

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 – February 3, 2019

“In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed.” Mark 1:35
(NRSV)

365 DAYS OF POSSIBILITIES—Throughout His life and ministry, Jesus models for His early disciples the way of life they themselves are meant to walk in. He, by example, shows the way of humility and self-giving love...the way of sacrifice for those you love and how to lay down your life for your friends. So, in Mark 1, we see Jesus through His own actions remind us afresh of how centrally important it is to carve out unhurried and undistracted time with the Lord in prayer.

In the era of social media and smart devices, it is becoming almost impossible to be alone. Our jobs demand that we are instantly available and always responsive. Our social relationships extend in countless ways into areas of life that were once private and personal; and we are told time and time again that this is not only normal but is meant to deepen and enrich the human experience. ***Yet as countless people can attest, we are more connected than ever before yet lonelier and more isolated than any previous generation.***

As we seek to encounter and experience all the possibilities God has for us, there is something profound that we must learn from Jesus’ model of pursuing regular and intentional time alone in stillness and silence.

Before the distractions and responsibilities of the day crash in, like Jesus, we must learn to cultivate healthy habits of faith that include regular rhythms of time alone, and not just alone, but alone with the Lord.

I’m increasingly convinced that it is possible to be alone and even silent, yet internally filled with noise, clutter, and distraction. It isn’t just that Jesus goes to a silent place. He goes to a quiet place, turns off all the noise and distraction within, but then takes the additional step of turning towards the Lord in prayer. In stillness we turn away from all that distracts and discourages, but in turning to the Lord we find our strength renewed and our joy increased.

“Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.” (Psalm 90:14)

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: Find ways today to prioritize time alone with the Lord, not to be still just for stillness sake, but to turn your heart and soul towards Him, trusting that He will meet you in that place and remind you of your true identity as His beloved child.

Words from the Master during your time of reflection this week: “Worship Me only. Whatever occupies your mind the most becomes your god. Worries, if indulged, develop into idols. Anxiety gains life of its own, parasitically infesting your mind. Break free from this bondage by affirming your trust in Me and refreshing yourself in My Presence. What goes on in your mind is invisible and undetectable to others, but I read your thoughts continually, searching for evidence of your trust in Me. I rejoice when your mind turns toward Me. Guard your thoughts diligently; good thought choices will keep you close to Me.” (Psalm 112:7; 1 Corinthians 13:11; Psalm 139:23-24)

“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