

## ***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 – May 5, 2019***

*“Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.” 1 Corinthians 8:1b-3 (NRSV)*

**365 DAYS OF POSSIBILITIES**– Knowledge is a great gift and carries with it the potential to transform our understanding of God, the world, and ourselves; however, it is remarkably easy to know a great deal of information without ever being transformed by that knowledge.

Knowledge is important, but love is essential. This is the point Paul emphasizes again and again to the Corinthian church. Frankly, he could care less about their enlightened and progressive opinions about food offered to idols and the freedom they had to eat it, especially when it resulted in painful confusion and relational breakdown within the community of faith. Just because you have the freedom to do something doesn’t mean it’s the loving thing to do, and for Christians, loving God and others is the highest call upon each and every one of our lives.

*“Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves.” (Philippians 2:3)*

True humility means caring more for the preservation of a relationship than it does winning an argument or proving yourself to be in the right. In fact, Paul challenges us to always approach the other with a posture of wonder and delight, consistently believe that you have something to

learn and receive from someone else, even in spite of differences of opinion or belief. But when those differences threaten to divide, we must always be willing to lay our knowledge down in the name of self-giving love.

The goal of life is to love as we have been loved. Nothing is more important than this, and all of our knowledge and expertise should be freely laid down in name of this pursuit of love. As Thomas à Kempis so beautifully put it, “*At the Day of Judgment, we shall not be asked what we have read, but what we have done; not how eloquently we have spoken, but how holily we have lived.*”

**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:** Where have you lost sight of humility and love in an attempt to prove a point or win an argument? Pray to God, as you receive His love, may you always seek to live in and share that love with everyone you meet.

**Prayer of reflection you might pray this week: “Lord, may I be slow to anger and filled with love this day and throughout all this week. I know I am going to need Your help here, because if I try to go solo on this I’ll fail for sure. Please fill my heart with patience, and may I be ready to forgive - myself and others. Not just this once, but as many times as it takes. Thank you that You are so generous, patient and kind when it comes to forgiveness. Please fill my heart with understanding and may I always seek to contemplate what somebody may be suffering before I jump to any conclusions, because I know that You never cease to pardon or forgive me. This is my prayer in the matchless, wonderful and compassionate name of Jesus. Amen!”**

***“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