Pastor James D. Corbett

www.jamesdcorbettministries.org

December

Word

eason

Daily Devotional

In



Greetings in the Wonderful Name of Jesus!

A fresh wind of the Spirit is blowing in the Body of Christ. The Lord says in Isa 43:19 "Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert." That time is now! Expect God to

do a new thing in your life. Expect God to do a new thing in your family. Expect God to do a new thing in your ministry. Expect a fresh move of God in your life.

Even though this year is just about gone, purpose to finish strong. Don't just coast out. Leave this year walking in the glory of God. The way you leave is the way you enter. Leave this year victorious. Believe for a year of victory. Resist the thoughts of doom and gloom. Boldly confess, "2015 will be a great year for me!"

I hope A Word in Season is a blessing in your life. My wife and I use AWIS as a part of our daily devotion. We receive insight and blessings from AWIS daily. Let me hear how this devotional is ministering to you. Your prayers and offerings of support help us continue this ministry.

Lady Sarah and I trust that you will have a very Merry Christmas and a blessed prosperous New Year. We love and appreciate you.

Yours in Christ, James D. Corbett Pastor James D Corbett



Word

in

Season

Daily Devotional

December 2014

© 2014 James D. Corbett Ministries, All rights reserved



December 1

Don't Abort the Mission

Deut 8:2 And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.

Early on in ministry, I went through several things that helped propel me to be in the place God would have me to be. I wished I did not have to go through some of those things. I remember times when I went out to preach and there was no one in the congregation except my family and the guest minister.

I had to make a decision whether or not I would allow the hardships to cause me to turn away from the ministry. Why would God allow me to go through those things? Why did He lead me down that path? God was preparing my heart. He allowed me to see some things in order to make a decision for Him.

It might not be ministry for you, but God will allow you to see and experience things in order to prepare your heart. So when you are on the road and you don't see what you expected, don't bail out on God. Let Him do the work in you, so He can do the work through you.

The road called life is littered with all kinds of things. Learn from the tough times in your life. Don't allow them to take you out. Don't give up and don't cave in under pressure.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank you for ordering my steps.

Verse of the Day: 2Cor 5:7 For we walk by faith not by sight:

Living the Word Today: Stay the course and persevere through the tests of life. Know that God will never leave you nor forsake you!



December 2

Don't Despise God's Chastening

Prov 3:11-12 My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction: For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.

God will bring chastisement unto us because He loves us and cares for us like a father or mother who loves their children and brings correction to their lives. The bible says no one likes the chastisement for the moment but afterward it brings peaceable fruit of righteousness (*Heb 12:11*).

Like Jesus, we learn from the things that we suffer. Jesus was tempted in all points such as we and was yet without sin. Hebrews 5:8 states that Jesus learned patience from the things which He suffered. It's hard to imagine that Jesus had to learn. He picked the twelve disciples and one of them betrayed Him.

What is it that you are suffering from today? Learn from it. Don't repeat the same mistakes over and over. God has great things prepared for you. You have to fight the good fight of faith to receive them. God wants you to have total victory.

Acts 14:21-22 And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to lconium, and Antioch, Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank you for loving and correcting me.

Verse of the Day: Heb 12:6-7 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

Living the Word Today: God's correction is His demonstration of His love for you. Accept and grow in it!



December 3

Satan Desires to Sift You as Wheat

Luke 22:31-32 And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

Just as Satan desired to sift Simon, he desires to have you and to sift you. He sees the potential that you have. If there is anything that he can do to destroy your life he will do it. He comes to steal, kill and destroy. He will do anything he can to get you out of your set place.

Satan wants to derail you from your purpose and your calling in life. He wants to get you out of place with your family. He wants to rob you of the things God has given you. He wants to destroy you. He wants to shut you up.

He wants to cause you to lose your confidence. If he can't get to you, he will get to those in your inner circle. You must guard your inner circle. It is so important that you pray for those in your inner circle. Pray for those that are close to you, your friends and family.

Jesus had to rebuke Peter when He was getting ready to go up to Jerusalem. Peter had allowed the devil to use him. Treat those that are in your inner circle well. You must remember that while Satan desires to sift you, Jesus said He would never leave you nor forsake you. He always causes you to triumph.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank you for being on my side. No weapon formed against me shall prosper.

Verse of the Day: Rom 8:31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

Living the Word Today: God is on your side. With Him you have the victory!



December 4

The Lord is Your Keeper

1Pet 1:3-5 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Put your trust in the Lord and you shall not be moved. Do not allow circumstances and situations to move you from your set place in God. Paul said "*But none of these things move me.*" (Acts 20:24) The Lord is your keeper.

Endure hardness as a good soldier. (2Tim 2:3-4) When times get tough don't quit. Your quitter is broken! You have to keep on going. The Lord is your keeper. John 10:27-28 says, "My sheep hear my voice and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand."

No matter what you are going through today, the Lord is your keeper. No matter what it looks like, God will keep you. The odds may seem to be against you, and it might not look like you are going to make it. Put your trust and confidence in the Living God. He will see you through. The Lord is your keeper!

Prayer Focus: Lord, I thank you for keeping me and giving me the victory in Christ Jesus.

Verse of the Day: John 10:29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.

Living the Word Today: You are kept by the power of God through faith. Trust Him to keep you!



December 5

The Lord is Your Keeper (cont.)

John 17:15 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but thou shouldest keep them from the evil.

Know that it is God that is keeping you from the evils of this world. As a saint of God, the Lord is praying for you. Jesus prayed for Peter that his faith fail not. (Luke 22:31-32) Hebrews 7:25 says, *"Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them."*

You may be going through some warfare right now but God is on your side. "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Rom 8:31) No weapon formed against you shall prosper. Lift your hands and praise God. Shout unto God with the voice of triumph and watch Him turn that situation around on your behalf.

Be confident that He will continue the good work He has begun in you. He will continue until the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. (Phil 1:6) He will send people into your life to speak words to you in the right season. When you please God and choose to honor Him with your life, He will raise you up.

Prayer Focus: Thank you, Lord for keeping me from the evils of this world.

Verse of the Day: Heb 10:35-36 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

Living the Word Today: It is the Lord that is keeping you: you are not keeping yourself.



December 6

Return to Your Rightful Place in the Lord

Jer 4:1 If thou wilt return, O Israel, saith the Lord, return unto me: and if thou wilt put away thine abominations out of my sight, then shalt thou not remove.

God wants us to return unto Him. "*Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the Lord of hosts.*" (*Mal 3:6-7*) God loves you and chastens you. He has invested too much in you to let you go. We have no fear when we are confident in God's love.

As you go through life, things come along to try to pull you off center. You may not be out of the will of God but you may not be in the center of it. This does not mean you are out sinning. You still love God and are serving God but you are out of your rightful place. Maybe you have backed away from some of your responsibilities in the Kingdom.

We don't want to miss it. We need everything God has for us so we need to come clean with ourselves and before God. If you are not improving then you are losing ground. *"For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged."* (1Cor 11:31)

Prayer Focus: Lord, I thank you for loving me and giving me another chance.

Verse of the Day: Mal 3:6-7 For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the Lord of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return?

Living the Word Today: Lord, today I return to my rightful place in you.



December 7

Walk in the Newness of Life

Rom 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

As a believer you should walk in the newness of life. You are no longer a sinner but a new creature in Christ. "*Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new.*" (2Cor 5:17) You no longer belong or fit into the world. It is uncomfortable for you, so stop trying to fit in. You have been changed from the inside out.

Never let fear make your decisions. Always make your decisions based on faith. Don't let the devil run you out. Be led by the Spirit. Believe God for your mind. Confess that you have a sound mind and a great memory. *"For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." (2Tim 1:7)*

You have been delivered from condemnation. Your past has been eradicated and your future is secure. Yes, you have made mistakes, but God is not condemning you. Don't let past mistakes rob you out of the joy of your present. You are the righteousness of God.

Prayer Focus: Thank you, Father, that I am free from fear and condemnation.

Verse of the Day: 1John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unright-eousness.

Living the Word Today: Walk in the newness of life by faith.



December 8

By Grace are You Saved

Eph 2:8-9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

People try to appease God in many ways in order to receive salvation and thus go to heaven. Some think that going to church will save them. Others think giving money to worthy causes will make them saved. Even living a good, clean, moral life is not enough to earn salvation. Good works, humanitarian acts, and philanthropic gifts won't get a person into heaven. All of those things are great but you must be born again. "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." (John 3:3)

Jesus Christ died for us on the cross at Calvary. On the cross His blood was shed to pay the price for our sins. *"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men." (Titus 2:11) We* are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. *"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans* 10:13)

Prayer Focus: Dear God, forgive me for sinning against you. I am sorry for the way I have lived. I ask you to change me. I invite Jesus Christ to be my Lord and Savior. Lord Jesus, come into my heart and save me. Jesus, I release control of my life. Be my Lord and Savior. Thank you, Lord for saving me. Amen.

Verse of the Day: Romans 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

Living the Word Today: If you are not saved, accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior today. If you are saved, seek opportunities to share Jesus with someone.



December 9

You Have Need of Patience after Doing the Will of God

Hebrews 10:35-36 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

After you have done what is right in the sight of God, let patience prevail as you wait for the promised blessing. Have patience when you have done all you know to do to bring the vision to fruition. Faith says, if I live God's way my outcome shall be victory. Patience gives you the strength to wait calmly without murmuring or complaining.

Trust that God will do what He promised. We see where Abraham and Sarah lost patience. They devised a plan to "speed up" what God had promised. Their plan proved to be painful, costly and disastrous. Every subsequent generation has felt the pain caused by their lack of patience.

Caleb's faith and patience caused him to enter the Promised Land. He had an inheritance in the land. Caleb stayed faithful and after 40 years stated, "Give me this mountain". Patience will greatly reward you. Remember, he that endures to the end shall be saved.

Prayer Focus: Lord, I put my trust and confidence in you. I expect a victorious outcome.

Verse of the Day: Isa 40:31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Living the Word Today: Pray and release the care unto the Lord. Be about your Father's business. Trust Him to bring it to pass in your due season. *"Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord." (Psa 27:14)*



December 10

Overcoming in Life

1Sam 17:4 And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span.

Everyone has something to overcome in life. It may be depression, addiction or rejection. Whatever it is that has launched an attack on your life, it is a Goliath in your life. These Goliaths are not going to go away on their own. You are going to have to fight the good fight of faith!

In order to overcome in life you are going to have to prepare yourself. After you overcome in one battle there will be another one to overcome. David prepared himself to defeat Goliath when he slew the lion and the bear. (I Samuel 17:34-36) Preparation time is never lost.

The battle you have to fight is not yours; it is the Lord's. When you feel like your back is against the wall, don't you give up or cave in under the pressure. The Lord will see you through it. *"For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith."* (1John 5:4)

Prayer Focus: Thank you Lord that through you I am an overcomer.

Verse of the Day: 1Sam 17:47 And all this assembly shall know that the Lord saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hands.

Living the Word Today: Declare today "I am an overcomer. I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me."



December 11

How to Stand in These Last Days

Rev 12:10-11 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

There is an attack on us as Christians to be pulled away from the things of God. The pressure has been turned up seven times hotter to cause Christians to back away from their Christian convictions. There is pressure to compromise.

We need Jesus more than ever before. You have to make up your mind to stand; having done all to stand, stand therefore. This is not the time to be lukewarm in your walk. Purpose to walk with God.

Count it all joy when you go through divers temptations. Work out your own salvation. Even after you get saved, there are some things you have to work through. Take heed to how you walk.

Continually walk in the Spirit. Stay in the house of the Lord and in the fellowship of other believers. Pray in the Spirit and resist temptation.

Prayer Focus: Lord Jesus, help me to have a closer walk with you and not fall into the temptations of the world.

Verse of the Day: Phil 2:12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

Living the Word Today: Purpose to walk and pray in the Spirit.



December 12

SOAR

2Cor 4:18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.

There are new horizons that you have not tapped into yet. Get all that God has for you. Be willing to SOAR!

S=STRENGTH – God is the one that gives you strength. Your inward man is renewed day by day (2Cor 4:16)

O=OVERCOME - God will cause you to overcome all those things that have been trying to hold you back. Whatever it is, God will cause you to overcome. Consider conflict and persecution a light affliction. "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory" (2Cor 4:17)

A=ASK – The Bible says ask and you shall receive. Everyone that asks receives. You have to be bold enough to ask for what you want. You have to get out of this fear of asking God for stuff. Ask for what you want. (Matthew 7:7)

R=RESTORATION – God is the one that restores, and puts everything back in order. It's time to take your stuff back! Your mind, your thoughts, your happiness, your joy... The Lord is the one that restores. (Joel 2:25)

Prayer Focus: In the name of Jesus, I will SOAR to new horizons. I will get all God has for me.

Verse of the Day: 1Cor 15:57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Living the Word Today: SOAR to victory!



December 13

Overcome It!

1John 5:4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

Whatever has tried to hold you back, God will cause you to triumph. You are more than a conqueror. You are an overcomer.

You might say, well I don't have enough money and my family situation is not good... Overcome it! *They* may not be treating you right... *They* may not like you.... Overcome it! He that believeth shall overcome. Stay over on faith. Believe God like you've never believed on Him before.

You can stop everything that comes against you! Don't let it overcome you. You cannot sit and get in a state of depression. You have to rise up. You will be stronger because you fought through it and didn't give up. I know I make it sound simple, but I am telling you a spiritual truth. It's not over for you. You are an overcomer!

Fight the good fight of faith. Get up and dust yourself off and try again. Do it God's way and believe that God will work it out on your behalf. You will overcome through Christ Jesus!

Prayer Focus: Lord, thank you for strengthening me. I am an overcomer. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Verse of the Day: Rom 8:37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

Living the Word Today: You are more than a conqueror. You can overcome it!



December 14

He Will Do it Again

Mal 3:6, For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

You may be doing things that you were told you could not do. Now when a setback comes; a financial attack or an attack on your family, know that Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever! God will give you the victory again!

I remember when we got ready to move into our new church building, someone told me you can't do that. They said the building is too big... you can seat 500 people on the floor! But I had to go ahead and pursue what I believe the Lord was saying. The enemy tried to pressure us and talk us out of moving into our church building. We were told we couldn't do it. It might have set me back a little bit, but surely we made it!

Now I am staying tuned for the next phase. I don't talk to too many people to keep from being told what we can't do and what we don't have. Why be concerned about what I have now? I didn't have anything when I first started. I just praise God and overcome my setbacks.

It's not over for you either. Whatever it is, it's not over. When the pressures of life try to overwhelm you, remember God's promises. He will do it again.

Prayer Focus: I believe what thus said the Lord. Even though I'm being tried in the fire, I am coming out like pure gold because victory is already mine!

Verse of the Day: Heb 13:8 Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.

Living the Word Today: Live your dreams. Don't give up now.



December 15

Ask

Mat 7:7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

The Bible says ask and you shall receive. As for what you want with boldness. James 4:2 says, "...yet ye have not, because ye ask not" Ask God for what you want!

I had to teach my children and grandchildren this over the years. They would come in and tell me their situation and I would tell them okay, so...? They would say, well I'm hungry! I would tell them okay, that's a statement or a fact. What you really want is for me to give you something to eat, but you didn't ask for anything. As long as you say you are hungry, we will agree with you that you are hungry. You didn't ask for anything, so I'm not going to give you anything!

Now that sounds mean to some of you, but it would have messed their faith up. They would have started complaining without a request. People's marriages are messed up behind that. You complain about what you want, but you don't ask for what you want!

The Bible says you have not because you ask not. Be bold enough to ask God for what you want. Well Pastor, that's so big. So what! That doesn't scare God. He is not afraid of your big challenges. Whatever you ask for, ask in faith. Believe it, and you shall receive. Ask God for what you want.

Prayer Focus: Lord, I will not murmur or complain. I will ask you for what I want.

Verse of the Day: Jam 1:5, If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Living the Word Today: Ask and you shall receive. Ask for what you want.



December 16

Restoration

1Sam 30:8 And David enquired at the LORD, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? shall I overtake them? And he answered him, Pursue: for thou shalt surely overtake them, and without fail recover all.

David went out and had a mighty victory. When he came back, the city was taken. The children and women were taken. The city was burned. He was hurt and broken. When David turned to the men who were with him, they were so upset, they were ready to stone David. He wept until he had no more power to weep. Then he inquired of the Lord and said shall I pursue after this troop? The Lord told him, *"Pursue: for thou shalt surely overtake them, and without fail recover all."* (1Sam 30:8)

Restore means return to the rightful owner in the right condition. It will be better than it was before. I was talking to a friend of mine one day. He was about 53 years old at the time. He said somebody asked him how old he was, and he said 52. He said I was sick one year, so that year doesn't count. I will just take that year out. The Lord is going to restore that year.

It's time to take your stuff back! That includes your mind, your thoughts, your happiness, and your joy. It's says in Psalm 51:12 *Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit*. Reach for what is yours. Rejoice in the God of your Salvation, and expect God to do the supernatural.

Prayer Focus: Lord, I thank you for restoration.

Verse of the Day: Joel 2:25 And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpiller, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you.

Living the Word Today: Expect restoration. Expect it to be better than it was before.



December 17

Blessed are the Pure in Heart

1Sam 16:7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

When God was ready to anoint a king to be over Israel, He looked for someone whose heart was right before Him. There can be many qualified people, but where is their heart? There can be many good looking people, but where is their heart? There can also be many skilled and knowledgeable people, but God is looking for someone whose heart is right!

God said He is looking for a man after His own heart. He wants someone who would love Him out of a pure heart. It is very important that we stand before God with a pure heart. There are a lot of outward things that we can do, but where does our heart stand?

We will see God as our Savior when our heart is right. We will see God as our healer when our heart is right. We will see Him as our deliverer, as our source, and as our peace when our heart is right. God looks at the heart attitude.

No matter what we do in life, we need to do it with the right spirit and with a right heart. Colossians 3:23 says, *"And whatsoever we do, do it heartily, as unto the Lord, and not unto men;"* God looks beyond the outward appearance. Where is your heart?

Prayer Focus: Father, help me get beyond the outward appearance in order to develop a pure heart.

Verse of the Day: Matt 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.

Living the Word Today: Remember, God is interested in the heart.



December 18

With All Diligence Keep Your Heart

Luke 6:32 For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them.

God is looking for someone who loves regardless of being loved back. Can you love those who are not so loveable? We ought to serve God with a pure heart. According to Proverbs 4:23, we are to keep our heart with all diligence because out of our hearts are the issues of life. What issues are coming out of your heart? Love or hate comes out of the heart. Keep your heart with all diligence.

We always seek to find peace. Peace comes out of a heart of peace. We always seek to find happiness, joy and self-significance. But what is coming out of your heart? Out of your heart are the issues of life.

We have to keep our hearts right. If my heart turns wrong toward you, then I can hate you. But when my heart is pure, I cannot hate you. When my heart is right, then I have to love you because God is a God of love. I have to walk in peace with you no matter the situation. That is the nature and character of God.

We need to serve God with a pure heart. Keep your heart right with all diligence, especially in interpersonal relationships, i.e. at home, in your marriage, etc. Is your heart right?

Prayer Focus: Lord, forgive me where I have been wrong in my heart.

Verse of the Day: Pro 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

Living the Word Today: Keep your heart with all diligence to continue your love walk.



December 19

Love with a Pure Heart (Pt 1)

Pet 1:22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

Our love should be genuine and real. It is easy to say I love you, but it is something else to walk in light of that love. Some people love you as long as you are doing what they want you to do. They love you real good as long as you act the way they want you to act, and do what they tell you to do. But when you don't do what they want you to do, then you will see if they really love you.

Some wives say they are submitted to their husbands, but they will not know if they are truly submitted until their husband does something they don't like, or makes a decision they are not in full agreement with! What is your heart attitude? You do not have to be submitted as long as people are doing what is pleasing to you. You can be in agreement as long as things are going your way. A test of submission is when people disappoint you or do things against you. Only then will you find out whether you are really submitted.

It does not mean that someone is submitted because they do everything you say. They could be doing it to keep you quiet, out of fear, or simply out of anger. They can still murmur and complain while doing it! Submission is a test. Some of us keep going through the wilderness because we keep failing the test of loving one another with a pure heart.

Prayer Focus: Father, help me to love with a pure heart and be submitted to authority.

Verse of the Day: Rom 12:9 Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

Living the Word Today: Love with a pure heart and submit to authority.



December 20

Love with a Pure Heart (Pt 2)

1Sam 18:12 And Saul was afraid of David, because the LORD was with him, and was departed from Saul.

David went before Saul and noticed that Saul's countenance had changed before him. Saul did not say anything wrong but David knew something had changed and he fled for his life. When someone's heart changes towards you, you can pick up on it in your spirit.

We have to go before God and rend our hearts and come away with a pure heart. I do not want to miss out on my healing because my heart is not right. In my spiritual walk, I do not want to miss my breakthrough because my heart is not right. I do not want to miss out on financial or material blessings and things God wants to put in my life because of a wrong heart attitude.

The devil is trying hard to take us out. There is too much opposition and warfare. Walking around with the wrong attitude towards others is not worth missing out on what God has for you! Get over it! Keep your heart pure.

When you lay down at night, lay down with a pure heart. If someone offended you, cast that burden upon the Lord. Say, "Lord, he/she did me wrong and I am angry about it. Forgive me Lord, and Lord I ask you to forgive them, and I forgive them." Move on from it!

Prayer Focus: Father, I purpose to keep my heart pure before you and to keep my heart right towards other people.

Verse of the Day: Zec 8:17 And let none of you imagine evil in your hearts against his neighbour; and love no false oath: for all these are things that I hate, saith the LORD.

Living the Word Today: Do not miss out on God's blessings because of a wrong heart. Keep your heart pure.



December 21

Speak with a Pure Heart

Matt 12:34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.

If I let you talk long enough I can locate you. What's in your heart will eventually come out of your mouth. We have been schooled in church jargon and know how to say the right things. If I ask how you are doing, you will answer, "Blessed and highly favored!" You know how to say all the right things, but if you talk long enough, the real you will come out.

One brother made a statement and said a bad word. He said, "Oops, I didn't mean to say that". The preacher told him, "No, that is not the case", he said. "You meant to say it. It just got out before you had chance to clean it up!" The preacher further explained to him, "It was already in there. It would not have come out if it were not in your heart!"

Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. A good man brings forth good things out of the good treasure of his heart. An evil man brings forth evil things out of the evil in his heart. The mouth speaks that which is in the heart. Death and life are in the power of the tongue. You shall have what you say.

Prayer Focus: Lord, let my words to be your words. Help me to say things out of the good treasure of my heart.

Verse of the Day: Eph 4:29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

Living the Word Today: Put God's word in your heart so that it will come out of your mouth.



December 22

Do Right with a Pure Heart

Acts 8:21 Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.

Doing the right thing requires that you have a right heart. People can do many good things but the Bible says some will say, "Lord didn't we prophesy in your name? Did we not cast out devils in your name?" And the Lord will say, "Depart from me."

How in the world are you going to prophesy and cast out demons then have the Lord to say "Depart from me, I never knew you"? They did many good things and people got blessed, but their hearts were not in what they were doing. You can live in this life, serve faithfully for your own benefit and do things without doing them from a pure heart and end up not having an eternal reward.

When God was dealing with me about the ministry I didn't want to do it. Then I read in the Bible, "Woe is me if I preach not the Gospel." So I said okay God, I'll do it, but I still didn't want to preach. I read a little further in the same chapter and it said if I do this thing willingly I get a reward, but if I don't do this willingly there is a dispensation of the Gospel against me. In other words, I lose my reward. My whole heart attitude changed. I made a heart attitude adjustment. If I have to do this anyway, I might as well enjoy the journey!

Make a heart adjustment. Stop murmuring and complaining. Murmuring and complaining will extend your stay in the wilderness!

Prayer Focus: Father, where my heart has been wrong, forgive me. I repent of the wrong heart attitude.

Verse of the Day: 1Cor 9:17 For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me.

Living the Word Today: Avoid the "woes." Keep your heart right!



December 23

Healing is Part of God's Covenant

Isa 53:4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

Sometimes we forget that healing is included in God's plan of redemption. It belongs to you as a child of the Living God. You have a right to ask for healing and expect to receive it.

Isaiah 53:4, the amplified version reads "Surely **He has borne our** griefs (sicknesses, weaknesses, and distresses) and carried our sorrows and pains [of punishment], yet we [ignorantly] considered Him stricken, smitten, and afflicted by God [as if with leprosy]." According to the scripture, grief includes our sicknesses, weaknesses, and distresses. Jesus has taken your sicknesses, weaknesses, and distresses.

Imagine walking down the road with a suitcase, and someone offers to carry it for you. You release it, so now the other person is carrying it. Would you continue to hold the suitcase if someone else was carrying it for you? God is carrying your sicknesses, weaknesses, and distresses. You no longer have to carry them. Since He is carrying your griefs, let them go! Let Jesus carry them and receive what God has for you. Healing is a part of God's covenant.

Prayer Focus: Lord, I give you my sicknesses, weaknesses, and distresses. I will not carry them. Healing belongs to me.

Verse of the Day: Matt 9:35 And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

Living the Word Today: Recite the Amplified version of Isaiah 53:4 throughout the day.



December 24

The Story of The Birth of Jesus

John 3:15-16 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

While Mary was still engaged to Joseph, she miraculously became pregnant through the Holy Spirit, as foretold to her by the angel. When Mary told Joseph she was pregnant, he had every right to feel disgraced. He knew the child was not his. .Mary's apparent unfaithfulness carried a grave social stigma. Joseph not only had the right to divorce Mary, under Jewish law she could be put to death by stoning. However he treated Mary with extreme kindness. He did not want to cause her further shame, so he decided to act quietly.

God sent an angel to Joseph in a dream to verify Mary's story and reassure him that his marriage to her was God's will. The angel explained that the child within Mary was conceived by the Holy Spirit, that his name would be Jesus and that he was the Messiah, God with us. When Joseph woke from his dream, he willingly obeyed God and took Mary home to be his wife, in spite of the public humiliation he would face. Perhaps this noble quality is one of the reasons God chose him to be the Messiah's earthly father.

At that time, Caesar Augustus decreed that a census be taken, and every person in the entire Roman world had to go to his own town to register. Joseph, being of the line of David, was required to go to Bethlehem to register with Mary. While in Bethlehem, Mary gave birth to Jesus. Probably due to the census, the inn was too crowded, and Mary gave birth in a crude stable. She wrapped the baby in cloths and placed him in a manger.

Living the Word Today: Read this beautiful story with your family.

Payer Focus and Living the Word Today: Take the time to give God thanks as a family. Thank the Father for Jesus.



December 25

Merry Christmas

Luke 2:12 And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. 2 (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) 3 And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) 5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. 6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. 7 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Prayer before Christmas Dinner.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for your many blessings. We thank you for allowing us to around this table. We thank you for the love that flows among us. We ask you blessings upon us and upon this food. Thank you for your abundant provisions. With love and thanksgiving We receive the gift of you Son Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. Let this food nourish and strengthen our bodies and let our bodies be used for your glory. We ask you to bless our bread and our water, sanctify it, take sickness and disease from our midst. Let the number of our days be fulfilled. Amen.

Prayer Focus: Father, I thank you for giving your son Jesus Christ for my salvation. I thank you for your gift of salvation.

Verse of the Day: John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Living the Word Today: Honor God in a prayer of thanksgiving to start your day of celebration.



December 26

Run Lawfully

2Tim 2:4-5 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier. And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.

If you are going to be a champion, you have to follow the rules. When you cheat to win the championship, you don't feel good about yourself. Championships have been taken away from people who won but did something wrong to win it. It is called vacating the championship. It is done when the rules are not followed to earn it.

You have to play by the rules if you are going to be a champion. You cannot lie, steal and cheat to get to the top and call yourself a champion. Everybody else might see you as a champion, but you know you are not the champion. In your own heart you have to be pure and know that you did things the right way.

I worked with some people once and one person came out at the top. It was later discovered they had cheated. They had stolen someone else's ideas to get there. You cannot pad your numbers, lie on stuff and be a champion too.

You have to play by the rules. You have to do it the right way. You are going to have to honor God. This is true about anything you do in life. In order to be promoted on your job, don't cheat to get to the top. You will get there sooner or later.

Prayer Focus: Father, we look to you and your word for guidance in doing things right and lawfully.

Verse of the Day: 1John 3:22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

Living the Word Today: Be the champion who God will be well pleased with, by running lawfully.



December 27

Seek Godly Counsel

Prov 15:22 Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.

In every endeavor, take counsel. Find someone you have enough confidence in that can give you good advice. Make your own decisions but don't reinvent the wheel. There is somebody who has been down the road you are about to travel that can give you some direction.

If you are going to open a business, find somebody who knows something about what you are trying to do. Take some counseling to get the wisdom you need to be successful. Proverbs 12:15 says, "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise."

I see people get married and won't take counseling. Some people get upset with me because they want to get married and I ask them to come to pre-marital class. One couple got someone else to marry them without counseling and two weeks later called to meet with me because they were having problems in their marriage!

No matter what you are doing in life, get counsel. It does not always have to be the pastor. At least find somebody who knows what they are talking about to pour into your life. You need someone who has expertise in the subject that is going to help you.

Prayer Focus: Father, I look to you for guidance in seeking good counsel.

Verse of the Day: Pro 11:14 Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

Living the Word Today: Seek good, godly counsel.



December 28

When it Looks Impossible

Mark 10:27 And Jesus looking upon them saith, With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible.

Your help comes from the Lord, so refocus your attention. Start looking unto the Lord as your source and your strength. It might look impossible and with man it might be impossible. It might be beyond your ability to handle, but with God all things are possible! Dare to believe God!

I have had adverse situations and seen God turn them around. Believe God in the midst of contrary evidence. God will do it for you. Don't sit and talk about what can't happen because God has people that are making things happen! You can be one of those people. You are one of those people! You are going to make it happen so don't be discouraged.

If you're saying, "Pastor, I know that, but I'm not there yet." If all of us were already there I wouldn't need to talk about it! It would be a waste of time talking about what we already have! The reason we talk about it is because we are not there yet and we all want to get there.

Keep on walking by faith and keep on believing God. Dare to believe God's report. There's nothing too hard for the God we serve. God specializes in the impossible!

Prayer Focus: John 2:23 Now when he was in Jerusalem at the passover, in the feast day, many believed in his name, when they saw the **miracles** which he did.

Verse of the Day: I dare to believe you, Lord. Thank you for miracles.

Living the Word Today: Jesus will do the miraculous for you.



December 29

Keep Your Eyes on Jesus

Matt 14:29-30 And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.

You may be sensing a little turbulence today on your flight in this journey called life. Be encouraged. You are about to rise above this storm. Glory! Hallelujah! Don't be dismayed. God is on your side! He will never leave you nor forsake you! Nay in all these things, you are more than a conqueror. Don't get discouraged!

I was once on a flight in Central America and the plane was so small, I had to crawl into it. As we went over the mountains, the atmosphere changed. The plane took a big dip and I started getting a little concerned. The hostess stated "Watch the pilots, as long as they are talking and not alarmed, everything is ok. When the pilots stop talking and begin to get alarmed, then Houston we have a problem!" So, I kept my eyes on the pilots.

I encourage you to keep your eyes on Jesus. Don't look at man. Don't look to the left nor to the right; keep your eyes on Jesus. If by chance you lose your focus and you feel like you are drowning, do like Peter did and cry out to the Lord to save you, and He will save you!

Prayer Focus: I am a world overcomer. This too shall pass.

Verse of the Day: Isa 26:3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

Living the Word Today: Put your trust and confidence in God. Watch what He will do for you! Keep your eyes on Jesus!



December 30

Return Unto Me Saith The Lord

Isa 44:21-22 Remember these, O Jacob and Israel; for thou art my servant: I have formed thee; thou art my servant: O Israel, thou shalt not be forgotten of me. I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins: return unto me; for I have redeemed thee.

God wants us to return unto Him. God wants our entire life, not just part of it. He wants our whole heart. I saw a sign on a car once that stated, "God wants full custody, not just weekend visits". God wants to be first in every aspect of our lives.

We must put Jesus first in our lives. He is our Lord, our Savior and our deliverer. We need to examine our lives and ask ourselves if there is any aspect that Jesus is not first? Is there any area where Jesus is not Lord? Have I allowed disappointments or offenses to turn my heart away from God?

Answering yes does not necessarily mean that you are not saved or that you don't love God. When we allow things to come in and take God's place, then He is no longer first in our lives. He is no longer Lord of our lives. Return unto God. Allow Him to be first in all that you do.

Prayer Focus: Jesus, forgive me for allowing other things to take priority in my life. Be Lord in me today.

Verse of the Day: Deut 4:29 But if from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.

Living the Word Today: Seek the Lord with your whole heart then He will be found of you.



December 31

Don't Forget the Lord

Deut 8:10-11 When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the LORD thy God for the good land which he hath given thee. Beware that thou forget not the LORD thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day:

How can I forget the Lord you might ask? We can forget that God is our healer, God is our deliverer, and He is our provider. When we begin to do things in our own strength and by our own hand, we have forgotten God. This is not to say that God is not in your memory.

We have to make sure we don't forget that we could not deliver ourselves. Sure, you are holy, God lives on the inside of you and you love God. But we must remember that we could not break the yokes of bondages from our lives. It was God who turned our lives around. We must keep looking unto Jesus.

When we come into our wealthy place and live in our goodly houses, we must not forget. We must remember that it was God who gave us a job when we didn't have one. We must remember that it was God's favor on our lives which caused us to overcome. Don't forget God.

Prayer Focus: Father, I thank you and remember that it was you that set me free. You gave me power to get wealth.

Verse of the Day: Deut 8:13-14 And when thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied; Then thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the LORD thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage

Living the Word Today: Don't forget where God has brought you from and what He has done for you!



Sow A Seed

Sow a financial seed into this ministry **TODAY!!!**

Be a part of helping us reach around the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ through

- A Word in Season
- Door of Faith Broadcast Ministries
- James D. Corbett Ministries

Please use the enclosed offering envelope for your donation. You may also give electronically via our website at

www.greenvillecommunitychristian.com or within our worship services. Just ask an usher for an offering envelope and he/she will be more than happy to give you one.

Thank you in advance for your donation!!!



Ра



Hosted by: Pastor James D. Corbett

y, January 10

ULE

n

n

istian Church Dive

Aliport) 334



52-5683 ext 230

To Order Call: 252-752-5683 ext 248





PASTOR JAMES CORBETT

1104 N. Memorial Drive Greenville NC 27834 252-752-LOVE (5683) Fax: 252-752-0315 www.greenvillecommunitychristian.com

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday Worship—8:15 am & 10 am Wednesday Bible Study—10 am & 7:30 pm Women Fellowship—every 3rd Friday at 7 pm Men Fellowship—every 3rd Saturday at 9 am

UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

Christmas Fellowship—Dec 19

Christmas Services—Dec 21

Children Presentation during 10 am service

Christmas Eve Service—Dec 24 10 am ONLY

New Year's Eve Service—Dec 31

Youth Expressions begins at 8 pm

<u>JANUARY</u>

Gathering of the Eagles—January 9 & 10

www.jamesdcorbettministries.org



Greenville Community Christian Church Pastor James Corbett

Join us for a LIVE Broadcast

Sundays—8:45 & 10:45 am Wednesdays—8:00 pm

www.greenvillecommunitychristian.com Click on "Watch Us Live"

Previously recorded services also available for viewing

ames D. Corbett Ministries

James D. Corbett, Pastor 1104 N. Memorial Drive PO Box 968 Greenville, NC 27834

Phone: 252-752-5683 Fax: 252-752-0315 Website: jamesdcorbettministries.org



