



CROSSIN' THE GULF
MINISTRIES CHURCH

February 2023

Be at Peace

Hi guys, grace and peace to you. With one month under our belts, I hope you are finding a passion and excitement for the remainder of the year. 2023 is our Year of MOMENTUM. It's usually about this time the thrill of a new year starts to wear off and the 'work' of the months ahead wants to bear down on us. May I ask, did you take time to write down your goals and dreams for this year? Habakkuk 2:2-3, it's never too late.

I heard minister say, "Dreams have no expiration date." Hallelujah! If it hasn't come to pass yet, keep on dreaming and believing. There is a negative mindset that we shouldn't get our or others hopes up so we're not disappointed. May I show you what our Heavenly Father has to say about that.

- ***Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, and whose hope is the Lord. For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, which spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat comes: but its leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought, nor will cease from yielding fruit. Jeremiah 17:7-8 (NKJV)***
- ***Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, **do not hold back**; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes. For you will spread out to the right and to the left; Isaiah 54:2-3 (NIV)***
- ***We put our hope in the Lord. He is our help and our shield. In Him our hearts rejoice, **for we trust in His holy name**. Let your unfailing love surround us, Lord, for our hope is in You alone. Psalm 33:20-22 (NLT)***

I believe The Lord *wants us* to get our hopes up. Look at Israel. For centuries they believed and looked for the Messiah to come. Centuries later, they are still looking for the Messiah. They have not given up hope in His coming. The key is, they are hoping in a promise The Lord gave them, versus hoping in something they came up with. My parents taught me that God is not obligated to pay for something He did not order.

I love the scripture in Numbers 23:19 (NLT) - God is not a man, so He does not lie. He is not human, so He does not change his mind. Has He ever spoken and failed to act? Has He ever promised and not carried it through?

Our challenge is taking time long enough to hear what He has to say about a situation and what He wants us to do. Our natural instincts want to rely on what we see, hear, feel, etc. However, we are limited if that's all we rely on. We don't know men's heart, but God does. We don't know things happening in other arenas that impact us, but God does. The good news is, He wants us to know by His Spirit who is living in us. We are never without a teacher. Never without The Answer. Never without hope. That's a message The Lord wants us to get a revelation of and, then, teach others (more on that later).

There is a listening side to prayer. Think about a time you had a conversation with the Lord (that's what prayer is) and wanted for Him to respond. Think about the joy and light that came when you heard from Him. That's how God wants us to live each day. In constant communication with Him, hearing what He wants us to do and say. I had a friend who once said that was like being a puppet. What my friend failed to understand was God did not create us to live this life on our own. He wanted to be intimately involved with us. His help is not like being a puppet. God's not

pulling any strings (except on the devil). He leaves the deciding and action up to us. He is a loving Father and Teacher who wants to help us succeed and stay protected. Isn't that what we all want for our families?

We are told in Isaiah 26:3 that God will keep whosoever choses to keep his mind on Him in perfect peace. In Hebrew, the word peace is Shalom. It comes from the root word "shalam" meaning – make it good, full restitution, to make something whole. It boils down to *nothing missing, nothing broken*. In the midst of conflict, we can have a knowing that everything is going to be all-right when we take time to hear from The Lord about it.

There is a lot of fear and anxiety in the world today. There are so many who truly have no hope. That's where we come in. Once we have asked Jesus into our hearts, we get restored to our rightful place as sons and daughters of The Most High. The Lord wants us to know how to maneuver through each day and come out with joy, with victory. Then, He wants us to share His love, His goodness, with others in the midst of chaos so they can come to that same place of joy and victory. What an honor it is to be used by Him to touch the life of a hurting soul.

Seek out His promises to you in His written Word and the words He speaks to you in your conversations. Let peace be your guide. Then look for someone to touch with His peace, *His wholeness*.

Ministry / Personal Updates –

- Thank you partners for your continued prayers and financial support. We recently purchased a supply of Spanish Bibles and packages in Spanish to help a new Believer in his/her walk with the Lord. This was all possible because of your seeds sown. While English is the official language of Belize, many only speak or read Spanish.
- Jordan and I returned to Belize the end of January after attending the KCM Minister's Conference with our admin, Tim Kelly; and spending time with family and friends in Houston.
- We in process of getting cleared to minister in the nation prison as well as meeting with Bishop Rene' to layout the plan for us to support the vision the Lord called him and my mom to back in 1990 – take back the nation for Jesus through re-establishing the family, business, and government to Him.
- Other exciting news, we are starting our weekly ministry prayer. A specific time dedicated each week to praying for the nations, our partners, and specific needs brought to us. Have a request? You can securely submit it through our website or contact email shown in footer of this letter.



We truly appreciate and need your prayers. We are told in 1 Corinthians 12 that there are many members but one Body. No member can function properly without the others. Thank you for your Partnership and Friendship to this ministry. The Lord has connected us, and you are family. Know that we pray for you in the morning, we pray for you in the evening. We'd also love to hear what the Lord is doing in you lives, send us your testimonies.

Until next month, remember, your Heavenly Father loves you as much as He loves Jesus!

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

Has this letter BLESSED you? Pass this letter on to a family member or friend and be a BLESSING to them.