Celebrate FINISHING 2023 STRONG...



At the Sunset of an Old Year, and Sunrise of a New Year, there are fresh whispers. Our Creator speaks. "January" got its name from the Roman god Janus, who had two faces. One looked back, while the other looked forward. A New Year provides a valuable opportunity to ponder the Past Year while preparing for the New Year.





Celebration: 2023 Wins...

Letting Go Of 2023...

a) Receive Forgiveness - "Clean Your Slate"

Reflection: 2023 Setbacks...

b) Extend Forgiveness - "Closure & Relief"

c) Forget What Should Be Forgotten - "Carry Only Essentials"



FLOURISHING IN 2024...



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Moving Forward Into 2024...

a) 2024 <u>Favor</u> - "Connect To The Holy Spirit" What level of Holy Spirit Connection do you want in 2024? 2024 Focus - Top 3 Personal Goals For 2024:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

b) 2024 <u>Faith</u> - "Craft Your Mindset"

What mindset will set you up for success in 2024?

2024 Focus - Top 3 Relationship Goals For 2024:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

c) 2024 Focus - "Clear Your Vision"

What matters enough for you to give your time, talent, and treasure? What will you delay gratification in order to gain?

2024 Focus - Top 3 Professional or Business Goals For 2024:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

The Key To Everything In 2024



Your Release Determines Your Reach, and Your Alignment Determines Your Abundance ⇒ Isaiah 43:18-19:

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

- o "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past."

 Give up in order to go up. Let go to move forward.

 □ Give up in order to go up. Let go to move forward.
- o "See, I am doing a new thing!" ⇒ God is always doing a NEW THING if we are ready for it.
- o "Now it springs up; **do you not perceive it?**" ⇒ "YADA" "to know" > If I see what God is doing, I can align to it.
- o "I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

 God Is Making A Way In The Wilderness and Streams In The Wastelands Of Your Life:
 - Wilderness Is A Place Of Testing & Temptation (When You Feel HALT ⇒ Hungry, Angry, Lonely & Tired),
 - ♥ Wilderness Is A Place Of Revelation & Restoration.

A New Year is about **Letting Go So You Can Move Forward:**

- o Moses Laid Down What Was In His Hand To Pick Up What Was In God's Hand Exodus 3-4,
- o Joshua Let Go To Move Forward... Joshua 1:2-9 & Joshua 5,
- Paul "Let Go" To "Move Forward" With God's Destiny For His Life Philippians 3:12-15: "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. All of us, then, who are mature should take such a view of things..." Your Release Determines Your Reach! Your Alignment Determines Your Abundance!

1) Letting Go Of 2023...

Celebration: 2023 Wins

- Celebrate Small Wins ⇒ I Samuel 17 ⇒ Small wins are the foundation for massive success.
- What Are You Celebrating From 2023?

Celebration Leads To Elevation!

Reflection: 2023 Setbacks

- **We Repeat What We Don't Repair** ⇒ Numbers 13-14
- The Definition Of Learning Is Experiencing The Same Circumstances With Different Behavior

 → Matthew 13:13
- A Setback Is A Setup For A Comeback
 Luke 22:31-34. What Learnings & Adjustments Can You Make From 2023?

Reflection Leads To Transformation!

a) Receive Forgiveness > Clean Your Slate

- Receive Forgiveness For 2023 Shortcomings

 Psalm 103:1-12
- [™] Confess 2023 Sin → I John 1:8-10; Proverbs 28:13; Micah 7:18-20; Jeremiah 31:31-34

Receiving Forgiveness Leads To Cleansing!

b) Extend Forgiveness > Closure & Relief

- Were You Hurt In 2023? Forgiving others is the best thing you can do for you ⇒ "Sacred Selfishness".
- Forgiveness Is Delegating Responsibility For Justice To God ⇒ HE handles it.
- Forgive Like You Were Forgiven

 → Matthew 6:9-13; Matt.18:21-35; Ephesians 4:28-32

Extending Forgiveness Leads to Closure!

c) Forget What Should Be Forgotten > Carry Only Essentials

- <u>Hebrews 12:1-2</u>

 "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith..."

Forgetting What Should Be Forgotten Leads To Better Mental Health!

Flourishing In 2024...

a) <u>Favor</u> > Connect To The Holy Spirit

- **God's Favor Is Over Your Life & Church In 2024** ⇒ <u>Psalm 5:12; Psalm 103:1-6; Psalm 65:5-13; Acts 2:40-47.</u>
- There is a deeper place we can go in Him where we develop medicine that heals hearts, relationships, families, finances, businesses, and nations ⇒ Amazing Things Happen When We Go Deeper > Ezekiel 47:1-14.
- What level of Holy Spirit Connection do you want in 2024?
- Favor In 2024 Is About Connecting To The Holy Spirit!

b) <u>Faith</u> > Craft Your Mindset

- According To Your Faith Be It Unto You Matthew 9:29; Mark 11:22-24
- The Key To Transformation Is Renewing Your Mind Romans 12:1-2
- Do You See Yourself The Way He Sees You? John 1:19-23

 □ I AM Who He Says I Am!
 - o I AM A Child Of God I John 3:1

- o I AM Christ's Friend John 15:15
- I AM A New Creation 2 Corinthians 5:17
- I AM The Righteousness Of God In Christ 2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrew 10:14
- o I AM Rescued From Satan's Dominion Colossians 1:13
- I AM Free From The Power Of Sin Romans 6; Colossians 3:1-4
- o I AM Seated In Christ In Heavenly Places Ephesians 2:1-6
- o I AM More Than A Conqueror Through His Love Romans 8:35-39
- o I AM Crafted By God, Fearfully & Wonderfully Made Psalm 139
- o I AM His Workmanship, Created To Do Good Works Ephesians 2:10
- What Is Your "Faith Statement" For 2024?

c) Focus > Clear Your Vision

- **Focus Leads To Clarity & Power** → <u>Proverbs 29:18; Habakkuk 2:1-3</u>
- Distraction Leads To Burnout & Overwhelm → Matthew 11:28-30; Luke 10:38-42
- What matters enough for you to give your time, talent, and treasure in 2024? What will you delay gratification in order to gain? *Focus In 2024 Is About Clearing Your Vision!*

Your Alignment Determines Your Abundance In 2024:

Your Release Determines Your Reach. Your Alignment Determines Your Abundance ⇒ Isaiah 58 – The Message Bible:

9-12 "If you get rid of unfair practices, quit blaming victims, quit gossiping about other people's sins, if you are generous with the hungry and start giving yourselves to the down-and-out, your lives will begin to glow in the darkness, your shadowed lives will be bathed in sunlight. I will always show you where to go. I'll give you a full life in the emptiest of places—firm muscles, strong bones. You'll be like a well-watered garden, a gurgling spring that never runs dry. You'll use the old rubble of past lives to build anew, rebuild the foundations from out of your past. You'll be known as those who can fix anything, restore old ruins, rebuild and renovate, make the community livable again.

13-14 "If you watch your step on the Sabbath and don't use my holy day for personal advantage, if you treat the Sabbath as a day of joy, GOD's holy day as a celebration, if you honor it by refusing 'business as usual,' making money, running here and there—Then you'll be free to enjoy GOD! Oh, I'll make you ride high and soar above it all. I'll make you feast on the inheritance of your ancestor Jacob. Yes! GOD says so!"

Your Release Determines Your Reach, and Your Alignment Determines Your Abundance.

One of the best ways to experience release and realignment as we start a New Year is fasting and prayer.

So, what exactly is fasting? Fasting is simply a time set apart to seek the Lord Himself, to seek His face. In a fast, we're not so much saying no to food, but saying yes to Jesus and to more time with Him. We are taking our attention off of the things of this world that seem to distract us and putting our full attention on the Lord.

What Does Fasting Do For You?

- A. It Humbles Your Heart I Kings 21:25-29; Psalm 35:13.
- B. It Purifies Your Motives Matthew 6:16-18.

- C. It Triggers Repentance Joel 2:12-14; Psalms 66:18.
- D. It Sharpens Your Focus I Corinthians 7:3-5.
- E. It Activates Intercession 2 Chronicles 20:1-4; James 5:16.
- F. It Brings Direction 2 Chronicles 20:1-17.
- G. It Stirs Warring And Soaring 2 Chronicles 20; Joel 1-3. In a fast, we "war" or wrestle with:
 - Our Self:
 - o Flesh Luke 4:1-14
 - o Mind Psalm 35:13
 - o Emotions Psalm 35:13
 - o Sins and Habits I Samuel 7:2-13
 - o **Our** *God* Genesis 32:22-32
 - Our Spiritual Enemy John 10:10; Colossians 4:12; Ephesians 6:10-18

Fasting begins with God's people warring and ends with them soaring!

H. It Triggers Rewards - Fasting has great rewards! Hebrews 11:6 – "But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

What Are The Rewards Of Fasting?

- The Release Of Deeper Intimacy With God Acts 13:1,2
- © The Release Of Deeper Awareness Of God's Voice Acts 13:1-4
- The Release Of Dreams & Visions Acts 13:1-4
- © The Release Of The Miraculous Hebrews 11:6; Mark 9:29
- **☺ The Release Of Ministry** Acts 13:1-4
- The Release Of Strength For Leaders Acts 14:21-23

How Do You Fast?

- Determine If You Want To Deuteronomy 30,
- © Decide To Do It For The Right Reasons Matthew 6:16-18,
- Discern What You Will Give Up I Corinthians 9:24-27,
- © Devote Extra Time To Prayer Matthew 9:14-17,
- © Do It With Your Church Family Acts 13:1-4

Practical Notes:

** 21 Days Of Prayer & Fasting > January 7-27, 2024 **

- ** One-Hour Prayer Each Wednesday Night At 6:30pm & Online January 10, 17 and 24 **
- ** There Are Many Types Of Fasts, From Food To Sweets To Caffeine To Social Media, Etc. **
 - ** What Are You Believing God For In 2024? **

What Is The Key To Everything In 2024?

Your Release Determines Your Reach, and Your Alignment Determines Your Abundance...