



ESCALATE
WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

escalate:

es·ca·late

es-kuh-leyt

to increase in; volume, number, amount, intensity, or scope (especially in times of warfare)

Escalate. This is more than just a word. It's more than just an idea. It's more than just a sermon series or a conference. It's who we are. It's what we're about it. It's our mantra. And it's all about Jesus.

2014 is a new year and a new season in many of our lives. We believe this is a time for a fresh start, new beginnings, and an opportunity to commit our lives to a cause much bigger than us. This is an increase.

As with any time of optimism and increase, division, pain, hurt, and crisis will do anything and everything it can to creep in and destroy your joy at the root. This devotional is intended to help you stay on the path to increase and growth throughout your daily life.

This devotional is broken up week by week. Each week has one big idea that goes hand and hand with Pastor Raymond's messages. We are asking that you take time to read through each big idea, observe what it means, apply it to your life, and spend time in prayer. This is a great opportunity for you to get alone with God, give him glory, worship him, live out his will for your life, and to escalate to a higher level. Not only is this a great personal opportunity, but it's also an opportunity for you and your family to come together and grow together.

Our prayer for you is that you will see increase in your life. It's our hope that you will grow in your walk with the Lord. That you will carry a boldness in your faith in his ability to provide even greater things in your life. Then, after you've diligently spent time in the Escalate Devotional, we're going to ask you to take a moment for reflection. We believe that you will see a difference in your life. That you will see a mountain of increase that you've been climbing by the grace of God.

Escalate... it's not just an idea... it's who we are.

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Week 1: EXCELLENCE

1. In week one, pastor taught through two Scriptures. They read;

Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm.

Daniel 6:3 KJV

Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20 KJV

2. When you read these Scriptures, what do you observe? What seems to stick out to you?

3. In what ways can you take these Scriptures and apply them to your daily living? How can you intentionally walk in excellence this week?

4. In response to what God has revealed to you through these Scriptures, as well as pastor's message, write out a prayer. Once your prayer has been written, take the time to speak your prayer to God.

Week 6: ABOVE

1. In week six, pastor taught through two Scriptures. They read;

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

3 John 1:2 KJV

And the Lord shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the Lord thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them:

Deuteronomy 28:13 KJV

2. When you read these Scriptures, what do you observe? What seems to stick out to you?

3. In what ways can you take these Scriptures and apply them to your daily living? How can you intentionally walk in this idea of being *above* this week?

4. In response to what God has revealed to you through these Scriptures, as well as pastor's message, write out a prayer. Once your prayer has been written, take the time to speak your prayer to God.

Week 7: THE

1. In week six, pastor taught through two Scriptures. They read;

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God.

John 1:1-2 KJV

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Genesis 1:1 KJV

2. When you read these Scriptures, what do you observe? What seems to stick out to you?

3. In what ways can you take these Scriptures and apply them to your daily living? How can you intentionally take time to read *the Word* this week?

4. In response to what God has revealed to you through these Scriptures, as well as pastor's message, write out a prayer. Once your prayer has been written, take the time to speak your prayer to God.

