

GOOD NEWS

VICTORY CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

SINGING TO GOD

Every believer should have a daily devotion. Do you read the Bible every day? Do you start your day thinking of God? Do you give thanks to the Lord for another day of life? Do you complain to Him? Well, even if you complain, at least you're communicating with Him. That is better than nothing.

However, we know that babies complain because they don't know how to handle things. Little ones complain because they don't understand much about life, and they only care for themselves. Who else complains? Most of the time the selfish person is constantly complaining, rather than being grateful. It's true, maybe you have the money to pay for things and you expect a good service or product in return. However, is that your personality? Complaining all the time about everything? Really? Don't you think it is too childish of you?



A daily devotion is a discipline to honor our Lord God that every believer should do. Including prayers to give thanks to the good Lord for another day, presenting your requests, and also interceding for others. A daily devotion should include reflecting on a passage of the scripture.

Today I want to encourage you to add something to your daily devotion. I want you to start singing to God every day. There is power when you are worshiping God with music. The Lord God doesn't pay too much attention to your singing abilities. He is listening to your heart more than anything. There are people that they can sing professionally to God, but their hearts are far away from Him. What's the point? The Lord God is always searching for hearts, people that love Him, people that need Him, people that know they are nothing without the good Lord.

Singing to the good Lord is powerful in the spiritual world. Giving praises to the good Lord. Honoring Him by keeping a melody that exalts the name of Jesus. Humming in your heart because you know the Holy Spirit is dwelling inside of you, and you love that feeling.

Singing to the good Lord should be part of your daily devotion and also your daily life. You don't need to be in church on Sunday to lift up your hands and sing hallelujah. You don't need a band of musicians around you or a choir. Actually, you don't even need anybody singing in the background. When you want to worship God, and sing to the Lord, all that you need is the desire to tell Him how much you love Him, that you know that He is your everything. When you learn to do that, you are going to be so excited to come to worship Him in person on Sundays with your brothers and sisters, then the music and the songs are going to become really spectacular to you. And if that moment of adoration is that great for you, can you imagine how the Lord feels about it? You have no idea the power in your singing. You have no idea of the outcome of your singing to God with all your heart, mind, voice, and strength.

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WIDE & NARROW | WS#341 | May 7, 2023

Life is a journey full of good things and serious challenges. Any situation we go through in life has a meaning. It's ours to choose which way we want to pass through. As Christians, we are told that the way to life is narrow, and the way to death is wide. Choose wisely today!



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FURIOUS & FAST | WS#342 | May 14, 2023

Do not overreact when you make decisions. Staying calm helps you make right decisions. But overreaction will make the problem even worse. Be calm, reflect and make a positive decision. However, you must make very quick decisions in loving, forgiving, and giving.



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SAINT YOU | WS#343 | May 21, 2023

There is so much in the Lord. Our Lord is the redeemer of our lives. With Him, we are more content all the time. God is always there to help us work on His will. Be it a high season or low season - God never leaves us alone. He leads and guides us in a way that we prosper abundantly for His glory.



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ABUNDANT LIFE | WS#344 | May 28, 2023

How do you understand abundant life? Majority think that money is all that they need to have abundant life. However, God's promise of abundant life encompasses many things. It includes good health mentally, physically and spiritually; good finances, family life and career satisfaction.



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THE NECESSITY OF LEARNING TO DEAL WITH PEOPLE

I know you don't want to even think about it, but you have no alternative in this matter. Even for the ones who have their lives figured out, with great health, a nice family and good income, even in that "semi-perfect-almost-impossible-life-style-lol", there will always be a need to deal with people. Think about this: The Lord God truly lives in the perfection of His Throne and with full control of everything around Him all the time, forever and ever, and yet, He has to deal with people.

Life is about living beings. The Lord God, you, your family, me, and everyone else. We all cohabitate in this Universe. As far as we can reach, we, humans, are circumscribed to this Planet, with a limited option for trips outside of Earth, and still, for those who traveled, they must deal with other people.

There you go! Human interaction is unavoidable. Certainly there are some individuals that think of the idea of not being bothered by anyone. They order pretty much everything online. Drop box. No signature needed for deliveries, etc. Funny thing is that the more independent they want to be, the more codependent they become in technology. Technology, that actually is a product developed by other humans, and that technology requires maintenance. By whom? Hmmmm... oh yes! By people, people that make a living out of the services and products they design, promote, sell and maintain. Therefore, everyone needs to deal with people, one way or another.

What is the problem with that? A simple problem. You are going to get hurt by people. The same thing that you do to others. You hurt people. You are thinking, no... not me... I am really nice to people...exactly! That is how most people see themselves. Innocent cute little creatures incapable to kill a fly...right!

Unless you really want to be honest with yourself, with the Lord God, and with people, you must see the reality that offenses, disrespect, abuse, and disappointment flows in two ways when it is about human interaction. There is no chance that you will not get hurt. And vice versa, there is no way that you will not hurt others.

What can we do then? We need to learn to deal with people. You must realize that offenses and disappointments are part of our daily lives. Consequently, you must live aware of mistakes, yours and other people's. Are all mistakes truly mistakes, a misunderstanding of things? Not really. You know that there are people that are mean and evil. But not everyone. You will stop interacting with abusers because that is insane. However, you need to learn to deal with the imperfection of the vast majority of people around you: in your home, in your neighborhood, in your workplace, school, church, gym, marketplace, and traffic. Ah... don't forget the suppliers you use and call on the phone, chats online, emails, etc. Don't expect perfection from anyone, my friend. Such thing does not exist. You are not perfect either. Things that you can do: be considerate and nice, communicate the best possible way, show respect to everyone, and do what you say you will do. Finally, patiently expect the best from everybody that you interact with, always remembering that they are not geniuses, nor your slaves, but simple mortals doing what they can do to help you. After all, they need a pay check like you do. A little joke for you, if you fight with the anesthesiologist, you might not wake up after the surgery.

Wedding Anniversary



On June 12th, Tracy and I celebrated our wedding anniversary. Here is our wedding picture in Pensacola, FL in 2014 - and the one we took for our celebration this month in 2023.

What can we say? Thank you, Lord, for Your mercy and kindness! We love You, Lord God!



BIBLE STUDIES



YOUTUBE



Bible Study | Gospel Parallels 25 | May 3rd, 2023

Never refuse extending your hand to help somebody asking for your help. Whether you know or you don't know the needy, you should help them because God is pleased by givers. Kindness honors the Lord, and it could be your divine connection to the future.



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Bible Study | Gospel Parallels 26 | May 10th, 2023

Does your life please the Lord Jesus? Our Savior reminds us today to change our hearts and believe the Good News. Repent and believe the Good News because the kingdom of God is near. As Jesus calls on us to repent, it is a good time to assess our lives and do what pleases God.



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Bible Study | Gospel Parallels 27 | May 17th, 2023

It takes faith to see the greatness of the Lord and receive His miracles. Faith in God is an act of believing that God is able. Believing that God can do everything amidst any circumstances. Believe in the Lord that He can do it, and keep moving forward. Without faith it is impossible to please God.



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Bible Study | Gospel Parallels 28 | May 24th, 2023

Have you heard a calling from Jesus Christ? God's calling is neither a question, nor a request. When Jesus calls you, it is a command to which you must adhere. As you follow Jesus, you will learn many things. You will get knowledge that can help you live a meaningful life.



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Bible Study | Gospel Parallels 29 | May 31st, 2023

Starting your day with a daily devotion is the best way to start a day. However, if you are to experience God's presence, cultivate practicing a daily devotion all the time. It's the daily devotion that draws us closer to the Lord.



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HOW TO LIVE A PURE LIFE

According to Psalm 15:1-5 (ERV), in order to live a PURE life, “do what is right, and speak the truth from one's heart”, means:

1. Don't say bad things about others.
 - Don't do things to hurt your neighbors.
 - Don't tell shameful things about those closest to your neighbors.
2. Hate those who fail to please God, and honor those who respect the Lord.
 - If you make a promise to your neighbor, then do what you promised.
3. If you loan money to someone, do not charge them interest.
4. Refuse to testify against an innocent person, even if someone offers the money to do it.



WHOEVER is like this, the Lord says they will ALWAYS stand strong!

This seems like such a simple, short list to live by in order to live a pure life in God's eyes. And in reality, it really is short and simple. Sometimes, if not more often than not, we make things WAY too complicated and difficult.

What is the Blessing that comes from living a pure life? Jesus said:

Matthew 5:8 - “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.” (ERV)

Matthew 5:8 - “You’re blessed when you get your inside world – your mind and heart – put right. Then you can see God in the outside world.” (The Message)

If you are blessed, aren't you happy? Pure in heart people don't allow anything bad into their hearts that would make them unhappy. For example, a heart full of unthankfulness, unbelief, and wrong suspicions about others. However, a person with a pure heart has good thoughts about others, such as, thoughts of being grateful, and how they can bless others.

Psalm 119:9 - “How can a young person live a pure life? By obeying Your Word.”

I love the way The Message puts Psalm 15...

**God, who gets invited to dinner at your place? How do we get on your guest list?
“Walk straight, act right, tell the truth. Don't hurt your friend, don't blame your neighbor;
despise the despicable. Keep your word even when it costs you, make an honest living,
never take a bribe. You'll never get blacklisted if you live like this.”**

Blessings,

Tracy



The Saga continues... check the website for all jokes, images and videos.

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