

Daily Family Devotions

The thought begins in the Bible verse;
please take the time to read it first.

FRIDAY

“HOW TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN SPITE OF”

SCRIPTURE:

Romans 14:18

I Corinthians 6:18-20 & 10:31

Unfortunately, life is not always tailored to our specifications. Often we find ourselves doing something we do not like in a place we don't want to be, with people we don't love very much. Can we attain success under conditions like these?

Yes, if we decide first what it is we are trying to accomplish. Are our goals self-motivated – or God-motivated? When we think in terms of success it is usually in terms of things that we want to do, in places we choose or with people we are most at ease with. With this measuring stick, it takes a very small upset to blind us to “success” in God's sight.

If we live to glorify (exemplify or express) God in *all* things, then no matter how unfamiliar or awkward that situation, we can be successful if we bear in mind that we are always serving Him. It is astonishing how we can have the same feeling of exhilaration and fulfillment, the same peace within us that we find when we are doing what we wanted to do. And we find as much satisfaction by putting God first in all things.

Try it – and watch success come in all things – big and little. Life can be so full, for you take each opportunity as a way to serve God, instead of waiting for a single “big moment” that may never come as you expect it.

Prayer: Lord, teach me to measure my life by its value to You and not merely by man's standards. Thank you, God, for using all I offer You. AMEN

SATURDAY

“HOW TO HAVE POWER”

SCRIPTURE:

Acts 1:8 8:18-24

Psalm 139:23, 24

We all want to be something, to do something well. Without power – we are as useless as a car without a motor. We can go nowhere.

Some toy electric trains work only when all four wheels are directly on the tracks. If even one wheel is off, or something lies across the track at any place, the engine buzzes and that train goes nowhere.

It is the same with the Christian life. Sometimes one insignificant area in our lives can be blocked by some habit or attitude. One small part of us can be “off the track” spiritually and no matter how much juice we give it, our lives just seem to buzz – and go nowhere.

If your life seems to be standing still while making a great deal of effort, check your track, your life. Is there something that should be lifted out? Check your attitudes. Is one of your goals out of line?

God's current is always available; the trouble is not there. It is with the conductivity or in the obstruction in our lives that the secret can be found.

Ask God to show you where your particular problem lies. Then as it is removed, watch your life take off with real power!

Prayer: Father, we know that Your power is always sufficient and never-faltering. Please help me to line up my life in such a way that that power can be used to the fullest. AMEN

MONDAY, APRIL 19, 2021

“THAT INNER THIRST”

SCRIPTURE:

Psalm 42:1-5

John 4:7-15

Have you ever been so thirsty, nothing seemed to satisfy the craving?

There are people today so thirsty for God that they are nearly frantic. They have tried everything to satisfy this thirst – “fast” living, fanatic philosophies, drugs, drinking and other substitutes – but the thirst and craving, the emptiness remains.

This is not an imaginary thing; it is very real, for the spirit of man is real – a living entity created by God in His image to be filled by Him. Nothing else will satisfy.

When Jesus spoke to the woman at the well, He knew her many marriages were an indication of this inner hidden thirst and He offered her a living” water. And how quickly she responded – not fully understanding at first – yet perhaps hoping secretly that this was what she had been looking for for so long.

You know people like this. Do you know your Lord and the well-spring of His love so that you can bring those to Him? He is the answer to every human quest for fulfillment. Read some of the passages (John 3:16, 17; I John 1:9; 4:15; 5:11, 12.)

Prayer: Dear Lord, make me sensitive to the need, the thirst and hunger around me for Thee. Give me compassion and love and let me be an instrument by which men find Thee. AMEN

For information regarding these devotions, contact:

Daily Family Devotions

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TUESDAY

“HOW TO LIVE FOREVER”

SCRIPTURE:

II Corinthians 4:16-5:9
(John 3:16-18)

Most of us dislike the thought of death being the end. We prefer to go on living – somehow, somewhere. Christ knew this. It is part of man’s being made in God’s image, this natural desire of the spirit to live forever.

We fear dying because we fear loss of life. Yet the spirit was born for eternity and if the spirit remains alive and healthy under the guidance of our Lord, then death is simply emerging from the earthly “chrysalis”, to enter a new dimension of living. To a man wholly believing as Paul believed, death is leaving the imperfect for the perfect, if we are Christ’s here.

How does one secure eternal life? God has given us the way. It is never the perfection of your life, not the extent of your “doing good” – but if you are able or unable to accept what God has done through His Son. If you can believe God cares enough to accomplish the resurrection of His Son, then you can believe He will – and does – offer you the same kind of love. Whatever He did for Christ, He will do for you – if you will let Him.

God’s incredible love as we see it in the life of His Son, is ours, too. Christ is the blue print of The Divine Plan for us. Once you trust Him to do the same for you, you have already begun your metamorphosis into eternity.

Prayer: Lord, help us to trust in Thy love for us, even through death and into that which You have prepared for those who trust You with their lives. Forgive us for our fear. AMEN

WEDNESDAY

“HOW TO GET RID OF GUILT”

SCRIPTURE:

I John 1:8-10
Luke 7:40-49
Hebrews 10:1-25

Guilt is such a subtle destroyer. It can eat away emotional stability, fester the mind, and give birth to hostility of every kind.

Yet strangely the human mind seems to have no way of absorbing or assimilating guilt. It always remains corrosive sediment that keeps building up through the years – a foreign element in a spirit never meant to handle it.

Still, through civilizations we are aware that man has been trying to dissolve this guilt through extreme methods of sacrificing someone or something very dear to him. Somehow knowing that sin is separation of himself from God which leaves him vulnerable and alone, he offers innocent life in his frenzy to be reunited.

And God, again with unprecedented love, does for man what we could not do for ourselves. He offers once and for all – for every man, for any sin, at any time in the universe – the only perfect sacrifice. The Son willingly gave Himself for this – and God willingly raised Him again. (John 10:17-18)

Your guilt for anything can be totally wiped out if you can accept divine love such as this and believe. Some are too proud; some too ashamed and others too skeptical. But it is there for those who have come to the end of their own strength . . .

Prayer: Lord, You know the things in my life which can never be undone. In Thy mercy, grant me forgiveness, and let me know the wonder of Thy presence with me, I pray. AMEN

THURSDAY

“WHEN YOU NEED NEW LIFE”

SCRIPTURE:

John 1:12, 13; 3:1-15
II Corinthians 5:17-20

Jesus, knowing He was soon to die, and leave His physical relationship with the disciples, promised them He would not leave them alone. He said, “The comforter, the Holy Spirit will be with you.” (John 14:16-21, 25, 26)

Who is the Holy Spirit? It is for us what electricity is to a lamp, what a hand is to a glove. It is God in us and through us. One is the vehicle, while the other is the power – the reason – the meaning to life.

This is not weird or unnatural. It is the way we were created to function at our best. It is man giving himself over to what he was originally meant to be – the perfect, visible expression of God in love, obedience, harmony, intelligence and adoration. It is being the glove for His hand, letting His current light up your life.

It is also called “new life” since it is new life. Everything takes on a new perspective, new dimension. You begin to see things from a different or higher level, God’s viewpoint.

It is called being born of the Spirit, being born again for there is a rebirth of the man. No ritual or mystical rites. Simply an invitation to a powerful, loving God to come into you and make you complete. Once you’ve tasted this new life, you will never be content with the old.

Prayer: Lord, forgive me for being afraid to trust You with my life. You who made me and all that I love here on this earth. Thank you for life. AMEN