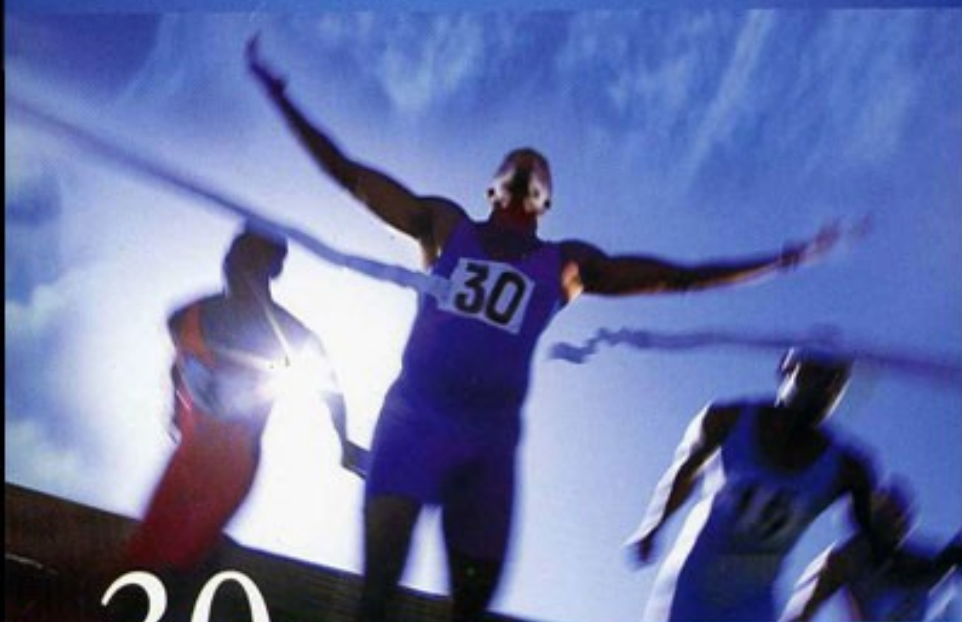


JOEL OSTEEN



30 THOUGHTS *for* *Victorious Living*

30
THOUGHTS
FOR
VICTORIOUS
LIVING

JOEL OSTEEN

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INTRODUCTION FROM JOEL OSTEEN

“I have come that they may have life,
and have it to the full.”
(John 10:10)

Do you want to experience the abundant life Jesus promises in John 10:10? The Bible tell us that as a man thinks - or believes - in his heart so is he (Proverbs 23:7). If you believe in your heart that you are an overcomer in Christ, then you will act like an overcomer, and you will become an overcomer.

You can have victory in every area of your life - that's why I put together this simple, yet extremely effective tool to help you set your thoughts on victory. When your thoughts are filled with victory, your actions and experiences will be filled with victory - to the Glory of God!

God has promises to lead you into victory in every area of your life! It is my prayer that as you spend time with the Lord each day, you will “Discover The Champion in You!”

Believing God's Best For You!

Joel Osteen

1 THINK THE WAY GOD THINKS

“No man has ever seen, heard or even imagined the wonderful things God has in store for those who love the Lord.”
(I Corinthians 2:9)

No matter where you are in life right now, God has much more in store for you. God wants to take you to new levels in every area of your life. He wants to give you more wisdom so you can make better decisions. He wants to give you a stronger anointing so that you can have greater influence. He wants to bless you financially so you can be a blessing to others. Don't get stuck in the same old rut -- there's so much more to life! God has new frontiers for you to explore and higher mountains to climb! I can tell you with great confidence that your best days are right in front of you!

Begin today to think the way God thinks. The Bible says, “The path of the righteous grows brighter and brighter and brighter.” Think increase... Think big... Think expansive! Start expecting the unexpected and look at life through your eyes of faith. When you do, God will show up and begin to work things out in your favor. Take a step

towards victory in your life today.

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Heavenly Father, I thank You for this day. I thank You that You have new opportunities for me to experience increase and victory in every area of my life. Teach me how to think like You and see myself the way You see me, so I can experience all You have for me today.

2 DEVELOP A VISION OF VICTORY

“Behold I am doing a new thing.
Can you not perceive it?”
(Isaiah 43:19)

Do you have a vision of victory for your life? Do you perceive victory in your every step? Are you living each day filled with faith and expectancy? Today's verse doesn't say that God is going to do a new thing some day - He didn't say maybe next week, next month, or next year. God said, “I'm doing something new in your life right now!” Can you not perceive it? God wants to do something new in your life today. Let go of your old way of thinking and take hold of the new thing God has for you!

God said in Jeremiah 29:11, “My plans for you are good and not evil, to give you a future and a hope.” His plans for you are good, regardless of what has happened in your past. No matter what, His plans will always be for you good! God can turn your setbacks around. He can take your tragedy and turn it into triumph! Let go of the past, seek God's plan and develop that vision of victory in your life!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Heavenly Father, thank You that Your plans for me today are for good. Thank You for putting that vision of victory in my heart. I ask that You help me put You first in all I do. Father, bless me in a special way so I can be a blessing to others today.

3 MAKE A PLAN

“Commit to the Lord whatever you do
and your plans will succeed.”
(Proverbs 16:3).

In order to fulfill your destiny, you have to make a plan according to God's purposes and stay focused to fulfill that plan. Wake up each day knowing where you've headed, which direction you're taking and what you are going to accomplish - and then stick with it! Don't allow the distractions and busyness of life get you off course. Ask yourself, “Is what I'm doing moving me towards my God-given destiny? Is this my purpose in life, or am I just wasting time being busy and not really making any progress. Proverbs 4:25 says, “Keep your eyes fixed straight ahead. Don't look to the left and don't look to the right.” Don't be distracted and spend your time and energy on things that are not helping you fulfill your destiny.

Remember, God's plans are blessed, and as you walk in His plan for your life, you will experience His abundance in everything you set your hand to!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for the plan that You have for my life. Help me set my schedule to accomplish Your will today. Thank You for the Holy Spirit who is my Comforter and leads and guides me into all truth. Help me honor You in all I do today!

4 SPEAK WHAT YOU SEEK

“Declare what is to be ...”
(Isaiah 45:21)

If you're going to live a life of victory, you must speak positive words of faith and declare what God says about your situation. Philippians 4:13 declares that you can do all things through Christ who strengthens you. No matter how inadequate or unqualified you may feel, Jesus promises to strengthen and enable you.

When the time of adversity comes, what do you say about your situation? Do you declare that you are an overcomer through Christ?

Anyone can be positive when things are going well. But the way you respond when adversity comes to will make or break you. What you say in the midst of your difficulties will have a direct impact on the outcome. Don't look at the facts of your situation. Look at the truth of God's Word. Declare His truth over your situation until the facts line up with His Word! Make the decision today that you are going to make it through - and quickly!

PRAYER FOR TODAY :

Precious Heavenly Father, today I commit the words of my mouth to You. I determine to speak Your thoughts of victory over my life and the lives of those around me. Help me stay focused on Your Word today, knowing that You have promised that I can do all things with You on my side.

5 **STANDING STRONG DURING ADVERSITY**

“Put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground.”
(Ephesians 6:13)

We all face challenges and difficult times. God doesn't send these storms, but it is in times of difficulty that we grow and become stronger. It is an opportunity to allow God's Word to come alive in your life and see you through to victory. You can't run from everything that's hard in your life and expect God to deliver you immediately. God uses these challenges to stretch you and enlarge your vision .

Remain faithful during your time of adversity. Make up your mind to serve God no matter what comes against you, and God will honor you. Fight the good fight of faith. Remember, God will not waste anything you go through in life. You are growing. You are maturing. You are being prepared for promotion. Simply remain faithful and fight life through. In due season, in God's appointed time, He will promote you to new levels of victory, and you will live that abundant life that

He has promise you!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Heavenly Father, thank You for making me strong through adversity. I thank You that because You are faithful to me, I can be faithful to You. Give me Your wisdom to make the right decisions today and strength to stand strong no matter what life brings.

6 BE JOYFUL ALWAYS

“For the joy of the Lord is your strength.”
(Nehemiah 8:10)

In Psalms, David said, “I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall continually be in my mouth.” At all times means in good times as well as the tough times. The Bible tells us to stay full of joy no matter what we are facing.

The joy of the Lord is our source of strength and that enemy knows it. He knows that if he can get you down and discouraged, before long, you'll be weak and feeble and he will be able to easily defeat you.

When you are full of joy and have a good attitude, you keep yourself strong. That positive attitude of faith paves the way for God to work miracles in your life - it paves the way for God to turn your situation around!

Decide today to have a good attitude. Keep yourself full of His joy by meditating on the goodness and promises of God. Be full of the joy of the Lord! You will soon experience supernatural strength and discover the victorious life God has planned for you!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Dear Father, thank You for filling my life with joy. Thank you that I am blessed and cannot be curse. Thank You that in all things You cause me to triumph. Thank You for Your strength within me that comes from Your joy. I bless You today and rejoice in Your goodness.

7 YOU ARE APPROVED

“Before you were ever formed in your mother’s womb, I saw you and approved you.”
(Jeremiah 1:5)

You are approved by Almighty God! Isn’t that awesome? You are created in His image, and you are the apple of His eye. You did not choose God, but He chose you and He is pleased with you - His most precious creation.

Notice that verse doesn’t say that God approves you as long as you don’t have any faults or as long as you don’t make any mistakes. No, God approves you unconditionally. No matter how many weaknesses you may think you have today, no matter how many times you fall, you’ve got to get right back up again and hold your head up high. Don’t allow of the enemy to bring strife into your life by deceiving you into thinking that you are not “good enough.” Stand strong in your thoughts about yourself knowing that not only have you been chosen, but you are approved by Almighty God!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for Your unconditional love for me. Thank you for approving and accepting me. I ask that You reveal Your love to me today, so I can share it with others. I determined in my heart that no matter what happens, I will keep moving forward with You on the path to victory!

8 PURSUE YOUR VICTORY

“This one thing I do, forgetting what lies behind,
I press on towards the mark ...”
(Philippians 3:13-14)

It's time to be aggressive and energetic when it comes to letting go of the past and pressing forward to the abundant life God has in store for you. It's time to rise up and boldly go after your victories! It's time to develop a warrior mentality and proactively pursue the happiness, health, and peace that God has promised in His word.

God told Joshua to cross over the Jordan and go into the promised land. “Possess” implies action. It means to drive at all previous tenants. Jesus said in Matthew 11:12, “The kingdom of Heaven suffers violence, but the violent take it by force.” It's time to stopped dwelling on past mistakes and failures, and determined to never look back!

As you set your focus on the Word of God and His promises, you'll discover His abundance of joy, peace, and prosperity and every area of your life!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Dear Father, give me the boldness to pursue victory for my life. I determined today to forget my past failures because I know they are washed clean by the precious Blood of Your Son, Jesus. I will rise up today and declare and pursue the plan You have prepared for me. Fill my heart with Your joy and peace.

9 HAVE AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

“Let no foul or polluting language
come out of your mouth.”
(Ephesians 4:29)

Your words can pollute or purify. If you constantly complain, you release poison into your life. Complaining is not based on your circumstances; it is based on the attitude of your heart. If you keep the right attitude during your time of adversity, God will honor you.

When you have a heart full of gratitude, it leaves no room for complaining. There is always something to thank God for, no matter what kind of adversity you have in your life. Start by thanking Him for giving you life and salvation through Jesus Christ. Thank God for the air you breathe and the sunsets you enjoy. Thank Him for the promises in His word that no matter where you are in life, He is leading, guiding, and prospering you.

Decide today to live a life of thanksgiving. Don't allow the poison of complaining to prevent you

from receiving all God has for you!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Dear Father, I am so thankful for Your love and peace. I'm thankful that You are faithful even when I am not. Thank You for Your promises of victory. I bless You today. With the fruit of my lips I give You thanks and praise all day long. May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be pleasing to You today.

10 OVERCOME OPPOSITION

“A wide door has been open to me
and with it are many adversaries.”
(I Corinthians 16:9)

God is always giving us the opportunities to move forward in life. It is God's desire that you grow and reach your full potential. Any time you take a step forward, the enemy it will try to bring opposition and adversity against you. Paul said in I Corinthians 16:9, “a wide door has been open to me and with it are many adversaries.” God promises that through Him, you can overcome any opposition the enemy brings your way.

When you step out in faith and opposition comes, stand your ground and keep doing what you know to do. Keep on praying, reading the Bible, going to Church and walking in love and forgiveness. Keep your heart tender and speak words of hope and victory over your life. When the enemy sees you are more determined than he is, he will back down and you will move forward to new levels of victory! Stay focused and full of joy no matter what comes against. You will overcome opposition and walk through the door the Lord has opened to you!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for this day and for every opportunity to advance in life. I ask for the wisdom to make the right choices, and I determine to stand on Your promises. I thank You that You are bigger than any problem I may encounter. Thank You for loving me and setting me free to walk in victory today.

11 DECLARE BLESSINGS

“Say to them, may the Lord bless you protect you. May the Lord smile upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you His favor and give you His peace.
(Numbers 6:23-26)

A blessings is not a blessing until it is declared! So today, declare a blessing over yourself and others. Speak that blessing in the Name of Jesus! Declare you are blessed with God's supernatural wisdom and receive clear direction for your life. Declare today that you are blessed with creativity, courage, talent and abundance. You are blessed with a strong will, self control and self-discipline. You are blessed with a great family, good friends, good health, faith, favor, and fulfillment. You are blessed with success, supernatural strength, promotion and divine protection. You are blessed with a compassionate heart and a positive outlook on life. Declare that any curse or negative word that's ever been spoken over you is broken right now in the Name of Jesus. Declare that everything you put your hand to is going to prosper and succeed! Declare it today and everyday!
(Deuteronomy 28:1-14)!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Precious Father, thank You for speaking blessings over my life in Your Word. Thank You for equipping me with everything that I need to be successful. Teach me to consistently believe in and declare Your blessings over my life and the lives of those around me.

12 DEVELOP A RESTORATION MENTALITY

**“I will restore the years that the locust
has eaten and I will bring you out with
plenty and you shall be satisfied.”
(Joel 2:25-26)**

God wants you to live a satisfied life. He has promised to restore all the things that the enemy has stolen. However, just because God gives this great promise, doesn't mean it will automatically come to pass in your life. You have to do your part to develop a restoration mentality. Expect things to change in your favor. Be strong-willed and determined, and do everything you can to recover what the enemy has stolen.

Remember, obstacles are simply opportunities for advancement. If you'll do your part to have a restoration mentality, God will take every obstacle that comes into your life and turn it into a stepping stone that will take you to a place of higher honor and greater blessings!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Dear, Father, thank You for promising to restore to me what the enemy has stolen. Teach me to trust You more and develop a restoration mentality. Thank You for keeping me on the path to victory in every area of my life!

13 FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

“Do not cast away your confidence for
it will be richly rewarded.”
(Hebrews 10:35)

God is constantly trying to plant new seeds of victory inside of you! He's trying to increase you and large your vision. He wants to take you to new levels of victory. But in order for this to happen, the seed has to take root in your heart. Before you're going to be successful, you've got to see yourself being successful. Before your dreams come to pass, you've got to look through your eyes of faith and see them coming to pass.

The enemy doesn't want you to fulfill your destiny, so he immediately tries to discourage you and uproot the seed God planted. In order to defeat the enemy in your life, you have to stay focused on God's promises. Constantly meditate on His promises, live a life that is pleasing and honoring to God, and thank the Lord for His faithfulness no matter what the circumstances look like. Before long, you'll begin to see the dreams God placed in your heart come to pass - dreams filled with blessings and victories!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Heavenly Father, I commit my thoughts to You today. I purpose in my heart to stay focused on You and the good plan You have for me today. Holy Spirit, remind me of God's Word so I can fill my heart with His promise of victory today.

14 FEED YOU FAITH

“.. For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.”
(I John 5:4)

As a child of God, you have the power within you to overcome the world. That includes everything in the world, and everything the world brings your way!

The Bible says that faith comes by hearing the Word of God. As you hear the Word of God and store it in your heart, your faith in God grows stronger. When the enemy tries to attack you through sickness, fear, worry or financial mishaps, just put your faith to work by declaring the Word of God.

Declare that by His stripes you are healed!
Declare that perfect love cast out all fear! Declare that God will supply all your needs! Declare that because you are born of God, you have faith to overcome the world! Store the Word of God in your heart today so you can declare it in your day of need.

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for Your word which brings understanding and purpose into my life. Thank You for the gift of faith that grows as I study Your word. I ask You to bring to my memory Your truth that is stored in my heart that will give me the victory I need today.

15 LIVE TO GIVE

“Give and it will be given to you.
A good measure, pressed down, shaken
together and running over ...”
(Luke 6:38)

God wants you to be happy! He wants you to live a satisfied life. Jesus said, “I have come that you might have and enjoy life, and have it to the full - until it overflows!” A major key to enjoying life is that we live to give.

True happiness and true fulfillment come when you give of your life in some way to others. God promises to multiply back to you what you give. When you step out in faith, you open a door for God’s hand of blessing to move on your benefit. It’s this simple principle of sowing and reaping.

God has a specific plan for every one of our lives. His plan involves reaching out and touching other people with His love, mercy and compassion. Ask the Lord to show you how you can share His love with others by giving of your time, your talents and your resources today.

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Dear Father, thank You for the precious opportunity to share Your love and compassion with others today. I know that as I stepped out to give of myself, You will use me to be a blessing to others. Thank You for Your goodness and mercy, which follows me all the days of my life.

16 LIVE BY THE SPIRIT

“If you live by the Spirit, you’ll not
fulfilled the lusts of the flesh”
(Galatians 5:16).

Did you know that you make over 2,500 choices every day? The quality of your life is determined by the quality of your decisions. Because of that, choosing to live according to the Spirit is the most important decision you can make. One way God speaks to you is through your spirit, the small “voice” inside that prompts you when you should or shouldn’t do something. When you choose to obey God’s leading, that “inner prompting,” you will always make the right choice!

I John 3:21 says, that a guilty conscience hinders communication with our Heavenly Father. That’s why it is so important to stay true to your conscience and quickly repent if you’ve made a mistake.

Remember, Jeremiah 29:11 promises that God has great plans in store for you and when you choose to follow His leading, He will guide you on a path of victory in every area of your life! You are going to win!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Precious Father, thank You for Your promise to lead and guide me by Your Spirit. I ask You to teach me to clearly know Your prompting in my heart so that I can follow You're leading. Thank You for setting me free to walk in victory today.

17 RELEASE THE PAST

“... but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.”

(Philippians 3:13-14)

One of the main keys to overcoming disappointments in life is learning to let go of the past. You let go of the past by choosing to forgive those who have hurt or wronged you by believing that God will restore to you everything that was taken. When you received Christ forgiveness in your own life, you are released from the pressure to make up for the past mistakes or failures. You begin to experience the bright future God has in store for you.

Don't allow the regrets of yesterday destroy the hopes of tomorrow. No matter what has happened in the past, God is a God of restoration, and He will restore what the enemy has stolen from you.

Except God's mercy and forgiveness today, and look forward to the wonderful plan He has for your life!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of forgiveness - the gift that releases me from the past and enables me to run towards You and the bright future You have in store for me. Show me if there are any areas of unforgiveness in my heart so that I may forgive and walk in victory!

18 FILTER YOUR THOUGHTS

“I will set no evil before my eyes.”
(Psalm 101:3)

Did you know that what you think determines the direction and quality of your life? The Bible encourages us to think on things that are pure, wholesome and of good report [Philippians 4:8] . In order to think on the right things, it is important that you filter what you watch, read, and listen to. Don't let the enemy slowly deceive you into lowering your standards and desensitizing you to what is good and pure. Don't let him have a single opportunity to pull you down by watching or being involved in things that are questionable.

Remember you are the temple of the Holy Spirit. Fill your thoughts with the promises of God found in His Word - promises of peace, joy and freedom; promises of safety, deliverance and provisions; promises of a future and a hope that are only found through Jesus Christ! As you fill your thoughts with God's Word, victory will come alive in every area of your life !

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Heavenly Father, today I ask You to fill my thoughts with Your thoughts, and fill my heart with Your promises. I choose to focus on You and the good things You have in store for me. I will meditate on Your word. Thank You for guiding my every action, my every thought and my every step.

19 STAND FIRM

“Fear not; stand firm and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will work for you today.”
(Exodus 14:13)

When you step out to do something big for God, the enemy will send challenges and distractions to knock you off course. He may try to send you running, but you have a promise that God is working behind the scenes for you. You'll be amazed at what God will do in your life when you stand and face your challenges and hold on to the promises found in His word.

When you take a stand, you make a declaration of your faith in God and automatically raise that shield of faith, which extinguishes all the flaming arrows of the evil one (Ephesians 6:16). So take a stand today, and stayed on the course the Lord has set for you - take a stand in your prayer life - take a stand in your Bible study time - take a stand in your acts of service and giving to others. Take a stand and see the salvation and provision of the Lord in every area of your life!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for Your promise to bring me through to victory. I ask You for strength as I take a stand to do what is right according to Your Word. I know Your hand of blessing is upon my every act of obedience. I bless Your Name today and will seek to serve You in everything I do.

20 LIVE A BALANCED LIFE

“They have made me a keeper of vineyards,
of my own vineyard I have not kept.”
(Song of Solomon 1:6)

Are there areas of your life that are not “kept” because you are taking care of everyone else? If you are always on the go, constantly working and never take time for yourself, you will end up stressed out and overwhelmed, and you won’t be able to enjoy life the way God intended. Living a balanced life brings peace, joy and health.

The person speaking in Song of Solomon was good at taking care of everyone else - his family, his friends, his work. He made sure everyone else was happy, but in doing that, he neglected to take care of himself. Are you living like that today? Do you spend all your time on other people, but not on yourself? Eventually you will burn out. Decide today to begin investing in yourself. Take time to relax and rejuvenate yourself. When you are refreshed emotionally, physically, and spiritually, you are able to give to others more effectively. As you bring balance to your life, you will begin to enjoy every day to the fullest – just the way God intended!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for giving me the wisdom to make right choices and bring balance in my life. I made the decision to put You first in all that I do. I purpose to take time to invest in myself so that I may be more effective in sharing and giving to others.

21 EXPECT FAVOR

“... the Lord bestows favor and honor;
no good thing does He withhold from
those who walk is blameless .”
(Psalm 84:11)

What an awesome promise - no good thing does He withhold... God wants to pour out His abundant blessings, His abundant victory and favor in your life! In Psalm 8:5, the Bible says that God has crowned us with glory and honor. Another word for honor is “favor.” In other words, God has crowned us with His favor! He wants you to thrive and excel in life.

You are a child of the Most High God. You walk in His favor each and every day - not because of who you are, but because of WHOSE you are! You are favored because you are a child of God and He wants you to be “favor-minded.” To be favored-minded simply means that you are releasing your faith, knowing that God wants to bless you. The more favor-minded you are, the more of God’s favor you’re going to see! Begin to declare that you have the favor of God surrounding you, knowing God’s favor will bring you to a place of peace, hope and victory like you’ve never

experienced before.

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Father God, thank You for calling me Your child and pouring Your favor upon my every step. Help me to see Your hand of blessing, so that I may glorify You in all that I do. I receive Your favor in my life this day! Thank You for blessing me today, so that I may be a blessing to others.

22 FORGIVE PAST HURTS

“But let all bitterness, indignation, wrath, resentment, quarreling and slander (evil-speaking, abusive or blasphemous language) be banished from you.”
(Ephesians 4:31)

Did you know that unforgiveness, bitterness and resentment block the flow of God's blessing in your life? Holding on to the hurts of your past can poison your present and limit your future. But when you let go of these emotional wounds, you open the door to the life of victory that God has planned.

The enemy will try to use your past to influence your actions and responses. He will try to paralyze you with fear and shame. But when you choose to forgive those who have wronged you and release your past to your Heavenly Father's loving care, you can walk in freedom. You can trade your sorrow for His joy. You can trade your shame for His peace. You can trade your insecurities for His love and victory!

You are not defined by your past. You are defined by God's Word and His plan for your life. And God

sees you as an overcomer! God sees you as a champion in life.

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of forgiveness. Thank You for loving me enough to set me free. I ask You now to search my heart and show me any hurt or bitterness I need to release so I can walk in forgiveness and freedom today.

23 RAISE YOUR SELF IMAGE

“As a man thinks in his heart, so is he.”
(Proverbs 23:7)

Did you know that you never will rise above the image you have of yourself? If you see yourself as poor and defeated, then you're going to live a poor, defeated life.

In order to change your life, you have to change your focus. You have to change what you're looking at and believing for. You have to believe that God is for you and desires good things for your life. If you choose to stay focused on the things that are negative in your life, then by your own choice you are agreeing with the enemy. You cast the deciding vote. When you believe his lies, it opens a door to destruction in your life.

But on the other hand, if you choose to agree with God in His word, if you choose to focus on the fact that you can do all things for Christ, and that you are more than a conqueror, then your faith is going to cause God to show up and work supernaturally in your life! Your faith will help you go to new levels of victory and soon you will rise to be the champion God has called you to be!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for designing me to succeed in every area of my life. I choose to agree with Your word and focus on the good things in my life. I know that You have equipped me to live as a champion in life!

24 AVOID STRIFE

“ For where there is jealousy and selfishness,
there is strife and every evil work.”
(James 3:16)

Are you praying and seeking God for a change in your life? Does there seem to be an invisible roadblock preventing you from experiencing God's blessing and favor to the fullest?

The Bible tells us that when we hold on to strife, it brings confusion. Strife opens the door to every evil work of the enemy. (James 3:16) Strife can creep in like a cancer to steal your peace, destroy relationships and extinguish hope . You must constantly stay on guard against strife and make the decision to walk in love and peace. Keeping strife out of your life is a vital key to living the abundant life God has in store for you!

Follow the example of Jesus and let your words and actions bring life to those around you. Focus more on loving people than proving your point. As you honor and prefer others, and lay your own opinions aside, you'll discover a level of peace and rest you've never experienced of - and new levels of victory and abundance!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Dear Father, show me where I may be harboring any strife or selfishness in my heart. I repent of an attitude that is displeasing to You and blocks the flow of Your Spirit in my life. Show me how I can demonstrate Your love to others this day and use me as a catalyst to bring hope, joy and encouragement to others.

25 WAIT AND REST

“The vision is for an appointed time. Though it tarry, wait earnestly for it, for it will surely come.”
(Habakkak 2:3)

I know God has put dreams and desires in your heart - things you are hoping for, praying about, in believing in. The Bible says if we'll pray in faith according to God's Word, then God will hear us and answer those prayers

When you have a dream from God in your heart you don't have to struggle and try to force it to happen. You don't have to be worried or frustrated, wondering if it's ever going to come to pass when you have the promises of God deep in your heart, the Bible says you will “enter into the rest of God.” That's a place of total trust. A place where you know, beyond a shadow of doubt, that God is going to see you through. It's a place of faith, knowing that God is in complete control and at the exact, right time, He will bring your dream to pass!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for the dreams and desires You've placed in my heart. I choose to trust in You and wait for Your plan to bring them to pass. I know You are faithful, and I thank You for guiding and directing my every step.

26 EXPECT GOD'S BEST

“Those who wait for the Lord, who expect, look for, and hope in Him, shall renew their strength.”
(Isaiah 40:31)

What are you expecting in life -good things? Bad things? Big things? Little things? Anything at all? God wants you to get your hopes up! The Bible says, “faith is the substance of things hoped for.” One definition of faith is “confident expectancy”. Did you know you can’t even have faith if you don’t first have hope?”

Your expectations set the limits for your life. If you’d never expect anything good, you’re never going to receive anything good. If you don’t expect things to get better, than nothing will get better. God promises to meet you at your level of expectancy. That’s why Jesus said in Matthew 9:29, “according to your faith be it done onto you.” One translation simply says, “Have what your faith expects.”

Start expecting to overcome every challenge you face and for God to meet all of your needs! Live every day of your life filled with anticipation that God is going to bless you abundantly above and

beyond your wildest dream!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Dear Father, thank You for Your hand of blessing on my life. Today, I purpose in my heart to raise my level of expectancy and hope in You. Thank You for putting Your desires in my heart and for bringing them to pass in my life.

27 BE WHO YOU ARE

“For you are God’s own handiwork,
recreated in Christ that you may do the
good works that God predestined.”
(Ephesians 2:10)

You are God’s special handiwork - equipped and anointed to be the person God has called you to be! The Bible says in Psalms 139, that God knew who you were before you were ever formed in your mother’s womb. You have unique gifts, abilities and talents, and God has a unique plan for your life.

The enemy may try to make you think you have to conform to the opinions of others, but if you are secure in who God made you, then you can resist those outside demands and pressures that tried to mold to into something you’re not.

As you continue to grow in your relationship with the Lord, through prayer, worship and fellowship with other believers, you will gain confidence in the Lord that will free you from the opinions of man and allow you to be the person God called you to be!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for the unique gifts, abilities and talents You have placed in my life. Show me how to use what You've given me to fulfill Your plan and to be a blessing to those around me today. I believe You have a good plan for my life and I purpose to be who You have called me to be.

28 LET GOD DEFEND YOU

“God is just a God and He will repay the exact compensation owed you. He will settle and solve the cases of His people.”
(Hebrews 10:30)

Are you dealing with an “unsolved case” from your past that needs resolution? Are you waiting for your day of justice or repayment? God promises in His Word that He is your Vindicator. He is your Defender. He will settle your case and repay everything the enemy has stolen. But in order to allow Christ to settle your debts, you have to forgive others in the same way Jesus forgave you when you were guilty of sin. You have to release those who have wronged you from what you think they owe you. That’s true forgiveness – freeing others, so that you can be free.

As you walk and live in forgiveness, you show that you trust in God to repay and defend you. You show that you have faith in God to be your Defender. God will honor your faith in Him and move on your behalf, every single time!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for being my Defender. I ask You right now to search my heart and show me any area that I have not released to You. Help me forgive those who have wronged me so that I may be free to live in victory.

29 GUARD YOUR HEART

“Keep and guard your heart with all vigilance and above all that you guard, for out of it flows the springs of life.”

(Proverbs 4:23)

God is constantly trying to plant new seeds of victory inside of you, and your heart is the soil for those seeds. If you harbor bitterness, jealousy, or pride in your heart, those seeds won't be able to take root and develop in your life.

Jesus told the story of how the enemy comes to steal the steal God's Word through temptations, cares and anxieties. But you are good ground for the seed of the Word when you guard your heart by standing and believing that God's promises will come to pass—even when the circumstances don't agree. Don't allow discouragement to affect your faith. Stand and guard your heart, knowing that through faith and patience, you will inherit all of God's promises for your life!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for the plan of victory You have for my life. Thank You for giving me the strength to guard my heart by staying focused on You. Help me stay focused on Your thoughts from my life.

30 PRAISE HIM FOR THE VICTORY

“But You will give us victory over our enemies...
And we will praise Your Name forever.”
(Psalm 44:7-8)

God has commanded victory to be yours! And when God command something, it's going to happen! When God commanded light to come, light came at 186,000 miles per second – and light is still coming!

God has commanded that we live in victory. That means no matter what you're going through, no matter how dark it looks, you can be encouraged that the darkness has to give way to the light. Defeat has to give way to victory! But in order to open the door to victory, we must continue do what the psalmist did and constantly praise His Name. Don't go around talking about your problems; go around talking about your God! Don't go around speaking words of defeat and failure; speak words faith and victory! Quit worrying and start worshipping! Start praising and thanking God, and expect things to change in your favor.

God will take you places that you never dreamed of, and you'll start experiencing the victories that He commanded to be yours!

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Oh Heavenly Father, I praise You today for the promise of victory in my life! Thank You for Your Word and the precious Blood of Your Son, Jesus, that causes me to overcome in every area of life. With the fruit of my lips, I will praise You all day long!