

WEEK 1: January 1-8, 2021
Watchmen Individual Call Focuses

“I will stand my watch
And set my
self on the rampart,
And watch to see what He will say to me,
And what I will answer when I am corrected.” Hab 2:1

Watchmen are called to personal consecration in order to hear and see what the Lord is saying and not be blinded by the ways of this world. The focus of the devotional this week is to guide us into personal consecration.

RESET FOCUS - FAITH:

Meditation:

In the midst of chaos, Daniel states, “But the people who know their God will be strong and do great exploits,” Daniel 11:32. The journey of faith requires increasing spiritual yieldedness to God awakening us and catapulting us out of our comfort zones. Faith unlocks the power of the Gospel and yields the testimony of Jesus. What is God asking you to have faith for? Do we believe it? Even the apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” Luke 17:5. What are the impossible things God is calling you to do?

Scriptures:

- “For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them,” Mark 11:23-24.
- “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen,” Heb 11:1.
- “Without faith it is impossible to please Him,” Heb 11:6.
- “That your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God,” 1 Cor 2:5.
- “Above all, taking up the shield of faith with which to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one,” Eph 6:16.
- “Faith without works is dead,” James 2:11 (see also James 2:20, 26).

Action items:

- What is God saying to you through these scriptures?
- What is God asking you to have faith for in the coming year(s)?
- What is the difference between faith and presumption?
- Ask God for specific strategies for your continued journey in faith.

Corporate Prayer Guide for morning/evening prayer leader:

- Read the Meditation
- Thank and Praise God
- Worship
- Confess
- Express forgiveness of ourselves and others for lack of faith, and proceeding on our own strength or in presumption

- Prayer for empowerment through faith that is yielded to God’s timing, authority structures, and purpose.

RESET FOCUS - Intimacy with God

Meditation:

Charles Spurgeon has said, “True prayer is neither a mere mental exercise nor a vocal performance. It is far deeper than that - it is a spiritual transaction with the Creator of Heaven and Earth.” In this “set time” we are in, there is a divine opportunity the Lord is extending to us to enter in once again. This hinge in history is an invitation to the visitation of the person of Jesus Christ to invade every room in our hearts. It is not a visitation of Him over us, but in us, every part...Christ in you, the hope of glory. As we allow Him entrance into every room in our hearts it not only brings transformation in us, but effects and brings transformation to those around us. Allow Him in, to rearrange and transform every part of your heart, so that His kingdom will surely come and his will, will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Scriptures:

- “To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,” Colossians 1:27.
- “But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly,” Matthew 6:6.
- “In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven,” Matthew 6:9-10.
- “John answered, saying to all, ‘I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire,” Luke 3:16.

Action Items:

- Spend some time with the Lord. Invite Him in and give Him full access to every part of your heart.
- Declare to the Lord in your own words that you trust Him with every part of your life, including those you love and have relationships with. Tell him you trust Him with the places and circumstances in your life you have no control over.
- Ask the Lord to rekindle the fire in your heart, so your heart burns for Him.

Corporate Prayer Guide for morning/evening prayer leader:

- Release an impartation of the Father’s heart over them.
- Spend some time declaring who the Lord is. His character, His nature, etc..
- Ask the Lord to start a fire in the corporate prayer community that burns deep and bright with His passion, releasing the oil of the Holy Spirit in, and through each of them.

RESET FOCUS - TRUTH

Meditation:

Today, truth is being challenged from almost every front of our culture. Like Adam and Eve in the garden, the enemy is a master at sounding good, twisting what God says and enticing us into his grip. Our reality must be grounded in the Word and affirmed in our Spirit or we are in danger of living a lie. God’s ways are not our ways. How do we adjust to the obstructions, and assaults that threaten to “de-center” us? How do we stand when the enemy entices us or

threatens our lives, and livelihoods? In the midst of today's challenges, to be watchful requires us to be centered in God's Word, confident of His purpose and power in our lives no matter what are the facts of a situation. God's Word will always override the facts or news of our reality. God's Word is eternal and how we view our circumstances must be filtered through His word to avoid deception. Isaiah states, Have I applied God's principles to all parts of my life, what I see around me, what I am encountering? Meditate on these scriptures and apply them.

Scriptures:

- "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry," 2 Tim 4:3-5.
- "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success," Josh 1:8
- "So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void but will accomplish what I please and shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it," Isaiah 55:11.
- "Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one," Eph 6:14-15
- "For You have magnified Your word above all Your name." Psalm 138:2.
- "I am the way the Truth and the life, No one comes to the Father except through me," John 14:6.
- "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." 2 Tim 3:16-17

Action items:

- As you meditate on the reality of the activity of God's Word in your life, are there cycles of negativity, offense, pain you are experiencing? Is God really working all things together for good? What does His word say about your circumstance?
- What challenge are you personally facing that requires a re-centering on the promises of God's Word.
- For any reality that threatens your centeredness in Christ, find scripture that can address the issue
- Activate faith for God's answers.

Corporate Prayer Guide for morning/evening prayer leader:

- Worship the Lord for His goodness and faithfulness to us
- Release truth, asking God to make it the soil that nourishes our spirit man to grow wider and deeper in Him
- Ask God to uncover and reveal any hidden place in the corporate praying community and bring life and truth to those areas.

RESET FOCUS - FORGIVENESS

Meditation:

Scriptures do not promise a life without difficulties, but they do promise to provide the means in which to overcome them. When caught in the situations Jesus spoke of, “It is impossible that no offenses should come, but woe *to him* through whom they do come!” Luke 17:1, the condition of our hearts is tested. We have choices on how to handle these trying circumstances. If we shed the offense, the issues are released into God’s hands. God will use it to give us a greater measure of His love and work a fruitfulness in our lives that forgiveness cultivates. This does not mean we become a victim. God uses these circumstances to build our character and deepen wisdom. Forgiveness opens the door of freedom and is the pathway to greater authority. When self-righteous anger wells up inside, it is time to step back, purposefully release forgiveness over the person or situation. Thank God for the shed blood of Jesus and trust we have in Him to make all things work together for good. Holding offense will stunt our spiritual walk and keep us from the fullness for which Christ set us free. How we walk out forgiveness in our lives can very well determine where we end up, and the level of fruitfulness we experience.

Scriptures:

- “Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do,” Col 3:12-13.
- “Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven,” Luke 6:37.
- “He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy,” Pro 28:13.
- “And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses,” Mk 11:25.
- “Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed.
Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled,” Hebrews 12:12-15.
- “For the Lord your God is gracious and merciful, and will not turn His face from you if you return to Him,” 2 Chron 30:9b.

Action Items:

- Is there anyone you need to actively forgive, or even approach and verbalize forgiveness? Pray and do it.
- Pray for God’s healing touch over any residual wound you may be carrying. Continue applying God’s Word over any issue that has troubled you until His peace surrounds you.

Corporate Prayer Guide for morning/evening prayer leader:

- Pray that the Lord would release healing to the hearts of the corporate praying community where there has been offense and hurt.
- Shut the door to unforgiveness through the blood of Jesus and seal it.
- Release new keys to them, keys of breakthrough and hope, unity and love.

RESET FOCUS - SPEAKING LIFE:

Meditation:

Our speech reflects what is in our hearts. What we say can promote truth and life, or death and destruction in our lives and character, and in those around us. *Death and life are in the power of the tongue*, Proverbs 18:21, is very much a reality. What goes into our “ear gates” is powerful; it can promote the Kingdom of God or the Kingdom of darkness. The end-times will bring an onslaught of the accuser of the brethren. John warns of this onslaught, “The accuser of our brethren, who accused them before God day and night,” Rev. 12:10. He also says that we, believers in Jesus, will overcome these accusations by the “Blood of the lamb, by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives unto the death,” Rev. 12:11. What we sow into our hearts will most certainly be reflected in our speech. Jesus said, “For out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks,” Mt 12:34. As times get more challenging, our hearts must be set on a constant pilgrimage of seeking the Lord as we journey forward. His Word then becomes a living agent, working through our soul and spirit so that the Word of life can come forth and our circumstances become a testimony of His goodness.

Scriptures

- “Death and life are in the power of the tongue,” Proverbs 18:21.
- “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.” Psalm 19:14
- “My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall give understanding.” Job 49:3
- “If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body.” James 3:2

Action Item

- Pray for God to show you who to intentionally bless. “Death and life are in the power of the tongue,” Proverbs 18:21.
- Meditate on the goodness of the Lord and apply His word over your circumstances.

Corporate Prayer Guide for morning/evening prayer leader:

- Pray for a healing anointing to cover the ear gates and the eye gates of the corporate praying community keeping them focused and centered on the will of God for their lives
- Release a corporate blessing over them

RESET FOCUS - RELENTLESS

Meditation:

There is an adage, “When the going gets tough, the tough get going.” Tough encounters and seasons in our lives are ultimately God’s blessing. Such challenges hone a quality in our lives that nothing else can. It is a pathway to a greater encounter with His love. When obstructive forces hit our lives, or the road seems just too long and difficult, the temptation is to give up. When this is the case, you are, in fact, at your point of breakthrough. Through these “bottoming experiences,” we are faced with our motivations. Are we being driven by our flesh, or a deep burning love for Jesus? If we allow it, trials work to burn up every ounce of flesh in us to make room for greater revelation of God’s love to take root. Negative cycles of thinking, critical spirits, will all be challenged by a loving God desiring to impart a greater measure of His wisdom and revelation to us. Offenses are promised to come, Mt. 18:7, but God allows them to strengthen us, so that we are not knocked out of commission at the first hurdle and can run the race with endurance, so as to win the prize. When you want to *give up* it is a sure signal a true God encounter is about to happen and the resurrection life of Jesus becomes a reality in your life.

Scriptures:

- “And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us,” Rom 5:3-5.
- “ Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us,” Rom 8:17-18.
- “For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal,” 2 Cor 4:17.
- “Submit to one another in the fear of God,” Eph 5:21.
- “Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him,” James 1:12.
- “My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing,” James 1:2-4.

Action Items:

- From these verses, how can you prevent burn-out?
- What challenges are you facing that threaten to wear you out, or discourage you?
- How can you move to direct your attention from the problem to God’s promises?
- What Scriptures speak to you? Meditate on them until they override your circumstances.

Corporate Prayer Guide for morning/evening prayer leader:

- Pray for those who are weary and burdened, asking the Lord to infuse them with His strength and renewed passion.
- Pray a blessing over them.
- Ask the Lord to give them new vision to see the issues from His perspective and release hope into the hard places.

Ask the Lord to bring d. His Word then becomes a living agent, working through our soul and spirit, so that the Word of life can come forth and our circumstances become a testimony of His goodness.

Scriptures:

- “Death and life are in the power of the tongue,” Proverbs 18:21.
- “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer,” Psalm 19:14.
- “My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall give understanding,” Job 49:3.
- “If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body,” James 3:2.

Action Items:

- Pray for God to show you who to intentionally bless; “Death and life are in the power of the tongue,” Proverbs 18:21.
- Meditate on the goodness of the Lord and apply His word over your circumstances.

Corporate Prayer Guide for morning/evening prayer leader:

- Pray for a healing anointing to cover the ear gates and the eye gates of the corporate praying community, keeping them focused and centered on the will of God for their lives.
- Release a corporate blessing over them.

RESET FOCUS: REPENTANCE and the RENEWED MIND

Meditation:

The past season has been marked by a certain sense that times have shifted. This sense has been accentuated by COVID 19. Its advent on the world scene can be more adequately defined as a “Divine Interruption.” Life, as usual, has most distinctively changed. God has allowed it to get our attention. In the process, there is a call now to renew our minds. What is God saying in the midst of the shift? How are we to proceed? Familiar patterns of behavior and doing things, are suddenly gripped by the reality that things need to change. In essence, it is a call to repentance for the renewing of our minds. Paul warns, “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is good and acceptable and perfect will of God,” Rom 12:2. As we are in a divine shift, know that God is calling us to attention. His divine will is being made manifest, and the challenges today are a gift of mercy to strengthen us for what is ahead. He is preparing us for the future and spiritually challenging us to take Him at His Word. His Word will be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

Scriptures:

- “Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts,” Colossians 3:16.
- “Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things,” Col 3:2.
- “Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one,” Ephesians 6:14-16.
- “Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things,” Philippians 4:8.
- “Yet those who wait for the LORD Will gain new strength; They will mount up with wings like eagles, They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary,” Isaiah 40:31.

Action Items:

- When challenged by life’s trials, ask God what He is saying to you, and how you may need to adjust your thinking to line up more intentionally with His word.

Corporate Prayer Guide:

- Ask God what challenges we are facing in the Body of Christ.
- Pray into scriptures that call the body of Christ into its fullness: Amos 9:11-12; Isaiah 62:6-7; Romans 11:25.