

Devotions

Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. (Psalm 90:12)

We're almost halfway through this year. It's so easy to start out the year with great resolve, and then, when we aren't even looking, it all flies past us. We're left saying, "Huh? Really?"

Well, let's forget what's behind us. What's done is done. Let's look ahead, because there is still time to make the MOST of this year. Really?

M. Ask God, each day, to help you focus your *mind* on His Word.

O. As you focus, look for an opportunity to do what his word says (James 1:22).

S. Once you see your opportunity, don't run away. Instead, *step* into it.

T. Because, after all, you know you can *trust* God with the outcome.

Mind. Opportunity step. Trust. Those are your key words for making the MOST of the rest of this year.

Persistent Prayer is Powerful

In the last days the mountain of the Lord's temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills and all nations will stream to it. (Isaiah 2:2)

Isaiah looked with powerful eyes to the day when faith would flourish and there would be times of real praying. Times in which our prayers would keep all spiritual interests busy and make increasing demands on God's exhaustless treasures.

Persistent prayer never hesitates or grows weary. It is never discouraged. It never yields in cowardice but is lifted up and sustained by a hope that knows no despair and a faith that will not let go.

Persistent prayer has patience to wait and strength to continue. It never prepares itself to quit praying and it refuses to get up from its knees until an answer is received.

Keep me on my knees, God until my prayers are answered. Thank You.
Lord. Amen

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring love.
Where there is offence, let me bring pardon.
Where there is discord, let me bring union.
Where there is error, let me bring truth.
Where there is doubt, let me bring faith.
Where there is despair, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, let me bring your light.
Where there is sadness, let me bring joy.
O Master, let me not seek as much
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love,
for it is in giving that one receives,
it is in self-forgetting that one finds,
it is in pardoning that one is pardoned,
it is in dying that one is raised to eternal life.