



[TOP](#)

Daily Devotional, Monday, July 24, 2017 - Encouraging the Pastor

JULY 24TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional, Monday, July 24, 2017 - Encouraging the Pastor

2 Timothy 1:1-6

Do you attend church? If so, God has placed a person in your life whose job it is to train you in righteousness and speak the truth, even when you don't want to hear it. You are blessed to have a pastor who loves you and cares about your spiritual well-being. He needs to know you care about him too.

Many churchgoers neglect to encourage the pastor, but being aware of his needs is an important part of belonging to the body of Christ. In his second letter to Timothy, Paul models the way we're to encourage those who minister.

1. Tell your pastor you appreciate him. There's nothing more uplifting to a person's heart than to know someone else cares. Words are certainly valuable, but actions can speak even more loudly. So intentionally seek ways to demonstrate your love for your minister.

2. Express confidence in the pastor. Let him know you recognize the sincerity of his faith and appreciate his commitment to speak scriptural truths into your life.

3. Affirm the call of God on his life. Work with your pastor; respond to him in a way that shows you understand he's been called to minister and therefore has God's hand upon him. And when you experience the Lord working through him, let him know.

Above all, pray for your pastor. Don't assume that others in the church are praying or that a spiritual leader doesn't need intercession. The opposite is true. The devil would like to thwart effective ministering, but you can help to defend your shepherd as he tends the flock.

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/v7ut/Daily-Devotional-Monday-July-24-2017--Encouraging-the-Pastor>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:

[TOP](#)

Daily Devotional, Sunday, July 23, 2017 - The Blessings of Wisdom

JULY 23RD 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional, Sunday, July 23, 2017 - The Blessings of Wisdom

Proverbs 3:1-4

The world claims there are many paths to a successful, rewarding life: education, wealth, public recognition, or even service. But in the end, true fulfillment comes from the Lord and following His wisdom.

Proverbs says that when we choose to align our heart with God's truth, we will "find favor and good repute in the sight of God and man" (3:4). Not only will we have protection, clear guidance, and intimacy with the Father, but we'll also receive divine power to walk circumspectly before Him.

Wisdom—understanding God’s perspective on situations and responding accordingly—brings us the strength to stand firm in our faith and choose His way. It also helps us to calmly accept the hardships in our life. Our sovereign God knows the extent of our difficulties. Out of His love for us, He never gives us more than we can handle and uses even our darkest hours for His good purposes. Wise people are convinced this is true; they enjoy supernatural peace and will live in the Lord’s favor (Prov. 8:34-35; Phil. 4:7).

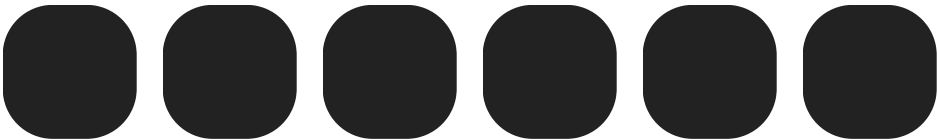
God wants to prosper His people in spiritual as well as material ways. For that reason, His first priority is to increase our understanding of Him. Then as we align our heart with His wisdom and will, we can apply His principles not just to our finances but to every facet of life.

The Lord stands ready to pour out His choicest blessings—power, divine favor, spiritual prosperity, and supernatural peace—on those who draw near to Him and submit to His plan.

LAST UPDATED ON JULY 23RD 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/v7uo/Daily-Devotional-Sunday-July-23-2017--The-Blessings-of-Wisdom>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:

Daily Devotional, Saturday, July 22, 2017 - The Benefits of Wisdom

JULY 22ND 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional, Saturday, July 22, 2017 - The Benefits of Wisdom

Proverbs 3:13-18

Human wisdom is meaningless in the Lord's eyes. The truth is, God's "foolishness" is wiser than man's understanding. (See 1 Cor. 1:25.) While it may feel risky to set aside our own reasoning to seek after the Lord's, the benefits of walking in His wisdom are great.

The first blessing is greater knowledge of God. The Lord is personally involved in every facet of our lives. The better we know His character, the more we will understand His viewpoint, recognize where He is working, and be able to respond properly to life's circumstances.

A second way we profit is by receiving clear guidance. God sees everything—His perspective is eternal, and every decision of His is right. He knows exactly what is needed to accomplish His will in our life and what it will take to resolve problems in a godly way, making us more like Christ.

A third benefit is divine protection. As Proverbs 28:26 tells us, "He who trusts in his own heart is a fool, but he who walks wisely will be delivered." We are not to rely upon our emotions, which are easily influenced by ungodliness. Nor can we trust the world's opinions. Wisdom's protection comes when we have a discerning spirit—one that is sensitive to the Lord's purpose and will for our life. With it, we gain insight into the unseen and the unspoken because nothing is hidden from the Spirit of God.

Knowing God, clear guidance, divine protection—human wisdom can't provide any of these. They come only from the heavenly Father, and He offers them freely to all who believe.

LAST UPDATED ON JULY 22ND 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/v7un/Daily-Devotional-Saturday-July-22-2017--The-Benefits-of-Wisdom>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:

[TOP](#)

Daily Devotional, Friday, July 21, 2017 - Courage in the Lonely Hour

JULY 21ST 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional, Friday, July 21, 2017 - Courage in the Lonely Hour

Deuteronomy 31:6-8

Loneliness is a powerful emotion. It can lead to despair, or it can draw us closer to the Lord. It is also a condition for which we were never designed. From the very beginning, God said that it was not good for man to be alone (Gen. 2:18). So, He created Eve. Then came sin, the separator.

Ever since, we have been trying to regain the intimate fellowship that was lost in the Garden of Eden. Most of us start this journey to recovery by seeking healthy connections with other people. Friends and family can help enormously, but their presence is no substitute for fellowship with the heavenly Father. In fact, our best friends can sometimes impede our efforts by appearing to offer what God alone can give. Falling for such pretense is idolatry—allowing something to take God's place.

That is why you see godly individuals throughout the Bible put to the loneliness test. We find examples in the story of Jacob wrestling alone with an angel (Gen. 32:24-32), Elijah standing alone on Mt. Sinai (1 Kings 19:1-21), and even Jesus praying alone in the garden because His friends had fallen asleep (Matt. 26:36-46). In all three cases, the picture is essentially the same.

Such heartrending experiences in our life are designed for one purpose: They bring us to the point where we can discover for ourselves that God is real. The learning process may take a while, but it is much more likely that we will rely on God if there is no one else to hang on to. When we experience utter loneliness, we can cling to the promise, “I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you” (Heb. 13:5)

LAST UPDATED ON JULY 21ST 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/v7uf/Daily-Devotional-Friday-July-21-2017--Courage-in-the-Lonely-Hour>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:

[TOP](#)

Daily Devotional, Thursday, July 20, 2017 - Partners in Suffering for Christ

JULY 20TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional, Thursday, July 20, 2017 - Partners in Suffering for Christ

Acts 19:23-31

In the book of Acts, Paul stands out as the most prominent preacher and apostle. That’s why we tend to pass over the names of other individuals who are mentioned only briefly. An example is Aristarchus—one of the men dragged into the theater of Ephesus during a riot. Paul was the target of the dispute, but Aristarchus was also on the receiving end of the hostility.

Who was Aristarchus? Though not well known, he is actually mentioned five times in the New Testament. We know he was from Thessalonica and that he joined Paul on his third missionary trip as the apostle was going to Jerusalem (Acts 20:4). The next time he showed up in Scripture (Acts 27:2), he was boarding a ship with Paul, who by that time was a prisoner on his way to Rome. At sea, Aristarchus and Paul suffered through a great storm that resulted in shipwreck. The last mentions of Aristarchus are as a fellow prisoner with Paul in a Roman jail and a fellow worker (Col. 4:10; Philem. 1:24).

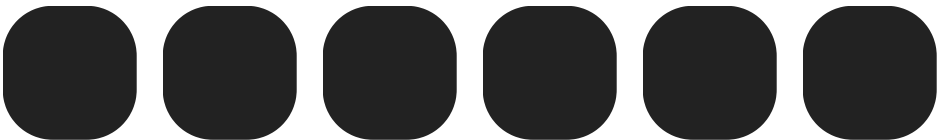
Almost every reference to Aristarchus involves suffering for Christ. Yet this isn’t a popular concept today. We want a Savior who will make life easy, comfortable, and prosperous. But that’s not the message Jesus preached, nor is it the example Paul and Aristarchus set. As the apostle wrote, “Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted” (2 Tim. 3:12).

Although most of us probably won’t experience the hardships Paul and Aristarchus suffered, we must be willing to stand for Christ in the face of rejection, ridicule, misunderstanding, discrimination, and even hostility. Are you willing to suffer for Christ?

LAST UPDATED ON JULY 20TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/v7u2/Daily-Devotional-Thursday-July-20-2017--Partners-in-Suffering-for-Christ>

Go to post



More from ShowMe Times:



SUBSCRIBE TO "FAITH MATTERS"

ShowMe Gold Sponsors