



CROSSIN' THE GULF  
MINISTRIES CHURCH

## Expect More

January 2024

Hello Partners and Friends, grace, peace, and favor to you. Happy New Year. We hope you all had a marvelous Christmas and Holi-day season and are ready for a new year of glory. I was fasting and praying in October and sensed in my spirit to ask, “Lord, what about 2024?” I immediately heard the Lord say:

*There is going to be more. More of My glory, more of My goodness for those who seek Me.*

I also quickly got the sense it will not be that way for those who do not.

I am reminded of Romans 2:4 (NKJV), ‘Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?’ There are many movies and shows that portray God as an angry God. However, we see repeatedly in the Word of God how merciful and good God is. Our Heavenly Father is loving and kind. Sure, He hates sin. He hates evil because He knows it destroys lives and steals from the goodness His Son died and paid the price for.

He wants us to run to Him and not away from Him when we mess up. He wants us to come to Him so He can help us make things right. That’s why we are told in Hebrews 4:16 (NLT), ‘So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive His mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.’ Why do we need mercy? Because it is most likely our doing that got us in the trouble we are in.

A few weeks after the Lord talked to me about 2024, He led me to Psalm 37:8 (NJKV) - Do not fret—*it only causes harm*. Jesus told His disciples that there would be wars and rumors of wars, we’d have trouble in this world, but He also said, ‘do not let your hearts be troubled.’ Jesus knew fear, worry, and fretting would only cause harm to our minds, our bodies, and our lives.

We are at a point in time where there will be more wars than rumors of wars. However, we, as born-again Believers of Jesus, have a right to rely on His protection and His peace. In fact, we dishonor the Blood of Jesus when we don’t put our faith in what He paid the price on the cross for us to have. Expect more. More of His goodness, more of His glory.

How do we do that? Saturate yourself in the Word of God through reading your Bible. Billy Graham said, “If you are ignorant of God’s Word, you will always be ignorant of God’s will.”<sup>1</sup> We have it so easy today. We can carry our Bibles on our phones, get daily scripture reminders, and read throughout the day when we need some encouragement. Keeping our eyes on His Promises is how we will keep our hearts from being troubled in a clearly troubled world.

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<sup>1</sup> Franklin Graham, *Billy Graham in Quotes* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2011), “Billy Graham on God’s Will.”

Expect more because He asked us to. Expect more because He promised it to us. Expect more because the world needs to see His light and hope through us. It is easy to think about the demands on our lives. When we stop and look around for a minute, we quickly realize there are most likely greater demands on the lives of others. We can offer them hope through His love working us. Fill yourself up to the overflow so you can bring His peace and His glory everywhere you go.

*There is going to be more. More of My glory, **more of My goodness for those who seek Me.***

As you give your offering this month, pray over and ask The Lord to reveal more of Himself to you through His Word. Ask Him to help you seek Him like never before and expect more of His goodness and peace. In His Word there is victory, there is healing, there is strength, there is peace. Here are a few resources to get you started and keep you going:

- YouVersion Bible App – Apple Store, Google play store, online- <https://www.youversion.com/the-bible-app/>
- Daily Bible Reading Plan – <https://pearsonsmministries.com/> - Found on Homepage, one New Testament Chapter a day
- BibleGateway App and Online – Apple store, Google play store, <https://www.biblegateway.com/>

Got a testimony? Need prayer? We are here for you. Share your prayer request or testimony with us via our website or email address at the bottom of this letter.

Remember, your Heavenly Father loves you as much as He loves Jesus!

Jesus is Lord and Happy New Year,

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.