

# PASTOR'S CORNER

From the Desk of Pastor Daniel Simmons

## Book of the Month

### Living with Purpose

*Devotions for Discovering Your  
GOD-GIVEN POTENTIAL*

ISBN# 978-0-7684-0844-7

### Scripture Readings:

*An Attitude for Positive  
Change (NIV)*

### Week of *January 7*

**James 4:10; Philippians 2:5**

### Week of *January 14*

**Acts 2:44; 1John 4:8**

### Week of *January 21*

**1Peter 4:1**

### Week of *January 28*

**Romans 12:2**

## *Do What You Do...Differently!*

*(Many Members, One Body)*

*By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. --- Hebrews 11:8*

The reason I have such an optimistic outlook on life is because I do not allow myself or other people to put limitations on the possibilities I possess within my spirit by the grace of God! For me to fall for such blasphemy would be like saying 'God is not God', and THAT is a lie straight from the adversary! All the same, there are far too many of us who are living as if that lie is the truth. It is long time overdue for the people of God to walk, talk, live and thrive in the power of authority He has given to each of us who believe in Him. It's all a matter of our relationship with God, our faith, and our obedience towards Him.

I have already heard so many *last year comparison conversations* about this New Year until is sadder than sad. What usually concludes the conversations is, "Well, I guess we'll just wait and see what this year looks like it's going to do before we make a move." Huh?!? Are you kidding me? What sense is there in that? It's a setup to get left further behind than we already are!

Why not try doing something that you perhaps already do, or something else you have an interest in doing...but do it differently than the way you have for so long been accustomed to doing things? What do I mean by this? Well, it can be something as simple as the way you style your hair or the order in which you start your day. Why not try that part to the side of your head for a different look, or try getting up 15 minutes earlier to *study your Bible scripture* instead of eating first and being too sleepy afterwards to spend some time in the Word? You'd be humbly surprised at how the joy light

within your spirit will begin to flicker brighter and stronger just because you broke the monotony of doing the same thing in the same as usual way.

*Gamed to go a little further?* What's that idea that has a trail indented on your mind, and no matter what you do or how long you dismiss it, it just keeps coming back a little more and a little more – enticing something within your spirit to take a chance at it...but you don't? I dare you to go for it! What's the BEST that can happen, huh? You like it, you find joy and fulfillment in doing it, it blesses other lives, and it blesses yours, too, of course! The worse that can happen is easy – the same thing that's been happening all along because you haven't moved on it yet – a domino effect of missed opportunities and missed blessings to you and who knows how many other people? And do you want to know the ultimate worst? That's right - you deny our Living God the Glory and Honor He is due!

My intimate relationship with God is as important to my spirit and my soul as milk is to a baby! I cannot go a single day without the nourishment our Father provides me through His Holy Word, our quiet time together, and the many ways I am sensitive to Him speaking to me and guiding me in the direction He would have me to go. That's the root to my optimism in life! While I know Him to be the same gentle, loving and forgiving Father each time I go to Him, I also know that how, when, and the way He directs me is not always going to be the same. Other than the assurance of His promise to never leave me or forsake me, and that I already have victory through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I don't ever really know what to expect in His Presence in my life. When I finally accepted this fact, what once used to cause me much anxiety and frustration now fills my mind with anticipation and expectation for the outcome of something God is already well aware of, and yet He wakes me each new day and gives me the free will to do what I do... and do it differently!

I challenge you to reflect on your past actions and say to yourself, "I'm done with that!" Dare to do something in a different way, and experience the exuberance of discovering something new about life...and about yourself! Nothing old is going to conjure up anything new. It can only be recycled to repeat its dead existence. It is the now creates new, and it's up to you to be like Abraham and 'obey and go' without knowing what lies ahead. For like Abraham - with faith in our Almighty God - as long as He's in control and He is first in your life, your attitude and obedience can make all the difference in your life this New Year of 2018!

