

*Delight  
Thyself  
also in the Lord*  
A SIMPLE DAILY DEVOTIONAL

*Delight Thyself*

DESIGN MINISTRIES

[delightthyself.com](http://delightthyself.com)

*“Delight thyself also in the LORD;  
and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.”*  
Psalm 37:4

*“And I will delight myself in thy commandments,  
which I have loved.”*  
Psalm 119:47

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Delight Thyself Design Ministries' mission is to design and distribute Gospel tracts for the furtherance of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our desire is to make tracts available to churches, while at the same time sending tracts to missionaries across the world in need of material.

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The contents of this book are the result of years of spiritual growth in life and ministry. Every effort has been made to give proper credit and attribution to quotes and information that is not original. It is not our intent to claim originality with any quote or thought that could not be tied to an original source.

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# Table of Contents

<i>Prologue</i> .....	6
<i>Dedications</i> .....	7
<i>January</i> .....	8
<i>February</i> .....	39
<i>March</i> .....	68
<i>April</i> .....	99
<i>May</i> .....	129
<i>June</i> .....	160
<i>July</i> .....	190
<i>August</i> .....	221
<i>September</i> .....	252
<i>October</i> .....	282
<i>November</i> .....	313
<i>December</i> .....	343
<i>Title Index</i> .....	374
<i>About Us</i> .....	381
<i>What Can One Tract Do?</i> .....	383
<i>The Bible Way To Heaven</i> .....	384

# *A New Year, A New Thing.*

Isaiah 43:18-19

*“Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. **Behold, I will do a new thing;** now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.”*

As a new year begins, ask God to guide you in the days ahead. He tells us to forget and not even consider what lies behind us, while promising that He has something new for us to experience. Maybe you feel like you're at the end of your road or walking through an emotional wilderness, not knowing which way to turn. He promises that He will make a way. Are you thirsty? He can bring you to a river in the desert.

**Let's use this new beginning, that God has given us, to turn the page of our lives and seek Him.** He promises He will never leave us nor forsake us. He will guide us through the trials and lead us through the victories, if only we will let Him.

The theme of this entire devotional is found in Psalm 37:4:

*“Delight thyself also in the LORD;  
and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.”*

**Use this new year to delight yourself in Him,** and claim the promise that He will give you the desires that fit into His perfect will for your life. It doesn't mean He will just give you what you want, but rather He will give you exactly what you need to be more like Him, and serve Him better.

Each day will have a verse or a set of verses and a short challenge or word of encouragement, followed by a suggested Bible reading for the day. The readings will allow you to read through more than the entire Bible before the year is over. The Old Testament & New Testament plus reviewing Psalms, Proverbs, Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Romans, Hebrews, James and 1 John again.

**Pray that God will work in your heart,  
and use His Word to help you through each day that lies ahead.**

## **Bible Reading**

## *The Crucified Life.*

Galatians 2:20

*"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."*

This verse is much easier to read than it is to live, isn't it? Life is much easier when we are dead to ourselves and Christ is living for us, but how many times do we die to ourselves only to have picked ourselves back up again before the end of the day, or even the hour?

In his book, "The Crucified Life", A.W. Tozer defined the crucified life as a life wholly given over to the Lord in absolute humility and obedience: a sacrifice pleasing to the Lord. He goes on to simplify and describe it practically as a life absolutely committed to following after Christ Jesus; to be more like Him, to think like Him, to act like Him, and to love like Him. To do that, **we must be dead to our flesh and own desires.**

Romans 6:6-7,11

*"Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin...Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord."*

**Commit yourself to dying each day  
so that Christ can live through you,  
and make you more alive than you could ever be by yourself.**

## *The Urgency Of Salvation.*

2 Corinthians 6:1-2

*"We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain. (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: **behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.**)"*

Have you ever seen someone blatantly put off accepting Christ, despite having been obviously convicted of his or her condition? There is nothing sadder to witness.

A soulwinner once asked a lady, if she died today, was she 100% sure she would go to heaven. She immediately burst into tears, ran to get her car keys and then sped away. The soulwinner and their partner stood still and speechless with their jaws open, wondering if what they saw had really happened. The soulwinner has since often wondered if Marcy ever accepted Christ, or if she was still avoiding and ignoring her need for Him.

**If you haven't trusted Christ before,  
and realize yourself as a sinner in need of a Saviour,  
what are you waiting for?**

*"behold, **now** is the accepted time; behold, **now** is the day of salvation."*

**Christian, if you have sat back and watched others spread the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, what are you waiting for?**

The lady at the next drive-thru window you visit needs Christ just as much as the convicted murderer on death row. You could be her last chance of knowing Christ before she is killed in an accident on her way home. The fast pace of a drive-thru does not really allow for a full verbal Gospel presentation...but she may read a Gospel tract that was given to her before she leaves the parking lot.

**Time is running out.**  
Now is the accepted time.  
Now is the day of salvation.

**Bible Reading**

Genesis 5-6 | John 3 | Proverbs 3

# Wait.

Psalm 37:34

*“Wait on the LORD, and keep his way,  
and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land:  
when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.”*

## **God doesn't do anything by accident.**

Within the pages of Scripture we can find encouragement, direction, and commands to be patient and wait on Him.

## **His timing is not our timing. His thoughts are not our thoughts.**

But, regardless of our impatience, our stubbornness, our need to have things our way and/or in our timing...He alone does all things well. His timing, though it may seem inconvenient and confusing, is always, always best.

Jim Elliot, the famous missionary to Ecuador, is well known for the phrase:

**“God always gives His best to those who leave the choice to Him.”**

## **If you lack patience today, you're not alone.**

They say not to pray for patience, cause God is sure to give you something you won't be comfortable with in order to help you learn it, but as we read in James 4:2... *“ye have not, because ye ask not”*.

Have you ever been in a hurry to get somewhere, and it seems like every traffic signal in your path is synced in shades of red? Stopping and waiting may be inconvenient, but if we ignore the warning and press the gas pedal, we risk getting hit by oncoming traffic.

God may seem to give you more red lights than green ones, but they are for your good. Standing still and waiting for Him to give you a green light, on the decision you are facing, is much better than getting blindsided by the vehicles of the enemy.

**Stay on the road, and wait for Him to tell you to move.**



## Patience.

1 Peter 5:6

*"Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God,  
that he may exalt you in due time:"*

Again, with the patience. If you haven't already noticed, the words "wait" and some form of "patient" occur many times in Scripture. **God wants us to be humble while we wait on Him.**

Getting ahead of the Lord will only lead to headache and heartburn. If we push open the door of opportunity too soon, we may get what we think we want and need at first, but it will never last without God's blessing.

**Only by humbling ourselves under His authority will we ever reach our full potential.** This is where The Crucified Life comes in. If we choose to not die to ourselves daily, we will eventually find ourselves at a crossroads not knowing where to turn, crying out to God for Him to help us correct the mess we've made. Why not do it His way to start with and avoid the heartache?

Obviously waiting is not fun. It's often more confusing and depressing. He may ask us to wait a few hours, a few days, a few weeks, a few months, a few years, or perhaps many years. Where's the hope in that? The last part of our verse today... *"that he may exalt you in due time."*

Exalting ourselves will only be temporary. **Waiting for Him to exalt us leads to eternal dividends that money can't buy.**

Mary & Martha waited for Jesus to come see Lazarus. All hope seemed gone when Lazarus died. A day passed... two days... three days...

"But He's four days late, and all hope is gone. Lord, we don't understand why you've waited so long... But His way is God's way, not yours or mine. And isn't it great, when He's four days late, He's still on time." Aaron Wilburn

Still not encouraged to wait? Need some advice on what to do while you're waiting? Read the next verse... 1 Peter 5:7.

## Rest.

Matthew 11:28-29

*"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and **I will give you rest.** Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."*

"There is a restlessness within us that cannot be satisfied until we rest fully in God." A.W. Tozer

Impatience leads to restlessness. **If we remain impatient for an extended amount of time, eventually we will become restless;** physically, emotionally, and worst of all, spiritually.

Have you ever thought the day went decent, and was somewhat productive, until that moment, when you have finally gotten into bed and your mind starts to race like it's running the Boston Marathon. From thinking of the list of "to-dos" for the next day, to wondering how or when something is going to happen. From designing pieces of your next project, to daydreaming about the future. Sometimes even whether you have locked all the doors of your house or not, and put the garage door down. **Unending thoughts lead to restlessness.**

What's wrong with this picture when it happens? We haven't rested in the Lord, and put each of those racing details in His hands and His timing. We haven't rested in the One Who does all things well and is in control of everything. **When we try to do things by ourselves, and don't seek His help or involvement, we are headed for disappointment and destruction.**

As Tozer alluded to, **we will never rid ourselves of the restlessness we feel until we fully rest and trust in the God of our Salvation.** He wants us to rest in Him. He wants us to learn from Him. He wants to lead us. He wants to give us the rest that our soul needs.

Are you heavy laden with the trials and troubles of this life?

**Rest in Him today.**

Do a search for the word "rest" in Scripture. God is sure to give you something to get you through your restlessness today.

## *A Biblical Equation.*

1 Timothy 6:6

*"But godliness with contentment is great gain."*

### **Godliness + Contentment = Great Gain**

Here in 1 Timothy 6:6, we see a practical Biblical equation with immense opportunity and net worth. We all want great gain. Worldly gain is rarely promised or attainable. **Great gain comes only from above.**

One day, I was reading through some Scripture after spending the first week of the New Year, and much of the previous year, impatient, restless, and confused. I wish I could remember exactly what passage I had been reading, but all I know is that the Lord convicted me of just how discontented I was. I believed I knew what God's will was, but I certainly wasn't patient while waiting for Him to allow it to happen.

After much conviction through studying the Word, I finally let it go. I decided within my heart that I would be content, and if my situation was what God wanted for me, I would make the best of it regardless of how uncomfortable I was. I had trusted Him for the past few years to lead, guide, and direct me...but not fully trusted. I had given Him one of the reins of my life, while still holding on to the other one. I was sure of my calling and my desire to serve Him, but **He can't fully use someone who isn't truly content.** I had given him the reins many times before, only to take back one of them before I left my knees. But this time was different. His Word had penetrated my discontented heart. Within just a few days of this movement of God upon my heart, my situation completely changed in a way that only He could have done.

**Ask for God's help with contentment,  
and He will give you great gain.**

His Word promises us, and God never breaks His promises.

## *Fearful & Faithless.*

Matthew 8:26

*"And he saith unto them, Why are ye so fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm."*

**Are you finding yourself full of fear and empty of faith?**

Have you focused in on the winds and waves of your circumstance, and it seems that the Master of the sea is asleep?

**We are either in a storm, coming out of a storm, or going into a storm.**

Oftentimes in the middle of a storm, just when we think it can't get any worse, we find ourselves fearful, faithless, and incapable of saving ourselves. Jesus can speak peace to our weary souls and rescue us, if we call out to Him. He will not only save us from our surroundings; but much like the disciples did after Jesus calmed their storm, we can marvel at what the Lord has done for us.

**Call out to the Saviour today,  
and allow Him to rebuke the weather of your life.**

There is nothing like the calm that Jesus can give.