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DAYS OF PRAYER

**The following devotional pages
are excerpts from *Hosting the
Presence Every Day: 365 Days to
Unveiling Heaven's Agenda for
Your Life* by Bill Johnson*

FULLY DEVOTED
DAILY DEVOTIONAL

January 6-26, 2019



1

Jan. 6

Daily Scripture Reading

ISA. 61:4

The cries for God, some from the righteous and some from the unrighteous, have sounded through the ages. I grew up hearing there was a God-shaped vacuum in the heart of every person. I believe it.

THIS LONGING FOR God is seen in so many ways, including the drive to make things better in life. I've traveled all over the world. And one thing that exists in every people group I've seen is the desire to discover new things and make what exists better. This passion is firmly rooted in everyone. Such a desire finds its full expression under the influence of God's Presence. Even though we can see this desire within humanity to improve life, apart from Christ it remains unsatisfied and unfulfilled. The key is defining what it looks like to truly make life better. This takes place under the influence of the Kingdom, and the Kingdom is released in the Presence of the Holy Spirit. As we carry God's Presence into the world, serving humanity and representing Jesus, we expose longing hearts to the One Thing that completely satisfies... and yet leaves us ever hungry for more.

PRAYER *You have anointed me to help rebuild the ruined cities and restore the former desolations. You are not on a mission to condemn and destroy the world. It has already been harmed enough by the effects of sin. You desire to bring restoration, hope, and freedom to creation through Your people. Help me to be your son/ daughter, filled with your Spirit, who has been purposed to answer the cry of creation.*

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

2

Jan. 7

Daily Scripture Reading

John 15:1-8

God created us with desires and passions and the capacity to dream. All of these traits are necessary to truly make us like Him.

WITH THESE ABILITIES, we can discover more of God, our purpose in life, and the beauty and fullness of His Kingdom. When these abilities exist unharnessed by divine purpose, they take us to forbidden fruit. This was a risk God was willing to take in order to end up with His dream—those made in His image, who worship Him by choice, who carry His Presence into all the earth. It is possible for us to live in a place where our free will is under God's governing influence. At first, this sounds like a contradiction. Perhaps to the natural mind, but I have to believe that it makes complete sense in the context of the Kingdom. How can one live in freedom and yet be under God's governing influence, all at once? This takes place when our dreams and desires actually reflect the nature of the Creator. They are not the fruit of God forcing Himself upon us, manipulating us to dream and desire like He does. He did not create robots; He fashioned free agents. The Father experiences great joy when those He has given freedom to, dream with Him. They desire in His Presence, not separate from it. This is what it looks like for us to live in His likeness.

PRAYER *You created me to dream, Father. As I abide in You and You remain in me, we dream together. I do not dream independently of You. I dream in Your Presence. I create in Your glory. Passions are birthed in the secret place of our intimacy together.*

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

3

Jan. 8

Daily Scripture Reading

ISA. 64:1

It was known somehow that the realities of Heaven and earth must be closer to each other.

ISAIAH REPRESENTED THE cry of all humanity when he prayed, “Rend the heavens and come down” (Isa. 64:1 NASB). In this prayer, the cry for Heaven to influence earth had once again exploded from the heart. Earth was crying out for Heaven’s invasion. This time it was from a prophet. God had already set the stage to answer and instructed Isaiah to make the prayerful declaration. It was a prophetic word in the form of a prayer. Then, Heaven’s answer came. The revelation and release of God’s redemptive program is now unstoppable because of the Anointed One. Jesus came as our Redeemer and our template. He went to the Cross so that it would become possible for a company of anointed ones to overspread the earth with God’s glory. During Jesus’ public ministry, He gave us a glimpse of the lifestyle that would become available to every Christian, forgiven of sin and filled with the Spirit. Because of Jesus, the ancient cry was answered. Heaven had come close to earth—and because of Pentecost, its advancement would only continue!

PRAYER *You have answered this ancient cry, Lord! Instead of praying for You to rend the heavens and come down, show me how to cooperate with Your Spirit and release what You have already provided.*

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

4

Jan. 9

Daily Scripture Reading

MATT. 3:1

When John the Baptist said the Kingdom was near, he was prophesying about what Jesus would manifest and release.

THE WATER BAPTISM of John was known as a baptism of repentance. That made Jesus' request for John to baptize Him strange and quite difficult to process. Jesus had no sin to repent of. But John's baptism was also a part of his announcement of the Kingdom being near. John knew he wasn't worthy to baptize Jesus. In fact, he confessed his need for the baptism that Jesus would bring—in the Holy Spirit and fire (see Matt. 3:11). But Jesus insisted. Being willing to do what you are not qualified to do is sometimes what qualifies you. Even through the act of baptism, Jesus was unveiling the nearness of the Kingdom. He was identifying with those He came to liberate from sin. As the spotless Son of God, Jesus was completely without sin. So why be baptized? This moment is what marked the beginning of His public ministry, a lifestyle that would become the template for future generations of believers to follow. He was intentional about identifying with us in every way. Surely Jesus foresaw a day coming when people, His people no less, would look upon His works and conclude that they were exclusive to Him because of His divinity. He was making a bold pronouncement through baptism, declaring to all generations: "What I am doing, you will also do."

PRAYER Your Kingdom was revealed in the Person of Jesus Christ. He has shown me what it looks like to carry and release Your Kingdom in my everyday life. Even though other voices try to distract me from this example, keep my eyes fixed upon Jesus, the Author and Finisher of my faith. He is my Messiah and He is also my model for living. Thank You, Lord, for the gift of Your Son—Jesus! He not only brought me into Your Kingdom, but has shown me how to live as a citizen of this Kingdom.

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

5

Jan. 10

Daily Scripture Reading

MATT. 3:15

Nothing happens in the Kingdom until first there is a declaration.

JESUS ANSWERED JOHN'S objections to baptizing Him by saying, "Permit it at this time; for in this way it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness" (Matt. 3:15). Righteousness was fulfilled in this act because here Jesus became the servant of all, identified with sinful humanity, and was now positioned to announce that the Kingdom of God is at hand. This announcement brought the release, because the Kingdom operates through declaration. Reality is born in the place of announcement. Before eyes witness the manifestation, the mouth releases the prophetic declaration. Through Jesus' declaration, He was announcing the inauguration of a Kingdom lifestyle that would become accessible to all believers throughout history.

PRAYER *Open my eyes to more clearly see and respond to the example of Jesus. He did not need to be baptized—He was without sin. Instead, He was baptized to identify with humanity, showing me everything that would become possible for a human being in right relationship with God. Because I am forgiven of sin and filled with the Spirit, the works of Jesus are now accessible to me. He did His miraculous works by the power of the Spirit. Thank You, Father, for giving me the same Spirit and the same power!*

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

6

Jan. 11

Daily Scripture Reading

MARK 1:10-11

What had been promised through the ages had started. But no one expected this: Heaven invading earth through the humility of a man—the Son of God, the Son of Man.

WHEN JESUS WAS baptized in water, Heaven took notice. Here is an interesting description of this divine moment. Immediately coming up out of the water, He saw the heavens opening, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon Him; and a voice came out of the heavens: "You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased" (Mark 1:10-11 NASB). Jesus saw the heavens opening. The ancient cry of Isaiah was being fulfilled at this historic moment. In Isaiah 64:1, the prophet cries out for an open heaven and a release of Presence from God's world into this one. Specifically, Isaiah's prayer was for a Person. He was not just seeking the demonstrations or gifts or acts of power, though all are to be celebrated and earnestly desired. Nor was he seeking a temporary visitation or anointing, where the Spirit came upon someone for a specific task. This is what was known in Isaiah's day. This was the case throughout history. God would come down for a time, but at some point that time would come to an end. The task would be completed, the anointed man or woman would pass away, and that was it. The cry for something more was fulfilled when Heaven opened over the Son of Man and released the Spirit of God. Perhaps Isaiah did not even fully grasp the object of his pursuit. All he knew was that there was more than what had been tasted in days past. This is what he wanted more than anything.

PRAYER Your Son made it possible for me to live under an open heaven. He answered the cry of the prophets. Now, Heaven is opened and Your Presence has come to live inside of me.

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

7

Jan. 12

Daily Scripture Reading

MATT. 27:51

The heavens opening at Jesus' baptism by John was not a simple parting of the clouds. It was a violent act.

THE VIOLENCE OF this act was not aimed at lost humanity. Rather, its target was the reign of darkness brought upon the earth through humankind's agreement with satan in Eden. The word opening means to cleave, split. It is translated as opening, split, and tears one time each; divided and tear two times each; and torn four times. Interestingly, it is the same word used to describe both the veil in the temple being torn and the rocks splitting open at Jesus' death, as Heaven and earth shook as a witness to the injustice of that moment—One so perfect dying for those who deserve death. Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split (Matthew 27:51). In Isaiah 64:1, a cry of intercession was made on behalf of desperate humanity—rend the heavens and come down. At Jesus' baptism, God answered this prayer in Person.

PRAYER *Your Presence empowers me to push back darkness in my life and this world. Just as Jesus was sent on a mission to destroy the works of the enemy, so You have given this same assignment to me. The Presence Who broke open the heavens and invaded earth when Jesus was baptized is the same Presence Who lives inside of me in the Holy Spirit.*

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

8

Jan. 13

Daily Scripture Reading

1 COR. 2:8

Tearing the heavens was in itself an act of ultimate grace and glory, resulting in spiritual forces of darkness suffering serious consequences.

THE MAN, CHRIST Jesus, was now clothed with Heaven, thoroughly equipped for all His earthly purposes. And His equipping was a prophetic foretaste of what would soon be made available to all. Darkness could not grasp the implications of this moment. If it did, satan would never have proceeded with the crucifixion plan (see 1 Cor. 2:8). Jesus' blood actually invited you and me into the open heaven that He walked under. Up until Jesus received the Holy Spirit, no human being was fit to receive the abiding or remaining Presence of God. Sin made this impossible. Jesus reversed this through His death on the Cross. This reversal spells absolute destruction for the enemy and his tyranny on the earth—in multiple dimensions. Jesus by Himself brought great devastation to the powers of darkness as He walked the earth. He healed the sick. Cast out devils. Jesus was constantly undoing the enemy's influence over people and cities. If that was not enough, His redemptive work brought utter ruin to the devil and his kingdom. Now, because of Jesus' blood, believers everywhere have received the same Spirit that anointed the Son of God to destroy the works of the devil (see 1 John 3:8). Darkness does not stand a chance.

PRAYER *The Cross made it possible for me to experience Your anointing. The powers of darkness would have never crucified Jesus if they knew what His sacrifice would make available! I am not filled for a season or for a task—I am anointed and filled with Your Spirit for all the days of my life.*

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

9

Jan. 14

Daily Scripture Reading

HEB. 12:28-29

The veil in the temple, the rocks around Jerusalem, and the heavens all experience the same act of violence. They give witness that the King with a superior Kingdom has just come onto the scene.

AT JESUS' DEATH, everything was shaken. Each expression of shaking and breaking revealed that full provision had been made for the open heaven that Jesus walked under to become our reality. Consider the testimony of the veil, the rocks, and the heavens at Jesus' death: The veil—God was not tied to an Old Covenant anymore as the requirements had been met through Jesus' death. It was torn top to bottom, as it was His doing. The rocks—the hardest places on earth were responding to the change in seasons, splitting open to signify that Jesus, the King of glory, was welcome to rule here. The heavens—the prince of the power of the air had no authority over Jesus, who would be the prototype of every believer who would walk the earth after His death, resurrection, and ascension into Heaven.

PRAYER *I belong to an unshakeable Kingdom. Even though things in the world are shaking all around me, I carry what is eternal, unshakeable, and steadfast. Help me to release the power of Your Kingdom into every shaking circumstance in life.*

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

10

Jan. 15

Daily Scripture Reading

JOHN 14:12

Jesus paved the way for His experience to become our experience.

AS WE START to live out of our baptism in the Holy Spirit, it is necessary for us to have an accurate understanding of what took place at Jesus' baptism. He is our model and template for the Christian life. In a sense, His baptism is our baptism, not concerning sin, but the Spirit. In Mark 1, we read the following account of Jesus' baptism in the Spirit: "And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove" (Mark 1:10 ESV). God was responding to those ancient cries for the heavens to be torn open (rend the heavens). This had been His desire all along. It was only when Jesus came into the picture that Isaiah's prayer could be fully answered. For the earth to be filled with God's glory, its inhabitants needed to be first filled with His Spirit. Jesus' experience had to become our experience in order for us to complete this task. So then, what happened when the heavens were torn open in this act of violence? The Spirit of God came down. This is the answer to Isaiah's prayer. This is in response to the cries of the kings and prophets who all ached for this day.

PRAYER *Because of the Holy Spirit living inside of me, I am able to do the very works that Jesus did. His experience is an example for what I should expect from my Christian life. Thank You, Lord, that I can do all things because of Your Presence living within me!*

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

11

Jan. 16

Daily Scripture Reading

ACTS 2:1-4

To look for another open heaven is to incorrectly steward the one we've been given.

THE HOLY SPIRIT, the treasure of Heaven that Jesus and the Father spoke so reverently about, has been released on earth. When it comes to the topic of revival or outpouring, we need to be careful to identify what we are asking for. Too many believers are crying out for what God has already faithfully sent into the earth. Powerlessness is not the result of God's unwillingness to give, but humankind's inability to steward what it has already been given. This is the key to enjoying Jesus' experience as our own. It is living before God as a son or daughter, not a beggar. When we beg, we automatically assume unwillingness from the other end. The act of begging hopes that the perseverance coupled with desperation will elicit a response. It is one thing to be desperate and to persevere for breakthrough; but to beg is to believe that the one we are begging of prefers for us to remain in a state of lack. This is not our Father. The problem is that we are begging for an inheritance that has already been freely released to us. We are crying out for an outpouring from Heaven that has already come to the earth. With good intentions and hungry hearts, we ask God to open the heavens. I have to wonder if He is looking down at the Church, hoping that we would respond to the open heaven by living as an open gate.

PRAYER *Your Holy Spirit has already been poured out! I press in for fresh fillings and encounters, which Scripture tells me are available. However, I do not look for another Holy Spirit. I don't look for a new open heaven. He has already come and He lives inside of me. I don't cry out for another Spirit; rather, I desire to experience the One Who lives inside of me in even greater measure!*

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

12

Jan. 17

Daily Scripture Reading

ROM. 12:2

For the believer, most closed heavens are between the ears.

WHETHER OR NOT we believe that Heaven is open does not negate the truth that it IS. Our thoughts do not alter the open heaven over our lives; instead, they determine whether or not we partake of this reality. Jesus Christ secured an open heaven for every single Spirit-indwelt believer. This is a fact. The question is: Do our minds agree with this fact or do they entertain a lie? No doubt we are familiar with Paul's words to the church in Rome, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind" (Rom. 12:2). One of the practical ways that we live out of a renewed mind is by maintaining awareness of what we have, not what we think we lack. When we live under the influence of what we perceive we lack, we are always fighting to pursue these items which seem ever evasive and just out of reach. To reorient our minds and become focused on what we possess in Christ, as those anointed by the Spirit, we posture ourselves to draw from the resources of His world and release them into ours. We believe the resources of the Kingdom are readily accessible because the blood of a better covenant has secured them for us.

PRAYER *Shape my thoughts to agree with every provision that Your blood made available. Because of Jesus' blood, I am filled with the Holy Spirit. I was qualified to be filled because I was cleansed. Because I am filled, I walk under an open heaven. Unlimited supernatural resources flow from Your world to this one through me. Show me how to walk in this identity and steward Your Presence well.*

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

13

Jan. 18

Daily Scripture Reading

MATT. 28:18

Living as though the heavens were brass over us actually plays into the devil's hands as it puts us in a defensive posture.

THIS PERSPECTIVE VIOLATES what Jesus accomplished. He put us on offense with His commission, "Go!" The enemy keeps believers on the defensive by trying to maintain a state of deception in those who have received power. He wants us to believe that we are beggars, when in fact we are royal children with a mighty inheritance. This certainly doesn't mean that darkness isn't able to cast a long shadow over a person, or even a city or a nation. We often find ourselves in spiritually dark environments. I can take you places where just being there could cause you to tremble, as the realm of darkness is so prevalent, destructive, and dominant. Darkness is a reality and its agenda is to secure your agreement. When we believe that darkness is more powerful than it really is, we position ourselves on the defense. We play into the enemy's deception when we view the realm of darkness as superior to what it actually IS. It is foolish to consider a desolated kingdom as powerful, let alone superior to a conquering kingdom. We cannot entertain this deception if we long to see God's superior Kingdom transform the landscape of this world.

PRAYER *Continue to renew my mind to agree with Your thoughts, Father. Position me to live on the offense, not the defense. I am not fighting for victory, but fighting from victory. Jesus already won the victory and commissioned me to "Go," not simply defend and fight the devil. Show me how to agree with what He has already done, live out of His finished work, and boldly fulfill the assignment You have given me!*

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

14

Jan. 19

Daily Scripture Reading

MATT. 12:28

Believing a lie empowers the liar.

THE ONLY WAY that the enemy becomes big to us is when we believe that he IS. This is one of the key tactics he has aimed at the Spirit-empowered body of Christ. He shudders because of Who lives within you. He knows your potential, because He saw Jesus' works. Jesus did not bring deliverance to demonized people because He was God. Jesus Himself reveals the supernatural Source of His chain-breaking power by explaining "if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you" (Matt. 12:28). It was the anointing of the Holy Spirit that gave Jesus the ability to set the captives free (see Luke 4:18). Likewise, it is the anointing upon you that empowers you to bring freedom to captives. As long as you believe the devil is bigger than he really is and that the darkness is so thick, so strong, and so powerful, it will become difficult for you to confidently draw from the Spirit of God within you and release deliverance to those in need.

PRAYER *Your Spirit empowers me to heal the sick and deliver the oppressed. I have no power in and of myself—I am completely dependent on Your Presence within me to accomplish the supernatural. The works of darkness are no match for the Greater One Who lives inside of me!*

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

15

Jan. 20

Daily Scripture Reading

1 PETER 5:8

Darkness is an inferior power, one I cannot afford to be impressed with.

OUR ATTENTION MUST be on the provisions and promises of Christ and the open heaven over each one of us. I believe that keeping my focus on those things describes at least in part what it means to abide in Christ (see John 15:4). This is what Paul means when he encourages us to set our thoughts upon things that are above (see Col. 3:1-2). To believe darkness is superior is to buy into a lie that ultimately empowers the liar. The devil's days are numbered. He is utterly powerless. He is desperately searching for open doors of agreement where he can plant and cultivate his lies. Scripture tells us that the enemy, "your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour" (1 Pet. 5:8 NASB). It is worth noting that the devil is not a roaring lion. His aim is to masquerade like a roaring lion. He can initiate the devouring process when someone starts to believe he actually is a roaring lion. Let's cease being impressed with this one whose charade is as old as time itself.

PRAYER *Help me to remember that the devil is not a roaring lion—even though he tries to convince me that he is. He is unimpressive and inferior when measured beside the Risen Christ. He is a defeated foe and I have been given authority to tread upon his works of darkness. Keep me from agreeing with his lies, Lord. This denies him the right of access and keeps him from infiltrating my life through my thoughts!*

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

16

Jan. 21

Daily Scripture Reading

2 TIM. 1:7

Our refusal to fear reminds the devil that he is finished!

TO FEAR, IN one sense, is to agree with a lie and empower the liar. The enemy operates using fear. We are either operating out of fear or out of faith—the two cannot peacefully coexist. Naturally, darkness would prefer you to live under the cloak of fear. This restrains us from using the currency of faith, which gives materiality to God's promises. Faith unlocks and releases our full provisions in Christ. Such a lifestyle consistently reminds the devil of his defeat. He has no hold over the one who says "no" to his invitation to embrace fear. When we fear, darkness has become elevated. Our perspective of Kingdom solutions has decreased. To deny fear is to deny the enemy the place of power he so desperately craves. To embrace faith is to agree with God's perspective on reality: The devil is finished and His Kingdom is ever-increasing!

PRAYER *I have not been given a spirit of fear, but of love, power, and a sound mind! Fear gives the enemy access to my thought life—access that he does not deserve. Keep my eyes fixed on Your goodness and love, Father. It is Your love that casts out all fear. I am loved by You. You are with me. You have thoughts and plans of good toward me.*

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

17

Jan. 22

Daily Scripture Reading

ACTS 16:22-30

When in doubt, always worship.

IF FOR SOME reason you can't seem to sense what to do in a given environment, worship. This is always the right perspective. In one sense, to worship is to magnify. To magnify God through worship does not imply that our actions have the ability to make Him bigger or smaller than He really IS. He is God. Yet, when we choose to magnify God, we are coming into agreement with Who He IS. To magnify is to make larger. The wonderful thing about magnifying the Lord through worship is that no matter how big our praises make Him, we never run the risk of exaggeration or embellishment. It is quite impossible for our mortal words, as beautiful and wonderful as they can be, to fully capture the greatness of God as He is. In the same way that there is always more of God for us to experience, there is always more of Him to celebrate through our praise!

PRAYER *I magnify You, Lord. Greater is He Who is living within me than any circumstance, any impossibility, any fear, or any mountain I come up against. The Presence of the Greater One is not only with me, but in me. Keep my eyes fixed on this truth—and help me to live a life of worship, responding to this. I respond to Who You are and live mindful that the God I worship has made a covenant to live inside of me forever.*

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

18

Jan. 23

Daily Scripture Reading

1 JOHN 4:4

We cannot let darkness shape our awareness of the heavenly atmosphere that dwells upon us.

ONE DIMENSION OF living out of a renewed mind is awareness. Are we more aware of the darkness around us or are we more aware of the Spirit resting upon us? The One Who rests upon us is the solution to the darkness around us. This would suggest that the person who lives aware of the Holy Spirit's empowering Presence is a constant threat to darkness. Perhaps our greatest threat to the advancement of darkness is our ability to shut it down by simply saying, "No, you do not deserve my attention and my awareness." This is where victory begins. It is not a call to pretend like darkness does not exist. Instead, it is to treat darkness appropriately—as space that is destined to be transformed by the light we carry.

PRAYER *Increase my awareness of Your Great Presence living within me. Help me not to become overly aware of the darkness around me, but to constantly look within and remember that the One Who trampled the powers of darkness lives inside of me! Greater are You, Holy Spirit—the One living in me—than the forces of darkness in this world. Help me to live mindful and aware of Your greatness.*

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

19

Jan. 24

Daily Scripture Reading

ACTS 2:5-6

Mature believers carry Heaven's atmosphere in such a way that others are able to stand under their shade and receive protection.

THE SIZE of the open heaven over us is affected in some measure by our maturity and yieldedness to the Holy Spirit. Think of the open heaven as a big oak tree. The bigger and more stable the tree is, the more people can stand under its shade. To use another analogy, others can draft on our breakthroughs and become changed. For those of us who are filled with the Holy Spirit and live yielded to His indwelling Presence, we have the privilege of bringing others into a taste of what we enjoy continuously. This is not meant to be sustained. Sooner or later, the one who enjoys the shade of what we carry must become a shade tree themselves. By providing shade, we give a foretaste of what is available to all who would say "Yes" to Jesus.

PRAYER *Just as an entire city felt the impact of the outpouring of Your Spirit, I ask that You would use my life to release Your Presence. I ask that those who may not even know You yet would experience the powerful impact of Your Presence resting upon me.*

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

20

Jan. 25

Daily Scripture Reading

MATT. 3:16-17

To live unaware of the open heaven over us is to contribute to the war over our hearts and minds as it pertains to the truth of Scripture.

TO LIVE UNAWARE of the open heaven over us keeps us focused on what hasn't happened instead of living from what has happened. What has happened is that the Son of God was also the anointed Son of Man. God came to earth and, for the purpose of showing us how to live like Him, became a Man anointed by the Holy Spirit. Only God could pull that off successfully. God remained God, but became a Man—Who was filled with the Spirit of God. The One qualified to live under open heavens made provision for His reality to become yours. This is what we must learn to live aware of. The language of open heavens points to an unrestricted flow of supernatural resources from God's world to this one. The catalyst is always an anointed individual. Jesus was the model for what it looked like to live under an open heaven. He never intended for His experience to be unparalleled or unreachable, as Jesus' earthly ministry is an invitation to us to rise higher in our Christian lives.

PRAYER *The heavens were opened to Jesus at His baptism when He received the Holy Spirit. In the same way, the heavens are opened to me because I have received the abiding Presence of Your Spirit in my life. Jesus paid the price so that Heaven would remain over me all the days of my life.*

**What is He
saying to
me today?**

21

Jan. 26

Daily Scripture Reading

MARK 16:15-18

We owe it to God to live aware of what He has done and draw from the reality He has made available.

JESUS PAID A debt that we could never pay back. In fact, our minds are utterly incapable of conceiving of how such a debt could even be repaid. To “owe” God is not to try and pay Him back for the debt He paid. No. It means to become aware of everything Jesus purchased at the Cross and start drawing from what He has made readily available. We cannot afford to pray from the place of lack anymore. To pray from lack when the answer has already been provided through the Cross keeps us perpetually trapped in a spiritual state of limbo. We tend to ask for what has already been freely given. There is a time for petition and there is a time for declaration. There is a time to ask and there is a time to release. Jesus always knew what to do by following the Father’s example. In like manner, Jesus has given us His example as our model and His Spirit as our Source of instruction. He will always show us the correct posture to take.

PRAYER *Help me to live a lifestyle that takes advantage of everything that Jesus paid for. There is no way I can ever repay Him for what He did for me on the Cross. My sin debt was beyond comprehension—and He paid it in full! Instead, help me to live out of the inheritance purchased at Calvary. This is truly the only way I can repay Jesus. This is the best way I can say “Thank You” to Him—by accessing everything that His purchase made available to me!*

**What is He
saying to
me today?**