



# DIVINE 515

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Monthly Newsletter

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WELCOME TO  
DIVINE 515!



## Upcoming Events

Equipped Podcast  
Interview Return

We're so glad you're here! At Divine515, we believe that prayer isn't just a moment—it's a lifestyle. This space was created to encourage your heart, strengthen your spirit, and remind you that no matter what you face, God is faithful, loving, and strong.

Each devotional you receive is prayerfully crafted to help you:

- Draw closer to God
- Stand firm in spiritual battles
- Anchor your heart in His Word
- Deepen your intimacy through prayer

**continue reading....**

## Crushed, But Not Cursed

“We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed...” — 2 Corinthians 4:8a (NIV)

There's something extraordinary about how God uses pressure. Grapes must be pressed to produce wine. Olives must be crushed to release oil. In their natural state, they contain the potential for something **greater**—but only under pressure does that potential come forth.

Life has a way of squeezing us. Bills pile up, relationships stretch thin, diagnoses come unexpectedly, and dreams seem out of reach. It can seem like we are being pressed on every side, with no room to breathe. Yet Scripture reminds us—we are not crushed. God doesn't allow pressure to destroy us, but to develop us.

Just like grapes, the pressing you're going through can bring out something unexpectedly sweet—joy that rises above your circumstances. And like olives, the crushing seasons in your life can produce oil—anointing and strength that only come through letting go. God doesn't waste your pain. He sees it, He holds it, and He's shaping it into something with deep purpose.

The difference lies in **perspective**. The enemy wants life's challenges to suppress and silence you. But God wants those same challenges to mature and empower you. What feels like the end is often the beginning of a deeper work within.

So take heart—if you're in a season of squeezing, don't despise it. God is refining you, not rejecting you. The pressure is producing perseverance. The crushing cultivates character. And the outcome will be more valuable than you imagined.

Prayer:

Lord, when I feel pressed and stretched by life's demands, remind me that You control life's heat and are still working in my circumstances. Just as grapes become wine and olives produce oil, may my trials achieve something beautiful for Your glory. Strengthen me to endure, and shape me into someone who reflects your character and grace under pressure. In Jesus' name, amen.

## DIVINE HIGHLIGHTS

### WHEN FAVOR FINDS YOU

The favor of God is a powerful thing—and when you trust Him, even your worst fears must bow.

Last year, I found myself facing what should have been a routine dental surgery to remove an impacted wisdom tooth. But it quickly became clear this wouldn't be simple. The procedure was complicated, and I was told there was a risk of fracturing my jaw or damaging the mandibular nerve—damage that could result in permanent numbness. On top of that, I learned I would need to undergo anesthesia, and my insurance wouldn't cover it.

The entire cost had to be paid upfront.

I was overwhelmed. Fear crept in like a flood, and for two months I cried out to God. I grieved over what could go wrong. I questioned how I would pay for it and whether I would come out of the surgery the same. The unknown was heavy, and the financial burden made it feel unbearable.

But even in the heaviness, God began to meet me. Little by little, peace replaced panic. I surrendered every “what if” and allowed God to hold what I couldn't control. By the time surgery day came, I had made peace with the outcome and had chosen to trust Him.

The surgery went smoothly. No nerve damage. No complications. I praised God, thinking the worst was behind me.

But months later, the wound still hadn't healed. I needed a second surgery—this time by a different surgeon. The price? Double the first. But this time, I was different. My heart was steady. I remembered how God carried me before and knew He would again. Then came a breakthrough. God sent an advocate—someone who told me how to challenge the charges since the first surgery had not been performed properly. I submitted the appeal, and to my amazement, everything was covered. Not a single cent out of pocket. And the second surgery was a complete success.

What I once feared would break me became a stage for God's favor.

I learned that fear may visit, but it doesn't get to stay—not when trust takes root. And when you trust God, His favor will find you, fight for you, and finish what He started. His favor never fails.



**STAY TUNED—MORE  
EXCITING UPDATES  
ARE ON THE WAY!**

## DIVINE HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED

# Come Visit Us and See How We Are Growing

**Prayer wall:** Whether you need prayer or want to pray for someone this is the place for you.

**Weekly Devotionals:** Each week look forward to inspiration and food for the soul.

**Recommended books:** Some of my and others favorite reads that have helped us to enhance our throne experience.

**Free gift** when you sign up for the **Newsletter** and join the **Divine515 Prayer Community**  
(If you are reading this, then guess what its on its way!!)



INVITE SOMEONE TO THE NEWSLETTER

## Divine Sounds

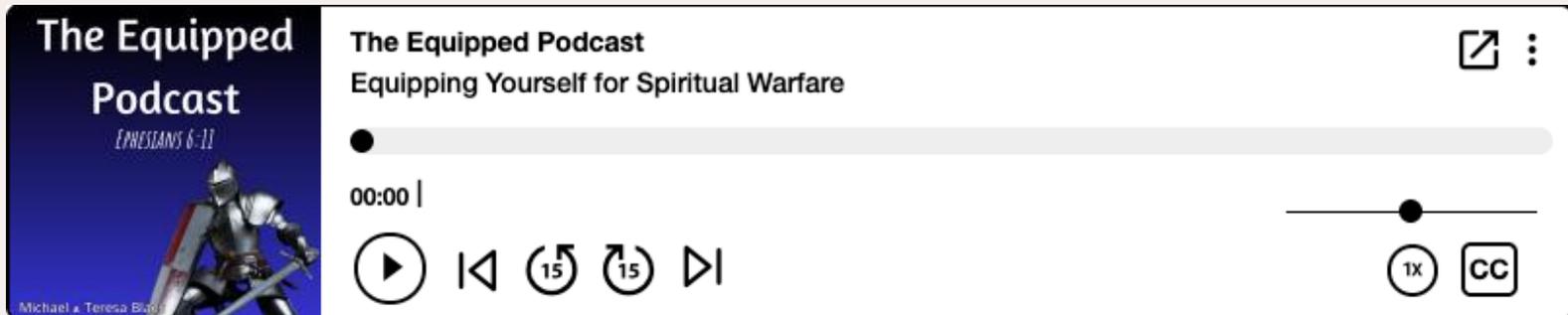


God Will Work It Out (Feat. Naomi Raines/Israel Houghton)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eQBjXG2B-\\_I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eQBjXG2B-_I)

## Kingdom Conversations: Last Month's Highlights

### GOD WANTS MORE THAN A SUPERFICIAL RELATIONSHIP



#### THE EQUIPPED PODCAST

In this episode of the Equipped Podcast titled "God Wants More Than a Superficial Relationship," hosts Michael and Teresa Blaes introduce the topic of prayer and its significance in the lives of believers during challenging times. They welcome their guest, Valarie Rocha, who has dedicated her life to prayer and is the author of the book "Kneeling at the Throne."

Teresa begins by emphasizing the importance of prayer and introducing Valarie. Valarie shares her lifelong commitment to prayer, the inspiration behind her book, and her journey in understanding her role as an intercessor. She explains that the book serves to empower others in their prayer life and outlines different aspects covered in it.

The discussion shifts to the common misconception among believers who feel unqualified to pray as intercessors. Valarie reassures them by explaining that prayer is simply a conversation with God and emphasizes the necessity of maintaining an ongoing dialogue with Him.

Valarie identifies "lack of time" as a major roadblock to prayer, countering that it's more about the intentionality of using time wisely. She provides practical advice for establishing a prayer routine, stressing the importance of being intentional like one would be in sustaining any relationship. Michael and Valarie discuss the importance of hearing God's voice, noting that the relationship should be two-sided, where believers not only talk to God but listen as well.

They explore the importance of group prayer, fellowship, and the support gained from praying with others. Michael shares his experiences and the value of communal prayer in their ministry. Valarie emphasizes the need for the spiritual discipline of prayer and how consistent engagement can enhance one's relationship with God.

## CLOSING REMARKS

You are not walking this journey alone—God is with you every step of the way. Go into this month with bold faith, unshakable hope, and a heart ready to serve. Remember, you are **greater** than your circumstances. Stay **strong** in Him and remember there is always room at the Throne!

*Clothed in His armor, walking in His truth prayerfully Valarie*



If you have a request you want  
Valarie to cover click below

[divine515.com/prayer-requests](https://divine515.com/prayer-requests)

