

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

make
room

for the New

¹⁸ “Do not remember the former things,
Nor consider the things of old. ¹⁹ Behold, I will do a new thing. Now, it shall
spring forth; Shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness
And rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:18-19

21-Day Daniel Fast
January 10 – 30, 2021



make room for the New

21-Day Prayer & Fasting

January 10-30, 2021

“MAKE ROOM FOR THE NEW”

¹⁹ *For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? (Isaiah 43:19)*

Welcome to the 21-day fast. During these twenty-one days, we will be asking the Lord to transform our lives, our church and our future. We want to see God move, hear God's voice and imitate Him.

This year's theme, "Make Room for the New", is ever a time when this is critical and relevant is now. In the era of a wild, unprecedented year 2020, with its footprints already in 2021, we need to be prepared for the New. Rehoboth, this is our year of change and miracles. 1Corinthians 2:9-10 still holds true.

⁹ *“No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him.”* ¹⁰ *But it was to us that God revealed these things by his Spirit. For his Spirit searches out everything and shows us God's deep secrets.*
(1Corinthians 2:9-10)

What God is up to will be made known by the Holy Spirit? We need to make room for God to move. It is important to note, God is already in action doing a new thing, nothing compared to what he has done in the past. It is our responsibility to see it.

¹⁸ *“But forget all that—it is nothing compared to what I am going to do.”* ¹⁹ *For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland.*
(Isaiah 43:18-19)

Rehoboth by your nature, the Lord has made room for us and we will flourish in the land (Genesis 26:22). Brace yourself and position for an unprecedented encounter. It's time for new beginnings, new seasons and new opportunities. Let's embrace the open space and make room for

1. God
2. Relationships
3. Miracles
4. Rest
5. Generosity
6. Missions
7. Our Calling

What we do right now, and what we do daily, affects the rest of the year and the rest of our lives. I believe these twenty-one days will galvanize the body, increase our faith and make room for an extraordinary move of the Holy Spirit. By participating with us in this fast, you become a part of this extraordinary move of God.

“We can't make God move, but we can make room for God to move” (Greg Surratt).

Let's create the space, open the door and invite Him in. JOIN IN THIS AMAZING JOURNEY! MAKE ROOM FOR THE NEW!

Pastor Leroy & Dalton Spencer

Corporate Prayer & Fasting Meeting Times

Week of January 10-16, 2021

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Meeting Method</u>
Monday & Tuesday	8:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Corporate Tele-Prayer Session
Wednesday	5:00 am (Men only) 11:00 am - 1:00 pm & 10:00 pm – Midnight	Corporate Tele-Prayer Session Corporate Tele-Prayer Session
Thursday	8:00 pm - 9:30 pm	Corporate Tele- Prayer Session
Friday	8:00 pm - 10:00 pm	Zoom Video Prayer
Saturday	8:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Corporate Tele-Prayer Session

Week of January 17-23, 2021

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Meeting Method</u>
Monday & Tuesday	8:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Corporate Tele-Prayer Session
Wednesday	5:00 am (Men only) 11:00 am - 1:00 pm & 10:00 pm – Midnight	Corporate Tele-Prayer Session Corporate Tele-Prayer Session
Thursday	8:00 pm - 9:30 pm	Corporate Tele- Prayer Session
Friday	8:00 pm - 10:00 pm	Zoom Video Prayer
Saturday	8:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Corporate Tele-Prayer Session

Week of January 24-30, 2021

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Meeting Method</u>
Monday & Tuesday	8:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Corporate Tele-Prayer Session
Wednesday	5:00 am (Men only) 11:00 am - 1:00 pm & 10:00 pm – Midnight	Corporate Tele-Prayer Session Corporate Tele-Prayer Session
Thursday	8:00 pm - 9:30 pm	Corporate Tele- Prayer Session
Friday	8:00 pm - 10:00 pm	Zoom Video Prayer
Saturday	8:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Corporate Tele-Prayer Session

Corporate Daily Tele-Prayer

Synchronize prayer: 6:33 AM & 6:33 PM

Suggested Fasting Times: 6:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Corporate Tele-Prayer Conference Line

Dial –1 (646) 558-6338

Access Code: 2249667

Zoom Video Conference

<https://zoom.us/j/3645436697?pwd=Q1VzL3ZOMGpxRitidEZubmR1REU2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 364 543 6697

Password: 5102

Dial: (888) 475 - 4499 US Toll-free (same meeting ID and Password)

Corporate Prayer & Fasting Schedule

Schedule for Week of 1/10/2021 -- NEW BEGINNINGS

Date	Day	Theme	Leader
01/10/2021	Sunday 8:00 am 11:00 am	Refresh Your Commitment	Dalton Patterson Norman Clayton
01/11/2021	Monday	God's Love Never Fails	Pastor Spencer
01/12/2021	Tuesday	Made New	Vangee Dyer
01/13/2021	Wednesday 5:00 am 11:00 am 10:00 pm	Having Christ is What Matters	Neville Campbell Iona Watson Mytsie Wilks
01/14/2021	Thursday	Forget All That	Rev. Eva Diah
01/15/2021	Friday	In Christ, A Fresh Start	Kerry Crawford
01/16/2021	Saturday	Your Beginning Does not Define Your End	Ian Lutchman

Schedule for Week of 1/17/2021 -- NEW SEASONS

Date	Day	Theme	Leader
01/7/2021	Sunday 8:00 am 11:00 am	Wake Up!	Nicole Allen Norbert Allen
01/18/2021	Monday	Conquer!	Patricia Jacob-Reyes
01/19/2021	Tuesday	New Mindset	Allan Selman
01/20/2021	Wednesday 5:00 am 11:00 am 10:00 pm	Singleness of Heart	David Porter Rev. Carla Samuels Mollie Wright
01/21/2021	Thursday	Don't Worry	Eulalee Wright
01/22/2021	Friday	Christ at the Center	Maxine Campbell
01/23/2021	Saturday	Not Just Flapping, Soar, You have Wings	Pauline Patterson

Schedule for Week of 1/24/2021 -- NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Date	Day	Theme	Leader
01/24/2021	Sunday 8:00 am 11:00 am	Go Shopping! "True Will for Sale (Truth, Wisdom, Instruction Insight)	YOUTHS YOUTHS
01/25/2021	Monday	Love, the Greatest	Barbara & Wayne Newman
01/26/2021	Tuesday	Don't Waste your Next Opportunity	Norbert & Angella Allen
01/27/2021	Wednesday 5:00 am 11:00 am 10:00 pm	You Always Have a Choice, Choose Well	Hugh B. Wright Milton Thompson Geneva Samuels
01/28/2021	Thursday	Cemetery Mile, Don't Give Up	Norman & Andrea Clayton
01/29/2021	Friday	Open Doors	Dajion & Jorge Sandoval
01/30/2021	Saturday	Release Favor	Calvin & Patricia Jacobs-Reyes

What Does “A New Beginning” Mean to You?

Taking the Time to Identify Your True Priorities (Robert Holden, Ph.D)

A new beginning means to me . . .

- Committing to my daily spiritual practice
- Doing my daily “A Course in Miracles” lessons
- Saying “Yes” to God’s Will
- Listening to my heart more
- Being a loving husband
- Writing more poetry
- Being a loving father
- Writing my parenting journal
- Learning to juggle
- Committing to my daily yoga
- Being a loving son
- Letting go of all grievances
- Looking after my physical health

So I invite you to reflect on what a new beginning means to you.

Get out a pen and paper and write your list down—listen to your inner prompting for the responses that feel most meaningful and true to you.

Words To Say Instead Of “Starting Over”

genesis

The word [genesis](#) can be traced back to the Greek *gígnesthai* meaning “to be born.” When written with a capital G, it refers to the first book of the Bible, but it is often used in a non-Biblical sense to mean “an origin, creation, or beginning.”

inception

Coming from the Latin *incipere* meaning “begin, take in hand,” the word [inception](#) refers to a beginning, start, or commencement. Fans of the 2010 film of the same name might be familiar with another sense of the word: in science fiction, *inception* means instilling an idea into someone's mind by entering their dreams.

recrudescence

Coming from a Latin term meaning “become raw again,” [recrudescence](#) means “breaking out afresh or into renewed activity.”

As the Latin root suggests, this word was first used in medical contexts to describe a [recurrence](#) of symptoms after a period of [remission](#), but it later took on a more rosy sense referring to the revival of something good.

inchoate

The beginning stages of a project or idea are often a little messy or imperfect. This word addresses that early state of disarray with three definitions: “not yet completed or fully developed,” “just begun or incipient,” or “not organized; lacking order.”

Inchoate comes from Latin *incohāre* meaning “**to begin, start work on.**” An [inchoation](#) is a beginning or origin.

MAKE ROOM FOR THE NEW

6 Things to Remember When Facing New Beginnings

by Lynn Schroeder

Here are 6 things that are important to keep in mind when and if you're on the cusp of a new beginning in your life.

1. **Let go of the past.** It's so difficult when you're starting new to bring the past with you. New beginnings require moving forward and letting go of those roadblocks. Remember that beautiful things grow out of dirt, so you should let go of whatever baggage you're holding onto and learn from it.
2. **Face your fears.** Fear is an excellent indicator that you're on the right track. If you're starting to feel anxious or fearful about taking that step forward, that's a good sign that you're actually on the right track and you should continue moving forward. Don't let fear hold you back.
3. **Watch the stories that you tell yourself.** We all tell ourselves stories, whether we realize it or not. Here's one that I could tell myself as I'm looking into my future as an empty nester. I could tell myself the lie that only old people become empty nesters, and I will no longer be useful once I reach that stage of life. Because of that story, I could begin to exhibit the behavior of giving up and coasting through the rest of my life without any purpose. So, watch the stories and lies you tell yourself, because you might start to believe those stories and let them affect your behavior.
4. **Endings are necessary.** There's a saying that goes, "The day you were born, you began to die." That's pretty deep, but it's true. Everything comes to an end, but when we face that end, that's our opportunity to reframe our new beginning.
5. **Failures teach you lessons.** They are a bruise, not a permanent tattoo. I love the story Michael Jordan tells. He says that he missed over 9,000 shots in his career, and 26 different times he went up for a game winning shot and missed it, but all of those mistakes led to his success. Think about that for a second. When you're looking your new beginning in the face, just know that mistakes will come and you will learn from them. We are all perfectly imperfect.
6. **New beginnings are a chance for you to be better.** Metamorphosis will happen – it's not just for caterpillars, it's for you and me, and you can choose what to do in your new beginning to make yourself better. No one has a monopoly on their future. Each one of us has a level playing field. Some may disagree with me on that, but I truly believe that we are ALL on the same level. New beginnings are a clean sheet of paper in your book, so turn that page and begin doing what you want.

2 Things to Do to Help You Have a Great Year

Reflect

Before you make future decisions it's imperative that you remember and reflect on your old ones.

Reflective questions like:

- What did I do that was effective?
- What could have I done better?
- What did I learn from it?
- What people were brought into my life because of it?
- What would I do again?
- What do I wish I had experienced that I didn't?

If you don't take the time to reflect, chances are you'll repeat the same mistakes, stay within your comfort zone and never experience new and possibly difficult "growth-minded" things.

Reflection isn't beneficial for only future *decision making*. Reflection is great for future *character traits* as well.

Stay Positive

We've got to manage our minds. In other words, we have to make our mind *mind*! We can do this by questioning our thoughts and calling their bluff. Asking ourselves questions like:

- Who told me this?
- Where did I hear this?
- Is this a story I've been telling myself for years?
- Why do I believe this?"
- What proof do I have that it's true?

If you allow self-criticizing, self-reproaching, and self-chastising thoughts to dwell in your mind, they will win. They'll succeed in stealing your peace, your joy, your purpose, your productivity, and even your

Take the time to **reflect** on your past and **remain positive** about your future. **You've got this!**

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW BEGINNINGS

DAY 1: Sunday, January 10th—... God's Plan

"For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Jeremiah 29:11

God loves his children and is concerned about their whereabouts. Even when they fail and fall into trouble, God is right there. Indeed, when God calls you into his family, he doesn't abandon you when things go wrong.

Therefore, in this fatherly assurance, Jeremiah is writing to those who had been taken captive in Babylon. He is reassuring them that God had not forsaken them.

Of course, they were taken into captivity, and they were to be there for seventy years for their disobedience. They were not to give up and go into despair. Despite the captivity, no one can take them out of his hands.

Therefore, while in this foreign land, they were to continue on with life. They were to build houses, get married, and build families. Even though they were being punished for their disobedience, they were not forsaken. "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth" (Hebrews 12:6).

For God's thoughts don't change like man. He still loves his children and is thinking of their good. However, he is taking them through this punishment, so that they can return to him and produce righteousness.

For God said in the book of Hebrews, "Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby" (Hebrews 12:11). God knows where he wants you to be in him, for you have an expected end.

---PRAYER---

Dear Lord, I thank you for loving me in such a way that you see what is good and right for me. I pray that I will reach the goal you have set for me. In your name I pray.

Amen.

Written & Submitted by: Dr. Author O. Wright

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Make Room for
the New

21-DAY DANIEL FAST
JANUARY 10-30, 2021

LIFE APPLICATION

***TIMES OF HARDSHIP DO
ENCOURAGE A HARD LOOK AT
OUR HEARTS***

*Every cutting disappointment and
difficulty we face in this life is part
of the Lord's sculpting and fitting
us into his spiritual house*

Devotional Text

Jeremiah 29

Hebrews 12

The start of
SOMETHING NEW
brings the
HOPE OF
SOMETHING GREAT
*Anything is
POSSIBLE*

UNKNOWN

WWW.SPIRITUALITYBOOKS.COM

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW BEGINNINGS

DAY 2: Monday, January 11th — *God's love for us never fails*

"His compassion never ends. It is only the Lord's mercies that have kept us from complete destruction. ²³ Great is his faithfulness; his loving-kindness begins afresh each day.

Lamentations 3: 22-23

Throughout his life, the truth of God that was faithfully taught by Jeremiah the prophet, was rejected and ridiculed by all and sundry. When he saw the destruction and devastation of Jerusalem, he fell into deep depression, wept and mourned over the ruins of the beautiful city of God.

In his distress, hope was revived as Jerusalem looked away from itself to the Lord. They called to mind the loving mercies, deep compassion and long suffering of God for all His rebellious people. As he declares this beautiful truth:

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come an end, and they are new every morning. Great is His faithfulness.

How often our own lives reflect this scene? We fulfilled God's call on our lives but discover that circumstances appear to contradict our expectations, and we question God character, concern and care for us. We murmur and ask, **why?**

However, the steadfast love of God which never ceases will only be experienced as we look away from ourselves, our problems and our own limited perspectives. Only when we meditate on the greater reality of His loving mercies, deep compassion and long suffering, will we recognize that his love for us never fails.

Let us look away from our own disappointment and turn our attention to His wider purpose and plan. So that we may realize that His mercies, never come to an end, for they are new every morning and great is His faithfulness.

---PRAYER---

Heavenly Father, how I praise and thank you that you are a gracious, loving, and long suffering God.

Help me not to be influenced by the circumstances of my life but rather help me to keep the eyes of my heart on you.

Knowing that your plans and purposes are perfect.

Thank you Father for your steadfast love towards all your children which is new every morning. All Glory and Honor to Your Holy Name
Amen.

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

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21-DAY DANIEL FAST
JANUARY 10-30, 2021

LIFE APPLICATION

*God's love, God's
compassion, God's infinite
mercy are constant,
unchanging and dependable -
something you can count on
when everything around you
is falling apart*

***GOD WILL BE FAITHFUL
IN EVERY SITUATION
AND CIRCUMSTANCE OF
LIFE WE FACE***

Devotional Text

Lamentation 3

Isaiah 41:10

Deuteronomy 33:27

Dreams are renewable.
No matter what our age or condition,
there are still
untapped possibilities within us
and new beauty waiting to be born.

Dale Turner

Written & Submitted by: Elder Norbert Allen

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW BEGINNINGS

DAY 3: Tuesday, January 12th—**Made New**

"²¹ If you have really heard his voice and learned from him the truths concerning himself, ²² then throw off your old evil nature—the old you that was a partner in your evil ways—rotten through and through, full of lust and sham. ²³ Now your attitudes and thoughts must all be constantly changing for the better. ²⁴ Yes, you must be a new and different person, holy and good. Clothe yourself with this new nature.

Ephesians 4:21-24

Make Room for
the New

21-DAY DANIEL FAST
JANUARY 10-30, 2021

Living in the new is our responsibility and privilege

The carnal wisdom of our minds always contrives against it and our rebellious will often put in the orders in execution against the counsel of God. There is in the natural man a stoutness of heart, a stiff necked unwillingness to God. We however, who have heard his call and answered it have been made new in Christ. **Living in the new is our responsibility and privilege.**

1. GODS' SERVANT

As God's servant, his bond slave, we must be disciplined, loyal to the responsibility to be like Christ, therefore we must be loving, gracious, considerate, gentle, understanding and humble. (1 Peter 2:16-17, Hebrews 13:16)

2. HEIRS OF GOD

The inheritance Christ has, we have. It is almost too great a privilege to conceive. We are heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ. If we are in Christ's' all things are ours. (Romans 8: 29-30)

3. DIVINE POWER

The stream of our nature, the brutish affections of our hearts can only be demolished by the infinite power of God. He turns the convert's heart. This power alters us, calms us, sweetens us. What an awesome power that can stoop us even when our natural habits has grown gigantic. (Psalm 51:10, Deut. 30:6)

Lies within the desperation to please God is when we can begin to understand his true transforming power that bends us to embrace and press towards our new life in Christ.

---PRAYER---

Pray with me

Make me new Lord Jesus against a multitude of temptations and self-interest.

Help me to be more like you.

In Jesus name

Amen

(Ref: the existence and attributes of God author Stephen Charnock Vol 2, the NLT Bible,

Halley Bible handbook author Henry Halley)

LIFE APPLICATION

*WE ARE A NEW
CREATION, BUT THE
RENEWAL THAT
HAPPENS IN OUR LIVES
DOESN'T HAPPEN ALL
AT ONCE*

*We must take intentional
steps to change—knowing all
the time that God is at
work in us*

*Deliberate discipline of change
and growth and maturity
isn't an optional extra for
Christians*

Devotional Text

Ephesians 4, 1

Peter 2:16-17

Hebrews 13:16

Romans 8: 29-30

Psalm 51:10

Deuteronomy. 30:6

Every second brings
a fresh beginning.
Every hour holds
a new promise.
Every night our dreams
can bring hope and
Every day is what you
choose to make it.

QUOTEDAILY.NET

Written & Submitted by: Vangee Dyer

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW BEGINNINGS

DAY 4: Wednesday, January 13th— *Having Christ is What Matters*

¹⁰ You are living a brand new kind of life that is continually learning more and more of what is right, and trying constantly to be more and more like Christ who created this new life within you. ¹¹ In this new life one's nationality or race or education or social position is unimportant; such things mean nothing. Whether a person has Christ is what matters, and he is equally available to all.

Colossians 3:10-11

God is not going to transform the old sin nature but the new life in Christ

All that is connected with the old creation in Adam is eternally doomed, which is why God is not going to transform the old sin nature but the new life in Christ, which we received when we were born-again. God's purpose and plan is that the new creation and not the old creation will grow more and more Christ-like.

As Christians, our conduct should reflect the new life and not the old - and this is achieved as we come to know the Lord Jesus more and more. The NEW is being renewed day by day, as we come into a deeper and more intimate knowledge of our Savior.

THIS is eternal life that ye might know HIM - and Jesus Christ Whom He has sent (John 17:3)

The moment that we are born again we are made a new creation in Christ. The second we are saved we are given a new nature: the resurrected life of Christ within. But also the Holy Spirit of God comes to indwell our body - to teach and train us; to guard and guide us, and He also disciplines, chastens and corrects our new life in Christ.

When our old man tries to carry out the Law through self-effort, it tries to reform itself - but this is a self-righteousness that is unacceptable to God, for all our righteousness is as filthy rags to Him. Our old sin nature is dead in trespasses and sins and is to remain nailed to the cross of Christ. It is the new born-again life we received at salvation that must grow. And God has given us all that we need for that new life to grow in grace and in a knowledge of Jesus - but we must do it God's way and not man's way. We must be clothed in Christ's righteousness and not seek to cover ourselves in self-righteousness.

We have been made a new creation in Christ and are to grow spiritually and mature in our faith. But we have to grow and develop the way that God has determined. Not by reforming, refining or repairing the old nature through self-effort, but by yielding our new self to the Holy Spirit - so that He works in us and transforms that new life into the image and likeness of Jesus.

We are to walk in spirit and truth as guided by the indwelling Holy Spirit and He will teach and train our new self which is being renewed day by day into even greater knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

---PRAYER---

Heavenly Father, thank You that I am a new creation in Christ. Thank You that old things are done away with and all things have been made new in Him. I pray that in Him I might walk in spirit and truth and submit to the working of the Holy Spirit, so that day by day I come to know You more and love You better - this I ask in Jesus name, AMEN.

(Source: <https://dailyverse.knowing-jesus.com/colossians-3-10>)

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LIFE APPLICATION

IT TEACHES US TO BECOME WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST

- *Saved*
- *Under Grace, not under condemnation*
- *New Self*
- *New Nature*
- *New Creation*
- *New Man in Christ*
- *New Christ Like Humanity*
- *Indwelling Holy Spirit*
- *Child of God*
- *Eternal Life*
- *Pleasing to God*

Devotional Text

**Colossians 3
John 17**

YOU MAY HAVE A FRESH
START ANY MOMENT YOU
CHOOSE, FOR THIS THING
THAT WE CALL 'FAILURE'
IS NOT THE FALLING
DOWN, BUT THE STAYING
DOWN.

MARY PICKFORD

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW BEGINNINGS

DAY 5: Thursday, January 14th— *Forget all that.....*

¹⁸ But forget all that—it is nothing compared to what I'm going to do! ¹⁹ For I'm going to do a brand-new thing. See, I have already begun! Don't you see it? I will make a road through the wilderness of the world for my people to go home, and create rivers for them in the desert!

Isaiah 43:18-19

Meaning of the word "Forget"

1. Fail to remember
2. Put out of one's mind. Cease to think of or consider
3. Stop thinking about one's own problems or feelings.

Isaiah asked the children of Israel to forget the past and look ahead to the future. God had promised to take them out of Egypt and he did just that, through many signs and wonders. He has also taken us out of our Egypt as well.

God's plan is to bring us to the promise land. So dwelling on the past may lessen our expectation of God bringing us to the promise land.

Paul said in Phil. 3:13

"Forgetting those things which are behind and press towards the make of the high calling of God."

Paul is also telling us to keep our minds focused on God's future plans. Not that he forgot what God did, but he was anxiously awaiting for what God will do now and in the future.

The writer of Hebrews 12:1 tells us we should lay aside every weight that beset us. Isn't it ironic that weights can be used to build muscles!

2020 was one of the toughest years we faced personally, as a church, a community, nation and even the world. The weights brought stress, heartache, financial loss, loss of families and friends.

Let us lay aside these weights and see God build character in our lives, and give us the strength to run this race with patience.

Thought: I want to learn from my past mistakes and look forward to the many victories in 2021

---PRAYER---

Heavenly Father, help me to look ahead, knowing you're already there. I will not fear, for you are with me Lord. Thank you Lord, in Jesus's name Amen.

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JANUARY 10-30, 2021

LIFE APPLICATION

***CHANGE YOUR FOCUS -
QUIT LOOKING BEHIND AND
START LOOKING AHEAD***

*If you are continually looking
behind you cannot see where you
are going*

*You Cannot Depend Upon Past
Victories To Sustain You*

*God has already set into motion a
new direction and a new purpose
for your life -
Will you follow Him?*

Devotional Text

Isaiah 43
Philippians 3:13
Hebrews 12:1

*“There will
come a time
when you
believe everything
is finished. That
will be the
beginning.”*

LOUIS L. ARMOUR

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW BEGINNINGS

DAY 6: Friday, January 15th— *In Christ a fresh start*

"This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!"

2 Corinthians 5:17

In Christ a fresh start.

You are a new creation in Jesus, with your old self being replaced with a new self — one that is forgiven and, by embracing Christ's sacrifice, can live a totally fulfilled life in line with the Almighty.

Therefore if anyone in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Paul was encouraging the saints in Corinth that once they accept the Lord, they became new creatures, all of their old past life, past sin has been done away with, and their future is brand new.

Whatever you did in the past, you have been set free, and forgiven by the grace of God. Therefore, he encouraged the saints to seek those things that are above, because they have a new sense of direction.

Paul also encouraged the saints to stand fast in the new life they have been chosen, and not returned to the old life.

---PRAYER---

Dear Lord,
Help me to please you from this day forward in everything I do.
In your name I pray.
Amen.

Written & Submitted by: Dr. Arthur O. Wright

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LIFE APPLICATION

***WHO YOU WERE BEFORE YOU
WERE "IN CHRIST," IS NOT
RECOVERABLE.***

*In Christ, God is not counting
people's sins against them, but
instead giving them credit for
Christ's righteous life.*

***THOSE "IN CHRIST" HAVE
BECOME SOMETHING THEY
WERE NOT BEFORE***

Devotional Text

**2 Corinthians 5:17
Colossians 3:1
Galatians 5:1**

All new beginnings require
that you unlock a new door.

Hachman of Breslow

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW BEGINNINGS

DAY 7: Saturday, January 16th— ***Your beginning does not define your end***

Though your beginning was insignificant, yet your end will increase greatly.

Job 8: 7 (NASB)

Your beginning does not define your end

David, the man God declared to be a man after his own heart. Looking at his statue before his rise to kingship, one could never tell that his life would have impacted so many lives far beyond his generation.

Today the Book of Psalms is one of the most read and one of the most impactful in the Bible. Of the one hundred and fifty chapters, David wrote seventy five chapters.

His beginning was the epitome of humility. No one could have prepared him for where God was about to take him. He was not in the line at the anointing ceremony of the prophet Nathan. He was forgotten by his father and his siblings did not consider it necessary to call him.

He was ridiculed by his brother for inquiring about Goliath, chased for years by his former boss. Lived like a nomad in caves and under the elements.

The day came when he exchanged his servant apparels for a kingly robe, a crown of gold and a throne of authority. **The rest is history!**

Like David we don't know what God has in stored for us. What you are going through right now may just be the very thing that is preparing you for what is to come. It doesn't matter where you have been in life or whom you have been with or what you have done.

God dictates your future.

Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.

"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

Isaiah 43:18-19 NIV

Though your beginning may have been insignificant, yet your end will increase greatly as you trust God with your lives

Your beginning doesn't define you. Your end is what counts the most

---PRAYER---

Father help us not to get stuck in the past that we miss the future. Help us to trust you wholeheartedly that whatever your will for our lives are they will come to fruition

Amen

(Written & Submitted by: Pastor Spencer)

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Make Room for
the New

21-DAY DANIEL FAST
JANUARY 10-30, 2021

LIFE APPLICATION

***USE WHAT YOU HAVE
START WHERE YOU ARE.
START WORKING BEHIND
THE SCENES***

***CELEBRATE THE SMALL
STEPS OF PROGRESS***

***DOING WHAT YOU CAN DO
- AND KEEP ON DOING IT***

Devotional Text

Job 8

Judges 5

Galatians 5:1

All endings
are also
BEGINNINGS
We just don't know it
at the time.

-Mitch Albom

NEW SEASONS

*For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven
(Eccl. 3:1)*

Entering New Seasons in Life

God knows what we need way more than we think we know what we need. No matter what season in life you may be facing, whether it may be sickness, a new school, new friends, new relationships, singleness, or a huge decision that must be faced, let your one anchor be your hope in God's goodness and love for you.

WE ALL GO THROUGH MAJOR CHANGES IN LIFE

This may be scary to think about because for some of us, change is a hard thing. We may love the season of life we are in now and are afraid to let go of it. We are afraid of the big things in life that will rock our normal lives that we have grown used to. But it is impossible to stay in one place in life your whole life, Change is inevitable.

GOD NEVER WANTS US TO REMAIN IN ONE PLACE. HE IS ALWAYS CALLING US FORWARD. ALWAYS GOING DEEPER IN HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH US.

Our need to control things and our desire to resist God's way of life stems from fear and lack of faith. **Let's put our trust in God for whatever we want and need.** Let's allow Him to work in us and change whatever He needs to change in or around us so that we can move forward. Take a deep breath and leave everything up to the Lord. He will hold onto you.

DON'T FIGHT OFF WHAT GOD WANTS TO DO IN YOUR LIFE AND DON'T TRY TO CONTROL YOUR OWN FUTURE. LET GOD DO HIS PERFECT WORK IN YOU THAT ONLY HE CAN ACCOMPLISH.

(Source: Lisa Zech - [A Lovely Calling.com](http://A.LovelyCalling.com))

Make the Change You've Always Wanted Now!

Now you've got more time and space at home, this is the right time to make your goals happen. If you aren't taking any action now, chances are you will never reach your goal.

There are nearly endless opportunities to improve each day and finding them largely boils down to being curious.

"PEOPLE WHO ARE BETTER IN THE END ARE USUALLY CURIOUS IN THE BEGINNING."

Make the Change

Problems with simple solutions at first become difficult to unwind over time

- Solve big problems early
- Rebound after one missed workout, not a decade of inactivity
- Repair a strained relationship the next day, not years later
- Fix overspending before it becomes a lifestyle

"MATURITY IS LEARNING HOW TO START WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE PROCRASTINATING AND LEARNING HOW TO LISTEN WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE TALKING."

(Source: [Great at Work](http://GreatatWork.com))

Stepping into New Seasons of Life & Work

Strategies for Seasonal Changes

The **first strategy** for stepping fully into new seasons of life and work is:

(1) Take stock of the season you're in and the season you're entering.

- Identify the characteristics of your current season by making a list of all the considerations that influence your decisions. Think about your family, your community involvement, your lifestyle, and your goals. For me, the ages of my kids and the health of my parents have been two aspects of my season of life that have had a significant impact on my decision-making in other areas. I've focused my community involvement on staying connected with my kids, and my lifestyle has centered on carving out family time. I've set aside some career goals in this season to make room for parenting and professional development goals that weren't easily put off.
- After a review of your current season, turn your attention to the season you're entering. For me, this includes launching my oldest daughter into college and finishing an educational journey that has spanned most of my adult life. The new season will center more on my career goals and creating meaningful work experiences than the former seasons have. As I contemplate each aspect of the coming season, I can begin to make decisions about what stays in my schedule and what goes.

The **second strategy** is critical:

(2) Carefully determine what activities belong in your life in this season and what activities need to be passed up or postponed.

- Choosing how to invest your time and energy will free you up to be fully in engaged in the season you're entering. Hanging on to activities past their seasonal expiration date will hinder your progress. In my life, I've started to exit a few roles that will not be part of my next season.
- Exit strategies are rarely an immediate change, so planning to step out smoothly will help your transition as well as passing the baton to those you work with. Removing some roles and responsibilities from your current season will open space for you to step into new opportunities as they arise in the new season. Identifying what you will NOT do in the new season is just as important as pursuing what you will do.

The **third strategy** involves

(3) Making ongoing adjustments as your new season unfolds.

- Despite the best laid plans, your predictions about the new season will never be 100% accurate. It's vital to assess your situation regularly. When you are sensitive to what works and what doesn't, you can make adjustments to your plan. I started a new morning routine this year, adding in a few habits, but it didn't take more than a couple of days to find a few sticky spots where the routine gets hung-up. I could beat myself up for "failing" to follow-through on my planned routine, or I can acknowledge the parts of it that didn't work as I anticipated. Once I acknowledge the hiccup, I can find ways to modify the routine to resolve the snags.
 - Plans are always different in practice than they are on paper. If we are too rigid in our approach to new seasons, we will miss the chance to refine our plans and optimize outcomes. If we fail to create structure, we may fall through our days without a clear focus. The ability to make thoughtful plans then adapt with agility is critical to success as we navigate new seasons. As you enter new seasons, don't be afraid to edit your life accordingly. As you do, you'll be able to fully engage in life and work in intentional and satisfying ways.
- *What excites you most about the season you are entering?*
- *What are you hesitant to leave behind?*

(Source: By Alyse Scicluna Lehrke - worklifepeace.com)

NEW SEASONS

10 THINGS MENTALLY STRONG PEOPLE DO

1. They don't dwell on mistakes. Mentally tough people know that where you focus your attention determines your emotional state. [Mentally tough people](#) distance themselves from their mistakes, but they do so without forgetting them. By keeping their mistakes at a safe distance, yet still handy enough to refer to, they are able to adapt and adjust for future success.

2. They don't hang around negative people. People often feel pressure to listen to negative people because they don't want to be seen as callous or rude, but there's a fine line between lending a sympathetic ear to someone and getting sucked into their negative emotional spiral. Emotionally intelligent people avoid getting drawn in by setting limits and distancing themselves from negative people when necessary.

3. They don't stop believing in themselves. Mentally strong people persevere. They don't give up in the face of failure, and they don't give up because they're tired or uncomfortable. They're focused on their goals, not on momentary feelings, and that keeps them going even when things are hard. They don't take failing to mean that they're a failure.

4. They don't wait for an apology to forgive. Mentally tough people know that life goes a lot smoother once you let go of grudges and forgive even those who never said they were sorry. Grudges let negative events from your past ruin today's happiness. Hate and anger are emotional parasites that destroy your joy in life. When you forgive someone, it doesn't condone their actions; it simply frees you from being their eternal victim.

5. They don't feel sorry for themselves. Feeling sorry for yourself is, in essence, declaring that you're a helpless victim of circumstance. Mentally strong people never feel sorry for themselves because that would mean giving up their power.

6. They don't hold grudges. Holding onto a grudge means you're holding onto stress. Holding onto that stress wreaks havoc on your body and can have devastating health consequences over time. Researchers at [Emory University](#) have shown that holding onto stress contributes to high blood pressure and heart disease, and mentally strong people know to avoid this at all costs.

7. They won't let anyone limit their joy... While it's impossible to turn off your reactions to what others think of you, you don't have to compare yourself to others, and you can always take people's opinions with a grain of salt. Mentally strong people know that regardless of what people think of them at any particular moment, one thing is certain—they're never as good or bad as people say they are.

8. ...and they don't limit the joy of others. Mentally strong people don't pass judgment on others because they know that everyone has something to offer, and they don't need to take other people down a notch in order to feel good about themselves. Comparing yourself to other people is limiting. Jealousy and resentment suck the life right out of you; they're massive energy-stealers. Mentally strong people don't waste time or energy sizing people up and worrying about whether or not they measure up. Instead of wasting your energy on jealousy, funnel that energy into appreciation. When you celebrate the success of other people, you both benefit.

9. They don't get lazy. A study conducted at the Eastern Ontario Research Institute found that people who exercised twice a week for 10 weeks felt more socially, intellectually, and athletically competent. They also rated their body image and self-esteem higher. Best of all, rather than the physical changes in their bodies being responsible for the uptick in confidence, which is key to mental toughness, it was the immediate, endorphin-fueled positivity from exercise that made all the difference.

10. They don't get negative. Mentally strong people don't worry about that because they don't get caught up in things they can't control. They focus their energy on directing the two things that are completely within their power—their attention and their effort.

Mentally Tough Quiz

1. How easy is it for you to get angry?
2. How easy is it for you to share your feelings with others?
3. How willing are you to adjust in order to improve?
4. How high are your expectations of others?
5. How often do you procrastinate?
6. How many hours of sleep do you usually get every night?
7. How open are you to feedback?
8. How often do you follow your instincts?
9. How often do you cry?
10. What do you usually do in order to relieve stress?

Take the Mentally Tough Quiz

<https://www.proprofs.com/quiz-school/personality/quizreport.php?title=pq-how-mentally-strong-are-you&sid=MTQ2OTY3Njcx>

Measure Your Mental Toughness



This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, typical of notebook paper. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW SEASON

DAY 8: Sunday, January 17th— *In Christ a fresh start*

³He has given me a new song to sing, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see what he has done and be amazed. They will put their trust in the Lord. (Psalms 40:3)

Remember to place your full confidence, reliance and trust in Christ.

He has the power to totally transform you. God gives his people new songs of praise. **Wake Yourself Up!** He has given me a new song to sing, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see what he has done and be amazed. They will put their trust in the LORD. (Psalm 40:3, NLT)

Deborah, the prophetess, sang a new song (Judges 5). So too did Mary, the Mother of Jesus (Luke 1:46 – 55). “Sing to the LORD a new song,” is the beginning of Psalms 96, 149, and 98.

Why should we sing a new song?

Psalm 96:2-3 encourages us to “. . . proclaim his salvation day after day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.” We are told in Psalm 33 to sing a new song,

“For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does . . . the earth is full of his unfailing love. (vs 4 – 5)

Although Deborah and Mary’s songs were grounded in the stories they had read and heard about the majesty and awesome power of God, they were birthed out of their own experiences. They had seen the hand of God for themselves! So they had a new song! The 144 redeemed of the Lord before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders, sang a new song; a song no one could have learned! They sang from their personal experience of redemption and grace (Rev 14:3).

How about you? What has God done for you and through you? What about you recognizing God’s majesty and glory? There is enough subject matter about which we can sing a new song.

Imagine there is an estimated 7.8 billion people on planet earth, yet no two persons have the same fingerprint! How awesome is that! It is God “who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand,” and “with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens” (Isaiah 40:12).

How ready are you to share the goodness of the Lord whether by speech or in song? Do you feel intimidated to do so? Are you so shy that you never ever sing or publicly speak of the mercies of the Lord, or even pray publicly?

God has not given us the spirit of fear (2 Tim. 1:7). And our hearts should overflow with joy and thankfulness for the gift of salvation and for the fact that when God opens His hand He satisfies the desires of every living thing (Psalm 145:16). *The LORD our God delights in us with gladness. He rejoices over us with joyful songs!* (Zephaniah 3:17). *If God the creator sings over us, shouldn’t we sing for Him? Deborah spoke to herself, “Wake up, wake up, Deborah! Wake up, wake up, and break out in song! (Judges 5: 12). Wake yourself up!*

---PRAYER---

Holy Spirit just as how a writer uses his pen to good effect, make my tongue an instrument of worship and praise, exalting the magnificent excellence and salvation of our Lord.

Written & Submitted by: Patricia Jacobs Reyes, Ph.D

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Make Room for
the New

21-DAY DANIEL FAST
JANUARY 10-30, 2021

LIFE APPLICATION

***WHEN GOD WRITES A
SONG ON YOUR
HEART, IT BECOMES A
BEAUTIFUL MELODY
OF LIFE***
(SHERI ROSE SHEPHERD)

*It is when we are happy
in him that people are
attracted to the truth*

Devotional Text

**Psalm 40:3
Revelation 4:3
Zephaniah 3:17**



The seasons change and you change, but the Lord abides evermore the same, and the streams of His love are as deep, as broad and as full as ever.

Charles Spurgeon





This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines, typical of notebook paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

- Christine Caine

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW SEASON

DAY 9: Monday, January 18th— *He will make all things new*

⁵ And the one sitting on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new!" And then he said to me, "Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true: ⁶It is finished! I am the A and the Z—the Beginning and the End. I will give to the thirsty the springs of the Water of Life—as a gift! ⁷ Everyone who conquers will inherit all these blessings, and I will be his God and he will be my son. Revelation 21:5

He is faithful in making the new reveal itself in your life.

We will not go on with that lamentation, but we will hear the cheering word, —Behold, I make all things new."

The Lord, in answer to believing prayer, and especially in answer to a full resignation to his will is able to make *all providential surroundings new for you.*

I have known the Lord on a sudden to turn darkness into light, and take away the sackcloth and the ashes from his dear children, for "he doth not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men."

Sometimes all this worry is mere discontent; and when the child of God gets right himself these imaginary troubles vanish like the mist of the morning; but when they are real troubles, God can as easily change your condition, dear child of God, as he can turn his hand.

He can make your harsh and ungodly husband to become gentle and gracious.

He can bring your children to bow at the family altar, and to rejoice with you in Christ.

He can cause your business to prosper; or, if he does not do that, he can strengthen your back to bear the burden of your daily cross.

Oh, it is wonderful how different a thing becomes when it is taken to God. But you want to make it all new yourself; and you fret and you worry, and you tease, and you trouble, and you make a burden of yourself.

Why not leave that off, and in humble prayer take the matter to the Lord, and say,

---PRAYER---

Lord, appear for me, for thou hast said, 'I make all things new.
Make my circumstances new

(Source: <http://www.colindsmith.com/blog/2012/01/01/sunday-devotional-revelation-215/>)

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Make Room for
the New

21-DAY DANIEL FAST
JANUARY 10-30, 2021

LIFE APPLICATION

*He is certainly able to turn
your captivity as he turns
the sun when it has reached
the southern tropic.*

***HIS WORDS ARE
"TRUSTWORTHY AND TRUE."***

Devotional Text

**Revelation 21
Ephesians 3:20-21
Genesis 1**

**Everybody has their due season.
And it's all about what you do in
your season.**

Deontay Wilder



NOTES

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LIFE APPLICATION

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW SEASON

DAY 10: Tuesday, January 19^h— *New mindset*

³⁶ Then Jesus used this illustration: “No one tears off a piece of a new garment to make a patch for an old one. Not only will the new garment be ruined, but the old garment will look worse with a new patch on it! ³⁷ And no one puts new wine into old wineskins, for the new wine bursts the old skins, ruining the skins and spilling the wine. ³⁸ New wine must be put into new wineskins.”
Luke 5: 36-38



New and old can't be bosom buddies, old will always ruin new

Many people at the beginning of a New Year make resolutions. They plan not to procrastinate anymore, to be more diligent in their work, to study harder, to eat more healthily, to shop less, to lose weight. At the end of the year they are still at 'Hope Street!' No progress made!

This dilemma reminds me of the scripture under consideration. The question Jesus was asked in Luke 5:33 was why His disciples could feast so much when John's disciples and those of the Pharisees often fasted and prayed. After telling them that the friends of the bridegroom will not fast when they are with the bridegroom, Jesus used two parables to illustrate His answer.

Fabric in Jesus' days was made of natural fiber, and as such there were limitations to its elasticity. A garment in use would have shrunk and would have exhausted its ability to stretch. The new piece of cloth with its propensity to stretch and shrink would create a tension in the fabric, damaging it and potentially resulting in a tear. And of course the new piece of fabric would now have been spoiled as well.

In the other parable, Jesus evoked the practice of making wine. When grapes are pressed to make wine, they begin to ferment. From the wine vat the wine would be placed in wineskins, containers made from goatskins. As the fermentation gases evaporated, the wine would bubble up and expand.

A new wineskin was pliable and it could facilitate the increasing expansion, until the fermentation process was complete. Eventually, the old wineskin could no longer stretch and would settle into a definite shape. It would probably even become brittle. New wine in that old wineskin would therefore possibly cause the latter to break, spilling the wine.

LIFE APPLICATION

***OLD BEHAVIOR AND
PRACTICES WILL
LEAD TO THE SAME
RESULT***

***NEW IDEAS MUST BE
GERMINATED IN NEW
MIND-SETS***

Devotional Text

**Luke 5:33-39
Romans 12:2**





Day 10 Cont'd

Jesus was really addressing the issue of living by public ritual versus living an authentic Christ-centered spiritual life. Achieving authenticity in one's Christian walk is not going to be achieved from wishful thinking. We cannot approach our lives like how some of us treat our New Year's resolutions. We have to make concrete changes.

Response to the message of the gospel of Christ demands a radical change from the pursuit of sinful desires. We have to be transformed by the renewing of our minds and depart from conformity to the patterns of the world (Romans 12:2).

In Christ we are new creatures (2 Cor. 5 vs 17), filled with the new wine of the Holy Spirit, and we wear the new clothes of righteousness.

---PRAYER---

Dear Lord,
Help me not to practice ritualistic religion, but instead to know and experience the Excellency of the gospel of salvation and to live it out in real and practical ways. Old behavior and practices will lead to the same result. New ideas must be germinated in new mind-sets.

Written & Submitted by Patricia Jacobs Reyes, Ph.D



Forgive me, dear Father, for limiting the awesome power you have brought me in Jesus. Open my mind, my heart, my eyes, and my ears so that I can imagine more fantastically, believe more completely, see more fully, and hear more richly all that you have done, are doing, and will do in my life in Jesus. It is in his name I pray.
Amen.

(Source: <https://www.heartlight.org/wjd/luke/0315-wjd.html>)

LIFE APPLICATION

DON'T TRY TO LIMIT THE
NEW LIFE THAT GOD
BRINGS YOU IN CHRIST

DON'T TRY TO DILUTE IT
WITH YOUR OLD
RELIGIOUS PRACTICES

Don't ever try to simply
attach it to what you had
before. The call of Christ
is new, fresh, and all-
encompassing. Begin each
day with fresh eyes and
new ears with the
expectation that the Lord
will do something you have
never seen or expected



Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW SEASON

DAY 11: Wednesday, January 20th— *Undivided Heart*

19 And I will give them singleness of heart and put a new spirit within them. I will take away their stony, stubborn heart and give them a tender, responsive heart
Ezekiel 11:19

He is the author of a renewed spirit sustaining an undivided heart

"And I will give them singleness of heart and put a new spirit within them. I will take away their stony, stubborn heart and give them tender, responsive heart" (Ezekiel 11:19).

Some years ago, I met one of the most notorious criminals in Jamaica. Why does this sound joyful? Because his life was transformed, he was now a Pastor. As we spoke over time, he relayed that it was a childhood desire of his to become a gunman/criminal as he saw the respect meted out to persons of that nature and he wanted to be respected and feared.

He got his heart's desire at the age of twelve (12) to commit his first act and did so with pride. Having impressed his cohorts, he was quickly drafted into the gang and would soon elevate to handling a gun. Jailhouse became his second home but that did not stop him or slow him down. The more he went before the judge and was imprisoned, the better he felt. He was getting the recognition that he desired. Robbing and killing became his past time, so much so that at one stage he went into a Police Station disguised as an officer to hear and see the plans they had for capturing him.

God however, had other plans for him. You see, God wrote the scripts of our lives and He knows what we will become. We may go off on a tangent, but He patiently waits on us; He is the author and finisher of our faith (Heb.12:2). Ecclesiastes 3:1-6, tells us "there is an appointed time for everything....a time for every event under heaven....a time to give birth and a time to die".

So is our spiritual birth. At this birth, a new spirit is placed within us, we are transformed, become new creation. It is amazing how men once wretched, cruel, heartless, under God become compassionate, loving and tender. As the word declares, God removes the stony heart and replaces it with love and tenderness.



LIFE APPLICATION

***CAN'T GET THE HEART
OF FLESH WITHOUT THE
SPIRIT OF GOD***

***The Maker of hearts also
knows how to
remake hearts***

***GOD'S DAY IS ALWAYS
TODAY***

Devotional Text

**Hebrews 12:2; 3: 7 & 15
Ecclesiastes 3:1-6
Deuteronomy 30:6
Psalms 86:11**





Day 11 cont'd

My friend Pastor Chang found Christ behind bars. His initial aim, in accepting Christ, was to impress one of the female missionaries who came. Alas he met the King of kings, and Lord of lords.

Today you too can be transformed. You may not be as notorious as Pastor Chang or the Apostle Paul, but if you are struggling with unforgiveness, lying, cheating, Christ can give you a singleness of heart and put a new spirit within you. He has done it before, and He can and will do it again.

Reflection: How much has your life been transformed since encountering Christ?

Prayer Focus:

God of creation, we recognize that we are empty vessels without you. As humans we tend to hold on to the past and the things that make us comfortable. Your desire is for us to come closer to you. We pray Lord that your desire will become our desire.

Help us Lord to open our hearts and minds to you, to listen attentively to you and be transformed to your likeness. Place a new spirit within us and give us a heart of love and, tenderness towards each other.

As we face these trying times, may we approach them with a sense of newness and determination. May we use the energy and zeal of the past to spread your words, knowing a greater reward is in store for us, not materialistic but eternal life.

Written & Submitted by: David Porter



LIFE APPLICATION

*Prone to wander, Lord, I
feel it,
Prone to leave the God I
love;
Here's my heart, O take
and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts
above*



REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW SEASON

DAY 12: Thursday, January 21st — *Don't Worry*

⁶ *Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.*

Philippians 4:6

Turning to prayer and thanksgiving rather than worry and panic makes all the difference.

Make a commitment to turn to prayer in every situation

After the attack on our nation on September 11, 2001, the following phrase, "**We will not forget**" became an anthem to remember the sacrifices of many. And it is still effective.

Why then have so many Disciples of Christ forgotten God's command not to worry? What He commands us in Philippians 4:6 and reiterates in Matthew 6:26 - 34 (by showing us that to worry and become anxious is fruitless), seems to have gone over the heads of many, therefore being of no benefit to us.

The Bible speaks about the fervent prayer of the righteous, as well as not being anxious or worried about anything. Instead, through prayer and supplication, we should make our requests known. That means that we should seek God's help.

Isn't it annoying how we worry unnecessarily? Why do we allow the cares of life to consume us, knowing full well that we have passed through some of life's storms and survived? Then we wonder how we did, even while knowing that we could not ascribe our victories over worries to ourselves. That is because we knew it had to have been divine intervention.

God allowed us to go through the fire without getting burned like He did for the three Hebrew boys. And He removed us from the vice-like grip of some of life's challenges just as He did for Daniel in the lion's den.

Do you know that God hurts when He sees us worry, when all He asks is that we cast our cares on Him, because He cares for us? It often seems as if we forget that He said that there is nothing that we could ever encounter that tempts us to worry, that He has not prepared a way out for us.

Written & Submitted by: Paula Thompson

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Make Room for
the New

21-DAY DANIEL FAST
JANUARY 10-30, 2021

LIFE APPLICATION

DON'T WORRY

It's a command from the Lord, so every time we are anxious about life we're actually sinning against God

OFTENTIMES WHEN WE WORRY, IT'S AN INDICATION WE FORGOT TO GIVE THANKS

Devotional Text

**Philippians 4
Matthew 6:26-34
1 Corinthians 10:13
John 14:27**



Day 12 Cont'd

Despite this knowledge, we are constantly resorting to worrying (or 'fretting' as our elders would say). Philippians 4:6 admonishes us,

Do not worry about anything; instead, pray about everything.

Tell God what you need and thank Him for all He has done." Don't fall prey to the enemy because, in line with his cunning character, he tricks us into losing faith in God's ability to solve our problems.

When we allow that, it results in us worrying unnecessarily, causing us to sin - something God has expressly told us not to do.

Today, let us endeavor to put into practice the rules to live by, set out in Philippians 4:6 and Matthew 6: 25 - 34, as they are quite clear. **Do not worry.**

Instead, let us fervently pray without ceasing, and even when it appears as if your prayers may not have been heard, continue to give thanks in anticipation of what God has awaiting you.



LIFE APPLICATION



REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW SEASON

DAY 13: Saturday, January 22nd — *Christ at the Center*

17 And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.

Colossians 3:17

"Keeping Christ at the center helps everything else come together."

As Christians, we are ambassadors for Christ. Just as an earthly ambassador represents and communicates the desires and will of the head of state that sent him or her, so are we to represent and communicate the desires and will of Christ to others. Since we are representatives of Christ, our actions and our speech must reflect Christ. We can think that we are representing Christ if we're often speaking of Him to others. However, it is our life, our decisions, what we do, and don't do in daily situations that will truly speak to others most.

Jesus said that you will know the tree by its fruit (Matthew 7:6). People always taste the fruit that comes from our life in daily situations. Do you go along with the crowd at school or at work because it is difficult for you to say "No" and go against the peer pressure? Or do you live your life for Christ and take a stand for what is right? Paul behooves us to be imitators of God (Ephesians 5:1). If we rely on our own strength to live holy lives, it would be impossible. With the Holy Spirit, we can live that life that would be worthy of our heavenly calling - a transformed life of goodness and love.

So as we make room for the new, we can begin by making room in our hearts that will allow the saturation of God's love and compassion which will enable us to fulfill His commands.

Examples:

- 1. We will be able to love the unloved** - It is easy to love someone who loves you in return. But it is a whole different story to love someone who doesn't "deserve" your love. Yet that's what Jesus did and He instructed us to do the same as demonstrated in Luke 6:27-36.
- 2. Forgive others freely** - I know forgiveness is difficult, especially when you have been hurt in ways you never thought possible. Colossians 3:13 instructs us. "As the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive."
- 3. Display his joy** - When we obey Christ and remain in his love, His joy will be in us then we'll be able to show it (John 14:23).

Prayer: Heavenly Father, I commit myself to making you the center of my life. Help me to be a true representative of you, in all that I do. May your loving kindness be seen through me. I surrender my will and my ways to you, so that I may not be conformed to this world. I will trust in you with all my heart and allow you to direct my path. Amen.

Submitted & Written: Elder Norbert Allen

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Make Room for
the New

21-DAY DANIEL FAST
JANUARY 10-30, 2021

LIFE APPLICATION

*I have no goals that don't
include Him.*

*I have no opinions that
don't include Him.*

*I have no standards that
don't include Him.*

***IS CHRIST WRITTEN ON MY
LIFE, NOT JUST IN MY
HEAD AND LIPS?***

Devotional Text

Matthew 7:6
Ephesians 5:1
Colossians 3:13
Luke 6:27-36
John 14:23





This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines, typical of notebook paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

Embrace uncertainty. Some of the most beautiful chapters in our lives won't have a title until much later.

- Bob Goff

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW SEASON

DAY 14: Saturday, January 23rd — *Not just flapping*

³¹But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.
Isaiah 40:31

Placing our future in God's hands is the best path forward.

The Jamaican vocal duo, Blues Busters in their song "Wings of a Dove" evoked Psalm 55 vs 6 wishing they had wings like a dove to fly away and to be at rest. They further resigned themselves to not having wings, lamenting that they could not fly. But in Christ we do have wings, and we can do more than fly. We can soar!

Most eagles have wings that are quite long and wide which help them soar and glide with little effort. Eagles know how to rise quickly and to climb high into the air without working too hard. An eagle gains altitude by flapping its wings on leaving the ground. The flapping motion causes air to flow faster over the top of the wings, and the bird rises and soars toward the sun. Fearlessly, an eagle may get a 'jockey ride' on rising bubbles of hot air called 'thermals.' Once inside the thermal, the eagle can just spread its wings and float easily upward. Eagles also use storm currents to their advantage; to rise higher.

When we trust in God, we soar way above the sins and the din and stress of our daily lives on wings of hope and peace. We will ride through our troublesome circumstances as they propel us forward, rather than allowing them to drag us down.

"We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed" (2 Cor. 4:8 – 9, KJV).

When an eaglet is learning to fly, the parent eagle flies beneath to break the fall of the eaglet should that become necessary. "Like an eagle that stirs up its nest and hovers over its young, that spreads its wings to catch them and carries them aloft. The LORD alone led him . . ." (Deut. 32:11-12. NIV). Just as how God provided for the Children of Israel His care and protection, He does the same for us. He will bear us up mightily lest we succumb to disastrous situations. And when he carries us He takes us to himself.

"You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself" (Exodus 19 vs 4, NIV).

God took Israel out of the nest in Egypt, and brought them to maturity as a nation. He desires to bear us up and to carry us from the corrupting influences of sin into a state of freedom and into covenant with Him. It is God who does the work of causing us to soar, with very little, flapping-like effort on our part.

(Written & Submitted by Patricia Jacobs-Reyes, Ph. D.)

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH



LIFE APPLICATION

Believe!
God is bearing me up
above all of life's
challenges

When I fall God is right
there to catch me

HE WILL NEVER ALLOW
ME TO CRASH TO
PIECES

Devotional Text

Isaiah 40:
2Corinthians 4:8-9
Deuteronomy 32:11-12
Exodus 19:4





NOTES



LIFE APPLICATION



NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunity

- an appropriate or favorable time or occasion
- a situation or condition favorable for attainment of a goal
- a good position, chance, or prospect, as for advancement or success
- a favorable, appropriate, or advantageous combination of circumstances

Making the Most of Opportunities

God has also given us a wealth of opportunities. An opportunity may be defined as a providential circumstance which permits us to turn our time, our money and our talents to account. Of all gifts this is the most common, and it is the one which makes the other gifts of value to us and to mankind. The wise Christian will watch for opportunities to do good, to speak the life-bringing word to sinners, to pray the rescuing prayer of intercession.

The foe of opportunity is preoccupation. Just when God sends along a chance to turn a great victory for mankind, some of us are too busy puttering around to notice it. Or we notice it when it is too late. The old Greeks said that opportunity had a forelock but was close-shaven behind; if a man missed grabbing for her as she approached, he would reach for her in vain after she had passed.

Possibly the worst effect of waste is the mental habit it creates. To allow time or money or talents to go to waste is to do something harmful to ourselves. It is to injure ourselves inside where it is most serious.

Thought

Wise living is making the most of opportunities. That means recognizing them for what they are and utilizing them without delay. How many opportunities have we already lost?

O Lord, may I be alert to opportunities You send and make the most of them while there is yet time

(Source: <https://www.cmalliance.org/devotions/tozer>)

How to Seize Your Opportunities and Take on Challenges

- **Develop a Clear Vision of What You Want.** Imagine if you could have anything your heart desires.
- **Set Goals.** Once you've developed a mental picture of what you want or what an ideal **opportunity** may look like, it's time to commit that vision to paper. ..
- **Take Consistent Action.**

Unless you map out a detailed picture of what you want **AND** you combine that with action, you'll veer off-path and bypass great opportunities.

So, here's what you need to do.....

(Source: Dean Bokhari - <https://www.lifehack.org/844534/seize-the-opportunity>)

Strategy Steps to Seizing Opportunities

<https://www.lifehack.org/844534/seize-the-opportunity>

Step 1:

➤ Think About an Area of Your Life You'd Like to Change for the Better

- Imagine what it would feel and look like if you were able to change this area of your life. Think about the best possible outcome/scenario that could occur if everything were to go exactly the way you want it to go (it never goes perfect, but don't worry about that right now)

Step 2:

➤ Take This Vision You've Created in Your Mind From Step 1, and Write it Down as a Goal.

- Be as detailed and specific as possible.

Step 3:

➤ Break That Goal Down Into Several Small Steps That Need to Be Taken for You to Achieve it

- If you're not sure about what steps you need to take to achieve your goal, then your first step is to start reading, researching, and gathering knowledge about what you need to do. You might need to talk to someone who's already done what you want to do or find an inspiring podcast that can help fast-track your way to success.
- The main idea is this: you need to decide on some sort of action you can right now to make progress on your goal. Some examples: Want to start a business? Start researching how to get a business license. Want a new car? Go to the car dealership and test drive that car you want. Do something, anything, to get the ball rolling.

Step 4:

➤ Remain Consistent and Keep Taking Action

- Once you've taken *one* small step towards your goal, you'll need to set up another one. And another one. And another one.
- Along the way, you'll notice different ideas and opportunities that you can leverage towards achieving your goal.

Bottom Line

Follow these steps and eventually your goals won't be in your imagination anymore, they'll be your reality.

The Confidence Gap

To succeed, confidence matters as much as competence

Things You Can Do To Build Your Confidence

1. **Don't undervalue your time or thoughts.** We all have valuable contributions and in order for others to respect us we need to respect ourselves and value our own thoughts and time.
2. **Be mindful.** Research shows that people who are mindful - more focused and aware - often respond better to stereotypes
3. **Always enter a room with confidence.** Body language is an important part of making a first impression and maintaining a sense of trust and authority. You should pay attention to not only what you are saying, but how you are saying it. Speak loudly and clearly and you will be heard.
4. **Be resilient.** Advice you received as a child applies to adults: pick yourself up and keep moving. Don't wallow in despair if things don't turn out as you planned. Rejoice in life's triumphs and teach yourself to embrace obstacles and learn from any hurdles that come your way.
5. **Think big picture and long-term.** Depending on where you are in your career there may be many opportunities up ahead to jump to the next level of responsibility. With more responsibility typically comes more pay. Visualizing the future - and what you need to do to get there - is an important step in making it happen.

(Source: Dr. Bernice Ledbetter - <https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2014/05/the-confidence>)

Learn the 7 Secrets for Building Unstoppable Confidence

Become more powerful and successful in everything you do.

BY LOLLY DASKAL

Building true confidence is a gradual process. No one is going to turn into a positive, self-confident person overnight. But if you're in need of some extra confidence, here are seven secrets for building unstoppable confidence that are no longer undercover.

1. **Stop comparing yourself to others.**

- ❖ The worst thing you can do is compare yourself to others. Remember that you're seeing the surface of their lives, not the underlying reality. Focus instead on what's important--your own strengths and goals.

2. **Remember that the loudest is not the most confident.**

- ❖ We tend to look to the blow-your-own-horn types as the confident ones--but some of the most successful people are gentle giants, humble and self-effacing people who turn out to be the strongest, people we admire more and more as we come to appreciate their depth.

3. **Keep your limiting beliefs at bay.**

- ❖ Even the most successful people have limiting beliefs about themselves, but the biggest difference is that they choose to focus on their strengths and possibilities instead of their limits.

4. **Live in a positive reality.**

- ❖ Don't say anything about yourself that you don't want to become a reality. Positive thoughts and words alone won't make you a more confident person, but confident people do think a lot of positive things about themselves. Remind yourself of what you're capable of and what you've already accomplished.

5. **Don't mask it.**

- ❖ Self-confidence isn't the impression you give others but how you feel about yourself. It's all about who you are, where you are, and where you want to be in your own life and leadership.

6. **Change what you can.**

- ❖ Confident people know they cannot change the past, but they can change the future. They make daily choices that lead them toward the future they want to live out.

7. **Be fully committed.**

- ❖ Be fully committed to doing whatever you can to build your success every single day, and to accepting full responsibility for your life. If it's uncomfortable, you're probably on the right track. Don't procrastinate; do what it takes without agonizing or drama.

These seven secrets can uncover your confidence from within--the kind of confidence that gives you sole responsibility for everything in your life.

(Source: <https://www.inc.com/lolly-daskal/unstoppable-confidence-learn-how-to-become-super-confident.html>)

Clarifying Values & Making Life Change

In a world where you had unlimited confidence:

- ✓ How would you behave differently?
- ✓ How would you walk and talk differently?
- ✓ How would you play, work and perform differently?
- ✓ How would you treat others differently: your friends, relatives, partner, parents, children and work colleagues?
- ✓ How would you treat yourself differently?
- ✓ How would you treat your body?
- ✓ How would you talk to yourself?
- ✓ How would your character change?
- ✓ What sort of things would you start doing?
- ✓ What would you stop doing?
- ✓ What goals would you set and work towards?
- ✓ What difference would your new-found confidence make in your closest relationships, and how would you behave differently around those people?
- ✓ What difference would your new-found confidence help you to make in the world?

(Source: The Confidence Gap copyright Russ Harris, 2010 www.thehappinesstrap.com www.actmindfully.com)

The Life Change List

As I develop genuine confidence . . .

<i>Here are some ways I will act differently</i>	<i>Here are some ways I will treat others differently</i>
<i>Here are some ways I will treat myself differently</i>	<i>Here are some personal qualities and character strengths I will develop and demonstrate to others:</i>
<i>Here are some ways I will behave differently in close relationships with friends and family</i>	<i>Here are some ways I will behave differently in relationships involving work, education, sport or leisure</i>
<i>Here are some important things I will 'stand for</i>	<i>Here are some activities I will start or do more of</i>
<i>Here are some goals I will work towards</i>	<i>Here are some actions I will take to improve my life</i>
MAKE ROOM FOR THE <i>NEW</i>	
<i>LOVE</i>	<i>WORK</i>
<i>PLAY</i>	<i>HEALTH</i>

The 4 Actions You Must Take to Find Your Opportunity

By Grant Cardone

"To get something you never had, you have to do something you've never done."

There is exactly as much opportunity in the world as you're willing to work for.

Don't look for an industry, look for the opportunity. Opportunity is a set of circumstances that makes it possible to do something. The middle class looks for jobs to solve their problems. You need a job, but you also need opportunity. The truth is, an opportunity will solve your problems.

Here are four tips today to find your opportunity:

1. Look for opportunity.

- Before you can see an opportunity, you have to be looking for opportunity. This seems basic but many people have given up on looking for opportunity. This is why there is that saying, ***"You wouldn't see an opportunity if it hit you in the face,"*** comes from. Opportunity can literally be right where you are but you're blind to it.

2. Be willing to read and research.

- They say knowledge is power, and it's true. You won't find opportunity without knowledge. Everything you ever want, you are just a piece of knowledge away from obtaining. The only thing between you and massive wealth is the right knowledge. I've experienced all the delays and pitfalls that keep people in the middle class, but I was able to push beyond them to become wealthy, and I can teach you to do the same because of the knowledge I've obtained.

3. You have to go for it.

- You have to leave where you are comfortable. Staying with mommy and daddy past the age of 25 isn't going to work, sorry. Opportunity might mean moving out of state or even across the country. Maybe, just maybe, you need a new passport for your opportunity. The point is, the opportunity may not be where you are because you might be a big fish in a small pond.

4. Make contacts.

- Everything you want, somebody else has it. Contacts equal contracts. How big is your power base? How big is your pipeline? The more people you know, the more opportunities will come your way. There's a reason why successful network marketers make a lot of money -- they prospect. Your next opportunity might just be with someone you don't even know yet. You need to go out and meet them.

So what is your opportunity that you need? Each of these four essentials -- **looking for opportunity, reading and researching, going for it, or making contacts** -- requires effort on your part.

I have a few sayings that relate to this:

- Everyone wants to have a six-pack but don't want to put in the time.
- Everyone wants to be the boss but won't go out on their own.
- Everyone wants to be a millionaire but won't spend \$1000.
- I will add to this, ***"Everyone wants an opportunity but won't ____."***

What's your excuse? [Find your opportunity.](#)

How to Spot an Opportunity

Richard Branson

Like sunrises, opportunities come and go -- but there will always be more

- ❖ Like sunrises, opportunities are fleeting, and they will pass if you are unprepared.
- ❖ They do not always come at the perfect time, either, so you must be ready to seize them when the chance presents itself
- ❖ There is no point in waiting to act. If you do, they will likely disappear. You must be prepared.
- ❖ If you "put yourself in the right [mindset](#) to spot opportunities, there are always more to follow,"
- ❖ Opportunities are usually disguised as [hard work](#), so most people don't recognize them. Ironically, hard work is the key to taking advantage of opportunities. If you put in the time, effort and [commitment](#), you'll open many doors for yourself. It's only a matter of noticing opportunities and acting upon them.

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW OPPORTUNITY

DAY 15: Sunday, January 24th— Go Shopping

²³Buy the truth and do not sell it— wisdom, instruction and insight as well.
Proverbs 23:23

Every writer, manufacturer, or merchant desires to know that whatever they write, produce or sell will be a best seller and the buyer would hold on to it for life. However, after a few years the item loses its intrinsic value and ends up in a garage sale, where it is sold for a fraction of the original cost.

In today's world, one of the priorities of the consumer is the seller's return policy. The easier the ability to return a product, the greater the likelihood that the consumer will purchase the item. Imagine for a moment a wise merchant standing by the road of life, calling out to all who pass by, **"Come! Buy the Truth Bundle- includes wisdom, understanding and knowledge!"** Upon approaching the merchant and inquiring about these unusual articles for sale, he mentions that they are for sale under the condition that they cannot be returned or given away. Therefore, purchase should not be made without great thought and contemplation. The purchaser is invited to enter into a lifelong relationship with Truth. At this point, you might ask, what is truth? Pilate asked Jesus, the same question. Truth is a person. Jesus says "I am the Truth." (John 14:6.) Truth, wisdom, knowledge and understanding are embodied in Jesus Christ.

Unlike the earthly goods that can be bought with money, Jesus cannot be bought with money. He offers himself to you. The price is a total submission of your life to Him. There is no return or disposal policy and you are prohibited from getting rid of Truth. He says, "I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one." (John 10:28-30)

Polycarp was one of the few living disciples of the apostle John, the "beloved disciple" of Jesus himself. Polycarp preached what he had learned directly from eyewitnesses of Jesus. When dragged into the arena to die, under pressure to denounce Christ, Polycarp said, "86 years have I served Him, He has done me no wrong. How can I blaspheme my King and my Savior? I am a Christian! And if you wish to learn more about Christianity, I will be happy to make an appointment." Soon he went to his death.



LIFE APPLICATION

NOT FOR SALE

Wisdom will cost you ease

Instruction will cost you pride

Truth will cost you friends

Understanding will cost you peace

Devotional Text

**Proverbs 23:23
John 14:6, 10:28-30**



Day 15 cont'd

Reflections:

- What would my life look like if I lived out this truth every day?"
- How can you sell Christ?
- When faced with adversity can you say like Polycarp: "For "X" years I have served Him, He has done me no wrong? How can I blaspheme my King and my Savior?"

Prayer: May truth be reflected in me Lord, so that others may see and come to You. Amen.

Further reading:

Prov. 1:1-4;

Matt.13:45-46; Luke 24:27;

Jer. 29:13;

John 14:6;

II Peter 1:1-4

Jn. 18:38

Colossians 2:3

I Corinthians 1:24

Revelation 5:12

Written & Submitted: Elder Norman & Andrea Clayton

PROVERBS

- A chapter of Proverbs a day fits the calendar and will teach you much.
- Read and apply it daily (action of buying); do not stop the habit (action of not selling).
- Do not trade your daily time in the book of Proverbs for any other activity.

(Source: <https://letgodbetruer.com/proverbs/index/chapter-23/proverbs-23-23/>)



LIFE APPLICATION

Truth: right, honest, and real knowledge about any subject.

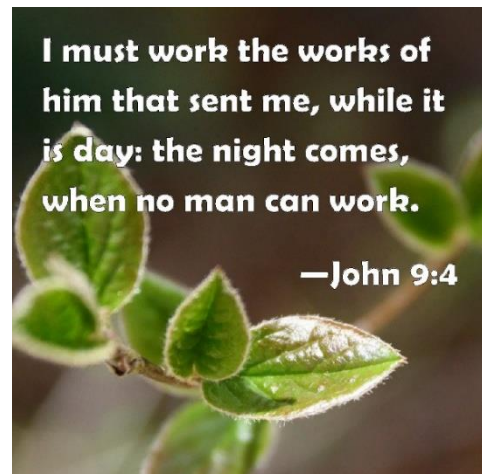
Wisdom: prudent ability to discern and to know what is right.

Instruction: directions and teaching from others wiser than you.

Understanding: comprehending the value and use of truth and wisdom

I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night comes, when no man can work.

—John 9:4



Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW OPPORTUNITY

DAY 16: Monday, January 25th— *New commandment - Love*

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another." John 13:34

As you sit and read this devotional. Take a moment and try to define the word "LOVE"

Love is _____

Love cannot really be defined, yet we know it when we experience it. What is so significant about love that Jesus commands the disciples to love one another? John's definition is simply, "God is love". This love is so divine that Paul contrasts it using analogies of the angelic language and earthly martyrdom as expressed in I Corinthians 13:1-3, and its' practice in human relationships later in the same chapter. Jesus refers to himself and the Trinity as the model of love. **It is the one command that Jesus gives to His disciples.** He tells them how to express it, how to give it away and to whom they should give it. The Lord gives us this love and he wants us to give it to others.

John describes the ultimate expression of love this way, "This is how God showed His love among us: **He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him.** This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. (I John 4: 9-10) "And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them together in perfect unity." (Col. 3:14) "Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man." (Prov. 3: 3-4.)

"Love is a verb not a noun. It requires action; intention. In love there is no being only doing." E.M. Walsh.

Loving one to another is the indispensable mark of a true Christian.

Reflection:

- Have you ever wondered if God loves you? Why?
- How did Jesus model love?
- How can I display the love of Christ to my brother/sister?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, teach me to love the way you love me, especially my brothers and sisters in the faith. Amen

Further reading: John. 13:14; John. 14:15-21; John. 15:12-14;
1 Cor. 13; Rom. 13:8; 1 Thess. 3:12

Written & Submitted by: Elder Norman & Andrea Clayton

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Make Room for
the New

21-DAY DANIEL FAST
JANUARY 10-30, 2021

LIFE APPLICATION

Disciple = Love Others

D - Devoted to Christ

I - Involved

S - Spirit Filled

C - Christ-Centered

***I - Invites others to
Christ***

P - Prays

L - Love at all times

***E - Encourages Other
Disciples***

**God will supply
us with the
opportunity,
but it's up to us
to do something
with it.**

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW OPPORTUNITY

DAY 17: Tuesday, January 26th— *LIVE WISELY*

Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone."

Colossians 4:5-6

We are on Display

Have you ever had a conversation with an unbeliever about spiritual things, specifically the gospel of Jesus Christ? Have you ever faced rejection when the person with whom you are conversing points out the poor lifestyle of other Christians?

Deep within you feel ashamed to know that an unbeliever is tainted by the less than sterling example of other believers. On the other hand, you may also be surprised at the realization of your own less than sterling responses to situations sometimes. What is the potential effect on the observing unbeliever?

Many people read the scriptures through the lives of the people who claim to be Christians. Well, so it should be. Wisdom is being able to take truth from the Word, which the Spirit of God has revealed to your heart and applying this truth in given situations in a practical way. Wisdom means that the unsaved outsiders, who are closely watching our lives, should see or hear nothing that would jeopardize our testimony of Jesus. The onlooker should observe us, our speech, our conduct, our example as Disciples of Christ and desire to be like Him.

The scripture reminds us that out of the heart flow the issues of life. (Proverbs 4:23; I Thess. 1:5)

"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." (Romans 12: 2a)

Brian Chappell says, **"People sense more than they can prove by how we present ourselves in the most inadvertent ways."**

In other words, people can tell when your life does not match up with your words. The godly life may not bring others to salvation, but it will surely attract them to you who can point them to Jesus the Savior.

Character matters, your life must back up your speech. There must be a deliberate attempt to live a godly life. Let's dispel all misunderstandings of the faith by living an honorable and righteous life. Mindfully work diligently to earn the right, to answer to anyone who asks us about the hope we have in Christ with gentleness and respect.

Reflection:

- Does the life I live make it difficult for me to share the gospel?
- Does the life I live make it difficult for others to hear the gospel?
- Am I alert to the opportunities for personal witnessing?

Prayer: Lord help me to walk in a manner worthy of you, to please you in all respects and increasing in the knowledge of you. May life may properly represent you to the outside world, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Further reading: Eccl. 11:16; 2 Cor. 6:3; Eph. 4:29; Col 1:10; I Peter 3:15

Source: Elder Norman & Andrea Clayton



21-DAY DANIEL FAST
JANUARY 10-30, 2021

LIFE APPLICATION

Road Test
Win the Right to
Share the Gospel

- ***Grace Level***
- ***Salt***
- ***Gentleness***
- ***Respect***
- ***Ability to***
Answer
- ***Life***
consistently
reflect Christ
and what you
believe

**SEIZE THE MOMENT
BECAUSE SOME
OPPORTUNITIES
DON'T COME TWICE**

PICTUREQUOTES.COM

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW OPPORTUNITY

DAY 18: Wednesday, January 27th— CHOOSE WELL

So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. ¹⁶ Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. ¹⁷ Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do.

Ephesians 5:15-17

While reading this passage, I recall my childhood days when it seems that every adult I encountered would ask the question, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" I remember anticipating the question and cringing every time, because I was not sure what my answer would be. Very often, I wondered if that was all they could ask.

As I grew older, the same question would arise in a slightly different way.... "So, what are you doing with your life now?" Later I came to realize something very important. Those who were asking were expressing their care for me, by insisting that I think about my future.

Family and friends around me only desired to see me make wise decisions, become successful and live a productive life. Solomon says,

"Listen to advice and accept discipline, and at the end you will be counted among the wise." Prov. 19: 20.

Life is short, death does not announce its coming, opportunities, once gone, will never return, and Christ will come at any time.

The Book of Proverbs is replete with warnings against living, acting and talking like a fool. Friend, God wants us to be prudent stewards, making good use of our time. The world is an evil place, the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Stay alert and be sober, vigilant, diligently spend the time in prayer and study of the word that you may know Christ and discern His will.

Reflections:

- Can you identify with this scenario?
- What are your aspirations in Christ?
- What does God want you to do?
- If you take an inventory of your life today, what would it show?

Prayer:

"Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me and lead me in the way everlasting." Psalm 139:23-24

Further reading:

Proverbs 15:21
Ephesians 5:2;
Romans 13:11
Colossians 1:9;
1 Peter 5

Source: Elder Norman & Andrea Clayton

Make Room for
the New

21-DAY DANIEL FAST
JANUARY 10-30, 2021

LIFE APPLICATION

*Evaluate what Really
Matters*

*If you're always busy,
chances are you're
perhaps not watching
carefully how you live*

*Using my time wisely
in light of Eternity
What's at the top
of my priority list?*

**TODAY IS NOT JUST
ANOTHER DAY. IT'S
A NEW OPPORTUNITY,
ANOTHER CHANCE,
A NEW BEGINNING.
EMBRACE IT.**

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW OPPORTUNITY

DAY 19: Thursday, January 28th — *DON'T GIVE UP*

So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up. 10. Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone—especially to those in the family of faith.

Galatians 6: 9-10

The Boston Marathon is a special marathon, with its rolling hills, arduous terrain and solitary stages where there are no crowds to cheer you on. The greatest cheers come at the finish line. Amby Burfoot, Boston Marathon Men's, 1968 champion said, "There are two tough parts for me, and they aren't what most people think. The first is the first 13 miles, because it is mentally tougher to be so far from the finish in the first half and mentally much easier in the second half. The second tough part (*approximately 20 miles*) is the downhill from the top of Heartbreak Hill to Cleveland Circle. This is called "Cemetery Mile" for two good reasons: Evergreen Cemetery to the runners' right, and the way the steep downhill deadens the legs, specifically the quadriceps muscles."

We all get weary and come to our mental and spiritual 13 mile marker, or our physical Heartbreak hill and feel like...we can't do this anymore. When we get to that place, pause, look ahead, the race is not over, finishing is a must!

Having come through a challenging experience equips us to be better able to come along side our brother/sister. **Endurance and perseverance are necessary qualities in the successful completion of any arduous task.**

The Christian walk is a daily process of working life. If we consolidate it in our heart that giving up is not an option, we can impress this on others in the family of faith and help them to the finish line too.

"Therefore my beloved be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain." (1 Cor. 15:58)

Reflection:

- What is causing you to feel like giving up?
- What would motivate you to keep going on?
- What do you see at the end of the race?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus give me the endurance to run the race with the end in view, even if there is no one to cheer me. Help me take someone with me to the finish line. Amen.

Further reading: Is 40:31; 1 Cor. 3:7; Phil 4:13; Heb. 13:5-6.

Written & Submitted by: Elder Norman & Andrea Clayton

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Make Room for
the New

21-DAY DANIEL FAST
JANUARY 10-30, 2021

LIFE APPLICATION

***Harvest or Reward
Does Not Happen
Automatically***

In your
MORNING
PRAYER
each new day, ask
HEAVENLY FATHER
to guide you
to RECOGNIZE an
OPPORTUNITY to
SERVE one
of His precious
CHILDREN.

-M. Russell Ballard

LDS.ORG

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW OPPORTUNITY

DAY 20: Friday, January 29th— *Open Door*

⁸“I know all the things you do, and I have opened a door for you that no one can close. You have little strength, yet you obeyed my word and did not deny me.

Revelation 3:8

In early Sunday school days, we used to sing a little ditty that ends something like this:

“Watch your eyes and ears and lips and hands and feet. For there’s a Father up above looking down in tender love. Watch your eyes, and ears and lips and hands and feet.

The kids today sing the song: “He knows my name.” A favorite expression for teens when in conflict is... “You don’t understand me.”

On the other hand, adults would say ... “It’s because you don’t know me!”

There is a powerful God, who is always watching us day and night all of our lives. God knows us by name and nature. He knows the struggles of life that we face and He knows us so well that He says to you,

“I know your life. I know you struggle in your spiritual life and energy; you are not knocked out. The proof is, you have kept My word and through all your obstacles, you have not denied My name.

I the Sovereign One who has control over all things, grant the pleasure of an open door that no one can shut.” There are doors in the kingdom that I the Sovereign God has opened for you today. The more you acknowledge your own frailty and weakness and surrender to the Almighty God, the more at peace you will be. As you choose to depend on Him totally in obedience to His word, the more access you will find in Him.

Reflection:

- How many times have we felt as though we have no strength?
- How many times have we gone to God in desperation and said, “Help me, speak to me, and show me yourself?”
- Do you see God as Omnipotent?
- What kingdom opportunities is God opening up to you?
- What is the ultimate opportunity that God is opening for you that no man can shut?

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, Omnipotent One, I am weak, and you are strong. Show me the open doors that are before me that will never close. Give me boldness to walk through them with you. Amen.

Further reading:

Acts 14: 27; II Corinthians 2:12-13; Colossians 4:3; Rev. 21: 24-26;
II Corinthians 12: 9

Written & Submitted by: Elder Norman & Andrea Clayton

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH



LIFE APPLICATION

KNOCK

***Prayer is the secret
to an open door***

OUT OF CLUTTER, FIND
Simplicity.
FROM DISCORD, FIND
Harmony.
IN THE MIDDLE OF
DIFFICULTY LIES
Opportunity.

- ALBERT EINSTEIN

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

NEW OPPORTUNITY

DAY 21: Saturday, January 30th— *RELEASE FAVOR*

"I will look favorably upon you, making you fertile and multiplying your people. And I will fulfill my covenant with you. ¹⁰ You will have such a surplus of crops that you will need to clear out the old grain to make room for the new harvest!"

Leviticus 26: 9-10

At the Wedding ceremony the bride and groom enters in a marriage covenant by pledging, "from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death do us part. According to God's holy ordinance and thereto I pledge thee my faith." God thinks just as highly about humanity that he too entered a covenant relationship with humanity. However, as the all-knowing One, He sets the terms of the covenant. The covenant contains provisions for blessings for being faithful to the covenant and curses for failure to remain in the relationship. He has been doing this since the beginning of time: from Adam to the time of the children of Israel, as seen in the passage.

He is saying here "As you walk with Me, I will fulfill my agreement by blessing you in two tangible ways. I will multiply your family line and I will give you a continuous supply of food. Your family will always have enough to give away. God promised them perpetuity of the nation and all the resources for them to prosper. There will be so much resources that they will have to keep giving away the old to make room for the new. This promise of earthly abundance should stir within us the joy of lavish blessings in Christ.

Jesus Christ continued this covenant of perpetuity when he established a new covenant through his shed blood on the cross for the redemption of humanity. Through this new covenant, we are adopted into the family of God – one great people, brothers and sisters in Christ - the Church- with God as Father. This new family of Christ is multiplying every day... beyond the sands of the sea, and will live with Christ forever, hallelujah!

She is blessed with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, where Christ sits at the right hand of God the Father. These blessings are accessible to anyone who believes in Christ.

Reflections:

- Have you entered into a covenant relationship with Christ?
- Have you been hoarding any physical or the spiritual resources of Christ?
- What do you need to give away?
- Are you experiencing the spiritual blessing of Christ?

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank you for loving me. Thank you for the blessings. Endow me with the wisdom and desire to share you blessing with everyone for your kingdom sake. Amen

Further reading: Genesis 15: 5-6; Leviticus 26: 11-12; 1-14; Luke 12:16-21; I Corinthians 2:9; Hebrews. 8

Written & Submitted by: Elder Norman & Andrea Clayton

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Make Room for
the New

21-DAY DANIEL FAST
JANUARY 10-30, 2021

LIFE APPLICATION

*Abundance is
always God's
Signature Move*

*May the favor of
the Lord our God
rest on us;
establish the work
of our hands*

**DON'T WAIT
FOR
OPPORTUNITY.
CREATE IT.**



CHERRY ALMOND OATMEAL

Ingredients

Ingredient Checklist

- 2 cups rolled oats
- 3 ½ cups sweetened vanilla almond milk
- ⅛ teaspoon salt
- ½ cup dried tart cherries

Directions

Instructions Checklist

• **Step 1**

Stir together oats, almond milk, and salt in a large microwave-safe bowl. Microwave on High for 5 to 6 minutes, stirring every 2 minutes, until oats are soft and most of the liquid has been absorbed. Stir in cherries.

• **Step 2**

Spoon into bowls and serve while hot.

Nutrition Facts

Per Serving:

266 calories; protein 6.5g; carbohydrates 53.1g; fat 4.9g; cholesterol 0.2mg; sodium 206.5mg.



CHERRY ALMOND OATMEAL

- 1/2 tsp Ginger, ground
- 2 tsp Orange, zest
- 1/2 cup Pineapples
- 1 cup Rolled oats, old-fashioned
- 1 cup Applesauce, unsweetened
- 1/4 cup Date honey
- 1/4 cup Flaxseed meal
- 1 cup Oat flour
- 2 tsp Coconut flakes, unsweetened
- 1/4 cup Pecans or walnuts



Daniel Fast Lunch & Dinner Recipes



CAJUN RED BEANS AND RICE

- ½ tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil**
- ½ cup chopped green pepper**
- ½ cup chopped red onion**
- ½ cup sliced celery**
- ¼ cup water**
- 2 teaspoons Creole Seasoning (see recipe below)**
- 1 (15.5-ounce) can red kidney beans, rinsed and drained**
- 2 cups cooked brown rice**



Heat olive oil in a large, deep skillet over medium heat. Add green peppers, onions, and celery. Cook until vegetables are softened, about 3-5 minutes. Add water and Creole Seasoning. Stir well. Mix in kidney beans and rice. Lower heat and cook another 5 minutes or until heated through.

CINNAMON-RAISIN CARROT SALAD

- 2 cups shredded carrots, peeled
- 1 cup shredded red cabbage
- 1 apple, cored, unpeeled, cut into 1-inch matchsticks (about 1 ½ cups)
- ½ cup raisins
- ¼ cup chopped pecans
- 2 tablespoons raw sunflower seed kernels

Dressing

- 1/3 cup unsweetened apple juice
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Mix carrots, cabbage, apple, raisins, pecans, and sunflower seeds kernels in a large bowl. In a smaller bowl, add apple juice and cinnamon. Use a whisk to combine, and pour over carrot mixture. Stir well to coat.
2. Place in refrigerator 1-2 hours or until cool. Serve chilled.



APPLE, POMEGRANATE, AND KALE SALAD



- 8 cups torn kale leaves, ribs removed, lightly packed
- 2 cups chopped apples
- 1 ½ cups mandarin orange segments (about 4 mandarins)
- ½ cup chopped toasted chopped walnuts
- ½ cup pomegranate arils

Dressing

- ¼ cup unsweetened applesauce
- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin coconut or olive oil
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- ¼ teaspoon salt
-

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Place kale leaves in a large bowl, and set aside. Whisk applesauce, olive oil, lemon juice, and salt in a smaller bowl (you can also mix in a blender).
2. Pour dressing over kale, and use your hands to

PINEAPPLE- KIWI SPINACH SALAD



- 6 cups fresh spinach leaves, torn, stems removed, lightly packed
- 1 8-ounce can pineapple tidbits, drained, juice reserved
- 5-6 kiwifruit, peeled, cut into half moons
- ¼ cup diced red onion

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Wash spinach leaves well, and place in a large serving bowl. Top spinach with pineapple, kiwifruit, and red onion. Pour pineapple juice over all, and toss gently.
2. Yield: 6 servings (serving size: about 1 cup)

TROPICAL FRUIT SALAD



- 2 cups sliced strawberries
- 3 kiwi fruit, peeled and quartered
- 1 ½ cups orange segments, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 cup red seedless grapes, halved
- 1 cup fresh pineapple chunks, cut into tidbits

INSTRUCTIONS

Mix fruit in a large bowl, and chill until ready to serve.

A hand is shown from the palm side, holding a small, thin-stemmed plant with several small pink flowers and green leaves. The background is a soft-focus sunset or sunrise over a body of water, with warm orange and yellow light. The overall image has a white border.

REHOBOTH OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

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[illegible]This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, leaving small margins at the top and bottom. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.