

CHOOSE
Forward Ever Forward
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The Lord instructed me to give this word for 2018 in a similar manner to the word for 2017. The Biblical meaning of the number 18 is bondage and oppression. Judges 3:12, 14 Amp. ¹² Now the Israelites again did evil in the sight of the Lord, and the Lord strengthened Eglon king of Moab against Israel, since they had done what was evil in the sight of the Lord. ¹⁴ And the Israelites **served** Eglon king of Moab **eighteen** years. Judges 10:7-8a NKJV. ⁷ So the anger of the Lord was hot against Israel; and He sold them into the hands of the Philistines and into the hands of the people of Ammon. ⁸ From that year, they harassed and **oppressed** the children of Israel for **eighteen** years--. The children of Israel's disobedience resulted in spiritual bondage, which God punished with physical bondage and oppression.

It was a bit disconcerting to me that the number 18 is synonymous with bondage and oppression. I said to the Lord, does this mean that 2018 will be a year of bondage and oppression for CWCC? The Lord answered, it doesn't have to be! Shortly thereafter, Apostle Leander Robinson presented the theme for 2018 that would also answer the aforementioned question. The Lord then provided more insight into the number 18. Hebrew letters are sometimes used to express numbers. The number 18 is Chai, which means life or to live.

As we have learned to trust God's ways, we know that He will give us an opportunity to consider our ways (actions and decisions). Proverbs 4:26 AMPC says "Consider well the path of your feet, and let all your ways be established *and* ordered aright." In Deuteronomy 30:19 NKJV, God says, "I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, *that* I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore **CHOOSE** life, that both you and your descendants may live." The Lord says there is life in my word, Forward Ever Forward. CWCC, which will you **choose**?

On December 31, 2017, Apostle Leander Robinson said, "Our very lives and livelihood depends on how well we hear and obey." The Lord has spoken the WORD for 2018, Forward EVER Forward. Are you **HEARING** it? On January 14, 2018, Apostle also said, "When God sends a word, it's not for us to die; it's for us to live." If we don't choose life and move in the right direction, we can be dead and stagnant in a new edifice, and live a personal life in an unchanging state as well.

But there is good news, we serve an awesome God and He assures us that, with His guidance and our efforts, we can move Forward EVER Forward in 2018. God has great blessings for us now and in the future. We have just begun to scratch the surface of the manifested blessings

of God. He has moved us into position, both corporately and individually, to receive abundance for purpose.

The Holy Spirit, as He often does, helps me to put the word of God in perspective by personifying the concept, and I want to share it with you. In professional basketball, one player or position on a team is the Small Forward; LeBron James is such a player.

The small forward may be the most versatile of the five main basketball positions. Many small forwards are prolific (high-volume) scorers. One common thread among small forwards is an ability to get to free throws. Fouls are frequently called on the defense when offensive players aggressively attempt certain types of plays. Accurate foul shooting is an imperative skill for small forwards, many of whom record a large portion of their points via free throws at the foul line.

The Coach (God) has a game plan just for you, Forward EVER Forward. This year you are to move offensively and aggressively forward with purpose. Now the opposing player, that is the enemy in me (self) or our adversary the devil, will commit fouls against you. Your ability to take a foul, get up, and remain focused on what lies ahead is critical; it is the difference between bondage and life. Just as foul shooting skills are imperative for a small forward; hearing, trusting, obeying and applying the word of God are imperative for us. God says that many of your victories may come as a result of going to the foul line, so don't miss your individual and team practice sessions. Swish!

Finally, the definition of the word ever, according to Goggle dictionary, is **(at any time, at any point, on any occasion, under any circumstances, on any account)**. So I choose **FORWARD at any time, at any point, on any occasion, under any circumstances, on any account, FORWARD!**