The Road to Pentecost Guide-2018
“One Sound”

We Are ...

An Apostolic and Prophetic center that **Builds, Equips, Activates, Imparts, Releases, Gathers, Restores, and Revives**. Our vision is to **LOVE**, **LIVE**, and **LEAD** like Christ.

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A Message from Bishop Stephen A. Davis:

This is a year of returning to the basics of who we are as a people of God. That is, who has God uniquely called us to be? Often, we imagine that to move forward means casting down and destroying all that came before. But like the prophet Nehemiah, we are strengthening the walls and the gates of this great ministry!

When your history has been so richly God-breathed—as ours has been—the greatest mistake would be to turn away from all the success that has come before. So, we embrace and are focused on building on the foundations that were laid by those who came before us. Foundations that were established on the Word of God and embraced by a generation of mighty men and women of God, from all around the World.

We recognize that we are a generational church and our God breathed vision is generational as well. Our vision statement reminds us of our role in the Kingdom—and we must be “about our Father’s business.” As we embrace and move toward in our common vision, it ensures that we are moving with One Sound.

The power of moving in One Sound is limitless and embraces a unity of God’s people to accomplish great things and to advance the Kingdom of God. As members of this great movement, we have the opportunity to take One Sound into every aspect of our lives to create and further everything that God has given us.

Even if you are not a member of New Birth, or even a member of the Kingdom of God, we invite you to go on this journey with us. We believe that by the end of these fifty days to Pentecost, something in you will change and your life and your thirst for the things of God will never be the same!

And as always, if you are ever in the area, make sure you stop by New Birth and let us know that you are with us as we go after the Nations for God! There truly is much work to be done in the Kingdom—and God has a special place for you! And remember, that I love you and I am praying for each of you!

Amazed by His grace,

Bishop Stephen A. Davis

WE ARE…AN APOSTOLIC AND PROPHETIC CENTER THAT BUILDS, EQUIPS, ACTIVATES, IMPARTS, RELEASES, GATHERS, RESTORES, AND REVIVES. OUR VISION IS TO LOVE, LIVE, AND LEAD LIKE CHRIST.

“Write the vision And make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry.”

Habakkuk 2:2-3
The Road to Pentecost Guide
“One Sound”

This year we are focused on moving with One Sound. One sound can mean many things: It can be the sound of all the voices in a choir singing perfectly in tune, or it can be the sound of a large force moving silently through the woods.

This year’s Road to Pentecost Meditational Guide will focus on the strong message of our Vision statement. Weekly we tap into the action words of the Vision: building, equipping, activating, imparting, gathering, releasing, reviving and restoring the people of God. Challenge is to discover yourself as we go forth on our journey. Use this opportunity to gauge where you in the vision; and then re-engage as necessary to ensure that you are faithfully walking out the Vision of the House.

Week 1 - BUILDING the Kingdom for God
Days 1-7 4/1 – 4/7

Week 2 - EQUIPPING believers for the Kingdom
Days 8-14 4/8 – 4/14

Week 3 - The Kingdom of God is ACTIVATED in us
Days 15-21 4/15 – 4/21

Week 4 - IMPARTING the gifts of the Kingdom
Days 22-28 4/22 – 4/28

Week 5 - RELEASING the Kingdom into the Earth
Days 29-35 4/29 – 5/5

Week 6 - GATHERING the lost for the Kingdom
Days 36-42 5/6 – 5/12

Week 7 - RESTORING and REVIVING believers for the Kingdom
Pentecost Sunday — “One Sound!!”
Days 43-49 5/13 – 5/19
Day 50 5/20

Our focus will allow us to operate corporately, unified in our supplications to the Lord. In this Consecration Guide, on each day there are specific biblical verses and meditational thoughts that are presented for your times of meditation.

Also, at the end of the week, there is an opportunity to study further in each of the areas that are identified. We encourage you to embrace these elements as tools to take you deeper into the Word and the Will of God during your personal journey.

At the end of our journey we will all celebrate the greatness that is our God and how He has restored us during this time of consecration. Please, take this time to get all that God has for you along this Road to Pentecost.
Week 1: BUILDING the Kingdom for God

Day 1: Understand Your Position
It is amazing, how God created the foundation of “family.” According to His plan, it consists of a father, mother and sometimes children, with roles and responsibilities that are fulfilled in different seasons for specific purposes. Each member needs the other, so the household will function correctly. As the children mature, they are given chores. This is the same within the Body of Christ. No one person is responsible for the efficiency and effectiveness of the church and how it operates. God has given you a gift to equip others to prepare them for the greater work of His kingdom, which can be done in the church building or in the community based on the purpose of the church. Declaration: I AM a “MEMBER,” therefore; I am willing and committed in finding my role in the Body of Church to assist with building the kingdom of God.

Ephesians 4:11 MSG
He handed out gifts of apostle, prophet, evangelist, and pastorteacher to train Christ’s followers.
Day 2: Use What You Have
You may have heard this phase before, “Come as you are.” This can also be related to using your spiritual gifts—more so than how you are dressed. That is, you don’t have to wait for your gift to be perfected in order to be used with building the Kingdom of God. All you need is a willing heart and a teachable spirit. You will find areas where you need to grow from others who may have the same gift; but that will be confirmed during your quiet time with the Lord. You have a gift, a perspective and a testimony that is needed in a ministry. As long as you are available and willing to make a commitment to use your gift, using what you have is a form of giving. Declaration: I will no longer just sit back and watch what’s going on. It’s time for me to sit at the table and share the gift He has given me.

Day 3: Look in the Mirror
One of the greatest hurdles we must overcome is knowing how God desires for us to relate to one another. There is no need for competition or comparison as we instead learn from each other. Yes, we are all different, but by taking time to “learn” one another helps us all get better because God’s purpose still must be fulfilled. God has specifically chosen us; we are a part of His bigger vision; and we don’t want to hinder anyone’s spiritual growth. Be mindful to intentionally encourage one another as the scriptures are written. Our faith is strengthened by hearing…and hearing the word of God, so let’s speak the Word over one another. We know the life we live in this world isn’t easy; but together, we must demonstrate His love. Declaration: Lord, I trust You will give me the words to encourage and to build better relationships with my sisters and brothers in Christ and not take things personally.

Day 4: Wear Your Kingdom Clothes
There are clothing distinctions for each season. And most of us desire to wear what’s in-season. God expects us to wear what is kingdom fashionable: clothing that does not go out of style for the body of Christ. We must ensure that every piece of our spiritual garment is intact and kingdom fashionable! Being mindful of the tactics of the enemy we must be ready to show off the kingdom brands of truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation and the Spirit. Christ has already paid the price; we don’t have to be concerned about the cost or going into debt. Declaration: Lord we trust You in being our wardrobe designer. Thank you for supplying our every need. Guide us to protect the kingdom of God from any imitation of brand.
Day 5: Ask for Assistance
God is the source of all our experiences. He chose you and He places those around us. Building kingdom relationships increases our trust muscles, which is helpful, especially when we have to ask for help. There will be times we will need to depend on others. That’s why we seek to understand the people in our circle. God will give us the wisdom we need, because it’s all about His Kingdom. Let’s be reminded that we are brothers and sisters, and when one is weak, the other is strong! God has placed people in our lives for a reason. They may have experienced something we have yet to encounter. Let’s learn to work together for the building of the Kingdom. Together, the more we understand one another, the better our foundation to assist each other. Declaration: *I am grateful for the people I am connected to; they bring value to my life.*

Day 6: Turn the Light On
It’s important to know what you are working with. Transparency creates genuine relationships and builds ministries. It makes us *relatable*. We must use wisdom to know when to share our testimony; not operating in the fear and doubt what God is doing in your life. Learning to trust God as He builds our faith and renews our mind is part of our journey. There is no sense in keeping our faith to ourselves. Share the ups and the downs; it’s a part of showing others who God is. Remember our life is not our own so we make ourselves available to be used by God—*however, He sees fit*. Be open and let others know who you are in Him. Declaration: *As I draw near to You, I know You will draw near to me. Your Word says you will never leave me nor forsake and if you are for me, who can be against me? I want to build your kingdom with by sharing the light of Your Word… Your truth.*

Day 7: Demonstrate His Love
We can do all the building we want, but if we don’t demonstrate His love towards others, all we are doing is creating cliques. Dealing with different people can be challenging because of our past experiences, but we have to know that all things work together for His good. We have to seek Him to know how to relate to others. We have to be patient and show kindness. He created us all and it helps if we learn what God is doing in others and be willing to support and direct them. No one said that being a disciple of Christ was going to be easy, but it is necessary. He said in His word to go out and make disciples; it requires discipline on our part. Take time and pray to ask God who are you to cover today. Prayer: *God show me the people you want me to disciple because you want to use them for your kingdom. Help me share what I know and expect them to do better!* Amen.
Going Deeper – Building the Kingdom for God

Do you remember the story of the “Three Little Pigs?” This story reminds me of how important it is as believers to know that we will not be able to build anything of substance, until we know who we are and whose we are? When the enemy visited the pigs home; (which is also a representation of our own bodies (Romans 12:1-2)); they hid in homes that were blow away by the enemy. In the same way, we need to hide the Word of God in our hearts, or we too will be blown away like the first two pigs, left exposed to the enemy to do whatever he pleases. An enemy known to steal, kill and destroy.

It was the third pig, who used stronger measures to ensure his home would protect him when the storm (strong wind) came. We must study to show ourselves approved knowing that “it is written,” in the Word of God.

The Kingdom of God is like a field where seeds are planted and watered with the expectancy of maturing. God uses us to plant those seeds: the word of God. We are to be reminded that everyone should have the opportunity for the Word of God to be presented to them, (Romans 14:11). We have to be intentional in engaging and encouraging one another and the world will be better because of it!

Together, we must be good stewards of our homes, communities and the church. And together we will build—side-by-side; brick-by-brick, carrying each other’s burdens as we build the kingdom of God.

Make these declarations as a commitment to Building the Kingdom of God:

- I WILL seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness.
- I WILL hide the word of God in my heart, so that I may not sin again Him.
- I WILL use my gifts for the uplifting of His Kingdom.
- I SUBMIT to ONE SOUND of unity and walking in authority.

Take time each day to search the scriptures for nuggets of wisdom to make your own!

Day 1: Colossians 3:23-24; John 15:5
Day 2: Matthew 25:14-30; James 1:5
Day 3: Genesis 1:27; John 13:35
Day 4: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8; Romans 8:28
Day 5: 1 Peter 4:8-10; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12
Day 6: Habakkuk 2:2; Revelation 12:11
Day 7: Matthew 6:33; Matthew 28:16-20
Week 2: EQUIPPING Believers for the Kingdom

Day 8: Identity Theft
Identity theft is when someone steals your personal information (SSN, bank account information, etc.) for financial gain, to purchase items or to gain access to places that they have no right. The enemy is guilty of identity theft every time we [as believers] don’t know, don’t remember, or choose ignorance and literally hand him the keys to our most precious belongings. Every time we speak or think defeat; or every time we believe we can’t or disqualify ourselves, we give him access. One negative thought is the fuel for the next negative thought or for the next negative conversation and so on. We have to remember that we are always MORE THAN because we serve a MORE THAN God. We were made in His image and likeness and since He is royalty, we are royalty. To be equipped for the Kingdom of God, we must identify ourselves as citizens in God’s Kingdom and recognize our power and authority. Prayer: Father God, thank you for creating us in Your image. Thank you for reminding me of who I am and to whom I belong. From this day forward, I will no longer think small or defeat – I am a child of the Most-High God and will act accordingly! In Jesus name, Amen!

But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.
1 Peter 2:9 NKJV
Day 9: You Are What You Eat
You are what you eat. This saying is true for what you eat for your physical body as well as your spiritual body. So, let me ask you a question…what are you eating? What are you consuming on a day to day basis as it pertains to spiritual food? It is important to have a healthy diet of prayer, devotion and quality time with Jesus Christ. If not, you may end up experiencing worse pain than eating too much pizza on Friday night! The Lord desires a closer relationship with us. He has prepared a table for you to come and feast with Him…will you join Him? **Prayer:** Lord, forgive me for not accepting your invitation to dine with You. Daily you prepare a feast that includes Your Word and quality time with You. You have extended Your hand to me, I accept your invitation now, In Jesus’s Name. Amen.

I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world  
John 6:51 NIV

Day 10: You Have Authority!
A necessary tool needed in your tool belt is the knowledge, understanding and truth, that **YOU HAVE AUTHORITY.** Yes, you! The same Spirit of God that was in Christ Jesus is the same Spirit of God that is within us. In Luke 4:21, Jesus spoke to the listeners in the synagogue in Nazareth. He purposely looked for the scripture in Isaiah 61:1-2, and declared His God given authority! We too must declare who we are and who we belong to! Christ nailed fear, anxiety, failure, intimidation, low self-esteem and low self-image to the cross! He has already gone before us like a consuming fire and cleared the way – we just need to stay the course, remembering who we are and complete our assignment. **Declaration:** We declare that we have been chosen by the Most-High God. We stand and walk in the authority that has been given to us by Jesus Christ. We understand that we have authority, and with the authority given to us, we outrank the enemy! We will complete our assignment, In Jesus’ name, Amen!

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, ... the Lord has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; ... to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, ... opening of the prison to those who are bound. Isaiah 61:1 NKJV

Day 11: Discipline
Not everybody likes the word or the process that comes with the word, but everyone loves the results! **Discipline** is not a negative word, nor is it a positive word: it is a neutral word. Your perception of the word depends on how you respond to it. In order to be the best or the master of something, you have to be disciplined. Michael Jordan - disciplined. Martin Luther King - disciplined. Daniel - disciplined. Jesus Christ - disciplined. In order to be equipped for the Kingdom of God, being disciplined has to be near the top of your priority list! **Declaration:** I declare that I have the discipline to set aside time to study the Word of God, to complete the assignments given to me and to be fully equipped with everything I need to accomplish my goals. I can and will do all things through Christ who strengthens me, and it is so!

No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.  
Hebrews 12:11 NIV
Thursday – April 12, 2018

Day 12: What’s in your hand?
Romans 12:6-8 gives us a list of gifts what the Holy Spirit has given to us. They were given to us, not to abuse them or abuse others, but to glorify God and edify those whom we come in contact with. God equipped us with in everything that we need to equip others! Everything that we need to accomplish what we have been sent here for is already in us. Take some time today and ask God to show you what He has placed in you, for His glory. Prayer: Father God, thank you for giving me gifts! I understand that the gifts you have given are not for me, but to edify your people and glorify You. Holy Spirit, thank you for revealing to me the gifts you have given me and instructing me on how to use them. Amen.

Friday – April 13, 2018

Day 13: Will You Be Ready?
Have you ever been in a situation where you showed up for an assignment, a test, a job—but you didn’t have the proper tools to complete the assignment, pass the test or finish the job? We all have, and it is not a good feeling. Sometimes we get pop quizzes and at other times, we learn as we go…developing the necessary skills that we need for the task at hand. We are told in Ephesians what we war against in this world. We are given insight—an opportunity to prepare—for our interactions with the enemy, the prince of this world. Knowing whom we fight, allows us to better prepare knowing who we are, the Word of God and our God given authority. Armed with this knowledge, truly, “no weapon that is formed against us will prosper!” Declaration: Father thank You for giving us insight on who we actually wrestle against! We, now know how to aim the Word of God! We declare…we win! And it is so!

Saturday – April 14, 2018

Day 14: Be Strong!
The late Bishop Eddie L. Long ministered a message where he referenced a childhood toy that was inflatable and weighted at the bottom. He went on to give an illustration on how you can push it, kick it and punch it, but it wouldn’t stay own. It would give to the force of whatever hit it, but it would bounce back up—head held high, shoulders straight—with a smile…and ready for more! As believers, we should respond in a similar fashion when situations and circumstances come at us to distract, distress and distance us from God and His plans for our lives. Paul admonishes us ‘to be strong in the Lord and the power of His might’ (Ephesians 6:10). To be equipped in the Kingdom of God, we must remember that it is by His power and not of our own that we are able to stand. Declaration: I declare that I am well able! I declare that I am strong! I declare that if God be for me, who can be against me! I declare that I am able to stand, because He that is in me is greater than he that is in the world! And it is so, Amen!
Going Deeper - EQUIPPING Believers for the Kingdom

Being equipped for something is more than providing what is needed to use (dictionary.com). You can be provided with all of the tools necessary to start and or complete something. I believe God wants us to do more than just have the tools, but we need to actually use what has been given us and put it to work! God has given us His Word as more than a bedtime story. His Word is “living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart,” (Hebrews 4:12). Go deeper, and allow the Word of God to wash you, impart to you, inspire you and most of all, equip you for your assignment.

Day 1: You are His – John 1:12 (AMP) Do you know who you are? If you have not confessed Jesus as your Lord and Savior, you should! You are a child of God, with all the privileges of a child of God! Walk, talk, and be a child of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Not with a worldly confidence, but with Godly confidence, knowing that He that is with you is greater than he that is in the world.

Day 2: A healthy spiritual diet – Matthew 4:4 (NKJV) There is no way to live a healthy prosperous life without taking care of our spiritual person. We can eat all of the healthy food items, drink our fill of water and even take in the necessary vitamins, but if we do not take time to chew (meditate or ponder) on the Word of God, we will miss out on the key nutrients to truly live. God wants us to have life and life more abundantly. In order to live a truly abundant life, we need a daily intake of the Bread of Life.

Day 3: You have power - Proverbs 18:21 (NKJV) Each of us have more power than we realize. We have the ability to call those things that do not exist as though they did. When you are convinced of who you are and who you belong to, YOU HAVE POWER. The earth is waiting for you, (Romans 8:22).

Day 4: Discipline your thoughts! – I Timothy 4:6-7: (NLT) ‘A mind is a terrible thing to waste.’ You’ve heard this often, and it is very true. You may have also heard ‘an idle mind is the devil’s workshop’. This is also true. As believers we need to be careful of what consumes our thoughts. That which consumes our mind will become embedded in our hearts and will eventually come out of our mouths. We must train ourselves for godliness! The first part of this training is changing how we think. Let’s begin by thinking on the attributes listed in Philippians 4:8.

Day 5: Look in your hand! - Exodus 4:2 (NLT) Moses didn’t have to look far when God asked him what was in his hand. Our giftings, talents and skills are closer to us than we think. We don’t have to make up anything – we just need to stir up what is already in us! (2 Tim 1:6a). When we make time to draw near to God, He will draw near to us. He is with you now, waiting for you.

Day 6: Prayer is your weapon – Daniel 10:13 (NKJV) In the tenth chapter of Daniel, we read the story of how Daniel was visited by the Angel Gabriel and was told that his prayers were heard from the first day he believed. We cannot forget that prayer truly is our weapon! It is how we pull down strongholds and call things into order. When we open our mouths, Angels move to do our bidding! God’s word does not return to Him void – speak it and don’t stop praying…!
Day 7: Keep Standing – I Corinthians 16:13 (NLT) The days ahead will not necessarily be easy…but we have to remember that we are not alone. God is ever present with us. There is not a moment that He is not by our side…we only need to acknowledge Him. He will never leave us nor forsake us. Let us keep His Word in our hearts; be on guard; stand firm; be courageous and be strong.
Week 3: ACTIVATING the Kingdom of God in the Earth

Day 15: Jesus, Our Model of Activation!

To be activated, you must have an activator. In this world (on this side), nothing originates from itself. Even ideas are conceived. Jesus, at the beginning of his earthly ministry, also received the Holy Spirit, the true Activator. In Luke 4:18, we read, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me...” The Spirit of the Lord upon Jesus was the seal of authority and of power entrusted to him by the Father. This power or anointing of the Spirit gives one the ability to break yokes. Read Luke 4:18,19, as Jesus explains the purpose of the activation. He was anointed: (1) To announce publicly the Good News to the poor; (2) To heal those overwhelmed by grief or disappointment; (3) To set those in bondage free; (4) To give sight to those with no vision; (5) To cast out demons and; (6) To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord. Jesus, with the activated power of the Kingdom, went into action. **Prayer: Father, thank you for the faithful pattern you gave us in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We thank you for those who walked in the activated of power and authority, used by you O’ Lord, to transform our lives. Thank you for our salvation, healing, deliverance, peace and hope. In Jesus Name.**

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me...”

Luke 4:18 NKJV
Day 16: You Have What It Takes!
Yes, you have been authorized by God to rule, and given the power, that is, the ability to perform your Kingdom duties. Let’s look again at Luke 9:1 “Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority....” To activate the Kingdom, we must attach our faith and embrace this truth: Jesus gives his disciplined learners both Power and Authority. This power gives you what you need for the assignment. Yes, activation precedes action! Have you ever seen someone with a title or position, but had no power or ability to actually perform the job duties? Well, that is not you! You have what it takes! **Declare: God has given me Power and Authority. I have been authorized to rule and anointed to execute the work of ministry, as I go through my day. I am equipped to serve, in Jesus name.**

Day 17: Activation Takes Practice!
In 2002, a famous basketball player in the NBA, ranted during an interview, becoming well known for this phrase: *“Practice… you’re talking ‘bout practice!!”* For this devotional, we want to grab this thought: *“Yes, God wants you to practice!”* With every activation there is practice! **Practice defined: the actual application or use of an idea, belief, or method as opposed to theories.** In Luke 9:1-2, the Lord has activated believers with this same authority and power. The use of that authority and power is the same as well, “take authority over demons, cure diseases, preach the Kingdom, and heal the sick.” The Lord is waiting for you to discover that He really has equipped you, by the Spirit, to do all he did—and more! **Prayer:** *Lord God, thank you for equipping and sending me on my Kingdom assignment to heal the sick, cast out demons and “speak Kingdom.” Thank you in advance for the good reports, in Jesus name.*

Day 18: Prepared, not Scared!
With our activation comes the command to act. In the past, we stayed on the sidelines, afraid of how people might react to us. But we have been prepared—ACTIVATED by the Spirit of The Lord with power and authority to take the Kingdom to the streets. As the late & beloved Apostle Long would say, “The game is set, I have to play, I might as well win!” Fear of rejection will cause us to freeze and not proceed. Jesus just needs us to be obedient and get in the game. Like the disciples in Luke 9, being sent, returned to Christ totally astonished and ecstatic, because they “discovered” they could actually heal and publicly announce the kingdom; and most of all, they found out they that demons were subject to them. (Luke 10:17). It’s your turn now, go! **Declaration:** *I have no fear of rejection. I am sent by the Lord. If they reject me, it is not really me they are rejecting, but the Lord who sent me. Prayer: Help me Lord to not make this about me, but all about you, in Jesus name.*
Day 19: Activated to Go Everywhere
Jesus has full intention for us to go! Everywhere our feet tread, He has already given to us. This power and authority, works best wherever we are. There are people everywhere that need us to “Saint up” and do the work of ministry. Once, at the grocery store’s deli a woman in line, had what appeared to be crumbs on her forehead. Speaking through the crowd, I whispered, “Ma’am, you have something on your forehead.” She brushed her forehead and said, “Oh, that’s my skin allergies.” Apologizing, having embarrassed her, the Holy Spirit said, “go pray for her.” Asking if she would like prayer, we prayed and declared her healing. When the prayer ended, she was glowing...as were all those around us who had prayed with us. We were all blessed that day at the deli. **Prayer: Lord God, use me, I belong to you and desire to hear and obey. Thank you for this ability to break yokes and to lift your name on high.**

Day 20: He Activated Who???
As we read the Gospels, it is clear that Jesus had issues with those who thought they had “arrived.” These were the prideful, self-righteous people He disdained, while receiving those who were known sinners! Many of those “sinners” became his disciples whom he anointed to lead. In Luke 9:1 there were just the twelve Disciples; and by Luke 10:1, there were seventy disciples; yet by the second chapter in Acts, there were about 120 disciples in the upper room. These 120 disciples positioned to receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, who would be empowered to fulfill the Great Commission, to “go ye therefore into all the world, making disciples. Jesus made disciples of all who would come to Him. Today, The Lord has qualified you: so, don’t disqualify yourself! It is not what we did, but what Christ has done. **Declaration: There is no condemnation to those in Christ Jesus. I have been called, forgiven, anointed with power and authority and sent to reach others for Jesus Christ.**

Day 21: Activation Grows the Kingdom
At one time, gardens were quite common. My grandmother would plant tomato seeds, collards and mustard green seeds. Once planted, we would water the seeds regularly, anticipating them bursting through the soil. With no ability to make them produce—we surely had hope that God would bless us and grant us a harvest. By the grace of God, when harvest came, we didn’t hesitate to reap our harvest to ensure nothing was lost. This is similar to the Activation of the Kingdom as we faithfully go forth planting and watering the seeds of the Word, proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ—to heal and deliver. By doing so, we discover that “the Harvest truly is plentiful,” as the Lord uses us to bring in His harvest. **Prayer: Lord, thank you for choosing me for your Kingdom, and to be a laborer in your harvest.**
Going Deeper - ACTIVATING the Kingdom of God in the Earth

Over the last few days, we have focused on the Activation of the Kingdom in us, in the Earth. We discussed the who, what, when, where and how of this Activation.

If you are not yet moved to action, let me suggest, “the WHY”. First, think about the freedom you enjoy today, in the Lord. Our freedom in the Lord came, because someone met us with love and compassion and truth. They prayed for us and sometimes with us. They shared the Good News of the Kingdom. Through them, God gave the increase: Our salvation brought deliverance, healing, peace and most of all, forgiveness.

God used someone who was courageous enough to operate in their Activation of the Spirit to reach you and I for the Lord. We may have rejected them a few times, but thank God they didn’t take it personally, instead they continued to pray, plant and water, in our life, as the Spirit led.

This is the WHY!! We are activated, so we will go and reach others, who are in the same condition of darkness or despair that we once were in.

In Matthew 9:36-37 (NLT), we read: When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were HARASSED and HELPLESS (NKJV: weary and scattered), like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.”

Notice, Jesus was moved with compassion to help the masses of people who were harassed and helpless, weary and scattered, because they had not yet received the Lord as their Good Sheppard. Again, this is the WHY!

Jesus acknowledges the Harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. As a result, Jesus gives us his very own Prayer Request in Matthew 9:38, “Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

STOP now and Pray, based on the Prayer Request above.

In response to our prayer, we become the answer! Read Matthew 10:1,8.

This is Why we must GO THEREFORE INTO ALL THE WORLD, now in JESUS NAME!

*Here are some supporting scriptures to meditate on for each day:*

**Day 15:** John 14:12; Romans 8:29

**Day 16:** Matthew 16:19; Proverbs 18:21

**Day 17:** Galatians 6:9; Proverbs 22.29

**Day 18:** II Timothy 1:7; Matthew 10:16-20; Psalm 97:3

**Day 19:** Matthew 28:19; Joshua 1:3

**Day 20:** Romans 7:24-25; Ephesians 5:8-14

**Day 21:** Act 4:4; 2 Timothy 4:5
Week 4: IMPARTING the Gifts of the Kingdom

Day 22: Stir Up the Gifts!
You were given spiritual gifts when you became a member of the Body of Christ. This is a forsaken principal in the Church today, that’s why the church is so weak. If, we intend to recover the strength that God intended in the church we must return to the exercise of each person’s spiritual gifts. So, let’s examine how the human body functions. The body operates not by the cells getting together and voting about what is the best thing to do, but by doing what they individually and particularly are designed to do. It is the job of the head to correlate this, bring it all together, make it operate effectively, and each cell the task of functioning according to design. The body cannot operate when the cells revolt. This is the whole problem with the church today. Paul reminds us that the secret of the operation of the church is that each Christian has a gift. The church begins to live and exercise its impact and influence in society when you begin to exercise your gift. **Prayer:** Lord thank you for the spiritual gifts you have given me. Let me not only discover them, but use them to edify your body and glorify your Son in the power of the Holy Spirit.

_But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ’s gift._
_Ephesians 4:7_
Day 23: You Are “A Word!”
When GOD spoke you in existence, you were, and are, a Word. A Word that must accomplish and shall prosper is: You. God gave you vision for an appointed time, i.e., a distant future. That's why you keep dreaming about it, talking about it, speaking about it. God’s thoughts are higher than your thoughts for your success. He thinks of your peace, not of evil, to give you an expected end. An expected end means you shall see the manifestation. His Word spoken about you, your manifestation, your dreams, must come to pass. Wait for it says Habakkuk. It shall surely come! It must happen like—just like you did? Why? God says, His Word cannot return unto HIM void, it must produce! Prayer: Father, I thank you that I am a Word that shall not return unto you void; thank you for your thoughts towards me of peace, and not of evil, to give me an expected end.

Day 24: “Rowers” Don’t Rock the Boat
“Only people who aren’t rowing have time to rock the boat.” It is a dangerous thing when Christians choose not to take sides against evil. God gives spiritual capabilities individually to members of the body of Christ so that each one fulfills their purpose and the Christ is edified. Unfortunately, some suffer gift envy. We should be content with the role God equips us to play. Don’t lust after greater gifts or showy gifts or allow pride to divert attention away from what God has called you to do. Be determined to row—and not rock the boat! Prayer: Give us a hunger to live in union with each other, and may we be united as one, in a bond of peace and fellowship, in the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Day 25: A World Full of Needs
Are you willing to serve unnoticed? James Stevens was a deacon on a mission. He dedicated his time serving people in his community and his local church, deliberately seeing about the needs of others. Serving meant taking time away from his home, his family and life comforts. However, he noticed how others were too busy fixing their own life issues rather than serving others. That’s why he decided to be a conduit for others to help restore them to Christ. Our job as believers is to serve the needs of others, since God created us for His purpose. Then, He sets us loose in a world full of needs. It’s not superhero stuff, but don’t pass by someone in need holding out for a more glamorous purpose. If it’s God you seek to serve, it doesn’t matter if people notice what you’re doing. Prayer: Heavenly Father, help us to put aside our selfish desires and vain ambition. Teach us to be true servants in both word and deed. In Jesus name, Amen.
Day 26: The Fruit of the Spirit
In the Church of Corinth, believers were tearing down the ministry by abusing their spiritual gifts. They were using their gifts as an end to themselves, and not building up the Church. They had the gifts of the Spirit, but were lacking the fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, etc. Spiritual gifts, no matter how exciting and wonderful, are useless and even destructive when not ministered in love. The spiritual gifts we have are not our own. These gifts are only entrusted to us to help all God’s people. We are all entrusted with the spiritual giftings that God gave us, and we each must give an account of that their use. Spiritual gifts are tools to build with; not toys to play with; or weapons to fight with. Prayer: Heavenly Father, I pray that you will impart wisdom into my mind and into my spirit. Help me to move in your spirit when I serve your people. Amen.

Day 27: Uniting to Uplift
When geese migrate, they fly in a V-formation that from the ground looks so beautiful, but for the geese, the formation is essential to survival compensating for the force of the wind. In this, the lead bird does most of the work. However, as he tires, he drops off moves to the end of the formation. There, the collective flapping of the flock creates an uplift of air, which is greater at the rear of the formation. Doing this, the birds take turns “uplifting” one another by cooperating and working together, achieving impossibly long migrations. As believers in Christ, we are to uplift one another in prayer using the spiritual gifts God has given us. Together, we can go further than we would ever be able to do if we attempted our pilgrimage alone. Prayer: Lord, help us unite together as a congregation. We know where two or more are gathered in your name, you are with us. Oh, Lord.

Day 28: One Sound: Tuning In!
When playing string instruments in orchestra, there was one drawback: playing the fifth string. The fifth string will harmonize only to a limited number of chords. While other musicians played more complicated music, the string instruments had to adapt by playing melodic tones to join by making the right adjustments. As believers we must make adjustments to our spiritual gifts to harmonize with others. A person gifted to teach may coordinate with someone having the gift to organize meetings and with those who setup meeting rooms. We must all work together if God’s work is to get done. Stewardship requires absolute cooperation when our talents are used in complimentary ways, creating harmony and Glory to God. One sound! Prayer: Gracious Lord, help us grow deep in our love for one another, living in harmony, and putting our own needs aside to serve one another well. Amen.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.
Galatians 5:22-23 NKJV

As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.
1 Peter 4:10-11 NKJV

As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.
Peter 4:10 NKJV
Going Deeper - IMPARTING the Gifts of the Kingdom

The church functions like a body, all with distinct parts that work together. Spiritual gifts are always to be used in the context of serving and building up the body of Christ. We must always use them in love, or they are useless. Our quest is not for more power - for a new spiritual experience. But, rather our goal is to become less so He can become more in our lives!

Because power is perfected in weakness. (2 Corinthians 12:9) God uses our weakness to create power. Here are some scriptures that will help you better understand God’s gift matrix! Amen.

Take the opportunity to search the scriptures for nuggets of wisdom to make your own!

Day 22: 1 Corinthians 4:5; Romans 12:4; Ephesians 4

Day 23: 1 Timothy 6:7; 2 Timothy 1-14

Day 24: Ephesians 4:7; 1 Corinthians 12:7; 1 Corinthians 12:11; James 1:17; 1 Corinthians 10:31; I Corinthians 12:31


Day 26: Matthew 6:1-4; Ephesians 2:10; Exodus 35:10; James 1:17; Proverbs 22:29

Day 27: 1 Corinthians 12:7; Ephesians 4:12; Ephesians 4:16; I Peter 4:10

Week 5: RELEASING the Kingdom into the Earth

Day 29: Worship of God
God is a covenant-keeping God, and a jealous God. In the days of Moses, twice, our heavenly Father issued clear and precise commands to His children, whereby we are to defeat every enemy and cross over all barriers into our kingdom promise — the good land that God gives as our inheritance. As Christians, never forget for a minute the covenant that God has made with you! We must trust and obey the Word to receive the promise. The King of Glory claims Earth and everything in it. . . World and all who live on it. . . God is holy and He burns away all that is not holy and acceptable. Worship God! Worship Him, only! Declaration: We, saints of the Most High, have been sanctified by “fire” to worship and to serve God in the Earth, to lead others to worship Him. By grace we receive manifold blessings, and give God all the honor, glory, and praise!

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.

For our God is a consuming fire.

Hebrews 12:28-29 NKJV
Day 30: Timing of God

Apostle Paul paints a picture of God’s whole creation earnestly longing for His children to be revealed: “made known” or “disclosed.” Creation’s longing is not unlike that of an expectant mother whose time of birthing draws closer. Each contraction produces pain and suffering; yet there comes a glorious excitement, hope and expectation of new life! While many hearts are failing from fear today, children of God “look up”...“lift up [our] heads,” knowing “redemption draws near” (Luke 21:26-28). Timing is a measurement for the seasons in our life, and God knows the exact timing for our new birth —when creation is released from the bondage of corruption with all who are in Christ Jesus. Declaration: Our souls cry out with all creation as signs of revival are taking place across the Earth. We rejoice, for God has made everything beautiful in its [His] time!

Day 31: The Best Life

Was it built-up, severe frustration, or a sudden shock that brought you to the point of fear and panic? Your heart, even your very muscles betrayed you, constricting your movement and taking your breath away! Fear mounted and with-it thoughts of death flashed before your eyes! Well, the devil is a liar, you are NOT constrained by fear in the natural or spiritual. You are unstoppable, unbreakable, and more than a conqueror because Christ Jesus lives in you! You have the mind of Christ. The Good Shepherd already knows your need and has chosen gladly to give you His kingdom—the BEST LIFE! So, relax! Receive it. Steep yourself in God-reality. Declaration: We are children of God, full of faith and fearless; for greater is the Spirit Who lives within us than anything in the world.

Day 32: Jesus IS Knocking

The Kingdom of God is drawing near! The world is in constant crises—no fake news here! But, the good news is of the compelling invitation going out to every man, woman and child; rich, poor, young or old. Everyone is invited...but it can only come through God. Time out for “putting off” the sound of God’s voice! Repent! Come to Jesus and receive salvation; receive the best life! Our Father gives every good and perfect gift: God wants to give you the Kingdom bought by the precious blood of His Son. God is calling; do not harden your heart: “Let all who have ears give heed to what the Spirit is saying to the Churches” (Revelation 2:29 Weymouth NT). Declaration: Lord, we hear You knocking at the door of our heart; we repent and welcome You in. Your Holy Spirit dwells with us and helps us to live for You every day. And for this we thank You, Jesus, our Savior and Lord!
Thursday — May 3, 2018

Day 33: Chosen of God

The Amplified version’s use of the preposition “for” rather than “to” in stating Pilate’s question is significant: Did this Roman governor judging the Son of God mean to imply, “in consideration of, beneficial to, in favor of, or with respect to...?” We know that the blood-thirsty mob that awful day made a dreadful decision, affecting us all. The crowd chose a man of murderous acts offering no societal good over a Man offering each of them their soul’s salvation—LIFE abundantly! —eternally! Today each of us must answer the same question: “What shall I do with Jesus?” We will give an account at the Judgment Day when we stand before the Father and the Son, the Risen Christ — the only One Who sets us free to even choose. Declaration: We decree and declare that we choose Jesus... for He chose us, paid the price for our sin and set us free to live! Amen.

Day 34: Kingdom of God

Of the six “journalistic questions” every good interviewer asks—Who? What? Where? When? Why? How? — the Pharisees’ focus was of no surprise to Jesus. He knew their hearts, their every thought; knew that this sect debated whether God’s unchallenged rule [Kingdom] would come at a time unknown to them [humanity] but set by God, or when their entire nation [Israel] repented. “When will the Kingdom of God come?” they asked. The Messiah, already standing among them, answered . . . but they did not recognize Him, and could not receive.... They had not received Him into their hearts. Declaration: We believe Jesus is the Christ, our Resurrected Lord; His Kingdom is within us, in our heart; we receive Him, by faith.

Day 35: God’s Secret Place

When Jesus went up on the mountainside and gathered His disciples around Him, He began teaching them and the multitudes about living life in right standing with the Father. First, He taught not to be: “like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly to be seen by others” (see Day 34 above). He then taught what to do as His children: “go away by yourself, shut the door . . . pray to your Father in private” — adding that babbling on and on was NOT praying, either! It’s been said, “Prayer is the most powerful form of communication between Earth and Heaven.” Prayer, that marvelous, worshipful privilege of thanksgiving, praise, confession, supplication and intercession, is available to the Believer any and every hour of the day! Prayer, a wondrous intimacy shared with Abba, Father, Who always hears and responds. Declaration: We declare, our prayers are not clouded with hypocritical thoughts and words; our hearts are pure and open to God’s will and way. In the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.
Going Deeper - Releasing the Kingdom into the Earth

We must make sure our hearts and minds are aligned to the Word of God. Therefore, we must constantly pursue righteousness by studying, showing ourselves approved unto God. We then are equipped and prepared to know our part in the body of Christ and our position on Earth; for the Word does work according to God’s will.

God has promised to perform His good Word toward His people. God is faithful to keep every one of His promises. Jeremiah 29:11-14 (NKJV) reminds us: “For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.” Our hearts must be right toward our Creator; our focus on His righteousness, on wondrous plans and thoughts He sends each day. Trusting God and obeying His Word bring abundant LIFE now, and life ETERNALLY.

Jesus the Christ is LORD! Jesus instructed His disciples, and all who believe His teachings, to not worry about daily life; do not ask (so to speak), “How’re we going to make it?” God has already prepared a glorious Kingdom for His children and sent His only begotten Son to pay the price for our entrance into it. “He sent His Word and healed [us] And delivered [us] from [our] destructions” (Psalm 107:20 NKJV). Praise God for His wondrous and marvelous gift of life, salvation, deliverance, healing and wholeness!

Studying the Word of God is so important; it’s medicine and food for our soul—it’s Life Himself! Therefore, when we receive by faith and speak God’s words over our lives into the atmosphere, we expect divine manifestation. “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you” (Matthew 6:33 NKJV). All glory, honor and praise to our God!

We live in a world full of “darkness” and we are called to shed the glorious “light” of Jesus Christ that rests upon us, Believers. Our light must never go dim! Continually seek deeper communion with the Lord through Bible study, through the preached Word, through constant prayer, through being still to hear His voice. God’s words are alive and active, constantly working on our behalf!

To impact the Seven Mountains of Influence for Christ and His Kingdom, as good soldiers we hear and obey God’s commands. We stay on post: “For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise: ‘For yet a little while, And He who is coming will come and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him.’ But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul” (Hebrews 10:36-39 NKJV).

Take the opportunity to go deeper in the Scriptures/Readings below to enhance your experience!

Day 29: Stay on the Altar: Read the Message version, “For God is not an indifferent bystander. He’s actively cleaning house, torching all that needs to burn, and he won’t quit until it’s all cleansed. God himself is Fire!” (Hebrews 12:29). Traditionally, springtime is great for house cleaning; throwing out rubbish and non-essentials; sanitizing surfaces and letting in fresh air. Although it’s hard labor, the end results are enormously rewarding! Reflect on Jeremiah 4:4: What instructions does God give the prophet for the men and inhabitants of the land to escape God’s fiery
wrath? What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you that needs “burning away” in your life so that you may fully serve the Lord? Is your “all” on the Altar?

**Day 30: Joy of the Lord:** Get alone in a quiet place, read *Luke 21:25-28* from at least 2 different biblical translations, e.g., the Passion (TPT; Phillips [NT]; the Message (MSG), or New Living Translation (NLT). Find a map of the world (download/print, if possible); mark/identify where recent natural disasters have occurred in 2017-18; pray earnestly for restoration for those affected. Turn and reflect on the “joy” of the Lord; a fruit of the Holy Spirit (see *Galatians 5:22*). See also: *Psalms 18:7-19; 27:5, 6; 96:11*. Ask the Holy Spirit to strengthen you and those you just prayed for – the “inner person” - with His peace and joy!

**Day 31: Breathe Easy:** We are indeed “too blessed to be stressed.” RELAX! Calm down, collect yourself, cool off, feel at home among others — or just breathe easy! With each God-given day, purposefully take time to relax your body and mind; allow your spirit to be refreshed. Maybe take in a family-friendly movie, a quiet lakefront stroll; a “prayer walk” in your neighborhood, or just curl up with a good book and soft background music. Meditate on *Ezekiel 37:9* and prophesy to yourself: “I will relax and be refreshed; for I breathe in the breath of God, and give thanks! I live!”

**Day 32: Home or Abroad?** One of our dedicated missionaries recently posted (social media) a factoid, identifying the miniscule number of African-American adults serving the global missions field, less than 300 currently — a serious shortage! Yes, we know not everyone is called to go abroad, but we all are called to declare the “good news” wherever we are sent or commissioned by the Lord. Reflect on these words: “One day Jesus called together his twelve disciples and gave them power and authority to cast out all demons and to heal all diseases . . . So they began their circuit of the villages, preaching the Good News and healing the sick” (*Luke 9:1, 2, 6 NLT*). Where are you commissioned to go?

**Day 33: A Prisoner for Christ:** For well over 16 months, Pastor Andrew Brunson (of Black Mt., NC), who has ministered the Gospel for 23 years in Turkey, now languishes there in a prison. One of tens of thousands arrested during a failed coup d’ état in 2016, Brunson was detained on “suspicion” of conspiracy; no formal charges were brought nor has a court hearing been set for his defense. PRAY for his immediate release! PRAY for his family! Pray for all members of the “persecuted church” around the world, all who spread the Gospel of Peace wherever the Lord sends them. Read *Ephesians 3:1; 4:1; II Timothy 1:8 and Philemon 1,9*: How does Paul, the apostle (“one sent”), identify himself in these Epistles? How do you? Are you a “prisoner for Christ”?

**Day 34: No Hypocrisy Allowed:** Speaking to His disciples and the multitude that flocked to hear His teachings, Jesus declared multiple “woes” [warnings] to the Pharisees and Scribes, whom He called hypocrites. Read the entire 23rd chapter of *Matthew*; repent of all hypocrisy in your life and ask the Holy Spirit to release you —in Jesus’ Name. Amen.

**Day 35: The Will of God:** Reflect, meditate on the following passages; then use your own words to journal the will of God as spoken by His prophets and apostles: *Jeremiah 29:11; Micah 6:8; I Thessalonians 4:3; I Thessalonians 5:16-18; I Timothy 2:3-4; Hebrews 13:20-21; I Peter 2:15, 16; 2 Peter 3:9, I John 1:9, and Proverbs 3:5-6*. Give God the glory!
Day 36: Coming into the Light of Christ

Many of us remember what it was like when we were out in the world, living our lives as we saw fit, with little regard to anything but ourselves. We also remember when we arrived at a place where we knew we needed the Lord. For some, it was a setting of utter hopelessness, a cold, dark and lonely place. We were so deep in sin that we didn’t ever think we would find our way out. Now, that we have been lifted out of that place of despair and have received the gift of salvation, life is so much sweeter because we have the Lord in our lives. Let’s give God praise right here for His loving kindness in drawing us out of the darkness and ushering us into His marvelous light. Let’s thank Him because now we have a testimony, and we can tell others about His saving grace. Lord, I am eternally grateful for your grace and mercy towards me. Today I commit to sharing my testimony of your goodness with others. Prayer: Lord, I am eternally grateful for your grace and mercy towards me. Today I commit to sharing my testimony of your goodness with others.

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8

Sunday – May 6, 2018
Day 37: You Are A Rescuer!

*God is our rescuer!* He sent His son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins rescuing us from a life of destruction and giving us eternal life. God was strategic in how He brought us into the Kingdom of God using situations, circumstances, as well as His chosen people to usher us in. It was through the obedience of those God sent to minister to us that we were able to move into a place where we are now fulfilling our Kingdom purpose. God’s people rescued us and now we have to go and rescue others and bring them into the kingdom of God. Let’s go and rescue them from hopelessness, despair, and the lies of the enemy and bring them into the safety net of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. You are anointed for this! You are called to bring in the lost! This is our kingdom mandate! They are waiting for us!

**Prayer:** Today, Lord, I surrender every apprehension that I have about rescuing others and bringing them into your kingdom.

Day 38: Prepare to Share

Going after lost souls should be a daily priority and we don’t need to look far because they are everywhere. There is no prototype for the lost. They may be on the street begging for food or holding a top-level position in the White House. Whatever their socio-economic status, we must have a desire for all to be free—just as we are free. We must have a heart of love, compassion and a sensitivity to the Holy Spirit. It is by the guidance of the Holy Spirit that we know whom to approach and what to say. Let’s increase our sensitivity to the Holy Spirit by setting aside time to commune with God through worship, prayer, His word, and a listening. Then, we will be prepared to advance the kingdom of God by bringing in the lost souls.

**Declaration:** Doing your will today is a priority. Lord. I commit to preparing myself to be used by You to help with ushering into the Kingdom of God a harvest of souls.

Day 39: The Precious Gift

Christmas is an exciting time for children; a time of exuberance and anticipation of what gifts they will receive. Often, children to submit a list of their desired gifts to their parents. For some parents, it is very challenging to fulfill all of their child’s wishes. Still, they manage to get most, if not all of the requested gifts. What joy it is for a parent to see how excited their child is to receive their special gifts on Christmas. What joy it must have been for God when we received the gift of salvation. How excited He must have been that He was giving us life more abundantly through His special gift to us, Jesus. Let’s bring our Father greater joy by showing that we appreciate His gift so much that we want others to receive it as well.

**Prayer:** I am eternally grateful for the love you have for me Lord. Today I will look for others that I can share your gift with. Thank you for the precious gift of eternal life through Jesus.
Day 40: All-Points-Bulletin (APB)
Who do you know that has strayed away? You use to see them every Sunday. They were at Bible study, special services, sang in the choir, participated in Outreach events, but now they are missing! **Find out where they are!** People stop coming to church for different reasons, but sometimes they may have simply lost their way. Many times, people may go astray, or backslide because they believe that they are all alone in their situation, or that no one cares for them. In moments like that, they are prey to the lies that the enemy promotes. It is our responsibility to keep up with one another. We can’t say that we love God but not care for His people. **Who just came to your mind as you were reading this? Send out an All-Points-Bulletin (APB) for them. Prayer: Father I pray for all who have fallen away in their faith; I will make an extra effort to find those who have strayed away.**

Day 41: Gathering the Lost 101
Do you remember the first time you thought you were in love? You had a glow about you and you told everyone that would listen about this wonderful person in your life. Well, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ is just as exciting as you tell others about the love of your life. Sharing our faith with others can seem uncomfortable, but it really is quite simple. Here is an illustration of how to minister salvation to someone. Smile with the joy of the Lord. Strike up a conversation with them to gauge where they are. Share relevant portions of your testimony demonstrating God’s goodness. Ask if they know the Lord, if not, and they are willing, lead them in this simple prayer: **Father, forgive me; I have sinned. I believe Jesus Christ died for my sins, resurrected from the dead, is alive, and hears my prayer. I invite Jesus to become the Lord of my life in Jesus’ name I pray, Amen!**

Day 42: Love, the Foundation of it All
The message of evangelism is love. Going after lost souls has to come from being motivated by our love for the Father and a willingness to advance the Kingdom of God. **“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).** This scripture is not just for those who are familiar with it and have made it into the Kingdom of God. As God’s representatives in the earth, we must share His love with all. What an awesome assignment we have to carry the love of God in our hearts and to impart it into those who have been cast away, down trodden or have never heard about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! **Prayer: Dear God, teach me how to love others as you desire me to love. I open myself up to spreading your love to every person that you send me.**
Going Deeper: Gathering the Lost for the Kingdom

“How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news.” Isaiah 52:7a (ESV)

Evangelism is sharing the good news of how Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins, He was buried and He rose from the grave. The good news for us is that Jesus conquered sin, which allows us to be a part of the Kingdom of God with all of its benefits. God issues a mandate to us in Matthew 28:19-20 to go and get the lost, bring them into the kingdom and make them Disciples of Christ just as we are. It may not be an easy task because they may be walking the streets unkempt; standing at the door of your local supermarket begging for money; grooming your hair; or even signing your pay check. Wherever they are, God has commanded us to go and get them, not wait until they show up in church. So let’s go and gather the lost!

*Take the opportunity daily to search the scriptures for nuggets of wisdom to make your own!*

**Day 36: Coming Into the Light of Christ, Romans 1:16; 2 Corinthians 5:21:** What God did for us is priceless! We can never repay Him for bringing us into His kingdom, but we can show our gratitude by boldly telling others about what He has done. Share your testimony of how God manifested himself in a mighty way in your life and watch Him draw in a harvest of souls.

**Day 37: You are a Rescuer, Isaiah 6:8; Matthew 9:38:** God is looking for His children to take a bold stance in advancing the Kingdom God for His purposes. Is it you He is looking for? Stand up, saints of God, and take your place.

**Day 38: Prepare to Share, 1 Corinthians 9:19-23; 2 Timothy 2:15:** We are not to discriminate when it comes to ministering salvation. Holding a greater regard for those who come from a higher socio-economic status than those who are poor is not what God ordained. Our role is to tailor our approach and position ourselves, so that the people whom we are called to minister, will openly receive the Gospel.

**Day 39: The Precious Gift, John 13:34; John 3:16:** God didn’t just tell us He loved us; He demonstrated his love to us through Jesus. He sacrificed His precious Son for our sake. Giving of ourselves to others in order for them to receive salvation requires a sacrifice from us that will please God.

**Day 40: All Points Bulletin, 1Thessalonian 5:11; Ephesians 4:2:** We cannot walk this Christ an walk alone. We have to stay connected to one another. This is a commitment that we have to make to one another. God help us to discern the needs of those that you have divinely connected us with.

**Day 41: Gathering the Lost 101: Isaiah 49:6; Luke 19:10; Matthew 28:19-20:** Leading others to Christ not only allows them to receive salvation, it pleases God, and gives us an opportunity to operate as His specialized agents to take the Gospel to all nations.

**Day 42: Love, the Foundation of it All! 1 Corinthians 13; 1John 4:8:** The love that God requires us to exude is one that is void of negative feelings. We may not have a desire to go after lost souls but our love for God and desire to obey His word must over rule our flesh and over every apprehension that we may have.
Day 43: A Heart to Serve

When we encounter opportunities to serve God, we don’t always respond in the way He desires. Often our schedules are too busy, we feel unqualified and life’s excuses get in the way. Jesus did not come into the world as a ruler or a king. He didn’t take up a position or title of authority nor flex his supernatural powers. He didn’t vanquish his foes with violence or domination. There are many who are looking for a platform to stand on but Jesus has already shown us our position to lead from. His life and ministry demonstrated the epitome of servitude and greatness. In God’s kingdom, the greatest person is the one who serves others. Are you ready to go from excuse me to use me? Then start looking for ways to serve the people around you. Jesus told his followers, "I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you (John 13:15)."

Prayer: I am a servant and I give every excuse and feeling of inadequacy to you. Give me the faith to step out in obedience and serve You well, with diligence and humility, knowing that You will flood my heart with joy as You make serving my lifestyle.
Day 44: Change Your Focus

We have all taken blurry pictures at one time or another. Usually, in our rush to capture the moment we don’t give enough time for our camera (or phone) to bring the scene into focus. We are left with an ambiguous blur, with colors and indistinct shapes alluding to what the photographer was attempting to capture. But because it doesn’t look or capture the original intent we delete it. Why? **Because no one can appreciate a picture that you can’t see.** Focus is important. We must shift our focus back to God so that He can perfect us. Moment by moment, day by day, week by week, year by year, if we learn to focus on him we can find our strength in Him. God continues to provide all the spiritual blessings we need during the ups and downs, the joys and challenges of this earthly life. **Prayer: Lord my focus is on you. Help me to keep my eyes heart and spirit focused on you. Forgive me when I try to do things on my own.**

Day 45: Revive Refresh and Restore

The Bible clearly teaches that God wants to revive, refresh and renew our relationship with Him. He wants to wake us up, to refresh our faith, to fire us up again. Revival is renewed interest after a period of indifference or decline. Refreshing is returning to God’s path, setting our sights on the goal again, and pursuing with new passion the One who can make our lives more than we’d ever dreamed. Revival is gladly experiencing and enjoying God at the center of our lives. Restoring is seeing God at work. Maybe you’ve become the passive observer at church, showing up but missing the message. Perhaps you lost your passion for the Lord. Well, I’ve got good news… God wants you to have it back. God wants to revive refresh and restore you. **Prayer: Father I yield my all to you seeking a revival for my desiccated spirit. Lord, I admit that my soul is too often weary, dry, and lifeless. I ask You to revive me - only You can bring fresh life to my soul.**

Day 46: What Are You Expecting?

When we’re exhausted, when we’re beyond it, when we’re questioning God - what’s the one thing He wants us to do? King David provides us with the answer to that question when he says, “My voice You shall hear in the morning, O Lord; In the morning I will direct it to You, And I will look up” Psalms 5:3. God meets us at the level of our expectation. Waiting on the Lord is difficult, but it isn’t a passive activity. It is an act of faith measured by our expectation. **Prayer: Father I seek you with earnest expectation. I submit myself to you as you continue to cultivate expectancy within me, and all around me, concerning the breakthroughs and victories your word promised.**
**Day 47: Grace is sufficient**

Paul’s personal testimony recounts some of the hardships that confronted him (2 Cor. 11:22-28). He was imprisoned, beaten, threatened, stoned, shipwrecked, robbed, and chased throughout his entire ministry. And to add to this, he had a persistent, unrelenting “thorn” oppressing his body (2 Cor. 12:7-8). As a young Christian I used to think that God would keep His best servants in perfect condition and optimal health. Yet, here we see that although Paul prayed for relief, God’s answer was not what he expected. Rather than receiving a grand, sweeping cure, Paul was given a deeper answer: “My grace is sufficient for you” (2 Cor. 12:9). It would be later in my Christian walk that I would see that God taught Paul a vital lesson: It does not matter how weak we think we are, or how oppressed or downtrodden. In His hands, our weakness makes room for His strength. **Prayer: Father I thank you that your grace is sufficient for me. Even though weakness disqualifies me from many things in this world, I know that God can use me despite my weaknesses. I don’t ask for your grace to help me through the storm.**

**Day 48: Keep Pushing**

When it comes to your asking, seeking and knocking, don’t hold back. Jesus reminds us to push through with prayer as the key. The enemy’s most effective strategy is discouragement but the hallmark of every successful Christ-follower is ‘never giving up—but push one more time’. But we must remind ourselves that prayer provides us with an invitation to a relationship to bring our requests to Him. **Prayer: Father I thank you for the Holy Spirit empowering me to persist and push through in fervent prayer. Grant me the boldness to push through situations and never back away.**

**Day 49: The Hope Factor**

We need hope now more than ever. This scripture reminds us of the certainty we have in God’s promises. It is easy to become fixated on the problems and forget the promises. But our hope is in Jesus Christ who brings us close to the throne of heaven, where we can cast all our burdens before God. The hope that we have in Jesus gives us a reliable anchor for our souls that will remain firm and secure no matter how stormy our lives get. Each Sunday our beloved pastor incites a riot of hope. Despite what we see and feel there is still the assurance of what God has promised - Hope in Jesus Christ. **Prayer: Father I yield my heart to you. Help me place my hope in You and Your promise of an abundant future with You forever.**
Going Deeper – Restoring and Reviving Believers for the Kingdom

What Are You Expecting?
God meets us at the level of our expectation. How much do we expect God to do in our lives, in our relationships, in our schools, in our community, and in the world? In all honestly our level of expectation has never been up to God’s level of performance.

Our waiting should be expectant because we are waiting on the God who holds oceans in his hands and measures the sands of the earth like a chef measures sugar, salt, and flour. This is the God who weighs mountains and stretches the heavens like a curtain. This is the same God who numbers the stars!

Psalm 62:5-6 NKJV My soul, wait silently for God alone, For my expectation is from Him. He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be moved.

Keep Pushing
The lesson here is for us not to give in or give up. We need to continue to push forward, not in our own strength and ability, of course, but in God’s strength. Cling to your faith and follow the teaching of His Word. God has directed us to fight—not each other—but to fight in the faith. The Lord is our constant companion throughout the difficult journeys of life, and He sends people our way to help us as well. As tempting as it is to throw in the towel and give up, it’s important that we push ourselves forward in the faith.

1 Timothy 6:12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

The Hope Factor
In a world facing uncertain times, God’s people need hope now more than ever. Today’s scripture reminds us of the certainty we have in God’s promises. The God who fulfilled his promise to Abraham, is the same God in whom we trust. Abraham waited patiently and the promise to him and Sarah was fulfilled.

Hebrews 3:6 NKJV but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.

Grace is sufficient
Through that difficulty, God taught Paul a vital lesson: It does not matter how weak we think we are, or how oppressed or downtrodden. In God’s hands, our weakness makes room for His strength. And it is through His power—and His power alone—that we can do amazing things.

2 Corinthian 12:9 NKJV And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness."
Day 50: Pentecost: “One Sound”

Have you ever attended a musical symphony? Perhaps it was a famous symphonic orchestra whose concerts were pricy and tickets were difficult to come by. The symphonic hall was magnificently ornate with the entire hall acoustically designed to create the purest listening environment for everyone, leaving all waiting with great anticipation. The concert was perfection at its best!

But if you were to arrive early, you would hear orchestral sounds that wouldn’t immediately seem like the assembly of some of the world’s greatest living musicians. Instead, you would be greeted with a cacophony of sounds from each section of the orchestra as they rehearsed for the concert.

On the left you would hear the strings carefully tuning each string—while others rehearsed their parts. On the right, the mighty brass instruments would echo about the chamber running through sequences of notes as they went through their various warm-up scales.

In front, the woodwinds would squeak and squawk as they whetted their reeds until each note resonated clearly. And in the back, the beating of the percussion instruments would fill the room with the final component of the organized confusion as each musician readied themselves for the concert.

But suddenly, from stage-left, the conductor enters the concert hall, tapping his baton at his conductor’s music stand and immediately the hall quiets. With the lifting of his hands, the entire group moves as one, instruments at the ready as a silent count begins. And then on the prearranged down beat, the sounds pour fourth—one sound; one mighty, melodic sound of absolute musical precision. One sound created by the collective sound of every instrument playing their part; creating both tempo and sensory movement as the notes heaved and flowing over the ears of the awaiting listeners.

As we consider the power of the day of Pentecost, we cannot help to consider the sound of the Upper Room. The Upper Room was the place of their choosing to wait in obedience to the final instructions of the Lord in Acts 1:4, “...wait for the Promise of the Father.”

The Upper Room

As they waited, we can imagine the chaos and noise of those disciples—120 strong waiting in the upper room. The noise of the different groups praying, trying in vain to understand the fulness of the instructions from the Lord. And they waited until the Day of Pentecost had fully come, and they were of one accord.

And then suddenly, a sound came from Heaven that filled the room. The sound as of a rushing mighty wind gives us thoughts of being in the center of a great storm. At that predestined moment, the purpose of Pentecost was made manifest as tongues of fire rested upon each of the 120 and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit!
The crowd outside the room, devout men from every nation gathered to hear the sound emanating from the upper room—except that each could hear in His own language! This magnificent noise, this sound, allowed them to hear as one—with one sound, the testimony of Jesus Our Lord, the Christ.

It is in this moment that the plan of God took one giant step forward in the lives of mankind. For where Christ came and touched some—the Holy Spirit came that all might be touched. The price of Christ on the cross not only redeemed the lost—but created a oneness in His Spirit. We should never forget this while we are busy “doing church.”

For every church dispute and falling away we have the drawing of the Holy Spirit, pulling us back toward the center of the Lord’s Will, toward the one sound of Pentecost. We must no longer allow anything to hold us back from our fulness in God that Christ died for. We must be a people who find our hope and our joy in that same sound of the Holy Spirit. The great symphony of God, in the upper room of our own hearts and minds…the one sound of Christ.