



Dear Partners,

January 2019

“Thank [God] in everything [no matter what the circumstances may be, be thankful and give thanks], for this is the will of God for you [who are] in Christ Jesus [the Revealer and Mediator of that will].” 1 Thessalonians 5:18 AMP

Happy New Year 2019! Transitioning into the New Year can be tough for some of us. Maybe you’re excited to enter into 2019 because it feels like a fresh start or a new beginning. Whatever the case is in your life, we want to tell you that God has wonderful things in store for you this year! He has plans to prosper you and to give you hope (Jer. 29:11)! God wants all these for you and MORE but He needs something from you- **your time**. More than anything, God wants you to fellowship with Him.

For most people, a fresh start at the beginning of a new year means purging their closets and homes in order to “de-clutter” their lives. You may hear people use the terms “positive thinking” or “no bad days, just good vibes” as they try to rid themselves of the mistakes and memories they made in the previous year. This may work for a couple days or even a few months but if there is no substance behind those words or thoughts, they will inevitably fail at the whole “positive thinking” fad. For us here at JMM, the spirit of the Lord started to deal with us at the end of 2018 about what He wants from us in the New Year. We wanted to share it with our partners so we can start this journey together. He told us to spend more time in His Word and stop murmuring and complaining. Not only is it a sin before the Lord, but **when we murmur and complain we declare God and our situation hopeless**. This is a sign that we need more Word inside. **Without spending time in the Word and with our precious Lord Jesus, there is no way to have a “positive attitude or positive thinking”**. There is only so much that the worldly perspective of positivity can take us and that’s why we have to be rooted and grounded in the Word of God. **As we begin to spend time in prayer and in His word, we will develop a grateful heart and attitude. Gratitude starts from the inside out.**

We know it’s not easy to make time to read the Word. We here at JMM run into that very same problem too! Although we work in this Ministry, answering phone calls, making programs, writing newsletters, etc, and can get caught up doing “God’s work”, **we still have to set time aside to get in the Word and fellowship with God**. It can be hard to find time to **be still and focus** on the Bible and on what the Holy Spirit is trying to tell us but we have to do it if we want to receive all that God has to offer. In the book of Joshua, God gives Joshua specific instructions. Although he was already very familiar with the Word, the Lord told him that it should not depart from his **mouth. He was to meditate on it day and night** in order for him to do all that it says. After we’ve done our part, the rest of the verse says, *For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success (Josh 1:8)*. **It is vital for us to spend time in the Word of God and meditate on it.** It is vital to our thinking, our attitude and our perspective. Spending time in the Word is what will produce a spirit of thankfulness in us.

And thankfulness is the key that activates your faith and unlocks yours miracles! Think about that for a second. By simply choosing to spend time with Jesus and in the Word, you will start to develop a thankful grateful heart that will jumpstart your faith and unlock that miracle you have been waiting for!

Faith doesn't just come out of thin air. **Faith can't come from positive thinking if there is no base or backbone behind it.** The only way faith comes is by hearing, and hearing comes by the Word of God (Rom. 10:17). The more time we make for the Word, the more we meditate on the Word and pray in the Spirit, the more **Word will come out of our mouth during critical times.** Picture this scenario- your child suddenly becomes ill and you have to rush to the emergency room. You have no idea what's wrong with him but you know it's not good. What's the first thought or word that comes out of your mouth? Is it a promise from the Word that you've been reading and meditating on daily? Or is it negative thoughts and WORDS full of fear? **Are you speaking life at that very moment or death?** There are only two choices. If the Word has been stored up inside of you, then it will come out during moments like that. Not that we expect or wish for those things to happen but we have to be prepared if they do. Life doesn't usually give us warnings of things that are to come. But through our constant communion with the Lord and His Word, we will be prepared for whatever comes our way. **Not only do our words change when we spend time with Him but our thinking does as well.**

We have put together 5 simple steps as a guideline for you in 2019. You can certainly add to these steps as you grow into a deeper and more intimate relationship with God. But this would be a good place to start.

1. Make time for the Word- Read it daily
2. Meditate on the Word- Fellowship with Him, pray and intercede through the Holy Spirit
3. Put the Word to work in your life- Speak the Word over your circumstances
4. Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit – The whispers and directions that He will give you
5. Do what God tells you to do- Do it now, without questioning Him *even* if it doesn't make sense

After you act on the Word, keep going to keep your faith alive. Give thanks as much as possible for all that God has blessed you with and all that is coming your way. Do it by faith! Begin to thank God for that new car or your healing. Thank God for your spouse even though you may not see anything with your naked eyes yet. Thank God for that new job or promotion. You can begin thanking Him for your unsaved son or daughter. Declare them saved and speak God's promised Word over them! Thank Him continuously for all your needs and stay in that attitude of thanksgiving to keep your faith alive until everything comes to pass (Phil 4:6). This will come naturally to do you when you're in the Word daily. **Develop a life of thanksgiving by spending time in the Word of God and fellowshiping with Jesus. He will never let you down!**

We are so thankful for YOU! You are one of the reasons we give thanks to God every single day! Without our partners we would not be able to do this great work. Depopulating hell to populate heaven! We have been given the great commission to **win what was lost, pray healing over those who have been hurt and heartbroken and lift up those who have been oppressed.** We thank you for allowing God to guide your giving as you continue to **partner** with us! Your trust, support and faithful prayers for John Militarum Ministries mean the world to us and we cannot do it without you. We pray that each one of you steps into the role that God has called you to step into as we start this New Year! God bless you all.

*In Christ,
-John & Alexandra*