He can get this done and the fact that He knows everything means He will know how to get this job done. We aren't powerful enough to do this and we don't know enough to accomplish it, but God will get His work done in our lives.

Verse 29 also reveals to us that He is conforming us to the image of Jesus so that **He might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.** Thank God for what He is doing in our lives. Matthew 12:50 says, "**For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.**" When we do the will of our Father in heaven we are showing that we are in His family.

When it comes to wonderful truths like this and it seems like they are way beyond what we can grasp, we need to accept them, believe them and ask God to teach us more.

Prayer: Lord, I accept what Your Word says, I choose to believe and I ask You to continue teaching me. I am amazed that You picked me to be Yours and I am also amazed at how much You have already done in my life. I believe for even more. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Monday April 15

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 17-18

Luke 15:1-10

Praise the Lord! Romans 8:28-30 say, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose. For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those He predestined, He also called; those He called, He also justified; those He justified, He also glorified." What wonderful promises for us who belong to Jesus.

Here is some more on this. Ephesians 1:3-5, "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight. In love He predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with His pleasure and will." There are so many wonderful blessings in these verses that I would like to encourage you to read them again.

God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in Jesus. He chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless. He predestined us for adoption into His family. He did all these things because it was His pleasure and His will to do them.

We know these things because they are the Word of God. Matthew 24:35 says, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away."

Prayer: Lord, I am so thankful for Your Word. Thank You for blessing me to be able to study Your Word and to learn the truth about how blessed I am. I choose to believe Your Word. Help me to know that Your Word is always settled and it will never pass away. I also ask You to teach me more. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Tuesday April 16

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 19-21

Luke 15:11-32

Praise the Lord! I have been showing you verse after verse of the wonderful promises God has for us. We can know that these promises are true because God's Word is always true. I am not going to write out all the promises here because I have given them to you and because you can turn in your Bible and read them any time and as much as you want.

I do want to show you the next verse that Paul wrote. Romans 8:31 says, "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?" We have been seeing how blessed we are and now Paul asked what our response should be.

Take a moment and think about this question. If God is for us, who can be against us? Think about the first part of this verse. God is for us! What a blessing. He was for you before you were born. He chose you and He saved you. He is working in your life and He is never going to quit. He started a good work in your life and He is going to complete it. We are so blessed. This might stretch you a little bit but say this out loud: "God is for me!" The Word says that and we know it is true. Believe it and say what you believe.

Now, someone might be wondering if I am going to talk about the second part of this question. If God is for us, who can be against us? Well, I suppose we could say that the devil could be against us but believe me the devil is no match for God. Also look at Luke 10:19, "I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you." Believe it.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for all Your promises. I believe them and my response is to be thankful, to love You and to live fully for You forever. I know that You are the One who saved me and I know that You will keep me in You forever. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Wednesday April 17

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 22-24

Luke 16:1-18

Praise the Lord! Romans 8:31-32 say, "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all—how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?"

God loved mankind so much that He sent Jesus to die on the cross for our sins so we could be saved. His sacrifice was so great everyone who puts their trust in Him for salvation will be saved. Acts 2:21 says, "And everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord will be saved." God loves you that much.

Paul is asking for us to think about this: If God loved you so much that He gave Jesus for you (and He did) don't you know that along with Jesus, God will graciously give us all things? Doesn't this make sense?

Look at Philippians 4:19, "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus." 2 Corinthians 9:8-11 say, "And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. As it is written: "They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever." Now He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." That is being blessed!

Prayer: Lord, thank You for sending Jesus so I could be saved. I know that I was completely lost without Jesus and I know I am completely saved in Him. Help me to know that You will also supply all my needs. I know that all Your work in my life is because of Your amazing grace. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Thursday April 18

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 25-26

Luke 16:19-31

Praise the Lord! God has chosen you and He has saved you. He sent Jesus to die on the cross for you. John 3:16-17 say, "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him." God saved you and He has no condemnation for you because Jesus paid it all.

Back to Romans 8. Verse 33 says, "Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies." This sure ties into John 3:16-17. God has chosen you and God has justified you! That settles it. Any charges against you have been paid in full by Jesus on the cross. Verse 34 says, "Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us."

There is no condemnation for us because we are in Jesus. Romans 8:1 says, "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." Maybe I should just write, "Thank You, Jesus!" over and over for the rest of this devotion. To be clear, there is no condemnation for us because Jesus died on the cross for us and He was raised to life. He is now at the right hand of God and He is interceding for us.

Think about that. Jesus is praying for us. Jesus' prayers are surely heard and answered. We are going to make it!

Prayer: Lord, thank You for laying Your life down for me. Thank You for paying for all my sins and for setting me free from all condemnation. I know that You are alive and in heaven praying for me. I certainly know that Your prayers are being answered and I know that is why I am doing well and why I am going to make it. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Friday April 19

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 27-29

Luke 17:1-19

Praise the Lord! Romans 8:35 says, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?" God chose you, He sent Jesus to die on the cross for your sins and Jesus has prepared a place for us in heaven. God loves you that much and nothing will ever separate us from the love of Jesus. We may go through some hard things but we are going to go through them and we are going to be with Jesus forever.

I think I want to write to you about heaven a little bit today. Heaven is real and because Jesus is our Lord and Savior we are going to heaven and we are going to be in heaven forever. Sometimes the things we face seem like they are lasting forever but believe me they are not forever. Heaven is forever.

Look at what the Word says about heaven in Revelation 21:1-4, "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and He will dwell with them. They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." Heaven is real and we are going to be with Jesus forever.

Prayer: Lord, I know that heaven is real. Help me to remember that nothing I go through now is forever. Help me to know that nothing can ever separate me from Your love. I want to be confident in these things and I want to help others to know that heaven is for real. Help me to encourage others who need it. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Saturday April 20

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 30-31

Luke 17:20-37

Praise the Lord! Romans 8:35 says, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?" God loves you and nothing will ever be able to separate you from His love. The things listed here won't be able separate you from God's love and nothing else will be able to separate you from His love. This is really simple. God loves you, He saved you and He brought you to Himself and that settles it.

Romans 8:36 says, "As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." The death that this verse is talking about is dying physically. Christians may die, in the natural, but they live for all eternity.

Look closely at Acts 7:54-60, "When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep." Stephen was immediately in heaven with Jesus!

Prayer: Lord, thank You for saving me and for giving me eternal life. I know that nothing will ever be able to separate me from You or Your love. Help me to never forget heaven and eternal life. I love You so much. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Sunday April 21

Scripture Reading: 2 Samuel 1-3

Luke 18:1-17

Praise the Lord! Romans 8:37 says, "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us." Would you like me to tell you what is included in *all these things?* Well, it means *all these things.* Jesus has called us, He has saved us and we are in Him. The devil, the world and people might come against us but they will never conquer us. This verse even points out that we are conquerors through Him who loved us!" Jesus is why we are conquerors and He loves us.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 say, "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres." Love never fails and we are talking about Jesus' love. His love never fails and He never fails.

The last part of 1 John 4:8 says, "God is love!" You could take 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 and replace the word *love* with Jesus. As a matter of fact this is how that would read. "Jesus is patient, Jesus is kind. Jesus does not envy, Jesus does not boast, Jesus is not proud. Jesus does not dishonor others, Jesus is not self-seeking, Jesus is not easily angered, Jesus keeps no record of wrongs. Jesus does not delight in evil but Jesus rejoices with the truth. Jesus always protects, Jesus always trusts, Jesus always hopes, Jesus always perseveres." Thank God for Jesus!

In all these things we are more than conquerors through Jesus who loved us.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for saving me and thank You for making me a conqueror. Jesus I know that You are the reason for my salvation and for everything else good in my life. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Monday April 22

Scripture Reading: 2 Samuel 4-6

Luke 18:18-43

Praise the Lord! Well, here are the final verses of Romans 8, "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Nothing will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Look at John 10:28-30, "I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one." God sent Jesus and Jesus died on the cross for our sins. The Holy Spirit drew us to God and revealed God's plan of salvation to us. We gave Him our lives, we are saved and we have eternal life.

We will never be snatched out of Jesus' hand or the Father's hand. Colossians 3:1-3 say, "Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God." We were dead in sin, but Jesus saved us and gave us eternal life.

These verses tell us to set our hearts, minds and attention on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of the Father. I know I have told you this recently but I want to remind you again: Don't forget heaven and don't forget eternal life.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for saving me and thank You for keeping me in You. I know that nothing will ever be able to separate me from You. I also know that I am going to spend all eternity with You because You have saved me. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Tuesday April 23

Scripture Reading: 2 Samuel 7-9

Luke 19:1-28

Praise the Lord! Luke 19:1-10, "Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see Him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, He looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed Him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner. But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

Isn't this a wonderful story? Zacchaeus was lost in verse 1 and he was saved by verse 10. I am sure all of our stories are way different than this one in many ways, but they are also similar. We were lost and now we are saved! Jesus came to seek and to save the lost. That was true for Zacchaeus and it is true for us.

In this story there were even some people who seemingly didn't think Jesus should have reached out to Zacchaeus, but that didn't matter to Jesus. When I was saved I probably seemed to be the least likely person to be ready to be saved, but that didn't matter to Jesus.

Prayer: Lord, I am thankful for Zacchaeus' story and I am thankful for my story. Thank You for coming and seeking Zacchaeus and thank You for coming and seeking me. I know that Zacchaeus' story has encouraged me and I want to share what You have done in my life with others too. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Wednesday April 24

Scripture Reading: 2 Samuel 10-12

Luke 19:29-48

Praise the Lord! Luke 19:45-46 say, "When Jesus entered the temple courts, He began to drive out those who were selling. "It is written," He said to them, "My house will be a house of prayer; but you have made it 'a den of robbers." These verses are talking about Jesus entering into the temple in Jerusalem. The temple was a place where people would go and pray and worship God. They would often offer animals as sacrifices and some people were there buying and selling animals for those sacrifices. All of these things distracted people from what was supposed to be happening in the temple. So, Jesus drove them out.

Look at what Paul said in 1Corinthians 6:19-20, "Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, Who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies." We are now the temple of God. Jesus lives right inside of us rather than in some building.

So, when Jesus said that His house should be a house of prayer, for us He was talking about our lives. We should be people of prayer. If anything or anyone keeps us from prayer we are allowing them to rob us of our purpose.

I could put it this way. When we are people of prayer we are being temples of the Holy Spirit like we should be. If we let anything get in the way of being people of prayer we are letting those things rob us and some people go so far as to become dens of robbers.

Prayer: Lord, I want to be a person of prayer. Holy Spirit I know that You are in my life and I want to pray and worship more. Please help me to know if there are any things that are robbing me and keeping me from living and praying like I should. I want to honor You with my body. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Thursday April 25

Scripture Reading: 2 Samuel 13-14

Luke 20:1-26

Praise the Lord! Yesterday, we prayed about our bodies being the temple of God. We also prayed about being people of prayer. There are so many things we can do and so many things that can take up too much time in our lives.

Look at what Jesus said in John 14:13-14, "And I will do whatever you ask in My Name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask Me for anything in My Name, and I will do it." Isn't that an amazing promise? Does it sound too good to be true? Well, you do know that Jesus always spoke the truth don't you?

I would like to add this from what John the Apostle wrote later in his life in 1 John 5:13-15, "I write these things to you who believe in the Name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of Him."

John started these verses off by telling us that these things are for those who believe and are saved. That means these things are written to us. Then John talks about knowing God's will and praying in line with His will. When we pray in accordance with God's will we can know that He hears us and we can know that He will answer our prayers. If someone is not getting their prayers answered they should make sure that they are saved, that they are believers and that they really know what they are praying for is God's will.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for Your precious promises about prayer. I am glad I am saved, I believe and I want my prayers to line up with Your will. Please help me to know how to apply these truths in my life. I don't ever want to miss out on anything You have for me. I know that everything You have for me is good. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Friday April 26

Scripture Reading: 2 Samuel 15-16

Luke 20:27-47

Praise the Lord! I think I will close out the month with some truth from the book of James. At times I have referred to the book of James as the book from Missouri. Missouri is called the "Show me state". James wrote great things and he wanted people to show that they had gotten the message by how they lived.

Ok, let's start with James 1:2, "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds." Did you know that born-again, Spirit filled believer sometimes go through trials of many kinds? I am pretty sure you know that. James says that when that happens we should consider it pure joy. When we face trials our attitude is very important.

How do you think we could ever consider it joy when we face trials of many kinds? I am glad you asked. James 1:2-4 say, "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything." We should consider trials as pure joy because they provide opportunities for us to grow. I am sure we all want to grow. I am sure we all want to be mature and complete and not lacking anything. Right?

Well, James is telling us to have a good attitude even when we are going through hard times because the testing of our faith can produce perseverance. If you keep a good attitude and never quit, you will grow. These verses also talk about our lacking nothing. More on that tomorrow.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for speaking to me from the book of James today. I do want to grow in You and I can see that I have lots of opportunities to grow even when I am facing hard times. Help me to keep my attitude right and help me to never quit. I also want to know more about lacking nothing. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Saturday April 27

Scripture Reading: 2 Samuel 17-18

Luke 21:1-19

Praise the Lord! I am sure you remember what we talked about yesterday from the book of James. So let me give you the last verse we covered and then some more. James 1:4-5 say, "Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you." When we count the hard things we are going through as an opportunity to grow with Joy, verse 4 ends saying that we will *lack no good thing*.

Verse 5 tells us about wisdom. We can ask for wisdom and God will give it to us. Let me state clearly what I see here. When we are going through hard things the thing that we most often lack is wisdom. We might think we need deliverance or protection from the problem, and those things are good, but James says we should be asking for wisdom.

You see, God promises to give us wisdom and when He gives us wisdom we will know how to handle what we are going through. Don't miss this. God's Word tells us that when we ask for wisdom God will give it to us *generously*. That sure sounds good to me. He won't find fault in us for asking because He has told us to ask. I have shown you verses from 1 John several times that say when we pray in line with God's Word we can know that He hears us and we can know that He will answer our prayers. James 1:5 tells us to ask for wisdom. When we ask for wisdom we are praying in line with His Word and we can know that He hears us and He will answer us. Praying at times like this will be easier when we have an attitude of joy because we know we are going to grow through the whole process.

Prayer: Lord, I know that when I face things that are hard, the thing I need most is wisdom. I also know that You tell me to ask for wisdom. So, I ask You for wisdom right now and I want to consistently ask You for wisdom because I really need a continual flow of Your wisdom in my life. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Sunday April 28

Scripture Reading: 2 Samuel 19-20

Luke 21:20-38

Praise the Lord! I started off our time in James by saying that we need to do the things James is showing us. Hearing from God and knowing what He expects is good but we need to add action to it. I am jumping forward in James 1 but look at verse 22, "Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says."

Now, let me get back to what we have been talking about and asking God for wisdom. James 1:6 says, "But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind." When we ask for wisdom we must believe and not doubt.

Look at what Jesus said in John 6:28-29, "Then they asked Jesus, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the One He has sent."

James went on and said the following in verses 7-8, "That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do." God has told us to ask for wisdom. If a person is double-minded when they are asking for wisdom they will be unstable in all they do.

Being double-minded can grow and affect every area of a person's live. The good news is this: Believing and asking for wisdom in faith can grow and affect every area of a person's life too. So, believe and ask for wisdom.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for speaking to me from Your Word. I want to listen to Your Word and I want to do what it says. I don't want to be deceived and I don't want to be double-minded. Based on Your Word I know that I should ask for wisdom and I know that You will give me wisdom. I want this truth to grow in my life. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Monday April 29

Scripture Reading: 2 Samuel 21-22

Luke 22:1-30

Praise the Lord! Would you like some more from the book of James? If you do, you are in the right place. James 1:9-10 say, "Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position. But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wild flower." James is showing us some interesting wisdom here.

I am sure you know that when people are saved we all have a lot of things we need to unlearn and lots of things that we need to learn. In these verses James is talking about two people who were in different positions before they were saved and he is pointing out that they probably need to learn different things.

If a person has had a hard life and were kind of a down and outer, they need to learn that they are blessed. They might need a book about being more than a conqueror and being a King's kid.

On the other hand if a person has always been blessed and rich when they get saved they might need to learn that they are nothing without Jesus and that God didn't choose them because they were something special in themselves.

God knows what we all need. We all need to be saved and we all need to learn what Jesus has for us. When we were saved Jesus started His good work in our lives and He is going to finish the work. We all need to unlearn some things and we all have a lot to learn. Staying close to Jesus and consistently learning from His Word is how we need to live. Also, don't be concerned if Jesus is teaching someone else some thing different. Jesus knows what He is doing.

Prayer: Lord, I am so thankful that You saved me and I am glad that You are helping me to unlearn what I need to unlearn and I am glad that You are teaching me what I need to learn. I trust You to continue Your good work in my life and I trust You to finish it. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Tuesday April 30

Scripture Reading: 2 Samuel 23-24

Luke 22:31-53

Praise the Lord! James 1:11-12 say, "For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich will fade away even while they go about their business. Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love Him."

Verse 11 is still referring to what some rich people need to learn. We all die and we are all equal in death. Actually that isn't completely accurate. Those who die unsaved are lost and those who die saved will live with Jesus forever.

Verse 12 talked about a blessing that some of those who persevere under trial will receive. James started talking about trials he is still on the subject. We have seen that when we face trials we need to be joyful because we have an opportunity to grow. We also need to ask for wisdom and know that God will give us the wisdom we need.

Now, James said that those who have stood the test, will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love Him. The trials we face will not last forever. They may feel like they are lasting forever but don't forget about eternity. When we have stood in faith we are going to make it and in heaven we will receive the crown of life. God has promised it and He will keep His promises. Keep living for Jesus and don't ever quit. Jesus is going to make sure we make it.

Prayer: Lord, I am so thankful that I am going to spend all eternity with You. I know that I am saved by Your grace and Your mercy. Help me to remember heaven and eternity. I want to stand whatever tests come my way and I want to make sure everyone who knows me knows that You are in my life. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Up and Coming Events

BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS

Every Wednesday morning at 7:30 AM the men meet for coffee and/or breakfast at the Church Office and a time of fellowship. Contact us here at the Church for more information.

WOMEN'S BRUNCH

The first Saturday of the month, the women of Creative Ministries meet for a carry-in brunch at 12pm. Contact us here at the Church for more information and location.

We Have A New Mailing Address!



Creative Ministries

PO Box 21930

Cheyenne, WY 82003

Creative@CreativeMinistriesChurch.com www.CreativeMinistriesChurch.com

Please visit our FaceBook page by scanning the QR code to the left or going to:

www.facebook.com/pages/Creative-Ministries-Church/116156001741814

Sunday Morning

Event	Time	Location
Main Service	10 -11:30 A.M.	The CCI building LCCC
Sunday School	10:45-11:30 A.M.	The CCI building LCCC

PLEASE JOIN US THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 9:30 BEFORE CHURCH FOR SOME COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS AND LOTS OF FELLOWSHIP!

Where the GOOD NEWS is:
PREACHED to all who will COME!
LIVED by all who will GROW!
DEMONSTRATED to all who will RECEIVE!