

MAKING A MONTHLY CALENDAR

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PRACTICAL ASSIGNMENT

INTRODUCTION

We trust that you have learned how to make a good accurate Weekly Plan for yourself. To learn to control your time is to learn **self-control** and, likewise, to learn time management is self-management. If you learn these things, you can become **king** of your own life. If you do not learn them, you will be doomed to wander around in a foggy darkness the rest of your days. God is love, light, and wisdom. He desperately wants you to experience His love. The Bible says that God wants us to walk in the light as He is in the light. God has a plan for all creation, He has a plan for the world, and He has a specific plan for you, the crown of His creation. He wants you to experience His wisdom and that comes through planning and organizing. God has given us His revelation, which means He wants us to know about, and be prepared for, the **future**. He does not want us to live in uncertainty and be in darkness.

Therefore we have prepared a series of lectures for you on using your time wisely: "How to Make a Weekly Plan," "Making a Monthly Calendar," "How to Organize a Daily Schedule," and "A Yearly Overview." We trust that these lectures will make your service to the King of Kings an easier and more profitable task.

For those of you who are using the Weekly Plan, the Monthly Calendar will be a simple idea to understand. Hopefully you remember how we divided each day into three major blocks of time on the Weekly Plan. You will notice that we use the same concept here, only in a much less specific way and taking into account the whole month. The concept of a Monthly Calendar is easy to grasp; what most people struggle with is how to make it work for them in their unique situations.

To assist us in the task of making sense of how to practically implement the calendar, I would like to introduce to you Peter Praiseworthy from lecture #TB3. We are going to observe different stages of Mr. Praiseworthy's life to see how he made the Monthly Calendar work for him in different situations. There will be three sets of circumstances. We will see that each requires a different way of applying the Monthly Calendar.

- The first one shows Mr. Praiseworthy as a beginning student who is a preacher-boy doing **part-time Christian work**.

- The next one shows him as an advanced student who is a deacon and **progressing toward full-time ministry**.
- The third one shows him as a **full-time pastor**.

I. PART-TIME CHRISTIAN WORKER

A. Introduction

First, let's look at Mr. Praiseworthy's life early on as a student not long after he finished the *Basic Christian Life* course. His Monthly Calendar is a good example for other part-time Christian workers. Specifically students who want to grow in Christian service and learn to enjoy more and more their involvement for Christ. Peter was one of the preacher-boys in his church. As he began using the Monthly Calendar, he saw that he had more free time than he thought. He also realized how easy it would be to use since the Monthly Calendar was so similar to the Weekly Plan.

So what is different about this Monthly Calendar from the Weekly Plan? Let me illustrate here by writing in some of Peter's priorities for the month of February.

B. Using the Calendar



1. What is a Christian's first priority? Who can remember that? All right, God. Of course we know that Mr. Praiseworthy had this same priority. So we know that on Sunday he will be busy doing what? Worshiping God. That is important for all of us. The first thing Peter wrote on his calendar showed what he was doing on God's holy day. /// 1-1 ///
2. Next, we add the course he was taking. /// 1-2 /// We also recommend that key church brothers who are students worship separately from the congregation on Wednesday evening or midweek service and worship together in a small group format doing a 3 hour discussion seminar of their course. Such prospective leaders need each other, they need unity, and they need the meat, not the milk, of the Word. In most churches, the discussion seminar is held biweekly. Peter understood this and marked it on his calendar too.
3. As we have seen, he is involved in worshipping his risen Saviour on Sunday. But each student also needs to worship by contributing to the Kingdom of Christ. According to Christ's instructions, he needs to do two things. He needs to work with unbelievers to bring new souls into the Kingdom, and also he needs to establish the believers so that they will become firm and active in their faith. /// 1-3 /// Mr. Praiseworthy decided to do this by leading a weekly group for unbelievers on Tuesday and by leading a group of believers using the *Basic Christian Life* course on Thursday. Just like him, each student needs to become responsible for his own spiritual ministry.
4. When Peter's wife first heard him explain the Monthly Calendar, she started to become panic-stricken as she saw less and less time for her and the family. But Peter soon put her fears to rest. As he explained, God's first and primary idea for mankind was that a husband and wife should become one, i.e. to have an intimate unity. Peter assured his wife that he didn't want to forget about that priority either. Together they took a look at his Monthly Calendar and found time God had prepared for him so he could have the intimacy he craved with those he loved best. /// 1-4 /// Each Monday evening he gave priority time to his loved ones. Likewise, he set aside each Saturday evening to love and prepare his family for God's holy day. They decided that these times for the family would be a priority and they wouldn't let other things squeeze out this time. There is a beautiful lecture available to assist you to do what Mr. Praiseworthy did, to make this priority time a special delightful event each week. It is entitled "Family Time, the Missing Ingredient" FR6.
5. /// 1-5 /// Besides these special times they specifically chose to set aside, Peter and his wife noticed the family could enjoy his presence most Friday evenings, Sunday afternoons and twice a month after the mid-week service when he was not involved in the discussion seminar. They realized he would occasionally be busy during those times, but just having it written in his calendar helped him to keep that family focus and not waste his time on lesser priorities.
6. Study time and course preparation time were another big priority for Peter. Study time is a highly individual matter, so just remember every week you will need 5 hours of study time minimally. A one-

hour daily schedule time is recommended as the best. We recommend early morning, /// 1-6 /// sometime between six and seven o'clock, before you go to work. However, some people are night owls, not early birds, so they may find it more effective to make some time in the evenings for this priority. Others have found it helpful to spend several hours at a time studying on Saturdays. Through the New Life courses we hope to create a new spiritual lifestyle whereby church leaders spend one hour daily in deep study of the Holy Scriptures. Begin by doing it consistently now and you will develop praiseworthy study habits just as you see Peter Praiseworthy developing.

7. Saturday was left open to meet all his family responsibilities /// 1-7 ///, to do odd jobs like repairs or garden work, or to do coursework assignments. He was aware he could use some of that time to take on extra spiritual or community activities if the Lord so led. In any case, he knew he had total freedom to develop Saturdays according to his own interests.
8. Looking back at what we have already covered, you can see that you now have a complete picture of his life as a busy student. You will quickly see that this matches the Weekly Plan that was discussed earlier /// 1-8 ///. The time we have just discussed marks precisely the time other people are off from work. It is their leisure time. This meant people were more available to Mr. Praiseworthy. This also meant that he needed to learn new priorities and develop a new lifestyle for his family so that he would be available to others at the right time. Other people's leisure time became his busy time, his priority time.
9. At the same time that Mr. Praiseworthy implemented his new calendar, he was still involved in a full-time job providing for his family, and this is very commendable. Scripture wants us to live that way. So when we mark in his normal everyday work schedule, the picture of his life will look as follows. /// 1-9 /// The chart is full. The picture is complete. This is a photo of his life, and it should become the photo of your life.

C. Summary

Monthly Calendar or Weekly Plan? /// 1-10 /// What do we have here? Do we have a Monthly Calendar or a Weekly Plan? Well, the correct answer is that this is a Monthly Calendar. This calendar shows somebody who is not yet a full-time Christian worker, but who is already tithing his time. Praise the Lord for people like Mr. Praiseworthy!

What is the difference between the Weekly Plan and the Monthly Calendar? Yes, that is the correct answer! The discussion seminar is held twice monthly and therefore it would not show up on some of your Weekly Plans but it does show up on a Monthly Calendar.

This highlights the very purpose of a Monthly Calendar. Monthly events are different from weekly activities. There are holidays, special events and changes in work and so on. A Monthly Calendar provides you with a **picture** of the near future so that you can properly orient and prepare yourself. A Weekly Plan is a more concrete **photo** of tasks, which you must complete immediately. A Monthly Calendar incorporates the Weekly Plan but often not fully. Clashes occur between the Weekly Plan and the Monthly Calendar. This is the very value and purpose of having these two charts and comparing them. By comparing them, you can see the time conflicts and properly resolve them. That is called "time management" and involves delegation of tasks. The better you learn to resolve time conflicts the better manager you are and the more people can successfully work under your direction. This takes self-discipline and wisdom, but this is how God grows leaders. New opportunities provide new conflicts that require more wisdom and better planning towards the end result of more and better-targeted spiritual success. There is benefit and spiritual growth for all, and especially for you as you learn to lead your people. This is how leaders are made.

II. PROGRESSING TOWARD A FULL-TIME MINISTRY

A. Introduction

God wants us to grow and progress in our whole life. There is so much more to conquer for Christ. Let us determine that we will lack nothing, but go on to obtain the prize that is before us. In this the second part of this lecture, we meet up with Peter Praiseworthy a couple of years down the road from the first time we met him. Now he is an advanced student who is moving closer toward becoming a full-time servant.

From the time a person feels called to the time his calling materializes into full-time service, there are many friction points and temptations. The sooner and the better a person learns to handle these elements of

friction in his life, his family, his work and his finances, the faster God can release him for full-time service into His vineyard. No one will receive more than 24 hours a day—ever. No one will receive more than 4 weeks a month or more than 12 months in a year. God has set the universe in motion and that is what we have to work with. So the task is to manage your time. This means to get more done in less time than other people can do. Often it does not mean to work **harder**, it means to work **smarter**. It means involving other people and making their involvement a pleasure to them. Let's look at some of the time clashes Mr. Praiseworthy faced and how he dealt with them.

B. Using the Calendar

1. As his life progressed, Peter's schedule became fuller and fuller. We will catch up with him again by looking at this Monthly Calendar */// 2-1 ///* which shows his Sundays, the course he was taking at the time, and the personal spiritual responsibility he took for leading a group of unbelievers and the *Basic Christian Life* course.
2. Several years have passed, and Mr. Praiseworthy faithfully completed several more New Life courses and he has greatly increased in spiritual enthusiasm. He is now a deacon, and in time, seemed likely to become a pastor. He is serving in a daughter church of his original church. He wants a few of the local preacher-boys there to become elders in the future. He is already spending his whole Sunday there locally, and so the simplest is for him to spend Sunday afternoons discipling these young men with a discussion seminar. His Monthly Calendar now looks like this: */// 2-2 ///*.
3. His spiritual growth and enthusiasm for the Lord attracted the attention of his pastor and provincial church leaders and he was recommended for the New Life workshops. */// 2-3 ///* These New Life workshops and materials helped him greatly to become more fruitful in his spiritual work. The monthly workshops were a highlight to his soul. He carefully marked them with great priority on his Monthly Calendar. He resolved the time conflict at work by coming to an agreement with his boss. Instead of holidays, his boss let him off work one Friday a month. To show his appreciation, he sometimes came early or did some extra things for his boss.
4. His enthusiasm for the workshops and the growth of his preacher-boys earned him the request to assist the provincial superintendent with leading a pastor's conference monthly */// 2-4 ///* in one of the regions and to share what he has learned from the workshops and his practical experience. Prayerfully he consented to serve one more Saturday monthly. Even his mother-in-law, who was ardently opposed to the Gospel, began helping by taking care of the garden because she saw the improved relationship between him and her daughter.



Holding Your Own Conferences

If you are at a similar place in your life like Peter, we suggest that you now hold your own mini-conference. One Saturday every month for 3 months you will do a conference. Many of our brothers in Ukraine, by the way, are now having workshops 6 months a year. Each workshop is conducted in a different region of their province. Usually September, October, November, February, March, and April. This is very helpful to pastors, because a number of pastors are leading their own elders in studies, and the workshops provide the vision, insight, and skill necessary to make it really successful. To prepare to lead your own conference, study the lecture "Conducting Your Own Conference" ?1LP1141?.

5. Mr. Praiseworthy still spent as much time with his family as possible because he wanted to raise Godly offspring. */// 2-5 ///* Every Monday and twice monthly on Saturdays were still his primary family times. Sunday, Friday, and Wednesday evenings he spent as much time with his family as he could. Yet often his wife missed him and was lonely. She prayed for God to open up financial possibilities for full-time service so they could move to the daughter church in the village and be together as a family. He was very much aware of I Peter 3:7, and he made a lot of changes in his family lifestyle. Sometimes he even cooked a simple meal. Since he started taking better care of his family, God was answering his prayers and giving him bigger spiritual opportunities. He really believed that, and I absolutely believe that also. There are a number of men who are accomplishing very little for God because they do not take proper care of their wives and families.
6. This is a Monthly Calendar */// 2-6 ///* because there are several activities which cannot be marked on a Weekly Plan. Take a look. How many activities are marked on here that are non-weekly? One? Yes! Two? Yes! Three? Yes! Any more? Of course. There are 4 activities that are non-weekly. There are two conferences that are each held once a month and there are the two course seminars that are held biweekly.

7. There were several conflicts and adjustments this brother had to make in order to follow the call of Christ, keep his spiritual priorities, and make Christ preeminent in his personal lifestyle. /// 2-7 /// There are at least 4 things he had to deal with.

/// 2-7a /// 1) He had less family time because he was now leading a group on Sunday. This was the best use of his time because he was already spending a full Sunday in that village. /// 2-7b /// 2) He definitely had a conflict at work but resolved that by giving extra quality and extra time to his boss upon request. /// 2-7c /// 3) He lost much of his Saturday time to work in the garden, but the Bible says God even makes the unbelievers to serve Him, and he believed the Holy Word. /// 2-7d /// 4) He had another conflict. And what was that? Yes, he had to mark in some things that he could not help. They were things that he had to do whether he liked it or not. That happens quite frequently in our lives.
8. /// 2-8 /// All kinds of disturbances come into our nice little world. They can be temptations from satan or tests from the Lord. In Peter's life, it was the workshop. It had been scheduled a long time in advance, and it clashed with his Thursday evening *Basic Christian Life* course. He could have just dropped the course that week, but would that have been the best solution? What would you do? He trained one of his best students to fill in for him. The group could then go on, people grew spiritually, the student actually started to do better, and a new leader was born.

C. Summary

We will all experience such conflicts in time management. That is why time management does not come automatically. Time management is spiritual and it brings clarity. It opposes the evil forces whose desire is for us to be in perpetual, foggy darkness. There will be many things that we do not need to think about, because others have already made the decision and plan a long time ago. It cannot be altered. For example, you already know a whole month in advance to make adjustments and alterations and to buy tickets so that you can be at the next workshop on Friday and Saturday a month from now.

This Monthly calendar /// 2-9 /// shows someone who is not a full-time Christian worker, but who is already doing more than simply tithing his time. He is taking some time off from work to come to the workshop also. Even someone that does not work full-time in Christian ministry but tithes his time for Christ can lead many groups. We see here that Deacon Praiseworthy led three groups a week plus the church services. Wow! Praise God.

III. A FULL-TIME PASTOR OR CBLT WORKER

A. Introduction

A major responsibility for Church leaders, like pastors, provincial superintendents, New Life directors, and leaders of mission organizations, is to lead a team of workers. It might be better said that a church leader's main responsibility is to lead a team of colleagues. Yet very few church leaders have purposed to learn about this. Extremely little concern has been expressed about executing this task with quality. And only a rare few make it their main responsibility. Yet Jesus launched the early church successfully because He devoted His main responsibility to this task of developing a family of leaders. Leading colleagues is vastly different from leading workers. It is on a much higher level.

Human pride gives a feeling of invulnerability. Somehow we want to get to the top, and once there, we tend to think we will stay there forever. Pride closes our eyes to the fact that we are not timeless. Due to pride, we fail to see that we are replaceable people. Yet it is God's purpose to train us and develop us, and when we have learned our lesson, then He replaces us or moves us into new areas of ministry. It is His desire that we remain flexible, live by faith, and continuously expand for His Name's sake. Very few Bible heroes maintained a lifelong ministry, very few. Those who did are clearly the exception. As we grow and expand, God wants us to mentor and train others to take over our present ministry in due time so He can use us in newer and larger tasks.

This is the concept of pastors training elders and elders training preacher-boys—cooperating with God in making yourself replaceable and available for higher service. When God moves a church leader, his place should automatically be filled by a well-prepared disciple so that the ministry will not suffer. This is the great task of preparing people for the ministry of which Ephesians 4:11 speaks. True success is ????????????????????

B. Using the Calendar

1. We meet up with Mr. Praiseworthy again at his current stage in life. He is now several years older; he is mature and approaching middle age. For a very long time now he has been serving the Lord full-time. He has been faithfully studying New Life courses for nearly ten years and finished eleven of them. He has grown in grace and experience. His church has blossomed in quality and quantity as the new converts followed his Godly teaching and example. Sometime ago he received the laying on of hands and is now a respected pastor. He has faithfully continued with his earlier ministries /// 3-1 /// and is well known and respected for his quality ministry. His elders have mostly taken over the ministry of his church and the training of a younger generation of local church leaders. Two daughter churches have been started. He has now become a pastor of pastors.
2. Many new things have happened in his ministry. /// 3-2 /// He is still faithfully taking new courses every other Wednesday evening at the original church. He has changed his Tuesday evening DBM Bible studies for unbelievers to Thursday evenings. He greatly enjoys being with unbelievers and helping them to find Christ. This is a priority in his life and he will never give up that ministry. The Thursday evening *Basic Christian Life* group has been moved to Friday evening, and Pastor Praiseworthy finds it an excellent way to stay in touch with his new church members.
3. Biweekly /// 3-3 /// he is leading his own elders in a discussion and mentoring session after the main service on Wednesday. On Sunday afternoon one of his most gifted elders is also leading a discussion group with the young preacher-boys and mentoring them.
4. Each Sunday afternoon /// 3-4 /// he leads a seminar and mentors the new church leaders for two daughter churches combined. Since the churches are in different locations, he leads the course for each group on alternating Sundays. Once they are well established, he intends to release this ministry to one of his main elders.
5. On alternating Tuesdays /// 3-5 /// Pastor Praiseworthy mentors 18 pastors from six area churches. He does this through two different biweekly discussion groups with three churches in each group. Each group consists of nine men, usually one pastor and two elders per church. As often as possible he attempts to stay overnight for further in-depth discipling and care. This also gives him the chance to drive home in daylight during the treacherous winters.
6. His family is well taken care off. He is a real family man. A couple of years ago he noticed that the new assignments he was being entrusted with were beginning to infringe on his family time and didn't allow him to minister to their needs or for him be ministered to by them. He came to the conclusion that he needed to clear his schedule on Monday and firmly establish it as a special family day. /// 3-6 /// Now he has time for private worship and for small household repairs to please his wife, who is expecting their fifth child. Sometimes he takes his dear wife out to lunch and sometimes cooks a little himself. Later he picks up the children from school and they do a special activity. There is plenty of time for everyone and especially for God. It is his Sabbath of rest. He also keeps Saturday evening free for his family.

Family Day

I have already mentioned that Monday was left open. We will not write anything in there. We will just leave it blank, because those of you in full-time ministry need a day for your family. Just last week I asked the older leaders who have had a lot of training over the years, "Do you have a special day for your family?" They all said, "Oh, yes, yes, yes." "Which day?" "Monday." Then I asked, "What do you do with your family?" I think everyone was doing something special with his family. They said it was extremely important. "Every evening we are traveling someplace in the province or teaching someplace and we are not at home. Twice a month we come to a workshop. Once a month we go to another province. Our families desperately need one day a week for themselves."

7. /// 3-7 /// Pastor Peter spends his mornings in preparation, planning and prayer. He feels very blessed to have this full-time opportunity. When he was just a young preacher he learned the joys of studying at least one hour each morning. That was difficult back then because he had to eke out this study time in the early morning hours before going to work. Later as a deacon he was able to do shift work that gave him more available time for daily course study. It took him quite a while before he understood the significance of having a daily study and preparation time. Now he realizes that his wisdom, mentoring and overall anointing are closely related to spending daily time searching the scriptures. It has become such a strong habit; he cannot imagine what his ministry would be without it.
8. /// 3-8 /// The afternoons are given to visitation and care of needy church members and business meetings. He makes hospital calls, visits the elderly and shut-ins, paying close attention to supply the needs of widows, the poor and the foreigners according to Biblical instruction. He not only visits the needy, but also his healthy growing and prospective members, mentoring and encouraging them to move on to

higher spiritual levels. His personal interest in and contact with his members is what made his church really blossom.

9. There are some things that are hard to picture on a chart. But there are two more activities Pastor Peter would like you to know about. He maintains his personal spiritual unity to Jesus Christ by fasting and worshipping in prayer at a Holy Place. /// 3-9a /// Weekly he fasts and meditates on Tuesday. On the Saturday mornings that he is home, /// 3-9b /// he goes to an isolated plot in the woods that has become holy ground to him. There he takes off his shoes and bears his innermost soul before the Almighty. Often he returns with a glow on his face.

Summary

1. Let us take a quick look at Pastor Praiseworthy's overall ministry and lifestyle and see what we can learn from it. His life and ministry have fallen into three parts. The first part (A-blue) /// 3-10 /// is his local church ministry. The second part (B-red) is dedicated to his family. The third part (C-brown) addresses the priority of mentoring and growing church leaders.

Part A, his local church ministry, comes in 6 categories: /// 3-10 a /// =1-Evangelism, /// 3-10b /// =2-discipleship of believers, /// 3-10c /// =3-worship/praise and feeding the flock, /// 3-10d /// =4-personal spiritual preparation, /// 3-10e /// =5-visitation and care, and /// 3-10f /// =6-mentoring his local leaders.

2. The overall picture shows us that the second part, Part B, is dedicated to his family and his own spiritual growth. /// 3-11 /// He has daily breakfast devotions with his family and family fellowship at other mealtimes. He spends in-depth quality time with each family member on Mondays. He spends as much free unscheduled time with them on Saturdays as his schedule permits. He fasts weekly on Tuesdays and has set aside a time and place for communion with God on Saturdays.
3. The third part of the overall picture focuses on Part C, his time for mentoring and growing church leaders. /// 3-12 /// Pastor Praiseworthy has spent time planning, organizing and executing the planting of two evangelistic daughter churches. Now he is training these new converts into leadership. Using the New Life courses, he is also mentoring 18 mature church leaders in six other isolated churches deep in the province. Furthermore He is now leading—instead of attending—the monthly Leadership workshop in his province. He also has continued to lead the monthly pastors' conference as well. Mr. Praiseworthy has been nominated for provincial superintendent.

CONCLUSION

A. The Monthly Calendar and You

We now want you to follow our model student and make your own Monthly Calendar. How does one make a Monthly Calendar? Making the Monthly Calendar takes the same process as making the Weekly Plan. You use the same process, but you will mark only your prime time on the Monthly Calendar. Your Monthly Calendar won't look exactly like Peter Praiseworthy's, but use his example to help you make the Monthly Calendar an effective tool for you through the various phases of your life.

You are actually making a photo of the whole month ahead of you. This Monthly Calendar is a photo of your life, it is a picture of next month, and it is a picture of your life to come. Are you pleased with it? Is Jesus? And that photo, that picture of your life, should be hanging up in the kitchen or someplace obvious so that you and other family members can review it every day and know what is happening in your life.

B. A Closing Glimpse of our Model Student

Right now Pastor Praiseworthy has a very full schedule, but he enjoys it. /// 3-13 /// He is nearly in midlife and is in his full strength. He wants to give these prime years to the wisest, best, and most productive service for his Lord and Savior. He is aware that in time to come he will need to cut back and he has strategically placed disciples who, after studying a few more courses, could take over his ministry.

Many have asked him if he would serve as provincial superintendent. He respects the provincial superintendent and they have a good working relationship together.



But he is a people person and wants to use his giftings in mentoring and growing leaders rather than doing the administrative work demanded of a provincial superintendent.

Amidst much turmoil and many struggles, he and his wife have learned to truly live in heavenly peace, and their city is gradually being penetrated with a Christian atmosphere. It is already very noticeable and unbelievers are beginning to talk about it. It is a dream come true—the dream of blessings from Deuteronomy 28:1-14 based on our acting according to II Chronicles 7:14. — - — Only God and God alone could have done so much with so little.

Let us read this special passage of Deut. 28:1-14 together:

DT 28:1 If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. 2 All these blessings will come upon you and accompany you if you obey the LORD your God:

DT 28:3 You will be blessed in the city and blessed in the country.

DT 28:4 The fruit of your womb will be blessed, and the crops of your land and the young of your livestock—the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks.

DT 28:5 Your basket and your kneading trough will be blessed.

DT 28:6 You will be blessed when you come in and blessed when you go out.

DT 28:7 The LORD will grant that the enemies who rise up against you will be defeated before you. They will come at you from one direction but flee from you in seven.

DT 28:8 The LORD will send a blessing on your barns and on everything you put your hand to. The LORD your God will bless you in the land he is giving you.

DT 28:9 The LORD will establish you as his holy people, as he promised you on oath, if you keep the commands of the LORD your God and walk in his ways.

DT 28:10 Then all the peoples on earth will see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they will fear you.

DT 28:11 The LORD will grant you abundant prosperity—in the fruit of your womb, the young of your livestock and the crops of your ground—in the land he swore to your forefathers to give you.

DT 28:12 The LORD will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none.

DT 28:13 The LORD will make you the head, not the tail. If you pay attention to the commands of the LORD your God that I give you this day and carefully follow them, you will always be at the top, never at the bottom.

DT 28:14 Do not turn aside from any of the commands I give you today, to the right or to the left, following other gods and serving them.

So now, what about you? Are you available? God is. Amen. Thank you.

Today we are going to practice together how to make a Monthly Calendar. Your practical assignment will include making **3** of these over the next several months. We will now start by making one for this coming month. Each day this month you are going to check off whether you did what it said on your calendar or not. Then, before we have the next meeting, you will make another calendar for the following month and present it to your leader.

Practical assignment

Completed

➤ Make a monthly calendar



- Make 3 copies of the monthly plan that has been provided.
- During the last week of each month make a monthly plan for the next month. Write in the date you made the plan. (You will need to show your monthly plans at our meetings for the next 3 months.) Any goal or priority that doesn't have a place on your calendar probably won't be done. The majority of your calendar should be taken up with activities that relate to the goals God has given you.
- Each day follow your instructions for that day.
- At the end of each week, mark each prime time with a plus or a minus. Plus means completed; minus means not completed.
- At the end of the month count and record how many primary items you successfully completed that month. Your grade will be from 1-90 (please note there will be some variation depending on the number of days in the month, simply multiply the number of days in a month to find out what your maximum score can be).
- Use the chart below to track your progress.

Note: Some of the most important people in your life, the people that your ministry hinges on (see Titus 1:6), are your family.

Because of this you must include at least one activity each week that you and your wife can do to together alone, and one that you can do with your children as a family. Here are a few suggestions:

- Go for a walk.
- Play a game.
- Go out to a café or an inexpensive restaurant (try a new one each time).
- Go to the circus.
- Make a meal together.
- Ask your children for ideas of what they would like to do.

| | Created calendar | Completed weekly evaluations | Monthly grade |
|---------|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| Month 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Month 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Month 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |

Blessings to you, our dear friends!

We are happy to present the video, audio and paper materials that have been prepared by **New Life for Churches**. You have the privilege *upon completion of your practical assignment* to use this lecture with others.