BE A BRINGER

"40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus...." John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

"Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;...." I Samuel 12:23a



MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK Tom & Janice Crawford | Indonesia

PRAISE

 Praise the Lord answered prayers including the starting of a theological middle, for the acquistion of the property next to the school, Pastor Andar's wife successful heart surgery, and the distance learning program of the seminary in Central Java.

- Praise the Lord for good health and the fire to reach souls for Christ.

 Praise the Lord for Mike Valdez who spoke for the Mission Conference at Simply Jesus. His message touched and inspired many.

> PRAY - Pray for Simply Jesus Christ to fulfill the Great Commission.

- Pray for Pastor Yanuar and a newly formed Independant church.

- Pray the Crawfords as they travel all over ministering to pastors, leaders, and others.

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Handout: 12/22/24

Study Date: 12/29/24

Experience The Gift Of Joy

Have you already been thinking about your New Year's Resolutions for next year? Now that we're almost through December, it's safe to say that most of us have started thinking about the things that we're going to do to improve ourselves heading into next year. Perhaps you plan on losing a few pounds so you can get back into an old pair of jeans, or maybe your biggest resolution for next year involves creating a personal budget so you don't spend so much time worrying about money. Whatever it is, most people treat January 1 as a fresh start, and create resolutions that correspond with that.

However, it's just as important that you make a commitment to finishing this year strong. We're not going to talk about counting calories and creating a budget, though. While there's nothing wrong with personal improvement in those areas, it's even more important that you take spiritual steps to end this year in a way that's better than you started.

Be An Encourager

One of the most important ways that you can finish strong is by being an encourager to people around you. One of the greatest ways to experience more development as a Christian is by helping other people improve. According to Christ, we can make the decision to let rivers of living water flow out of us like a river. In contrast, when we don't look for ways to encourage other people, we go from operating like a river of living water to being a swamp.

When you have rivers of living water flowing out of you, it's only natural for that living water to touch others. When your living water washes over other people, it not only helps them, but it also helps you. If you want to end the year on a strong note, make sure that you're encouraging and helping others.

Count Your Blessings

Being truly grateful is one of the most important aspects of maturing spiritually. The Bible is very clear about the fact that God's people should be thankful, but sometimes, we have to do some digging to find something to be thankful for. Recognizing your blessings is one of the most important ways that you can finish this year on a high note.

Consider taking a few moments today to sit down with a pen and a piece of paper so you can make a physical list of the blessings in your life. Set a timer on your phone (let's say 2 minutes) and write down everything that God has blessed you with. Start with your salvation and go from there. By the time your 2 minutes are up, you'll be amazed at how many things in your life you should be thankful for.

Resource: readscripture.net

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KEY VERSE

Romans 5:11 (NKJV)

"And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation."

Read Romans 5:1-11 Every Day!

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Romans 5:11

Introduction

- 1. According to the good news in Romans 5:11 why should we be *rejoicing*? What have we "received" through our Lord Jesus Christ?
- 2. What does this "*reconciliation*" in Romans 5:11 mean for us? According to paragraph 3 on pg. 1, what all have we gained through this "transaction"?

Tuesday: Romans 15:3; Galatians 5:22

What Is Joy?

- 3. According to "the world" what dictates joy in our lives? What group of *"circumstances"* does the world say we must achieve if we are to be happy?
- 4. What does Romans 15:13 reveal to us as the true source of "JOY" in our lives? According to Galatians 5:22 how is it achieved through our walk?

Wednesday: Luke 15:7; I Samuel 2:1; John 15:11; Psalm 16:11

Manifestation Of Joy

- 5. What do we learn from Hannah and her prayer in I Samuel 2:1? How is the joy and comfort of the Lord *manifested* through her prayer?
- 6. What great comfort can we take from the promise in Psalm 16:11 *"You will show me the path of life."* How have YOU experienced this promise?

Thursday: Psalm 30:11; Matthew 2:10; Colossians 1:24

More Examples Of Joy

- 7. What impact should David's experience in Psalm 30:11 "*you have turned my mourning into dancing.*" have on US? How are we encouraged by this?
- 8.What amazing joy and awe the wise men had when coming up to the child Jesus in Matthew 2:10. How can WE exude this joy throughout 2025?
- 9. What is Paul showing us in Colossians 1:24 regarding "*what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ.*" How well are YOU following Paul's example?

Friday: Phl. 4:4-5; II Cor. 5:20; Matt. 28:19-20; Luke 15:32

How Can We Spread Joy?

- 10. What is Philippians 4:4-5 calling us to as believers in Christ? How shall we each execute "*Let your gentleness be known to all man*"?
- 11. II Corinthians 15:20 provides us with a clear "definition" as to what our *identity* should be. "*We are* (_____) *for Christ.*"
- 12. Heaven cannot be filled unless we fulfill our duty as followers of Christ! What specific "mission" is Matthew 28:19-20 calling us to join?