



CROSSIN' THE GULF
MINISTRIES CHURCH

June 2023

Momentum Realized

Hello, Partners and Friends, grace, peace, and favor to you. As we roll into the month of June, we want to honor our fathers and say, “Happy Father’s Day, The Lord BLESS you and keep you, The Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you”. Historically, we moms get all the attention and love for Mother’s Day, and the dads get a little pat on the back come Father’s Day. I have a sweet friend with four children who jokes about his kids asking what restaurant he wants to go to on Father’s Day only to have them pick a place they want to go to instead. Yet, he really doesn’t seem bothered by it.

Our Heavenly Father is a lot like my friend. HE is not about what He wants. When it comes to us, His children, He is about overtaking us with His goodness, mercy, and grace. That’s why He wants us to learn who we are in Him as His children, so we can accomplish the things He created us to do. I want to share a quote from Marianne Williamson that is most often attributed to Nelson Mandela:

“Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, 'Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous?' Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.”

— Marianne Williamson, *A Return to Love: Reflections on the Principles of "A Course in Miracles"*

Our playing small does not serve the world. The world needs to see a people who truly believe in the God they say they believe in. The world needs to see hope manifested through God’s people so they can realize there is a God who is alive, who loves, who saves, and who will never leave them nor forsake them. Let’s take a look at Ephesians 2:4-10 (NLT):

*4 But God is so rich in mercy, and He loved us so much, 5 that even though we were dead because of our sins, He gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God’s grace that you have been saved!) 6 **For He raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus.** 7 So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of His grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all He has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus.*

*8 God saved you by His grace when you believed. **And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God.** 9 Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. 10 **For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago.***

God has such good things planned for us. “Well, Pastor Mel, if that’s true, why am I not experiencing that?” Good question. Back in December, I wrote to you about the Word the Lord gave me for 2023 – Momentum. The Lord said He wanted us to go through 2023 with momentum, not weary. I’ve learned so much more about momentum as the

months have passed. Most recently, I learned that our lives have momentum, and momentum can be moving in a negative direction or a positive direction. I'll get a bit nerdy, but you all heard in high school, "a body in motion will continue in motion." It's the same with our lives. When we have consistency in doing something, we create momentum in our lives towards that thing. Example, if we consistently get up every morning at 5:00 am to go workout. It becomes a natural habit after a while. Our bodies start waking us before 5:00 am in preparation to workout, even when we are on vacation. What we consistently practice, we will do.

Our words also create momentum. People only say what they have already been thinking about. Proverbs 18:21 (NKJV) "death and life are in the power of the tongue." Words are power. Whether we believe that or not, it is a principle and not dependent on our belief. We all know that mean, angry words to a child can taint that child's view of himself for decades and negatively impact his outcome. Words of encouragement and support, on the other hand, open a world of possibility. How is it we can think that of a child, yet, not have the same mindset towards ourselves?

When we chose to speak negative words over our lives and circumstance, we empower that negativity to have momentum in our lives. It's the same when the devil is bombarding our mind with, "you're not going to make it, you always mess that up, they don't want you there, etc." If we start saying the negative thoughts that fly into our minds, we'll start realizing a negative flow of events in our lives. But, we can combat negative thoughts, momentum with positive words and positive momentum. Proverbs 18:21 did not say, "death and life are in *your neighbor's* tongue". It is in our tongue.

Do we want to realize victory over negative circumstances? What are we consistently saying about it? It's not the words we say here-and-there that have the most impact. It's the words we consistently say and have faith in that determine the direction our lives will flow. If we've been consistently saying negative words over a situation and start saying positive words, we can't get discouraged when things don't seem to be changing. Remember, there was momentum in the negative direction. That momentum does not change course instantaneously. If a massive cruise ship has to turnaround, it requires forces in the opposite direction and time to turnaround. It's the same with our lives.

Stay encouraged and keep doing the things that lead to the desired outcome God has for you. Your momentum will be realized.

If hope you enjoyed our May edition of *Victory Walk*. We have already started preparing the July edition and excited to share what God is doing through your faithful prayers and support. For our July Monthly Partner Letter, we also have the honor of having Bishop Rene' Henderson writing to you. The Lord put some things on his heart for you, and he's already preparing that letter to you! If you'd like to start receiving your Monthly Partner Letter by email, reach out to Tim at admin@crossinthegulf.org.

Do you have a testimony of something The Lord has done in your life? You can send it through our Testimony page on our website or send us an email. We'd love to rejoice with you.

Well, Partners and Friends, 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 Partner letter on to a family member or friend and be a BLESSING to them.