

WORDS FOR MEDITATION (16)

Ephesians 1:3-6; Philippians 3:13-15; Hebrews 8:12 When dealing with criticism, ask the following: Is God saying the same thing about me as my critics? If He is, then ask for the wisdom to change. If He isn't, then who is saying it? Feelings of unworthiness are handles Satan uses to hold on to our lives. We must cast our unworthiness on Jesus so His worthiness can rise through us. Self-condemnation is you coming into agreement with Satan about your forgiven, forgotten past.

Proverbs 13:9 (rejoiceth "samach" - in part, brighten up); **Isaiah 54:1-3** Many Christians become so comfortable with a certain level of anointing that, if they do not spend the proper amount of time in prayer, they will not want to go forward. As long as we hang on to that level of anointing, the future of our ministry and calling will remain hidden. Our light must grow brighter in order to illuminate our future. We must press into God to expand our capacity for a greater anointing.

Acts 16:6-10 We must differentiate between a need and a calling. Seeing a need does not indicate a calling. A calling cannot meet every need. If we aren't clear on our calling, we can end up praying amiss. Our calling will include a plan for fulfillment. We should lay the plan out, as best as we know it, take it to God and find out what He approves and what He wants changed. A properly laid out plan will afford more time for being in the Word, prayer and worship. Satan would rather steal your time more than anything else. If he can steal your time, he can severely disrupt your prayer, worship and fellowship in the Word.

1 John 4:7, 16, 20-21; James 3:17-18; 2 Timothy 2:24-25; 1 Corinthians 6:1-7 Everything you do in life outside of love as the motive, you are doing outside of God. God is love and He honors nothing outside of love. Your actions and attitudes reflect whose wisdom you're operating by. Every situation that presents potential conflict and strife is a trap of Satan. Do not enter into and walk in strife. Be willing to suffer loss before engaging in strife. This does not mean to compromise truth for the sake of getting along. Truth can only produce strife when in the presence of those who reject it.