



Matthew 25:36-I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

The theme for **January's n.e.w.s.l.e.t.t.e.r.** is: **new beginnings**. In the Old Testament book of **Isaiah 43:19**, it says Behold, I do a **new thing**. So for the year of 2020 and beyond let's began thinking, talking and believing God the Father to do **new things** in our lives.

These are the words for this month's **n.e.w.s.l.e.t.t.e.r.**: **n-night**, **e-exalt**, **w-will**, **s-shadow**, **l-lift**, **e-equal**, **t-think**, **t-transgressions**, **e-excel** and **r-rejoice**. These words can also represent **new beginnings** in our own personal lives. In the Old Testament book of **Proverbs 18:21**, it says-Death and life are in the power of the tongue. So let's began to "**speak**" life into our situations! It may seem strange at first but your spirit and mouth will connect with each other. Also, in the New Testament book of **Romans 4:17**, it says calleth those things which **be** not as though they were. Remember to always "**speak**" positive things into your life and situation not negativity! No matter what the situation may look like!

The word **night** may sometimes represent a dismal time in our life but the Bible says in **Psalms 30:5**-Weeping may endure for a **night**, but joy cometh in the morning. To **exalt** someone means to place them in high esteem. This is what God expects of us at all-times. No matter the situation that is going on in our lives, we should **exalt** the Lord at all time! In **Psalms 99:5**-**Exalt** ye the Lord our God, and worship at his footstool; For he is holy. Always give God the praise for everything in your life because things could be worse than they are. The word **will** denote God's purpose in our lives. Remember that God's **will** for your life is clearly stated in His word! In **I Thessalonians 5:18**-In everything give thanks: for this is the **will** of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. The word **shadow** has to do with God's protection. He knows your every circumstance.

Psalm 91 says-that we shall abide under the **shadow** of the Almighty. There are several scriptures in the Bible that talks about God's **shadow**. We don't have to fear, God the Father will protect us physically, emotionally and psychologically in every way possible. There's a song that says, **lift** Jesus higher-**lift** Jesus higher-**lift** Him up for the world to see. In **John 12:32** it says-And I, be **lifted** up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. Your praise will draw someone to Jesus. You may be the only Jesus they know and see. Let's **lift** Him up at all times! The word **equal** means equality. This is what a personal "**relationship**" with the Lord will do for us. It provides a level playing field for all. If someone has done you wrong in life, find it in your heart to **forgive** them. This is what the Lord requires of us do. To forgive others and pray for them! In **Romans 12:19** it says-Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. So you don't have to try and get **equal** or be **equal** with anyone! God will take care of the situation in His own timing not yours. The God we serve **thinks** about us at all times. God's word says that he will never leave us. In **Psalm 40:1** it says that the Lord **thinketh** upon me. When you **think** that you have no one in your life, God is always there to cover you. The word **transgressions** mean an act that goes against a law, rule or standard. **Psalm 32:1** says that we are blessed when our **transgressions** are forgiven. Remember that God is a forgiving God. He does not want to see anyone perish by going to Hell (**2nd Peter 2:9**). One of the things that God wants for us is to **excel** in His spiritual gifts (**1st Corinthians 14:12**). The word **excel** means to have a desire and zealous about the things of God. Always giving God your best by doing your best in everything in life! The Bible tells us to **rejoice** in the Lord always (**Philippians 4:4**). When you think that you are down and out begin to **rejoice** in the Lord for His bountiful blessings.

10-2 Bible Study

Sterling had an **“Open House”** at the end of December into January of 2020. It was a refreshing time for all who were in attendance. There was certainly the Presence of God’s Holy Spirit there, the Word of God was preached and **“new beginnings”** for all. We also had refreshments and a word from the Lord to start anew.

Prison Ministry

Sterling is still keeping all inmates in prayer. We are also asking God to richly bless each inmate. Celebrate the **Lord** with Sterling!



Current Events

Sterling had its’ first nursing home visit for the year of 2020. There will be another visit in March. Our men’s group is gearing up for there **“Chilly Cook Off”** in February to prepare for the first annual **Mighty Man of Valor Conference** in April (more information coming).

Question

This is December’s question: How many children did Adam and Eve have?
Answer: **3-Cain, Able and Seth**. This is the question for January: What is the **harlot’s** name in the lineage of Jesus?

Joke

OUR CHURCH TODAY-A mother was driving her three sons to church to be baptized. Jonathan said, “Mom, I’d really like to go first this morning, before Frank and Timmy.” “That’s fine, dear,” replied the mother, proud of her son’s eagerness to begin a new life with the Lord. “Thanks, Mom. I don’t want my whole head under water that has all my brothers’ rotten sins floating around.”

Testimony

My Story-Mark

As a child my mother would send us to church often. As an adult, I was in and out of church. I never attended church on a consistent basis or having a solid foundation with the word of God.

So approximately seven years ago, I attended a Friday night **"Gospel"** Sing at Sterling Full Gospel Church. I had no intentions of anything special happening to me. I only came because someone asked me to. I met many people that night but most importantly I met the Holy Spirit that night. When I reflect back on that night, I realize how my life was changed. I was overwhelmed by the Grace of God and the promises He had for me to change my life.

That Sunday I started attending church on a regular basis. I started soaking up the word of God immediately. I never had anything fulfill my heart like the word of the Lord. He supplied my life with a great **"Pastor"** and a great church family so that I may enjoy the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior- Jesus Christ.

From the desk of the Director of Sterling Prison Ministry-Lois

As we come into this year of 2020, I feel that we will see an awakening in the prisons that has not been seen before. There have been new **laws and statutes** passed in the year of 2019. I believe there will be other new **law and statutes** passed in 2020. We have been in much prayer concerning these new changes. Also, in much prayer for the new changes in administration which will affect many of you. The new changes will be in every ones best interest.

Many should be released! I believe that as we continue in prayer and faith that many answers to prayer will be made manifest (**Mark 11:22-26**). Sometimes our prayers are answered right away and other times not right away. But as we continue to believe, we will receive an answer. It may not always be the answers we want but we know God answers to our best interest. Continue to pray as our Lord Jesus instructs us to pray and believe. We must believe without doubt for answers.

Please continue to pray for **Sterling Prison Ministry** as we continue to pray for each and every one of the inmates. We love and care about you. Your brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus at Sterling Prison Ministry! Email address: Sterling Prison Ministry 602019@gmail.com -816-274-2559.