

## READ. PONDER. PRAY.

### JANUARY 4

**READ:** Matthew 17:1-13

**PONDER:** Three disciples ascended a mountain with Jesus and had their perspective of Him changed totally as the Father revealed things to them there.

**PRAY:** Lord, would you change my perspective of you, my circumstances, and of those around me? Let my thoughts align with your thoughts so I can see like you see!

### JANUARY 5

**READ:** Philippians 3:17-20

**PONDER:** Believers are to remember that they are citizens of heaven and that this should help direct them concerning their lives on earth.

**PRAY:** It's easy to forget that my citizenship is in heaven, but today I anticipate my Savior, His glorious work, and I set my mind on supernatural & eternal things!

### JANUARY 6

**READ:** James 3:13-18

**PONDER:** There is a certain wisdom that is commonly used by people whose focus is on earthly life that is different from the wisdom that comes from heaven.

**PRAY:** Father, speak to me by your Spirit and convict me when I think and operate by earthly, temporal wisdom and thought. Fill me with your grace and help me live by godly wisdom & understanding.

### JANUARY 7

**READ:** James 4:1-10

**PONDER:** Those people whose primary goal is to be friends with this world and its corresponding lifestyle will find themselves in opposition with God.

**PRAY:** At times, I lift myself up in pride and for that, Lord I repent. Help me walk humbly before you. I ask you to pour out your grace on me as I come near to you, believing that you will draw near to me.

### JANUARY 8

**READ:** Ephesians 1:15-23

**PONDER:** We need our spiritual eyes opened so that we can understand the significance of Jesus sitting in heavenly places on our behalf.

**PRAY:** Would you enlighten the eyes of my heart that I might know the hope to which I'm called, the immeasurable power towards me, and the riches of my inheritance? I believe you've worked these things by Christ's power, and I ask confidently as a joint heir with Christ!

### JANUARY 9

**READ:** Hebrews 10:32-39

**PONDER:** The confidence gained by a proper vision of the future allows us to handle current hardship with greater grace.

**PRAY:** At times Lord, I want to shrink back – but that's not your purpose for me. Today, I rise up in confidence that's found by looking beyond my circumstances. With enduring faith, I will do the will of God!

### JANUARY 9

**READ:** Hebrews 11:1-7

**PONDER:** The eyes of faith allow us to have confidence about things we cannot see at this time. We learn to live by what we have heard and not what we see.

**PRAY:** Remove any fearful and limited blinders from my eyes – the things that keep me from seeing by faith. Give me eyes to see what you see and fill me with confident assurance like Abraham.

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### JANUARY 11

**READ:** Hebrews 11:8-16

**PONDER:** Abraham's perspective of faith caused him to see his earthly life as temporary. His attention was toward the eternal work of God.

**PRAY:** I confess that I have a great inheritance in your Kingdom! My journey of faith is headed towards a good land. Thank you Lord, that you are working in my now and that my work today will have an impact for all of eternity.

### JANUARY 12

**READ:** Hebrews 12:1-3

**PONDER:** Keeping our eyes on Jesus is what helps us not give up when facing the challenges of the race of life that we all face.

**PRAY:** Jesus, I focus my attention on you. There are sins and weights that weigh me down, but today, I throw them off to run after you! Fill me with supernatural joy as I press forward in you.

### JANUARY 13

**READ:** Hebrews 12:18-24

**PONDER:** We have to see the heavenly destiny that we are headed for. It is totally different from the earthly perspective that can generate fear.

**PRAY:** Thank you God that we do not live in fear! Instead, we come to you by covenant promise made by the shed blood of Christ and sealed by the Holy Spirit. Thank you that I am able to be part of a local church, your body where you are working powerfully.

### JANUARY 14

**READ:** Hebrews 12:25-29

**PONDER:** God will once again shake heaven and earth. Only the things that are unshakable will endure.

**PRAY:** Lord, we live in a time of shaking – but your Kingdom will endure! I worship you God. I exalt you in the midst of my circumstances. You are good and your mercy endures forever!

### JANUARY 15

**READ:** Hebrews 13:1-19

**PONDER:** We need to live and act now in a way that aligns with our permanent dwelling that awaits us in the future.

**PRAY:** Sometimes it's easy to live with an earthly perspective, treating leaders, neighbors, my spouse, money, and the church less than God's design. Help me lift my eyes to the city which is to come and continually offer a sacrifice of praise, the fruit of my lips to you, Lord, always giving thanks to your name.

### JANUARY 16

**READ:** 1 Peter 1:3-9

**PONDER:** Even in the midst of present challenges we need to know that there is an eternal inheritance that waits reserved for us in eternity.

**PRAY:** Prayer: Father, I've been born again to a living hope. Your resurrection gives me confident assurance of all you've promised. I rejoice in trials! I stand confident in battles! I am sure in this time of testing. Let my faith shine like pure gold to your glory!

### JANUARY 17

**READ:** Revelation 4:1-11

**PONDER:** John, while in the influence of the Spirit, was allowed to see into the heavenly realm and learn how what happened there was more important than what he was going through.

**PRAY:** Lord, lift me up from this earthly place. Let me see what's taking place from your point of view. Like John, I want to have heavenly perspective. I know that this earthly temporary reality is not all there is! I worship you eternal God for having a good plan that is beyond what I can see.

## READ. PONDER. PRAY.

### JANUARY 18

**READ:** Genesis 28:10-17

**PONDER:** Jacob sees a staircase connecting heaven and earth with angels ascending and descending. Jacob perceives it as the gateway to heaven and the house of God, where God's covenant promises are revealed.

**PRAY:** Lord, I believe you have always longed for heaven and earth to connect and for there to be open communication between yourself and mankind. Thank you that you are a covenant-making, covenant-keeping God. I open my heart to you in a new and fresh way. Speak to us Lord!

### JANUARY 19

**READ:** John 1:47-51

**PONDER:** Jesus claims his disciples will see angels "ascending and descending" on the Son of Man, a clear reference to Jacob's vision in Gen. 28. Jesus is our connection to the heavenly realm and God's covenant promises.

**PRAY:** Thank you Jesus for making a way for us to be reunited with our Heavenly Father! We believe in your work and that we will see greater things!

### JANUARY 20

**READ:** Psalm 24

**PONDER:** Those with clean hands and a pure heart can ascend God's temple mountain, where the Lord himself enters the gates to reign as king. God's blessing rests on those who seek him instead of idols.

**PRAY:** I long to ascend to your hill – the place where your presence dwells. Cleanse me by your blood. Purify me O Lord! I long for your blessing and surrender to you my King!

### JANUARY 21

**READ:** Isaiah 40:27-31

**PONDER:** God condemns idolatry and injustice among his people, which leaves them hopeless. But here he calls them to exchange their strength for God's strength. They will "rise up with wings like eagles."

**PRAY:** Lord, you are the everlasting God! You do not grow weary or faint. Empower me today to walk in your ways. The pressures of life are great – but I confess and declare that in you, my strength is renewed!

### JANUARY 22

**READ:** Jeremiah 31:1-14

**PONDER:** The northern tribes of Israel had been exiled, but God promises a day when they would "go up to Zion" along with Judah to seek the Lord and be saved. We pray that all who are far off will come and "ascend" with us.

**PRAY:** God, your hand is not too short to save! I ask you to reach out and bring home those who have wandered away – the prodigal sons and daughters whom we love. We see them coming home! Gather them like a shepherd keeps his flock, and establish them in your house again.

## READ. PONDER. PRAY.

### JANUARY 23

**READ:** Micah 4:1-5

**PONDER:** The prophets see a vision of God's temple mountain (his kingdom) raising above all other mountains (kingdoms). All people may say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord." The truth and peace described here is being realized in the church.

**PRAY:** Prayer: I believe you are building your church and the gates of hell will not prevail against her! Help me love my church. Cause the church to walk in power, love and authority in these days. Strengthen our church's leaders. Fill our services with hungry people. And cause the Church to rise above all other kingdoms around the world!

### JANUARY 24

**READ:** Isaiah 51:4-8

**PONDER:** God will restore his people and bring forth salvation for the world. This is prophesying the work of Christ. God says, "Lift up your eyes." When we do, we see that everything in this world will pass away, but we have a higher eternal perspective.

**PRAY:** Prayer: I lift up my eyes to the heavens O Lord! The earth may fade, but your salvation is forever. Your righteousness can never be frustrated. It's in this fact that I hope and stand confident in you. This promise is forever, to all generations. Amen!