First Baptist Church of West College Hill – From the Pastor's Desk Page 1 January 20, 2019

## Theme for 2019

'The God of Another Year, is a God of Wonderful and Amazing Grace.

He is the God of Forgiveness and He is the God of Beginning Again.'

## 365 DAYS OF POSSIBILITIES!

"O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your marvelous works. I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High."

Psalm 51:15 (ESV); Lamentations 3:22-23 (NKJV); Psalm 9:1-2 (NKJV)



## This Week's Thought – January 20, 2019

"Blessed are those who listen to me, watching daily at my doors, waiting at my doorway. For those who find me find life and receive favor from the LORD." Proverbs 8:34-35 (NIV)

<u>365 DAYS OF POSSIBILITIES</u>—It is humbling to think, that each day the Almighty God is available to commission our cause for Christ. As with Able, the Almighty looks for the best offering for blessing. Therefore, honor God by offering Him the first fruits of your day. Just as He deserves first dibs on your money, so He expects the beginning of your day. Get up and go to God first. There you discover a wealth of wisdom, and under the shadow of your Savior Jesus Christ you receive His favor.

Joy/Happiness happens to those who wait for wisdom. His blessing cannot be rushed; so, rest in Him. The favor of God is well worth the wait; like with a newborn, the joy is unspeakable. How many times have we rushed ahead, outside the canopy of Christ's blessing? The Israelites learned to stay under the cloud of God being led by faith.

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There is no spiritual oxygen to sustain those in an out-of-favor environment. It is lifeless and lonely. For those on whom the Heavenly Father's favor rests, there is rest. His blessing provides strength for the journey and perseverance to stay on the trail of trust.

Jesus experienced the favor of His Heavenly Father when He submitted to public baptism—His confession of faith, His commitment to public service, and His commission to ministry. In what issue of obedience do you need wisdom to continually experience the favor of your heavenly Father? Your life is alive and vibrant because the Lord favors you. You are a favorite of your heavenly Father because you are learning to wait on Him and to walk humbly with the wise.

The Bible says, "He has told you what he wants, and this is all it is: to be fair, just, merciful, and to walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8 Living Bible)

On today, may the blessing of peace rest upon you...the blessing of joy abide within you...the blessing of success and favor surround you...the blessing of love flow out through you. May all the Blessings of the Lord be yours in abundance as you 'Encounter the Possibilities' this day will bring!!

**Application:** Ask yourself, 'How can I make sure I stay in a position to receive God's favor and blessing?' Then tell the Lord, 'I put my life in Your hands and trust Your hand to lead and provide for me, today and forever more.'

Words from the Master during your time of reflection this week: "Stop trying to work things out before their times have come. Accept the limitations of living one day at a time. When something comes to your attention, ask Me whether or not it is part of today's agenda. If it isn't, release it into My care and go on about today's duties. When you follow this practice, there will be beautiful simplicity about your life: a time for everything, and everything in its time. (Ecclesiastes 3:1; Ecclesiastes 8:6-7)

"And then God answered: "Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what's coming. It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait! And it doesn't lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It's on its way. It will come right on time." Habakkuk 2:2-3 (MSG)

Yours in Christ, Pastor King