

# 30 Days of Prayer Journey

Day 1, Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>.

(Matthew 6:9-13 NLT)

The Model Prayer

*Our Father in heaven,*

*may your name be kept holy.*

*May your Kingdom come soon.*

*May your will be done on earth,*

*as it is in heaven.*

*Give us today the food we need,*

*and forgive us our sins,*

*as we have forgiven those who sin against us.*

*And don't let us yield to temptation,*

*but rescue us from the evil one.*

As we begin this thirty day prayer journey, the prayer that Jesus offered in response to His disciples request that He teach them how to pray, seems appropriate. The model prayer of Jesus reminds us that our prayers should include:

Awareness of the intimate relationship we have with God through Jesus (Our Father)

Acknowledging some of the attributes that set God apart from everything else in His creation (Holy)

Our role in helping bring heaven to earth (Earth as it is in heaven)  
Provision (Give us the food we need)

Power of forgiveness in our lives and how we are conduits of forgiveness (Forgive as we forgive)

Protection (from temptation and evil)  
A joy to be on this journey with you!

## Day 2, Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>.

(Luke 12: 31-32 NIV)

<sup>31</sup> But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

<sup>32</sup> “Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.<sup>1</sup>

May we be a people that are most concerned about what our Father cares about. We know that his ways are perfect and His wisdom has no equal. Let us pray that our nation will have an intersection of the Kingdom of God and that we will follow his ways and seek first His glory.

## Day 3, Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>.

*(Rom. 8:31–32, 35–37)*

*If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? . . . Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as*

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<sup>1</sup> [The New International Version](#). (2011). (Lk 12:31–32). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

*sheep to be slaughtered.” No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us*

*God is for you – not against you !*

*Life can be tough. We are broken people living in a broken world. At times the struggles of this life appear to pile up and simply overtake us. Feeling overwhelmed, we then begin to wonder if God cares or even if he is somehow punishing us or teaching us a lesson. It is true that God does not bring us around every difficulty that we face in this life. In fact, there are times when God allows us to experience hardship in order to teach us something we could not have otherwise learned.*

*Yet as Christians we have a sure and certain promise that God is for us and not against us. Even when God does allow us to face tough times, we can be confident that he loves us. He cares so much that he gave up His own Son for us. That is an unfathomable love and nothing in this world can separate us from it.*

*In your prayer time today thank God for being there for you and ask him to help you remain faithful as you endure times of difficulty.*

## Day 4, Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup>.

(Philippians 1:6)

*“...being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Jesus Christ.”*

*Never underestimate the value and significance of God's processes!*

We have the promises of God captured in the bible to challenge, change, motivate, and encourage us along life's journey. One of those encouraging verses is the above scripture. Paul expresses his confidence in the “process” that God uses to complete the work He has begun in us. Paul was confident because he had experiential knowledge of God working, without being fully aware of what God was working toward until God chose to reveal it. In other words, he was convinced that even though he was not aware of the specific outcome any given process would produce, he was fully aware that God was the Author of it and that it was absolutely necessary and highly beneficial.

God uses many different processes to fulfill His purposes in our lives. God will use some processes to reveal our true belief system so that we might understand why we do what we do. Sometimes God isolates an area of sin through a different process. Sometimes He reveals a wrong belief system that is causing the sin through yet another process. I have witnessed God reveal several areas in my life where I have a lack of trust, a wrong belief about His character, or a wrong understanding about how He works in the lives of His people. I have also noticed that God uses the most painful and uncomfortable times in life to get our attention!

Take a few moments to think about how God has used a unique process to reveal more of His heart to you?

### Day 5, Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>.

(John 9:1-3 NLT)

*As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. "Rabbi," his disciples asked him, "why was this man born blind? Was it because of his own sins or his parents' sins?" "It was not because of his sins or his parents' sins," Jesus answered. "This happened so the power of God could be seen in him."*

#### Physical Healing to Reveal God's Power

The rest of John 9 tells the story of Jesus healing the blind man and the subsequent firestorm that divine act sets off among the Pharisees.

Allow this story from scripture remind you that a physical infirmity is not necessarily the consequence of sinful action(s) on a person's part and that all healing is designed to reveal the power of God. It is not egomaniacal of God to expect us to use our lives to bring Him glory because there is no greater object of our worship in the universe than God.

## Day 6, Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>.

(II Chronicles 7:14 NIV)

<sup>14</sup> if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.<sup>2</sup>

Humility is not an easy path to walk on. Yet when we have this posture, God leans in. May we not be a prideful people, but a people that recognize we need the Lord to move in our nation. Today, let us be a people that are humble and seek the face of God. So that are humility will be the catalyst for the healing drops of refreshment on our land. Let us join together and pray for healing of this land.

## Day 7, Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>.

*(Romans 15:14–16)*

*And concerning you, my brethren, I myself also am convinced that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able also to admonish one another.*

*Competent to Counsel One Another*

*Living in a community of fellowship and discipleship with other Christians is one of the greatest means of counsel God has provided for us. In this passage the apostle Paul assures the*

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<sup>2</sup> [The New International Version](#). (2011). (2 Ch 7:14). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

*Roman Christians that he recognizes their God given qualities and abilities. He states that believers are full of goodness and complete in knowledge, and therefore are competent to instruct (counsel) one another.*

*Christians are full of goodness because we belong to Christ; we are complete in knowledge because we have trusted in Him and His Word. Being full of goodness and complete in knowledge means we are functionally competent to instruct one another. Ordinary Christians have an extraordinary God who has equipped us sufficiently to give to one another practical counsel containing God-given wisdom.*

*In your prayer time today ask God to help us reclaim the place of bringing biblical counsel to one another with His fully sufficient Word as our guide.*

## **Day 8, Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup>.**

(2 Corinthians 3:17)

*“Now, the Lord is Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is there is FREEDOM. And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into His Likeness with ever increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is Spirit.”*

God’s processes never stop!

Let me share a few truths that will help you engage with life wherever you are in this moment:

- God’s processes will look much different than the strategy you would pick for yourself!!

- You can trust God's strategy in your life because you can trust the God of your processes!
- When God "seems" absent, He is at work behind the scenes doing something FAR greater than you do not even have the capacity to grasp yet.

When the lesson God is trying to teach you, through your processes, becomes more valuable than the end results:

- You willingly allow God to stretch you in places that are extremely uncomfortable, because you know it will bring growth and vitality to an area God sees that needs attention.
- You give God the freedom to take you down a road that might not look like success from those on the outside looking in.
- You learn what is top priority to the heart of God.
- You learn the deepest mysteries of God.
- You are not motivated by worldly standards or expectations.
- You will learn to rest during your processes.
- You can see beyond short-term failures and realize that in due time, God will use them as foundational lessons for long-term successes.
- You create an environment for God to simply BE GOD and have His way in your life.

You are either coming out of a process, in the middle of a process, or on the back side of a process.

Take a few minutes and say this phrase out loud: "I am in a process, God is in my process, He has me, He has THIS, I AM OKAY!"



## Day 9, Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

(Acts 3:2-7 NLT)

*As they approached the Temple, a man lame from birth was being carried in. Each day he was put beside the Temple gate, the one called the Beautiful Gate, so he could beg from the people going into the Temple. When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for some money.*

*Peter and John looked at him intently, and Peter said, "Look at us!" The lame man looked at them eagerly, expecting some money. But Peter said, "I don't have any silver or gold for you. But I'll give you what I have. In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, get up and walk!"*

This healing through Peter and John triggered their persecution, arrest and being threatened with additional punishment. All of that was used to embolden the early Church and her leaders. Have you ever wondered how many times Jesus might have walked by this lame man from birth and NOT offered to heal him? Pray God will grow our faith as we surrender to his sovereignty over timing.

## Day 10, Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

(Joshua 1:8-9 NIV)

<sup>8</sup> Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. <sup>9</sup> Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do

not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”<sup>3</sup>

May we be a people that not only fix our eyes on the King, but may we be a people that follow in the footsteps of the King. As we display and walk in the ways of the King, we will begin to impact the nation in which we live. Let us remember well the invitation and maybe we keep that invitation in front of us, knowing every step of obedience will lead us to have a Kingdom impact within the nation in which we live.

### **Day 11, Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup>.**

*(1 Corinthians 12:14-20)*

*For the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.*

You’re not me and I’m not you and that’s OK !

God has designed the body of Christ with extraordinary diversity. He has intended that same design to exist in a marriage, families,

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<sup>3</sup> [The New International Version](#). (2011). (Jos 1:8–9). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

and all of our relationships. In the entire 12<sup>th</sup> chapter of his first letter to the Corinthian believers, the apostle Paul encourages them to understand that God has created us all uniquely different and dependent on one another. In the case of the church, he has gifted it with a variety of spiritual gifts designed to come together and form a beautiful whole.

It is also true that in marriage, families, and friendships God has given us diversity individually in our personalities. These traits of personality give us great opportunity to strengthen and leverage our relationships for the greater good and ultimately for God's glory. However, those same likenesses and differences hold the potential to weaken our bonds and even bring division into our relationships. We must celebrate our diversity not seeing others as good or bad simply because they are not like us.

*In your prayer time today celebrate having diversity with unity in your marriage, family, and friendships. Then give God thanks for the way he has made us all uniquely different.*

### **Day 12, Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>.**

(Romans 8:28)

*“For we know that all things work together for the good to those who love you and who are called according to your purposes.”*

My Process is working for me!

“Process” defined– The divine, unique set of internal and external pressures which God orchestrates in order to teach us what He desires for us to fully understand. (SJAV...Steven James Austin Version)

Most of us have been trained to overestimate the end result and underestimate the journey! We believe that the end result of getting what we want brings fullness in life and therefore will do *more for us* than it really does, and we think the process *does less for us* than it really does! If we are honest with self, we want to skip the process and get straight to the results!

Let me share with you the difference between results & processes:

**RESULTS**

Changes the landscape  
Controlled by emotions  
Generate challenges  
Stimulates motivation  
Promotes decisions  
Connects you with a position  
(God)  
Always about launching  
Will excite you

**PROCESSES**

Changes the lifestyle  
Controlled by values  
Generate changes  
Ensures maturity  
Promotes development  
Commits you to a person  
  
Always about laboring  
Will enlist you

Whatever the process, you can be guaranteed that it is a result of God's divine, intentional pressure on a specific area that He sees needs some attention in your life. You will receive the benefit as you willingly allow God the freedom to continually work on those areas. Whatever God reveals, you can know that He has a specific reason for revealing it and that He is not bringing that area to light just to watch you squirm!

Take some time to ask God where He is working, then sit in quietness as He responds.

## Day 13, Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>.

(Job 42:1, 5 NLT)

*Then Job relied to the Lord, "I had only heard about you before, but now I have seen you with my own eyes."*

Job lost his wealth, health and family in a matter of days. After questioning God and enduring bad advice from his friends, God shows up to gently but convincingly put Job in his place, reminding Job that He is God and Job is not. In the closing chapter of Job, Job repents with the quote above being a central to his humble confession to God. It is an observation in how we can process pain. If we do not factor God out of the equation, then our pain moves us from being a hearsay witness of God to an eyewitness. Any courtroom drama will answer the question, "Which type of witness is credible," won't it?

As we pray for those whose physical healing is not coming or possibly deal with our own chronic pain that seems endless, be reminded that God uses physical pain to refine our faith. Larry Crabb writes in Finding God, "Theology becomes rich only when it survives the onslaught of pain. And sound theology leads us through our pain to a fuller experience of Christ, and therefore of hope and love and joy."

## Day 14, Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.

(II Corinthians 5:16-21 NIV)

<sup>16</sup> So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. <sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:<sup>[a]</sup> The old has gone, the new is here!<sup>18</sup> All this is from

God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: <sup>19</sup> that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> God made him who had no sin to be sin<sup>[b]</sup> for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

In light of the reconciliation that happened through Christ's payment on a cross, we have been entrusted to be reconciled one to another. In light of what Christ has done, we no longer view each other by a worldly standard, but by Christ standard. Let us pray today that we can be reconciled to our brother, no matter where they are from or what they look like. May healing come in what has been broken, because of the restorative work of Christ. Lord heal our land and allow our nation to be reconciled to each other and ultimately to You.

### **Day 15, Monday, September 28<sup>th</sup>.**

*(Ephesians 5:31–32)*

***FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND SHALL BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH. This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.***

Covenant marriage is a mystery that tells the Gospel story.

Marriage is a parable, and enduring picture of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Marriage tells the story of the husband and wife, which is the greater story of Christ in relationship to His bride the Church.

In fact, Ephesians 5:21-33 speaks of the responsibilities of a husband and wife in marriage. This text frequently switches from one to the other, going back and forth at each step explaining how the relationship of the husband and wife, mirrors that of Christ and the church.

A healthy marriage includes among other things: sacrifice, forgiveness, nourishment, cherishing love, sanctification, grace, and commitment. All of these are God centered truths beautifully and faithfully illustrated in the relationship between Christ and his church. Marriage is a not only a beautiful picture of a groom's sacrificial love for his bride who respond with respectful submission, but is also foreshadows the joining of the believer at the consummation of all things, the marriage supper of the Lamb (Rev. 19:9).

*In your prayer time today ask God to help you honor your marriage covenant for His Glory, and ask him to help you faithfully tell the Gospel story through your marriage.*

### Day 16, Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>.

(Genesis 2:16b-17)

**“You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; <sup>17</sup> but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.”**

Stay inside the lines!

God knows what is good for us. He also knows what is unhealthy and leads us further into bondage and sin. God gave Adam and Eve a clear set of boundaries that ensured the very best life of

freedom possible. The garden was created to offer them a chance to delight in their creator. Yet, the evidence points to the fact that they wrongly assumed the “off limit” tree was their ticket to true freedom.

A false-truth is revealed through their actions that also may apply to us today...TRUE freedom must be found somewhere other than where we are at any given moment. When we believe that freedom is found outside of God’s boundaries, we begin entertaining things “on the other side of the fence.” Adam and Eve remind us of this truth because of all the places they had access to within the garden, they gravitated straight to the ONE PLACE God instructed them not to hang out! Being enticed and falling for the bait Satan offered them ended up causing separation from God and them being thrown out of the garden.

Confess the distractions, and the “off limit” places in your life in which you know God is instructing you to stay away from today.

### **Day 17, Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>.**

(Mark 5:25-34 NLT)

*A woman in the crowd had suffered for twelve years with constant bleeding. She had suffered a great deal from many doctors, and over the years she had spent everything she had to pay them, but she had gotten no better. In fact, she had gotten worse. She had heard about Jesus, so she came up behind him through the crowd and touched his robe. For she thought to herself, “If I can just touch his robe, I will be healed.” Immediately the bleeding stopped, and she could feel in her body that she had been healed of her terrible condition. Jesus realized at once that healing power*



*had gone out from him, so he turned around in the crowd and asked, “Who touched my robe?” His disciples said to him, “Look at this crowd pressing around you. How can you ask, ‘Who touched me?’” But he kept on looking around to see who had done it. Then the frightened woman, trembling at the realization of what had happened to her, came and fell to her knees in front of him and told him what she had done. And he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace. Your suffering is over.”*

Touched by a Robe

As you consider this story of faith and healing, add this truth found in Isaiah 61:10:

*I am overwhelmed with joy in the Lord my God!*

***For he has dressed me with the clothing of salvation  
and draped me in a robe of righteousness.***

*I am like a bridegroom dressed for his wedding  
or a bride with her jewels.*

In your prayers today, thank God that you don't have to reach out to touch the robe of Jesus; you are wearing it!

**Day 18, Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>.**

(Psalm 62:8 NIV)

<sup>8</sup> Trust in him at all times, you people;  
pour out your hearts to him,  
for God is our refuge. <sup>4</sup>

No matter how dim and bleak the times seem. We have to remember that the Lord has not fallen asleep at the wheel and He

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<sup>4</sup> [The New International Version](#). (2011). (Ps 62:8). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

desires good for us and not evil. We have an opportunity today to look to the King and be reminded that He is trustworthy. As we look to Him we will find our refuge in Him, He is safe and secure. We can be honest with Him in all things, the good, the bad, and the ugly.

Today, let us be honest about how we are feeling about the state of our nation and world and be reminded that He will meet us in the midst of the mess and allow us a place of refuge.

### Day 19, Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

*(Proverbs 29:17)*

*Discipline your son, and he will give you rest; he will give delight to your heart.*

Parenting now will allow you to delight friendship later. I love the fact that now after 20+ years of parenting three children (who are now all parents themselves) they are indeed some of our best friends. But we were not their friends while they were growing and maturing into young adults. We were their parents. We set rules and boundaries that came with consequences for violating them. We were firm, fair, and consistent in our discipline and we did it in love. We understood our children were God's gifts to us and he called us into a disciplining relationship with our children. We had a responsibility to bring them from innocence and foolishness to maturity and wisdom (Proverbs 4:1-7).

Do not forfeit the divine task and role that God has given you to be their parent in order to become simply a friend to them. If you trade your role as parent for that of a friend it will certainly harmful have short term consequences, but maybe greater than that may

cause them to error in raising their own children, repeating the error by which they were raised.

*In your prayer time today pray for the day you will be your child's friend. But first pray you will be faithful to fulfill the parental assignment that God gave you and that is to be one who disciplines your children in love.*

### Day 20, Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

(Ephesians 1:17)

*"I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit[f] of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better."*

True Freedom...knowing the heart of God!

God continually offers us opportunities to know Him more intimately through life's toughest events.

The ultimate goal for all of God's people is to KNOW HIM intimately. If we set up the wrong goal, we live the wrong life!

True freedom in life flows out of Knowing God's heart...

- The deeper understanding we have of who God is, the more we worship Him as an expression of our love for Him.
- The more we experience His grace as we royally blow it, the greater His love is displayed in ways we could never misunderstand.
- The more we experience His love in tangible ways, the deeper devoted and committed to Him we become.

- ALL THIS IS IN RESPONSE to knowing Him better...NO WONDER PAUL prayed that we would come to know Him more!

AND....no wonder that God Himself is offering us an opportunity to know Him more intimately through the unique events being sent and/or allowed in this season of life!

Will you take a few minutes to confess to God that you desire to really know Him so you can fully trust His motives?

### Day 21, Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>.

(2 Kings 5:10-12 NLT)

*But Elisha sent a messenger out to him with this message: "Go and wash yourself seven times in the Jordan River. Then your skin will be restored, and you will be healed of your leprosy."*

*But Naaman became angry and stalked away. "I thought he would certainly come out to meet me!" he said. "I expected him to wave his hand over the leprosy and call on the name of the Lord his God and heal me! Aren't the rivers of Damascus, the Abana and the Pharpar, better than any of the rivers of Israel? Why shouldn't I wash in them and be healed?" So Naaman turned and went away in a rage.*

Loud and Proud or Still and Healed?

The rest of the story is a servant comes to Naaman, calms him down and asks him to think about his unfulfilled expectations. Naaman humbles himself, obeys Elisha and his skin is restored to that of a child.

As we pray for healing today, ask God to expose any pockets of pride that may be preventing His power from freely working in our lives.

## Day 22, Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>.

(Philippians 4:4-7 NIV)

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. <sup>5</sup>

With all that is going on in the world, it is easy to fix our gaze on the problems and forget to gaze upon the King. The more we fix our eyes on what is broken, the more anxiety rises within us. Being anxious is not where the Lord would have for us to dwell. Today, let us give it to God, because he is better able to handle it all. That is why we can rejoice in the midst of broken things, because God is in the midst and He is able.

Let us pray and ask for the peace of God in the midst of all that is going on and invite His peace to reign in our lives.

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<sup>5</sup> [The New International Version](#). (2011). (Php 4:4–7). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

## Day 23, Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>.

*(James 1:19)*

*Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger;*

Quick to Listen, Slow to Speak, Slow to Anger.

Often when communicating we get this one so backward. We tend to be quick to speak and very slow to listen. That reversal causes many opportunities for one to be quick to anger. Being a good listener means we take the time to try and understand what the speaker is saying. We put away distractions and give the speaker our undivided attention. We reflectively listen repeating or paraphrasing what we have heard the other person say. “So what you are saying is \_\_\_\_\_?” This gives the one speaking validation and at the same time gives the listener confirmation.

Remember the speaker often does not need for you to fix anything, and you do not have to have all the words or answers. In fact, many times all that is needed is a good listener who can empathize, show compassion, and care enough to listen. In the end being a quick listener is far more desirable than being a fast talker.

*In your prayer time today thank God for the gift of hearing, speaking, and a heart of passion. Then simply pray that God will help you to quicken your ears, slow your tongue, and slow your anger.*

## Day 24, Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>.

(Psalms 144:1)

*“Praise be to the Lord my Rock, who trains my hands for war, my fingers for battle.”*

God is trusting me?...WHAT?!?!?!

What if God is trusting you with the exact set of unique circumstances you are facing for the purpose of developing the person (YOU) to match the purpose (His plan)?

What if God sees that you need the difficulty you are facing because He trusts you with the extreme set of circumstances you are facing in this moment?

What if he is in the process of trusting you with the riches of His heart as you come through the challenges of past, present and future?

What if God has designed your life with the hand of cards in which He Himself has dealt you? If that's the case, then, to accuse Him of such an injustice is to accuse Him of mismanaging your life!

What if we simply agreed that God made us like He made us, wired us like He wired us, put us with whom He put with us?

What if He allowed us to be born to the parents we have, the upbringing we were exposed to, the siblings, the friends...WHAT IF IT ALL has been and always will be working for us?

What if it ALL is what we needed, AND the very things God decided we could be **trusted with**?

If we can latch onto THAT...we would be much more suited to walk in patience and freedom! You can engage, embrace, and enjoy the life you have because God is in it!

Take some time to thank God for all the things He has allowed to be part of your life because you are beginning to see them as valuable.

### Day 25, Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>.

(Numbers 21:6-9 NLT)

*So the Lord sent poisonous snakes among the people, and many were bitten and died. Then the people came to Moses and cried out, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Pray that the Lord will take away the snakes." So Moses prayed for the people. Then the Lord told him, "Make a replica of a poisonous snake and attach it to a pole. All who are bitten will live if they simply look at it!" So Moses made a snake out of bronze and attached it to a pole. Then anyone who was bitten by a snake could look at the bronze snake and be healed!*

Take It Away or Show Me the Way?

The people asked that the snakes be taken away, but God's answer was different. Do you suppose there were a few people who were bitten that were too stubborn to look at a pole with bronze snake on it? God may not remove our problem, but He can always be counted on for a remedy. The question is, "Do we trust His solution?"

### Day 26, Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>.

(Jeremiah 29:11-13 NIV)

<sup>11</sup>For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a



future. <sup>12</sup> Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. <sup>13</sup> You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.<sup>6</sup>

Inhale and exhale. Rest in the fact that God has a plan and His plan cannot and will not be thwarted. No matter what illness is going on, social unrest, racial unrest, or fill in the blank with any other issue, God is working out His plan and He has one for you and I both. Today, let's fix our eyes on the King who has a plan and rest in the fact that He is working it out.

Pray that we can keep in mind today, that God has a plan and He is working out for us and for our nation.

### Day 27, Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>.

*(Genesis 3:12–13)*

*Then the man replied, "The woman You gave to be with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate." So the Lord God asked the woman, "What is this you have done?" And the woman said, "It was the serpent. He deceived me, and I ate."*

### *Conflict Resolution 101 – Take Responsibility*

*When confronted with disobedience Adam pointed to Eve and then she pointed to the serpent, but no one would take responsibility for their own actions. When confronted with a sin or fault we need to take full responsibility and confess our wrong doing. No shifting the blame. Shifting blame to another person, distracts us from the issue at hand. It also invites others to*

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<sup>6</sup> [The New International Version](#). (2011). (Je 29:10–13). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

*become defensive (instead of hearing and understanding) which only serves to make it more difficult to find solutions to our problems.*

*In your prayer time today confess to God any wrong doings or sins you are concealing (he already knows), and then ask him to help you take full responsibility for your actions.*

### **Day 28, Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>.**

(Psalms 19:7-10)

*“The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart.*

*The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes. The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. The decrees of the Lord are firm, and all of them are righteous. They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb.”*

**Reveal to Heal!**

God will always reveal in order to heal. He never uses guilt, shame, or condemnation to motivate you to “straighten up!” If you experience any or all three of those feelings, you can be assured that your wrong beliefs, based upon lies from the enemy, have motivated you to feel that way. The Spirit of God holds us accountable to God’s plumb line through Godly sorrow and conviction, not guilt, shame, and condemnation. Looking through the lens of the atoning sacrifice of Christ, the weight of sin has already been placed upon Jesus and therefore it is unnecessary to experience guilt, shame, or condemnation in order to turn away

from sin and back toward God! A heart of thankfulness and genuine gratitude toward God, as we understand His grace, is the purest form of motivation whether we are repenting, letting Him shine the light of truth on a wrong belief, or opening up the next piece of the puzzle in your life!

Each process God takes us through targets the exact belief that God knows needs some attention. If God never brought a wrong belief to your attention, you would never recognize the root issues that need to be removed. If you never recognize root issues, then truth will not penetrate your belief system and your life will reflect slavery and bondage while living at much less than your full potential. God loves you enough to reveal what must be revealed through the painful processes that accomplish what needs to be accomplished. I don't know about you, but I am not willing to settle for what I have always known, even if it means that God must continually disrupt my world!

Will you trust God enough to invite Him to disrupt your world today?

### Day 29, Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>.

(Mark 8:22-25 NLT)

*When they arrived at Bethsaida, some people brought a blind man to Jesus, and they begged him to touch the man and heal him. Jesus took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village. Then, spitting on the man's eyes, he laid his hands on him and asked, "Can you see anything now?" The man looked around. "Yes," he said, "I see people, but I can't see them very clearly. They look like trees walking around." Then Jesus placed his hands on the man's eyes again, and his eyes were opened. His*

*sight was completely restored, and he could see everything clearly.*

## Leaving Room for the Mystical

Why would Jesus use spit as part of his healing plan for the blind man in Bethsaida? In the Bible, spit is viewed with contempt (Number 12:14), sign of rejection (Matthew 26:67) and uncleanness (Leviticus 15:8). I didn't know that answer so I consulted no less than four commentaries and here is the best answer I can offer- it is a mystery! And that's OK, because as we pray for healing, we can be assured that God will not be conformed to our image of Him but will do things His unique way in His perfect timing and we may be left dumbfounded.

## Day 30, Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>.

(Matthew 26:38-39 NLT)

*Jesus told them (Peter, James and John) "My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." He went on a little farther and bowed with his face to the ground, praying, "My Father! If it is possible, let this cup of suffering be taken away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine."*

As we conclude our 30 day journey, this moment in the life of Jesus reminds us that the power of prayer can be found in

- Community (Jesus invited this inner circle to be near Him during this intense time with God)
- Communication (Honest and heart-felt; as Jesus faced God-forsakenness, He asked if there might be another way)

- Commitment (The God-man surrenders to the will of His Father)

We hope you have been encouraged through our thirty day prayer journey and that God has used this tool as part of His plan to transform you into the image of His Son (Romans 8:29).