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| Site logo image | Martha Rodman posted: " Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock and it shall be opened to you. Matthew 7:7 Every year for about 15-16 years I have read through the Bible, starting with Genesis and going on to Revelation. I've used different plans, so" [**Faith Encounters**](http://faithencounters.impart.org)  |

# [Faith and God’s Help](https://public-api.wordpress.com/bar/?stat=groovemails-events&bin=wpcom_email_click&redirect_to=http%3A%2F%2Ffaithencounters.impart.org%2F2024%2F01%2F04%2Ffaith-and-gods-help-2%2F&sr=0&signature=ee8616fddf4f407e2738054a4858f051&blog_id=127938330&user=d4772d34747c29138d6356de987fff13&_e=eyJlcnJvciI6bnVsbCwiYmxvZ19pZCI6MTI3OTM4MzMwLCJibG9nX2xhbmciOiJlbiIsInNpdGVfaWRfbGFiZWwiOiJ3cGNvbSIsImhhc19mZWF0dXJlZF9pbWFnZSI6IjAiLCJzdWJzY3JpYmVyX2lkIjoiNTY2NTEwODc0IiwiX3VpIjoiZDQ3NzJkMzQ3NDdjMjkxMzhkNjM1NmRlOTg3ZmZmMTMiLCJfdXQiOiJhbm9uIiwiZW1haWxfZG9tYWluIjoieWFob28uY29tIiwicG9zdF9pZCI6MzA5OCwidXNlcl9lbWFpbCI6InJpY2tfYmxhaXNkZWxsQHlhaG9vLmNvbSIsImRhdGVfc2VudCI6IjIwMjQtMDEtMDQiLCJlbWFpbF9pZCI6IjFmMmJlOWIyMjkzMGI1OTUxNDEwN2FlNzI5Njc2NDIyIiwiZW1haWxfbmFtZSI6Im5ldy1wb3N0IiwidGVtcGxhdGUiOiJuZXctcG9zdCIsImxpbmtfZGVzYyI6InBvc3QtdXJsIiwiYW5jaG9yX3RleHQiOiJGYWl0aCBhbmQgR29kXHUyMDE5c1x1MDBhMEhlbHAiLCJfZHIiOm51bGwsIl9kbCI6Ilwvd3BcL3YyXC9zaXRlc1wvMTI3OTM4MzMwXC9wb3N0c1wvMzA5OD9fZW52ZWxvcGU9MSZlbnZpcm9ubWVudC1pZD1kZXNrdG9wJl9ndXRlbmJlcmdfbm9uY2U9Y2I1ZWJjMTYyNCZfbG9jYWxlPXVzZXIiLCJfZW4iOiJ3cGNvbV9lbWFpbF9jbGljayIsIl90cyI6MTcwNDM4MjMzNTIwMiwiYnJvd3Nlcl90eXBlIjoicGhwLWFnZW50IiwiX2F1YSI6IndwY29tLXRyYWNrcy1jbGllbnQtdjAuMyIsIl91bCI6bnVsbCwiYmxvZ190eiI6IjAiLCJ1c2VyX2xhbmciOm51bGx9&_z=z)

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Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock and it shall be opened to you. Matthew 7:7Every year for about 15-16 years I have read through the Bible, starting with Genesis and going on to Revelation. I've used different plans, some with devotionals, some time without. This year was the first year I did not look forward to starting over. My attitude really surprised me. On December 30 as I looked through the You Version Bible app for a new devotional, I finally admitted to myself and the Lord that I didn't want to do it again. I was embarrassed to admit it! But then I shared it with the Lord. I told Him, you are going to have to help me with this. I am sorry for my attitude, I know it is not right. But there it is. I know Your Word is important. I left it in His hands.So, Sunday, December 31, our pastor began sharing the importance of starting our day/year with Jesus. He quoted Matthew 6:33, But seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously and he will give you everything you need. NLT. He then went back up to Matthew 6:9-13, with what is known as the Lord's prayer. Now, I already knew I was going to keep reading and studying God's Word, no matter how I was feeling on December 30, but God began to shift my heart and my feeling, in other words, He began to help me.As Pastor Hurley expounded on "Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy", I found myself repenting again. My heart was stirred to keep God's name and attributes through my life holy. I know I can't/couldn't do it on my own. I need Him, the Holy Spirit and His Word to help me accomplish that goal. He mentioned as we declare God is holy, we are joining Heaven's chorus! The thought that our voice and life can unite with those who have gone on before and God's angelic beings brought me to such a humble place. I felt small and yet strong and able at the same time.As I began to read His Word (in Genesis!) on January 1, I found an excitement and noticed things I had not seen before. Was this surprising? No, because the word is alive! For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires. Hebrews 4:12. NLT. Our Life Group is beginning a study on the book of Colossians. In prepping for the study, I began reading it on Monday. I left my time in His Word strengthened, encouraged and knowing God had answered my prayer. So yesterday, January 2, I ran a load of wash. I heard some gurgling and found water backed up into my tub. Because I felt so strengthened by His Word, I simply began to pray for a solution. A year or so ago, I needed a plumber and found a great one--but I couldn't remember the company's name. I prayed, and after a bit, it came to me. I called and left a message. The water eventually drained. So I did another load this morning...it was even worse. I received a call back from the plumbing company. They are booked out until the end of February! I asked for referrals, she gave me one. I called and am waiting for a call back and appointment for early next week. Is this upsetting? Yes...but I decided something based on my Colossians study. I will not let this situation distract me from God's plan or His truth. Is it inconvenient? Of course. But I will not let it take my joy nor my position in Christ. Money will fix the problem. God is the provider and He will make sure it is taken care of. What I am trying to express, is God listened to my desperate heart cry to help my heart change. He brought my pastor's great message, my own discipline in spending time in His Word and the Holy Spirit's leading to the book of Colossians to help me face this challenge with strength. I refuse to worry about the what if's. I refuse to be afraid of the bill. It isn't worth it! This is one of the verses that brought me to this stance: We also pray that you will be strengthened with all his glorious power so you will have all the endurance and patience you need. Colossians 1: 11. I prayed this prayer for myself on Monday. I felt His power strengthening me, and it still is. The next verse: May you be filled with joy, always thanking the Father. He has enabled you to share in the inheritance that belongs to his people, who live in the light. Colossians 1:12. Isn't it silly how easily we get our joy robbed from us because we let it happen. God wants to us to walk full of His joy, not with an empty or low tank. He wants us to have enough joy to carry us through every situation we face, no matter what, and we can have it because He is our helper! I know my plumbing situation is a small thing in the big sphere of things, but isn't often the smaller things that trip us up? God wants us to grow this year in our ability to handle the things life hands us. He will teach us the how's, the ways and give us all the grace and mercy we need to learn, as we trust Him. Isn't He awesome?? Father, thank you for loving us enough that you never leave us nor forsake us. Thank you for understanding our weak places, but not leaving us there. Thank you for helping us grow up in you and your ways this next year, because we want to let our lives to glorify Your Name. I ask you to strengthen my friends this day, in every needed area, in Jesus' Name, amen. |