

Series: Living Under God Covenant with Gladness
Discernment, Part II

I need you all to say this prayer and remember this prayer to pray and meditate on daily.

Heavenly Father,

Sorry for my sins in the committed present, this month and week, and previously.

Sorry for my sins and like your forgiveness to continue to follow your laws under your covenant along with your commandments, I promise I will continue to try harder to live by your commandments in my life going forward.

Thank you for waking me up this morning and living another day on earth to continue to try to obey your laws under your covenant and your commandments daily.

Guide me and help move the devil out the way so I can stay away from more sin and world idolatry

Guide me and help move the devil more out of my life to live a life without unrighteousness and the darkness.

Thank you for being my source and provider on earth

Thank you for helping avoid distractions from the world and on earth.

I love your commandments more than the world.

Continue to live a righteous life on earth and lean on your understanding, not the world's understanding.

Guide and help me strengthen my personal finances so I can start being an effective cheerful giver to your kingdom.

In Jesus name, Amen.

“Give discernment to me, your servant; then I will understand your laws. LORD, it is time for you to act, for these evil people have violated your instructions. Truly, I love your commands more than gold, even the finest gold.”-Psalm 125-127

I will be preaching out of Psalm 119 talking about the second half of this sermon on discernment. I will be reading from Psalm 119:126. When I read Psalm 119:126, I think about people in this world violating God's laws. People violate God's laws by being envious of other people who worry about other people and their life. The Bible says we need to focus on our own destiny. We need to focus on being obedient to Romans 12:2 and Philippians 4:8. When the Lord knows from his throne that you are violating his laws and his commandments. God is looking down on us daily and knows people are violating his commandments of killing and bearing false witness on earth. Before I got saved and baptized, I used to bear false witness against others because I hung around my mother too much. My mother and step father always bear false witness against others by gossiping about other people in public and around other family members during the holidays. I inherited from my family for years at the time. I do not talk to my family right now because that is all they do on my mother and stepfather's side of the family. I am starting to overcome that after I got saved and born again because I started not to judge people wherever I go no more. I just learned about another asteroid headed for earth. That means it is a sign the world is or wants to an end but God is trying to protect us and human life on earth.

When I was in high school, I used to be wicked and sinful in my life as a teenager with anger management issues. I overcame that after I got saved and baptized on September 4, 2011. It is like God

rescued me from the darkness and brought me into my light. Turn to the person next to you and say God is awesome and merciful. Turn to the person on the other side of me and thank you for reaching me from the darkness and sin. I explained this same situation in my mandatory testimony when I commenced from the Spiritual Recovery Program at Star of Hope Mission in Houston in October 2023.

“Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.”-Romans 12:2

And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.-Philippians 4:8

When I read the scripture Romans 12:2, I think about how I had to make some sacrifices back in 2015 because family members on my mother and step father side of the family gossip about other people during the holidays and gathering while I was child. God transformed me to a new person after September 4, 2011. God changed the way I think after I got baptized and born again. I thought about evil and wicked ways before I got baptized. I did it sometimes when I was in depressed situations in Detroit and Atlanta. I think positively and Godly going forward. After I was born again and baptized, I learned how to fix my thoughts while reading God's word and the Bible.

We do not need to copy the behavior of other people in the world. you see young people acting and doing what other people do in the world. Youth and children need to be themselves and stop trying to be like other people. That's why my mother and step father told my sister and I that are children are raised differently. That why men today noticed that my sister is not like other females that act needy towards men. I am not needy like other men because it was how we were raised to depend on ourselves. That is why I understand since the past that homeless shelters exist to help people, but I was raised in this type of household to be more independent and to depend on ourselves. Parents do not raise children like that no more because they are out here without money trying to huddle people for money illegal way not the honest way like working people in the world. Young people do what they do because they are not about hard work to work hard to succeed like well educated and working people in the world. Friends of mine agree with others years ago that the job market changed since the 1940-1970. You can walk into a business and convenience store to apply for a job and get hired on the spot for jobs no more.

When you read Psalm 119:126, I think about when we violate God laws that we need to repent and confess their sins. We understand that God is a forgiving God after we confess and repent for our sins. Then, we have to promise not to sin again in our life going forward. We need to understand that we need to fight the devil off of us daily by moving him out of the way. The devil is trying to run us on earth to lead us to sin, temptation and idolatry by loving more of the world. We need to read the bible and understand the bible by applying the bible to our life to live more in the path of righteousness. We need to read the bible and have God commandments posted everywhere in our households or apartments in every room to let us know not to violate God's laws and his commandments.

Giving Time:

“Remember, the man who plants only a few seeds will not have much grain to gather. The man who plants many seeds will have much grain to gather. Each man should give as he has decided in his heart. He should not give, wishing he could keep it. Or he should not give if he feels he has to give. God loves a man who gives because he wants to give. God can give you all you need. He will give you more than enough. You will have everything you need for yourselves. And you will have enough left over to give when there is a need.”-2 Corinthians 9:6-8 (NLT)

When I live by the Scripture daily and all the cheerful giving that I did in communities in cities where I lived, I have donated my own personal money to the poor as SSI income has been my only income. God always comes through for me to bless me after I give to the poor and homeless in Chicago, Dubuque, Houston, Louisville, Detroit, Flint, Cleveland and Atlanta. God has not really blessed me that much in Atlanta. It seems like bad economic situations always happen to me in Atlanta like the devil attacks me too much in Atlanta. I may not be wealthy in having lots of money, but I am wealthy in the spirit of God. When I was living in and out of homelessness since 2011, it seems like I always got blessings from God after I give in church and help the poor. I know I prosper spiritually after I give and help the poor. Before I was born again, God did not help me at all in my life because I cared mostly for myself years ago. I really never had to live off the government for nothing in my life except for SNAP, Medicaid and SSI. I believe God will truly bless me when I move back to Detroit because I will not be living SSI income any more and will start paying rent like other apartment renters and homeowners. I will not have to live on SNAP either because I can buy groceries like other Americans and go to food pantries for food for the household. God has blessed me when my family was not able to be in my life and let me live and out of homelessness since 2011. I am grateful for the little help that I was able to get by. As a man of God and Bishop of the congregation, I still pray for my family because my family members are still sinful and live in sin and idolatry. I am still for my family because my family members still live in bondage. I pray for my family in hope for everyone to come together and stop hating each other with negative gossip. I pray for my family to become more Godly and live obedient to God before they unexpectedly leave this earth. When I think about 2 Corinthians 9:6-8, I think about people that do pay offerings in church or while they watch the church service online. When people pay little for offering to God, they will receive little blessings and breakthroughs in your life. When a Christian and disciple pay very little tithes and offerings to church very little during Bible study services and Sunday services every week, you will continue to receive little blessings in your life every week. That is why when my sermons from Bible study are posted on social media every week, I encourage people that are inspired by my sermons to pay very little every week. It is good to be blessed by God very little than not at all. We want to be blessed with God more than a little percentage of the time every week. That is why I ask and encourage people to donate \$1 or \$5 in an offering to the church every Bible study services and Sunday services so they can be receiving some blessings from God in their life if it is very little each time you pay an offering to the church. It will help your heart grow stronger as a mustard seed to heaven. When you pay very little to a church for tithes and offering, God will give you very little help you need spiritually. When you pay more to a church for tithes and offering, God will bless and help what you need a whole lot in your life. People that do not have faith in God and live as sinners will not receive any blessings and breakthroughs from God. Rev. James Meeks used to repeat the same thing when I was going to Salem Baptist Church of Chicago in 2013 to 2015. I need more help from the community because I was able to donate very little to the church out of my personal finances as a person that lives on SSI income. I like to get off SSI income and live on a livable

salary from the church. I was able to give a total of \$1,500 or less to the church out of my SSI income since 2014. I do not get help and financial support from family because they never heard and attended any of my congregation church services to hear me preach in the pulpit since 2014. I believe my family members are not 100% godly and not Godly at all. My family members still live in sin and the flesh outside of church, so I have to do what I can for the church financially and economically since 2014. I like the church revenue to match the growing congregation and I need help from members and people in the community for financial support for the church. My biological father's side of the family is the only family members that is spiritual but they have too much going on in their lives, but I still have support from my biological father's side of the family. They are not able to give to church because they are financially squeezed with their personal finances and some are unemployed and retired with SSA. I got my strength spiritually and committed to God from that side for teaching me the Bible, Christ Jesus, attended Bible study and Sunday school, discipleship, stewardship and obedience to God. With my SSI income that I am only able to pay little offering to the church In Detroit. 98% of tithes and offerings still come from members and visitors, but I still pay and give very little of my SSI income to the church to help pay for operations, programs and community development initiatives. You can go to the church website and view our income statements, profit and loss statements, balance sheets and other financial records at LJ.CBC.yolasite.com. I want to let people know starting on Wednesday of this week that the church will be able to get a PO box for the church in Detroit to receive donations made by check, cashiers check or money order made out to Lord Jesus Christ Community Baptist Church. I will get the information for the PO Box in Detroit and be able to get that information to pass on to you all. As bishop and man of God, I keep church and state on my mind that try not to get government and politicians financial support unless they are willing to support the church personally out of their own personal wealth and financially and economically.

I am refreshed with a pure and good heart when I give back to the community, pay tithes and offerings in church and help the poor out of my personal income. I am asking you to follow my example to become a cheerful giver to the Lord and see the results you will receive from your strong faith and obedience to God in your life going forward. I ask you to support our ministries by donating either \$1, \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1000. You can donate your tithe and offering to the link below. Wherever you are and looking to make an offering and looking for a church home. When I was living in Chicago, I gave homeless men and women money for food daily to avoid those homeless men and women dealing with food insecurity. I gave homeless men and women on CTA trains leftover food. When I lived in Detroit for a long time, I provided food and money to the homeless out of my own personal money. When I lived in Louisville for a short period of time, I gave the homeless and poor \$50 of my own personal money to help them out economically and financially. In Cleveland, I donated over \$60 to the homeless on the streets to help them living in poverty and Homelessness. I gave so much money to churches for tithes and offerings over the years to continue my strong cheerful giving to the Lord. It is companies and organizations that help the church financially and economically, but they usually offer a fee for their services and we are not able to pay those fees based on a tight and stressful budget from our growing congregation.