Monday
Real Men Still Seek Him

’That they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might...find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.’ Acts 17:27

In the days Jesus was born, the biggest issue of the day was wanting lower taxes and a different government. ‘When Herod the King heard about Jesus, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him’ (Matthew 2:3 NKJV). And today Jesus still forces a reaction in the hearts of men. That’s why some people want to take Him out of the classroom, the courtroom, and government. The forces of darkness are set on a course of trying to remove His name, His influence and His authority from all public life.

No matter what the individual, governments or the world does; no one would be able to erase the name and the influence of Jesus from this world. period. It’s a battle they can't win, because ultimately ‘...every knee shall bow... and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord’ (Romans 14:11 NIV). Every prophecy concerning Christ’s first coming was fulfilled to the letter, and every prophecy concerning His second coming will be too. Believe me real men still seek Him.

Tuesday
The Cost of Miracles

"Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit’” (Matt 1:19-21).

There is often a cost associated with a miracle. Mary carried a miracle in her belly. No other woman in history had the distinction of birthing the Son of God. It was a one-time event in history. She must been subjected to all manner of harassment and shame for becoming pregnant without being married. But within her, she knew she was carrying out the Lord’s will for her life.

Her finance Joseph was going to break off the engagement when he discovered she was pregnant. Had he not had a visitation from an angel, he too would have rejected her. However, he married her and also carried the stigma associated with a pregnancy that most assumed was immoral. It can be costly to be God’s miracle.
Wednesday
Running Away From Conflict

Then Joab went to Geshur and brought Absalom back to Jerusalem. But the king said, "He must go to his own house; he must not see my face." So Absalom went to his own house and did not see the face of the king (2 Sam 14:23-24).

Many people hate conflict to the point they will never confront a wrong. Taking this path will only lead to more severe situation later. Such was the case for Absalom and his father King David. Amnon, also a son of David, raped his sister Tamar. When this happened, David was furious but he did not punish Amnon for his actions. Absalom saw this as a terrible injustice for his sister. So, Absalom plotted to kill Amnon at the right time. He patiently waited for two years before he set up a situation to have him killed.

David was heartbroken over the death of Amnon and held Absalom responsible. At the same time, David still desired to have a relationship with Absalom, but because he failed to address the situation with Amnon when it happened, it led to more serious consequences in the family. Absalom was banished for three years. It is imperative to confront problems when they arise no matter how uncomfortable it might be. We are called to speak the truth in love. Make plans now to get with this person and work through the issues that divide you.

Thursday
Expect Great Things from God

'. . .Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.' 1Samuel 7:12

The Bible says, 'Then Samuel took a stone...and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."' As you end this year and look back, what do you see? Failure? Wasted opportunities? When it comes to your failures, God says, 'I, even I, am He that blotteth out thy transgressions for Mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins' (Isaiah 43:25 KJV). When it comes to your wasted opportunities, God says, 'I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten...' (Joel 2:25 NKJV).

A wise man said, 'If we do not learn from the past we are doomed to repeat it.' It's okay to look back and learn, but if you drive looking in the rearview mirror, you'll end up in a ditch. Whether good or bad, don't get stuck in the past. The good news is that, God has better plans for the coming new year. Pick your self up and warm up for a greater, better new year.

Friday
Love Your Enemy

You have heard that it was said, "Love your neighbor and hate your enemy." But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous (Matt 5:43-46).
If you are a leader you will have conflict sooner or later. How you manage conflict will determine how good a leader you are. Jesus handled conflict in many different ways. Sometimes he confronted the issue head-on, other times He ignored the accusation and went on His way. Sometimes He chose to wash the feet of those who attacked Him.

Dr. Martin Luther King, father of the United States civil rights movement modeled conflict management in the following way- a) Develop and maintain the capacity to forgive. Such forgiveness doesn't mean that we ignore the wrong committed against us. Rather it means that we will no longer allow the wrong to be a barrier to the relationship. b) Recognise that the wrong we’ve suffered doesn’t entirely represent the other person’s identity. He has both good and bad sides. c) Must not seek to defeat or humiliate our opponent, but to win his or her friendship and understanding.

Saturday
Offer Your Body to God

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God — this is your true and proper worship.” Romans 12:1 (NIV)

A believer no longer belong to himself. He has been repurchased by Jesus and freed from all the pranks of Satan and his agents. He is delivered and freed from all oppressive tendencies of the devil. That translates to mean that Jesus can make demands over the person and body of the believer. You have become a living sacrifice.

The problem with a living sacrifice is that it can choose to crawl off the altar. We do this all the time. We offer ourselves to God, and then we take ourselves back. This is not a once-for-all offer. You’ve got to do it four, five, or maybe 10 times a day. No matter what kind of change you want to make in your life, it will require total surrender to the Master. Are you ready to surrender your will for the Master’s?

Sunday
The Question of Calling

I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints? (Eph 1:18-19).

There is a distinction between a later, special calling and our original, ordinary calling. Selfishness prefers the first, but stewardship respects both. A special calling refers those tasks and missions laid on individuals through a direct, specific, supernatural communication from God. Ordinary calling, on the other hand, is the believer’s sense of life-purpose and life-task in response to God’s primary call, ‘follow me,’ even when there is no direct, specific, supernatural communication from God about a secondary calling.
Your first or ordinary call was when you gave your life to Jesus. You were called to be a witness of the saving grace in Jesus. What is now your special calling? God will always give a second calling. My second calling is to be a minister for Jesus at the market place. I have not been called to be a Church Pastor but a Market place labourer.