



TRANSFORM

TOMORROW TODAY

"His faithfulness continues through all generations."

PROJECT

10:05

21-Day
Devotional

PROJECT 10:05

During the month of March, the Generosity Committee is asking the people of GracePoint to join together in prayer and seek God for his leading in our building project.

Please join us to commit to one prayer and one verse of Scripture per day as part of our spiritual journey. Indicate your commitment by signing your name on the board that will be set up at church and taking a wrist band as a symbol and reminder of this commitment.

Why 10:05? The theme Bible verse for the building campaign is taken from Psalm 100:5, “His faithfulness continues through all generations.” The Scripture reference 100:5 is being used as a suggested time (10:05) for all of us to unite in prayer each day for this 21-day period.

By participating in Project 10:05, you are committing to:

1. Read one verse of Scripture every day, preferably before rising from bed, so that you are giving God the first fruits of your day. You may use the Scripture in this guide, or any Scripture that you choose. If you have the Bible app on your phone you can certainly use the Scripture of the day from that.
2. Pray for one minute every day at 10:05 a.m. or 10:05 p.m. (or both!). The intent is to have everyone from church praying at the same time every day.

You may use the prayer for the day in this guide, or a prayer from the Bible app, or for whatever you feel led to pray for. You may want to set your alarm for the designated time to prompt you to stop and pray for one minute. If you have the Explore GracePoint App on your phone and/or tablet, and have opted in for notifications, you will receive an app notification at 10:05 a.m. each day. An alarm or app notification may help you remember to join with other GracePoint-ers each day to sincerely and earnestly seek God for his guidance for the future of our church... and to imagine what he may have in store for us.

IMAGINE

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.” - Ephesians 3:20

INTRODUCTION

Imagine! Over the next 21-days, we will be challenged to imagine! The dictionary says imagination is “forming mental images or concepts of what is not actually present to the senses.” The Bible uses another term for that definition: Faith.

“Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.” - Hebrews 11:1

The writer of Hebrews goes on to tell us that the earliest followers of God “obtained a good testimony” through faith (Hebrews 11:2). We’re also instructed that “without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.” (Hebrews 11:6).

So it is with this in mind that we begin a 21-day journey of imagining things not yet seen! By faith, we believe that God will reward those of us who diligently seek Him. As a body of believers, we want God to plant incredible imaginings in our minds for the role each of us will play to further His good-news message through our church! And we believe that through this faith-filled journey, we will obtain a good testimony. In fact, we believe that God is able to do immeasurably more than our human minds can imagine!

HOW TO USE THIS 21-DAY DEVOTIONAL:

This devotional is organized into four key areas for reflection and prayer:

1. Imagine through Repentance
2. Imagine through Sacrifice
3. Imagine through Vision
4. Imagine through Listening

At the end of each focus is a “Faith Thought” - a devotion designed to help you couple powerful faith with the challenges of repentance, sacrifice, seeing God’s vision, and hearing God’s voice.

Each day includes a Bible reference, a brief meditation, and a prayer. We would encourage you to say the prayer out loud, if possible. When we hear ourselves speaking God’s Word and praying, it becomes a declaration that penetrates our inner-most being and builds our faith!

Let’s begin this journey. Hold onto your seats for with God all things are possible... just IMAGINE!

IMAGINE

...THROUGH REPENTANCE!

“In our world, when everything is about promoting yourself, repentance feels brutal. But repentance is the only way to be healed.” - **Tim Keller**

Imagine Through Repentance

Day 1

Today's Scripture: *“Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you — unless, of course, you fail the test?”* - 2 Corinthians 13:5

Today's Thought: It is difficult to be honest - even with ourselves. Our pride justifies mistakes, minimizes them, or even denies their existence. When we take the same approach to sin, it is spiritually devastating. How can we imagine the beautiful truth God has for us when our lenses are smudged with lies about our spiritual condition? “Examine yourselves...” “Let’s do that today. Let’s honestly examine ourselves, honestly humble ourselves, and honestly ask for mercy.

Today's Prayer: Oh loving and forgiving God, today I ask you to shine the light of your Holy Spirit on my heart to reveal sin that will affect my relationship with you. Help me, to be honest about my sins and my faults. Give me a broken heart of true repentance and love for you.

Imagine Through Repentance

Day 2

Today's Scripture: *"My sacrifice, Oh God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise."* - Psalm 51:17

Today's Thought: When an item breaks, we throw it away. A weak or broken item is no longer useful to us. Therefore, it is challenging for us to understand this biblical concept of brokenness. In the Bible, we learn about a woman who bought a costly perfume to show her love for Jesus. The perfume was contained in an alabaster box that she broke open to anoint Jesus. After the alabaster box was broken, a lovely fragrance must have filled the room. What beautiful fragrance will fill our lives and our world if we humbly go to Jesus, broken with sadness over our sin?

Today's Prayer: Dear God, I never want pride to keep me from repenting and from being broken before you! As I humble myself before your perfect holiness, I am ashamed of my sinfulness. Please make something beautiful out of my brokenness.

Imagine Through Repentance

Day 3

Today's Scripture: *"If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn't do it, it is sin for them."* - James 4:17

Today's Thought: At the end of a day, it is spiritually healthy to consider any sins or wrong we may have committed that day and ask God to forgive us. But the Bible throws something else at us: the sin of omission. Omission: a failure to do something. Synonyms: negligence; neglect. (dictionary.com). Now chew on that for a while. The wrongs we commit are sometimes easy to list, but imagine how big the sin of our negligence might be! What have we knowingly failed to do? What word went unsaid? What aid did we fail to offer? What person was ignored? What ministry was neglected?

Today's Prayer: Oh good and perfect Father! I come to you overwhelmed by the sin of my negligence! Help me to obey Your voice when it urges me to do good throughout my day. Take away any selfishness or stinginess that keeps me from doing the good You want me to do.

Imagine Through Repentance

Day 4

Today's Scripture: *"He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'" - Matthew 25:45*

Today's Thought: Yesterday we considered the sin of omission after reading James 4:17; however, Jesus speaks of this sin much more thoroughly and strongly in Matthew 25:31-46. Jesus says that when we do good for the "least" of our society, that we are doing good to Him. He also says that when we do not do good to the hungry, the sick, the hurting, the isolated, we have neglected Him. He says those who neglect Him will be sent away into "everlasting punishment." Strong words. Imagine...where is Jesus in your world? When have you neglected Him?

Today's Prayer: Dear, sweet Jesus! Forgive me! Forgive me for times I could have given You needed provisions, but didn't. Forgive me for the times I could have shown You love and attention, but didn't. Forgive me! Open my eyes! Let me see You in every hurting, displaced child. Let me see You in every needy soul who crosses my path. Let me see you in the devastated humanity throughout our world. Let me see You, Jesus, in all the places you want me to find You!

Faith Thought

Day 5

Today's Scripture: *"This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe..." - Romans 3:22*

Today's Faith Thought: A time of reflection and repentance may lead to self-loathing and discouragement, but that is not God's plan. Satan condemns; God forgives. There is a wonderful story in the Bible that reveals how Jesus can turn the negative of sin and failure into something positive. A woman, who was washing Jesus' feet and weeping for love of Him, was singled out as a sinful woman by the host in whose house Jesus was visiting. Jesus turned to his host and asked him who would love the man more: a person who owed him a small amount of money and was forgiven the debt, or a person who owed him much money and was forgiven the debt? The man, of course, answered that the one who owed much would love him the most for the forgiven debt. Jesus then explained that this woman whose sins were many, loves much. Turning to this broken woman, Jesus said, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace." Though your sins may be many, have faith in Jesus Christ. Go in peace.

Today's Prayer of Faith: Thank you, Lord, for not condemning me, but for loving and forgiving me. I stand on Your Word that says I am "being justified freely by God's grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." By faith, I receive this righteousness. You have forgiven me of much; therefore I love you so much!

IMAGINE

...THROUGH SACRIFICE!

“Just keep the joy of Jesus as your strength...Accept whatever He gives and give whatever He takes, with a big smile...Tell Him, ‘I am Yours - and if you cut me to pieces, every single piece will be only all Yours.’” - **Mother Teresa**

Imagine Through Sacrifice

Day 6

Today's Scripture: *“Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: ‘Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.’”* - Mark 8:34

Today's Thought: Jesus is asking anyone who follows Him to share in His sacrifice. You see, there is no manipulation with Jesus. He is quite honest: “lose life to find life;” “Take up your cross and follow me;” “Love enemies;” “Blessed are the persecuted.” He let His followers know from the get-go that following Him may make others - even family - hate them. Jesus' approach is the opposite of what most of the world would do. He wraps the “good news” in the ugliest of wrappings, knowing that once someone has the guts to open the package, they will find the most beautiful of gifts! It is the paradox of the Gospel: death leads to life. Loss leads to gain. The last become first. Sharing Christ's suffering leads to the power of His resurrection.

Today's Prayer: Lord, I must be honest with You - sacrifice is not very appealing - but my deepest desire is to follow You at all costs. Give me the strength to embrace the cross, even as You did. And as I continue on this spiritual journey, make it very clear to me what you want me to sacrifice for love of You and Your kingdom!

Imagine Through Sacrifice

Day 7

Today's Scripture: *"But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal."* - Matthew 6:20

Today's Thought: Let's think about the "rich young ruler" from Mark 10:17-27. He asked Jesus how to attain eternal life. The Bible says that Jesus looked at him and loved him. Through His love, Jesus asked for sacrifice. (Interesting...quite the opposite of what we would probably ask from someone we love.) Jesus asked him to sell everything he had, give it to the poor, and follow Him. This young man left because the sacrifice was too high. What if he had sold all that he owned and followed Jesus? Perhaps we would know his name. Perhaps there would be another epistle in the Bible for us to read...another Peter, another James, another John, or another Paul. Instead, we simply know him as a man who was too attached to his stuff to respond to the greatest invitation he ever received. Wealth, in itself, is not sinful. But when the attachment to wealth, or pleasure, or comfort, or time keeps you from being obedient to a call to sacrifice, then it is a problem.

Today's Prayer: O Gracious God, all that I have, including my life, belongs to You. I want to store treasures in heaven rather than on earth. Help me to detach myself from anything that keeps me from having an eternal perspective on the treasures that You have entrusted me with.

Imagine Through Sacrifice

Day 8

Today's Scripture: *"So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."* - John 8:36

Today's Thought: Yesterday we considered the rich young ruler. We can be pretty hard on this fellow, but let's be honest, how easy would it be to sell everything we owned if Jesus asked us? And why would Jesus ask so much from a person He sees through eyes of love? The answer must be that Jesus knows true freedom comes from total surrender. Jesus didn't hesitate to ask for extreme sacrifice from those He called, and it was because He loved them! The rich young ruler asked how to attain eternal life. Jesus gave him the secret - total surrender. Our Lord came from the other side of that sacrifice and knew the reality of an eternal dimension we can only imagine. So do that! Imagine eternity and Jesus' love for you. Sacrifice becomes easy...it becomes freedom!

Today's Prayer: Dear Jesus, continue to help me with a willingness to completely surrender to You. I trust that whatever You ask of me, it is because you love me. Help me to fully understand that any sacrifice you may ask of me is simply a doorway to true happiness and freedom.

Imagine Through Sacrifice

Day 9

Today's Scripture: *"They triumphed over him [Satan] by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death."* - Revelation 12:11

Today's Thought: There is a group of missionaries who serve through an organization called Live Dead. This missionary group is unique because they go to various countries around the globe that are not "missionary-friendly." In fact, in many cases, these under-cover missionaries' lives are at risk - thus the name Live Dead. But the reality is that all followers of Jesus are called to live dead. "In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus" (Romans 6:11). The first part of today's Scripture may be very familiar to you because it is often quoted. However, the last part is usually excluded: they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death. We may never face true martyrdom, but we are daily faced with the temptation of loving our temporary, earthly lives more than our eternal lives. It is often difficult for us to be obedient to Divine calls to sacrifice because we love our comfortable lives so much.

Today's Prayer: Most gracious, giving, loving Father! It is because of You that I even have breath to breathe. Sometimes I live my life as though it is my life when in reality it is only mine because you have given it to me. Today, I ask you to use my life for Your glory. If you ask for sacrifice, give me the strength to live dead joyfully!

Faith Thought

Day 10

Today's Scripture: *"When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, 'Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.' So he came down at once and welcomed Him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, 'He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.' But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, 'Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.'" - Luke 19:5-8*

Today's Faith Thought: Zacchaeus was a "sinner" but he wanted to see Jesus. He was small in stature and was forced to climb a tree to see Him. What is most important in this story is that Jesus saw Zacchaeus! What was the result of this encounter with Jesus? Zacchaeus was willing to give - to give generously to the causes close to Jesus' heart. A true encounter with Jesus makes sacrifice easy! Zacchaeus was generous because in that face-to-face moment with Jesus, there was no doubt. Everything was clear. A true encounter with Jesus builds our faith and enables us to trust Him. We clearly see that He will take care of every detail of our lives when we completely surrender to Him.

Today's Prayer: Lord, let me see You! Let me see Your eyes of love and grace looking at me. For I know, that if I can see You, my faith will soar! My heart's response will be generous because I will completely trust that You are in control.

IMAGINE

...THROUGH VISION!

“Vision is the art of seeing what is invisible to others.” - **Jonathan Swift**

Imagine Through Vision

Day 11

Today's Scripture: *“Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.”* - John 4:35

Today's Thought: Jesus told his disciples to open their eyes, to look at the fields. He was not speaking literally about the agriculture surrounding them. He was making an analogy to lost humanity. Jesus went on to say, “The harvesters are paid good wages, and the fruit they harvest is people brought to eternal life” [NLT]. Day to day living makes us very blind most of the time. All we see is the to-do list. We rush through it so frantically that we don't see what our heavenly Father wants us to see: sin-sick souls heading toward disaster, heading toward eternal death. Do you see them? More than ever, Jesus is telling us, “Open your eyes!”

Today's Prayer: Lord of the harvest, open my eyes! I want to be a harvester, introducing people to the good news of eternal life. Throughout the remainder of these 21-days, give me a supernatural vision to see the lost and how I might reach them.

Imagine Through Vision

Day 12

Today's Scripture: *"When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd."* - Matthew 9:36

Today's Thought: I wonder what the disciples thought when they saw the crowds? Oh great! We'll be here all day, and my feet are already killing me! How in the world will we move Jesus through this crowd? I wonder if He'll want us to find food for everyone? Perhaps they were much more generous than some of us would be. However, Matthew tells us what Jesus thought when he saw the crowds. He thought about how much these helpless people needed Him. He could heal them, save them, change their eternities. But before He had compassion on them, he saw them. He saw their histories, their failures, their sickness. He saw their broken hearts, their hopelessness, their confusion. And He was moved with compassion.

Today's Prayer: Dear compassionate Lord, You still want to heal, save, and change eternities! Open the eyes of my heart, Jesus, and help me to feel the compassion You feel for those in my community, in my workplace, at my school. Daily remind me that You are still the answer to every need in our world today!

Imagine Through Vision

Day 13

Today's Scripture: *"And Elisha prayed, 'Open his eyes, Lord, so that he may see.' Then the Lord opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha."* - 2 Kings 6:17

Today's Thought: Through God's divine revelation, the prophet Elisha told the King of Israel that Syria was planning to overtake Israel. The Syrian King was pretty ticked off about it and sent mighty armies to surround the city of Dothan and capture Elisha. Elisha's servant was very afraid, and he said, "Oh no, master! What shall we do?" Elisha prayed, "Open his eyes, Lord, that he may see." God did open the servant's eyes, and he saw a supernatural army of angels surrounding them! There is a realm that we do not see with our human eyes, but that doesn't make it less real. If we could truly see the omnipotence of God and His mighty heavenly warriors, we might be able to imagine what He can do for us and through us.

Today's Prayer: Once again, Lord, I pray that you will open my eyes that I may see! Help me to see with spiritual eyes into the supernatural dimension. Enlarge my imagination, mighty God!

Imagine Through Vision

Day 14

Today's Scripture: *"So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven."* - Acts 26:19

Today's Thought: Paul gave his powerful testimony to King Agrippa. He told the king how he was blinded by an incredible light and heard the voice of Jesus speaking directly to him while he was on his way to Damascus to kill and persecute more Christians. This vision from God changed Paul drastically, and ultimately accelerated the spread of Christianity. But it wasn't just the vision that changed Paul. It was his obedience to the vision. As we allow the Holy Spirit to enlarge our imaginations and to open our eyes, He may blind us with a powerful vision. Will we be able to stand with Paul and say, "I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision?"

Today's Prayer: Lord, today my prayer is two-fold: Give me a heavenly vision! Reveal how I can further Your kingdom here on Earth. And secondly, help me to be obedient to that vision!

Imagine Through Vision

Day 15

Today's Scripture: *"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."* - Hebrews 11:1

Today's Faith Thought: We cannot talk about spiritual vision without talking about faith. Faith is seeing through spiritual lenses when our human eyes see nothing. Jesus wanted His disciples to understand the power of faith in human terms. He told them that if they had faith the size of a little, tiny mustard seed, it could move a mountain. Imagine the contrast of a mustard seed to a mountain! In his creative masterpiece, *The Screwtape Letters*, C.S. Lewis uses fictional demons to offer a unique perspective of spiritual truths. Screwtape - a master demon - writes letters to his nephew to instruct him how to make Christians fail. In one chapter about prayer, Screwtape encourages his young demonic nephew to make sure humans do not let their "picture" of God go beyond the pictures of Jesus that one finds hanging on their walls or in their children's Bibles. He argues that if a Christian sees the God whom the demons know exists - in all His omnipotent heavenly glory - the Christian's faith would be too powerful. Oh, believer! Don't limit your vision of God. Dare to imagine the God who is and not the one your human mind can comprehend. Open your eyes of faith and see!

Today's Prayer of Faith: Heavenly Father, increase my faith! Just as you healed those who were physically blind, heal my spiritual blindness! Give me eyes that see You - in the fullness of Your glory. Help me to move mountains through this powerful faith!

IMAGINE

...THROUGH LISTENING!

“Prayer begins by talking to God, but it ends by listening to Him. In the face of Absolute Truth, silence is the soul’s language.” - **Fulton J. Sheen**

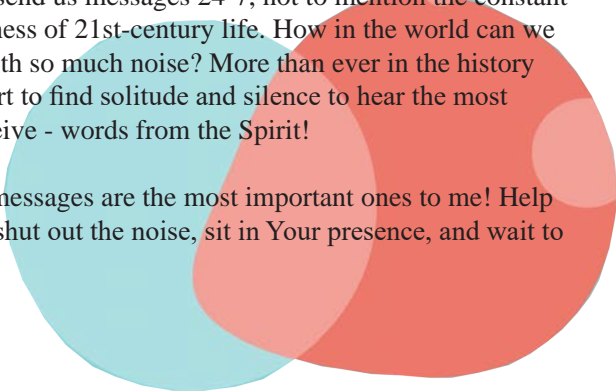
Imagine Through Listening

Day 16

Today’s Scripture: *“Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches...”* - Revelation 2:7

Today’s Thought: In the discipline of communication, students learn to redefine the word “noise.” In that community discourse “noise” is anything that distracts and interrupts communication. Thoughts and images constantly flitting through our brains are considered “noise” just as much as literal sounds. Think about the noise in our world today: various social media send us messages 24-7, not to mention the constant distractions in the fast-paced busyness of 21st-century life. How in the world can we hear what God is speaking to us with so much noise? More than ever in the history of humanity we must make an effort to find solitude and silence to hear the most important messages we’ll ever receive - words from the Spirit!

Today’s Prayer: Dear God, your messages are the most important ones to me! Help me to carve out periods of time to shut out the noise, sit in Your presence, and wait to hear what you want to say to me.



Imagine Through Listening

Day 17

Today's Scripture: *"I will praise the Lord, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me."* - Psalm 16:7

Today's Thought: Tommy Barnett, successful Assemblies of God pastor who is known for thinking outside of the box to reach a hurting world, once said, "Despise not your own thoughts; they may be God's thoughts."

The Psalmist believed this, also, as we see in today's Scripture. When we're quiet enough to listen, God begins to speak wonderful "counsel" to our hearts. He plants seeds of ideas and dreams that begin to grow from our inner-most being. Sometimes we doubt these dreams. We are afraid that they are not from God. Be not afraid. Go back to the Source and quietly listen to God's thoughts and plans that include you!

Today's Prayer: Oh Divine Whisperer - whisper to my heart. Counsel me, Oh God! Plant ideas and imaginings in my heart and give me the courage to step out in faith. Give me the courage to act on these God-given dreams, so that I may do everything You want me to do. So that I may be everything You want me to be!

Imagine Through Listening

Day 18

Today's Scripture: *"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand."* - John 10:27-28

Today's Thought: Today's Scripture screams of intimacy! And this intimacy is created within a two-way relationship: the sheep listen...the Shepherd knows them...the sheep follow. And then, there is this response from the Shepherd that is beautifully protective: they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. When we recognize that Jesus is our good, good Shepherd, we listen to His voice! We obey Him because when we listen, we recognize that no one knows us like Jesus. He knows us intimately - our past, our struggles, our wins and our losses, our fears, our hopes, our strengths and our weaknesses. He knows us. He holds us close and becomes our Divine protector! Listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd.

Today's Prayer: My dear, Good Shepherd! Above the din of many other voices, I desire to hear Your voice the most! Speak to me, oh loving, protective Shepherd! I will listen - yes Lord, I will listen!

Imagine Through Listening

Day 19

Today's Scripture: *"Blessed is the one...who delights in the law of the Lord, and on His law meditates day and night."* - Psalm 1:1-2

Today's Thought: We have the wonderful gift of sacred Scripture on which we can meditate. God often speaks to us through the Bible verses we read. The Greek term for God's written Word is *logos*, but the Greek term for God's spoken word is *Rhema*. Sometimes, God speaks to us through His written word. The *Logos* becomes the *Rhema* for individuals at defining moments. Often, when we think about particular passages from God's Word, through the power of the Holy Spirit, it becomes the *Rhema* Word of God in a very personal way. Like David, let's meditate on God's Word day and night, and allow God to speak to us through His Word.

Today's Prayer: Lord, as I read and meditate upon Bible passages, let my spiritual ears be open to hearing what you are speaking to me. Convict me, instruct me, direct me, equip me, and promise me through Your Word!

Imagine Through Listening

Day 20

Today's Scripture: *"I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills - to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of crafts."* - Exodus 31:3-5

Today's Thought: Our creative God wants to fill us with creative gifts so that we may use them for His work. When He wanted the tabernacle built, He chose to fill Bezalel with wonderful skills and knowledge to construct it. God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He still wants to fill us with creativity to further His kingdom. Perhaps you are a person who believes you don't have any gifts to offer in the building of God's church. If you are, then you underestimate a powerful, creative God. Steal away from the noise of life and allow God to fill you, as He did Bezalel. Do you want to give significantly in a special offering but don't have the money? Listen to God. He will convey creative ideas to generate funds. Do you have a unique skill that you don't think could be used for the Kingdom? Listen to God. He will reveal creative ways to use this talent for His glory. The list of possibilities could go on and on. Just imagine!

Today's Prayer: Lord, I come to You today an empty vessel, wanting you to fill me with creative thinking, with gifts, and skills. Make your voice very clear to me as I remove myself from all of the noise and open my ears to listen and receive from You!

Faith Thought

Day 21

Today's Scripture: *"To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne."* - Revelation 3:21

Today's Faith Thought: In chapters two and three of the Book of Revelation, we see a parallel structure. Repeated several times is an admonishment: He who has an ear let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. However, an encouraging promise is repeatedly offered to the one who does listen and obeys. To the one who is victorious, he will eat from the tree of life. He will not taste of the second death. He will have hidden manna to eat. A name will be given to him that is intimately known by God alone. His name will be in the Book of Life, and his name will be written on one of the pillars of the Temple. The ultimate prize for the victorious believer is to share in Christ's heavenly seat. And it is because He was victorious that we can be, too! This Christian journey is challenging. We are reminded daily of our failures. God sometimes asks for great sacrifices. We strive to fight the good fight of faith, and we work hard to build God's kingdom. But, and there is a but, it will be worth it all! Oh soldier, do not become weary. There is a prize waiting for the one who is victorious!

Today's Prayer of Faith: Oh victorious Jesus! My hope is in you. You are my strength when I find myself weak. Let me keep my eyes on You and the eternal victories we will share!

