

## January Devotions

### New Year

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29:11 NIV)

As a new year dawns, look ahead and trust your plans to the Lord. He is always doing a new thing. If you look back at last year you can see all the ways, the Lord led you in the right direction. He is always bringing favor into your life. The Lord knows what is best for you because he declares, “My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts,” says the Lord. “And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine.” (Isaiah 55:8 NLT) When the calendar turns the page to the new year, it can feel like getting a chance to start over and leave yesterday behind. A time of renewal that is gifted by hope. It is so uplifting to sense God doing a new thing. “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 43:19 NLT) So, leave the old behind and step into the new thing the Lord is doing in your life this year. What if you let him have the reigns of your life and you were with Him for the ride? What has He been showing you? Are you ready to step into what He has in store for you? “...he will tell you things to come.” (John 16:13) “Take delight in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart.” (Psalm 37:4 NIV) He will “...guide you” (Psalm 32:8b) And most importantly, The Lord said, “I will not leave you nor forsake you.” (Joshua 1:5b) Bring in the new year with a mighty praise to God for all he has done and all he will do.

**Prayer:** Father, I am trusting you to guide me each day. Help me to shine the light of Jesus to others. Thank you for your amazing grace. Amen

## Stepping Into a New Year of Breakthrough

As we enter a new year, we step into a season of divine breakthrough—armed with faith, anchored in Christ, and fully equipped to overcome every scheme of the enemy. This is not a year to shrink back but to advance with boldness, declaring the promises of God over our lives. Scripture assures us, *“The people who know their God shall be strong and carry out great exploits”* (Daniel 11:32). Strength comes from knowing Him, and victory comes from standing firm.

God has given us every spiritual weapon needed for the battles ahead. *“Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil”* (Ephesians 6:11). As we gird ourselves with truth, righteousness, faith, salvation, the Word, and prayer, we become immovable—warriors whose confidence is rooted in Christ. Fear is extinguished by His light, for *“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it”* (John 1:5).

We decree this year to be one of supernatural recalibration—a divine realignment of our souls to heaven’s rhythm. The Lord is restoring clarity, renewing strength, and re-establishing His purposes within us. Jesus promised, *“Behold, I make all things new”* (Revelation 21:5). He renews minds, heals hearts, and resets the course where weariness tried to steal direction.

Every mountain of opposition must bow. Jesus declared, *“If you say to this mountain, ‘Be removed and cast into the sea,’ it will be done”* (Matthew 21:21). We step forward with faith that moves obstacles, hope that endures, and authority grounded in His Word.

This new year is not defined by circumstances, but by the God who leads us. As we declare His truth, align our hearts with His Spirit, and walk in His armor, breakthrough is not just possible—it is promised.

### Prayer Points:

1. *Father, equip me in Your armor and strengthen my faith to stand boldly in this new year, extinguishing every shadow of fear with Christ’s light.*
2. *Lord, divinely recalibrate my soul—align my mind, heart, and steps to Your will, and let every mountain in my path be cast into the sea.*

## Dwelling in the Secret Place

“He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty” (Psalm 91:1). This simple yet profound verse invites us into a way of living—not a moment, not an occasional visit, but a continual dwelling in God’s presence. To *dwell* is to remain, to settle in, to make the Lord our true home. And when we do, rest, breakthrough, and divine covering become the atmosphere around us.

The secret place is not hidden *from* us; it is hidden *for* us. It is where intimacy with the Father deepens, where His voice becomes clearer than the noise of fear or circumstance. Jesus echoed this invitation when He said, “Abide in Me, and I in you” (John 15:4). Abiding makes us fruitful, steady, and secure. In His presence, anxiety breaks, striving melts, and we find the rest our souls crave.

From this place of abiding comes supernatural provision—“My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory” (Philippians 4:19). Healing flows as we lean into Him—“I am the LORD who heals you” (Exodus 15:26). Wisdom is poured out generously—“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God... and it will be given to him” (James 1:5). The breakthroughs we long for are born not from effort but from communion.

Practicing moment-by-moment awareness of God’s nearness—out of love, devotion, and holy reverence—trains our hearts to live continually in the shadow of the Almighty. This is practicing the presence of the Lord: choosing to turn toward Him in thoughts, breath, and affection throughout the day.

The secret place is where we become anchored, transformed, and covered. And from that place, everything changes.

### Prayer Points (Psalm 91:1):

1. *Father, help me dwell continually in Your secret place—teach my heart to abide, rest, and remain under Your shadow.*
2. *Lord, as I practice Your presence, release intimacy, healing, provision, and heavenly wisdom into every area of my life.*

## **Our Impossibilities Are the Canvas for His Glory**

Our impossibilities are not barriers to God—they are the very canvas on which His glory is revealed. Where our strength ends, His begins. Where our vision fails, His purpose shines. When we stand before situations that feel immovable, the Father is not intimidated. Man's limitation has never stopped the mighty hand of God.

Scripture reminds us, "*With God all things are possible*" (Matthew 19:26). What we perceive as a closed door, a dead end, or a resounding "no," the Holy Spirit is often whispering, "Yes—*watch what I can do.*" Abraham and Sarah saw age and barrenness, yet God saw a promised nation. Elijah saw drought, but God saw the beginning of rain. Mary saw impossibility, but God saw the birth of the Savior.

God's "yes" is not always loud—it is often found in His steady faithfulness, in the quiet urging to persevere, in the strength to endure. His Word anchors us: "*Let us not grow weary... for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart*" (Galatians 6:9). To those who cling to His promises, He imparts the power to overcome: "*This is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith*" (1 John 5:4).

Nothing is impossible for the God who parted seas, shut the mouths of lions, and raised the dead. The same God works in the life of every believer who stands firm on His truth. When we place our impossibilities before Him, we are surrendering the very space in which His power can shine brightest.

Keep trusting. Keep standing. Keep believing. The Father's hand is never limited—and His "yes" is often already in motion.

### **Prayer Points:**

1. *Father, take every impossibility I face and turn it into a canvas for Your glory. Strengthen my faith to see beyond the natural.*
2. *Lord, help me stand firm on Your promises with endurance, perseverance, and unshakable hope, knowing nothing is impossible for You.*

## The Greatness Found in a Yielded Life

In the Kingdom of God, true greatness is never found in elevating ourselves, but in lowering ourselves before Him and in loving service to others. Jesus turned the world's definition of greatness upside down when He said, "*Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant*" (Matthew 20:26). A yielded life—one surrendered, humbled, and available—is the life God fills with His power, presence, and purpose.

To yield is to willingly surrender our will for His. It is saying, "Lord, Your way over mine," not out of duty, but out of trust. Scripture reminds us, "*Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time*" (1 Peter 5:6). God Himself lifts up the lowly. He breathes greatness into those who choose the path of surrender.

Jesus modeled this perfectly: "*Though He was in the form of God... He humbled Himself, becoming obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross*" (Philippians 2:6–8). Christ's humility became the doorway to salvation for all humanity. His lowering became His exaltation (Philippians 2:9–11). When we follow His example—serving, honoring, lifting others—we walk in the same Kingdom pattern.

Living yielded means being attentive to the Spirit's whisper, choosing compassion over convenience, obedience over impulse, and servanthood over self-promotion. It means seeing others through the lens of Christ's love and responding with generosity, patience, and kindness. "*Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus*" (Philippians 2:5).

In God's Kingdom, greatness is not measured by platform, but by posture; not by how high we rise, but by how deeply we love. To lower ourselves is not to be diminished—it is to be positioned for God's glory to shine through us.

### **Prayer Points:**

1. *Father, shape my heart into one that is yielded, humble, and ready to serve You and others with joy.*
2. *Lord, teach me the greatness of lowering myself, so that Your love, Your character, and Your glory may be exalted through my life.*

## Prayer Life

**1 Thessalonians 5:17** “Pray continually” (NIV) “Never stop praying” (NLT) “Pray without ceasing,” (NKJV)

This is an invitation to commune with God, “...the maker of heaven and earth,” (**Psalm 146:6 NIV**) What is on your heart? You can share your heart about anything with the Lord, because He already knows your thoughts. He is always with you, and he hears even a tiny whisper or a bold request. **James 4:8a** “Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.” So many times, we don’t know the right decision to make. That is when we lean on the Lord. We ask direction and according to **James 1:5 (NIV)** “If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.” Your prayer life will define the course of each day. When your prayer life is built on God’s word, there will be assurance that your prayers are being heard. When you pray God’s word you agree with God. There is a real clear picture of what happens when you pray in **Isaiah 55:10-11** “The rain and snow come down from the heavens and stay on the ground to water the earth. They cause the grain to grow, producing seed for the farmer and bread for the hungry. It is the same with my word. I send it out, and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it.” God answers prayer in His timing not ours. Pray God’s word and stand firm on it. Keep on praying and you will see the fruit of your prayer life.

**Prayer:** Father, it is an honor to know you hear us when we pray. Help me to continue growing in my prayer life as I stand on your word for answers to my prayers. Amen

Psalm 94:11, Matthew 6:8, 2 Corinthians 1:20, Numbers 23:19

## Cultivating an Atmosphere That Hosts His Presence

A life that hosts the presence of the Lord is not accidental—it is intentional, cultivated through spiritual disciplines that keep our hearts aligned with Him. Scripture invites us to “*Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you*” (**James 4:8**). Hosting His presence begins with drawing near daily, choosing to make space for Him, and valuing His nearness above every distraction.

To walk in the empowerment of the Lord, we must feast on Him—not merely snack on scattered prayers or occasional scripture reading. Jesus declared, “*Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God*” (**Matthew 4:4**). The Word is nourishment. Prayer is breath. Stillness is where our roots deepen. When we commit to reading, studying, praying, and sitting quietly before Him, we cultivate an atmosphere where His presence rests.

Jesus modeled this lifestyle. “*He often withdrew into lonely places and prayed*” (**Luke 5:16**). Even the Son of God sought the Father continuously. If He needed consistent communion, how much more do we? True devotion is built in the secret place—unhurried, focused, surrendered. It is here that clarity comes, strength returns, and our spiritual senses sharpen.

The closer we walk with Him, the more clearly we recognize His voice. Jesus said, “*My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me*” (**John 10:27**). Intimacy produces discernment. When we host His presence, we begin to see His mighty hand moving in every area of our lives—guiding, protecting, providing, healing, and aligning our steps with His will.

Creating this atmosphere is a daily choice—a sacred rhythm of devotion that welcomes His glory into every part of who we are.

### Prayer Points:

1. *Father, cultivate in me a heart that hungers for Your presence—teach me to seek You intentionally through Your Word, prayer, and quiet communion.*
2. *Lord, deepen my intimacy with You so I may clearly recognize Your voice and walk in the fullness of Your power and presence.*

## Resting in Christ and Speaking Life Over Our Mountains

“Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest” (**Matthew 11:28**). Jesus’ invitation is not just for physical exhaustion—it is for every area of anxiety, worry, and doubt that weighs on our souls. When we surrender these burdens to Him, He transforms our hearts, our minds, and our circumstances.

The key is keeping our eyes fixed on Christ, not the shifting sands of our challenges. *“Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith”* (**Hebrews 12:2**), we recognize that the enemy’s schemes have limits. He may try to intimidate, distract, or overwhelm, but we are surrounded by God’s presence, and there is no solid ground for the enemy to operate. *“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you”* (**James 4:7**).

When anxiety or doubt rises, speak boldly the promises of Christ over your life. Declare His will over situations, over mountains, over nations, and over humanity. Jesus said, *“Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt...you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move”* (**Matthew 21:21**). Our words, rooted in His truth, carry authority.

Resting in Christ also means knowing our strength is not in striving but in surrendering.

*“Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you”* (**1 Peter 5:7**). The enemy can try, but with Christ, he cannot succeed. We are empowered to shut down fear, doubt, and attack by walking in faith, obedience, and the unshakable knowledge that God’s presence surrounds us.

In this posture of rest and trust, breakthrough, peace, and divine alignment become our reality.

### Prayer Points:

1. *Lord, I surrender every anxiety, worry, and doubt to You. Transform my soul and help me keep my eyes fixed on Christ alone.*
2. *Father, give me boldness to speak Your promises over every mountain in my life, trusting that Your power and presence leave no room for the enemy to operate.*

## The Transforming Power of an Intimate Walk with the Father

Seeking God is more than following rules or modifying behavior—it is pursuing a deep, intimate relationship with our Father that transforms the heart from the inside out. The Word of God is described as “*living and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart*” (**Hebrews 4:12**). It reaches beyond outward actions to the core of our being, shaping the way we think, speak, respond, and act.

True transformation begins in the heart. Jesus said, “*Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God*” (**Matthew 5:8**). It is in the secret place, in intentional communion with Him, that the Holy Spirit rewires our minds, creating new spiritual pathways that lead directly to the heart of Jesus, regardless of the storms around us. **Romans 12:2** reminds us, “*Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.*” Transformation is not external—it is an internal renewal that naturally flows into actions and words.

As we delight in God, He delights in us. **Psalm 37:4** says, “*Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.*” The closer we draw to Him, the more our responses, attitudes, and decisions are infused with His wisdom, love, and peace. Living in this intimacy cultivates discernment, stability, and an unshakable connection to the Father, even in uncertainty.

Pursuing intimacy with God is a lifelong journey, but it is the pathway to true transformation, not just temporary behavior change. His Word, His Spirit, and His presence reshape us from the inside out, aligning our soul, mind, and heart with Christ.

### Prayer Points:

1. *Father, draw me into deeper intimacy with You, transforming my heart so that my thoughts, words, and actions reflect Your nature.*
2. *Lord, renew my mind and create in me new pathways that lead directly to Your heart, empowering me to respond to every circumstance with Your wisdom and love.*

## Anchored in God's Presence and Promises

Life often feels like a storm—uncertain, overwhelming, and beyond our control. Yet, in the midst of chaos, God offers us two unshakable truths: **His presence and His promises**. Scripture reminds us, “*Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid... for the Lord your God goes with you*” (**Deuteronomy 31:6**). His presence is not passive; it is active, guiding, protecting, and strengthening us.

Equally powerful are His promises. God’s Word declares, “*For I know the plans I have for you... plans to give you hope and a future*” (**Jeremiah 29:11**). These promises are not empty words—they are divine guarantees backed by His faithfulness. When we feel weak, His promise of strength sustains us. When fear creeps in, His assurance of peace calms us.

To thrive spiritually, we must anchor ourselves in both. His presence gives us confidence for today; His promises give us hope for tomorrow. Let us choose trust over anxiety, faith over fear, and obedience over doubt. When we do, storms lose their power because our foundation is secure in Him.

### Prayer Points

1. **Thanksgiving:** Lord, thank You for Your constant presence that never leaves me, even in life’s storms.
2. **Faith:** Father, help me to trust Your promises and stand firm on Your Word, regardless of circumstances.
3. **Strength:** Lord, fill me with courage and peace today, knowing You are with me and Your plans for me are good.

### Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, I praise You for being my refuge and strength. Thank You for Your presence that comforts me and Your promises that give me hope. Help me to walk in faith, trusting that Your plans are perfect and Your love never fails. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

## Perfect Peace (Shalom, Shalom)

*“You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.” —  
Isaiah 26:3*

There is a kind of peace the world cannot manufacture—a peace not dependent on circumstances, outcomes, or our ability to control what happens next. Isaiah calls it **“perfect peace,”** the kind of wholeness and inner rest that only God Himself can sustain.

This promise reveals a profound spiritual rhythm: God keeps us in peace as we keep our minds stayed on Him. “Stayed” means anchored, fastened, leaning the weight of our thoughts and emotions onto His unshakeable character. When storms rise, we often fix our minds on the problem, but here the Lord invites us to fix our gaze on the **Prince of Peace** instead. Trust becomes the doorway; steadiness becomes the posture; peace becomes the fruit.

When you feel pressured, overwhelmed, or internally scattered, whisper His name. Turn your attention toward His nearness. The peace He offers isn’t fragile—it’s God-guarded, God-given, and God-sustained.

**Perfect peace is not the absence of trouble, but the presence of Christ ruling our inner being.**

### Prayer Points

1. Lord, steady my mind and emotions—help me center my thoughts on Your truth rather than on fear or anxiety, and let Your perfect peace guard my heart.

### Closing Prayer

Father, deepen my trust in You in every circumstance. Help me surrender control and rest in Your faithful leadership over my life. Amen.

## Christ In You

“Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you ---unless, of course, you fail the test? (**2 Corinthians 13:5 NIV**)

These words were spoken by Paul to the Corinthians. These same words apply to believers today. What is Paul saying? Are you in the faith? That is, faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Paul is saying we should test ourselves to answer that question. Then we can know Christ is in us by faith. Our faith points us to the living Christ. Jesus himself confirms that He is in you when He said, “On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in Me, and I am in you.” (**John 14:20 NIV**) By faith, the living Christ is dwelling within us. How awesome is that? As we surrender our will to God’s will, we live life in the spirit with Jesus in control. Each day as a believer, Christ is living through believers bringing glory to God, the Father. “...God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.” (**Colossians 1:27 NIV**)

**Prayer:** Father, thank you that your son Jesus is dwelling in me. I ask for your guidance to follow Jesus daily and live my life according to your will. Amen