

May 7, 2022

Dear Partner,

Hello Partners and Friends, grace and peace to you and Happy Mother's Day to all our moms. I know Mother's Day will have passed by the time you receive this letter. We still want to send our love and BLESSINGS to all our mom's and moms-to-be!

I want to ask you today, "Do you really believe what you say you believe?" Many of us say we believe in God and trust His Word, but do we really? Here's a test. For the next 7 days, pay attention to the words you are using and how you handle situations when you don't readily know what to do. Write down what you notice (Pastor Melissa, are you giving us homework? Yes!). At the end of the 7 days, summarize the notes you took. Pay attention to any particular patterns.

Now, let me give you two passages of scripture:

- Jeremiah 33:3 (NIV) 'Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.'
- Proverbs 18:21 (NJKV) Death and life *are* in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit.

During those 7 days, how many times did you say things like "I don't know what to do about this; how is this every going to work out; man, it's always something; my allergies are killing me..." As Believers, we need to believe that our Heavenly Father is an ever-present Help and our words matter. Remember Genesis 1? God was looking at a very (literally) dark situation. HE could have said, "damn, it's dark down there" and condemned the earth forever. First off, He's not the condemner. Second, He spoke what His heart desired. He did want the earth to be dark and without form. He wanted a beautiful, vibrant place to put His family, man.

We are told in Matthew 12:36 that we will have to give an account for every idle (fruitless) word we speak on the day of judgment. Judgment won't only come when we meet The Father face-to-face. Judgment will come when the words we are speaking come to pass in our lives. We'll wonder how we got where we are. We got there by our words, which produce our actions. That's how powerful and serious our words are.

God never intended for us to live this life without His help. His help comes in asking Him what to do in situations, seeking Him for wisdom in our endeavors, and simply being quiet before Him to hear if there is anything He needs to tell us. You are always on your Heavenly Father's heart and mind. He as so much He wants to show you and help you understand. That comes with acknowledging Him in all we do. My favorite scripture, from I was a little girl, has been Proverbs 3:5-6 (NJKV) - *trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.* 



There may be times in life when we feel like The Lord has failed us or forgotten us. However, He's never failed nor forgotten us, and He won't start now. We have to be sure we are doing our part to not separate from Him and try to do things on our own. That's pride, and it brings pain and disappointment.

We challenge you to take the test and meditate on Jeremiah 33:3 and Proverbs 18:21. Watch the difference The Lord will be able to make in your life as you renew your mind to the relationship He wants with you and as you start speaking words you want to see come to pass in your life.

We are expecting God to do big things for you. Know that you are loved and prayed for daily by us!

With His Love,

Pastors Jordan & Melissa Mack

Psalm 23, Psalm 91, Isaiah 54:17, Ephesians 3:14-21, Exodus 3:21, Numbers 6:24-26, Ephesians 1:15-21