January 12, 2020 2020 Challenge

 Bible Reading - Matthew 4:4, "Man must no live on bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

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 Prayer - 1 Thessalonians 5:17, "Pray without ceasing". Adialeiptos - recurring, constant. Brother Lawrence: <u>The Practice of the Presence of God In</u> <u>Modern English</u>

3. Meeting Pressing Needs

Titus 3:14 **NASB**, "Our people must also learn to engage in good deeds to **meet pressing needs**, so that they will not be unfruitful."

Why should we meet pressing needs?

1. So we will be productive.

Titus 3:14 **NLT,** "Our people must learn to do good by meeting the urgent needs of others; then they will not be **unproductive.**"

Titus 3:14 **NIV**, "Our people must learn to **devote themselves** to doing what is good, in order to provide for urgent needs and **not live unproductive** lives."

2. Jesus modeled it, taught it and said we would be rewarded for doing it. Matthew 25:31-46

3. It glorifies God - it shows his presence today. Matt.5:17

- 4. People need to be loved. 1 John 4:11 NLT
- 5. People need the Lord Steve Green song.

The Correct order.

Ephesians 2:8-10 NLT, "God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God." Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things (good deeds) he planned for us long ago."

What do we need to do to be effective in this challenge?

- 1. Depend on God. Philippians 2:13 NIV
- 2. Adjust our priorities. Matthew 6:33 NIV
- 3. Be Intentional. Isaiah 32:8 NIV
- 4. Be sacrificial with everything. Philippians 2:17 NLT
- 5. Commit Sign up! Proverbs 16:3 NIV Joshua 24:15 NIV
- **My Prayer:** Lord, I am no longer mine but yours. I yield myself to you. Give me the strength to be in your Word daily, to pray unceasingly and to meet the pressing needs around me. Please give the grace to sacrifice my resources, gifts, time and energy. Allow me to be your hands, your feet, your ears and your voice to others. Grant me the strength to yield myself to your will. I ask this in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

My Response to the 2020 Challenge:

I am committing in the New Year to read through the Bible daily, pray without ceasing, and be prepared to meet whatever pressing needs God shows me. Titus 3:14 Isaiah32:8