

God is Faithful

1 Corinthians 10:13 God is Faithful

Good morning & Happy New Year everyone!

Recalling the message from the last night, this year may be the year in which we arise and shine to worship God in more intimate passion and serve the people in more serving compassion so that we may gather in the harvest. In so doing, we would need to shed an old wine skin – that is, anything that resists the changes in God – and become a new wine skin – that is, inviting and obedient to whatever the Holy Spirit wants to do.

I believe it is a kairos moment in which we may excel in many things, find open favors, and receive greater wisdom and understanding as to what we are called to do. I wish I could tell you that 2012 will be simply wonderful and everything will go smoothly for everyone, prospering in every way. However, we will continue to have challenges and difficult hills to conquer in the name of the LORD as Joshua did in the Promise Land. A good news, however, is that Jesus has forewarned this to us and we will overcome them all, because Jesus has overcome the world.

John 16:33

³³ “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

I can confidently tell you that His love for us and His plans in our lives have not changed. Therefore, as we change our attitudes from being fearful to that of faith, as we change our attitudes from relying on ourselves to relying on God, as we change our attitudes from seeking comfort to serving others, I believe we will make the best of 2012, and God will accomplish all He desires for us in 2012. He will be with us always to comfort us and to guide us every step of the way.

John 14-16-17

¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—
¹⁷ the Spirit of truth... You know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

So, with that, I want to revisit the seven things we need to embrace God’s plans for us in 2012, so that they may be fulfilled in our lives.

1. Believe that His Plans for us is to Prosper us! Jeremiah 29:11

Jeremiah 29:11

¹¹ 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.

- His plans for us never changed, even though we may not understand or see it.

2. Awake, Awake! Isaiah 52:1

Isaiah 52:1

^{52:1} Awake, awake, O Zion, clothe yourself with strength. Put on your garments of splendor, O Jerusalem, the holy city.

3. Deep Calls to Deep!; Psalms 42:7

- So, the people of God will cry out on their behalf, and the cries of His people will be heard by God;

2 Chronicles 7:14

¹⁴ if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

4. As our response, We will Arise, Shine! Isaiah 60:1

Isaiah 60:1

^{60:1} "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.

5. His Glory appears over you! Isaiah 60:2

Isaiah 60:2

² See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you.

- The people will gather around those who walk in His covenant; Isaiah 60:4

Isaiah 60:4

⁴ "Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the arm.

- Favor of the LORD will be released to those walk in His covenant; Isaiah 60:5-6

Isaiah 60:5-6

⁵ Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come. ⁶ Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the LORD.

○ Exceptional Favor & Open Doors

○ Financial Prosperity; Isaiah 60:5-6

- Humble Beginning, Prosperous Future! Job 8:7

Job 8:7

⁷ Your beginnings will seem humble, so prosperous will your future be.

6. How – Believe & Partner with God.

- Repent

○ Let us search ourselves and search our hearts and repent anything that resists our being closer to God

- Embrace His Word and His Covenant

○ It is a call to be holy

○ Be different from the world and be His light – come out from darkness

▪ Purity of the heart; Ex: the story of Dave Tally, USA Today

▪ Godly Character

▪ Be Fair: Do to the others what you would want them to do for you, and take an extra step.

○ Know His Word and Revisit His covenant

▪ Are you in alignment with Him?

- Prayer – Seek His Face

○ It is especially important to know and follow His leading

○ Put action behind your prayer – This is the key to shine! Isaiah 58:6-9

- Believe & Stand

- Serve those around you, and serve your church.

7. Be Aligned

- Do not be a wanderer – choose your alignment
 - Wandering churches is like having different substitute teacher come in every other week
 - No chance for systematic development
 - Each pastor is like a master builder, with Jesus as the Master Builder
 - No one to pastor you
- The anointing is put on the head, and from there it flows down...
Psalm 133:2
It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aaron's beard, down upon the collar of his robes.
- We are of Jesus!
- We are of Harvest International Ministry
- We are of Father's House
- We are of each other in this house.

So, let us believe great things in the LORD for 2012, and be aligned with the LORD.

Communion

1 Corinthians 11:23-28

²³For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. ²⁷Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.