



**MBC**

**2026**

**God's Plan:  
Stepping into Our  
Destiny**

*"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." — Jeremiah 29:11*

Welcome to Macedonia Baptist Church's 2026 Spiritual Formation Guide. This year, we embark on a transformative journey centered on discerning and walking in God's divine plan for our lives. As a congregation, we are called to deepen our faith, strengthen our commitment to spiritual disciplines, and step boldly into the destiny God has prepared for us. This guide will serve as your companion throughout the year, providing weekly scripture readings, thoughtful discussion questions, and practical applications designed to draw you closer to God's heart and purpose.

## A Pastoral Letter from Rev. Dr. Darren M. Morton

Dear Beloved Members of Macedonia, Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! As we step into this new year, I am excited to share with you our 2026 Spiritual Formation Plan, centered around the theme: "God's Plan: Stepping into Our Destiny."

This powerful promise in Jeremiah 29:11 affirms that God has a specific and purposeful plan for each of us and for our church family. This year, we are called to deepen our relationship with God, to hear His voice, and to discern His plan for our lives and for the life of our church.

As a congregation, and as individuals, we are invited to commit ourselves to a disciplined life of prayer, devotion, study, and sharing the Gospel with those who do not yet know Christ. Together, through these spiritual disciplines, we will grow in understanding, faith, and action.



"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in his way." — Psalm 37:23

Throughout 2026, our theme and these biblical teachings will be woven into our sermons, mid-week Bible studies, Sunday School classes, and annual church services. Let us embrace this opportunity to step boldly into God's plan, trusting Him to direct our steps and to fulfill His destiny for each of us and for Macedonia Baptist Church. May this year be one of renewed commitment, spiritual growth, and abundant fruit for the kingdom of God.

# Our Vision and Commitments

## Our Vision

God has a plan for every believer and for Macedonia Baptist Church. In 2026, we commit to growing spiritually so we are ready to walk confidently into the future God has prepared. We believe that as we align our hearts with God's purposes, He will reveal the next steps in our individual and collective journey of faith.

### Worship God

Faithfully and expectantly  
in all we do

### Pray Daily

For guidance and  
discernment in every  
decision

### Study Scripture

To understand His perfect  
plan

### Grow in Character

Becoming more like Christ each day

### Serve Boldly

Using our God-given gifts and talents

📄 **Congregational Declaration:** We trust God's plan, follow His leading, and step faithfully into our destiny.

# How We Will Grow Together

Spiritual formation is not a solitary journey. God designed us to grow in community, supporting and encouraging one another as we pursue His purposes. This year, Macedonia Baptist Church will provide multiple pathways for your spiritual development, ensuring that every member has opportunities to deepen their faith and discover their unique role in God's kingdom work.

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## Worship & Prayer

Weekly worship services and monthly prayer emphasis gatherings where we seek God's face together

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## The Word

Bible Study sessions, Sunday School classes, and a church-wide reading plan aligned with our annual theme

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## Spiritual Disciplines

Intentional practices of prayer, fasting, generosity, and service that shape our character

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## Community

Small groups, mentoring relationships, and fellowship opportunities that build authentic connections

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## Service & Mission

Outreach initiatives, ministry involvement, and missions work that share Christ's love with others

Each of these pathways is designed to help you discover God's specific plan for your life while building up the body of Christ. We encourage every member to engage in at least three of these areas consistently throughout the year. As you participate, you'll find that God uses these experiences to reveal His purposes, develop your gifts, and prepare you for the destiny He has ordained.

## 2026 Monthly Focus: Your Year at a Glance

Throughout 2026, we will journey together through twelve monthly themes, each building upon the previous one to create a comprehensive understanding of God's plan for our lives. These themes will be reflected in our worship services, Bible studies, and small group discussions, creating a unified focus for our entire congregation.

## **God's Plan Revealed**

January — Discovering God's intentions and promises for our lives

## **Consecrated for Destiny**

February — Setting ourselves apart for God's purposes

## **Trusting the Process**

March — Learning to walk by faith, not by sight

## **Resurrection Power**

April — Experiencing new life and transformation in Christ

## **Called and Equipped**

May — Understanding our unique gifts and calling

## **Walking in Wisdom**

June — Making godly decisions in daily life

## **Faith in Action**

July — Putting our beliefs into practical service

## **Strength for the Journey**

August — Finding endurance in God's power

## **Growing Deeper**

September — Developing mature, rooted faith

## **Stewards of God's Plan**

October — Managing resources and opportunities wisely

## **Grateful for God's Faithfulness**

November — Celebrating testimonies and answered prayers

## **Destiny Fulfilled in Christ**

December — Reflecting on growth and looking ahead

# Making the Most of Your Study Guide

This Bible Study Guide is designed to be both a personal devotional tool and a resource for group discussion. To maximize your spiritual growth throughout 2026, we encourage you to engage with the material in multiple ways. The more consistently you interact with God's Word through this guide, the more clearly you will discern His plan for your life and experience transformation.



## Personal Study

Set aside dedicated time each week to read the scripture passages, prayerfully consider the discussion questions, and write your responses in a journal. This creates space for intimate communion with God and personal revelation.



## Small Group Discussion

Bring your insights to your small group or Sunday School class. Hearing others' perspectives enriches your understanding and creates accountability for applying what you're learning.



## Family Devotions

Adapt the weekly questions for family discussions. Teaching these truths to children and teens reinforces your own learning and builds a legacy of faith in your household.



## Prayer Journaling

Use the "Weekly Application" prompts to guide your prayers. Record how God answers and leads you, creating a testimony of His faithfulness throughout the year.



## Scripture Memorization

Commit the key verses to memory. When God's Word is hidden in your heart, the Holy Spirit can bring it to mind exactly when you need direction or encouragement.



## Testimony Sharing

As God works in your life through these studies, share your stories during worship services or with friends. Your testimony encourages others and glorifies God.

**Remember:** Transformation happens not just through reading, but through reflection, application, and obedience. Each week, commit to one specific action that demonstrates your faith response to what God is teaching you.

# God's Plan Revealed

**January** marks the beginning of our journey into understanding God's divine intentions for our lives. This month, we focus on foundational truths about God's character, His promises, and the assurance that He has good plans for each of us. As we start the year, we lay the groundwork for trust, discernment, and faith-filled action.

## Week 1: God's Intentions

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**Key Scripture:** Jeremiah 29:11

- What does this passage reveal about God's plan?
- How can we trust God during uncertain seasons?
- What step of faith is God calling you to take this week?

## Week 3: Overcoming Doubt

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**Key Scripture:** Isaiah 55:8–9

- Why is trusting God difficult at times?
- How does God's perspective differ from ours?
- What doubts must you release to follow God fully?

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## Week 2: Directed Steps

**Key Scripture:** Proverbs 16:9; Psalm 37:23

- How do we plan while trusting God's direction?
- Where have you seen God order your steps?
- What surrender is required this year?

## Week 4: Prayer & Discernment

**Key Scripture:** James 1:5–6

- Why is prayer essential for discernment?
- What hinders us from asking God for wisdom?
- How can prayer shape our decisions this year?

**Weekly Application:** Each week, reflect on this question: How will you respond in faith this week? Write down one specific action you will take to align your life with God's revealed plan.

# Consecrated for Destiny

**February** calls us to intentional preparation and holy living. Consecration means setting ourselves apart for God's purposes—choosing to purify our hearts, renew our minds, and dedicate our lives fully to His service. Before God moves us into new territories, He often asks us to prepare spiritually, emotionally, and practically.

This month explores what it means to be ready for God's promises. We'll examine biblical examples of preparation, transformation, and the connection between obedience and destiny. As we consecrate ourselves, we position our hearts to receive everything God wants to do in and through us.



## Called to Consecration

**Week 1:** Joshua 3:5 — What does consecration mean in daily life?



## Prepared Before Promise

**Week 2:** Exodus 19:10–11 — Why does God prepare His people before power?



## Transformed Living

**Week 3:** Romans 12:1–2 — How does transformation shape destiny?



## Clean Hearts, Clear Direction

**Week 4:** Psalm 51:10 — Why is purity important to guidance?

**Monthly Challenge:** Identify one area of your life that needs consecration. Commit to daily prayer and Scripture reading focused on surrender and obedience. Journal your experiences and share insights with your small group.

# Trusting the Process

**March** invites us into one of the most challenging aspects of Christian discipleship: trusting God when we cannot see the full picture. Faith requires us to move forward with confidence in God's character, even when circumstances seem unclear or the path ahead appears uncertain. This month, we explore how waiting, trials, and obedience work together to mature our faith and prepare us for the destiny God has planned.

God's timing is perfect, but it rarely matches our expectations. During seasons of waiting, He is developing qualities in us that we will need for the next chapter. Through trials, He builds perseverance and deepens our dependence on Him. And through obedience—even when it doesn't make sense—He positions us to receive His promises. This month will strengthen your trust muscles and help you embrace God's process with joy and expectation.



## Faith Without Full Sight

**Hebrews 11:1-3** — Why does faith require action without full understanding? What step can you take this week in faith?



## Waiting Well

**Psalms 27:14** — How does waiting develop spiritual maturity? What practices help you wait patiently on God?



## Growth Through Trials

**James 1:2-4** — How do trials produce perseverance? What challenge can become a growth opportunity?



## Obedience Prepares Destiny

**Genesis 12:1-4** — How did Abraham's obedience prepare him? What does obedience look like in your season?

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### Reflect

What is God asking you to trust Him with right now?

### Connect

Who can walk this journey with you and provide encouragement?

### Act

What obedient step will you take this week, even without full clarity?

# Resurrection Power & New Life

**April** invites us to deeply engage with the transformative truth of Christ's resurrection. It's a month dedicated to understanding and applying the power that conquered death, offering us not just hope for eternity, but a vibrant, new life here and now. This power is available to overcome every hopeless situation, transform our minds, and empower us to walk in daily victory.

Throughout April, we will explore what it means to be made new in Christ, shed old ways, and live out a compelling testimony of God's work in our lives. We'll discover how the resurrection is not just a historical event, but a living, active force that shapes our present and propels us into our God-given destiny. Prepare to experience a fresh outpouring of divine power as you embrace the newness He offers.



## Week 1: The Power of the Resurrection

**Scripture:** Luke 24:1-7

- What does the resurrection reveal about God's power over death and hopeless situations?
- Why do the disciples struggle to believe what God had already promised?
- Where do you need resurrection power to bring new life in your own circumstances?



## Week 2: Made New in Christ

**Scripture:** 2 Corinthians 5:17

- What does it truly mean to be a "new creation" in Christ?
- What old ways, habits, or mindsets must be released to walk fully in newness?
- How should new life in Christ shape how you live and relate to others?



## Week 3: Walking in Newness

**Scripture:** Romans 6:4

- What does it mean to "walk" daily in newness of life rather than just believe it?
- How does baptism symbolize both death to the old self and life in Christ?
- What practical steps help you live out this new life consistently?



## Week 4: Testimony & Transformation

**Scripture:** Revelation 12:11

- Why is personal testimony such a powerful spiritual weapon?
- How has God transformed you through past struggles or victories?
- Who might God be calling you to encourage by sharing your testimony?

# Called and Equipped

**May** is a powerful invitation to embrace your divine design. This month, we will delve into the profound truth that God has intentionally called and uniquely equipped each of us for a specific purpose. It's a time to discover not just what God wants to do through you, but also how He has already prepared you for it. We'll explore the gifts He's placed within, learn to overcome the common excuses that hinder our obedience, and steadfastly walk in the calling He has orchestrated for our lives. Get ready to acknowledge your inherent value and step confidently into the mission only you can fulfill.

## Week 1: Created for Purpose

**Scripture:** Ephesians 2:10



- What does this scripture reveal about God's intentional design for your life?
- How does knowing God prepared good works in advance shape your confidence?
- What purpose might God be inviting you to step into this season?

## Week 2: Equipped to Serve

**Scripture:** 1 Peter 4:10-11



- Why does God give different gifts to different people?
- How does serving others glorify God and strengthen the church?
- What gift has God entrusted to you that needs to be used more faithfully?

## Week 3: Overcoming Excuses

**Scripture:** Exodus 4:10-12



- What excuses did Moses make, and how did God respond?
- What fears or insecurities keep you from answering God's call?
- How can trusting God's power help you move beyond your excuses?

## Week 4: Walking in Calling

**Scripture:** Philippians 1:6



- Why is it important to trust God's timing in the process of calling?
- How does this scripture encourage perseverance when growth feels slow?
- What unfinished work is God continuing in your life right now?

# Walking in Wisdom

**June** is a dedicated time to cultivate a deeper walk with God, guided by His divine wisdom. Throughout this month, we will explore what it means to trust God implicitly, to actively seek His guidance in every decision, and to allow His Word to illuminate our path. This journey will empower us to live intentionally, making choices that reflect His will and bring glory to His name. Prepare to uncover the profound practicality of spiritual wisdom and integrate it into the fabric of your daily life, transforming how you navigate challenges and opportunities alike.



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## Week 1: Trusting God Fully

**Scripture:** Proverbs 3:5–6

- Why is it difficult to trust God with all our heart?
- How does acknowledging God change the direction of our decisions?
- Where is God asking you to release control and trust Him more deeply?



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## Week 2: Asking for Wisdom

**Scripture:** James 1:5

- What does this passage reveal about God's willingness to guide us?
- Why do people often hesitate to ask God for wisdom?
- What situation in your life requires divine wisdom right now?



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## Week 3: God's Word as Guide

**Scripture:** Psalm 119:105

- How does God's Word illuminate our path during uncertain times?
- What happens when decisions are made without biblical guidance?
- How can you make Scripture a more consistent guide in daily life?



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## Week 4: Wise Living

**Scripture:** Ephesians 5:15–17

- What does it mean to live wisely in today's culture?
- How does understanding God's will affect how we use our time?
- What changes can you make to live more intentionally for God?



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## Week 5: Applying Wisdom Daily

**Scripture:** Colossians 1:9–10

- Why is spiritual wisdom essential for pleasing God?
- How does wisdom influence the way we live and bear fruit?
- What daily habits help you grow in spiritual understanding?

# Faith in Action

In **July**, we shift our focus from understanding God's call to actively living it out through "Faith in Action." This month is dedicated to exploring how our beliefs translate into tangible expressions of love, justice, and service in the world around us. We'll delve into what it means to be God's hands and feet, illuminating our communities with His light and impacting lives with His truth. Prepare to deepen your commitment to discipleship as we learn to embody a faith that isn't just heard or thought, but powerfully lived and demonstrated in every sphere of influence God has given us.



## Week 1: Doing Justice

**Scripture:** Micah 6:8

- What does God require beyond religious activity?
- How do justice, mercy, and humility reflect God's character?
- Where can your faith be expressed through just and compassionate action?



## Week 2: Being the Light

**Scripture:** Matthew 5:13–16

- What does it mean to be salt and light in the world today?
- How can your lifestyle point others toward God?
- What areas of influence has God given you to shine His light?



## Week 3: Faith That Works

**Scripture:** James 2:17

- How does genuine faith reveal itself through action?
- Why is faith incomplete without works?
- What action step can demonstrate your faith this week?



## Week 4: Serving with Love

**Scripture:** Galatians 5:13

- How does love change our motivation for service?
- What is the difference between obligation and love-driven service?
- Where is God calling you to serve more freely and joyfully?

# Strength for the Journey

**August**, our focus shifts to "Strength for the Journey," a critical theme as we continue to walk out God's call on our lives. This month, we will delve into the various ways God provides the endurance, resilience, and power needed to navigate life's challenges and remain steadfast in our faith. From finding renewed vigor in waiting on the Lord to drawing upon His inexhaustible grace in moments of weakness, we'll discover that our strength is not derived from ourselves, but is divinely supplied through His presence and His people. Prepare to be fortified as we learn to lean into God's sustaining power and persevere with joy.

## Week 1: Renewed Strength

**Scripture:** Isaiah 40:31

- What does it mean to wait on the Lord?
- How does waiting renew strength rather than drain it?
- Where do you need God's strength to continue the journey?

## Week 2: Help from the Lord

**Scripture:** Psalm 46:1

- How does knowing God is a present help change how we face trouble?
- What fears are eased by trusting God as refuge and strength?
- How can you rely on God instead of self in difficult moments?

## Week 3: Not Growing Weary

**Scripture:** Galatians 6:9

- Why do people often grow weary in doing good?
- How does God's promise of harvest encourage perseverance?
- What good work is God calling you to continue faithfully?

## Week 4: Strength in Community

**Scripture:** Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

- Why does God emphasize partnership and community?
- How does accountability strengthen spiritual endurance?
- Who can you walk alongside for mutual encouragement?

## Week 5: Sustained by God's Power

**Scripture:** 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

- Why does God allow weakness in our lives?
- How does weakness create space for God's power?
- How can you depend more fully on God's grace?

# Growing Deeper

**September**, our spiritual journey continues with "Growing Deeper," a theme dedicated to cultivating a profound and enduring faith. This month, we'll explore the essential practices and understandings that move us beyond spiritual infancy towards mature discipleship. We will learn what it means to be firmly rooted in Christ, to crave the solid food of God's Word, and to abide intimately in His presence. Our focus will be on intentional spiritual disciplines that shape our character and empower us to bear the rich fruit of the Spirit. Prepare to embark on a transformative season of growth, strengthening your foundation in faith and deepening your walk with God.



## Week 1: Rooted in Christ

**Scripture:** Colossians 2:6-7

- What does it mean to be rooted and built up in Christ?
- How does spiritual stability develop over time?
- What practices help you remain grounded in faith?



## Week 2: From Milk to Meat

**Scripture:** Hebrews 5:12-14

- What are the signs of spiritual maturity?
- Why is growth beyond spiritual infancy important?
- How can you intentionally pursue deeper understanding?



## Week 3: Abiding in Christ

**Scripture:** John 15:4-5

- What does it mean to abide in Christ daily?
- Why is fruitfulness impossible apart from Him?
- How can you strengthen your connection to Christ?



## Week 4: Spiritual Discipline

**Scripture:** 1 Timothy 4:7-8

- Why does spiritual growth require discipline?
- How do spiritual habits shape long-term faithfulness?
- Which discipline can you strengthen this season?

**Monthly Challenge:** Identify one specific spiritual discipline you want to cultivate or deepen this month (e.g., daily Bible reading, consistent prayer, intentional solitude). Commit to practicing it daily for at least 15-20 minutes. At the end of the month, reflect on how this practice has strengthened your connection to Christ and contributed to your spiritual maturity. Share your journey and insights with a trusted friend or small group.

# Stewards of God's Plan

**October**, our journey focuses on "Stewards of God's Plan," a vital theme that calls us to consider our role in managing the blessings and responsibilities God has entrusted to us. This month, we will explore what it truly means to be a faithful steward, from our finances and time to our talents and relationships. We'll delve into the biblical principles of stewardship, learning how our actions in even the smallest things can reflect our devotion and prepare us for greater responsibilities. Discover how honoring God with our resources, living generously, and managing His gifts wisely are not just duties, but pathways to deeper faith and joy.

## Week 1: Faithful in Little

**Scripture:** Luke 16:10



- Why does God value faithfulness in small things?
- How do small responsibilities prepare us for greater ones?
- Where can you demonstrate greater faithfulness?

## Week 2: Trusted Stewards

**Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 4:2



- What does God require of stewards?
- How does stewardship reflect trust in God?
- How can you grow as a faithful steward?

## Week 3: Honoring God with Resources

**Scripture:** Malachi 3:10



- Why does God connect faith and generosity?
- How does trust influence giving?
- What does honoring God with resources look like for you?

## Week 4: Living Generously

**Scripture:** 2 Corinthians 9:6-7



- Why does God love a cheerful giver?
- How does generosity strengthen faith?
- How can you practice generosity intentionally?

# Grateful for God's Faithfulness

**November**, we shift our hearts towards a profound exploration of gratitude in "Grateful for God's Faithfulness." This month is dedicated to acknowledging and celebrating the steadfast love, provision, and presence of God in every season of our lives. We will delve into the transformative power of a thankful heart, learning to recognize His unwavering hand even amidst challenges. Our study will encourage us to cultivate intentional practices of gratitude, remembering His past works, sharing our testimonies, and living lives that continually bless His name. Prepare for a season of spiritual refreshment as we discover how gratitude deepens our faith, reframes our perspective, and empowers us to walk in joyful surrender to His perfect plan.



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## Week 1: Bless the Lord

**Scripture:** Psalm 103:1-5

- Why is remembering God's benefits essential?
- How does gratitude shape worship?
- What blessings can you thank God for today?



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## Week 2: Remembering God's Works

**Scripture:** Lamentations 3:22-23

- How does remembering God's mercy restore hope?
- Why is gratitude important during hardship?
- How can you remind yourself daily of God's faithfulness?



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## Week 3: Power of Testimony

**Scripture:** Psalm 66:16

- Why is sharing testimony important for community faith?
- How does your story glorify God?
- Who needs to hear what God has done for you?



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## Week 4: Thankful Living

**Scripture:** 1 Thessalonians 5:18

- Why does God call us to give thanks in all circumstances?
- How does gratitude transform perspective?
- What can you thank God for even now?



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## Week 5: Generational Gratitude

**Scripture:** Deuteronomy 6:6-7

- Why is faith meant to be passed down?
- How can gratitude shape future generations?
- What legacy of faith are you building?

# Destiny Fulfilled in Christ

**December** brings us to the joyous culmination of our year-long journey with "Destiny Fulfilled in Christ." This month, we celebrate the divine promises brought to fruition through Jesus, our Emmanuel – "God with Us." We will delve into the profound mystery of the Incarnation, reflecting on how the Word became flesh to dwell among us, revealing God's boundless love and truth. As the year draws to a close, this is a time for recommitment, strengthening our faith in God's perfect plan, and embracing the glorious hope of our eternal destiny in Christ. Join us as we rejoice in the completed work of God and step confidently into the future He has prepared.

## Week 1: Promise Fulfilled



**Scripture:** Isaiah 9:6–7

- How does Jesus fulfill God's promise to humanity?
- What does His kingship mean for your life?
- How does this promise give hope for the future?

## Week 3: The Word Became Flesh



**Scripture:** John 1:14

- What does the incarnation reveal about God's love?
- How does Jesus show grace and truth?
- How can you reflect Christ more fully?

## Week 2: God with Us



**Scripture:** Matthew 1:18–23

- Why is God's presence so significant to our destiny?
- How does "God with us" bring comfort and courage?
- Where do you need to be reminded that God is present?

## Week 4: Recommitment to God's Plan



**Scripture:** Romans 8:28

- How does this scripture build confidence in God's plan?
- Why is recommitment important at the end of the year?
- What areas of life need renewed trust in God?

# Step Boldly Into Your Destiny

As we embark on this year-long journey together, remember that God's plan for your life is not distant or uncertain—it is unfolding right now, in this very moment. Every decision you make to draw closer to God, every step of obedience you take, and every act of faith positions you more fully in the center of His will. You are not walking this path alone. The Holy Spirit guides you, fellow believers surround you, and the promises of God go before you.

Macedonia Baptist Church is committed to supporting you throughout 2026. Attend worship services, participate in Bible studies, join a small group, and serve in ministry. These are not merely activities—they are divine appointments where God will speak, transform, and equip you for the unique destiny He has prepared. Be faithful in the small things, trust Him in the waiting seasons, and watch as He does exceedingly, abundantly above all you could ask or imagine.

## Read Weekly Scriptures

Commit to consistent engagement with God's Word throughout the year

## Reflect on Questions

Allow the Holy Spirit to search your heart and reveal truth

## Respond in Faith

Take practical steps of obedience each week based on what God reveals

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## We trust God's plan, follow His leading, and step faithfully into our destiny.

**May the Lord bless you and keep you. May His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May He lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace as you walk in the destiny He has ordained.**

*With love and blessings,*

**Rev. Dr. Darren M. Morton**

Senior Pastor, Macedonia Baptist Church

