

LOGOS DEVOTIONAL

A PUBLICATION OF GREAT HAVEN MINISTRIES

2024- The Year of Mighty Harvest

It's a new season for us this year.

It's the year we shall enjoy the harvest of all the Lord has promised, in Christ. This year, we shall be established in the things of God more than ever before. In this light, Logos Devotional is a very comprehensive tool, and over the last year we recorded a lot of testimonies.

I can assure you that if you are committed to reading and using Logos as your devotional guide, you will grow spiritually, established in doctrine, and in the knowledge of Christ.

I want to welcome you to this refreshing experience.

Please feel free to reach out to me via my email: danielfolarin@greathaven.org if you have any questions or discussion about your walk with God.

Daniel Folarin,

President- Great Haven Ministries Lead Pastor- Great Haven Assembly

WON'T HE DO IT?

Mark 9:21-27 "How long has this been happening?" Jesus asked the boy's father. He replied, "Since he was a little boy. The spirit often throws him into the fire or into water, trying to kill him. Have mercy on us and help us, if you can." "What do you mean, 'If I can'?" Jesus asked. "Anything is possible if a person believes." The father instantly cried out, "I do believe, but help me overcome my unbelief!" When Jesus saw that the crowd of onlookers was growing, he rebuked the evil spirit. "Listen, you spirit that makes this boy unable to hear and speak," he said. "I command you to come out of this child and never enter him again!" Then the spirit screamed and threw the boy into another violent convulsion and left him. The boy appeared to be dead. A murmur ran through the crowd as people said, "He's dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and helped him to his feet, and he stood up.

Look at that! A situation that had been happening for years, got solved in a twinkle. Today's scripture shows us that that it has been happening for a long time, that that is how it has always been, doesn't mean it can't change just like that. Be it sickness, policies, principles, a life situation, heart of a hardened man, God can change it just like that! Remember the issue of the woman with the issue of blood too, for 12 years and she got cured immediately too. So, never let the reality of how long something has been happening rob you of your miracle. It's been happening for long? OK, I'll still pray for a miracle. That's how it has always been? OK, I'll still believe for a miracle!

That you've spent so much time, money and efforts on it doesn't mean a miracle cannot happen concerning it in seconds. So in this new month, choose to believe God to cause a miracle even concerning that long standing situation that looks like there is no end in sight.



HONOURING SPIRITUAL AUTHORITIES - GIVING

1 Corinthians 9:11 If we have sown spiritual seed among you, is it too much if we reap a material harvest from you?

Spiritual authorities are voices that speak over our lives. They Labour over us to ensure we are rightly taught and spend countless hours in the place of prayer for us.

The truth is, no matter how much we give to our spiritual authority, we are still the one getting the better end of the deal, we are still the one that are the better for it. We are not actually doing them a favour, we are merely doing what God expects of us according to his standards.

No amount we give to our spiritual authorities can be too much for the spiritual and supernatural benefits we enjoy from them. And this is not even a trade by barter. We are not paying them salary for what they do for us, rather, we are firstly responding to the instructions of God in the bible and then we are also being a source of blessing

Question When last did you give to your pastor?



FAITH SPEAKS

2 CORINTHIANS 4:13; We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;

It is never enough to believe that God can do something, it is expedient to speak out what we want to receive from God.

It's not that God cannot heal you if you don't declare your realities or confess the scriptures, or that He cannot give you a job if you do not declare your receiving of it; in fact, everything has been given to us and every work has been done by God already, it only means that when you declare the promises and realities, you are evidencing the faith you have in God.

Speaking as evidence of your faith also helps you walk in the reality of what God has given you. This means God does not necessarily need your faith to do things for you, He has already done all things in Christ(Ephesians 1:3), but your faith, evidenced by speaking, brings you to a place of receiving that which God has already done.

Faith is the only acceptable currency to receive things from God.



HONOURING YOUR SPIRITUAL AUTHORITIES- CIVING 2

Ezekiel 44:30 The first of the ripe fruits and all the gifts brought to the Lord will go to the priests. The first batch of dough must also be given to the priests so the Lord will bless your homes.

In the old testament, The best of all the firstfruits and of all special gifts belonged to the priests. The people were commanded to give them the first portion of their ground meal so that a blessing may rest on their household. In addition to that, they were to give the priest a 10th of their harvest. It was a command. This was necessitated by God because the priests didn't have secular works(farming, trading or whatever), their jobs were exclusively in the temple.

Now, bringing this to the present, not so much has changed. Because of us, many of our pastors can't work as much as they would have if they were not pastoring because they need to dedicate time to pray for us, to pray about the ministry, to prepare messages that will bless us, to minister to a brethren in need of comfort, encouragement, the list is endless.

As believers, the onus falls on us to be a source of material blessing to our pastors. Yes, we should be of help to them in other ways, but those other ways we are helping them should not replace blessing them materially too. It's really not a big deal if you choose to pay for your pastor's meal if you meet him at a restaurant for instance. Action plan:

Make a decision to Dedicate a part of your income to blessing your pastor; either in cash or even buying gifts. Watch out for their birthdays or those in their family, their wedding anniversary and look for ways to give.



SCRIPTURES ON CIVING

In today's Devotionals, we will be checking through scriptures and reading them to help us see God's mind and Reinforce the importance of giving to spiritual authorities over us.

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work.

Hebrews 13:17

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

1 Corinthians 9:14

In the same way, the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel.

1 Corinthians 9:11 If we have sown spiritual seed among you, is it too much if we reap a material harvest from you?

James 3:1

Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.

Galatians 6:6-10

Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith

Today, make a commitment to always give to your spiritual authority. You could put it into a schedule, or even automate it so you don't forget.



THE SUFFE**RING AND THE GLORY 1**

1 Peter 1:1. Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia.

Here, Peter was talking about strangers who are scattered abroad, and it's amazing to see that those people are strangers. And if he sees those people as strangers, we are also strangers because a stranger comes from the word "parepidemos" which means the one who comes from a country land or one who comes from a foreign country into a city or land to reside there by the side of a native.

It means that we are not actually a native of this place, it means that we are in the world and not of the world, It means that our descent changes that moment we confess Jesus. As a matter of fact, Peter called us strangers. So this world is not our home. Hallelujah! But we'll enjoy, you know when you go for a tour, you want to enjoy the site and all as a foreigner maintaining your integrity.

See what Jesus said and how he puts it in John 3:13 "And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven". I thought Jesus would say even the son of man who was in heaven, but he said even the son of man who is in heaven. So he has not lost sight of his citizenship, he has not lost sight of his residency. He knows where he is.



THE SUFFERING AND THE GLORY 2

1 Peter 1:1. Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia.

Do you know where you are? Read Ephesians 2:6-8. So a believer must always be aware that the one in whom he has to do is not of this world. He is the monarch of the universe and he has translated him as a citizen of heaven.

Peter calls them strangers because they are foreigners in a different country or city and they reside side by side with the natives. And Paul said," We beseech you". Ambassadors beseeches, emplores, and tell people, they preach the word of faith with authority and audacity. And when we come to church, what we come to do is that we cook men, we breed men, we raise men so that they will be effective in preaching the gospel to anybody, anyone.

They are thoroughly finished. In the early church, they underwent rigorous bible training, they sat for hours, days, and years, hearing the same thing - the gospel.

Praise God! And then the bible says now says that so mightily grew the word of God and prevailed in the city of Ephesus. So the way God's word can grow among some persons is when you thoroughly cook them. They are not going to church for sport on Sunday; this Sunday you come for sport, another Sunday you come for ludo, another Sunday you come for chess. So we strengthen men so that when they meet the native of that country/of the land they know with precision what to say and how to say it.



FAITH IS ENOUCH

ROMANS 4:3: For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

Let's pay attention to what scriptures said in the above verse. The bible did not say Abraham fasted and prayed, He believed.

Abraham has always been a man that trusted God(when he was asked to leave his father land to a promised land, he didn't say- so, how wll I dwell in the land? Those people won't just leave, Lord it's impossible to enter that land without a war and I can't fight, he simply believed and followed.)

Also, when God gave Him a promise that was too good to be true, It was said that Abraham believed God and it was counted to Him for righteousness.

Did scriptures show us that Abraham had to do any extra thing to make that promise come to pass except having faith?

Faith alone in Jesus alone is what makes us righteous. Our works are too small and intangible to deserve or make us righteous. If what Jesus did is not enough, nothing you do can ever be enough.

Many of us still follow rules and regulations in a bid to convince ourselves that we deserve salvation or God's good gifts, we think that faith is too little to make us righteous so we try to do big things that will make us deserve it.

The gift of Righteousness is too good, yes, but it is also very true!



FAITH IS ENOUGH 2

ROMANS 4:3: For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

Yes, being made righteous with God doesn't mean we become lackadaisical or don't do anything. We fast, we pray, we study much more because we do these to grow into maturity and full stature, we know more about God that we may become like Him, we work for God because we want to reciprocate His love, we do not commit sin intentionally but we are not to do these things(fasting, praying, studying scriptures, working for God, not sinning) in a bid to make ourselves deserve God's righteousness when we start to do that, it becomes self-righteousness which is like a filthy rag before God.

Our assurance of righteousness should not be in what we do, but in what Jesus has done and the evidence that our assurance of righteousness is in what Jesus did is by having faith alone in Jesus alone. We serve, do the things of God, and do not sin not because we want to be righteous, we do these because as the righteous person that we already are by the virtue of salvation(salvation being what made us righteous), we are expected to do them. They are things a righteous man is expected to do.

Righteousness isn't a reward for not sinning(you don't get righteous because you don't sin) rather, not sinning is the aftermath of being made righteous through accepting salvation.

Question: How do you become righteous?



AUTHORITY OVER DEVILS

COLOSSIANS 2:15: And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Demons, spiritual warfare, devil all exist, but we don't have to live in fear of them for through the death and resurrection of Jesus, we now have authority over them.

Once we receive the life of Christ, we shouldn't fear the devil anymore, in fact, it is the devil that should start fearing us, but many times, because we do not know or believe these realities we read in the scriptures, the devil maximizes our ignorance or unbelief to still torment us, but in reality, the devil has no right to torment us anymore, Jesus has paid for it. Jesus has paid for it!

We have to resist the devil with boldness, confidence, and authority and not fear because when he attacks us, we do not fight him back to win, but we fight as victors. We do not fight for victory, we fight from victory! (Roman's 8:37, John 16:33) so we don't even fear the devil at all because we know greater is he that is in us and we are seated far above him and even when he tries to still attack, we will always win because victory is ours through what Jesus did.

CONFESSION: I always win!



PREACH

MATTHEW 28:5-6: And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

If you truly believe in what Jesus Christ did for you if you believe that His work of salvation was important, and that you actually received that salvation, you can't keep it to yourself. He said in Mark 16:15, "...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Those are our marching orders.

You have to tell others about Jesus. You can win at least one soul before the end of this week; plan for it. Pray especially about it. There are still many who don't know what Jesus came to do; they're not aware that He came as their substitute. They're not aware He already saved them from the punishment, as well as the life and nature of sin. The world needs to hear this truth. But the question, according to Romans 10:14 is, "How can they hear without a preacher?" That's why each one of us must be personal about the Great Commission. Preach the Gospel with greater fervency, especially as we prepare ourselves and others for the coming of the Lord.

Don't relent in your efforts; seek out the lost, those hopeless and confused in your world, and let them know there's salvation in Christ Jesus. Let them know eternal life, fellowship with God, a life of peace, righteousness, eternal victory, and prosperity are now both possible and available in Christ Jesus.



TREASURE

2 Peter 1:3 "His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through the knowledge of Him who called us by His own<u>a</u> glory and excellence."

The Believer is a carrier of the divine Life. This life is the Treasure of God. The word translated as treasure in 2corinthians 4:7 means Wealth or A deposit. This here ought to make us tickle because it is clear that we are the embodiment of the wealth of God. We are not just the store house, we also have unlimited access to that treasure stored in us. Daily, we are faced with many unique situations which would usually require a different approach to tackle. Hence, the believer has been wired to live from inside-out, never focused on the happening/ threats happening outside. The solutions are ever available as long as the believer looks within. You are not confused; you always know what to do.

All that is needed to live Godly and victoriously has been deposited in the believer. Today is another day to manifest This Treasure- The Divine Life in the flesh. Regardless of what we face, we are certain that THE DIVINE POWER in US will come through.



THE EFFICACY OF THE WORD

Psalms 119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. The Word is also clarity to him that seems lost or confused.

We can liken the Word of God to a mail van delivering to men that which pertains to their needs. To those who need salvation, the word becomes salvation to such a man. But you see, the word does not stop its work at salvation, it continues its work in the believer furnishing the same unto good works. The man in Christ must therefore continue to feed on the Word so as to experience and manifest the Word per time.

Prov 4:20-22 Vs 22 For they are life unto those that find them and health to all their flesh. Here is one of many scriptures which reveals that the Word is health to he that has it. By consistent and fervent focus on these words, the reality dawns on the recipient.

Ps 119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. The Word is also clarity to him that seems lost or confused.

The reality of the word is that it becomes the answer to the questions/issues at hand. He has become Health for sickness, clarity for confusion, Salvation for the lost, Light for darkness. Dear Believer today is no different, look into the word and walk in your Reality.



TALKED TO COD?

Philipians 4:6-7Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

It is God's will for us to be worry and struggle-free. Worry is a result of our minds being burdened with issues of life. Struggle sets in as a result of holding on to the issues and not involving God.

In this world, there are many challenges that could cause us to be anxious but God in his word has commanded that we shouldn't be anxious for any reason but consciously place those things upon him (1 Peter 5:7; Philippians 4:7). It is His will that we are worry free so when we speak to him about the situation, we are sure He hears and He will answer.

It doesn't matter what the case is, your responsibility is to tell Him and His responsibility is to deal with the situation. Beyond the answers He brings, He also ravishes our heart with peace Philipians 4:8. Tell Jesus what makes you worry today and you will see him take it away.



CIVINC

2 Corinthians 9:7 "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

All that we boast about today in Christ is only because we received from a God that gave.

God didn't give partly; He gave all of His very best to us. This ought to be the basis of our giving as well. If the Life we received was freely given us, then this Life is expressed through free-giving. What we give could be material (money, clothing's) or immaterial (Service, time). The emphasis here is on material giving in the church. We do not give because we expect to receive from God, rather, we give because He has Given us. As totally surrendered people, all that we are and have belongs to God.

Usually when we give, the acceptance isn't based on the size of the gift but the state of our heart. Genesis 4:4-5: And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering:

But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

The response of God to the offering was with reference to the offerors ABEL and CAIN. So, it had more to do with the offeror than the sacrifice. We could also reference the scenario Jesus pointed us to about the widow's last mite MK 12:41-44. What she gave was nothing to be compared to what the wealthy gave but hers was received as more.

Thus, we see Apostle Paul's order for giving: Purpose in the heart, then give cheerfully. No more hypocrisy in our giving.

Purpose in your heart to give to the work of the ministry, the needy and they that labor over you in ministry.



ENCACE

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

To summarize the Bible; The will of the Father, the work of the Son, the witness of the Spirit.

As a child of God, we are called to engage not run, we are called to the light and we need to emphasize on more light.

There's this common teaching in the religious way that we need to work for our salvation, while that sounds true, it's not true. As we've been saved, our salvation is forever.

God gave His only begotten Son for our sake (John 3:16), God gave us eternal life, He gave us Jesus.

If we're to escape and not engage; I'm glad to let you know that the plan would've been to die immediately after salvation. If we're to work for our salvation, then Jesus didn't die for us.

He died so we can have life, eternal life. He brought heaven to us and our work is to spread the gospel (good news). We're to tell the world about how great this is and the benefits as a new creation.



ENGAGE 2

Colossians 1:27 "To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."

As a believer, our mindset should be fixed on Christ! We're a solution provider, embodied with Christ's dignity. We live a righteous life through Christ. He is in us and we are in him. He died so we can live a forever life! We live the life of zoe.

Tell me, why should we not share this great news? Why should we cover up the news? The people of the world are fighting with all the possibilities to cover up the news but because Christ is light, they've got no opportunity to.

It might be daunting, people of the world can be intimidating but because we've got Christ; Ephesians 2:6 (And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus) we've got nothing to fear or lose.

I'll implore we take charge, engage, and spread the good news as that's our mission.

Assessment

Do you still feel weird while talking about Christ or whenever your friends shun you not to bring Jesus into a matter?



Joy

Psalm 150:6 Let everything that has breath praise the Lord .

As believers, the more we celebrate, the more we praise and thank our God, the greater our joy becomes. Especially in a world filled with struggles and stress, we can so easily forget to celebrate because of the chaos around us but God's word says that regardless of circumstance and situation we are to praise God for His greatness, power and work in our lives.

If the joy of the Lord is our strength, we become stronger in faith, more resilient as people when we celebrate more. You might have someone in your life who's always thankful and you wonder how they can be that way. Celebration is not a feeling, it's not a moment and it's not only for the good times - if you can start to incorporate the celebration into your daily life, your whole countenance will change. You'll light up rooms, you'll be resilient in bad times, you'll have greater vision for the future and you'll please God.

Celebration defeats victimhood, celebration defeats worry, celebration defeats hopelessness.

Today, start to praise God and celebrate His goodness no matter the situation you face and watch as your faith and your whole life start to go to new levels.



LOGOS DEVOTIONAL

JANUARY DAY 19

LOVE FORCIVES

Romans 13:10: Love does no wrong to others, so love fulfills the requirements of God's law.

Love does no wrong. Love has no ill intent. Love has no ulterior motive. Love worketh no evil toward his neighbor. Love is fruitful. Love is bountiful. Love has no end. Love is selfless. Love fulfills. Love satisfies. Love is gentle. Love isn't reckless. Love is pure. Love has a good report. Love doesn't gossip. Love is patient. Love is kind. Love patiently speaks. Love is wise. Love does not abuse. Love leads. Love will not forsake you. Love forgives.

Choose to forgive and let His Love radiate through your actions. Choose to Love. Let the past go and embrace the Future that God has prepared for you. Don't let the entanglement of the past keep you bitter and stagnant.

Remember the "prayer template" where Hesus was teaching the disciples how to pray, when He got to; forgive us our trespasses as we've forgave those (that was before Jesus died, before he took away our sins, before he paid our debt).

Our recent template includes - love because Christ gave us love, He is love, He gave us himself, and we're to forgive with and in love.

We're to thank Him for forgiving us, we're to thank Him for helping us to forgive and he forgave us! That's what's expected of us as a believer, Christ did it so we can do it!



START NOW

2 Corinthians 5:17 "This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!"

The choices we make everyday shape our story. What would your life look like if you let godly principles guide those choices?

If someone asked you to tell your life's story, what would you say?

You can do well by telling them your childhood story, when you were born, educational background, career, growth and all. If you're a parent, you might want to show off about your children but the Question is; What is the story? What's in it?

Most of us have chapters we'd rather not share with anyone. Maybe you've ended up somewhere you never wanted to be. You didn't mean to blow it, but you did. You made decisions that took you farther than you ever intended to go. You did some things that cost you more than you ever thought you'd have to pay. You hurt people. You compromise your values. You broke promises. You did things you feel like you can't undo.

You probably think that's all it is for a story but the story is not complete, in fact; it's just starting. There's good news: your story is not over. It's not too late to change the story you'll tell one day. Regardless of what you've done (or haven't done), your future is unwritten. You have more victories to win, more friends to meet, more of a difference to make, more of God's goodness to experience. Whether or not you like the plot so far, with God's help, you can transform your story into one you're proud to share.

START NOW! Make that choice to stick with Christ and you'll have a glorious story to share.



MAKE YOUR LIFE COUNT

Psalms 49:20 "Man that is in honor, and understandeth not, is like the beasts that perish"

Life is an opportunity given by God to live out His purpose and plan. Of a truth, our days are not just to be counted, we need to make them count much more. And to make life count is to live life from the perspective of God's eternal purpose for us. Life well spent doesn't count in days; it counts in fulfilment of purpose. When this is not known, abuse is inevitable.

God works all things after the counsel of His own will; He is a God of purpose. Acts 15:18 tells us "known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world." God had planned out all things before He started out the work of creation in the beginning. Nothing on the scene today is an accident of creation. Man is not a creature of accident. God does not make mistakes; He has never made and can never make mistakes. All His works are perfect because He is perfect.

Psalms 49 reveals that a man in honour, who doesn't understand it is like a beast that perishes, which means that he lacks the understanding of his purpose for living. He is in honour but does not understand what it means to be in it. He walks in darkness as to the honour bestowed on him because he is ignorant of his purpose. Making your life count begins with discovering purpose and following it through and through. Significance is the mark of a life that counts, and it is borne out of a life lived in God's purpose; and not that which is based on circumstances.

Never take life as it comes. Live it as it is meant to be lived; according to God's purpose for you.



IMITATORS

Ephesians 5:1-2 - Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour.

To imitate God is to follow in His steps. You cannot follow in God's steps without being a possessor of divine life. You can only act like the one of whom you are. What this means is that being born again is to be born of the incorruptible word of God which lives and abides forever (1 Peter 1:23). The man in Christ is a possessor of God's very life and nature; therefore he can imitate God in every sense of following His steps.

Imitating God, following in His steps, is walking in love as Christ has loved us, and has given Himself for us as an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour. This is sacrificial love, love unfeigned without hypocrisy. And as much as Christ gave Himself for us as an offering and a sacrifice, we are to give ourselves as an offering and a sacrifice to serve the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to serve one another in Christ.

Giving yourself and your resources to be a blessing to others is one key way to imitate God, just as Jesus has demonstrated for us by giving His life to serve us and bless us.

What are you going to do to be a blessing to someone today? In what way(s) are you going to let the world see the light of God's love for them today? Preach the gospel, touch a soul, and help somebody today!



AS HE IS...

1 John 4:17 - Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

There is a remarkable account of how the Lord Jesus and the believer are not only one in life but also in living. When the Lord Jesus walked the earth, He walked as and like His Father God would walk, if He was there in person. He was a flawless reflection of His person; He was the brightness or outshining of the Father's glory. He and the Father were one in every sense of oneness.

In the same vein, we have taken His place in unveiling Him to the world, just as He took His Father's place in unveiling Him to us. It is true in our case that as He is, so we are in this world. We are extensions of Jesus to the world; we are the branches of the true vine, Christ Jesus. We are the light of the world today; a city set upon the hill that cannot be hidden. He is the light shining in us, and we are the outshining of His glory. What a privilege and a blessing this is!

We are the reflection of God's glory here on earth. That's who we are. When people come in contact with you, they see God's glory and splendour. Your walk of faith and of love attracts the world to the Father. Just as the Father was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, Christ is now in you reconciling them to Him. So, you are a reflection of divine glory. Let your walk also reflect who you are.



YOU ARE A VICTOR

2 Timothy 1:7 - "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

Fear is a product of thoughts and imaginations the devil whispers to us. To defeat fear, you must cast down all such imaginations (2 Corinthians 10:5).

Anything that does not align with God's word should not be allowed into your heart. For instance, when the devil whispers "you will soon die", cast down that thought by saying "I shall not die but live to declare the glory of the Lord " (Psalms 118:17). If he says you will fail, cast it down by saying "the Lord will make me the head and not the tail; I shall be above only and not beneath..." (Deut. 28:13). Don't let the devil tell you what God has not said about you.

Always use the scripture as a weapon,

Ephesians 6:16 says the enemy will throw fiery darts at us, but the shield of faith will protect us and ensure they don't touch us. The devil sends fiery arrows in the form of fear to pierce and weaken us. Once fear is allowed into your heart, you become weak and unable to fight. The more reason you as a believer need the shield of faith to ward off the enemies and their attacks. Remember, faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God (Romans 10:17). When you search the scripture through, you notice that when people in distress go before God, the first thing God would always say is FEAR NOT! Why? Because He knows that once fear is gone, the battle is as good as won.

I say to you today, it does not matter what the devil has told you; fear not, for you're coming out victoriously as a winner!



YOUR RESPONSE IS LOVE

Proverbs 15:1 - "A soft answer turneth away wrath; but grievous words stir up anger."

As Christians, we are called to a lifestyle of love- unconditional love even towards enemies and unfriendly people. Responding with love to those who wrong you will confuse and win them over to your side.

Have people been hurting you with their words and actions? From now on, smile and do good to them. Is anyone persecuting you because you're a Christian? Why not pray for them to have an encounter with Christ, so they can change. When you respond with love to those who hate you, some may see you as a fool and try to advise you otherwise. Ignore them and obey the counsel of Jesus. Don't insult anybody, your words should be seasoned with salt always (Colossians 4:6). Don't try to avenge yourself for vengeance is of God and not man. Also, don't pray for your persecutors to die because God is not interested in the death of a sinner. No matter what you're going through in the hands of anyone, always respond in love.

Confession: Father, I receive the grace to respond in love to all those who hurt me.



BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

Ecclesiastes 9:10 - "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave , whither thou goest."

Be the best in whatever your hand finds to do. When a man dies and leaves the earth, he ceases from his earthly works. It is day now, let's do what is required of us diligently and excellently, for the night comes when we shall cease from our earthly works, and our reward in heaven shall be based on our earthly labour of love.

This is a charge to you today to be the best in your career, ministry, academics, business, on your job and in everything destiny has cut out for you to do. Refuse to be mediocre. The seed of God's excellent character is in you. You're God's child, hence you have God's ability to do valiantly and excellently in life. Give your best every time you have the opportunity to do so. Yes, your boss may not appreciate what you do, and he or she may not reward you for it; nevertheless, keep at it. You are becoming better every time you give your best. Your remarkable side is finding better expression daily. Also as you commit yourself to being the best in all you do, always keep a positive attitude to life, people and work.



MOVE UNTO PERFECTION

Hebrews 6:1 - "Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God."

God's intention for us as believers is that we come to maturity in the things of the spirit. He does not want us to remain children or babies; He rather wants us to grow up unto full manhood in Christ. It is not a crime to be born a babe in Christ, but to remain a babe after a long period of time, is contrary to God's will for us. God wants everyone of His children in Christ to grow up unto Christ in all things; to come unto the full measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. This is God's perfect will for all of us.

1 Peter 2:2 charges us to desire the sincere milk of the Word that we may grow by it. Growth comes by feeding and acting on the word. Your attitude and response to the Word determines your spiritual growth. According to God's will and plan for our maturity, we must aspire to attain maturity. Let's go on to perfection.

Refuse to remain a spiritual dwarf. Don't let the things of the world distract you from feeding and acting on the word. Seek the things that are above, where Christ Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Father. Set your affection on things above, not on earthly things! To be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Renew your mind to the Word, and refuse to conform to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.



SHIELD OF FAITH

Ephesians 6:16 - Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

Faith is a shield from all the fiery darts of the wicked. Our faith in Jesus Christ as the risen Lord and saviour shields us from the enemy's attack.

Paul, in Ephesians 6, likens the believer in spiritual warfare to the Roman soldier. The Roman soldier had a tall and large shield that spans his entire height, from head to toe, with which he protects himself from the enemy's darts. In the same vein, faith shields us from head to toe against all the fiery darts of the devil.

At no time in our walk with God should we doubt God's love for us, nor the integrity of the Word. Doubt exposes us to demonic attacks. Unbelief breeds lack of confidence in God, which in turn exposes us to the enemy's fiery darts. Therefore, faith is and should always be our shield from trouble.

Guard your heart from the junks of this world. Be selective in what you hear also. Stay alert always!



WE ARE IN FELLOWSHIP

1John 1:6-7 - "If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all. Light is righteousness; light is love, and light is life. Darkness is sin or rebellion; darkness is hatred, and it is death. 1 John 1 shows us how to walk in fellowship with God. It also reveals the possibility and reality of fellowship with God. The reason man can fellowship with God, for he is the image of God and His likeness. Fellowship with God is our highest expression of life and fulfilment. We can't reach the peak of pleasure and fulfilment without coming into fellowship with God. We are made to live in fellowship with God that we might find full expression of our purpose on earth.

Fellowship with God is communion, sharing, dialogue and interaction with Him. He is our sufficiency. In our fellowship with Him, it is important we know His divine nature. He is light, He is righteous, He is Love, He is life. We can't fellowship with God outside of who He is, that's impossible. We can only fellowship with Him in the light of who God is. Also, we can't fellowship with God and walk in darkness, NO! We can only fellowship with God by walking in the light, in righteousness, in the Word and in love.



YOU ARE NOT ALONE

Isaiah 49:16 - "Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me."

God has designed life such that as men, we are dependent on one another. Once in a while, we might need help and may become weary if it does not come (Proverbs 13:12). I have experienced this countless times but God has always helped me. He is the ever-present help in the time of need. Sometimes, there may be nobody to help. At other times, those you have trusted may just decide against helping you, but not God. David, in Psalms 27:10 said, When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up.

Even if everybody were to forsake you in your time of need, God would never do so. The yorubas will say that when fire burns a parent and his/her child at the same time, the parent would naturally focus on saving him/herself first irrespective of the depth of love towards that child. However, with God, He will put you first. God asked a vital question in Isaiah 49:15, Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.

Even doctors, yes, they are great, but once in a while, even they do not have solutions to some health problems. Although some ailments have been termed incurable by man, there is no such thing with God. He does the impossible. Set your love upon God, then call upon Him today. He will answer you.



JESUS DOESN'T NEED THE POOL

John 5:6-9: When Jesus saw him and knew he had been ill for a long time, he asked him, "Would you like to get well?" "I can't, sir," the sick man said, "for I have no one to put me into the pool when the water bubbles up. Someone else always gets there ahead of me." Jesus told him, "Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk!" Instantly, the man was healed! He rolled up his sleeping mat and began walking! But this miracle happened on the Sabbath,

Let's take a look at the man in this scripture, all his life, he had depended on the pool so much for his deliverance that he even told Jesus that he can't get healed because people always first him to get into the pool. Jesus! Jesus! He told Jesus that.

Many times, we're like that, believing that something can only be done a certain way or can only be achieved through a certain means. Have you met Jesus? He doesn't need the pool. He doesn't need that way or method you've set your mind on, He can make your miracle happen in a thousand other ways! Stop being close minded and limited in your mind.

Unto Him that's able to do exceedingly, abundantly, far above all you can ask or think, according to the power at work in you!

Be careful not to be set in your ways or opinions(especially because that's what facts, realities, news dictates, or because that's what is always done), things don't always have to go the way you planned or according to your strategy, there's always a better; bigger, faster way with God.

Confession:

God, I do not limit what you can do to one method or one way in my mind, I believe you can do exceedingly and abundantly



LOGOS DEVOTIONAL

FEBRUARY DAY 1

UNWAVERING FAITH 1

Romans 4:19 - Without succumbing to doubt, he acknowledged the reality that his body was essentially lifeless, as he was nearly a century old, and Sarah's womb was also barren.

Genuine faith confronts the facts. Any disposition unwilling to acknowledge reality lacks true faith. Abraham did not attempt to deceive himself; he did not envision a different scenario from what it was. With his senses, he recognized that both his and his wife Sarah's bodies were essentially lifeless. However, he did not rely solely on his senses. Paul continued:

"Nevertheless, he remained unwavering in his trust in God's promise, and his faith grew stronger as he glorified God. He was thoroughly convinced that God possessed the power to fulfill what He had promised. This is why 'it was credited to him as righteousness.'" (Romans 4:20–22, NIV)

Abraham is hailed as "the father of all those who believe" (Romans 4:11), and we are encouraged to follow in the footsteps of Abraham's faith (see verse 12). We are called to tread the same path of faith. We are required to lay hold of God's promise, make our declaration, steadfastly maintain our confession without wavering, reject being discouraged by the evidence of our senses, and peer into the unseen realm through the eyes of faith to behold our faithful High Priest, seated at the right hand of God.

Prayerful Response

Thank you, Lord, for your unwavering faithfulness, which fills me with hope. I declare that I confront the facts without doubting in unbelief. I will firmly uphold my confession without faltering. Amen."



LOGOS DEVOTIONAL FEBRUARY DAY 2

UNWAVERING FAITH 2

Hebrews 3 ITherefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we confess. He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house.

In Hebrews 3:1, we are encouraged to make the correct confession. Then, in Hebrews 4:14, we are instructed to "maintain our confession." When the Bible designates Jesus as our High Priest, we instantly understand that it is our confession that engages His ministry on our behalf.

When we maintain our confession, it is essential not to alter what we have declared. We must ensure that our spoken words align with the Word of God. In Hebrews 10:23, the phase we are now contemplating says, "Let us firmly uphold the confession of our hope without faltering." Take note of the addition: "without wavering."

If we examine these passages in Hebrews in the order in which they are presented, we discern that, concerning our confession, there are three consecutive stages. First, we make the confession; second, having made it, we firmly hold onto it without altering it; and third, we steadfastly maintain it without any doubt.

Why was "without wavering" included? To me, based on logic and personal experience, it suggests that when we make the correct confession, we will encounter adverse forces and pressures that will oppose us. Even though we have declared the right confession and are holding onto it, there might come a moment when it feels like all of Satan's forces and the powers of darkness are unleashed against us. The temptation is to let go of our confession. Nevertheless, the writer advises, "Don't let go! Maintain it—without wavering." The graver the situation and the more significant the challenge, the more crucial it is to remain resolute without any doubt. God is faithful. He is unwavering in His commitment to His Word. Jesus serves as our High Priest.

If we simply maintain our confession without any doubt, He will fulfill His role as our High Priest.

Prayer Response

Thank You, Lord, that You are faithful—You give me hope. I proclaim that I make my confession, do not change it, and hold it fast without wavering. I shall hold fast my confession without wavering. Amen.



LOGOS DEVOTIONAL FEBRUARY DAY 3

GOD IS ALIVE IN YOU!

Ephesians 3:19: And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

The bible says, "...Christ in you the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:27). Christ in you means God alive in and at work in you.

2 Corinthians 5:19 says, "To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation." It was God working in Christ as He walked the streets in Bible days doing those mighty miracles that He did.

Also, Colossians 1:19 says, "For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell." When Jesus walked the earth, all divinity was at home in Him. He was God alive—walking and talking in a man's body. But that's not the end. The same God is in you now as He was in Christ. Hallelujah!

Having received the Holy Spirit, God lives in you now; you're His temple. Through you, He impacts your world. He brings sinners out of darkness into His marvellous light. You're His extension in the earth today.

Remember, His words, "I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people'' (2 Corinthians 6:16). He's talking in you and walking in you today. Every time you're ministering to someone about Jesus, that's God at work and alive in you and through you.

CONFESSION

Everywhere I go, I go in and with the Father who lives permanently in me. Through me, He expresses His love and righteousness to others, for I'm His extension in the earth by Christ Jesus. Glory to God!



CUT THEM OFF!

Matthew 4:10: "Get out of here, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say, 'You must worship the Lord your God; serve only him.

When the Lord Jesus ministered to different people in Bible days, He cast out a lot of demons, showing us that demons are responsible for most of the afflictions that people suffer from. And in Mark 16:17 He listed several signs to identify those who believe, and the very first of the signs is that they shall cast out demons.

During His forty days in the wilderness, He gave us an insight into how to deal with Satan and demons. Satan had come to tempt Him, and the first temptation was for Jesus to command stones to be made bread. In response, Jesus, quoting from the Book of Deuteronomy, said, "...It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). For the second time, the Bible says, "Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, and saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down..." (Matthew 4:5-6). Again, Jesus responded and said, "...It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God" (Matthew 4:7). Then came the last temptation. At a high mountain, Satan showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment, offering them to Jesus, if He would bow down and worship him. Jesus said, "Get out of here, Satan!" The original word in Hebrew for "Get out of here" signifies "sink out," or "disappear." That's casting out the devil!

In those three temptations, Jesus was consistent in emphasizing to Satan, "It is written...," and after establishing that clearly, He said, "Get out of here!" That's how to deal with Satan; you cast him out or cut him off from your home, your body, your city, nation, etc.

If it's your child, and he or she is within the age where you're still in control of what they do, you say, "Devil, this is my child; take your hands off my child; get out of here!" He's got to obey because you're exercising your authority in Christ. You have the legal right, the power of attorney to use the Name of Jesus and subdue Satan and his demons. Cut them off! Praise God!

PRAYER

Satan has no right to run things in my life, in my home, or the lives of my loved ones; by my authority in Christ, I exercise dominion over him and his demons. I walk in power and in the glory of the Father, in the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen.



A CALLING TO GLORY AND VIRTUE

2 Peter 1:3: According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue.

The verse above says God has called us to glory and virtue. That means we've been called to a life of honour, heavenly dignity, and excellence. No matter what situation you find yourself in, your life is one of honour, dignity and excellence. Glory to God!

The Amplified Classic (AMPC) says He "...called us by and to His own glory and excellence (virtue)." There should be no mediocrity in your life because excellence is working in you.

The Apostle Paul says, "We encouraged you, we comforted you, and we kept urging you to live the kind of life that pleases God, who calls you to share in his own Kingdom and glory" (1 Thessalonians 2:12 GNB). What a life He's given us! How could you live an ordinary life when you have a calling to glory and virtue?

It doesn't matter how dark and gloomy things get in this world; be unruffled because your journey in life is one direction only: upward and forward. You're not of this world! Your path is different. It's a path of glory and excellence, prosperity and success, peace and joy. Hallelujah!

CONFESSION

My life is for the glory of God and I experience His goodness and mercies today; my life is one of honour, excellence, praise, glory and thanksgiving to the Lord at all times. Hallelujah!



Compassion

Psalm 86:15: But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.

Notice that the Bible didn't say God has compassion, which would also have been wonderful, but it says God is full of compassion. What's compassion?

Compassion means to recognize or to become aware of the sufferings of another with a desire to alleviate that suffering. That's what makes it different from sympathy. To sympathize with someone means to identify with someone in his suffering or pain. That doesn't mean the sympathizer is going to or able to do anything about the person's suffering.

Compassion is also different from mercy, which is forbearance shown especially to an offender or to someone you have the right or power to punish. But compassion has a strong desire to remove the pain. If there's no desire to take away the suffering, then it's not compassion.

So, when the Bible says God is full of compassion, it means He looks at you and recognizes what you may be going through with a desire to change the situation. Hallelujah! The Bible says we have a high priest who is touched with the feeling of our infirmities (Hebrews 4:15).

Psalm 145:8 says, "The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy." God is loaded with compassion; He's never mad at you. Rather, He's always moved with a desire to bless you, help you, and change your situation.

PRAYER

Gracious Father, you're full of compassion and abounding in mercy and truth. Thank you, for your compassion knows no bounds, and I'm grateful for your unwavering love and care. That same compassion is ignited within me to recognize the sufferings of others; I'm moved with a burning desire to alleviate their pain and make a positive difference in their lives through the Word and by your Spirit, in Jesus' Name. Amen.



WHO YOU ARE NOW

1 John 3:1: Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

The word "sons" in our opening verse is from the Greek "tekon," which primarily refers to one born of parents. We're the sons of God because we're born of God. The world may not recognize this, but it's true nonetheless. That's why it says, "therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not" (1 John 3:1).

The world didn't recognize Jesus when He came; the people thought He was an ordinary man. The Bible says Jesus was begotten of God (Acts 13:33); the same is true of us as seen in James 1:18. It says, "Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures."

PRAYER

Dear Father, thank you for the great love you've bestowed upon me in Christ Jesus. You've made me a partaker of the divine nature. I'm uninfectable, impregnable and full of life; I live victoriously to your glory and praise, in Jesus' Name. Amen.



EXPECT GOOD THINGS EVERYDAY

Luke 2:52: And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

There are people who don't expect good outcomes in their lives. They're so used to struggling, suffering and seeing failure and stagnation that they never expect more.

They never expect that their lives could be better. They haven't learnt to expect favors; they haven't learnt to take advantage of the grace and glory of God available to all who are in Christ Jesus.

Expect blessings every day. The Bible says He daily loads us with benefits (Psalm 68:19); He does it every day. Psalm 33:5 says, "...the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD." Who's the goodness for? It's for you! So expect good things every day. Make continual proclamations of the favour of God working in your life.

CONFESSION

My faith is alive and working, ever ready to receive, and always expecting good outcomes. I walk into divine favour and opportunities today. I'm conscious that God loves to always prosper me and delights in doing good things for me. I'm conscious that I'm walking in the blessings of Abraham. Amen.



CHOOSE TO WIN

Deuteronomy 30:19:I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.

One important choice you have to make in life is to always win. Choose to win. When you choose to win, nothing in the world will be able to stop you. But the first thing is for you to make that decision, because not everyone chooses to win.

Some others say, "I won't choose anything, win or lose." If you don't choose to win, you have chosen to fail. How can you help others if you don't choose to win? The world has more poor people than rich people, and more suffering people than those who are sound and prosperous. If you're not prosperous, you can't help others to become prosperous.

Are you a student? Do you work or own a business? Make the choice to be the best and achieve the highest height of success possible. God will take you from one step to another in an upward and forward journey of success.

PRAYER

Dear Father, I choose to walk in your ways and align my thoughts, words and actions with your will. I'm not governed by luck or chance; rather, I walk in the path of victory, promotion, strength, health and excellence, as I navigate my way through life with your Word, to the praise and glory of your Name. Amen.



PRAY FOR A RECEPTIVE HEART

James 1:21: Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

When you share God's Word with others, it may not work unless the Holy Spirit ministers to their hearts. You may preach and teach, but if the Spirit of God isn't ministering to their hearts, it's not going to be effective; that's the reason why prayer is crucial.

When you pray for others in this context, it's not about you, but your hearers, that the Lord give them a receptive heart, and that the darkness that blinds their hearts be dispelled and the power of evil holding them in bondage is broken.

Always pray earnestly for those to whom and with whom you share the Word of God. When you do, the transformative power of the Word that brings conviction, understanding, and a desire for a closer relationship with the Lord will be kindled within their hearts. Amen.

PRAYER

Dear Father, I pray that the minds of those to whom I preach the Gospel be receptive to your Word as your wisdom leaps out of the message and inundates their hearts; they'll walk the path of wisdom, knowledge and understanding, being enlightened, refreshed, informed and strengthened to fulfill their purpose in Christ, in Jesus' Name. Amen.



LABOUR FERVENTLY

Colossians 4:12: Epaphras, who is one of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.

Paul describes these demoniacal forces in Ephesians 6:12 when he said, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." These evil forces are the ones darkening the minds of men, swaying them from the path of God's truth.

It's the reason we must fight for them in prayers as Epaphras did. I encourage you to write down names of people who you might have noticed or heard are not walking in the light of God's Word or have strayed from the faith, and fight for them in prayers. Pray fervently for them every day, and you'd see remarkable results. Hallelujah!

PRAYER

Dear Father, I break the influence of Satan over my family members, friends and others around the world who aren't yet born again. I pray that their minds and hearts are opened to the Lord, as the light of the glorious Gospel shines with great intensity into their hearts to embrace the grace of God for their Salvation, in Jesus' Name. Amen.



YOUR WORDS AND YOU

Matthew 12:37: For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

As a Christian, you ought to always examine your life, especially with respect to your words, because your words reveal your character. If a man's words are harsh, bitter and biting, then that's who he is inside. But if your words are gracious and loving, that's the character of your personality. Your words reveal you.

James 3:2 says, "For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body." Jesus said in Matthew 12:35, "A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things."

There's love, beauty, goodness and excellence in your spirit. So when you speak, it should be out of that abundance. The presence of the Holy Spirit in your life means you're enabled to let out rivers of blessings from within you, coming forth in words. Your speech is the true measure of your maturity as a Christian.

Read James 3:2 again, this time, from the AMPC: "...And if anyone does not offend in speech [never says the wrong things], he is a fully developed character and a perfect man...." Bring life, health, healing, hope, strength and courage to others through your wholesome words.

PRAYER

Dear Father, thank you for your Word and the Holy Spirit that renews my mind to speak blessings and faith-filled words. I speak life and wisdom today; I live in divine health, supernatural abundance, and I walk in righteousness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.



THE OUTWORKING OF LOVE

Romans 13:10: Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

It makes no difference how others mistreat you:there's only one way God expects you to respond:in love. The bad behaviour or attitude of others should never get you to be vengeful or resentful.

Even when you feel that your kindness is being taken advantage of, maintain who you are ;remain loving, tenderhearted and forgiving. The only way to truly win is through the power of love. The outworking of love in your is what elevates you.

The quality of your personality is measured by the outflow of God's love from you.Before God, love is the ultimate measurement of everything.So walk in love without compromise; be the manifestation of God's love.

Your nature as a child of God is the nature of love; you're programmed to love. Speak the love language and sow seeds of love. The Bible says for us be imitators of God in our love-walk; Therefore be imitators of Gods as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us , an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma" (Ephesians 5:2 NKJV)

God is love(John 4:8) Therefore, the outworking of God in your life is synonymous with the outworking of love. If the love of God remain unseen in your life, then God is also unseen, So always, let the Father's love guide your thoughts, actions and interactions with others.

CONFESSION

I walk in love and respond always with love. The love of God governs my thoughts, actions and responses. I continually experience the fulfillment and blessings that come from walking in love and living in alignment with God's truths. Amen



FOOK BEAOND AONBSEFE

Acts 1:8:But you shall receive power (ability, efficiency, and might) when the Holy Spirit has come upon you....

2 Corinthians 3:5 AMPC says, "Not that we are fit (qualified and sufficient in ability) of ourselves to form personal judgments or to claim or count anything as coming from us, but our power and ability and sufficiency are from God." Blessed be God! This means you don't lack ability for anything.

It brings to mind what the Scripture says in Philippians 2:13, "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." The Holy Spirit makes you willing and able to perform; to deliver at the highest level of excellence all the time. No wonder the Bible says, "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us" (2 Corinthians 4:7).

It's not your power, but His divine ability that's at work in you. Therefore, look beyond yourself. Take advantage of the person, power, grace and ministry of the Holy Spirit in your life! The Holy Spirit is your advantage. In your ministry, career, business, job or academics, be conscious of His grace and power at work in you and through you.

Do all things by His mighty power. Follow His wisdom and guidance, conscious that you're up to any task because He lives in you—walking and working in and through you. Zechariah 4:6 says, "... Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts." He's filled you with supernatural ability to do things that are beyond human ability and comprehension. Hallelujah!

CONFESSION

I'm sufficient in Christ's sufficiency; I do all things by His mighty power, guided by His wisdom and grace. I walk in health, victory, strength, prosperity and glory, as the Lord walks in me, and works in and through me to perfect His will and good pleasure, in Jesus' Name. Amen.



THE ART OF MEDIATION

Joshua 1:8: Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then, you will be prosperous and successful.

Most people, when stressed, what happens next is that they start getting worried. What is worrying? Worrying is thinking about something repeatedly. However, if you can worry about something, you can meditate. You are just focusing your attention and mind on the wrong thing.

Life issues will always happen to us, but the best remedy is meditating on God's word. Instead of worrying about that situation, how about think on God's word. When anxiety comes, think of scripture or ask the Holy Spirit to bring a scripture to your remembrance. Google/search for scripture, or ask your pastor, ministers, mentors, or friends for scripture and choose to chew and digest that scripture until it becomes your reality.

Meditation gives you the confidence to go through life without doubt, fear or worry. God's word gives you joy and peace of mind. HALLELLUYAH.

Action Plan: -At work or school, pick up a sticky note or piece of paper and write down a scripture.

-Put that paper or sticky note on the screen of your laptop, phone, or dashboard of your car or anywhere you can easily access.

-As you go about your day, confess that scripture repeatedly, think on it, ponder it, and sit with it.

If you don't have any scripture or nothing comes to mind right now, you can meditate on this scripture.

Isaiah 26:3-You keep him in peace whose mind is stayed on you because he trusts in you.



A DEBL AON OME

Romans.13:8-10: Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

A DEBT; Love

According to the dictionary, Debt is something owed by one party to another. It is something that you owe someone that you must pay back; it is an obligation- something you are bound to do. It has nothing to do with feeling or your emotions or natural desires.

Many people make loving people based on their feelings and sentiments...But apostle Paul said it is a debt.

Despite the condition/heart of the saint, it is our responsibility to give unto them and love them. We owe others a debt to love them the way God them; In the love of God we drag and love others to stupor until they learn to recognize it We don't love because we are expectant but because it is a debt we owe others.

Confession: I owe a debt to love. I see men as God sees them and I love them I am not given to offense but to God's kind of love.

My love will not be based on sentiment or emotions but based on God's word and instruction.



PRAY WITHOUT CEASING!

1 Thessalonians.5:17: Pray Without Ceasing.

PRAY !!!!! HOW OFTEN ????

Prayer is a fundamental part of the Christian life and it is vital to the Christian experience. Prayer is a communication with God, and God is a participant in our prayer. Prayer helps us to shed weight and also stay focused on God's will, which makes this important for the believer because he/she is to fulfill God's mandate for his life. Hence the several instructions in the epistles regarding a life of prayer:

Romans.12:12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer; Ephesians.6:18

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.

Colossian.4:2

Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving.

From all the scripture we read, note the adjective used to express how and when prayer should be done. The adjective used in describing the attitude in prayer is "Continuing instant," "always, continue," and "without ceasing." This implies that praying is to be done always. The believer must be given or devoted to prayer. It is not to choice to the believer to pray but a must and an instruction that must be obeyed.



PRAY WITHOUT CEASING 2!

Let us consider more scriptures on prayer today.

Mark.1:35

And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.

Luke.3:21

Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened.

Jesus is the express image of the Father and also our example. Like in the place of prayer, He is our example. The different instance given by the synoptic gospel shows Jesus was given to a lifestyle of prayer and He taught His disciples to do the same. Also, the apostle also instructs in the epistles to pray. The Epistles tells the believer should pray always, continually, without ceasing.

The believer is expected to pray always; without ceasing and not when he feels like or on a happy day or when he/she has enough money to spend.

Confession: I engage myself consistently in the practice of Prayer.



FULLY PERSUADED

Romans.4:16 -21:Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of law ,but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; Who is the father of us all, (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, Who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. Who against hope believed in hope ,that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall they seed be. And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God. And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform

The text above tells us how Abraham, our father in faith was able to navigate a season like that. He was fully persuaded; There was a promise and he chose to trust God regardless of the circumstances or the medical knowledge. He was so convinced that since God had made a promise, it would surely come to pass.

to be persuaded means to be convinced, assured of someone or something. Fully persuaded means fully convinced or fully assured of something.

Abraham is a good example of someone who was fully persuaded of God's love and power. Having strong faith in God.

Circumstances should not define us. We must learn to hold on to the promise till the end. We must trust in God regardless of the circumstances that surround us or we face as we journey through life.

As believers, we must be fully persuaded of the power of God's love and develop a strong faith in God and his word.

Question: What are those things you believe?



THE REPETITIVE TRUTH

1 Corinthians.15:1-4: MOREOVER, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures I; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

When we are gathered together, We must not be tired of hearing the same thing. The gospel is the center and core of all that we preach. The Christian faith is all about the gospel of Christ.

1 Corinthians.1:20 -24: Where is the wise? Where are the scribes? Where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

Christ is God's ultimate miracle and wisdom. The death of Christ was both spiritual and physical; He had to die spiritually because he has a life that can not be killed physically.

In today's narrative, to be dead spiritually is simply to not receive the gospel of Christ. The moment you receive Christ, you receive life. God loves us in that God gave Christ; Christ died for us. The love of God is in the event and not the emotions. Christ's death took away our sins/curses. He bought us back, we are now God's own. Our redemption means our price has been paid , our sins are forgiven. GLORYY!

Action point : (Sing along) I am a new creation I am a brand new man. Old things are passed away I'm born again More than a conqueror That's who I am.



DISCIPLESHIP

John 8:31-32: Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

In the physical, we grow by doing some things like eating, sleeping, etc. Christians grow by having someone they look up to and learning Jesus through that person.

Discipleship is the process of becoming who Jesus would be if He were you. Growing to whatever He would be if He were you

A Disciple is one who adheres to Christ. A Disciple is someone who desires above all else to become like him.

Discipleship is mentorship; anyone who is going to be a leader has to be a disciple (learning of Christ). The goal is so that we can become like Christ. Our instrument of doing this is the word and spirit

The Discipleship Jesus is calling us to is much more a journey than a destination. The journey is as much as important as the destination. The believer must consider it as enjoyable as the destination.

Enjoy the process !!! There is no end to growth.

Discipleship is lifelong.

Our Discipleship with Jesus is lifelong. We keep going and running the race. The race ends when we get to the father; Till our last breath.

Question: Do you have a spiritual authority or oversight ??



THE DISCIPLINE OF STUDY

2 Timothy.2:15: Study to shew to thyself approved unto God, a workman that needed not to be ashamed,rightly dividing the word of truth.

Studying is much more than books or knowledge. "Study" in the actual and contextual sense of this scripture is being diligent, giving yourself to something.

Studying is beyond reading. Studying God's word is also sitting on God's word. Acting on what you have learned and practicing it. Study always makes us become.

Studying is a way we become more like Christ. When we study, we should do that to know the will of God and we must not read our minds into the scriptures.

If we take studying seriously, It means we take our Christian faith seriously. God wants to bring us to a point where we can readily discern His will.

Question: What have you been studying? What have you been paying careful attention to ?



YOU ARE THE MAN FOR THE JOB

Matthew.28:18-20 : And Jesus came and spake unto them saying,All power is given unto me in heaven and in the earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all Nations, baptizing them in the name of the father ,and of the son, and of the holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you : and ,lo,I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

As Christians, we have a Job description. No matter how prepared or unprepared you are, the person who determines your getting the job is he who has called you. The reason why we are saved is to save others.

We are equipped and prepared for the victory ahead of us. We have the sender, Jesus, and the message with us; God's mission is for all men to be filled with light. God wants me in his image to fill up everywhere. God has equipped us so that we can go out and fulfill his mandate. We are not to be shy about this, but preach the message to people out there. We must not pass out the opportunity to preach, make use of all the opportunities you have.

Confession: I am the reason for which Jesus came. I am the man for the Job I am like Jesus on this earth I will devote myself to the mandate of spreading God's light to men



DEALING WITH DISCOURAGEMENT AND FEAR

Numbers.21:4-5: And they journeyed from Mount Hor by the way of the Red Sea, to compass the land of Edom: and the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way. And the people spake against God, and Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out to Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread.

The length of time was the reason why they were Discouraged. We are always going to have such a moment, but it is left to us to choose the one we want to buy into.

What Satan is doing is unable to stop that which God is doing or will do. We get discouraged because the fulfillment of the prophecy is getting too long, just like the children of Israel did. Many times God reveals our prophesy to us to keep our memories fresh.

Action point: List out those areas of your fear or uncertainty, then feed your mind on God's word along this line. Speak God's word into the situation



AN ENCOURAGEMENT TO THE SENT

1 Timothy 1:12 - "And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry."

Being appointed by God to carry out an assignment is never an easy journey and can become very overwhelming at times.

However, you should take comfort in the fact that if you're sent, you'll kept by the passion, not the reward. So even when no one is coming, when there is no reward, you're still faithful and passionate, else, that means you're weak in the days of adversary.

The yardstick for measuring your success in your given assignment is faithfulness and the message must always be Christ, no more, no less.

Always remember that your reward is the people, not money, so, don't yield to the threats or insults of men or lies of the devil, ensure to always have the last say when in a battle of words with the devil and keep doing what God has sent you.

Prayer:

Pray that you won't be busy doing and excelling at other things when there is an assignment waiting for you.



ZEAL

Romans 12:11: Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;

The scripture above is the perfect description of the kind of life we must live in Christ. The life we have received is an active one, this relationship we share with God is one we nurture religiously. We cannot afford to be lackadaisical in this fellowship with and service to God becuase the moment we start to become laid back, we start to regress, regardless of how much growth we might have achieved prior to this time.

We spend quality time with God in the place of prayer with deep reverence while at it, we submit ourselves to intentional and lengthy study of the Word!

We are given to stirring the gift of God inside of us, actively preaching the gospel with all boldness and dispensing the power of God inside of us to men. We are passionate about meeting the material and spiritual needs of one another in the body and we do not get tired of doing good to all men, especially those of the household of faith.

THIS IS THE LIFE WE SIGNED UP FOR, AND WE ARE DEVOTED TO IT. AMEN.

Prayer:

Let's pray that we are committed to this active Christianity and strengthened to do all that is required of us.



PEACE

Philippians 4:6: The Lord is Near! Do not be anxious about anything. Instead, in every situation with prayer and petition with thanksgiving, tell your requests to God. And the peace that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

When fears, anxieties, and troubles arise in your life, look for the following signs of God's peace as it:

^r Transcends circumstances. Often, peace is more readily seen and felt in the midst of trial and trouble. But regardless of what you're experiencing, know this: God is your peace. Put your faith in Him.

[,] Surpasses understanding. The peace of God is not something we can always figure out. But it's operative and available to us-far beyond our ability to understand it.

[,] Extends to all His followers. God's peace is extended to every person who accepts Jesus as their Savior, turns from their sin, and pursues a life in obedience to the guidance of God's Word and the Holy Spirit.

^r Is an abiding state of being. In the difficult circumstances of life, the Holy Spirit is present to help. Peace—deep, genuine, God-given peace—can be the "norm" in which you live day to day.

As you move forward in the journey of life, trust and believe that God's desire for you is to feel an abiding peace at all times—a peace that includes joy and a feeling of purpose in every area of your life.



COD'S PROMISE

Psalms 27:14: Wait patiently for the Lord. Be brave and courageous. Yes, wait patiently for the Lord.

When we are willing to work in God's will, His promise might look/sound strange, maybe impossible to the faint hearted but that's the thing. Do we really intend to believe in the first place? Do we truly and fully trust God's deeds? Are we ready for what He has for us?

Sure, there'll always be space between when the promise was made and when it will be fulfilled. That's extra time we have "in between" is when we should prepare. Time, day, month, year and others should not be our concern because God is the plan! He already fulfilled his words, they won't pass you by.

When our mind is not in alignment with Christ, the preparation can be confused for punishment or as if this thing will never happen. Your FAITH is the determinant! Prepare for God, let Him take control! He's not in a rush, abi you wan dey rush God ni?

Anyways - Remember to do your path, talk to Him, grow in faith, be steadfast!

Stop looking for a second option, God is your only option!

Assessment

Do you think you've been trying to rush God?

Think about days you've tried to sabotage your faith, think about times you've tried to squeeze in an answer for yourself and start taking the right step.



AN ACTION WORD

Romans 13:10: Love does no wrong to others, so love fulfills the requirements of God's law.

Love does no wrong. Love has no ill intent. Love has no ulterior motive. Love worketh no evil toward his neighbor. Love is fruitful. Love is bountiful. Love has no end. Love is selfless. Love fulfills. Love satisfies. Love is gentle. Love isn't reckless. Love is pure. Love has a good report. Love doesn't gossip. Love is patient. Love is kind. Love patiently speaks. Love is wise. Love does not abuse. Love leads. Love will not forsake you. Love forgives.

Choose to forgive and let His Love radiate through your actions. Choose to Love. Let the past go and embrace the Future that God has prepared for you. Don't let the entanglement of the past keep you bitter and stagnant.

Remember the "prayer template" where Hesus was teaching the disciples how to pray, when He got to ; forgive us our trespasses as we've forgave those (that was before Jesus died, before he took away our sins, before he paid our debt).

Our recent template includes - love because Christ gave us love, He is love, He gave us himself, we're to forgive with and in love.

We're to thank Him for forgiving us, we're to thank Him for helping us to forgive and he forgave us!

That's what's expected of us as a believer, Christ did it so we can do it!



RUN

Hebrews 12: 1: Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.

Everyone is running a race, and God has equipped and given us all that we need to run our race with accuracy and precision. 2 Peter 1:3 By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life.

We are encouraged to run our race with endurance, persistence, determination, and intentionality. Our best life is found in God, and the only satisfaction we can get is the satisfaction that comes from God. So, let us remember to maintain focus as we run our race of destiny.

Action plan: What can or is slowing you down as you run your race? Be intentional about letting those desires or habits go, and pray for the help and leading of the Holy Spirit as you run your race.



THE GOOD SOIL

Luke 8: 14-15: The seeds that fell among the thorns represent those who hear the message, but all too quickly, the message is crowded out by the cares and riches and pleasures of this life. And so, they never grow into maturity. 15. And the seeds that fell on the good soil represent honest, good-hearted people who hear God's word, cling to it, and patiently produce a huge harvest.

As you read this passage from the book of Luke, which do you gravitate towards? Please be honest, as this is only a self-assessment.

In this parable, Jesus was telling us of the two kinds of people that hear God's word. Not everyone who hears the word of God puts it into practice, and this passage is just a reminder that we should intentionally cling to the word of God when we receive it so it will produce a huge harvest in us.

James 1:22-24

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like.

It's not enough to listen to the word of God or go to church or sermons. We must endeavor to put what we are taught into practice. We should not allow the thorns of life to steal the word of God from our hearts. Think of it this way- Imagine you eat daily, but your food is not digested. You would get sick and malnourished eventually. The same goes with your spiritual food-the word of God. The word of God is our spiritual food as Christians, and this spiritual food nourishes us and enables us to grow in maturity in our Christian walk.

ACTION PLAN: Be a hearer and doer of God's word. Be intentional to put God's word into practice.



A PRODUCTIVE LIFE

Genesis 1:28: And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

In Genesis 1:26-28, the Bible shows us that God created man in His image and in His likeness, and blessed them with the ability to have dominion over all the earth, including every living creature. "To bless" (Hebrew "Barak") is to praise or give thanks. When you bless God, you're praising and giving Him thanks! But when you bless another or God blesses you, it means to confer some benefit or to empower. So what God did in Genesis 1:28 was that He empowered Adam and Eve to be fruitful and productive, to multiply, replenish and refill the earth.

In John 15:16, Jesus tells us, "You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you and ordained you, that you should go forth and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever you shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you." The word "may" in the King James translation carries a firm affirmation rather than mere speculation. Thus, we are called to go and bring forth fruits.

CONFESSION:

I'm standing firm like a flourishing tree planted by God's design, deeply rooted by the brooks of bliss, bearing fruit in every season of life. I am ever blessed, ever prosperous. Amen.



COD'S MINDFUL OF YOU

1 Peter 5:7 - Casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you.

God is love; for He does everything by Love. Even before He made the world, He loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in His eyes. In other words, the Love of God judged our sins, bruised the head of the serpent, and gave us a new life.

In actual sense, the man in Christ is a creation of God's love. When God sees him, He is fully satisfied. He sees the perfection of His creation. He is God's very workmanship created unto every good work (Eph. 1:10). He configured us to produce good works, in all the senses of it.

Beloved, Righteousness is God being obligated to continually bless us. The man in Christ is cared for by God.

See, God cares for you, affectionately and carefully. (Isaiah 49:16; Zechariah 2:8) He has provided the best for you to enjoy, and He wants you to know it and access His provisions for you.

This is the reason He gave you His Word that you might know, by His Spirit, the things that are freely given to you. God cares for and about you. He loves you and wants you to know and believe it. Faith in His love for you will free you from the burden of always working hard to take care of yourself. He cares for you, and His mind is full of you!

Confess this: I am the Apple of God's eye. He is mindful of me. He made me for His pleasure. He loves to see me prosper, and I prosper in all that I do in Jesus name, Amen.



SOMETHING NEW

Isaiah 43:18-19 - "Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert."

God does new things. He makes new things and makes old things new. God is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. He is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living. He is the God of life and freshness. He always does things with freshness and dynamism. He is a quickening Spirit; a life giving Spirit; a dynamic life giving Spirit. Hallelujah! In the old covenant, God gave a promise to make a new covenant with the house of Israel (Hebrews 8:10-12). The new covenant is ever fresh; it is the everlasting covenant, even the sure mercies of David (read Isaiah 55:3; Hebrews 13:20).

The prophecy given in Ezekiel 36:26 was fulfilled in the new covenant in 2 Corinthians 5:17 which says "therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold all things become new." God has done new things in us and for us in the new covenant. Ultimately, He has made us new creatures. All things have been made new in Christ. You have been made new in Christ. Hallelujah!

As we journey this month, God wants us to engage our minds along the lines of the new things that He has done in and for us. Memory of the old life must be given up totally to enjoy 100% of the new life we have in Christ.

Confession: I declare that I am a new creature and all things pertaining to me have become new. Therefore, I have a new experience in God. I refuse to consider things of the old life; my consideration is entirely new. Amen.



DESPISE NOT PROPHECIES

1 Tim 1:18 - "This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare"

When a genuine prophecy comes, it is because the person prophesying has received some insights into the future. God may give a person a prophecy directly or through someone else, whichever the case, He always had a reason for revealing the future. However, if the person despises the prophecy, he or she may never see its fulfilment.

God sends us prophecies for different reasons. Sometimes, it is merely for our information; however, there are times when we are required to act on it. For such prophecies, no matter how accurate they are, if you don't play your part, they will not come to pass. Sometimes He reveals the plans of the devil, and you need to pray to cancel them.

It doesn't matter how great your destiny is neither does it matter how many great prophecies you have received concerning your future, if you're not ready to work, those prophecies will not come to pass. As a matter of fact, the greater the prophecy, the greater the work that must be done. God did not show you that great future just so that you can relax. He showed you so that you can do what is required. Don't despise that!

Also, you may have been working hard towards that great destiny God has shown you, but it seems as though it would never become a reality. Don't worry, as long as you're sure that you're on the right path, everything will take shape soon. Keep working! Keep prophesying! Keep waging a good war with the Words you have received!

Pray: Lord, give me the grace to do all that is required for your prophecies concerning me to come to pass.



MERCY

Ephesians 2:4 - "But God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us."

The only reason you and I are still so much alive today is God's mercy. Divine mercy is that important. Lamentations 3:22-23. We can rejoice however that God is very rich in mercy and as a matter of fact, He is the Father of mercies. He gives His mercy to us as a gift every morning.

"Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people which thou hast redeemed: thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy holy habitation" - Exodus 15:13. His mercy guides you in your journey through life. In His mercy, you meet certain people who help you fulfil purpose; you also avoid certain people or actions that might lead you astray.

God does not need permission from anyone to show you mercy. Romans 9:15 says, for he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. See, while others may struggle, He can promote you effortlessly.

If you ever want to get results, His mercy is the most essential factor. Even Joseph enjoyed mercy while in the prison, how much you, the beloved of the Father. If you need favour with men, seek God's mercy first and He'll grant you favour before them.

Deliberately ask for God's mercy today in every area of your life.



CooD CoD

Psalms 136:1 - "O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever."

There is no bad or evil in God. Psalms 136 instructs us to give thanks to God because He is good and His mercy endures forever. This means that we ought to give thanks to God because of His goodness. God is so good that His goodness cannot be ignored. To not give thanks to God is to ignore His goodness and mercy. Little wonder the word enjoins us to give thanks to God always.

Ps.84.11 tells us that God is a shield; and no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. The goodness of God is one of the central themes of the bible. The revelation of Jesus Christ to us from God, which is all that the Bible is all about, is a manifestation of the goodness of God.

The goodness of God simply means that He is generous and benevolent, so much so that He gives over and above what you require. God's goodness reveals His willingness and ability to do exceedingly and abundantly above all that we ask or think. God loves to bless you beyond what your thoughts can ever imagine. The goodness of God is bigger than your dreams and needs; it is the reason we are living and want to live another day, for His loving kindness is better than life. Life isn't worth living without God's loving kindness. Beloved, give thanks to God daily for He is good and His mercy endures forever.



YOUR PASTOR: A CIFT

Ephesians 4.7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

Every gift carries a specific grace and it is only when you receive it that you can partake of the grace there in. Until you receive your pastor as a gift from the Lord to you and you begin to celebrate him, you cannot make the most of God's grace on him. If you don't know this, you had better begin enjoying your pastor's ministry right now. There is grace in your Pastor, not for him but for you. Your pastor carries grace for your edification, increase, multiplication and exaltation; and as you receive the ministry of your Pastor, you will partake of the grace that he carries for your prosperity.

Don't relate with your Pastor according to the flesh. We do not know any man after the flesh in Christ. You must begin to see him as a gift from the Lord to you, for your edification, comfort and exhortation. Don't short change yourself in any way and by any means. Receive your inheritance by the ministry of the Word through your pastor's mouth. Receive the ministry of your Pastor in the light of him being a gift to you from the Lord. Celebrate your Pastor!

Pray: Thank you Lord for my Pastor. I acknowledge that he is a gift from you to me. I receive with meekness the ministry of my pastor; therefore my life is graceful and colourful.



THE ADVANTAGE

John 14:16 - "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever."

It is important that every believer knows the Holy Spirit intimately because this is His dispensation in the plan of God. He is the Executive Director of the affairs of God on the earth today. He is the Supreme representative of Christ to the church.

The Spirit of God is your advantage today. He brings you into fellowship with the Father and with Jesus Christ. Everything Christ died for and made available unto us, is revealed and made manifest unto us by the Spirit of God. Hence, we walk in the reality of spiritual things by the Spirit of God.

Begin to develop and cultivate fellowship with the Spirit through prayer and meditation in the word. Take your place in the word, and let the Spirit take His place in your life. Give yourself to the Word and to prayer, only by this shall you be continually filled with the Spirit. Take advantage of this today and forever.



TAKE WHAT IS YOURS

Ephesians1.3 - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ."

There are blessings that are rightfully yours in Christ. You are blessed with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. God has blessed you with so much to be a blessing to your world. Today, there are many Christians who are groping in darkness; walking in ignorance of the numerous blessings God has blessed them with in Christ. Read Psalms 82:5-7.

Ignorance of who we are in Christ and our privileges makes Christians dwarfs in the Spirit, and causes children of God to live like mere men. God has invested too much into us in redemption to not be a blessing to our world, but we must come to the light of our rights and privileges in Christ to be able to reach our God given goals.

The ministry of the Holy Spirit in us brings us into the knowledge of the things that God has freely given unto us (1 Corinthians 2:11-12). As you come across these things in the Word revealed by the Spirit, go ahead and take them by faith. Don't take explanation from the world why some people are blessed and others are not. Just go ahead and manifest the blessings.



THE POWER OF THE TONGUE

Proverbs 18:21 - "Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof."

Your tongue is the most powerful part of your body. According to the Bible verse above, it can kill and as well bring to life. This is why you must be very careful how you use it. Many people don't realise how powerful the tongue is, so they kill things that should be alive in their lives and resurrect what should be dead.

From now on, do not say you are poor; confess wealth. Stop saying you are sick; say you are healed. Do not speak evil about your country; speak good only. Speak positively into the lives of your children while you reject negative things. Do not refer to them as disobedient; call them obedient. Do not call them liars, thieves or prostitutes; rather, always use positive words to describe them.

Confess always that your tomorrow will be alright. Take a cue from the Shunamite woman in 2 Kings 4:18-37. She told her husband 'it shall be well' and it ended well for and with them.



POWER OF THE TONGUE 2

Proverbs 18:21 - "Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

Think about this, if there is no power in confession, then none of us will be saved. Confession is the great profession of the man in Christ. Confess God's Word, you will surely be blessed. Make it a habit to consistently use your tongue to speak what you want daily. Soon enough, you will see your life turn around for good and to God's glory.

Speaking the right words—God's Word—consistently, brings the power of God onto the scene of your life to save, heal and deliver.

If you want to change your life, change your words. What you say day in and day out is what will come to pass in your life. Your words have the power to set the course for your life. Changing your words will change your world.



COMPELLING LOVE

John 3:1 - How very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are! But the people who belong to this world don't recognize that we are God's children because they don't know him.

The Father-God's love confers on us a remarkable status- one that money cannot give us.

He loves us as He loves Jesus, He is with us as He was with Jesus!

Nothing can be more comforting than the fact that the Father Himself knows you and loves you. He knows what you need. So have no worry, fret, or anxiety. Cheer up, God is for you.

His love compels Him to care for you. When you know His love and learn to swing free in that love, then all doubt and fear will be destroyed.

When you remember that your Heavenly Father loves you even as He loves Jesus, then you can understand why you need not be afraid—even as Jesus was not afraid.



COMFORT

Romans 8:37 - No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.

To be more than a conqueror means that you have victory without having to fight the battle.

The battle is the Lord's; He fought it on the cross, and the resurrection is evidence that He emerged triumphant.

So the Lord desires to see you living in the power of His victory.

Don't give up! Don't quit the ministry/assignment!

Don't quit because of intimidation/ need/ lack/ sickness.

You're called to last!

You're called of God!

Stir up boldness/confidence/solution from your inside.

Rejoice for the battle is won.

You're strengthened with might by His Spirit in your inner man (Amen)



REST

Hebrews 4:1 - "Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it. For good news came to us just as to them, but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith with those who listened. For we who have believed enter that rest."

It's not the circumstance that destroys us, it is the processing of our thoughts, either succumbing to fear and dis-believing God's word or to a place of trust and rest that sets our future.

If you read Hebrews chapters 3 and 4 in context, it teaches us that unbelief leads to disobedience and that disobedience holds no rest but this evil heart of unbelief leads us astray from God. Conversely faith in what we hear (or read) (or see) from God leads us to obey. Obedience takes us to this place of rest knowing we are in the will of God.

Most of the time we are looking for circumstances to make us happy, but success is being joyful in the midst of unhappy stances. We have all learned we aren't able to control many of life's happenings, but we are always able to control us. Our thoughts, feelings, emotions and ultimately, choices direct us to life and that more abundantly or they find us yielding to the temptation and trying to be our own salvation.

The book of Hebrews assures us \sim we who have believed (God and His promise) enter that rest.

Confession:

God is inside of me, I have found my rest.



BEFIELE 'Do

Exodus 24:7 - "All that the Lord has said, we will do."

The bible is not God's attempt to offer illuminating insights, interesting theories or good advice for our consideration. NO! It's an authoritative, indisputable statement of eternal truth for us to live by. It's intended for real-world application.

How can you make God's Word more personal and effective in your life? It is by receiving it as a practical, not a theoretical Word.

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house upon the rock" (Matthew 7:24). The obedient builder's rock-solid foundation withstood the storm's violence. Conversely, "everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, Jesus says, is a fool, and the storms will erode his foundation (vs 26-27). Now, Jesus didn't condemn this man for building an inadequate structure, or failing to hear, understand or believe His words, but for failing to act on them. Read James 1:22-25.

If you think reading, knowing, and even believing God's Word fulfils your obligation to it, you are self-deceived. Because it's God's Word, hence, His intention for it must be fulfilled. That requires not just believing, but behaving the Word. James didn't say, he will be blessed in what he believes, but he will be blessed in what he does!

Are you willing to do and obey all that God has spoken to you?

PRAYER: Pray that you receive God's word with meekness in your heart



ETERNAL LIFE

John 10:10 I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

Receiving eternal life is the most miraculous incident in life. We call it the new birth. Some call it "getting religion," but that's not what it is.

It is God imparting His very nature, substance, and being to our human spirits.

This life of God changes conduct, corrects habits and forMS new ones, criminals become law abiding citizens, prostitutes become moral, thieves become honest, drunkards become sober, no case is incurable- this life changes a man.

The same life in a believer is the very Life of GOD, and if you let it loose, it will change your conduct and produce healthy life, prosperity, and victory on all sides.

So I beseech you, to take advantage of the Life of God at work in you, this year. Let it loose, enough of the many struggles you are facing, you have the substance that can put you over. Walk in the supernatural, take advantage of God's own life in you.

QUESTIONS: What is the most miraculous incident in life?



ETERNAL LIFE 2

2 Corinthians 3:18 And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

The believer has the capacity to see clearly because the veil on his face has been taken away the moment he came into Christ. And in the strength of his capacity, he can contemplate the glory of God. It is also important to establish that the New Creation is the glory of God. Hence, when the believer comes to the Word, which is his mirror (James 1:23), he sees himself as the glory of God. The man in Christ is created after God in righteousness and true holiness (Ephesians 4:24).

He is one with the Lord (1 Cor.6:17), As Jesus is, so is the believer (1 John 4:17). His Spirit is regenerated. Hence, he needs to know what God has done in his New Creation.

Give yourself to meditation as you go into your day. It will unleash a whole new order to you.

QUESTIONS: What is another word for "contemplate"?



MUCH MORE

Philippians 3: 11-14 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Apostle Paul's statement in the text calls us to look at him under four aspects: first, as forming a candid state of his present condition- "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended," secondly, as placing his past in its proper position- "forgetting the things which are behind," thirdly, as aspiring eagerly to a more glorious future- "reaching forth unto those things which are before" and fourthly, as practically putting forth every exertion to obtain that which he desired-"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" altogether, we see his passion for grace, and an intense longing for more, in passionate and consistent devotion.

Don't stop the flow, keep the fire burning. We do much more. Pray Now!

QUESTIONS: Are you committed for much more?



ALL AUTHORITY

Revelation 1:18 There is authority in the Name of Jesus. When Jesus appeared to John on the isle of Patmos, He said, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore ... and have the keys of hell and of death"

The one who has the key is the authorized one. Jesus is saying here, "I am the authorized one." He has authority.

He commissioned us: "All authority is given me in heaven and on earth, Go ye therefore. And these signs shall follow them that believe; IN MY NAME shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover" (Matt. 28:18,19; Mark 16:17,18).

Some folks would tell us, "Healing has been done away with. Speaking with tongues has been done away with. The Church doesn't have any authority today over devils and demons. They can't cast them out."

No! No! No! These supernatural signs follow the Name of Jesus. They accompany the believing ones. If your spouse, or a friend, accompanies you to some place, they go right along with you. These signs go right along with the believing ones.

QUESTIONS? How far can you go with the name of Jesus?



THE POWER OF GOD

Luke 10:17 Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

Smith Wigglesworth, in his book, "Ever Increasing Faith," writes about going to Wales to pray for a man called Lazarus. Lazarus had been a leader in the assembly, working in the tin mines days and preaching nights, until he broke down physically and collapsed. Tuberculosis set in. He lay bedfast and helpless for six years.

God spoke to Wigglesworth and told him to go raise up Lazarus. When Smith walked into his room, Lazarus looked like a skeleton with skin stretched over it. Wigglesworth endeavored to get him to release his faith; to believe God. But he was bitter. Others had prayed for him. He thought God should have healed him. After all, he had been born again, working days and preaching nights.

Undaunted, Wigglesworth said to the people he was staying with, "Could we get seven people to pray with me for the poor man's deliverance?"

So seven people, plus Wigglesworth, went into the room where Lazarus lay on the verge of death. The eight believers circled the bed, holding hands. One brother took one of Lazarus' hands; Wigglesworth took the other to include him in the circle.

Then Wigglesworth said, "We are not going to pray; we are just going to use the Name of Jesus." They all knelt and whispered that one word, "Jesus! Jesus! Jesus!"

The power of God fell, and then it lifted. Five times it fell and lifted, as the little group spoke that magnificent Name. The man in the bed was unmoved. The sixth time the power of God came down on that man, it remained.

"The power of God is here," Wigglesworth told him. "It is yours to accept." The man's lips began to move. He made a confession. He said, "I have been bitter in my heart, and I know I have grieved the Spirit of God. I am helpless. I cannot lift my hands, nor even lift a spoon to my mouth."

Wigglesworth said, "Repent, and God will hear you." He repented and cried out, "Oh God, let this be to thy glory." When he said that, the power of God went through him.

Wigglesworth said, "As we again said, 'Jesus! Jesus! Jesus!' the bed shook, and the man shook. I said to the people who were with me, 'You can all go downstairs right away. This is all God. I'm not going to assist Him.' I sat and watched that man get up and dress himself. We sang the doxology as he walked down the steps. I said to him, 'Now tell what has happened.' It was soon noised abroad that Lazarus had been raised up and the people came from all the district round to see him and hear his testimony. And God brought salvation to many."

Great and impossible things happen at the mention of the name of Jesus. That case is not incurable. Jesus is the answer.



HIS POSSESSION

Ephesians 1:17-19 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power.

It would have been a tall prayer if Paul had prayed that we would know God's inheritance in the saints. It grows even taller when he prays that we would know the glory of God's inheritance in the saints. But it is mind-boggling when he prays that we will know "the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints"! How can we begin to fathom a prayer like that?

The Greek text may be interpreted in either of two ways. Some take it to mean, "the riches of the glory of the inheritance that comes from God and is enjoyed among the saints." In other words, they take it to be a prayer that we would come to know all of the spiritual blessings that God has given to us. In favor of this view is the context of Ephesians 1 (verses 3, 11, & 14). Also, the parallel passage (Col. 1:12) refers to our sharing "in the inheritance of the saints in Light." Other Scriptures also refer to the inheritance that is stored up for those who are God's children through faith in Christ (Acts 20:32; 26:18; Heb. 9:15; 1 Pet. 1:4). One argument against taking it this way is that it becomes almost a repetition of the first part of the prayer, to know the hope of His calling. But there are many good reasons to interpret the text this way.

Say with me 'I AM HIS INHERITANCE !'



HIS GLORY

Ephesians 1:17-19 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power.

Paul prays here that his readers may appreciate the value which God places on them, his plan to accomplish his eternal purpose through them as the first fruits of the reconciled universe of the future, in order that their lives may be in keeping with this high calling and that they may accept in grateful humility the grace and glory thus lavished on them.

So Paul asks God to enlighten the eyes of our hearts so that we will know what is the hope of His calling and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints. When our eyes are enlightened, these and more are what we get to experience.

QUESTIONS: What lessons are will to imbibe from this?



HIS POWER

Ephesians 1:17-19 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power.

Again, Paul piles up words to describe God's power. It would seemingly be enough to mention the power of God, who is omnipotent. But, Paul adds, "the surpassing greatness of His power," and then goes on to say (1:19b-21) that this power is "in accordance with the working of the strength of His might which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come." Wow!

Paul throws in just about every word that he can to describe God's power towards us who believe. Therefore, he was not only to impress the Ephesians with a deep sense of the value of Divine grace, but also to give them exalted views of the glory of Christ's kingdom. That they might not be cast down by a view of their own unworthiness, he exhorts them to consider the power of God; as if he had said that their regeneration was no ordinary work of God, but was an astonishing exhibition of his power.

Give God praise, because you are a showcase of His almightiness and omnipotence.

QUESTIONS: If God's power toward us is so great, why do so many Christians fall into serious sin?



DON'T BE WEARY

Now unto him that is able to do exceeding (hyper) abundantly (hyper) above (hyper) all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us," (Eph. 3:20) [Emphasis mine]

Exceeding, Abundantly, Above in the above scripture have the same Greek word 'hyper' which means 'very highly more' or 'above,' in other words, God is able to do and He's dedicated to doing above, above and above anything you can ever ask Him or think.

Dear friend, don't be weary in asking. The prayer place is the power place. Where many pains are spared. Nothing is too small or big to pray about. It's a communication with your Father.

He's a giving God who gives to everyone liberally and ungrudgingly, without reproaching or faultfinding (James 1:5).

Always ask with faith, knowing that you've received whatsoever you're asking for (vs. 6).

You see, you can never ask beyond what He can do. And once you get a confirmation and a peace in your heart, act in obedience.

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:6-7



AT WORK IN YOU

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power," Ephesians 1:17-19

There are at least some ways that God wants us as believers to know the exceeding greatness of His power toward us:

A. GOD WANTS US TO KNOW THE EXCEEDING GREATNESS OF HIS POWER THAT SAVED US: Salvation is not a joint project, where we teamed up with God to bring it about. Rather, as Paul will go on to say, we were dead in our sins, but God raised us up. Paul wants to encourage us as we realize that our salvation is evidence of God's exceeding great power at work in us.

B. GOD WANTS US TO KNOW THE EXCEEDING GREATNESS OF HIS POWER THAT ENABLES US TO PERSEVERE THROUGH TRIALS.

In the parallel prayer in Colossians 1:11-12, Paul prays that we would be "strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light." In other words, God's glorious, mighty power enables us to endure trials steadfastly, patiently, and joyously, with a thankful heart to the Father.

C. GOD WANTS US TO KNOW THE EXCEEDING GREATNESS OF HIS POWER TO OVERCOME TEMPTATION AND LIVE IN HOLINESS.

God's mighty power has granted us all that we need for life and godliness, so that we can escape the corruption that is in the world by lust (2 Pet. 1:3-4). His power provides the way of escape from every temptation that we face (1 Cor. 10:13; Eph. 6:10-13).

We shall continue tomorrow. Give God praise for His power and walk in you.



AT WORK IN YOU 2

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power," Ephesians 1:17-19

Yesterday, we started talking about some six ways that God wants us as believers to know the exceeding greatness of His power toward us. We shall reveal the remaining two today.

D. GOD WANTS US TO KNOW THE EXCEEDING GREATNESS OF HIS POWER TO SERVE HIM FAITHFULLY.

Paul explained (Col. 1:29), "For this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me." Laboring in His power is the antidote to burnout.

E. GOD WANTS US TO KNOW THE EXCEEDING GREATNESS OF HIS POWER AS A FUNCTION FOR ALL HE WILL DO FOR US.

Paul wrote (Eph. 3:20), "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us," all that the Father-God will do will be in response to the power at work in us. Glory to God, the power is the greatest one there is.

To the extent that you understand these vast spiritual resources, you will enjoy God and glorify Him forever.



AT WORK IN YOU 3

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Ephesians 6:10-12

Many Christians have adopted a humanistic view of things. They do not realize the spiritual implication behind what is going on in their lives. What I mean by humanistic is that they only look at things on a surface level. They think most everything they encounter on a daily basis is either physical or natural but this is not true.

The choices you make, the things you say, the actions you take, and what you believe about what is happening around you determines whether God or Satan dominates in your life. Satan cannot control you outside of your will. He cannot do anything without your cooperation and consent. But you need to recognize that you're in a battle.

Many people choose not to believe that, but whether they do or not, the fact is that it's taking place. Your unwillingness to engage in battle doesn't mean that the battle isn't raging; it just means you're going to lose. But once you realize the battle is real, you can then learn to recognize what's going on and take the proper action to improve your situation. You can resist the devil.

Go ahead and resist him now!



AT WORK IN YOU 4

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." James 4:7

The fact is that people are being influenced and controlled and used by the devil—they really are. This needs to be said because there are a lot of people who honestly believe that all the demons are in Africa. This is not true, they are everywhere man is found.

It's not the person sitting next to you at work, it's not your neighbor, and it's certainly not your husband or your wife that's the problem. Anyone who is not paying attention can be influenced and inspired and used by Satan to come against you. If you were to recognize that, it would make a huge difference in the way you respond to them.

It's spiritual warfare. To win in this war, you must know who you are and the authority you have as a believer.

Say with me "I KNOW WHO I AM"

Go ahead and pray!



COME TO THE OTHER SIDE

And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side. And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships. And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awoke him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. And he said unto them, Why are you so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? (Mark 4:35-40).

Jesus spoke the words, Let us pass over unto the other side, and there was enough power and authority in those words to accomplish the job. You don't need any more power.

You have all the power necessary. You simply have to exercise your authority. Jesus has already done everything necessary to secure the authority and power over sin, sickness, demons, and fear. You have to employ the faith action and exercise your authority and join forces with Him in this earth.

You are the one to be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. The devil will whip you if he can, but thank God, he can't, for we will exercise our authority as believers against him.

QUESTIONS: What three elements will you use to run Satan from your affairs?



A KNOMING

"For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;" Colossians 1:9-10

As was discussed in our devotional last month, one sure way to know God's will is that it stands the test of time and you feel a supernatural peace and joy about it. Once you know the will of God concerning a matter, you want to do well by following that will.

It is also important to know that there are tremendous advantages and benefits in following God's will.

When you know the will of God for your life (and follow it), you will walk worthy of Him unto all pleasing. This means that all that you will do, every decision you will make will definitely please God as you are operating in His will and this is expected of us as His children.

In addition, when you know, and consequently follow the will of God, you will be fruitful in every good work and because of this, you will grow much more in your knowledge of Him. The passion translation puts it this way "...Then you'll become fruit-bearing branches, yielding to his life, and maturing in the rich experience of knowing God in his fullness!"(Colossians 1:10)

So, the more you know and follow God's will, the more you mature, bear fruit, and the more you operate in the fullness of God that you already carry inside of you! Glory.



A KNOWING 2

"For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;" Colossians 1:9-10

Do you want to consistently do God's good pleasure? Do you want to bear much more fruits? Do you want to grow in your knowledge of the fullness of God? Then get the will of God, and follow it.

Knowing the will of God for your life is not a game of chance or rocket science. It is so simple to find out when you are familiar with God's methods of revealing His will no matter the puzzles in the decision making process. As simple as, praying about it, searching the scriptures and listening to the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

Our lives should be so governed by the Word and prayer. We pay attention to the leading of the Spirit. That's how we follow His will and counsel. That's how we get fruitful in every good work.

QUESTIONS: What are the results of following God's will? What are the basic ways you can know God's will?



THE REPORT: YOUR CHOICE

Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? Isaiah 53:1

Every day, we get "reports" from the news, our experiences, our friends and family, and many other sources. We also get reports from the Word of God which oftentimes contradicts what others are saying.

Whose report will you believe? The Word, or the world? Is it what you saw in your scary dream or what you saw in the Word of God? Is it the news of the failing security system or the assurance of security and safety you have from God's Word? Is it your background or your new creation realities? Don't let the devil shift your gaze from who you are and what you have in Christ. It's carnal to think of yourself as a normal man.

This is our report when we have symptoms of sickness in our body. "By His stripes we were healed," (Isaiah 53:5, 1 Peter 2:24) and when one of our loved ones is sick.

Always remember, we have a supernatural Father-God! Just because we don't see a way doesn't mean that He doesn't have a way.



THE REPORT: YOUR CHOICE 2

Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? Isaiah 53:1

God can bring one opportunity across your path that will thrust you to a new level. He has explosive blessings that can blast you out of debt and into abundance.

Whose report will you believe? Isaiah 53:1 says, "Who has believed our report? And to whom is the Arm of the Lord revealed?"

See what Isaiah says here, The one who has seen the arm of the Lord revealed, or has allowed the hand of the Lord to be revealed in his life is the one that will believe our report. Which means, the revelation of the almightiness of God will help you in believing the report of God's Word. By extension too, God's arm is revealed to those who believe the report of God's word. When we believe the report of the Lord, He rolls up His sleeves and He fights for us.

Therefore, to experience divine intervention in that seemingly impossible problem, believe God, believe His Word. Superimpose these realities in your health, finances, economy, marriage, family, business, work, e.t.c. That is how things change and turn around for your good.

QUESTIONS: What are the challenging situations you are being faced with? How have you been reacting/responding to them? How will you respond from now?



LIGHT AFFLICTIONS

While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal" 2 Corinthians 4:18

In verse 8, Paul talked about "Trouble on every side." In chapter 11 he enumerates some of the troubles he experienced in preaching the gospel. Such as,

- Five times he was beaten by the Jews with 39 stripes.
- Three times he was beaten with rods.
- Once he was stoned.
- Three times he was on ships that sunk.
- He spent a night and a day floating in the sea, probably holding on to a plank.
- He was imprisoned many times.

Paul wrote to Timothy that at his first hearing in Rome, no one stood with him, but all had forsaken him. But Paul despite all these said that he was persecuted but not forsaken. In his letter to Timothy when he said that no one stood with him, he was talking about men. However, Paul said, "The Lord stood with me." Perplexity is a no-no for a believer, even when you can't feel anyone with you, you must see God so closely to you in His Word and by faith. Cling unto His promises, hold fast your confession of Faith.



HEALING IN CHRIST

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night." Psalms 1:1-2

A lot of people may advise you on things contrary to God's word. For example: Believing that a certain kind of sickness is incurable. We see in Romans 4:17-21, Abraham did not consider his body or the deadness of Sarah's womb, but he believed the report of the Lord saying "so shall your seed be." Abraham was convinced that what God promised, He was also able to perform.

God's report says, by the stripes of the Lord Jesus you are healed (Isaiah 53:4-5, Peter 2:24); the world's report says cancer is incurable; HIV is incurable, sugar diabetes incurable and all of the others.

Whose report will you believe?

In Mark 5:25-34, the woman with the issue of blood heard the report about Jesus. While doctors could not heal her; she believed and touched Jesus' garment and was healed.

In 2 Chronicles 16:12-13, it speaks about King Asa who only sought help from the doctors and never from the Lord; his sickness got worse and then he died.

Therefore, trust the Lord for your healing because nothing is too hard for Him. God placed doctors here to help us and we should go to the doctors to find out what's going on with our body. Despite what the doctor says, you can believe the report of the Lord and the word of God for your healing.



HEALING IN CHRIST 2

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night." Psalms 1:1-2

It is important to know that it is God's will for you to be healed, for your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost not the temple of sickness. Proverbs 4:22 says that God's word is "health to all your flesh," and it works for those who find it. Medicine should be taken according to the doctor's instructions; if he says take two tablets three times a day for one week; you should do exactly as he advised. You believe it works even when you still feel pain, now that's what the doctor's instruction is. Now let's see what God is saying or is instructing you to do. Take these verses as often as possible, meditate on them day and night, if the condition gets worse double the dose; do not believe the devil's report.

QUESTIONS: Do you know the health issue you are battling with now can be your greatest testimony?

What steps will you take according to today's devotion to gain victory over the situations?



GooD SUCCESS

And he said, O Lord God of my master Abraham, I pray thee, send me good speed this day, and shew kindness unto my master Abraham." Genesis 24:12

The anchor scripture is about the prayer of Abraham's servant when he got to the city where Abraham had instructed him to get a wife for Isaac. He recognized/acknowledged God, the God of his master Abraham. He knew he needed God for the success of the assignment and he didn't hesitate to call on him.

He asked for "good speed" some bible translations call it "success". Right in the middle of the task he involved God, he didn't get carried away by the whole task. He relied on God and not on his effort. What he asked for is as good as saying, "God crown my effort with success." There is a place of effort, there is a place of getting good results from your effort. God is the one that gives success. He is the one that can give you a supernatural result. He can help out on the task.

Brethren, as you go about your activities today, ask God for good speed (success). This will save you a lot of stress, it will make your day super productive with little effort. Ask God and He will grant unto you freely.

QUESTION: Do you believe God can give you good success?



ADULLAM'S CAVE

For at that time day by day there came to David to help him, until it was a great host, like the host of God. 1 Chronicles 12:22

David was lonely and needed help at the cave of Adullam, guess what type of men came to him, everyone who was in distress, everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was discontented. So he became captain over them. Under the hand of God and His servant David, these men — who began as disaffected people with nowhere else to go (1 Samuel 22:1-2) — developed into an amazing force. David and his mighty men needed each other and were each nothing without the other. They became David's mighty men.

Often we look to the wrong sources for help. Many times, this may be due to confusion and urgency. We look to people rather than to look up to God who can use anyone. The truth is God uses men to meet needs, to care for, and so on, but we can't determine who He will use and it is not our duty to search. There are times you can be led to call someone or see someone, only make sure it's from God.

When you pray to God for help, trust him totally, don't look up to a particular person because he can use anybody. Don't mistake trusting men for God. Trust God and He will raise men to help and assist you. Premium men, not men that will seek some things in return from you.

QUESTIONS: Who are the men around you now? Do you think they are potential mighty men?



BRETHREN

Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." 1 John 3:2

Our text today declares that, now are we the sons of God. This is amazing to behold. If you read the text today, you will see "now", tomorrow, you will see "now", ten years, you will see "now", till Jesus comes it won't change it would still be "now". We are the sons of God anytime any day.

Jesus' love and sacrifice confers on us a remarkable status- one that money cannot give us. You became a family of God. God's child, joint-heir with Christ.

The solution to a bad marriage is a reorientation to the radical spousal love of Christ in the gospel. As well as, the solution to stinginess is a reorientation to the generosity of God in Christ seen in the gospel, where he poured out his wealth for us.

The point is, what makes you faithful or generous is not just a doubled effort to follow moral rules. Rather, all changes come from deepening your understanding of the Love of the Father-God through the sacrifice of Christ and living out of the changes that understanding creates in your heart.

QUESTIONS: What is your definition of Christianity? What point did you become a child of God?



BRETHREN 2

See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are! But the people who belong to this world don't recognize that we are God's children because they don't know him. Dear friends, we are already God's children, but he has not yet shown us what we will be like when Christ appears. But we do know that we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is.." 1 John 3:1-2

Being a child of God is not a future event for the believer; we are His children from the point when we believe into eternity future (John 1:12). A believer must know this like his name.

Another thing that the believer must be sure of is that Christ will appear. I wonder if there is any Christian that will doubt that. This is about the most certain fact of all history. The certainty of death and taxes are nothing compared to the certainty of His coming.

This is an absolutely inescapable fact in God's program for mankind; Christ will appear. He appeared once, he will appear the second time. Of this there is no doubt. All history is moving to this goal. The apparent confusion that exists today is but creating the conditions predicted in the Scriptures, and are working out the great purposes of God.

QUESTIONS: List the three certain things mentioned in our devotion today. What must a believer know like his name?



IDENTIFICATION

Could it be any clearer? Our old way of life was nailed to the cross with Christ, a decisive end to that sin-miserable life—no longer captive to sin's demands! " Romans 6:6

The Christian concept of Identification means our complete union with Christ in His suffering and Glory.

I died with Christ - Our identification with Christ in His death.

I was crucified with Christ - Our identification with His crucifixion

I was buried with Christ. - Our identification with Christ in His burial

I suffered with Christ - Our identification with Christ in His suffering

I was made alive with Christ - Our identification with Him in His resurrection

Now I am seated with Him - Our identification with Christ in His ascension and His sitting at the right hand of the Father.

Christ became one with us in sin that we might become one with Him in Righteousness.

He became as we were, to the end that we might be as He is now. He became one with us in death, that we might be one with Him in life. This little preposition "with" is the key that has unlocked a long-hidden truth that is of vital importance to us. The teaching of Identification is the legal side of our Redemption. It unveils to us what God did in Christ for us, from the time He went to the Cross until He sat down at the right hand of the Father. Several times Paul uses the preposition "with" in connection with His substitutionary Teaching.

The vital side of Redemption is what the Holy Spirit, through the Word is doing in us now.



IDENTIFICATION 2

Could it be any clearer? Our old way of life was nailed to the cross with Christ, a decisive end to that sin-miserable life—no longer captive to sin's demands! " Romans 6:6

When Paul said "I have been crucified with Christ," it meant he had been judged, condemned, cast out, stripped naked and nailed to the Cross. That very thought of crucifixion to a Jew, and especially to a Pharisee brought a sense of shame and horror.

So in Gal 6:14 he said the world had been crucified unto him, and he had been crucified unto the world. The world had been stripped naked to Paul. There was no longer any delusion in regard to it. He could no longer be deceived. He knew its cruelty. He had felt its lash upon his back. He remembered the stoning that had left him unconscious.

He remembered that in every place he went he faced the anger, bitterness and jealousy of men. He had been stripped naked to the world. There was nothing in him that the world desired.

We understand what crucifixion actually means. Paul saw his Identification with Christ in His crucifixion. We understand that crucifixion did not mean death. It meant union with Christ in His disgrace, suffering and payment for sins.



WINNERS

Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." Romans 8:3

You are more than conquerors through him that loved us. You're not a worm, trying to crawl your way through, without support or backbone. You're not an "undone cake," God did a thorough job on you. The new creation is God's perfect creation. His very masterpiece. You're a child of God. You are a God-man. With the very seed of God.

So the next time you're tempted, or the next time Satan tries to put something over on you, resist him in the Name of Jesus. Say, Satan, I take authority over you. I resist you in the Name of Jesus. According to Colossians 2:15, you are defeated! And I am victorious! Amen.

Can you say this to yourself - I submit myself to God, and I resist the devil. The devil flees from me. James 4:7

QUESTIONS: Why is the believer more than a conqueror? Who is the defeated one?



MIND YOUR SPEECH

Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man." Colossians 4:6

The Bible says that life and death are in the power of the tongue (<u>Proverbs 18:21</u>). I believe that we will live more quality lives when our every speech is filled with words that uplift and bring grace to others (<u>Ephesians 4:29</u>).

A person can speak many words a minute and several thousands in an hour. You can imagine how many words an average person speaks in a day! Some estimates are that women speak twice as many words a day as men. We could fill a library in a lifetime! If we did, what would the titles of those books be? The tongue has a powerful influence on others.

In Proverbs 10, we find seven characteristics of the lips of the righteous. When we refrain from critical and negative speech, we must replace it with uplifting, positive, and grace-filled words. Think about the words you speak. Are they uplifting and do they bring life to others? Ask God to help you evaluate your speech as you read these verses:



CLEAN HEART

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me" Psalm 51:10

You can't turn on the television without endless commercials for pharmaceuticals for every sickness and disease imaginable, news of war, crime and violence right in your own town, or mainstream television shows promoting every kind of sin. Even around the water cooler at work, the talk seems to be of bad news and more bad news.

Many Christians believe they are immune and can handle secular influences without any negative impact on their hearts or spiritual condition, but the Bible tells us differently. In Psalm 101:3, David said, "I will refuse to look at anything vile and vulgar. I hate all who deal crookedly; I will have nothing to do with them." David knew the importance of watching what went into his eyes and who he associated with. He took it very seriously!

We will always live in a world that promotes ideas that do not align with the Word of God, but we can take steps to guard our hearts and keep our minds stayed on Him. In the meantime, though we aren't called to be loved by the world or participate in what it does, He has set us apart to be a light that shines brightly and dispels the darkness with truth.



NO IMPOSSIBILITY

For with God nothing shall be impossible." Luke 1:37

God is a specialist in handling situations tagged impossible. He can use your case to demonstrate to the world that there is no situation, no matter how bad that He cannot reverse. God is still in the business of doing creative miracles!

Have you been waiting a long time for that precious promise of God to come to manifestation? Your season of divine visitation has come in the mighty name of Jesus.

The Christian life is no ordinary natural existence; it is SUPERNATURAL! It takes supernatural power to reverse the irreversible and move the immovable. And guess what?? YOU HAVE THE SUPERNATURAL POWER RIGHT IN YOU!

Once you know this, it is easier to apply and use.

Declare: I reverse the irreversible! I move the immovable in my favour!



SET APART

If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work." 2 Timothy 2:21

God has a great need for loyal and trusted hands for His work here on earth. The Bible establishes the fact that all inhabitants of the world in their billions are potential vessels in the hands of the Almighty.

However, Matthew 9:37 tells us that though the kingdom assignment is great and plenteous, the labourers to execute it are few. This indicates that while there are billions of potential vessels for use by God, only few actually qualify. Any vessel that God would use must meet some strict conditions. 2 Timothy 2:21 gives a detailed description of the kind of vessel God will use.

Yes, uncountable people are available for God's use, but only those who purge themselves of filthy habits shall become vessels unto honour, sanctified and suitable for the Master's service.



CO AHEAD AND REJOICE

Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. Philippians. 4:4

The Hebrew word for 'joy/rejoicing' in Psalms most times is the word 'rânan' which means to shout/shout aloud.

There is something about lifting your voice at least loud enough to get your own attention.

And sometimes louder than the other voices in your head.

You see, when you're rejoicing, things are happening supernaturally.

Your celebration is the demonstration of your expectations.

If you're expecting miracles, provisions, healing e.t.c., just go ahead and act as if it has already happened.

When you cast all your cares on the Lord, casting away all the ugly looks, out of your face, rejoicing and saying, 'My God is able' at that same time, God is reaching out into areas that you could not reach in your life.

You see, while you're rejoicing, your faith is walking. Glory to God!



PRUDENCE

<u>In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches</u> of his grace; Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence" Ephesians. 1:7-8

Prudence is practical wisdom applied in the best time and manner to secure the best end.

It is with it we make wise choices and decisions. When you have it, people take notice of you. You make less mistakes with it, and you increase your possessions with it. It helps you to seek what ought to be sought, and to avoid what should be avoided. It is applicable every time, everywhere, and for everything. You see, every believer has it. It is like deep waters in your inside (Prov. 20:5), which must frequently be drawn. It has been given to you to minimize your errors and to solve every puzzle.

Glory!!!

Wisdom is well lavished on us.

We never come short of it. We have it in abundance.

We always know what to do, how to do it, and when to do it.

Therefore, whenever you're in a crossroad, well it up.

And one way to do that is to speak in tongues and interpret.

It is easy to do, whenever you speak in tongues long enough, your mind keeps quiet.

Thus, whatever words you speak that time can be trusted, hold on to it, that's the counsel.

Go ahead and well the counsel up this week. You are not permitted to be confused, and deceived. You are your greatest prophet.



COMFORT

Isaiah 53:4 and 5 says, "Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed."

This means you can know and be confidently assured that: • if you're consumed with grief, Jesus bore your grief.

- if you're overwhelmed with sorrow, He carried your sorrows.
- if you're trapped in a life of transgression, He was wounded for your transgressions.
- if you're living in sin, you can be forgiven because He was bruised for your iniquities.
- if you're tormented and have no peace, He was chastised for you to have peace.
- if you're physically or mentally sick, He was scourged with stripes for your healing.

Christ paid the price for your freedom and total restoration with His own blood on the cross. Hebrews 9:12 says, "Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us."

I encourage you to pause and think about the terrific price Jesus paid — and to, by faith, embrace everything He purchased for you in His death and resurrection. He didn't suffer everything He went through so you would be miserable in life. He suffered and died so you might live and experience the freedom for which He paid.



PETER, OR JONAH?

And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus." Mathew. 14:28-29

It is true that some storms are of our own making. Jonah proved that in (Jonah 1-3). Jonah ran from God, encountered a storm while on a ship, was thrown overboard, and wound up in the belly of a fish. But the disciples were smack dab in the center of God's will when this storm hit in Matthew 14. I'm saying all this to point out that you can't look at circumstances to tell you whether you are in God's will. You need a word from God. You need an inner witness from the Holy Ghost that what you're doing is what God told you to do. If you don't have that, it will hinder you from seeing His power manifest in your life. When problems come, you'll feel condemned and think, I brought this on myself; I deserve it. You need to know, first of all, that you are doing what God told you to do.

So, are you a Peter or a Jonah? If you are in the midst of a storm and you know that you are there because you've been following God, then you need to recognize that the Lord is responsible for you. Where He guides, He also provides. That's a principle of God. Just as Jesus was aware of these disciples' plight, He is aware of your situation.



TAKE THE STEP

And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus." Matthew. 14:28-29

Many of us are afraid to step away from the world and out on the word that God has given us. We want the miraculous but don't want to leave the relative safety of what everyone else is doing. But just like this boat, the world is in crisis. Without the Lord, it's going to sink. Why are we so afraid to leave the mundane and trust God for a miracle? Peter was willing to risk it all.

There should be something in you that is sick and tired of being sick and tired. God made each one of us for greatness, but not greatness by the world's definition. The Lord wants to release His miracle-working power in you. He wants to make your life better than your biggest dream.

There are reasons that some people see miracles and others don't. It's not fate or luck. It's not like lightning, where you never know when it will strike. God doesn't pick and choose; there are principles we have to follow to see His power manifest. If you don't understand that, that's one of the reasons you're having problems. But you, too, can see the miraculous power of God.

Some people have the mistaken belief that if they are really following God, then everything should be smooth sailing. That's how a lot of people discern whether they are in the will of God. They look at their circumstances, and if everything is just perfect, then it must be God. But thinking you have missed God just because you have a problem is absolutely incorrect. The scripture proves that instance. They were doing exactly what the Lord told them to do.



TAKE THE STEP 2

<u>And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus." Matthew. 14:28-29</u>

As a believer, you should continually experience God's ability and power. Let me put it this way: If you aren't walking in the supernatural, miraculous power of God, you are living below your privileges, in a substandard life. That might seem strong, but it's true. If your life isn't supernatural, then it's superficial. I really believe that.

What's the water? Is it sickness? How about financial problems or marital problems? Maybe it's just the mundane. Many people are suffering from boredom. Whatever it is, God wants to release His miracle-working power in you and put you on top. But it's up to you. It's His power that performs the miraculous, but Peter didn't see that power in operation until he took a step outside of the boat.

The exact same principles that operated in Peter's life in order for him to walk on the water will work for you too!



SEEKING HIS WILL

My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be" Psalm 139:15-16 (New International Version).

Are you fulfilling your call? Do you even know what God has ordained for your life? If not, you're certainly not alone.

The place to start is to realize that the Lord has a specific and unique plan for you. He's had this plan in mind before you were even born.

God had all of your days written out before you were born. You aren't a mistake going somewhere to happen. You haven't been placed on this earth by chance. Where and when you were born, the parents God gave you, your personality, and everything else about you was orchestrated by God for a specific purpose.

However, you can't assume that God's will is automatically going to come to pass in your life. It won't. God's will doesn't always come to pass. It's clear from this scripture that God wants everyone to come to repentance and be saved, yet we know not everyone does. God also wants everyone healed, yet people still live with sickness in their bodies. Likewise, God wants everyone to find and walk in the purpose He has ordained for them, yet not everyone will. But that's not God's fault.

Once you realize that you are the one responsible for discovering God's will, the next step is to start seeking God for it. He's not hiding His will from you. But you're going to have to do some seeking to find it.



SEEKING HIS WILL 2

My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be" Psalm 139:15-16 (New International Version).

One mistake people often make in seeking God's purpose is that they assume whatever they're good at in the natural world must be what God wants them to do. So if they're naturally good at public speaking, they figure God must have called them to a speaking ministry of some sort. This is not always true.

God called a man to do what is beyond his natural ability so that he would have to rely on Him to get it done. That's why God's will may have nothing to do with your natural gifts. If you can do something yourself—naturally—you wouldn't need God's empowerment. Sometimes people's talents may be an indication of what God's will is, but many have gifts and talents they don't even know exist.

Do you feel dissatisfied or unsettled with your life? Are you tired of just going to work, coming home, watching television, going to bed, then getting up and doing it all over again? If so, it may be God who has placed a holy dissatisfaction within you in hopes of provoking you to start seeking out His perfect will. Don't wait another day to begin the search for God's will in your life.



HOW TO FULFILL COD'S WILL

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Hebrews 12:1

It is more tragic when a person knows God's will but doesn't fulfill it than if they never knew His will to begin with (2 Pet. 2:21). I believe that more often than not, most people know God's will but don't fulfill it.

When we get to heaven and look back on our lives, I don't think many of us will say, "I trusted God too much." But many of us will say, "I played it too safe. I spent my time being occupied with too many things and not going for what God said."

You've got to get to where you look to Jesus and consider Him more than what you see in the mirror, what you feel in your body, more than what other people have to say to you—anything! You have to get to where God's Word impacts you more than anybody else's word!

You have to keep yourself encouraged because you will not fulfill God's will with a defeated attitude. You're going to have to resist discouragement. You have to overcome obstacles that have been put in your path. "...endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." 2 Timothy 2:3



HOW TO FULFILL COD'S WILL 2

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Hebrews 12:1

If you're going to endure over the long haul, you're going to have to toughen up. Good soldiers don't indulge their feelings; they just do what they need to do. You're going to have to get to where you don't let things bother you. I know this flies in the face of how society thinks today: *Well, you just aren't in touch with your feelings. You're in denial.* I don't deny that problems exist, but I do deny that any of these things can conquer me. I am absolutely in denial that I'm going to fail! God has called me to win! God has called me to be an overcomer! I can guarantee I will overcome anything that the devil forms against me (Is. 54:17). I am not in denial that sometimes things bother me, but I am not going to let them control me.

I tell you, if you are going to fulfill God's will, you're going to have to adopt these attitudes I'm talking about. You need to realize that "*better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof*" (Eccl. 7:8). It's wonderful to find God's will and move in that direction, but really, it's only *after* you finish your course with joy that you realize all the benefits.



PROTECT YOUR HEART AT ALL COSTS

"And he did evil, because he prepared not his heart to seek the LORD 2 Chronicles 12:14

Relatively few people are determined to do evil. They don't wake up in the morning seeking ways to transgress. Rather, they fall into sin because they have not prepared their hearts to seek the Lord.

Rehoboam's seeking the Lord only lasted for three of the 17 years of his reign (2 Chr. 11:17), because he didn't prepare his heart to seek the Lord. The word "prepare" means "to establish, fix, prepare, or apply." It conveys the idea of deliberate effort over a prolonged period of time.

David's men tried to get David to kill Saul and seize the throne which was rightfully his, but David wouldn't do it. Why? Wasn't Saul trying to kill David? Wouldn't it have been considered self-defense? No one would have blamed him. He could have gotten away with it and have saved years of frustration and pain in his own life. But David had already prepared, or fixed, his heart that he would not take the kingdom by killing Saul. His own words about this instance say, "My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise" (Ps. 57:7). If David had not already fixed his heart on what he would and would not do, he would have succumbed to the pressure of that moment. But he had already fixed his heart against taking Saul's life.

One of the keys to preparing our hearts is to fix our hearts on what we will and will not do before we encounter the temptation. David had already settled what he would do so that there were no options left when the temptation came. Far too often, Christians have not made strong enough commitments and, therefore, succumb to temptation.



KEEP YOUR MEMORY ALIVE

Psalm 10:17 "LORD, thou hast heard the desire of the humble: thou wilt prepare their heart.

Of course, no one can accomplish preparing their heart on their own. This is not a matter of sheer "willpower." God must be involved in preparing our hearts. Only when we trust in the Lord and depend on Him can we find the strength to make our hearts not subject to change or variation. Humility is an essential ingredient in the preparation of our hearts.

Our imaginations and our memories are also an important part of preparing our hearts. David said in 1 Chronicles 29:18, "O LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, our fathers, keep this forever in the imagination of the thoughts of the heart of thy people, and prepare their heart unto thee." David was speaking about remembering and the part that imagination played in our memories.

The power of memory is a vital part of preparing our hearts. The Lord warned the children of Israel not to forget the mighty works He had performed for them lest they turn away from following Him (Deut. 4:9, 23; 6:12; 8:11-14, 19). He linked memory to staying true to the Lord.

No one who was dominated with thoughts of the goodness and faithfulness of the Lord would turn their back on the Lord. To turn from the Lord, Satan has to divert our attention from the Lord and block the memories of God's goodness to us. Keeping our positive memories alive will keep our hearts knit to the Lord.



LETIT CO

Colossians 3:13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone.

As New Creations, we ought to be able to deal easily with offense when they come. We have been saddled with the onus of watching over our hearts to protect or control it against the pull of offense, bitterness, and other negative emotions.

As long as we live in this world, we're going to have to deal with the

If you've ever allowed yourself to be bound by offense and bitterness, you might find it difficult to forgive, but it's not hard.

You have the love of God inside you. Yield to it.

The believer has the wisdom of God which unlocks every door in life. It turns every failure into success and permanently solves the problems you've been facing.

Use God's wisdom, set aside your ideas and methods, and put His methods into operation.





RECEIVING A MIRACLE

Deuteronomy 10:21 He is the one you praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes.

A miracle is the supernatural intervention of God. All of us have needed a miracle in the past, need one now, or will need one in the future. The problem is that most Christians don't know how to receive a miracle from God.

The best advice is don't wait until a storm hits to learn how to believe God for a miracle. During a storm, emotions will cancel out your faith.

God's desire is for you to prosper (Ps. 35:27). God's will is for you to be healthy (3 John 2). God's will is for you to be above only and not beneath (Deut. 28:13).



RECEIVING A MIRACLE 2

Deuteronomy 10:21 He is the one you praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes.

You are the one who controls God's ability in your life. God doesn't. It is God's power and His ability, but it's up to you.

You must plant a seed, which is the Word of God. If you aren't reaping what the Word of God says, you haven't planted what the Word of God says to plant. You reap what you sow. If the Word of God is primary in your life, you're going to get the results of the Word of God. Romans 8:6 says, "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." If all you think about is the Word of God, that's all you'll get. You may not be thinking, I want to be sick, but your thinking has been sick. Proverbs 4:22 tells us that the Word of God is "life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh."

We don't just naturally grow up believing God. It takes renewing our minds. God's Word is the most important step to receive a miracle. Romans 10:17 says, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." You can't just know the Word intellectually. You must meditate on it so it becomes living and active on the inside of you. If God's Word is planted in your heart, you'll receive. It doesn't matter what you feel — God's Word will produce a miracle.



RECEIVING A MIRACLE 3

Deuteronomy 10:21 He is the one you praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes.

Most of us have had times when we have prayed a prayer of faith, and our prayers seemed to go unanswered. Maybe you got into the Word of God, planted a seed, and prayed for a miracle. Then, nothing happened. The problem is that many people stop believing at that moment. God's Word says in Mark 11:24, "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." This is where most Christians stumble. The Bible says to believe when you pray that you have received.

Most of us have seen a promise in God's Word and believed to the best of our ability, but it didn't come to pass. How do we harmonize the fact that God is true to His Word and it didn't happen? There is a physical world, and there is a spiritual world. The spiritual world created this physical world. There is a spiritual reality for everything physical. In 2 Kings 6, you can read the story of Elisha. When the Syrian army had surrounded Elisha and his army, a servant asked Elisha, "What shall we do?" Elisha answered, "Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them." Verse 17 tells us, "And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha." There weren't more physically but more spiritually. The angels of God surrounded them. Elisha spoke the truth.



RECEIVING A MIRACLE 4

Deuteronomy 10:21 He is the one you praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes.

Some people say it's a lie to say that you're healed when you don't feel healed, but that's operating only by your five senses. You have to walk in the spirit. There are spiritual realities. John 6:63 says, "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." The Bible is spiritual truth. We are limited when we only think in the physical realm. Just because you can't see it doesn't mean God didn't do it. God always answers when you pray according to His will. When God answers your prayer, He gives it to you in spiritual form.

Faith is the key that brings the answer into the physical realm. Your faith brings what God has accomplished into physical reality. God gives it to you in the spirit, then faith brings it into the physical realm. Many times you don't know God has answered your prayer because you can't perceive it in the physical. You have to believe something is happening beyond your five senses. If you don't believe it until you see it, you won't receive it from God. The Bible says you have to believe you receive when you pray.

If you pray and don't see manifestation immediately, God is waiting on you to stand against the devil and bring it into being.



GOD CONSCIOUSNESS

God created us to live our lives focused on Him. His purpose from the very beginning was that we should be "God-conscious," not "self-conscious."

People grieve or are unhappy for a lot of reasons. But, if they analyze it, they would find that it is always the result of self being deprived of wants. So, the answer to dealing with grief can be found in dealing with self.

Even in the case of the death of a loved one, our grief is rooted in our personal loss. We focus on the situation from our point of view: How can I go on without them? I won't ever see them again on earth. We convince ourselves that we are mourning over the death of these people, but it's really over how it will affect us. If that person was born again and is now with Jesus, it should be a time to rejoice. Let's imagine the atmosphere of a believer's funeral if we focused on the one who was with Jesus and what that person was experiencing rather than our own self-centered thoughts about what we are losing? Instead of grieving, what an exciting time of thanksgiving and praise it would be!

Another huge source of grief is the grief that many of you experience in your relationships with other people. Why? Because when you are focused on self, it's easy to be offended. If you're experiencing bitterness, hurt, or anger in a relationship with your boss, a friend, or as is most often the case, someone in your own family, God's Word leaves you no room to misunderstand the reason.



NO SHADOW OF TURNING

And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God..." Matthew 19:17

God is a good God, who only gives good gifts and nothing more.

It is very easy to want to attribute all the evils in the world to God because He is all-knowing, however, we must understand that, that you know about something doesn't mean you caused it. Some also say God is in control of everything. As true as that is, God in his total sovereignty, gave man the privilege to make choices and for every choice, there are consequences. Many times, man ties God's hands with his choices.

Many of the evil we face are either consequences of our making the wrong choice, or caused by the fact that we live in a fallen world, or an attack from the enemy.

God has no evil in him, and hence, has no evil to give.

Are you angry at God because you think He took from you your good job, or that precious loved one, or He watched silently while bad things happened to you?

You might want to have a rethink about it. The truth is, God is grieving much more than you are about your situation and He wants to make it better if you will let Him.

Bearing unforgiveness and hatred in our hearts towards our Father will only hurt us more.



NO SHADOW OF TURNING 2

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." James 1:17

Many of us, even though we think God is good, still believe he has a punishment side of him - The side that sends things like sicknesses and plagues upon us when we mess up or cross his path in a bid to teach us, His children a lesson. We believe that Covid-19, for instance, was some plan from God to punish the many sins happening in the world.

If that were so, then why do we pray against the Virus? Aren't we incurring more wrath of God by trying to send away what He sent to teach us a lesson?

The truth is, God is a good God, the devil is the bad devil. We discussed 3 reasons evil happens in our world in yesterday's devotionals and God is not one of them.

God is a giver, not a taker, He wants to restore, not steal, He wants to repair, not destroy.

God is not some wicked grandfather up there who causes his children pain probably because he is angry, He wouldn't even do that to teach us a lesson. The scripture that talked about God correcting the one He loves, was not talking about punishment, correcting there actually meant training. So, because God loves us, He trains us.

Think about it, if the devil kills, steals and destroys, and God is also doing the same to us when we step on his toes, or in a bid to train us, then who do we really run to to save us? It would seem both God and the devil worked hand in hand.

Glory to God! Our God is the good God, and the devil is the bad devil. The earlier we realise this, the better it is for us and the more confident we are in warding off attacks the enemy throws our way by resisting him according to the scripture.



NO SHADOW OF TURNING 3

According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue. 2 Peter 1:3

What do you need the Lord to do for you? Do you need the Lord to heal you? How about prosperity? Could you use more money? The truth is, you don't need the Lord to do anything for you. He's already done His part. You've already got it, whatever "it" is. Regardless of what the natural facts are, the truth is that God has already given you whatever you need.

Most Christians believe that God can do anything, but many of them don't believe He has done very much. They live in a constant state of trying to get God to do something. They are begging God to move through revival, healing, prosperity, etc. They run from meeting to meeting, trying to get something from God. But they've already got it.

Healing has already been provided. Financial prosperity has already been provided. Joy and peace and everything that you will ever need emotionally have already been provided. If you're having a down day, if things aren't going right, if you don't feel good, you don't need to embrace discouragement, despair, and hopelessness. And yet the average Christian just embraces this stuff, saying, "O God, I ask You to touch me. I ask You to give me joy." The Bible says you've already received all these things. The logical question to ask, then, is "Well, where is it?"

In Galatians 5:22-23, it says love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance are in you if you're born again. The truth is, God has already poured out His love toward you. Romans 5:5b



NO SHADOW OF TURNING 4

According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue. 2 Peter 1:3

God loves you whether you feel it or not! His love has been poured in your heart—in other words, in your spirit. And His love isn't conditional upon your good actions, or holiness. You've got to start from this place that "God has already provided everything, and if I don't feel His love, it's not that God didn't give; it's that I don't realize what I have." When you know that you have something, it takes the struggle out of it. It takes you out of condemnation. It takes you out of a legalistic mentality of trying to earn things from God. It removes doubt. How could you ever doubt that you'd get something that you already have? It's really that simple.

There is more going on than just what you can perceive with your five senses. There is more than just your soulish, emotional realm. There is a spirit on the inside of you, and there is a spiritual realm, where God has already done His part. If you don't relate to it properly, you're going to be hit and miss in the Christian life, which has led to so much weirdness in the body of Christ. You need to live from the standpoint that God has already done it. He's provided everything you need. It's not a matter of trying to get God to move in your life; it's a matter of you moving over into agreement with Him and receiving what He has already provided.



NO SHADOW OF TURNING 5

According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue. 2 Peter 1:3

Faith is faith in any Bible subject — whether it is the new birth, the infilling of the Holy Ghost, right-standing with God, divine health, divine prosperity, or some other area.

It is the same spiritual substance. It works the same in every situation.

1. Put the Word first place. Don't be moved by feelings. To develop your faith in God's love, or in anything else from God, you have to learn what the Word says about it. For instance, Psalm 23:6 says, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life." Put that Word first place. Don't ever go by how you feel about the love of God. Don't confess anything else. Be confident in the fact that God's mercy and goodness follow you all the days of your life. You should read the book of 1 John over and over regularly.

2. Meditate on the Scriptures concerning God's love. Meditation develops the capacity for faith. As you meditate in God's Word and your capacity begins to grow, you recognize the power God's love can have in your life. Then the things of Satan will begin to shrink and lose their grip over you, as you realize the fullness of God's Word.

3. Act on the Word concerning the love of God. First John 4:11-12 says, "Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us." By practicing this love on one another, the love of God is perfected in us. The word perfected means "allowed to run its full course." You can let God's love run its full course in your life. Love never fails. Here we are reaching for that "zero failure rate." It is possible, and it will come to pass! How are we going to do it? Not by becoming perfect ourselves, but by acting on the Word of God and allowing the love of God, which is perfect, to run its full course in our lives. Even though we make mistakes, that love force will be there to prevent failure.



THE SEED

So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear. But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come." Mark 4:26-29

Having a true revelation of God's Word is essential for a victorious Christian life.

The Word of God often refers to itself as a seed. There are a total of forty-four verses in the New Testament where the Greek word "sperma" was translated as "seed." This is the same word from which we derive our English word "sperm."

To conceive and give birth to the miracles you need, you must first plant God's Word like a seed in your heart. Conception cannot take place without first planting the seed.

Just as a seed has to remain in the ground over time to germinate, so the Word of God has to abide in us.



THE SEED 2

First the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear." Mark 4:28

What would happen if you planted a seed in your garden and then dug it up each morning to see if anything was happening? It would die and never produce fruit. You have to have faith that the seed is doing what God created it to do.

That's the way God's kingdom works. And this is precisely the reason most people don't see God's best come to pass in their lives. They think that since God loves them, He will just grant their request regardless of whether they put the miracle of the seed to work or not.

This law of seedtime and harvest operates in every area of our lives. If we will plant God's Word in our hearts, and then allow the seed to germinate and the plant to grow to maturity, we will reap the fruit of a harvest. That is God's best!

I cannot tell you strongly enough how important it is that you know God's Word and that you plant the seed of His Word in your heart long before you need the fruit of the harvest. It could mean the difference between prosperity and poverty, or even life and death.

So, make this year your personal Year to study the Bible and build a sure foundation in your own life. It will be the best decision you have ever made.



YOU HAVE A CHOICE

Romans 8:6 says, "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."

No one can consistently perform differently than the way they think; therefore, we cannot change our actions without changing our thinking. It's not just what we think about that needs changing, we must change our thinking process. Our emotions are linked directly to how we think.

All of us have had negative experiences. The choice is ours whether we become bitter or better as a result of them.

For every person who can claim some dysfunctional behavior because of a traumatic experience in their life, others have had similar or worse things happen to them, yet they overcame their circumstances. Why? Because problems do not dictate failure; we have a choice.



YOU HAVE A CHOICE 2

Romans 8:6 says, "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."

One thing we should establish in our hearts is that placing blame on others is denying the real problem, and it will prevent finding a solution. If other people are my problem, I'm in trouble because God did not give me the ability to control other people. The devil will always send someone across my path who knows how to hit my hot button.

If the problem is within me, then there is hope because, through Christ, I can change. This is freedom. Regardless of what others do, I can prosper through Christ.

After psychology tries to place the blame for your problems on someone else, they try to bolster your self-esteem by having you focus on the positive things in yourself and minimize the negative attributes. That's not what the Bible teaches. Jesus said, "For without me ye can do nothing" (John 15:5).

The secret to victorious Christian living is not found in self-improvement but in self-denial so that Christ can live through us. This does not mean that God wants us to have a bad self-image. It just depends upon which self we are talking about. You see, every born-again believer has become a new person in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17), (Eph. 4:22-24).



JOYFULNESS

Philippians 4:11 I have learned, in whatever state I am, therewith to be content.

Everyone longs for joyfulness, but few possess it. The pursuit of it is universal and timeless.

Today, people think joyfulness is a result, instead of a choice. They believe that if they didn't have any problems and if they had an abundance of good things, joyfulness would be the inevitable result. That's not true.

Joyfulness isn't a state of being; it's a state of mind. A person can be joyful when everyone and everything around them is in turmoil. They can be content no matter what the financial or physical conditions might be. True joyfulness and contentment aren't dependent upon circumstances.

Take Paul as an example. The Apostle Paul wrote the book of Philippians while he was in prison in Rome. He had been in prison for two years in Israel, one year in transit to Rome, and an undisclosed amount of time in Rome. He was facing possible execution.

Yet, his letter to the Philippians is the happiest letter of any he wrote. He mentioned rejoicing seventeen times in this short letter. How could this be? What was Paul's secret? The book of Philippians gives us the keys Paul used to obtain such success.

Notice that contentment is something the Apostle Paul learned. It didn't come naturally or without effort.

When God and others are more important to you than yourself, then you are well on your way to happiness. But if you are all wrapped up in yourself, you make a very small package and therein lies the number one obstacle to contentment and joyfulness.



THE WILL

1 Timothy 2:3-4: For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

According to the scripture above, it is glaring that God earnestly wills that men be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth and the church(You and I) is the only body on earth that can make that happen as an unbeliever is unable to preach the good news.

This goes to say that as believers, we are obligated to preach the gospel of Christ to all and Sundry, it is a command given in Matthew 28:19-20, and Mark 16:15. We have been given the ministry of reconciliation - 2 Corinthians 5:18.

It is God's will that you preach the gospel, wherever you find yourself, you can never be out of God's will by preaching the gospel if there is one thing in the world you can always do and never be afraid you are going against the will of God, it is preaching the gospel of Christ. What is the gospel? I Corinthians 15:1-4 - Christ died, was buried for our sins, and rose again on the 3rd day according to scriptures, no more, no less.

Many a time, as believers, we do not see the pressing need to reach out to lost souls around us, but, according to the scriptures, this is the dearest thing to God's heart! We were saved to save others! The passion for the gospel must never burn out in our hearts. If we do not play our part, we are slowing down the fulfillment of God's goal- that all men be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth.

In our goings, let's be conscious to submit to this will of God because if the church doesn't play its part, no one can.



THE WILL 2

1 Timothy 2:1-3 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour.

To supplicate is to ask earnestly for something from God and to intercede is to pray to God on behalf of another person. Both actions require selflessness and Apostle Paul here admonishes us to do them, for all men, but he especially stresses on those in authority.

We should never underestimate how powerful our intercession or supplication can be or what results they can wield because every time we pray, God hears us. Every time you pray for an unsaved nation, God hears - a person's heart might become softened over there, a missionary, or even you might become convinced to go preach the gospel there, a terrible law that was supposed to be passed may be averted, just because you prayed.

Our prayers are that powerful.

We should submit to God's will in this regard and continually intercede. Let's know that intercession is not a work or ministry for some specific believers, we are all intercessors and we should all take the job seriously.



THE WILL 3

Mark 16:17-18 : And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

As true it is that we must always ask for God's direction and decision on issues, some things asking if it is God's will is a pure waste of time. This is because those things have already been clearly stated in the scriptures to be God's will.

One of such is a believer birthing result. The truth is that God is always willing to birth results, God is always willing to help mankind, God is always willing to do good, and God is always willing to show forth the supernatural however, He can only do these through men.

Healing, for instance is one of those things God is always willing to do through us. Even while Jesus was on earth, there was not a record in the scripture where He saw a sick person and was unwilling or not led to heal the person. In fact, in Matthew chapter 8, there was a story of a leper who came to Jesus and "If thou will, thou can make me clean." Jesus immediately responded to him saying "I will, be clean." This goes a long way to show us how earnestly the Father wants us to be in good health.



THE WILL 4

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.God always leads us,gives us instructions, both from the written word and through the leadings of the Spirit and, as His children, we should always be willing to obey these instructions.

Sometimes, we even go to God for instructions on certain issues, and when He does instruct us, we are reluctant to follow them because they don't sound convincing or foolproof, even silly sometimes, but we should never forget that even through the gospel, God showed men that His foolishness is wiser than the wisdom of men. So, even if the instruction sounds silly, as a child of God, you are obligated to follow it, as long as you know that was God.

Sometimes, when God instructs us to do or not do something, it is because He wants to protect us from danger or bad circumstances.

There was a story John G. Lake shared. He was just returning from his friend's burial and was questioning God on why He took his friend so early. While he was at it, the Holy Spirit told him to move to the other side of the road, but he was too busy complaining to pay him heed. At one time, the instruction was so strong and he obeyed, not long after, a car swerved into where he was and would have hit him if he hadn't moved moments earlier and the Holy Spirit told him that was the same way people would have been asking Him why He took John G. Lake early at his burial, not knowing his disobedience caused it.

There is also a story of a very prosperous businessman who has never lost in a business deal in his life, not once. When asked, he said he always sought God's will before he invested in a deal, if he felt no peace or go ahead, no matter how attractive it was, he never invested in that deal.

This goes to show that God leads us in every area of our lives if we will follow the leading.



THE WILL 5

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.God always leads us,gives us instructions, both from the written word and through the leadings of the Spirit and, as His children, we should always be willing to obey these instructions.

Now, something terrible may not necessarily happen if we do not follow the leading, but, that leading could have been a test of our obedience and we know God always reward obedience Papa Kenneth Hagin shared a story of how at one time in his life, He was led by God to leave his present station to become a missionary in another place. He struggled with this leading for a long time as he didn't want to obey it. It would mean leaving family again or taking them with him, uprooting them from stability.

However, finally, he was willing to follow the leading, only for God to tell him He didn't really want him to go there, He just wanted him to be willing to go. This means, God is really concerned about our state of heart being one that is always willing to obey whatever instruction He gives, any time.

Obeying God's instructions doesn't cost, it actually pays. Even though the reason we should obey God's instructions should not be just because we want to receive the blessings that come from obedience, but rather because it is the right thing to do as a believer, blessings are fringe benefits of obedience too.



THE FULL PACKAGE

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Jesus is a full package, an embodiment of several things. The book of Hebrews helped us to understand that God in the past spoke to our father through prophets but has revealed himself to us through his son. Only Jesus can give the best description of who the Father is.

The best the prophets could do was to point to the way. Jesus is not just a way. He is the Way. The bedrock of our faith rest on the truth that Jesus is the ONLY way to access and know the father. The revelation of who God is can only be known through Jesus. Everything we will be receiving from the Father rests on our acknowledgement of the Way

Anyone who follows Jesus(The way) can never be let down. He is the only tested and proven way that will always lead to a safe Haven.

Remember, a double minded man is unstable in all his way. Resolve to stay with this way you have known.



ON HIS PALM

Isaiah 49:15-16 Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me.

According to the world's population, we have about 7.674 billion (2009) people in the world. That's quite a whole lot of people inhabiting the earth. It's possible to be quick to assume that God has a whole lot of people to attend to. That's right. Do you think God will just create you just to occupy space on earth? Not.

The beautiful thing about this is that God pays attention to a single person and he knows every one of us by name. No matter how many children a mother has, she will know all of them by all the names they bear, how much more God. God not only knows us by name, but when he looks at his palm, he sees (input your name). He does not deal with us as a multitude, he pays attention to every of our lives. We can call him "The utmost attention-giving God". He carries you always in his thoughts. He doesn't lose track of any details of your life. No wonder the angels had to ask "What is man, that thou hast mindful of him?" It's overwhelming.

As you go about your day, never forget that the creator of the universe has your name inscribed on his palm, he bears you in mind always. That should assure you when confronting life issues.



COD: A REWARDER

Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

A reward comes after a proof of diligence to a particular course. We have had several perceptions about God, how he is the almighty, the unsearchable and unquestionable. As true as these attributes are, God wants to be sought after. He wants to be known...He wants to show his ways and intent to his children...If he wants to remain a mystery to us, why then will.he reward those who diligently seek him? God wants people who are devoted to his course.

When talking about reward, it might not come in the way we expect. The reward of a dilligent seeker primarily is not in wealth, marriage, job opportunities etc. As good as these things are, they are the all other things Matt 6:33 talks about that will be added meaning those are not the entirety of what we get for seeking God.

Always remember Heb 6:10 NIV:God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them. All your labour cannot be forgotten, they will be duly rewarded. Allow God God to do the rewarding and don't lose hope by creating a system of reward for yourself



HOW TO PRAY

Philipians 4:6: Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

As a child of God, we need the power of God to live through life. We know that when the power of God comes upon us we will succeed, stand out in life and overcome every opposition or enemy of God's plan for our lives. Jesus Christ through praying and fasting was given power by the Holy Spirit and He was able to stand out and overcome every force of wickedness (Luke 4:1-14). Luke 11: 1-4,

1 And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.

2 And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.

3 Give us day by day our daily bread.

4 And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

Jesus explains how we pray to God. Now, this is a template on how we go about praying. Firstly, we start with thanksgiving which is very important in our prayer life. Our bible anchor for today says it all, with thanksgiving we make our request known to God.

PRAYER

Make a mental list of all things God has done for you, starting from the air you breathe, then give him thanks for them all.



HOW TO PRAY 2

Philipians 4:6: Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

At times we pray and not do the needful. Before we go into prayer, there are some steps to be taken. One of which is Luke 11:4 (And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us). Are you holding a grudge or someone offended you and you refuse to let go? All these and more can cause delay for our prayer to be answered. Before you pray, make sure you are free of all burden and go into God's presence lightened so that you have a full focus on God.

Another important step to take in prayer is having faith that all you've asked will be fulfilled.

1 John 5:14 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us.

Praying with thanksgiving and faith without praying for His kingdom advancement is an incomplete prayer. Jesus said

2 And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.

We pray every day for God's word to spread across the globe, the heart of men to thirst for Him, men to be saved from bondage of sin, and much more are important in our daily prayer. Remember, seeking God's kingdom first, then every other thing will be added unto us. Matthew 6:33

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

When we incorporate this in our daily prayer life, we can be certain that we are praying according to God's will. And praying according to His will is fulfilling His plan and purpose for our life. Don't forget to go into His presence lighten and burden free.

PRAYER

Lord, let your gospel spread all around the world, every crook and corner.

Let every heart be receptive to hear and accept your word as it reaches them.



GREAT FAITH, GREAT TESTS

Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Smith Wigglesworth said "Great faith comes out of great tests". We read "cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God". Of course, you can believe what God's word has promised you, but great faith doesn't come just by feeding on God's word, or by hearing tapes or recordings. Rather, great faith itself comes when you put what you have heard into practice.

Faith is a force. You don't build up muscles in your body by just reading books on building muscles, rather, you read and lift weights to build the muscles. To build up faith muscles, you have to use your faith against something.

Jesus won the victory for us over the devil. He did it for us vicariously. But you've still got battles to fight. No army ever won a great victory without having a battle. Whenever you are going through trials, challenges, or great battles, praise God in the midst of it. You already know the outcome, you are going to overcome. Overcoming faith belongs to us. It is ours.

PRAYER

Father, I am grateful for the tests I am going through now, I know I win victoriously.



CHARITY

1 Corinthians 13: 4-7 Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things."

Someone facing a seemingly impossible task may say, "I just can't do it". Some people say, "I just can't take it. I can't put up with it any longer!" but love can! The bible says right here it can. And the love of God is in us, so we can!

Think about God. He's putting up with all of us. It doesn't matter who we are or what we've done or where we are. He's putting up with us all.

"Yes, but He's God" someone might say.

He is God. But the Bible says we're made partakers of the divine nature, and God is love (2 Peter 1:4; 1 John 4:16)! It is His most potent characteristic. It's His nature. That nature has been shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost (Romans 5:5). 1 Corinthians 13:7 (AMP) "Love bears up under anything and everything that comes..."

To walk in the Spirit means to walk in love, and love bears up under anything and everything that comes! As we go on with our daily activities, let us keep this in our heart and as our watchword. PRAYER

I walk and deal in love today, tomorrow and evermore. I chose to love everyone I come across everyday and every minute of my life. So help me God. I walk in a strife free and love ruled atmosphere. Amen.



FORCIVINC OTHERS

PSALMS 149:4-6 For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation. Let the saints be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds. Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two edged sword in their hand;"

The Word of God is the sword of the spirit in our hands, but we need to put the high praises of God in our mouths too. That's when His word will be effective – believing it in our heart and speaking it with our mouth, wielding that word as a two-edged sword against the tests and trials of life that beset us.

Now the New Testament says, "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Ephesians 6:17). The Word of God is our two-edged sword. A lot of people are running around with a Bible in their hand saying, "I'm a Word person" but they look as though they've been eating sour grapes. They never smile, they have no joy. But Psalm 149:4 says, "... will beautify the meek with salvation." That doesn't sound like those sour-grapes people, does it?

Yes, we need to take the two-edged sword of the Spirit – the word of God – and wield it with our mouths! But if we're angry and we cut people with it, we don't do any good. No, we need to let the high praises of God be in our mouths. When we do that, we will use that sword with praise and thanksgiving, and people will want it!

Whatever situation we find our self, we have to let the joy of God in us speak. We speak, chastise, encourage and admonish with God's joy and word.

PRAYER

I rejoice in the joy of my salvation.



STIR UP YOURSELF

I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers, Hearing of thy love and faith, which thou hast toward the Lord Jesus, and toward all saints; That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus. For we have great joy and consolation in thy love, because the bowels of the saints are refreshed by thee, brother. Philemon 1:4-6

Faith in Christ, and love to him, should unite saints more closely than any outward relation can unite the people of the world. Paul confessed how he was particular in remembering his friends in his private prayers. We must remember friends much and often, as their cases may need, bearing them in our thoughts, and upon our hearts, before our God.

We must take note that our actions and words communicate to others. And this surely have effects on the way they respond. Paul inquired concerning his friends, as to the truth, growth, and fruitfulness of their graces, their faith in Christ, and love to him, and to all the saints. The good which Philemon did, was a matter of joy and comfort to him and others, who therefore desired that he would continue and abound in good fruits, more and more, to God's honor..

As we go ahead with our day to day duties, let's consider to stir up each other to love and good works as we communicate, working heartily for the Lord and not men. (<u>Hebrews 10:24</u>, <u>Colossians 3:23</u>).



STIR UP YOURSELF 2

I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers, Hearing of thy love and faith, which thou hast toward the Lord Jesus, and toward all saints; That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus. For we have great joy and consolation in thy love, because the bowels of the saints are refreshed by thee, brother Philemon 1:4-6

Many verses describe a believer as a superhuman enabled by the Holy Spirit. We are called to an active and effective existence.

Paul here plainly teaches us that true faith in his own nature is effectual, lively, full of vigour and spirits (<u>1 Thessalonians 1:3</u>)

Effective means producing or capable of producing an intended result or having a striking effect. Communicating your faith will produce results as your acknowledge God's blessings in you.

Get into the word for yourself, locate all of God's blessings stated and acknowledge them.

Confess: "My faith has become effectual because I acknowledge every good thing which is in me it is Christ Jesus."



STIR UP YOURSELF 3

I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers, Hearing of thy love and faith, which thou hast toward the Lord Jesus, and toward all saints; That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus. For we have great joy and consolation in thy love, because the bowels of the saints are refreshed by thee, brother Philemon 1:4-6

Talking yourself down will make your faith defective and ineffective. Instead, look and see the perfections of Christ in you.

Never acknowledge your seeming inabilities, disabilities, or frustrations; rather, affirm the Word and the good things in you. There are good things in you. Look into the Word to find out for yourself.

For example, Galatians 5:22 enumerates some of the good things in you: love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, and faith.

It's not to be desired what happens to those who don't acknowledge who they are and what they have in Christ Jesus; they walk on in the darkness, living like ordinary men even though God has declared them to be gods (Psalm 82:5-7). You're divine and Christ lives in you.

The Bible says greater is He that's in you, than he that's in the world. You've got the life of God in you. The righteousness of God is in your spirit. You're an associate of the God-kind. You're sufficient in Christ's sufficiency. Hallelujah

The excellence of the Spirit is in you. Acknowledge and affirm these and other blessings of Christ that are in you, always.

Confession: I acknowledge that I am loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, gentle, good and meek.

To Do: Spend some time to acknowledge and declare the beautiful things the Lord has put in you today.



HIS MOST VALUABLE ASSETS

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith." Galatians 6:10

People are God's most valuable assets on earth. Not the breathtaking natural wonders of the fancy cars, airplanes, and architectural masterpieces we have around.

The Bible says, God so loved the world, not the world of things, but the world of people, that He gave His only begotten Son to die for us and show us our value (John 3:16). You're valuable to God; that's why He doesn't want you sick or poor. He wants you well, happy, and prosperous, that's His will. Jeremiah 29:11.

God expects you to value others the same way He values you. Your love towards others matters to God. Don't despise people. Understand that no matter how famous or successful you may be, having value and true regard for people is what counts much with God.

Your status is nothing to God if you haven't learned to walk in love and value people for who they are (1 Corinthians 13:1-3). He's only impressed by the compassion we have and show to the people around us.

"By this all will know that you are My disciples if you have love for one another" (John 13:35).



THE BUILDING

And I say also unto thee...I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH; AND THE GATES OF HELL SHALL NOT PREVAIL AGAINST IT" Matthew 16:18

These words are from the very lips of the Jesus; He's personally responsible for building His Church. The act of building mentioned is a continuous work of Jesus. After the departure of Jesus, the Holy Spirit who is with us, and in us, continued His ministry here in the earth. So, He builds His Church through the ministry or instrumentality of God's Word.

The Word of God is everything; that's what gave birth to you, and therefore it's what will sustain you. 1 Peter 1:23 says, "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever."

James tells us the same thing: "Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures" (James 1:18). The Word is your life, therefore you must yield yourself to the Word to build and nourish you. Study the Word voraciously. Meditate on the scriptures. That way, you're submitting yourself to the Lordship of the Word.



LOVE FOR MONEY

For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." 1 Timothy 6:10

It is no news that we are in a world where men do terrible things for money. Some will go the extra mile negatively and do all it takes to become wealthy.

It is not a wrong thing to desire prosperity, but it becomes wrong when we are desperate for it.

Desperation to achieve something makes people do all they can, even very illegal and dangerous things to achieve their aim.

Lovers of money fall into this category. Another synonym to give "lovers of money" in the text above is "People with insatiable greed for money." Many times, they will make so many compromises in their workplace, cheat so many people, not even caring who is hurt or not, and cause death and harm to others to be rich.

It is important to note that money obtained through these ways cannot satisfy.

This is why it is no surprise that we see many rich, but very unhappy people who live their lives in perpetually fear and unrest. This is always mainly because the money was gotten through the wrong means, or they had placed so much of their fulfillment and validation on making money, so they spent all their time chasing money, and when the money came, they realized it wasn't near as fulfilling.

They live in misery, they do not enjoy the joy of family many times, the joy of being amidst the brethren because they are so busy making money that they have no time for this, and most importantly, they live in perpetual fear because they have no hope of eternal life to hold on to.

One thing we should ask ourselves is, are the benefits of being rich worth all these costly sacrifices and being so desperate about?



LOVE FOR MONEY 2

For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." 1 Timothy 6:10

Money is a means to an end, the end is making things happen on this side of eternity. It is a legal tender to get things done Without having money, a lot of things will simply not work in this world. Scriptures affirm that money answers a lot of things. If the gospel will be effectively preached, we need finances. Apostle Paul in the last chapter of Romans dedicated time to appreciate those who provided financial support to his ministry. This goes to say that having money is very important. God will for us to be prosperous.

But, as believers, we do not have to sacrifice one for the other.

We can be rich, but not at the expense of our relationship with God. Not by engaging in activities that negate our faith, and not at the expense of things that matter to us. Things like the body of Christ, and family.

We can have it all - Faith, prosperity, and a peace that passeth all understanding. God wants us to have it all.



LOVE FOR MONEY 3

For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." 1 Timothy 6:10

There are 2 extremes that have been noticed amongst believers today on the issue of money. The first, are people who are very lazy to work and believe that God should provide their needs. That we have Christ and believe in miracles is not an excuse to be lazy or not to work for moneythat is not accurate teaching. An idle hand remains the devil's workshop. The difference between believers and money lovers is not that we don't try to make money too, it is that we are not desperate about money and do not place our fulfilment and validation on our net worth. This doesn't in any way mean we would be lazy.

Money always comes in exchange for value and if we are not valuable in one skill or the other, expecting God to automatically provide is unserious.

The second category are people who think money is so evil that they prefer to live in abject poverty.

Money is a means of making this happen in this side of eternity. We need it even for the gospel-. Poverty helps no one. In fact, it is easier to be frustrated and depressed when there is no money.

Poverty makes one helpless in so many areas and it is not God's will for us to be poor.

The middle of the road and the balance in this is that, it is God's will for us to prosper, but not at His expense or the expense of things that truly matter and His aim is for us to use our prosperity to better the body of Christ before anything else. And that should be ours too.



CHOOSE FILE

I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live." Deuteronomy 30:19

Every choice we make places a door in front of us that opens an unfolding pathway.

The choices we make that are righteous, good, pure, and of God unfold for us a path of life. This path brings to us God's blessing, anointing, His will, and His purpose. Finding God's purpose and will in our life becomes a progressive unfolding of events, as we make choices that are pleasing to Him.

The choices we make that are wrong, disobedient to God, or against the inner voice of the Holy Spirit will bring the death process. Those choices release the demonic emissaries—spirits of darkness to work his havoc. They bring pain, devastation, suffering, and hurtful, lasting consequences.

We have the power to decide which we will have.

There are two paths; life and death.

There are two masters; Christ and Satan.

There are two forces; light and dark.

So where are you today? Are you ready to choose life? If so, the Holy Spirit is ready to empower you to walk in the light and to experience life and that more abundantly (John 10:10).



ALONE

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze." Isaiah 43:2

The rate at which youths go through depression these days is alarming. With questions like "Where is God in my suffering?" "Has He forgotten about me?" "How will I ever get through this?".

God knew there would be times when we would be so enveloped in fear and uncertainty that we would lose sight of His presence. He knew there would be circumstances so difficult we would often question whether He loves us and is with us in our suffering.

But Scripture shows us we are not alone in our circumstances — no matter how difficult they are.

No matter how difficult and no matter how dark the season you find yourself walking through is, God is with you. He promises to meet you in your pain and to help you, saying, "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand" (Isaiah 41:10).

There is no reason to fear; you are not alone. God has been there for every tear and every sorrow (<u>Psalm 56:8</u>), and He will strengthen your heart and help you back to your feet, no matter where He finds you today.

It's not the end of the story, only an intermission, and the best is yet to come.



HEIRS OF PLENTY

And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Galatians 3:29

2 Corinthians 8:9 says, "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich." What does this mean? First, understand that Jesus was never poor spiritually. Therefore, the foregoing scripture is referring to physical, material, and financial blessings. Jesus became poor for your sake, so that you might inherit abundance.

All of God's wealth and resources belong to you because the Bible says, "...if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise" (Galatians 3:29). Romans 8:17 says, "And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ..."

The Lord said in Haggai 2:8: "The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the LORD of hosts." If the silver and gold in the world belong to Him, then they belong to you; believe it, because it's true.

Reject poverty, and choose the joyful, prosperous life in Christ.

Your prosperity is a settled fact. In Christ, you've been brought into the life of superabundance; acknowledge and enjoy your inheritance.

Prayer:

Dear Father, I acknowledge my great inheritance in Christ and the place of greatness and abundance you've brought me into. I walk in righteousness, health, victory and success, because that's my heritage in Christ, in Jesus' Name. Amen.



KEEP THE FAITH

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." James 4:7

This faith we have received through our Lord Jesus Christ is a victorious one, we are "more than conquerors" and the devil knows well enough that he is defeated in the lives of saints of God, as long as they remain in the faith. In the first part of Jn 10:10 "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy..." The actions of this thief, the devil, points to someone not in control, someone jealous of what others have, and in essence, points to his defeat.

Out of spite for something he has no power over, he, the devil, is desperately waiting for a chance to pounce on the believer, as per 1 pet 5:8, and the only way this can happen to a believer is to attack his/her faith. In his defeated state, he has no power over a believer and as such can't lead a 'direct assault' (in a manner of speaking) on the believer. The only thing he can do is to suggest contrary things. It is thus imperative that we be wary of the thoughts or suggestions we allow into our heart/mind.

Declare: I only believe what God has said about me!



SAVED FOR GOOD WORKS

For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;" Titus 2.11-12

From Eph 2:8-9 we understand that we have been saved through God's grace and not our works. But one seemingly underemphasized subject is what it wroughts through us. Eph.2.10 -" For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." makes us understand that we have been saved to show good works, to manifest God's kingdom; righteousness, peace and joy in the holy spirit.

Before salvation, mankind was dominated by darkness and there was no way for humans to sustain good works even if they tried because they were slaves to sin. That's why at some point in the lives of the kings of Israel and Judah they disappointed God. Then came the grace of God that defeated sin. We now can afford to not continue in sin, because it has no power over us. Glory to God!

In a manner of speaking, we have become servants of righteousness and just like when man was a slave to sin and could only show works of the flesh/darkness, we are now to only show forth good works. Matt.5.16 - "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

In essence, we ought to understand that salvation brings forth good works in us and we can't really say we are saved or that we have believed if there are no good works to follow Jas.2.20 - "But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?"

Declare: I will shine as light and show forth good works!



words of Affirmation

The words I have spoken to you brings God's life giving spirit" John 6:63

Words have been known to have a big impact on the life of man, From God saying "Let there be light", to prophetic declarations by the prophets of old, words have been seen to shape things in the realm of the physical. In the Gospel according to John, it is said of Jesus that he is the word of God and was used to create all things, and not one thing was created without him. Emphasis on "created". No wonder Jesus said in Jn 6:63 GNB "The words I have spoken to you bring God's life-giving spirit" and Romans 4:17 says of God that "with a word make something out of nothing.". Words create things.

According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary; to affirm is to say something true confidently. So words of affirmation, are words used to say something true confidently.

Rom 10:10 "...with the mouth confession is made unto salvation", so salvation is done, just as God promised, but we affirm to receive it. This work of salvation begins to live when we declare it. In Rev 12:11 "They overcame by the blood of the lamb and words of their testimony". So confessions are an integral part of a faith life. This principle of affirmation also goes for every other of God's promises to us. We affirm to receive them. We give life to them with our words.

Having received adoption to become God's children and having been sealed by God's spirit, we know then that our words carry life. That we can speak life into situations around us

We can see that there is a connection between words of affirmation and faith —"assurance of things hoped for".

Affirm these words: I am loved by God,

I am saved by his grace through Christ,

I have peace on all sides,

All things work together for my good.



FAITH LIKE A CHILD

Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein." Mark 10:15

If you have ever had to babysit, you will agree that kids though rambunctious can be very trusting and they expect you to have all the right answers as an adult. Questions like "Can I go to pee?" "Can I change the TV station?" "Can I do this? "Can I do that?" "What is this?" "What is that?" even when you aren't interested, is commonplace in situations like that. This might be tiring for the adult, but it goes to show how much they trust your judgment accepting that you are 'higher' and in most cases, they don't try to make sense of what you have said, they just accept it because you the adult have said it. One of the reasons for this is that they believe you have their best interest at heart and won't hurt them. That's why they are easy victims of wicked people.

Declare: I accept the sovereignty of God and I trust Him wholeheartedly.



THE CHRIST KIND OF LOVE

Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins." 1 John 4: 10

I came across a tweet that read "We were never supposed to know this number of people existed let alone their thoughts" concerning social media. In some ways, this is true, because coming across opinions not founded in faith in Christ, over time causes the truth to be substituted for these opinions, especially in the heart of non-growing Christians and unbelievers. I admonish that we as believers should do more to reaffirm the Truth on all platforms and be careful not to expose ourselves to falsehood.

One of such things that have become polarized by this cesspool of opinions is Love. There's a campaign of misconception about what love is. People reduce it to statements like "cutting off people not reciprocating my energy", "if you love me you must do so so and so" etc. Emphasizing what you stand to benefit from and not what you offer.

That isn't what love is, certainly isn't the love God exemplified to us. As per John 3:16 and 1 John 4:10, when we consider God's love as a choice to make a reckless act of endearment to undeserving people, we see the world's definition of love is a long way off what God's love is. In fact, God's kind of love is true love because he defines love. "God is love".

Declare: True love is my nature!



WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH HIS LOVE?

John 13:34–35 - A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another . . . By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples...

... the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost

-Romans 5:5

We have been given the commandment to love. When God commanded us to love one another, He also gave us the love to do it! If you're born again, the love of God has been poured out in your heart.

You don't need to pray for love. You just need to develop what you already have. If you will feed the love in your heart on the Word and exercise it, love will grow.

How do you "exercise love?" By love!

1 JOHN 3:14-15

14 We know that we have passed from death unto life because we love the brethren....

15 Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

If you are saved, the love of God is in your heart. God has given you His love so that you can love others as He's loved you. What are you doing with His love?

Confession: The love of God has been shed abroad in my heart by the Holy Ghost. I shall endeavor to let that love of nature dominate me. I have God's love nature in my heart — in my spirit.



THE LORD: MY LIGHT AND SALVATION

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" Psalm 27:1

It's said that when we have a problem, we can choose to have either fear or walk in faith through it.

Fear's work is usually to put the focus on our situation, and what we can do to affect the outcome. But Faith sets our mind on God's authority, His control of our lives, and acknowledges His goodness.

David clearly stated the path he chose to follow. His trust in the Lord is evident from the opening declaration in verse 1, and carries all the way through to a calm direction in the final phrase, "...be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord."

Psalm 27: 1 gave hints at three ways David prevented fear from taking root: submitting to God's leadership, trusting in God's promises, and declaring God's power.

The result was an unwavering confidence, no matter what was happening in his life. If we choose to follow David's example, we too will become bolder and more hopeful people.

Confession: I do not have a spirit of fear, but of power and love and a sound mind. No weapon formed against me can stand and every tongue rising against me in judgment is condemned. When I am afraid, I trust in God and praise Him for what He has promised. I trust in Him so why should I be afraid? He has given me peace, so my heart is not troubled nor am I afraid. He is on my side, so I do not fear.



FORCIVENESS AMONGST BRETHREN

Then Peter came to him and asked, 'Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?' 'No, not seven times,' Jesus replied, 'but seventy times seven!' " Matthew 18:21–22

Forgiveness is not easy, but it is also not optional for the Christian! When someone hurts you, it can be hard to forgive. Maybe you do once, but suddenly they do something else! Now you have to forgive again, and it hurts.

Jesus understood this. He knew the importance of forgiveness and talked to His disciples about it. Peter asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?" (Matt. 18:21 NLT). He thought that was enough. But the response in verse 22 was: "No, not seven times,' Jesus replied, 'but seventy times seven!'''

Jesus continued with a parable of a king who loaned millions of dollars to his servant. When the servant couldn't repay, he, his family, and everything he owned was sold to pay the debt. He begged his master for patience, promising to pay it all. The king had pity, released him, and forgave the debt.

Immediately, the forgiven man went to a fellow servant who owed him far less and demanded payment. Like him, the other servant pleaded for patience, but he wouldn't wait. He had the man arrested. When the news reached the king, he called the servant in and said, "Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?" (Matt. 18:33 NLT). The king sent the man to prison until he paid the entire debt.

Jesus was blunt when He said, "That's what my heavenly Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive your brothers and sisters from your heart" (Matt. 18:35 NLT).

Forgiveness is important!

Make that call today, visit and reconcile.



THE POWER OF CHOICE

I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live." Deuteronomy 30:19

Every choice we make places a door in front of us that opens an unfolding pathway.

The choices we make that are righteous, good, pure, and of God unfold for us a path of life. This path brings to us God's blessing, anointing, His will, and His purpose. Finding God's purpose and will in our life becomes a progressive unfolding of events, as we make choices that are pleasing to Him.

The choices we make that are wrong, disobedient to God, or against the inner voice of the Holy Spirit will bring the death process. Those choices release the demonic emissaries—spirits of darkness to work his havoc. They bring pain, devastation, suffering, and hurtful, lasting consequences.

We have the power to decide which we will have.

There are two paths; life and death.

There are two masters; Christ and Satan.

There are two forces; light and dark.

So where are you today? Are you ready to choose life? If so, the Holy Spirit is ready to empower you to walk in the light and to experience life and that more abundantly (John 10:10).



NOT ALONE

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze." Isaiah 43:2

The rate at which youths go through depression these days is so alarming. With questions like "Where is God in my suffering?" "Has He forgotten about me?" "How will I ever get through this?".

God knew there would be times when we would be so enveloped in fear and uncertainty that we would lose sight of His presence. He knew there would be circumstances so difficult we would often question whether He really loves us and is with us in our suffering.

But Scripture shows us we are not alone in our circumstances - no matter how difficult they are.

No matter how difficult and no matter how dark the season you find yourself walking through is, God is with you. He promises to meet you in your pain and to help you, saying, "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand" (<u>Isaiah 41:10</u>).

There is no reason to fear; you are not alone. God has been there for every tear and every sorrow (<u>Psalm 56:8</u>), and He will strengthen your heart and help you back to your feet, no matter where He finds you today.

It's not the end of the story, only an intermission, and the best is yet to come.



THE FATHER'S PRESENCE

For in him we live and move and have our being.'As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring." Acts 17:28

The Bible speaks so often about the Presence of God. It reveals that it has always been God's desire that we be defined from the standpoint of His Presence. Sweet Jesus.

God's Presence is where we discover our identity. It is a place where perspectives are made clear, and dreams and ideas are birthed. It's also a place of security and protection.

We do not need to necessarily go somewhere special to experience His Presence. We are called to worship Him and live guided by His Spirit within us. Enjoy today as a son in his Father's presence.



BLUE FLAMES

For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands." 2 Timothy 1:6

A blue flame signifies complete combustion. Not to bore you with science jargons, but complete combustion leads to maximum energy output i.e. flames are hottest when they are blue. For this to happen, there has to be an ideal condition; right materials etc. But it's safe to describe blue flames with efficiency.

Many times in scriptures the presence of the spirit of God is symbolized with a flame of fire; Moses' burning bush story, the day of Pentecost. etc.

After receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit, it takes a conscious effort (right materials) for the spirit to 'flow' at the optimal level—complete combustion with maximum heat; to do everything God wants you to do through His entanglement. This isn't a question of the capabilities of the Spirit, as 2 Tim 1:7 points out that there's no doubt about it, but about how much the believer allows it to be manifested through him/her.

Declare: I efficiently utilize all that God has given me, to do all He wants me to do



THE MAKING PROCESS

But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work." 2 Timothy 2:20-21

Have you ever witnessed a pot-forming process by a potter? The clay passes through a series of stages and the potter can mould it into clay pots of different sizes and different shapes. The potter must make the clay into whatever suits him, as long as the clay remains in the hands of the Potter.

We are like clay in God's hand and are in the process of being made into His intention for our lives to conform to our purpose in him. Our processes differ and that's why our challenges and successes differ, So our responsibility is to make ourselves available to God to take us through the 'Making process."

There is a process we all must go through. This process has been designed by God to suit us individually. It is not intended for our destruction but to make us who God wants us to be, equipped for destiny and fit for the master's use. God is shaping us into what He created us for.



Do YouR BEST

And say to Archippus, Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it." Colossians 4 :17

At times, when some people hear the word "Ministry," what comes to their mind is those who are pastors, teachers, apostles, evangelists, or prophets (Those called into the fivefold ministry) and they don't believe they have been called into ministry too. Although we have those called into special offices like the one I mentioned earlier, every believer has a ministry, every believer has been called.

We have been called out of darkness into His marvelous light. We have been called to the ministry of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

5:18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

What an awesome privilege we have, so we must be committed and faithful to the glorious gospel that has been entrusted to us.



HAVE FAITH

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed." James 1:6-7

God is a good and giving God. He gives to all men without taking into consideration their sins, limitations, shortcomings, weaknesses, and any other thing you can think that makes man not to give. God gives to all men, and He gives liberally, richly, and to the fullest. Giving is part of God's nature, and it is not our prayer, tears, or emotional act when in the place of prayer that makes him a giver, rather we pray and ask because we know He gives to all. Our mindset in the place of prayer should be that we receive from God.

From the second verse you will notice a but there which says "But let him ask in faith." So, a man who must receive from God must ask in faith, without being in doubt, indecisive, uncertain, and unsteady because such a man can not receive anything from God.

Mark 11:22 - "And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God."

11:23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

11:24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

This was Jesus' reply to his disciples when they passed and saw that the fig tree of yesterday dried up from the root. Peter was amazed and he called his attention to it. You can read the previous verse before this to know what happened. Jesus' reply was for them to have faith in God and whenever they pray, or ask, they should believe that they have received and they shall have them. It is believing before receiving and not the reverse.

Our faith is based on our belief system and convictions. We must believe what God says and give the word of God the first place in our hearts.



BEHOLDING

But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the LORD." 2 Corinthians 3:18

Psychologists do say that when you stand In front of a mirror daily and you keep saying positive words to yourself, sooner or later you become the reflection of what you say. In other words, you are a product of the words that come as a result of your thoughts, mindset, and things you see and spend more time with. Our words form our belief system.

So we must structure, build, and form our words in line with the scripture. It is God's written word that helps us. The Bible is the wisest perspective in all matters. It contains God's will for us. Man has limitations, so we were created to find safety and be perfect in Christ and it takes a process of continuous looking into the word of God for us to be that perfect man. We need to constantly look into the law of liberty. The process of transformation does not just happen immediately, we must renew our minds daily with the word of God. We are to live here on Earth like Christ and reflect the glory of the Father. The word of God is so capable of changing us, let us feed our minds with the word.



SONSHID

But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons." Galatians 4:4-5

Under the law, people lived like slaves. They were being told what to do always and they had no freedom to choose by themselves. When we were under the law and outside of Christ, we were in bondage under the element of the world, without having any spiritual right.

When the time was right, however, God sent His son to the world. First, He came to the world to redeem those who were under the law. He delivered us completely from the law. Faith in Christ gives us deliverance.

Secondly, Christ gave us the position of sonship with all its privileges. We were not only redeemed from the bondage of the law but were brought into sonship. We must not stop after realizing what we have been delivered, but move into the full benefits of our inheritance in Christ.



WORD CONSCIOUSNESS

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." Isaiah 26:3

The world is full of so much news, incidents, and information that can constantly distract us, anger us, and make us lose our spiritual sensitivity.

This is why it is expedient that we surround ourselves with the right information and the right information can only be gotten from God's word. We must give ourselves wholly to the study of the word. Meditate on the word and let it dwell in you richly.

The Psalmist said in one of his psalms "Thy word oh God have I hidden in my heart so I will not sin against you." This is one way to overcome sin, bad habits, and things that are not pleasing. It is simply by staying in the word until the word finds full expression in us.

You might have excuses like you don't have enough time, you have a busy schedule and are occupied with so many activities, and so on, but, you do have time! When preparing for work, walking on the street, or the bus, you can still feed your mind with the word. This is one way you can renew your mind and keep your faith growing.

You can read the Bible on your device, get a book to read either the hardcopy or softcopy and listen to Audio messages. Don't stop listening to the word!

You can get our audio messages from our Lead Pastor, Daniel Folarin on http://great haven.org and you will surely be blessed.



REMAIN FAITHFUL

I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved. And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry." Habakkuk.2:1-3

If you are discouraged, tired, and are thinking of giving up on the vision or future the Lord has shown to you in the past, here is a word for you today from the scripture written above. He is asking you to remain faithful wherever you are and in whatever you find yourself doing. Your waiting is not in vain, it is a preparation for the glorious destiny ahead of you.

God has great things in store for you. His thoughts for you are of good and not of evil. You have an expected end in Christ. The desires of the righteous are granted. He is mindful of you and concerned about every aspect or area of your life. Hold on to the word of God for your life above your feelings, above the norms, above the environment, above contrary evidence, because He will accomplish every of His word and none shall return to Him void, without fulfilling or accomplishing that purpose of God.

Wait for it, it will come at the right time and best season and it won't be delayed. Remain faithful in the little God has entrusted to your hands.



LABOUR INTO REST

Hebrews 4:11 - "Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief."

"Labour to rest" sounds almost like an oxymoron. Matt 11:28 says "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest". Labour means to work, to strive diligently. Rest on the other hand means to be at ease, in peace, in a state of tranquillity, and Cessation from work. The physical world is full of labour in the sense that you have to work before you earn something for example food, money, promotion etc. The spiritual is also like that BUT the labour in the spiritual is different. There is a God kind of Labour. There's a kind of rest that is found in Jesus Christ alone. He said "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavily laden, and I will give you REST. Everyone who believes in Jesus has come to a place of Rest. Heb 4:11 says "Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of UNBELIEF. This place makes us understand that Rest and belief can't be separated. You can't rest without "believing".

The word "Into" makes us under that rest in the place, it's a state. And the place is in Christ. That means "In Christ" is "in Rest". In Christ is a place of Rest. When I say I'm in Christ it also means I'm in Rest.



LABOUR INTO REST 2

Hebrews 4:11 - "Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

You get into Christ by believing in the Gospel of Jesus. By believing in the finished work of Christ. You may ask, what exactly are we resting from? Rest from works!

Which works? Works of the "Law" the do's and don't's How do You Labour? You labour by believing. When you believe you are labouring. THE LABOUR IS TO BELIEVE.

Believe in what?

Believe in the finished work of Christ. Believe in who you are in Him. Believe in His word. Jesus has done the work. He finished it all. He died and was resurrected on the third day. It's a place where everything is done and all you have to do is BELIEVE.



LABOUR INTO REST 3

Hebrews 4:11 - "Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

Sometimes we feel like we have to do something for God to bless us or heal us. Yes! What we have to do is believe that he has blessed and healed us. Every child of God is blessed because of Jesus. The more you believe the more you walk in the reality of it.

In Christ is Rest, Peace, wholeness, completeness, perfection, health, and prosperity. Labour by believing.

How do you exercise your belief? By confessing God's word, thanking God for it, meditating, Praying.

Labour to walk in all that God has destined for you. Labour to walk in health. Labour to walk in righteousness.

Go for all of it and you will walk in its reality.



wisdom

Ephesians 1:8 - "Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence;

When it comes to the subject of Wisdom, one of the personalities that comes to mind is King Solomon. King Solomon was the wisest king. And this isn't just hype, he was indeed wise, Royalties came to listen to him.

What was the secret? Let's read.

2 Chronicles 1:7-10; 7. In that night did God appear unto Solomon, and said unto him, Ask what I shall give thee. 8. And Solomon said unto God, Thou hast shewed great mercy unto David my father, and hast made me to reign in his stead. 9. Now, O Lord God, let thy promise unto David my father be established: for thou hast made me king over a people like the dust of the earth in multitude. 10. Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge this thy people, that is so great?

After offering a thousand sacrifices to God, God asked him what he wanted and He said wisdom and knowledge. Solomon could have asked for money, influence, power, and the like but he asked for wisdom. He was young but knew he had a big shoe fill as King David's successor. Now, if you were in King Solomon's shoes what would you have asked for?



wisdom 2

Ephesians 1:8 - Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence;" Today, I want us to look at what it really means to have "Wisdom.

There's another account in 1 Kings 3:9 and I would like us to check it out.

Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who can judge this thy so great a people?

This account used "Understanding heart" in place of wisdom in 2 Chronicles 1:10

This means that Wisdom means to have an understanding heart. The word understanding here in Hebrew is "Shama." Shama means to hear intelligently.

King Solomon asked God for a hearing heart, a heart that hears. A heart that hears from the leading of God's Spirit, that flows from the leading of God's Spirit. This request of King Solomon pleased God. If it pleased God then, it will please Him now and always. When you ask God for wisdom, it shows that you rely on His Grace. It shows that you depend on His leading.

Whether you like it or not, there's always a way to respond to certain people and situations. It is only a heart that flows with the leading of God's spirit that will respond the way God wants him to.

1 Cor 1:30 says But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

This means that one of our inheritances in Jesus Christ is wisdom. Every believer has Wisdom as a birthright. It's our birthright as children of God to have a hearing heart.

Do you know why I will ask God for wisdom every day??? Because I have it.



JESUS KIND OF COMPASSION

Luke 7:13 - And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not.

Compassion is a feeling of deep sympathy and sorrow for another who is stricken by misfortune, accompanied by a strong desire to alleviate the suffering.

There can't be sympathy if there's no love. There's no compassion without love. For you to be a Compassionate person, you must be someone who is loving. The Bible says that God is love. If God is love, then this also applies to Jesus. Jesus said, " I and my Father are one." And no wonder, Jesus is a Compassionate person. During the earthly ministry of Jesus, It was recorded that He had compassion, He was full of it. He could relate to people's challenges.

Let's check the scripture:

And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick. Matthew 14:14

And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not. Luke 7:13 From the scriptures, we can say that all the miracles He did were out of love and compassion.

In Luke 7:13-15 He met the woman, He found out that she was a widow and now she lost her only son.

He could relate to the pain and agony of the woman. He knew what it felt like to feel lonely and helpless. The first thing He said to her was "Weep not," Then He went ahead to raise the man.



JESUS KIND OF COMPASSION 2

Luke 7:13 - And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not.

Notice Jesus didn't say anything insensitive, He didn't say "You must have done something to deserve this punishment," or "There are generational curses following you." All He did was sympathize with her and raise the dead child.

No condemnation whatsoever. No "holier than thou" speech. No insensitive speech.

Every believer should emulate this, be a Compassionate person, and don't be insensitive when someone around you has a downtime.

If someone around you is hungry and he or she doesn't have money to get food, help find a solution. If you have money or food to spare, give or connect the person to someone who can help.

Someone died around, that is not the time to crack stupid jokes. If you feel like laughing then leave the vicinity. That is not the time to say "Was he a believer? if he was a believer then he's going to heaven." You should have preached to him before he died.

Every believer is love. You're a love being. You're compassionate.

As Jesus is so are you, so let compassion drive you to do good works just like Jesus.

And also in your downtime, turn to Jesus. He can relate with how you feel and He will perform a miracle.



THE FEAR OF MEN

The fear of man brings a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe. Proverbs 29:25

The fear of man is one snare that every Christian will have to face and conquer at some point in life.

As long as you care more about other people's expectations and what they think about you than what God's Word says about you, you will not be free to fulfill God's call on your life. So, how can you determine if you are ensnared by the fear of man? Let me ask you a few questions: Do you get depressed when you perceive people are thinking negatively about you?

Do you feel insecure if your Christian peers think you are carnal or that you've missed God? Do you spend hours thinking about how to set the record straight? Do you always seek to justify your decisions or actions?

This type of thinking is indicative of a spirit of fear—specifically the fear of man—operating in your life. The fear of man is a form of mental bondage that serves as a snare. It will entrap you with worry and will rob you of the inner peace that is yours in Christ.



THE FEAR OF MEN 2

The fear of man brings a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe. Proverbs 29:25

Jesus said, "How can you believe, who receive honor from one another and do not seek the honor that comes from the only God?" (John 5:44 NKJV). In other words, receiving honor from man prevents you from seeking what comes only from God.

Instead of caring what others may think of you, cast the care of your situation onto God and then trust Him to sort things out His way. Trusting God will free you from the snare of the fear of man. When you cast off your care and trust God to look after your reputation, insecurity will be a thing of the past. You will no longer need to look to people's opinion of you for security (after all, their opinions are subject to change).

Who you are in Christ is unchangeable. So release yourself from the snare of the fear of man and put your trust completely in God. When you do, you will enjoy a life of freedom, secure in the knowledge of who you are in Christ.

Confession: I refuse to allow other people's opinions of my ideas, decisions, and actions to ensnare me and steal my peace. I cast my care on God, knowing that He cares for me and will sort out everything to my benefit. My security is based solely on God's Word and who He says I am in Christ.



CHOOSE JOY

For the joy of the Lord is your strength. Nehemiah 8:10

In common vernacular, the word joy means "delight, happiness and pleasure." However, from a biblical standpoint, joy is a powerful force that resides in your spirit once you've made Jesus the Lord of your life.

Just because you may walk around all day with a frown on your face doesn't mean joy is not in your spirit. It just means you've suppressed it—you haven't tapped into it. And if you haven't tapped into joy, then you are not experiencing the strength of the Lord.

Appropriating the joy of the Lord is a matter of choice, and act of your will. You can get up in the morning and will to be happy, or you can will to be unhappy. Either way, the choice is yours. To walk in the joy of the Lord, you must choose to reach down into your spirit and tap into the joy that resides there.



CHOOSE JOY 2

For the joy of the Lord is your strength. Nehemiah 8:10

Of course, the devil will do everything he can to prevent you from connecting to the force of joy, but he can't succeed unless you let him. He will attempt to deceive you into thinking there is no joy within you. And if he can get you to choose not to tap into it, you will be a weak and easy target for the devil to overcome.

Regardless of the frustrations and challenges you may be facing at this moment, the joy of the Lord resides within you. Choose today to tap into the force of joy, and then take a step of faith and choose to rejoice. When you do, you will experience renewed strength.

Confession: I will not be deceived into letting go of my joy. The joy of the Lord is my strength, and I choose to tap into the force of joy today. Regardless of my circumstances or how I feel, I choose to rejoice in the Lord.



DECIDE TO WIN

If the ax is dull, and one does not sharpen the edge, then he must use more strength; but wisdom brings success. Ecclesiastes 10:10

The Spirit of God once said to me, "Son, if you are not willing to make a decision to win, then you are not going to win." Success begins with a decision.

The decision to succeed will produce an unwavering commitment to do what it takes to discover the spiritual laws relevant to your challenge (get wisdom), and to diligently apply these laws throughout your journey to complete victory.

Nothing just happens or changes on its own. Getting wisdom from the Word of God is the first step toward victory. Declaring the Word is what brings about change.

God wants you to be successful even more than you want to be successful, but if you don't believe and act according to His Word, there is nothing He can do about it. However, when you do your part, God will always do His part.

Confession: Today I make the decision to win. I make an unwavering commitment to do what it takes to get the wisdom of God for my situation, and then to apply it and declare it until victory is achieved.



GREAT FUTURE

I would have lost heart, unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart. Psalm 27:13-14

No matter how you may feel or what your emotions may tell you during difficult times, God has a great future for you. Not only does He have a great future for you, He's also got a plan to get you there.

Through the prophet Jeremiah God said, "For I know the plans I have for you ... plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11 NIV). Your part in the process is to believe.

Believing that you will see the manifestation of God's goodness is essential to your staying strong in faith and walking into the bright future He has planned for you.



CREAT FUTURE 2

I would have lost heart unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart. Psalm 27:13-14

What you believe determines how strong or how faint you will become. If you allow discouragement and hopelessness to take hold, you will grow weak and faint. But believing in the goodness of God will increase your strength.

Don't allow negative situations and emotions to alter what you believe, to consume your vision. If you believe your situation is hopeless, you will forget the goodness of God and plunge right into the pit of despair.

But if you *believe* in seeing His goodness, He will strengthen your heart as you walk in the fullness of His plan and purpose for your life.

Confession: I believe that I am going to see the goodness of God manifest in my life. I put my hope in Him and my trust in His love and faithfulness to me. Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life.



WATCH OUT FOR PRIDE

And Jesus, answering them, began to say "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am He,' and will deceive many Mark 13:5-6.

The devil knows you have authority over him; therefore, he has no real power to harm or destroy you. That's why he must rely so heavily on deception; it's the only tool he can use against you. If he can deceive you, then you will likely bring destruction upon yourself.

That's what he did in the garden, when he deceived the woman by getting her to doubt what God had said: "Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of the very tree of the garden'?" (Genesis 3:1 NKJV).

Pride is a tool the enemy uses to open the door to deception. That's why the Bible says, "Your fierceness has deceived you, the pride of your heart" (Jeremiah 49:16 NKJV), and "The pride of your heart has deceived you" (Obadiah 1:3 NKJV).

It is your responsibility to watch for pride, and to make sure you are not deceived. You do this by choosing to walk in humility—it's the only thing that will protect you from deception. Humility can be described as simply choosing to agree with what God's Word says about everything, whereas pride is the act of exalting your opinion or feelings above what God's Word says is true.



WATCH OUT FOR PRIDE 2

And Jesus, answering them, began to say "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am He,' and will deceive many Mark 13:5-6.

How do we choose to walk in humility? By doing what the Bible says: "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty and of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you" (1 Peter 5:5-7). As you cast down your thoughts, reasoning, and worries, and instead take up the Word of God, you will see with fresh vision what God has to say about each area of your life.

So humble yourself, agree with God, and receive the "deception protection" that He has already provided for you in His Word.

Confession: I choose today to turn away from all pride and any exaltation of my ideas and feelings above the Word of God. I choose instead to walk in humility, agreeing with what the Word of God says about every aspect of my life as I receive God's protection from the enemy's deception.



STAYED ON HIM

You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. Isaiah 26:3.

You will notice that God has given us a promise, but we must meet His condition. The promise is: He will keep you in perfect peace. The condition is, if your mind is stayed on Him. The mind plays a vital part in you walking in perfect peace no matter your circumstances.

I'm not talking about mind power. I am talking about the power of God's Word working in a faithfilled heart and a renewed mind.

As you renew your mind to God's Word and fill your heart with faith, you will begin to approach every situation in your life without worry or fear.

"And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well" (Luke 12:29 & 31, NIV).

Your mind can not be full of negative voices, worry, or fear when you keep your mind on God. It is a choice you have to make, regardless of your feelings. Put God first place in all you do and think and you will walk in perfect peace.

Confession: I will keep my mind on God and be full of His Word. I refuse to allow worry or fear to be a part of my life. I trust You Lord and follow after You above anything else.



LEARN FROM IT

My heart is severely pained within me, and the terrors of death have fallen upon me. So I said, "Oh, that I had wings like a dove! I would fly away and be at rest. Psalm 55:5-6

God doesn't want you to run away from any situation in defeat. Victory is always His plan for you. Running away from problems and troubles is always society's mentality: "Oh, if I could just leave this place. If I could just get in the car and go." Looking for the easy way out of trouble and misery doesn't work. Running from the problem that causes those feelings won't do any good. If you avoid dealing with the issue now, it will be even more difficult to stand and face it later.

People often quit their jobs because of someone they work with, only to end up working with someone worse at their next place of employment. God wants you to learn to face your problems and overcome them by applying His Word. He wants you to learn to work with unpleasant co-workers by overcoming evil with good. When they blame you for something you didn't do, bless them and help them.

Being a doer of the Word isn't always easy, but it always works.



LEARN FROM IT 2

My heart is severely pained within me, and the terrors of death have fallen upon me. So I said, "Oh, that I had wings like a dove! I would fly away and be at rest. Psalm 55:5-6

David wanted to fly away and be at rest, but changed his speech and declared a few lines later "As for me, I will call upon God, and the LORD shall save me" (Psalm 55:16 NKJV).

God doesn't want you to leave any situation in defeat. If it is God's time to move you on, He won't use negative circumstances to lead you. Instead of running from the problem, overcome it. And then move on.

Confession: I choose to face the problems before me today. I will apply the Word of God to them, and I will overcome them. I will call upon God, and the Lord shall save me.



REFUSE FEAR

1 Joh 4:18 - There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear...

Fear is a spiritual force. It is one of Satan's greatest tools to get an open door into your life. It could manifest through the fear of not being good enough, the fear of lack, the fear of rejection, and the fear of failure.

Satan will try to intimidate you through words, actions, or external signs. But none of those things can become a reality or come into manifestation until you act upon them.

Negative or fearful thoughts may come into your mind, but you can refuse to meditate on them and choose to immediately reject them. Circumstances may appear discouraging, but you can refuse to let go of your confidence and faith in what you know about God and His Word.

If you respond in fear and act on intimidation, those fears can become a reality in your life. Fear will bring things to pass just as faith will.



REFUSE FEAR 2

1 Joh 4:18 - There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear...

The devil can not do anything that he wants to do anytime that he gets ready to do it. If he could, why would he have to deceive you first? Satan is limited when he can't get you to act on his threats through fear.

We know from 1 John 4:8 that God is love. Run to God, spend time with Him, act on His Word and fear will have no place in you.

Take courageous steps of faith and you will see God move in your life in amazing ways!

Confession: I refuse to fear! Regardless of how I feel or what my circumstances look like, I will stand in faith in God's Word.



TRIALS AND TEMPTATIONS?

Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

If you have been under the pressure of a trial, it is important that you do not blame the trial on God. God is not the author of trials or heaviness of spirit. Jesus came to bring you abundant life—it is Satan who is out to kill, to steal, and to destroy (John 10:10).

James 1:13 tells us that temptations, tests, and trials are brought on by Satan, not God. Satan is the tempter; he is the one who brings condemnation to you. He is the one who brings the heaviness, not God.

God wants you to know that, because Jesus was your substitute, you can endure anything Satan brings against you. If you follow the instructions in His Word, you will come out on the other side of that trial like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego did: untouched, unharmed, and protected. That is when you bring glory to God – when you are a winner.



TRIALS AND TEMPTATIONS? 2

Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

God is not glorified when His children are beaten down, beggarly, and suffering.

Even though Satan will bring situations to you and try to steal the Word of God out of your heart, you can bring glory to God when you take His Word and resist the devil until he flees (James 4:7).

You are a testimony that God's Word works. You are more than a conqueror through Him. You bring glory to God because you approach every situation knowing that Jesus was your substitute and that He has already given you the victory.

Confession: Thank you Jesus for abundant life! I refuse to blame God for the trials in my life. I will stand on His Word and see the victory in every area of life!



WILLING AND OBEDIENT?

If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land Isaiah 1:19.

If you are a doer of the Word then you are willing to act. In other words, you are prepared to do the Word. The Bible says that a doer of the Word will be blessed in all he does (James 1:25). He will eat of the good of the land.

If you've ever flown on a major airline, you've most likely read one of the magazines they have placed in the seats for the passengers.

I read an article once in one of these airline magazines that said something like this: "You've got to be willing to be successful." Then it said, "The man that only does what he is paid to do, is only paid for what he does." In other words, if all you do is what you are paid to do, and you are not "willing" to do more, then all you will ever get paid for is what you do. That is exactly what Isaiah said: "If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land."



WILLING AND OBEDIENT 2

If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land Isaiah 1:19.

Many Christians want to do just enough to get by; they don't like responsibility. I have noticed that those who carry the greatest loads are also the ones who seem to be the most blessed. Why? The reason is because they are willing. Many people want to be successful, but they are not willing to do what is necessary to obtain success.

Once Jesus' disciples were arguing with one another about who would have a place of prominence with Him. Jesus answered them, "The chiefest is the one who is the servant to all" (Mark 10:44). When you have a willingness of mind to be a servant to all, then you are going to carry the heaviest loads. The one who carries the heaviest loads is going to reap the greatest rewards. Peter proved that. He became a servant to every man, and God made him a chief apostle.

Confession: I am willing and obedient to do the Word. I'm not looking for shortcuts to success or ways to do the minimum necessary. If I see an opportunity to serve others, I will do it with a cheerful and willing heart.



DILIGENCE

And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. Colossians 3:23-24

Did you know diligence is a key to obtaining the blessings of God? To be diligent means to approach what you are doing with eagerness, earnestness, and care.

Diligence is a matter of the heart, and a diligent heart always produces good: "In the morning sow your seed, and in the evening do not withhold your hand; for you do not know which will prosper, either this or that, or whether both alike will be good" (Ecclesiastes 11:6 NKJV).

Let's look at what God's Word has to say about diligence:

"The hand of the diligent will rule, but the lazy man will be put to forced labor" (Proverbs 12:24 NKJV).

"The soul of a lazy man desires, and has noting; but the soul of the diligent shall be made rich" (Proverbs 13:4 NKJV).

"The plans of the diligent lead surely to plenty, but those of everyone who is hasty, surely to poverty" (Proverbs 21:5).

Diligence is a prerequisite to seeing your victory.

Diligent people always make a steady, consistent effort to accomplish their goals.

Diligent people never give up.

Confession: I decide today to always make a steady, consistent effort to accomplish my Godgiven goals and to never give up. Whatever I do today, I will do it diligently and joyfully as unto the Lord.



BIC FAITH

They made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven. Mark 2:4-5

How determined are you to do what it takes to connect with the life and power of God?

In the book of Mark, we find the story about a group of men who'd heard about the ministry of Jesus, and they believed their paralyzed friend could be healed.

But just knowing Jesus could heal their friend was not enough. They had to be determined to do whatever was necessary to get that paralyzed man into the presence of Jesus.

Jesus saw their faith in their determination to get to Him—even if it meant ripping up someone else's roof. He saw their determination to connect with the source of all life and power.

How determined are you to get into the presence of Jesus? How determined are you to take the time to meditate in the World of God and allow God to speak to you? If you find yourself unable to spend much quality time in the Word, perhaps you have an overcrowded life.

I don't know the need you may facing today, but connecting with the life and the power of God begins with your determination to get into His presence. And when you do, you'll find sufficient grace to meet your every need.

Confession: Father, I thank You for giving me the wisdom I need to adjust my schedule so that I can spend more quality time in Your presence. I am determined to keep You as the highest priority in my life.



DON'T TOLERATE FEAR

The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear? There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear. Psalm 27:1 and John 4:18

There are no circumstances under which you can afford to allow fear into your mind or heart. If given entrance, fear will neutralize your faith and open the door for the devil to work in your life. Interestingly, there is a spiritual correlation between faith and fear:

- Just as faith activates God, so fear also activates Satan
- Faith is the substance of things hoped for; fear is the substance of things dreaded
- Faith is the spiritual force that works for you; fear is the spiritual force that work against you.

Fear is never to be tolerated; it is to be cast out by the perfect love of God. Meditating on the love God has for you is the most effective way to put a stop to fear-filled thoughts. Read what God's Word has to say about His love for you; believe and have faith in His Word. He is your loving heavenly Father. All of His plans and intentions for you are for good and for blessing.



DON'T TOLERATE FEAR 2

The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear? There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear. Psalm 27:1 and John 4:18

Fear of failure is a common tool Satan uses to stop us from fulfilling the call of God in our lives. But know this: a God of love would never ask you to do something without first giving you the ability and resources to succeed. However, the fear of failure will activate the devil and cut you off from the resources that God has for you.

It is up to you to keep your heart free from fear and to draw on the grace and resources that God has given to you by faith. Faith comes when your eyes are open to the truth from the Word of God.

So, find out what the Bible says about God's love and meditate on those verses. As faith rises in your heart, fear will be cast out and the door will be slammed shut on the devil.

Confession: Holy Spirit, I ask You to expose any fear that may reside in my heart. I choose to cast out that fear with the perfect love of God as I meditate on His Word and fill my heart with faith.



CHOOSE TO FORGET

Be gentle and ready to forgive; never hold grudges. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. Colossians 3:13

I'm sure everyone has been wronged at one time or another. Because of this, we all have a decision to make. We can either let that wrong affect us the rest of our lives and cause us to sit down and wallow in pity. Or we can get up, wipe ourselves off, forgive and keep going. That's the choice we have to make, and it is never too late to make the right choice!

You cannot expect any change or real growth in your life until you forgive and let go. Give it all to God. Do not pick up that load of anger, resentment, hurt, shame, guilt or whatever it may be that you have been struggling with.

It's not easy to forgive when you have been treated badly or abused in some way, but it is necessary. We have no choice if we want our Heavenly Father to forgive us of our wrongdoings. You do not have to suffer the rest of your life for past mistakes or for other's past mistakes. Your past does not have to be your future. God is a restorer and He will restore all that you have lost if you will seek Him and believe His Word.

Confession: I choose to forgive. I choose to let go of that person or that situation completely. I forgive by faith and by an act of my will and refuse to be influenced by my feelings. I am free.



RECEIVING WISDOM

If any of you is deficient in wisdom, let him ask of the giving God to everyone liberally and ungrudgingly, without reproaching or faultfinding, and it will be given him. Only it must be in faith that he asks with no wavering ... James 1:5-6

God always has a way to get you out of trouble and into the victory He has planned for you. This victory comes through the wisdom, knowledge, and understanding you need in your situation. So how do you tap into this wealth of wisdom? Wisdom is received from God the same way anything else is received from God: by asking in faith.

First, meditate on the promise found in James 1:5 until you know in your spirit that God is going to give you the wisdom you need. Then, simply ask Him for it and believe from that moment that you have received all the answers and understanding you need for the situation. Even if you still feel confused or uncertain, thank God for giving you the wisdom you asked for.

If the answer you need isn't apparent two seconds after you ask, don't waiver. Rest in the fact that God has answered your request. As you continue to thank Him and read His Word, the answers you need to get you out of that trouble will certainly come.

Confession: Father, I come to you in faith today, asking for the wisdom I need to obtain victory in my situation. I refuse to waiver as I thank you for the wisdom you have promised to so liberally give to me. I receive it now in Jesus' name.



SEE AS HE SEES

Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I? Exodus 3:10-11

One of the major tactics of the enemy is to keep you from finding out who you are in Christ. As long as you think you are something that you're not, the devil can keep you in bondage.

As soon as you get a revelation of who you really are, your days of weakness and defeat will end —and the devil knows it.

When you were born again, God made you a champion, more than a conqueror in Christ. You were completely recreated and you instantly became a new creation, complete with the ability to win in every situation or circumstance.

It doesn't matter what you've done or how insignificant and ineffective you once were; God is the master of making champions out of nobodies. That's what He did with Moses.



LOGOS DEVOTIONAL AUGUST DAY 1

SEE AS HE SEES 2

Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I? Exodus 3:10-11

Moses didn't initially see himself as God saw him, as the deliverer of God's people. Moses angered the Lord when he asked Him to send someone else. Moses' refusal to see himself as God saw him created a big problem. God had to include Aaron in the leadership team, which caused trouble later on.

However, when Moses began to see himself as who God had made him to be, he took his place in God's plan and excelled as a great leader of God's people.

Don't let the enemy's tactics keep you in bondage one more day. You are well able to do everything God has called you to do because He has made you a champion.

Confession: Father, I believe I am who You say I am. I cast down every imagination and every feeling that is contrary to who You say I am in Christ. The enemy's tactics will no longer hold me in bondage because I am a champion.



LOGOS DEVOTIONAL AUGUST DAY 2

MINDFULNESS

So you shall rejoice in every good thing, which the Lord your God has given to you and your house. Deuteronomy 26:11

Good things come to those who are mindful of Jesus and all He accomplished for them on the cross.

God's Word says, "no good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly" (Psalm 84:11 NKJV). When some people hear this, they automatically think, "But I'm not upright, I just committed that same old sin again. That verse doesn't apply to me because I know I'm not upright."

Others think, "I faithfully attend church, tithe, pray for an hour each day, confess the Word of God, and never watch R-rated movies. Compared to others, I am walking uprightly before God." Both of these attitudes are completely wrong. Both focus on the individual and not on Jesus.



COD'S RICHTEOUSNESS

So you shall rejoice in every good thing, which the Lord your God has given to you and your house. Deuteronomy 26:11.

The Bible tells us the just shall live by faith (see Hebrews 10:38). Live by faith in what? Faith in Jesus and all He did for you on the cross; faith in what God says in His Word.

If you've confessed with your mouth the Lord Jesus Christ and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, then according to Romans 10:9, you are now saved and therefore stand upright, holy, and blameless before God.

For this reason, every child of God can stand on the Word and rejoice for every good thing that He has given to them.

Confession: Thank You, Father, for every good thing You have given to me. Because of what Jesus accomplished on the cross, I can walk uprightly before You knowing that You will not withhold any good thing from me.



WE WIN OR WIN

Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place. 2 Corinthians 2:14

Did you know that victory is always yours—that it belongs to you?

The key word in the scripture above is always. The knowledge that God always causes us to triumph gets rid of the "win a few, lose a few" philosophy people are so fond of.

I've had people say, "But, Brother Jerry, I haven't always triumphed." My answer is always the same: "Well, we know that's not God's fault because the Bible says God always leads us in triumph."

What some fail to realize is this: just because the Word says God always leads us to triumph in Christ, it doesn't mean we will never be attacked or have adversity. It is what we do during the attack that determines whether we win or lose.



WE WIN OR WIN 2

Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place. 2 Corinthians 2:14

I made up my mind years ago that I would never accept failure. Since that time, I've experienced setbacks and I've faced many opportunities to fail. But I've learned that the battle is never over until God has an opportunity to turn what seems to be a defeat into a triumph.

No matter what kind of persecution, adversity, or attack you may be under, according to God's Word the victory is already yours. You can get discouraged and choose to give up before it comes, but I am convinced that God already has a victory planned for you. You have the potential to experience triumph in every situation—if you won't give up!

Confession: I believe God will turn every adversity into a victory. I believe God has a victory plan for every negative circumstance I face now, or will ever face. I expect victory in every situation because God has promised me that I can always triumph in Christ.



WALK IN IT NOW

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ. Romans 8:16-17

Because God is your Father, you are an heir of God. You have an inheritance, and the good news is, you don't have to wait until you get to heaven to enjoy the benefits.

Some people believe the Bible teaches that they get their inheritance from God when they die, like some kind of heavenly reward for clean living. But this is not true. As a joint heir with Jesus, you got your inheritance from God when Jesus died.

Jesus is the only person who has ever lived, died, and was then raised from the dead to see to it that His will was carried out—that His joint heirs got their inheritance. As a joint heir with Jesus, you're entitled to healing; it's your inheritance. You're entitled to prosperity; it's your inheritance. You're entitled to victory and success; they are your inheritance.

Don't wait until you get to heaven to enjoy the inheritance God has provided for you through Jesus Christ. It's yours now, so claim it in the name of Jesus!

Confession: Thank You, Father, for making me a joint heir with Jesus Christ. I believe I have received my inheritance today. I receive my healing, my prosperity, my victory, and my success now—in Jesus' name.



IF COD BE FOR US

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Romans 8:31-32

There are a lot of Christians who are not convinced that God is for them. They mistakenly think God is somehow partly to blame for the bad things that happen to them (never mind their poor choices and decisions).

How would you like to be commander-in-chief of an army where half of your troops don't even know who the enemy is? They've got their weapons pointed towards headquarters, blaming you for all of their problems. As ridiculous as this sounds, it's a pretty good description of God's army. I've had people tell me about a particular trial they are facing and then ask, "Why did God let this happen to me?" They don't realize that God is not against them—He is for them!



IF COD BE FOR US 2

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Romans 8:31-32

Jesus made it clear who our enemy is when He said, "Your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8 NKJV) and "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy" (John 10:10 NKJV). He went on in the same verse to say, "I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."

It is the devil who comes to steal from you and to try to destroy you. God is a good God; everything He does is for your good and for your benefit. He will never *ever* cause a harmful situation in your life to prove something to you or to teach you something. You are so loved by God that He is willing to give you freely all things to enjoy. God is on your side!

Confession: Father, I believe You are for me and not against me. I thank You that you are a good God who loves to freely give me all things.



LIVE LIKE A WINNER

Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. Romans 8:37

A conqueror is one who has entered the ring, who has fought and won and has gained the title or trophy. Someone who is described as "more than a conqueror" is one who has been handed the title and trophy without doing a thing.

Jesus is the one who fought the enemy and won, but He gave the title and trophy to you. He has already made you more than a conqueror; you just need to believe it and receive it personally. You may say, "But, Brother Jerry, how can I be more than a conqueror when I feel like such a loser?" The answer is simple: make the decision to no longer see yourself as a loser. Once you've made this decision, stop saying things like "this won't work for me; I can't win because of where I come from; I can't win because of what happened to me in the past."

When you are in Christ, none of these things make a difference. If you've made Jesus your Lord, then the Bible declares that you are more than a conqueror!

When you have this revelation in your heart, you will think, walk, and talk like the winner you are. Defeat will be a thing of the past, all bondage will be broken, and failure will never again be an option because you are more than a conqueror.

Confession: Thank You, Father, that I am more than a conqueror because Jesus loves me. I choose to honor Your Word and think like a conqueror from this day forward. I choose to see every situation through the eyes of a conqueror.



COMFORT

God is with you. You're in Christ with the Godhead. In this case, Oga is not just at the top, He is with us too. So, next time you want to say Oga at the top, say Oga with me. You're not alone in your walk as a Child of God. He journeys with you. This is what the Israelites had a foretaste of when the scripture says "in the wilderness, the pillar of cloud journeyed with them during the day and the pillar of fire during the night." God never leaves us without company. He never leaves you alone, He journeys with you. GOD IS WITH US- EMMANUEL HE IS WITH YOU ALWAYS. It is important to walk in that assurance and authority.



COMFORT DAY 2

There will be times when circumstances will seem dark, Times when you face seemingly impossible obstacles, Times when defeat seems inevitable. When your loved ones forsake you. When things stop working as planned. The devil talking you into believing there's no way out and you're going to end up a miserable failure. You see, in actual sense, hard times, persecutions and tribulations come to make the word you've received work, not to kill it. You see, ships are driven by the fierce wind When issues rise up in your life, They are energies to drive you to where you're going When stuffs happen, you should set the sail! Don't cave in to the pressure! Don't give up! Stand on the Word of God! Set the sail with the Word in your mouth. And rejoice for your victory!



LET LOVE LEAD

Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. 2 Timothy 2:3.

"for He [God] Himself has said, I will not in any way fail you nor give you up nor leave you without support. [I will] not, [I will] not, [I will] not in any degree leave you helpless nor forsake nor let [you] down (relax My hold on you)! [Assuredly not!]" Heb. 13:5b (AMP)

Some have neglected Love, acting as though they did not have it; utterly ignoring its very existence, and yet they want the Father's help in time of need.

Love is God's only solution for mankind.

Love must be enthroned in the heart.

It must govern one's life. As love takes over the kingdom of our spirit, then that wonderful passage in 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 becomes a living reality: "For the love of Christ constraineth us (or better, For the love of Christ has gained control, has taken us over), because we thus judge, that one died for all, therefore all died; and he died for all, that I whom he has made alive, should no longer live unto myself but unto him who for their sakes died and rose again." Paul's friends had challenged him. They said he was beside himself, but the love of Christ had so set him on fire that he was slowly burning up. His very being was saturated with the passion that drove Jesus to the cross. Now you can understand 1 Cor.10:24 "Let no man seek his own, but each his neighbor's good."

No man ever trusted in Love and failed, because Love is God's intrusion into the affairs of men. Love must be first. The believer moves in love. It is the center of his being.



REDEMPTION

For He [God] Himself has said, I will not in any way fail you nor give you up nor leave you without support. [I will] not, [I will] not, [I will] not in any degree leave you helpless nor forsake nor let [you] down (relax My hold on you)! [Assuredly not!] Hebrews. 13:5b

GOD KNEW what He must do to redeem man. He knew the hopelessness of man under Satan's dominion. Ephesians 2:12, "That ye were at that time separate from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel, strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world."

First, the Gentile world was separated from Christ and Christ alone had Eternal Life. They were alienated from the commonwealth of Israel, did not have any share in the Abrahamic Covenant, and were strangers from the covenants of promise. They had no part in the common lot of Israel-"having no hope and without God."

And yet, they were Eternal Beings.

That Scripture ought to make evangelists of every believer.

Satan Was Conquered by Jesus.

Hebrews 9:12, "Not with the blood of goats and of calves

but with His own blood He entered once for all into the Holy Place having obtained Eternal Redemption."

What God has said about our Redemption has meant nothing to the multitudes in the church. To the teachers, it is a theological fact, but it is not vital.

Ephesians 1:7, "In whom we have our Redemption through His blood, the remission of our trespasses according to the riches of His grace."



FEAR NOT

For He has said, "I will never [under any circumstances] desert you [nor give you up nor leave you without support, nor will I in any degree leave you helpless], nor will I forsake or let you down or relax My hold on you [assuredly not]!" Hebrews. 13:5b

Think of the times when you sensed the Lord calling you to do something new, to make a change in your life. Like Peter, you heard the voice of the Master calling you across the water of life to new levels in Him. You heard Him say, Come! You wanted to step out of your little comfort zone and walk on the water...but you didn't.Fear stopped you. You saw the wind and the waves in the circumstances around you and grew timid and shrank back. You didn't reach out and receive.

If this ever happened to you, don't feel condemned. Instead, let the truth of God's Word strengthen your faith. Get into the Word and find out more about the goodness of God. Feed your heart on that goodness until your confidence grows, and you know you can trust Him with every part of your life.

Let the Word of God dwell in you richly, then you will rise in your confident assurance in God. Look to Jesus in the Word. Satan tries to distract us with thinking about our problems. No problem is too big for God. We should cast our concern about the problem over on God and just keep our eyes on Jesus, the Word.

QUESTIONS: Have you every rejected to serve because of fear before? What will be your commitment to God's Word in overcoming that?



GOD KIND OF FONE

Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. 1Timothy. 6:12

Kenneth Hagins says, "The life of God changes conduct, corrects habits, and forms new ones, criminals become law abiding citizens, prostitutes become moral, thieves become honest, drunkards become sober, no case is incurable, it changes a man."

The greatest gift a man can receive is eternal Life- Life has God has it. Every saved man has it, whether young or old, regardless of the skin colour or gender. It does expire nor age. It is the God-kind of Life.

It will change your conduct, produce healthy life, prosperity, and victory at all sides, It's all inclusive.

It's the will of GOD our/your father, that we live a supernatural life. You're from the order of men that do supernatural things naturally, and natural things supernaturally. Therefore, superimpose the supernatural on the natural this week.

Let it flow from inside out. Take advantage of it.



THE PROCESS

2 Timothy 2:20-21 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work."

Have you ever witnessed a pot-forming process by a potter? The clay passes through a series of stages and the potter can mould it into clay pots of different size and different shapes. It is the potter's duty to make the clay into whatever suits him, as long as the clay remains in the hands of the Potter.

We are like clay in God's hand and are in the process of being made into His intention for our lives in order to conform to our purpose in him. Our processes differ and that's why our challenges and successes differ, So our responsibility is to make ourselves available to God to take us through the 'Making process."

There is a process we all must go through. This process has been designed by God to suit us individually. It is not intended for our destruction but to make us who God wants us to be, equipped for destiny and fit for the master's use. God is shaping us into what He created us for.



ONE MANDATE

Colossians 4 :17 And say to Archippus, Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it."

At times, when some people hear the word "Ministry," what comes to their mind is those who are pastors, teachers, apostles, evangelists, prophets (Those called into the five fold ministry) and they don't believe they have been called into ministry too. Although we have those called into special offices like the one I mentioned earlier, every believer has a ministry, every believer has been called.

We have been called out of darkness into His marvelous light. We have been called to the ministry of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

5:18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

The ministry of reconciliation reveals God as the saviour and is the revelation of God's goodness towards all men. God doesn't want men to perish, it is God's will for all men to be saved and come into the knowledge of Christ.

This was why Jesus, in Matthew 16:15, gave his disciples one mandate which was "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." It is our responsibility as believers to preach the gospel till the whole world comes to the knowledge of Christ and they know the only true God.

While Jesus was on Earth, He preached the gospel to all and He has given us the privilege of being partners with Him in changing the world. Think about it, God didn't give the charge of soul winning to the angels, but He gave it to you and me. What an awesome privilege we have, so we must be committed and faithful to the glorious gospel that has been entrusted to us.



COMPASSION LIKE JESUS

Luke 7:13 - "And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not. "

Compassion is a feeling of deep sympathy and sorrow for another who is stricken by misfortune, accompanied by a strong desire to alleviate the suffering.

There can't be sympathy if there's no love. There's no compassion without love. For you to be a Compassionate person, you must be someone who is loving. The Bible says that God is love. If God is love, then this also applies to Jesus. Jesus said " I and my Father are one." And no wonder, Jesus is a Compassionate person. During the earthly ministry of Jesus, It was recorded that He had compassion, He was full of it. He could relate with people's challenges.

Let's check the scripture

And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick. Matthew 14:14

And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not. Luke 7:13 From the scriptures we can say that all the miracles He did was out of love and compassion.

In Luke 7:13-15 He met the woman, He found out that she's a widow and now she lost her only son. He could relate with the pain and agony of the woman. He knew what it feels like to feel lonely and helpless. The first thing He said to her was "weep not," Then He went ahead to raise the man.



COMPASSION LIKE JESUS 2

Luke 7:13 - "And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not. "

Notice Jesus didn't say any thing insensitive, He didn't say "You must have done something to deserve this punishment," or "There are generational curses following you." All He did was to sympathize with her and raise the dead child.

No condemnation whatsoever. No "holier than thou" speech. No insensitive speech.

Every believer should emulate this, be a Compassionate person and don't be insensitive when someone around you has a downtime.

Someone around you is hungry and he or she doesn't have money to get food, help profer solution. If you have money or food to spare, give or connect the person to someone who can help.

Someone died around, that is not the time to crack stupid jokes. If you feel like laughing then leave the vicinity. That is not the time to say "was he a believer? if he was a believer then he's going to heaven." You should have preached to him before he died.

Every believer is love. You're a love being. You're compassionate.

As Jesus is so are you, so let compassion drive you to do good works just like Jesus.

And also in your down time, turn to Jesus. He can definitely relate with how you feel and He will perform a miracle.



FAITH THROUGH THE ROOF

Mark 2:4-5 They made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

How determined are you to do what it takes to connect with the life and power of God?

In the book of Mark, we find the story about a group of men who'd evidently heard about the ministry of Jesus, and they believed their paralyzed friend could be healed.

But just knowing Jesus could heal their friend was not enough. They had to be determined to do whatever was necessary to get that paralyzed man into the presence of Jesus.

Jesus saw their faith in their determination to get to Him—even if it meant ripping up someone else's roof. He saw their determination to connect with the source of all life and power.

How determined are you to get into the presence of Jesus? How determined are you to take the time to meditate in the World of God and allow God to speak to you? If you find yourself unable to spend much quality time in the Word, perhaps you have an overcrowded life.

I don't know the need you may facing today, but connecting with the life and the power of God begins with your determination to get into His presence. And when you do, you'll find sufficient grace to meet your every need.

Confession: Father, I thank You for giving me the wisdom I need to adjust my schedule so that I can spend more quality time in Your presence. I am determined to keep You as the highest priority in my life.



CLAIM YOUR RIGHTS!

James 5:16b The heartfelt and persistent prayer of a righteous man (believer) can accomplish much [when put into action and made effective by God—it is dynamic and can have tremendous power].

There is no excuse for the spiritual weakness and poverty of the Family of God when the wealth of Grace and Love of our great Father with His power and wisdom are all at our disposal. We are not coming to the Father as a tramp coming to the door begging for food; we come as sons not only claiming our legal rights but claiming the natural rights of a child that is begotten in love. No one can hinder us or question our right of approach to our Father.

When we realize the great need of the unsaved world and know that need can only be met by the great heart of the Father operating through the Church, it stirs us to mighty intercession for a needy world. God cannot touch the human today except through the Church. It is His only mediator, and if the Church fails to assume its obligation then the hand of God is powerless. It staggers one to realize that God has limited Himself to our prayer life, and when we refuse to assume the obligations of prayer, God's hands are paralyzed.

Pray Now!



THE NEW KIND OF LOVE

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

It is the revelation of a new kind of love. Natural, human love has failed. It is the tragedy of the human race. Love is the best thing that a natural man has, but it turns to jealousy, bitter hatred, and sometimes murder. The new kind of love is never selfish and never seeks its own. It comes from the heart of the Father God who is love.

This new kind of love is the greatest thing that ever came to man. It is the solution to the human problem. It is not only a revelation of these mighty things, but it is also a revelation of the new kind of Life. Jesus said, "I am come that ye might have life." The New Creation has received the nature and life of God. It makes man God's son, makes man one with Christ and one with the Father. It is the outstanding feature of Christianity - the greatest miracle of the ages.

Make this your confession today, put "I" wherever you see love.

"Love endures with patience and serenity, love is kind and thoughtful, and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not proud or arrogant. It is not rude; it is not self-seeking, it is not provoked [nor overly sensitive and easily angered]; it does not take into account a wrong endured. It does not rejoice at injustice but rejoices with the truth [when right and truth prevail]. Love bears all things [regardless of what comes], believes all things [looking for the best in each one], hopes all things [remaining steadfast during difficult times], and endures all things [without weakening]. Love never fails [it never fades nor ends]. But as for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for the gift of special knowledge, it will pass away" 1 Cor. 13:4-8



THE NEW COVENANT

Matthew. 26:28 - For this is My blood of the [new and better] covenant, which [ratifies the agreement and] is being poured out for many [as a [a]substitutionary atonement] for the forgiveness of sins."

The Old Covenant with its offerings, sacrifices, and laws was fulfilled and set aside. The New Covenant was instituted with the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. He became the High Priest, and we became the priests of this New Covenant. It is the Covenant that binds the believer to Christ, and Christ to the Believer- Jesus himself being the security. It is the advent of a new wisdom. Christ was made unto us wisdom. It is the wisdom that cometh down from above. This wisdom that cometh down from above is the ability to understand Revelation Knowledge. Wisdom is the fruit of the human spirit.

This new kind of wisdom is the fruit of the recreated and indwelt human spirit. It is the revelation of the Lordship of Jesus-as well as the lordship of love and the lordship of the Word. They all mean practically the same thing. It is the revelation of a new kind of faith, of a faith walk, of a faith life. Christianity is called "The Faith". It is the revelation of the present ministry of Christ at the right hand of the Father. It is the revelation of the Church as the body of Christ. It is the revelation of the work of Christ from the Cross to the Throne. A Revelation of His present ministry at the Right Hand of God for the Believer.

The New Covenant is the forgiveness of our sins, our redemption and justification for us that believe in Him. The New Covenant is in His blood. Its a new season. Your sins are forgiven.



TRAIN YOUR TONGUE

2 Timothy 1:7 - For God did not give us a spirit of timidity or cowardice or fear, but [He has given us a spirit] of power and love and of sound judgment and personal discipline [abilities that result in a calm, well-balanced mind, and self-control]."

THAT which you do for yourself counts far more than all that others have done or can do for you. Self-discipline is the most important feature in any life. Unless you put yourself under mental discipline, you will never develop the forces in you that are valuable to the commercial world. Rule your temper so that no matter what happens, what is said or done, your temper will be under absolute control.

The man who does not rule his temper can never achieve the success that belongs to him.

He destroys the building that he erects.Practically all the injury that is done to a character, to a business, a home, or a person, is done with words.

Govern your tongue, so that it will say nothing that will injure anyone around you.



LIVE THE TALK

Ephesians 4:29: Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

As a child of God, we will avoid everything that will lead us back to the adversary, as a child of God, we will hurt our pride to make other people believe!

Most of us, our neighbors do not see the difference, they see us pray but our character and act of service are absent.

Some Christians will go as far as using their zodiac signs and comparing themselves with the world. They'll go; I'm a Virgo and this is what we do, we can't beg people.

No one is asking you to beg people, just read the word of God and let the Holy Spirit guide you in all you do.

YOU ARE NOT THE WORLD, THE WORLD IS NOT YOU!



LIVE THE TALK 2

Colossians 4:12: Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.

We can see from the letter written by Apostle Paul to the church in Colosse about Epaphras, that he is a servant of Christ and a believer as well. The act of his service was noted as being fervent, as he was always laboring fervently for the church in Colosse. This should be our approach to the things of God, we should do it with fervency and not how and when we feel like doing it.

Fervency in our walk with God, and Fervency in our service to God- both must be exhibited in our lives.

Action Plan: Find an intentional way to serve in Church.



CHOOSE LO BEFIENE

Psalms 1:1-2 Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night."

A lot of people may advise you on things contrary to God's word. For example: Believing that a certain kind of sickness is incurable. We see in Romans 4:17-21, Abraham did not consider his body or the deadness of Sarah's womb, but he believed the report of the Lord saying "So shall your seed be." Abraham was convinced that what God promised, He was also able to perform.

God's report says, by the stripes of the Lord Jesus you are healed (Isaiah 53:4-5, Peter 2:24); the world's report says cancer is incurable; HIV is incurable, sugar diabetes incurable, and all of the others.

Whose report will you believe?

In Mark 5:25-34, the woman with the issue of blood heard the report about Jesus. While doctors could not heal her; she believed and touched Jesus' garment and was healed.

In 2 Chronicles 16:12-13, it speaks about King Asa who only sought help from the doctors and never from the Lord; his sickness got worse and then he died.

Therefore, trust the Lord for your healing because nothing is too hard for Him. God placed doctors here to help us and we should go to the doctors to find out what's going on with our body. Despite what the doctor says, you can believe the report of the Lord and the word of God for your healing.



CHOOSE LO BEFIENE 5

Psalms 1:1-2 Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night."

Know that it is God's will for you to be healed, for your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost not the temple of sickness. Proverbs 4:22 says that God's word is "health to all your flesh," and it works for those who find it.

Medicine should be taken according to the doctor's instructions; if he says to take two tablets three times a day for one week; you should do exactly as he advised. You believe it works even when you still feel pain, now that's what the doctor's instruction is.

Now let's see what God is saying or is instructing you to do. Take these verses as often as possible, meditate on them day and night, if the condition gets worse double the dose; do not believe the devil's report.



YOU ARE NOT ALONE

Isaiah 49:16 - "Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me."

God has designed life such that as men, we are dependent on one another. Once in a while, we might need help and may become weary if it does not come (Proverbs 13:12). I have experienced this countless times but God has always helped me. He is the ever-present help in the time of need. Sometimes, there may be nobody to help. At other times, those you have trusted may just decide against helping you, but not God. David, in Psalms 27:10 said, When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up.

Even if everybody were to forsake you in your time of need, God would never do so. The yorubas will say that when fire burns a parent and his/her child at the same time, the parent would naturally focus on saving him/herself first irrespective of the depth of love towards that child. However, with God, He will put you first. God asked a vital question in Isaiah 49:15, Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.

Even doctors, yes, they are great, but once in a while, even they do not have solutions to some health problems. Although some ailments have been termed incurable by man, there is no such thing with God. He does the impossible. Set your love upon God, then call upon Him today. He will answer you.



GOD FOR US

Romans 8:31-32 If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

There are a lot of Christians who are not convinced that God is for them. They mistakenly think God is somehow partly to blame for the bad things that happen to them (never mind their poor choices and decisions).

How would you like to be commander-in-chief of an army where half of your troops don't even know who the enemy is? They've got their weapons pointed towards headquarters, blaming you for all of their problems. As ridiculous as this sounds, it's a pretty good description of God's army. I've had people tell me about a particular trial they are facing and then ask, "Why did God let this happen to me?" They don't realize that God is not against them—He is for them!

Jesus made it clear who our enemy is when He said, "Your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8 NKJV) and "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy" (John 10:10 NKJV). He went on in the same verse to say, "I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."

It is the devil who comes to steal from you and to try to destroy you. God is a good God; everything He does is for your good and for your benefit. He will never ever cause a harmful situation in your life to prove something to you or to teach you something. You are so loved by God that He is willing to give you freely all things to enjoy.

God is on your side!

Confession: Father, I believe You are for me and not against me. I thank You that you are a good God who loves to freely give me all things.



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COD CLASS

John 3:1: Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

We're sons of God now even though our outward appearance doesn't show this. But I Iove how the Apostle John sums it up in the concluding part of 1 John 3:2. He said, "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."

When the Lord appears at the rapture of the church, we shall be like Him outwardly. But already, we're sons of God and we have His life in us. Refuse to see or describe yourself according to your earthly nativity, because in your spirit, you're like Jesus. Hallelujah!

God has given us the divine nature in Christ Jesus, so now, as He is, so are we in this world (1 John 4:17). Once you understand this, you'll realize you're not living the human life. You're not ordinary; you don't belong in this world. You are in God's class, born of His Word and Spirit with this transcendent life. Glory to God!



NEVER GIVE UP

Numbers.21:4-5: And they journeyed from Mount Hor by the way of the Red Sea, to compass the land of Edom: and the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way. And the people spake against God, and Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out to Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread.

For a believer, the boundary of your life is the word of God and His spirit. Fear has an influence, the same way faith has an influence, fear opens the door for negativity. If you meditate on fear enough it will become your reality or experience.

There is no fear in love

Failure and discouragement are the work of Satan. The purpose of Satan's Discouragement of the saints is to ensure that he does not succeed in God's plan. When a man is on an assignment with God, we must brace ourselves against Discouragement.

You should not give up on God's plan for you. Never give up, Don't allow contrary experiences to cover or change the path; God is good, and you have to pass through the journey. Never allow the passage of time to fill your heart with Discouragement. God is not limited by time. We must never allow the passage of time to discourage us. We have to stay on it without letting Discouragement fill our hearts. If you don't want to be discouraged, you must learn to watch the information you accept



SUPERNATURAL NORMAL

John 10:10 I am come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly.

It is the will of GOD, our Father, that we live a supernatural life. Human beings have two types of realms, the natural and supernatural, but God only has one which is natural to Him, and supernatural to us. He has never had to switch from one human realm to another. Supernatural is His natural. We see the supernatural, but He sees the natural.

And by His benevolence, He has bid us to come, invited us to His banqueting hall, and given us His own life, which makes the whole difference. Indeed, nothing should be more natural to us than the supernatural.

The believers' surprise should not be that there are miracles, but no miracles should certainly be a surprise. Even in this world, we should live and walk in the supernatural as our normal. We are from the order of men that do supernatural things naturally, and natural things supernaturally.



SUPERNATURAL NORMAL 2

2 Corinthians 3:18 And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

The word contemplate means to look thoughtfully for a long time at something, and/or think profoundly and at length, i.e. to meditate. Thus, the believer's transformation is in his consistent meditation of the Word of God. Put in a different way, as you continually give careful attention and thoughtfulness to the glory of God in your inner man as revealed in the scripture, there would be a metamorphosis and ascension of your soul into this very reality your spirit has come into.

So, as you come to the word and see how God has forgiven your sins, and begin to meditate on this, every sin consciousness and regret will vanish. As you see how you were healed of every ailment and disease, and you give thorough thoughts to this, you will automatically begin to live healthy.

The secret of walking in the supernatural is growing in your identity as a believer. It will become easy to walk on water when you see the possibilities in your new creation.



COMPARE

Philippians 3: 11-14 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Beloved, just like Paul, I admonish you to make a fine appraisal of where you started and where you are at the moment, and compare with the big picture of where the Lord has shown you that you are going. If you would be truthful, you will agree that you have not yet touched and apprehended that which he has called you into. Though you have made progress in time past, there is still more work, more depth to attain and come into, more heights to reach in the things of the Spirit.

Put your past achievements, ministerial accomplishments, awards and recognitions, voice of praises of people, and trophies where they belong, even the thought of failure of the past or that you never achieved anything. They belong in the past, there is still more ahead, more nations to be won and conquered. Reach out for more, for as long as you live, there are still more territories to take for the Lord, more sick to be healed, more dead to raise, more souls to win. Commit yourself to doing much more, praying much more, fasting much more, consecrating yourself much more, meditating more, preaching and loving more. You will surely get rewards for more.



KEEP TILL THE END

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power," Ephesians 1:17-19

The fact that God exerted such mighty power to save us implies that His same mighty power will keep us. 1 Peter 1:5 says that we "are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." Jude 24-25 proclaims, "Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen." As Paul shows (Rom. 8:30), the God who predestined you and called you will also glorify you. Our salvation from start to finish is due to the surpassing greatness of His power.

So if you're having problems in your Christian life, if things don't seem to be working as they should, make it a devotion to pray these prayers! God wants you to know the hope of His calling, the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and the surpassing greatness of His power toward you.



DON'T BE PASSIVE

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Ephesians 6:10-12

The truth is, there is a battle raging every single day in the spiritual realm. That battle is for your heart and the hearts of every other person on earth. God is trying to influence people and draw them toward righteousness and toward Himself, to live consistent with Him so that His blessings can manifest in their lives.

Satan, on the other hand, is waging all-out war trying to steal the hearts of people away from God. He wants to fill their hearts with his trash and corruption. And honestly, although most Christians recognize this to a degree, I don't think they realize how intense the warfare really is and how much their actions are contributing to it.

Most christians attribute much of what is happening to circumstances and therefore passively accept what comes their way. When that is done, they are ignoring the intense battle that is being waged for their heart every single day.



YOU ARE THE CAPTAIN

And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side. And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships. And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awoke him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. And he said unto them, Why are you so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? Mark 4:35-40.

One thing I want you to notice is that Jesus did not take command of the ship to see that His words were carried out. He walked to the back of the boat and went to sleep. Jesus delegated the authority to His disciples and they accepted it. But when the storm came, they were filled with fear that the boat would sink. Jesus had to carry out the responsibility of authority that he had delegated to them by rebuking the wind and the sea.

"You have the power and the authority to take the Word of God, the name of Jesus, and the power of the Holy Spirit and run Satan out of your affairs."

I want you to see the parallel here. You are the captain of your ship. You have control over your own life—your spirit, your soul, and your body. Jesus has delegated power, or authority over Satan to you as a believer. You are to give him no place in your life. You are born of the Spirit of God. You are filled with the Spirit of God. You have been given the Word of God. Those three elements are enough for you to carry out your spiritual authority here on earth.



THE BEST MAKE UP

Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. Philippians. 4:4

Your joy is the demonstration of the triumph of Christ In other words, it's a demonstration of the defeat of Satan. The Holy Spirit will prompt you to rejoice at the most unusual time. Because "Faith laughs at impossibilities." -Smith Wigglesworth We have to learn how to bring the heavenly atmosphere of joy into our daily life. Joy is the best make-up! When you rejoice, it will irrItate your flesh... And if you can do it long enough, you'll silence the voice of your flesh, which is what brings victory in every circumstance. Question: How would you act if someone gave you \$1 million right now? In the same way, go ahead and laugh at the situation, impossibilities, and trials, and throw a party in the midst of all.

The devil would be shamed, and victory would be won.



GET OUT OF REBELLION

And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus." Mathew. 14:28-29

If the disciples had been thinking about the fact that Jesus had just fed 5,000 people, not including women and children (Matt. 14:15-21), then they would have expected a miracle, because they were only out there at Jesus' direction. Jesus was aware of their situation, and He was responsible for them being there. You might be in a situation right now where you are facing absolute disaster financially, physically, emotionally, or in your relationships. Maybe nothing seems to be working. If you are there because of your own rebellion and disobedience to God, then you need to do what Jonah did in the belly of the fish—repent (Jonah 2:1-9). You need to say from your heart, "God, forgive me. I know I've been in rebellion towards You, but right now I make a change to follow You again." Get out of rebellion and get to where you're submitting to God. He loves you and wants to set you free.



HOW TO RECEIVE A MIRACLE

Deuteronomy 10:21 He is the one you praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes.

It's good to clarify the difference between a blessing and a miracle. We all need a miracle at some time to simply jump-start our faith. If it weren't for miracles, we wouldn't grow to the point where we could walk in the blessings of God. Most Christians believe that God does miracles, but simply believing God is able to do it is not enough. You must know how to receive it.

Many Christians just wish and hope it happens. They think there is no way to grab a hold of miracles and make them happen. That's not what the Bible teaches.

So, how do you receive a miracle from God? First, you must recognize that miracles are not just hit and miss. You can tap into a miracle. You learn the laws of God and how they work, and miracles will happen. I'm not saying you can push a button and God pops out or you can make God do whatever you want. I'm saying God is turned on all the time and any time, you get turned on, you can see the power of God operate. God is always wanting to move on your behalf. God is for you — He is a good God.



ZERO FAILURE RATE

According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue. 2 Peter 1:3

Decide to live the love life. Make the quality decision to live by love. To develop your faith in divine healing, you have to make the decision to be well, or you never will be healed. A quality decision is a necessity in learning to live the love life. What is a quality decision? A decision from which there is no retreat. It simply means this: "With God in heaven as my helper, He that is within me is greater than he that is in the world. I refuse to allow anything to hinder me from walking in love. I make the quality decision to walk the love walk, whether anyone else does or not." It is a necessity that we renew our minds to the supernatural power of the love of God. We must develop our faith and renew our minds so that we respond in love without having to think about it. We must learn to live in love, walk in love, talk in love and edify one another in love. Then when the pressures come, when the hard times come, when disasters approach us, we won't have to stop and think. We will immediately react in love. The secret to successfully combat Satan is to retaliate in the spirit, not in the natural. The love walk is 100 percent in the spiritual realm. This is where God wants the Body of Christ to walk. By developing our faith in the love of God, it will work and bring about that "zero failure rate."



YOU ARE IN CONTROL

Philippians 4:11 I have learned, in whatever state I am, therewith to be content.

None of us came out of the womb reading and writing; we had to learn through years of effort. Likewise, contentment, which is a major component of happiness, has to be learned. It doesn't come on us like a seizure, and we don't catch it like a cold. It is an acquired trait.

How do we remain in the perpetual state of joyfulness? First, we need to deal with what's on the inside. Most people take a different approach. They want to deal with the outside. They pray for their problems to be solved and that only good things and good people will come their way. Let me give you a clue: That ain't going to happen!

As long as we are in this world, we will have problems (John 16:33). And if we are living for God, we will have persecutions (2 Tim. 3:12). If you never bump into the devil, it's because you're going in the same direction. When you turn around and start swimming upstream, you will always encounter resistance. People and circumstances might start working against you.

You can't always control what goes on outside, but you can totally control what goes on inside when faced with that resistance. When you understand that, you will have discovered one of the greatest keys to happiness. In addition, you will be on your way to eliminating grief in your life.



INTERCEDE

1 Timothy 2:1-3 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour.

It is important to note that as at the time Apostle Paul was saying this, the Ephesians were under a very tyrannical rule and government, yet, they were admonished to pray for the government, just as we are being admonished today. With the situation of the country, it is easier to want to throw stones or curses at our leaders, but, as pleasing as that may appeal to our flesh, it will only worsen our situation. We would rather pray because if the government is good, they will enact good laws, ones that will even be favorable for believers to serve God with no restrictions. In addition, we are to intercede for all men. For family, friends, unsaved friends and nations,

friends who are in one situation or the other. The best way to intercede for people, especially unsaved ones, is to pray the Pauline prayers for them and also pray in the Spirit. The power in the word availeth much, just like the prayer of a righteous man.



COD IS WILLING

Mark 16:17-18 : And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

More often than not, we do not doubt that God can help us out of our predicament or that of others around us, we mostly doubt His willingness to do so. Our hearts must be conditioned in such a way to believe that it is always God's will for us to birth results - to heal the sick, to perform signs and wonders, to dispense the power of the Holy Spirit, to operate in the gifts of the Spirit we have been given.

As a believer, never forget that it is always God's will to see the sick healed and God will always be willing to work that healing through you. This understanding should make us stop holding back from praying the prayer of faith for the sick around us, because according to, the prayer of faith will surely heal the sick.



THE WORD; OUR SUSTENANCE

And I say also unto thee...I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH; AND THE GATES OF HELL SHALL NOT PREVAIL AGAINST IT" Matthew 16:18

If the word can bring you into existence, then it can sustain you. The Word is the only ingredient that can transform and build our lives.

In Acts 20:32, Paul writes, "And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified."

Make the important decision to keep improving your life by being a student of the Word. It'll cause you to have an effectual life of success and constant victories. Hallelujah!



WITHOUT FAITH

Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein." Mark 10:15

Walking with God requires faith, Heb.11.6 - "But without faith, it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." This faith in God ought to be absolute, without doubt. Jas.1.6 - "But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For him that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed."

To believe in God is to accept His sovereignty and be willing to obey at all times, even when they appear to not make sense to you. Such is the child-like faith Christ described in Mark 10:15.

Faith in God involves surrendering your thoughts, ideas, and decisions for God, trusting that he has only good thoughts towards you, and believing every word He says. Such can only happen when we are as trusting as a child.



HIS EXTENSION

Ephesians 3:19: And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

The bible says, "...Christ in you the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:27). Christ in you means God alive in and at work in you.

Also, Colossians 1:19 says, "For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell." When Jesus walked the earth, all divinity was at home in Him. He was God alive—walking and talking in a man's body. But that's not the end. The same God is in you now as He was in Christ. Hallelujah!

Having received the Holy Spirit, God lives in you now; you're His temple. Through you, He impacts your world. He brings sinners out of darkness into His marvellous light. You're His extension in the earth today.



HIS EXTENSION 2

Ephesians 3:19: And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:19 says, "To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation." It was God working in Christ as He walked the streets in Bible days doing those mighty miracles that He did.

Remember, His words, "I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people'' (2 Corinthians 6:16). He's talking in you and walking in you today. Every time you're ministering to someone about Jesus, that's God at work and alive in you and through you.

CONFESSION

Everywhere I go, I go in and with the Father who lives permanently in me. Through me, He expresses His love and righteousness to others, for I'm His extension in the earth by Christ Jesus. Glory to God!



STAY

Ephesians 6:16 - Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

Biblical faith is first rooted in the heart, and expressed in action; which can be confession or doing the word in the obedience of faith. Faith is purely based on the word of God and sticks with the word through and through.

So, when the challenges of life come beating against you, they must meet you battle ready. You must have your faith shield on always, because you don't know when the enemy will strike. He strikes when you least expect, so don't lower your guard.

Don't be distracted. Stay in the word always. Let the word of Christ dwell richly in you. Stay in meditation and do the word consistently. Refuse to feed on anything that will make you doubt the integrity of God's word.



HELP FROM ABOVE

Luke 2:52: And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

Our opening scripture tells us how Jesus increased in wisdom, increased in stature and also in favour with God and with man. Some people have increased only in stature without increasing in wisdom and favour. Don't just be satisfied to grow in stature; grow in wisdom and favour. Always affirm, "I'm increasing in favour!"

Yes! Become expectant that God is favouring you. Expect that favour is being channelled towards you from God and men. Expect to always walk into divine opportunities. It's good to work hard, but remember what the Bible says, "Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think anything as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God" (2 Corinthians 3:5).

Moreover, the Bible says not of works lest any man should boast (Ephesians 2:9); it's not about your hard work but by the grace of God. So, always be in a state of expectancy with God; expect good things because you're a child of God and a child of grace. His grace is superabundant upon your life.



DON'T WAIT FOR LUCK!

Deuteronomy 30:19:I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.

Some people go through life just hoping things will turn out right; they don't consciously think about winning. Such people say, "Well, if I'm lucky, I will make it". No! Don't wait for luck. God's children don't hope for luck or walk by luck; we walk in the grace and blessings of God.

It's only people who are up that can help those who are down to come up. So, where do you want to be in life? What side of the street do you want to live? I found out from the Scriptures that God gave us the right to choose, and also points out the right and the best option for us to choose.

Notice that in our opening verse, He didn't say, "Choose whichever one you think is okay "; no! He shows us what's better and tells us to choose it. You can choose to win at whatever stage you are in life.



INTERCESSION FOR THE UNSAVED

James 1:21: Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

Remember the Word of Paul the Apostle: "And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God" (1 Corinthians 2:4-5). This is an example of a prayer that is so powerful - "In the name of the Lord Jesus, you evil spirit of darkness that has blinded and put a mist in the heart of so-and-so to stop him from seeing and understanding the Word, I break your influence on his heart and mind.

When I started doing this, I got amazing results; the Holy Spirit opened their heart to receive the truths and teachings of the Word of God without distractions. If there was any hardness or resistance prior to meeting them, it would melt away, and in them, a deep hunger and thirst for the spiritual would awakened.

Pray this way for people you are trusting for their salvation



INTERCESSION FOR THE BRETHREN

Colossians 4:12: Epaphras, who is one of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.

The apostle Paul cites Epaphras as one "Always labouring fervently in prayers." Those two words "labouring fervently" are rendered that way to provide a good understanding of what he actually did and how. Both words are from the same Greek word 'agonizomai'—fight!

You can read that verse thus, "Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, greets you, always fighting for you in prayers." A question to ask would be, "If Epaphras was fighting for them in prayers, who was he fighting against?" It certainly wasn't God, as it was God who inspired him to pray in the first place; it's God who hears and answers prayers. So, certainly, God is not the enemy.

Now, the purpose of his prayer gives us an idea of the enemy. His prayer was for the Christians in Colossians to stand perfect and complete in all the will of God. This must be because there's an enemy, Satan, out there trying to stop them from becoming perfect and complete in the will of God. This he tries to do by hindering or attempting to hinder their Christian growth. Don't allow this to happen.



MHAT DO YOU BELIEVE?

Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of law ,but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; Who is the father of us all, (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, Who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. Who against hope believed in hope ,that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall they seed be. And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God. And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. Romans.4:16 -21

The text above tells us how Abraham, our father in faith was able to navigate a season like that. He was fully persuaded; There was a promise and he chose to trust God regardless of the circumstances or the medical knowledge. He was so convinced that since God had made a promise, it would surely come to pass.

to be persuaded means to be convinced, assured of someone or something. Fully persuaded means fully convinced or fully assured of something.

Abraham is a good example of someone who was fully persuaded of God's love and power. Having strong faith in God.

Circumstances should not define us. We must learn to hold on to the promise till the end. We must trust in God regardless of the circumstances that surround us or we face as we journey through life.

As believers, we must be fully persuaded of the power of God's love and develop a strong faith in God and his word.

Question: What are those things you believe?



THE ULTIMATE MIRACLE

1 Corinthians.1:20 -24: Where is the wise? Where are the scribes? Where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

Christ is God's ultimate miracle and wisdom. The death of Christ was both spiritual and physical; He had to die spiritually because he has a life that can not be killed physically.

In today's narrative, to be dead spiritually is simply to not receive the gospel of Christ. The moment you receive Christ, you receive life. God loves us in that God gave Christ; Christ died for us. The love of God is in the event and not the emotions. This should constantly be at the back of our minds.



QUALIFIED

2 Corinthians.5:18-19 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Christ, and hath given us the ministry of reconciliation; To with, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the world of reconciliation...

God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

If you are living for yourself as a believer, you are living wrong.

You are qualified, you just have to remove that limit from your mind. You are not alone in this. The more you learn about what Christ has done for you, the more you learn about yourself. There is room for growth, Be faithful.

He that has called us, has qualified us. Not going means slacking. We will not relent.



EFFICACY

Genesis 1:28: And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Our fruits are meant to remain and have a lasting impact. This means that He has made you efficacious. You have the ability to produce desired results. If you were given a target, your efficacy can be trusted. There's an ability introduced into your life to produce desired results. It's your nature in Christ.

You can approach life with confidence, knowing that every endeavor you're engaged in, will turn into success. It's the life God has given us—a life of purpose, power, and productivity. Embrace this truth and walk in the confidence of being chosen and appointed by God to live a productive life.

CONFESSION

I'm like a well-watered garden, fruitful at all times. I'm the fruit-bearing part of God's vine and I'm producing durable fruits—fruits of righteousness, because I'm a tree of righteousness.



UNITY

Ephesians 4:13: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.

If there is anything God wants for the body of Christ, it is that he wants us united. Jesus expressed this severally in John 17 when he prayed for his disciples and all believers. And at this time, God is calling. He is calling for unity, He is calling the church to lay down our disagreements and come together in preparation for Jesus' return.

I know you may wonder "how can I unify with someone from another denomination?" "How can I be one with someone who has doctrinal beliefs different from mine?" We might never really come to the unity of doctrine. One thing the bible states very clearly is the unity of the faith. In actual sense, according to Ephesians 4:14, winds of doctrine divide and blow people in every direction.

Instead of parting ways with that roommate of yours because you speak in tongues and they don't agree with you or because they take communion often and you don't, why not focus on what we have in common - our faith in Jesus, our belief that he died and rose for us. Doing so will make us all grow so strong together that the winds of doctrine won't be able to drive us apart. God is calling the Church to unite. Obey his call and be a part of what he is doing in this generation.

Pastor Daniel Folarin once told me this and I would leave you with it " In the essential, we agree, in the non-essential, we prefer one another and walk in love".



PRAY WITHOU CEASING

Jude.1.20 - But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

The man of prayer by preeminence was Jesus Christ. His prayers are our inspiration and pattern to pray. Jesus Christ prayed always in conformity to the will of God and this was because of the Spirit of God in Him. To pray in conformity with God's will was the life and law of Christ.

To pray in conformity means to pray together with God, to live one with God in prayer by the virtue of the Spirit in us.

The effective expression of the power of the Holy Spirit is dependent upon prayer, Even Christ was subject to this law of prayer. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of all grace and of each grace as well. The Holy Spirit is not only our teacher, our inspirer and our revealer in prayer, but the spirit power working in us as the will and work of God according to God's good pleasure.

Let us allow the Holy Spirit work in and through us, we must allow him in prayer, so as to pray effectively. Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God in us.



ETERNAL LIFE

John.10.10: The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

Eternal life is a life that reflect who God is. It is a life that has certain possibilities in it, that only in Christ they manifest.

The emphasis is on John.10.10b, Jesus came for one purpose, He came so that we might have life. He came to give us eternal life, which is the very nature of God.

John.5.26 - For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself;

Eternal life is beyond living forever. Eternal life is the gift we receive at salvation. Eternal life is our reality. Eternal life has been freely given to us after believing in the lordship of Christ.

This life is through his son, Jesus, we are to live the life here on earth. Eternal life is embedded in us. It is not one of the many lives. It is a life that has sustained within it certain possibilities that only in Christ they manifest. The nature of that life is that the possessor should be like God, embedded in that life is all the possibility of God.



WALKING IN LIGHT

John.1.4 : In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

The conditions to access that life is in his son, you must believe in Jesus Christ. It is a class of life that is incomparable. Eternal life is God-kind of life, it will reflect in all areas of your life. When a man declares the lordship of Christ he is authorized to access eternal life (he is a possessor of eternal life.)

Receiving Eternal life and walking in light of it is what makes the difference. That life is the light. We must learn how to walk in the light of eternal life to enjoy the fullness and reality of it. Sometimes we think if we have something in the Spiritual realm, it should work automatically. it doesn't, in nature, that's even true.

You can have something in nature and don't know you have it and it won't do you any good. Yes, it's in your possession, but if you don't know it, it won't do you any good.

Now that you already know, let not stop at knowing, we must ensure we keep confessing it, walk in the light of what we already know and let Zoe dominate us.



BY THE SPIRIT

Zech.4.6 - Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

Let's also read from the message translation, I love what it says; "You can't force these things, they only come through my Spirit."

In essence, it is saying that those things which we seek won't come because we want them or because we are innocent or by our strength or understanding but it can only come by the Spirit of God.

During regeneration, man received God's own life into his Spirit. During regeneration the Holy Spirit came into man's Spirit

God's aim for the regenerated man is for man BY HIS SPIRIT to rid himself of everything belonging to the old creation, because within his regenerated Spirit lies all the works of God towards him.

Believers at new birth obtain not only a new Spirit, but also the Holy Spirit dwelling within

(1cor.3.16)_The first statement signifies that believers shall receive a new Spirit through the renewal of their deadened Spirit by the incoming of life.

As consequence, the Holy Spirit now rules man's Spirit. A life relationship is established with God at new birth.

The people in these passage has God's life in view, for it is not what we originally possessed. It is accorded us by God at regeneration.

After Adam fall, his Spirit became dead, what we received in Christ at regeneration is the new Spirit of God's life.

Having realized how the Holy Spirit comes and dwell in unbelievers at new birth, it is imperative that a believer should know he has a Spirit, and every communication with God occur here.

In 1Cor3:16_Apostle received revelation in likening man to the temple. As God formerly dwells in temple, So the holy Spirit dwells in man today

In essense we now know the Spirit we are talking about and where it dwells.



BY THE SPIRIT 2

Zech.4.6 - Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

Scripture says it is not by our power, nor by might but it is by the Spirit of God. Achievement, victory, success, and advancement can't come by human knowledge, it can only come by the Spirit of God. Yes, Unbelievers also have great achievements and all in this world, but the true achievements, the ones that really matter, are the ones confined within purpose and those ones can only be achieved with the help of the Spirit.

Let's see the scriptures (ensure you read the scriptures and not just bypass them.)

1Cor.2.9 - But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

.2.10 - But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

1Cor.2.11 - For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

1Cor.2.12 - Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

1Cor.2.13 - Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

1Cor.2.14 - But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

1Cor.2.15 - But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.

1Cor.2.16 - For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

We see that it is the Spirit of God that know the thought of God per time. He helps us feature in God's will.The Spirit search all the deep this of God. it is the Spirit of God that knows the things of God, he know the will of God for every seasons and times of life.



BE MISE

Proverbs 9:8-9, The Amplified Bible: Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate you; reprove a wise man, and he will love you. Give instruction to a wise man and he will be yet wiser; teach a righteous man...and he will increase in learning.

Some believers love their pastor only when they preach about an aspect of their life where they need no correction, and despise the pastor when he preaches about something they are doing wrong. The bible, however, refers to people who do the latter as fools. Proverbs 1:7b but fools despise wisdom and instruction. Not a lot of people know this, but one thing you can do that will accelerate your spiritual growth more than almost any other thing is to learn to take correction from the Spirit of God and from God's people.

When you are corrected, especially based on the word of God, by your pastor or anyone in the Body of Christ, you should not be defensive or take offense. Instead, receive the correction with thanks, adopt the correction, and by doing so, you have shown to be a wise man. I know none of us like to be corrected.

I know sometimes it's not easy to adopt a new thing when you are corrected, especially when you have held on to that school of thought for so long, or when the correction is coming from someone you consider yourself to be more knowledgeable than. But what would you rather see grow? Your ego or your spiritual life? If you make up your mind that you are going to receive correction no matter who it is from, that you are going to remain teachable, you will be able to go on and grow in spiritual things much more quickly. Appreciate those who share the wisdom of God with you, those who correct you with love. They have indirectly sped up your spiritual growth and you will be better and wiser for it.

Prayer: Father, help me to remain humble and to accept and adopt corrections with joy.



SDEAK LIKE GOD

Mark 11:23 : Whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

Romans 4:17, it says, "[He] calleth those things which be not as though they were." In other words, God does not wait for circumstances to align before He speaks. In fact, He causes them to align because He speaks/ He has spoken. As children of God, we can do the same thing if we make our words agree with His and speak them out of our mouth by faith.

You see, Jesus did not say, "Whosoever shall speak to God about this mountain." He said we should speak directly to the mountain. This might sound foolish to men, but in 1 Corinthians 1:27, Paul explains that God has chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise. It is always going to sound foolish to the world when a Christian talks about what God has promised as if it is already a reality, especially when those promises seem to contradict the natural happenings around. But one thing is for sure that God always shows up. He is not a man that should lie and He always keeps His promises. No matter what the situation is, no matter what needs to get done, consider it done when you speak the word of God.



AMBASSADORS

2 Corinthians 5:20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ....

You are an ambassador for Christ, if you have made Jesus Christ the Lord of your life. Just as nations send ambassadors to represent their interests in other countries, you have been sent to this world to represent the interests of the kingdom of God. When I think about this- the fact that I am a Christ-representer, I count it as the greatest honour of my life. You should too. To some other people, they see this as a task too great to get done. Although it is a great task, you have been empowered and equipped with all you do. You have the Spirit of God inside you, you have been given the Name of Jesus and the power of His word.

Dear brethren, you have all you need. You are called to shine as light in this dark world. Quit seeing yourself as an ordinary citizen of this world, because that is not who you are. You are an ambassador of the Almighty God.

So therefore, face what you have been called to do, let the interests of God-winning souls for the kingdom be on your mind far more than anything. Draw closer to God, submit yourself to God and ask him to continually show you how to carry out the assignment he has committed into your hands.

Remember to stand out as you go out today. You are an ambassador for Christ!



WHO IS THE ENEMY?

Matthew 16:23: But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan.

Some things are almost inevitable in life, such as getting hurt, cheated, or lied to. When any of these happen, the default response of so many believers is to cry to God and report whoever has hurt them to God. This is a good thing to do instead of facing the person and getting into a fight. However, you should know that crying to God and asking for vengeance often ends up making things tougher on everyone who is involved- everyone including yourself. Moreover, crying out for the vengeance of God to strike like lightning when someone does us wrong is not how we should act, it is not what God or Jesus would do. Remember, God has great compassion and mercy. Not just for me and you, but for everyone.

A lot of times, not everyone who hurts us means it and the truth is that such a person is not the actual enemy, the devil is. It is important not to waste our time plotting against people who hurt us. Instead, we should aim our spiritual rage at the right target- the devil.

Remember what Jesus did in Matthew 16:23, he looked at Peter and said "Get thee behind me, Satan." Hit the devil with the word of God, pray for whoever it is that is hurting/ that has hurt you. Remember the words of Jesus in Matthew 5:44-45, Jesus gives us these instructions: "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven."

Next time someone hurts you, identify the real enemy and hit him hard with the authority you have as a believer while you pray for the person who has hurt you.



RELATIONSHIP

1 Timothy 2:1-4: I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

Our relationship with God determines our results in all spheres, that is, results from our relationship with our work, people, spouse and all. Most of the things we face now, are results of most of our relationships.

When we put God first, we encounter peace in other areas.

In this recent time, we tend to quote things from our head, figure things out ourselves when all we're required to do is to focus on Christ.

When you're focused on God, you will focus on nothing else.

Many of us struggle with so many things and so many of us are being weighed down by the trials of life. If you would just put everything aside and focus on God, you would understand that these things are just so little compared to Him. Why do you think God tells us to be still? When we are not still our minds will be filled with so much noise from the trials around us.

Sometimes, you have to run and be alone with the Lord and be still before Him. Allow Him to calm your fears and worries.



RELATIONSHIP 2

1 Timothy 2:1-4: I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

Like we discussed yesterday, we are to focus on God, not our problem. We do not tell God how big our problem is, we tell our problem how big our God is.

Listen to God, not your insecurities. Rely on God, not your own strength.

However, we cannot do this well if we do not have a relationship with God, I mean, if we are not in constant communication with Him. It will be hard to listen to, rely on and trust someone you do not know.

Say this;

"My relationship with God is my number one focus. I know that if I take care of that, God will take care of everything else."

God is who He says He is! He is our shelter, our provider, our healer, our strength, our all. When you're so focused on Christ, nothing can scare you. Instead of worries, WORSHIP & PRAY.



LIFESTYLE CHECK

1 Corinthians 7:17: But as God hath distributed to every man, as the Lord hath called every one, so let him walk. And so ordain I in all churches.

Living a godly life starts with salvation in Christ. Our salvation through faith leads us to pursue devotion in Christ and seek the knowledge of Christ in the Bible.

Just as stated in 2 Peter 1:3-10 ;

God's divine power has given us everything we need to live a truly religious life through our knowledge of the one who called us to share in his own glory and goodness. In this way he has given us the very great and precious gifts he promised, so that by means of these gifts you may escape from the destructive lust that is in the world, and may come to share the divine nature. For this very reason do your best to add goodness to your faith; to your goodness add knowledge; to your knowledge add self-control; to your self-control add endurance; to your endurance add godliness; to your godliness add Christian affection; and to your Christian affection add love.

We're customized, we now live a life of Christ, therefore we're entitled to live our life in a way that glorifies God. From our daily activities, to dressing, even to what we eat; 1 Corinthians chapter 10:18-32 reveals this better. I pray we align with all the Lord has given us.



WISE COUNSEL

1 Corinthians 15:58: Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Consistency breeds immeasurable favour. Go ahead and do that thing the Lord has laid in your heart to do, be content with whatever your process is, wait on the Lord and you will surely be favoured!

Don't give up!

Stop trusting your circumstances. In my life, I watched how God used pain to glorify His name and to answer other prayers (pain in this context is "process"), we all have to grow. Just trust in Him. He will not forsake you. Never! Be still and wait on Him. God is always faithful. Put your focus on Him.

Jonah 2:7 "When I had lost all hope, I turned my thoughts once more to the Lord. And my earnest prayer went to you in your holy Temple."

Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Pray for more focus on the Lord. Sometimes fasting is needed. We hate the thought of fasting, but fasting is a great blessing.Starving the flesh gets your focus straight.

Cherish the Lord. Cherish every moment because every second in His presence is a blessing.



LESSONS FROM GIDEON

Judges 6:11-12: And there came an angel of the LORD, and sat under an oak which was in Ophrah, that pertained unto Joash the Abiezrite: and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites.

The book of Judges is about those that ruled over the children of Israel at different points in time.

The Children of Israel were known for inconsistency in terms of obedience to God. Today they were on track, tomorrow they're doing evil in the sight of God. In this chapter (Judges 6,) the children of Israel did evil and as a result they were delivered into the hands of the midianites.

Their suffering in the hands of the midianites made them cry to God for help and God answered them.

The first lesson here is that when we pray to God, He listens.

The trouble we find ourselves in, might have been due to our actions, decisions and foolishness but God is God and He is good, compassionate. He will listen.

Psalm 23:4 says "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me."

This means that even when you decide to walk through the valley of the shadow of death, He is with you. Sometimes, the situation we found ourselves in could be due to our poor decision, poor judgement or of others around us. I am here to tell you that God will come through if we call on him.

Now, this is not saying we should go on ahead and make poor decisions or do stupid things. Actually a child of God has the mind of God, we have the Holy spirit to lead and direct us so we should not be found in such situations but if at all it happens, call on God, he will rescue you.



LESSONS FROM CIDEON 2

Judges 6:11-12: And there came an angel of the LORD, and sat under an oak which was in Ophrah, that pertained unto Joash the Abiezrite: and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites. And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him, and said unto him, The LORD is with thee, thou mighty man of valour.

Notice the first thing the angel said to Gideon "And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him, and said unto him, The Lord is with thee, thou mighty man of valour."

Note this:

God came through for the Israelites by calling Gideon. If there's one thing God wants us to be sure of as his Child, it is the fact that He is with us.

God is always with us. The Lord is with us. God wanted Gideon to be sure he was with him. You know when you're going through a trying time, there's a way you will be thinking that God is not with you. You will be feeling like you're alone. But my dear God is with you. Be sure of this always. Always put it on like armour.

Say "Thank you Lord because you're with me, I'm so grateful."

The more conscious you are of God's presence, the more you live victoriously. The more conscious you are of God's presence, the more you make wise decisions. The more fruitful your day becomes. Stop at intervals during the day and say "God is with me, thank you Lord for your presence" and see how that day will turn out. You will have the courage, wisdom to face the challenges of that day. You will be Swift to seek his help in some little things that take time unnecessarily.



INSPIRATION

Job 8:32"But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding."

Inspiration comes as promptings of the Holy Spirit in our spirit man. That is why the scripture calls it 'the inspiration of the Almighty'. It is the Spirit of God moving upon your mind, giving you divine ideas and moving you to take steps that eventually lead to outstanding results. We can also define it as the breath of God which comes upon our mind to make it living and creative. Inspiration is instant knowledge to tackle sudden problems. How does inspiration come? By looking upwards through our mind to God i.e. by staying connected to God in prayer.

"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." James 1:5

God is the giver of inspiration, so ask and He will release it to you.

Prayer: Lord, I open up myself for inspiring ideas from you to work diligently in all my endeavors.



BE BEING FILLED

Romans 12:11 Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord.

It is God's will for us to be continually filled with the spirit of God. One thing about being filled with the Spirit is that it is discernable because it is going to affect other parts of your life. In as much as being honest can be recognized, being full of the Holy Ghost can be recognized also because it will not only affect your spiritual life but will affect your mental and physical health. As you maintain a spirit-filled life, your thinking will be clearer, as you will be more sensitive. It is very easy to discern if someone is not doing well physically or emotionally For instance; you can notice if someone is not feeling well or retarding in his health. You can tell by the person's look or approach to work and some other factors based on his/her personality. Our spiritual health is discernable too. Being fervent in the spirit is maintaining our spiritual health. Being filled in the spirit is also continual, and not something that happens once in a while. Colossians 4:12: Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God. We can see from the letter written by Apostle Paul to the church in Colosse about Epaphras, that he is a servant of Christ and a believer as well. The act of his service was noted as being fervent, as he was always laboring fervently for the church in Colosse. This should be our approach to the things of God, we should do it with fervency and not how and when we feel like doing it. Fervency in our walk with God, and Fervency in our service to God- both must be exhibited in our lives.



BE BEING FILLED 2

Ephesians 5:20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

Another mark of a spirit-filled life is a heart full of thanksgiving to God irrespective of the situation or circumstances you find yourself in. People who are full of the spirit are full of joy. They praise God in spite of their trials because they see them as opportunities to act on God's word.

We count it all joy. You see it is not joyful when you are faced with trouble or a test, lose a loved one, or receive a termination letter from work but we can choose to count it all joy. It is not joyful when the bills are due and there is no money when one is diagnosed with a deficiency or terminal illness, betrayed by a friend, or feels thorns of life gather against you but you can count it all joy because in the midst of them all, God is still good and that is why Paul said that with thanksgiving and prayers, we should make our requests known to God.

Question:

Why should we praise God in spite of our challenges?



Bress CoD

Thessalonians 5:18 In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Some people attribute the bad things that happen to them to God. And it shouldn't be, You are not supposed to thank God for what the devil has done. However, in the midst of your trials and tests, you can give thanks to God because you know he is able to deliver you from it.

James 1:2 -My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations

That is why James said in James.1:2 that we should count it all joy when trials and temptations come. We know it's not joy but as believers, we choose to count it all joy. You can walk out on the devil and tell him is that your best shot. Instead of murmuring praise God instead. You can say words like "Praise God", "Blessed be God", "Hallelujah!", "Glory to God" instead of uttering complaints.

We must praise God perpetually - It's not just something that we do in church alone, it should be a lifestyle of praise anywhere we find ourselves.

Action plan:

Think of 5 terrible situations in the past that you came out victorious in and bless God for the victory.



THE PRODIGAL FATHER

Luke 15:19-20 And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son; But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet.

In this parable, the son committed a sin but notice the father's response to the situation. The father didn't condemn the son or scold him, he rather embraced him in love, saying that "In spite of all you have done, I choose to forgive you. I overlook all you have done, and I even look beyond them to see a son in you."

As the prodigal father told his son, God is even telling you that much more. This is God's disposition to us always as His sons.

From the scripture above it was recorded that when the father saw him from afar, he was happy and went to embrace his son. This is God's reaction or attitude towards us as believers, the father bears no record of our past or wrongs but sees us based on the sacrifice of Jesus. When he looks at us on a daily basis, He sees a son in us in spite of whatever we have done before that. His outstretched arms are always calling on us, His love for us is overwhelming.

Come out of that shackles or bondage or guilt or sin consciousness and embrace the father's love, His arms are always open to receive us at every point in time

Come boldly, The father we have got is a loving one and He is intentional about us. His arms are always open and ready to embrace us



THE PRODIGAL FATHER 2

Luke 15:11 And he said, A certain man had two sons: And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living. And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.

There is a lot to learn from the story of this son and his father. We can see from the son that at every point in time, he made a decision. He made a decision to collect his portion, leave to a far country, and feed with the swine too.

One major step between us and our transformation is a decision. We are the results now, of the decision we made in the past. That is why we have to follow God's leading when making decisions and not our feelings because they are not always right. You can never go wrong by listening to God. Those that are led by the spirit of God are the sons of God. Learn to yield and obey God's directives for your life



oBeai

Genesis 26:4 And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; 26:5 Because that Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.

Obedience is not that you don't have a choice, but that even when you don't have to, you choose to obey. We must obey everything God says. We must believe all that is written in the bible because that is God's written words to us. Believe everything the words say and never doubt anything.

It is terrible to learn obedience the hard way.

Genesis 22:1 And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.

22:3 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.

You may not know what the Lord wants to do but you should always be willing what he wants you to do and wherever he wants you to go. Abraham was obedient irrespective of the fact that was the only son he had. He made a choice to obey God knowing well that God won't do anything that could harm him. God has a plan for our lives so he wants us to obey and submit to his words. And we can see from his words how that his plans for us are for good and not for evil to give us expected ends. Obey God's word and not the circumstances.

Question:

What have you done to obey the last instruction God gave you?



PRAY INSTEAD

Philippians 4:6: Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns.

Based on the recent happenings in the world, when you have a conversation with some people, You will find out that 80 percent of their words or decisions are based on fear and they come up with questions like "What if it doesn't work ", "What will happen tomorrow", "How is this stuff going to work?" and several questions with the inspiration behind it being FEAR.

Some will tell you as well that they are planning their future. Being concerned about your life is not a crime, but fear should not be the reason you are doing that. There is a big difference between planning or worrying or giving your thoughts to fear. Fear opens the door for negativity.

For those times you give yourself to worry, YOU CAN CHOOSE TO PRAY INSTEAD!!!



ACCOUNTABILITY

Ephesians 5:21 Out of respect for Christ, be courteously reverent to one another.

God wants us to exhibit a broken and meek attitude towards one another, not a harsh personality that makes you insist on doing things your own way. Out of reverence to God, you must have a reverence for other believers. We must have a submissive attitude to leadership and to one another. When you are not filled with God's Spirit, you will find it difficult to submit to others. To submit means to give in to one another. God wants us to be teachable. We must be ready to learn from others. Accountability is also a sign of maturity and growth. It shows you are ready to be taught and make amends where necessary. When you are accountable to someone who can correct you, You will not always do things your own way, especially when it affects other people. We must learn to submit to one another in the fear of the Lord. Question:

Who are you accuntable to?



BAD COMMUNICATION

Corinthians15:33 Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

Have you ever taken a thorough check around the company of friends you keep or have? What kinds of friends are they?

Are they the kinds of friends that encourage you or speak badly about you at every little mistake or look down on you?. What are the things they spur you to do? What is your conversation like whenever you are with them?

The popular saying "Show me your friend and I will tell who you are" is so true!

The company or group of friends we keep matters a lot because they tend to affect us either in a positive or negative way. The more you exposed yourself to something, the more it becomes part of your belief system. After a while, you will start thinking or behaving that way too. You will even start unconsciously normalizing things you didn't use to stand for because you felt they were wrong if you remain in the bad company (which even includes people you follow online and influencers whose contents you consume.)

You should get to that point where you are intentional about who you permit into your inner circle and the type of conversations you permit them to have with you. QUESTIONS:

Why is it the type of company you keep a strong force in determining



COD SPEAKS

Isaiah 30:21 Whoever is of God hears the Word of God.

Our lives can sometimes feel like constant noise—voices from every side—influencing the way we think and feel. But, in the midst of it all, there is one voice we need to hear the most—the voice of God. When you're seeking the answer to one of life's challenges, do you ever wonder if you're hearing God's voice, or if it's just your own voice? Maybe you're hoping to hear from Him, but you don't want to get it wrong and make a bad move. Do you need to hear Him today about your finances, your children, your marriage, or your health?

There is good news—God is speaking to you all the time. In fact, A.W. Tozer said, "It's the nature of God to speak." He wants to have fellowship with you, and He wants you to hear Him—all the time.

God has promised to lead His children by His Spirit and enable them to know His voice. That means you can learn to know exactly what the Spirit of God is saying to you about every situation. You don't have to go through life blindly making decisions or relying on your own abilities.

Some people say, Well, God just doesn't talk to me. But, here is an important truth: even if you don't feel like God speaks to you—He does. In fact, He's speaking to you right now. But, if you aren't expecting to hear from Him, you haven't even turned on the receiver!

Now, let's be clear—He isn't going to scream, yell and demand that you pay attention. He is always speaking to you, but He speaks in "a still small voice" (1 Kings 19:12, NKJV). So to hear Him, you have to tune in and listen carefully. Another way to describe the way we hear God's voice is through an inward witness.

God communicates from His Spirit to your spirit, and then your spirit communicates what you hear to your mind. That is what we call an inward witness. It is very similar to a thought or a prompting. It's very subtle and requires a closeness with God and regular practice to hear it more quickly and clearly.

That's why the more time you spend with the Lord and the more you practice tuning in to His voice, the more it will become a voice that "thunders in marvelous ways" (Job 37:5, NIV).



KNOMING GOD

James 4:8 Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Knowing God is not the same as going to church or even being born again. The knowledge of God is first made evident through love. If you love God, it will show in the way you live and even interact with others.

God has called us into an intimate relationship with Him. If your life is in disagreement with God's Word, no matter how much you participate in church activities or give offerings, they can't suffice for the spiritual nourishment and vitality which result from intimacy. Hence, you would always experience dryness in your walk as a Christian.

Spiritual intimacy involves daily communion with the Father-God through the Holy Spirit by the instrumentality of the Word of God and prayers. This is how you fashion your life very closely after the example of our Lord Jesus Christ in all things. When you will be more selfless, humble, and total obedience to God.

1 John 2:6 says: He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also to walk, even as he walked. (Check Philippians 2:5-8). Jesus, Himself enjoins us to follow His example in all things.

An intimate relationship with Jesus would help you lead a life according to God's standards. Where you fashion your life very closely after the example of our Lord Jesus in all things.

The knowledge of God in the face of Christ Jesus always brings us to the point of wisdom, enlightenment, discernment, overflowing joy, and peace.

Let your heart follow after the things that meet for the knowledge of the Father-God, as revealed by and in His Son, Jesus Christ.

I pray that your knowledge of Jesus will grow greatly this season in the mighty name of Jesus, and you will grow in the grace of our Saviour and Lord, Jesus Christ.



WATCH YOUR TONGUE

proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

Your tongue is the most powerful part of your body. According to the Bible verse above, it can kill and as well bring to life. This is why you must be very careful how you use it. Many people don't realize how powerful the tongue is, so they kill things that should be alive in their lives and resurrect what should be dead.

From now on, do not say you are poor; confess wealth. Stop saying you are sick; say you are healed. Do not speak evil about your country; speak well only. Speak positively into the lives of your children while you reject negative things. Do not refer to them as disobedient; call them obedient. Do not call them liars, thieves, or prostitutes; rather, always use positive words to describe them.

Confess always that your tomorrow will be all right. Take a cue from the Shunamite woman in 2 Kings 4:18-37. She told her husband it shall be well and it ended well for and with them.

Think about this, if there is no power in confession, then none of us will be saved. Confession is the great profession of the man in Christ. Confess God's Word, you will surely be blessed.

Make it a habit to consistently use your tongue to speak what you want daily. Soon enough, you will see your life turn around for good and to God's glory.

Speaking the right words—God's Word—consistently, brings the power of God onto the scene of your life to save, heal and deliver.

If you want to change your life, change your words. What you say day in and day out is what will come to pass in your life. Your words have the power to set the course for your life. Changing your words will change your world. Start today!

Action plan:

Speak some intentional words about your life today.



KEED BEFIENING

Luke 1:37 For with God nothing shall be impossible.

God is a specialist in handling situations tagged impossible. He can use your case to demonstrate to the world that there is no situation, no matter how bad that He cannot reverse. God is still in the business of doing creative miracles!

Have you been waiting a long time for that precious promise of God to come to manifestation? Your season of divine visitation has come in the mighty name of Jesus.

Sarah, Abraham's wife laughed at the prophecy of her having a baby within a year. She knew her age and the deadness of her husband's fertility system. Indeed, God had to ask them; "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" (Genesis 18:14). For as many who are overwhelmed by the doctor's report concerning your case, I am here to let you know that the report of the Lord will override every negative report concerning you in Jesus' name.

Lazarus was dead and buried; his grave must have started to stink, yet the Lord moved into that hopeless situation and reversed the irreversible (John 11:1-45).

Are you struggling with poverty? Have you been labeled a permanent failure? Have you been told that at your age, there is no miracle that can cause you to receive your heart's desire? If the world boasts that they have finished your case, He reminds them that He knows what is in the darkness. I pray for an expedited reversal of every negative circumstance in your life today in Jesus' name.

The Christian life is no ordinary natural existence; it is SUPERNATURAL! It takes supernatural power to reverse the irreversible and move the immovable. And guess what?? YOU HAVE THE SUPERNATURAL POWER RIGHT IN YOU!

Once you know this, it is easier to apply and use.

Declare: I reverse the irreversible! I move the immovable in my favour!



YOU ARE NOT ALONE

Isaiah 49:16 - "Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me."

God has designed life such that as men, we are dependent on one another. Once in a while, we might need help and may become weary if it does not come (Proverbs 13:12). I have experienced this countless times but God has always helped me. He is the ever-present help in the time of need. Sometimes, there may be nobody to help. At other times, those you have trusted may just decide against helping you, but not God. David, in Psalms 27:10 said, When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up.

Even if everybody were to forsake you in your time of need, God would never do so. The yorubas will say that when fire burns a parent and his/her child at the same time, the parent would naturally focus on saving him/herself first irrespective of the depth of love towards that child. However, with God, He will put you first. God asked a vital question in Isaiah 49:15, Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.

Even doctors, yes, they are great, but once in a while, even they do not have solutions to some health problems. Although some ailments have been termed incurable by man, there is no such thing with God. He does the impossible. Set your love upon God, then call upon Him today. He will answer you.



SPEAK INTO YOUR CHILD

Proverbs 18:21 - "Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof."

What you say activates spirits to function. Do not activate the wrong spirits in your children just because you want them to feel hurt or remorseful. Speak exactly what you want into their lives. It may be difficult, but it is worth it.

Asides from speaking into a child's life or situation, you also need to start speaking into the atmosphere. There may be no situation that you want to change with your tongue at the moment, but you can just begin to say that you and the children God has given you will live long and serve Him for the rest of your lives. You could say that though a thousand may fall on your left and ten thousand on your right, not a strand of your hair will be hurt. You could also say that you will be the head only and never the tail. These words have a way of going ahead into their future and paving a path for them. Selah.



A SUPERNATURAL LIFE

John 10:10 I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

It is the will of GOD, our Father, that we live a supernatural life. Human beings have two types of realms, the natural and supernatural, but God only has one which is natural to Him, and supernatural to us. He has never had to switch from one human realm to another. Supernatural is His natural. We see the supernatural, but He sees the natural.

And by His benevolence, He has bid us to come, invited us to His banqueting hall, given us His own life, which makes the whole difference. Indeed, nothing should be more natural to us than the supernatural.

The believers' surprise should not be that there are miracles, but no miracles should certainly be a surprise. Even in this world, we should live and walk in the supernatural as our normal. We are from the order of men that do supernatural things naturally, and natural things supernaturally.



GLORY SHARERS

Ephesians 1:17-19 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power.

Our future is that throughout eternity we will actually share in Christ's glory! In Ephesians 5:27, Paul says that God's aim is "that He might present to Himself the church, in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless." In Colossians 1:27, Paul says that to the saints, "God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."

Paul wants us to get a glimpse of our glorious future so that we will live in light of it right now. Either way you interpret this phrase, whether we are heirs to a vast fortune in heaven or whether we are God's special inheritance (both are true), the application is the same. We must live as citizens of heaven who belong to God. We must live as saints, God's holy ones, separate from this evil world.



A SUPERNATURAL WAR

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." James 4:7

Most times when you have to engage the Enemy directly, even if the Enemy is using a friend. That's exactly what Jesus did when He rebuked Peter, saying, "Get behind me, Satan." That was the same day Jesus asked Peter, "Who do you say I am?" And Peter, inspired by the Holy Spirit, said, "You are the CHRIST, the Son of the living God."

Now, that's a pretty strong statement, and a lot of people honestly think this is a little over the top. They think they don't need to respond to people this way. But I can guarantee you that there are times when Satan is speaking directly to you through people. He is using people to get at you. Whether you recognize it or not, this goes on much more than you know. You are in a spiritual war.

I tell you there is a supernatural war waging today for your heart and mind. In fact, for some people right now, the devil is trying to oppose the words you are reading. He wants to discredit them and cause you to ignore or reject them. The Holy Spirit, on the other hand, is bearing witness in your heart and trying to get you to open up and receive these words.



THAT WHICH WE SEE NOW

While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal" 2 Corinthians 4:18

We also see how he called all that he faced "light affliction" which is but for a moment. We might take exception to that, it is surely more than any of us have ever had to face.

He said they are light when compared to the eternal weight of glory, as in contracts with the temporal and the eternal. The Bible encourages us to take this comparison into account as we make our decisions for life.

We by faith see the unseen world, the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. That is the key to endurance, seeing the invisible, looking beyond our problems to the eternal God who is our help and strength, and to the eternal rewards of living a godly life.

QUESTIONS: What are the temporal things you could see now? Do you esteem them light compared to what shall be revealed in you?



DRIVE THE DEVIL AWAY

For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned" Matthew 12: 37.

Satan has been blinding people ever since, trying to convince them that God's Word isn't true. As a result, people have been living subject to poverty, sickness, and spiritual death.

Jesus came to give us eternal life guaranteed by His Spirit in us, and if we follow the leading of His Spirit at work in us too, we will make the right decisions, prosper and be in good health. The road to a prosperous life in Christ Jesus is paved with believing God's Word and yielding to the leading of the Holy Ghost.

In Luke 4, the devil tempted Jesus in the wilderness. Jesus did not argue with him. He took the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. He took out the dagger of the Word of God and verse 13 says, the devil left him for a season.

Wake up call. SO, WHOSE REPORT WILL YOU BELIEVE? BELIEVE HIS REPORT!!! QUESTIONS: Do you know you can drive the devil away by the Word of God?



THE WORD IS INFALLIBLE

For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned." Matthew 12: 37.

Your lifestyle is based on what you believe. If you believe God's Word, which says you are healed, then you will live like a well person. If you believe the doctor's report that says you are sick, then your lifestyle is that of a sick person.

You must decide once and for all that you are going to believe the report of the Lord, because circumstances change, but God's Word never changes.

Knowing the infallibility of the Word of God, Jesus defeated the devil when He came face to face with him. You can too QUESTIONS: What place does God's word take in your heart?



RECEIVE HIS LOVE

Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." 1 John 3:2

Christianity is not a religion; it is a family, a Father and His children.

It differs from all the religions in the world in this respect. It is not a creed, nor a set of Doctrines, nor a body of Ethics. Creeds have been made out of it. Doctrines have been formulated from its teachings, and the world's best Ethics have been its products.

They are all parts of it, segments of the great Family Fact. The genius of Christianity is that its God is the great Family God of the Universe.

If you have already received the Lord Jesus Christ, then you've been born again and you are part of this family. The Lord wants you to stop focusing on sin and start receiving His love. God loves you even though you don't deserve it. If you could ever get a picture of the price Jesus paid for your sins, you'd fall head over heels in love with Him. And since faith works by love (Gal. 5:6), your faith would shoot through the roof! When you read the Word with this proper mindset, 1 John 5



100% ASSURANCE

See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are! But the people who belong to this world don't recognize that we are God's children because they don't know him. Dear friends, we are already God's children, but he has not yet shown us what we will be like when Christ appears. But we do know that we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is.." I John 3:1-2

One certainty we have is that we know that we shall be like Him when He appears. While our final destiny as the children of God has not yet been either fully or openly revealed, John makes it clear that believers can be fully confident that this glorious promised manifestation will occur in the future when Christ appears. In other words, John does not say "we speculate that we might be like Him" but that we know beyond a shadow of a doubt that we will be like Christ when He appears.

This is not a good guess about the future. It is not, "There is a 50 percent chance that this will happen." It is 100 percent certain because it is based on the sure promises of God and on the testimony of His Son as relayed to us in the Epistle.

The love of God is seen in that He calls us His Son. This is not to make us feel good or to flatter us, for God does not say what He does not mean. He means every word He says. That we can call ourselves God's children is the greatest privilege that the Love of God has endowed us.



THE DEFEATED ONE

Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." Romans 8:3

The devil has no more power over you than, Pharaoh had over Israel when they crossed the Red Sea. He lost his power over you, you are not ensnared, you are not part of his captives. You have the name of Jesus to keep Satan on the run. That Name strikes terror into every fiber of the devil's twisted being.

Jesus is the One who defeated him. After Jesus spoiled principalities and powers, Colossians 2:15 says He made an open show of them publicly, triumphing over them! Satan was humiliated in front of all the angels of heaven and the demons of hell. He is a defeated foe and he knows it. There is no other devil apart from the defeated one. Resist him steadfast in your faith, be sober and vigilant.

"Neither give place to the devil." Eph 4:27 "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." James 4:7



MIND YOUR SPEECH

Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man." Colossians 4:6

Some descriptions of our mouth according to the scriptures:

- A fountain of life "The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, but violence overwhelms the mouth of the wicked" (verse 11)
- Discerning lips "Wisdom is found on the lips of the discerning, but a rod is for the back of him who lacks judgment" (verse 13).
- Hold tongue "When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise" (verse 19).
- Choice silver "The tongue of the righteous is choice silver, but the heart of the wicked is of little value" (verse 20).
- Nourish many "The lips of the righteous nourish many, but fools die for lack of judgment" (verse 21).
- Bring forth wisdom "The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom, but a perverse tongue will be cut out" (verse 31).
- Know what is fitting "The lips of the righteous know what is fitting, but the mouth of the wicked only what is perverse" (verse 32).



A GUARDED HEART

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me" Psalm 51:10

As believers, we must understand the power of words going into our eyes and into our ears. The more we read and hear the Word of God, the more it gets down in our spirit and then comes out our mouths. The same is true of negative, secular media or bad company.

It is possible to live in this world but guard our hearts from being influenced. Though we are surrounded by so many things that are contrary to the Word of God, we can stand strong for truth and righteousness.

These are some simple ways to guard your heart from the negative influences of the world:

- Choose your friends wisely. Proverbs 12:26 (NKJV) says, "The righteous should choose his friends carefully, for the way of the wicked leads them astray."
- Surround yourself with people of hope and faith. Iron sharpens iron, and these people will encourage you to stand strong in your faith.
- Thoughtfully select television, music, movies and all other forms of entertainment. Seek the Lord for direction, and be willing to eliminate anything that is feeding your spirit negative food.
- Keep the Word of God in your eyes and ears as many hours as possible each day, and keep anything against His Word out! You can watch our services from our Youtube Platform, or get the audio messages from greathaven.org/audio



IT CAN CHANGE

For with God nothing shall be impossible." Luke 1:37

Sarah, Abraham's wife laughed at the prophecy of her having a baby within a year. She knew her age and the deadness of her husband's fertility system. Indeed, God had to ask them; "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" (Genesis 18:14). For as many who are overwhelmed by the doctor's report concerning your case, I am here to let you know that the report of the Lord will override every negative report concerning you in Jesus name.

Lazarus was dead and buried; his grave must have started to stink, yet the Lord moved into that hopeless situation and reversed the irreversible (John 11:1-45).

Are you struggling with poverty? Have you been labelled a permanent failure? Have you been told that at your age, there is no miracle that can cause you to receive your heart's desire? If the world boasts that they have finished your case, He reminds them that He knows what is in the darkness. I pray for an expedited reversal of every negative circumstance in your life today in Jesus name.



FREEDOM

If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work." 2 Timothy 2:21

The vessel God would use must be holy, honourable, dedicated and available. Each time I see people handling the things of God with levity, I always wonder if they understand the nature of the service they have been called unto. God is holy. He is so righteous that He cannot behold iniquity. For you to be a vessel in His service, you must be holy in thought and conduct. Those who rendered acceptable service in the scriptures like Abraham, Enoch, Joseph, Daniel, made up their minds to abstain from anything that could pollute them. This however, cannot be done by mere self-will but through the grace of the Almighty God, which is more than sufficient Titus 2:11-12.

God has called His children to live set apart from evil and to be sanctified or holy. To be holy simply means to obey God in everything He says and stop participating in the world's ways. When believers live close to God, the benefits are remarkable. Sometimes Christians struggle with old habits, but God is willing and ready to help. His ways produce freedom!



SELFLESSNESS

1 Corinthians 10:24. 24 No one should seek their own good, but the good of others.

Self-consciousness is just another way of saying self-centeredness, and self-centeredness really is the root of all grief.

The correct way to deal with self is to shift your focus. Find someone who needs prayer or ministry. Help them in their situation, and you will find yourself forgetting about your own needs. You'll also discover that what you thought was so important is really insignificant. Love for another person will always overcome self. It will require that you give yourself away and become a living sacrifice, but it's worth it.

But our ultimate focus has to be on God, not just others and certainly not on ourselves. It's only when we are totally surrendered to God that we can love others who violate our selfish interests.



THE WORD WORKS

So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear. But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come." Mark 4:26-29

In Mark 4, the Lord taught three parables which illustrate that the Word is to the kingdom of God what a natural seed is to a harvester. The first of these parables, the story of the sower, is the key to unlocking all the Word of God (Mark 4:13). In this context, the Lord compares His Word to a law of nature(seedtime and harvest) that is unchangeable, that is not an institution of man. Here's what I mean. You can cheat or manipulate nearly all systems that men have created. The legal system can be manipulated, letting the guilty go free, the educational system can be manipulated, nearly all systems that man have created time and harvest.

What if a farmer waited until he saw his neighbors reaping their crops before he sowed for his crop? Regardless of how sincere he was, or whatever justification he had for not sowing his seed at the proper time, he would not reap a crop overnight. The law of seedtime and harvest cannot be violated.

This is why our Lord chose to compare the way His Word works to a seed. There is a germination process of the Word of God in your life that takes time and can't be avoided. In the second parable, the seed is the Word of God (verse 14), and the ground is our hearts (verse 15). Our hearts were created by God to bring forth fruit when His Word is planted in them.



FIRST THE BLADE

First the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear." Mark 4:28

Some people put God's Word in their hearts for a day or two, but if they don't see fruit almost immediately, they dig up the seed through their words and actions and wonder why it didn't work. You have to leave it in the ground over time. Then, there are also different stages of growth.

Many people are impatient, wanting to bypass the growth cycle and get the full ear right now. Think about a man who has never worked and has never needed to trust God for a dime, but has a grand plan of buying a hotel for 40 million dollars. Yes, it is a big dream. But this is it, it might work for someone else but it wouldn't work for him. Why? Because this person had never believed for a dime before. There has to be "first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear."

You may think that's not so. It's possible that he could have won the lottery. It's possible, but that wouldn't have been God. God's kingdom operates on laws, like the laws that govern the fruitbearing process of a seed. God will not give you the full ear of corn if you haven't seen the first blade.



SEE YOURSELF WELL

Romans 8:6 says, "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."

All people have a perception, or image, on the inside of them of what they are like. This image is not necessarily based on facts but on feelings. One negative experience can distort a person's perception of themselves for a lifetime.

For instance, some beautiful people may think of themselves as ugly or undesirable because of unkind words spoken to them as a child. Some who achieve great success still see themselves as failures, which becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy.

To a degree, psychology has correctly diagnosed this problem. Psychologists use terminology such as "self-esteem" or "identity" in relating these truths; however, today's secular wisdom is inadequate to help a person change their inner self-image.

Most people shift the blame for bad self-esteem, or self-image, to someone else. It has become popular to blame others for every negative thing in our lives. People often say, "I came from a dysfunctional family," "My problems came because I'm part of a minority group," or "It's that woman you gave me" (Gen. 3:12) but the truth is, other people are not our problem, we need to intentionally give ourselves to the Spirit to work this out in us!



AKNOWLEDGE THE BLESSINGS

I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers, Hearing of thy love and faith, which thou hast toward the Lord Jesus, and toward all saints; That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus. For we have great joy and consolation in thy love, because the bowels of the saints are refreshed by thee, brother Philemon 1:4-6

It's not to be desired what happens to those who don't acknowledge who they are and what they have in Christ Jesus; they walk on in the darkness, living like ordinary men even though God has declared them to be gods (Psalm 82:5-7). You're divine and Christ lives in you.

The Bible says greater is He that's in you, than he that's in the world. You've got the life of God in you. The righteousness of God is in your spirit. You're an associate of the God-kind. You're sufficient in Christ's sufficiency. Hallelujah

The excellence of the Spirit is in you. Acknowledge and affirm these and other blessings of Christ that are in you, always.

Confession: I acknowledge that I am loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, gentle, good and meek.



DON'T ACCEPT IT

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." James 4:7

In truth, we have a set reality as children of God, but the manifestation is tied to our faith. You can't enjoy God if you don't believe, because you need to believe to receive. Rom.1.17 - "For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith". So when there's a doubt or unbelief in the heart of a believer, there is no cover. This is why a believer should never claim whatever hasn't come from God to be theirs. The depression, don't accept it, the slight fever, don't allow it, the doubts, dispel them, the fears, chase away, it is the devil suggesting.

To deal with these contrary suggestions when they arise, you resist the devil and his evil counsel as per James 4:7, remembering your authority. Also, you ought to believe without a shred of doubt in your heart and confess with words of affirmation. Rev.12.11 - "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto death."



FONE FIKE GOD

Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and snt his Son to be the propitiation for our sins." 1 John 4: 10

1 John 3:16-17 also informs the idea of what the love of Christ is, - "Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?"; emphasizes giving. A minister of the word once admonished that to understand God's love; true love, a believer should study all the scriptures written by John the Apostle.

So in Jn 13:34, Jn 15:2, and 1 Jn 4:11, we see that it is a matter of duty to love others the way God loved us. I often regard Luke.6.32 - "For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them." and Luke.6.35 - "But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil." as the 'compass' of true love. You need not fret about if you have the capacity to love like God, because indeed we do. Having received the spirit of God, Love (God's nature) is manifested in us through His spirit Gal 2:25 and it is an evidence of God's spirit in us 1 Jn 4:12.



KEEP FANNING

For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands." 2 Timothy 1:6

Paul's admonition in 1 tim 2:6 to "stir up" or "Fan to flame" speaks to a deliberate effort by the believer to create an ideal condition for 'maximum combustion' of the gifts of the spirit. Just as with regular fires, where the strength of the flame is improved by 'engaging' it, giving more of the right materials to burn, we are supposed to engage the spirit of God. This is done by praying more, studying God's word more, and obedience to God, basically drawing closer to God. All of these are engaging God's spirit more because they are done through the help of God through his spirit Phil 2:13

Brethren, see to it that you aren't just burning haphazardly or combusting incompletely, and producing yellow flames thereby being underwhelming children of God, but that you are making a conscious effort to burn with blue flames, thereby being efficient. Shalom.



A CONTINUAL RESPONSIBILITY

And say to Archippus, Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it." Colossians 4 :17

The ministry of reconciliation reveals God as the savior and is the revelation of God's goodness towards all men. God doesn't want men to perish, it is God's will for all men to be saved and come into the knowledge of Christ.

This was why Jesus, in Matthew 16:15, gave his disciples one mandate which was "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." It is our responsibility as believers to preach the gospel till the whole world comes to the knowledge of Christ and they know the only true God.

While Jesus was on Earth, He preached the gospel to all and He has given us the privilege of being partners with Him in changing the world. Think about it, God didn't give the charge of soul winning to the angels, but He gave it to you and me.



ABLE AMBASSADOR

1 Peter 1:1. Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia.

2 Corinthians 5:20 says "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". It means that one work of an Ambassador is to beseech, to tell people in Christine to reconcile to God. Though you are a stature of what you preach, your stature cannot preach. It's your words. The Bible says faith comes by hearing and hearing the word of God. So you have to preach God's word. People cannot be saved by your life because they have not accepted faith. People can be moved to be saved, they can look at the difference in you, they can spot the difference, but if you didn't tell them this is what makes me different, they might never be saved. They will just be sober.

So this gospel must be preached. In 2 Corinthians 5.20, an ambassador is one who represents a king at the court of another king. So as a Canadian ambassador to Nigeria, you are representing Canadian citizenship and your prime minister in Nigeria. What your prime minister represents is what you represent and that is not your place of abode. Canada is still your place of abode. Same applies to us as believers, never lose sight of this.



TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE?

For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. ROMANS 4:3

Let's pay attention to what scriptures said in the above verse. The bible did not say Abraham fasted and prayed, He believed.

Abraham has always been a man that trusted God(when he was asked to leave his father land to a promised land, he didn't say- so, how wll I dwell in the land? Those people won't just leave, Lord it's impossible to enter that land without a war and I can't fight, he simply believed and followed.) Also, when God gave Him a promise that was too good to be true, It was said that Abraham

believed God and it was counted to Him for righteousness.

Did scriptures show us that Abraham had to do any extra thing to make that promise come to pass except having faith?

Faith alone in Jesus alone is what makes us righteous. Our works are too small and intangible to deserve or make us righteous. If what Jesus did is not enough, nothing you do can ever be enough.

Many of us still follow rules and regulations in a bid to convince ourselves that we deserve salvation or God's good gifts, we think that faith is too little to make us righteous so we try to do big things that will make us deserve it.

The gift of Righteousness is too good, yes, but it is also very true!



DIVINE POWER

"His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through the knowledge of Him who called us by His own<u>a</u> glory and excellence." 2 Peter 1:3

The Believer is a carrier of the divine Life. This life is the Treasure of God. The word translated as treasure in 2 Corinthians 4:7 means Wealth or A deposit. This here ought to make us tickle because it is clear that we are the embodiment of the wealth of God. We are not just the store house, we also have unlimited access to that treasure stored in us. Daily, we are faced with many unique situations which would usually require a different approach to tackle. Hence, the believer has been wired to live from inside-out, never focused on the happening/ threats happening outside. The solutions are ever available as long as the believer looks within. You are not confused; you always know what to do.

All that is needed to live Godly and victoriously has been deposited in the believer. Today is another day to manifest This Treasure- The Divine Life in the flesh. Regardless of what we face, we are certain that THE DIVINE POWER in US will come through.



LIVE LIFE WELL

Psalms 49:20 "Man that is in honor, and understandeth not, is like the beasts that perish"

Life is an opportunity given by God to live out His purpose and plan. Of a truth, our days are not just to be counted, we need to make them count much more. And to make life count is to live life from the perspective of God's eternal purpose for us. Life well spent doesn't count in days; it counts in fulfilment of purpose. When this is not known, abuse is inevitable.

God works all things after the counsel of His own will; He is a God of purpose. Acts 15:18 tells us "known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world." God had planned out all things before He started out the work of creation in the beginning. Nothing on the scene today is an accident of creation. Man is not a creature of accident. God does not make mistakes; He has never made and can never make mistakes. All His works are perfect because He is perfect.

Psalms 49 reveals that a man in honour, who doesn't understand it is like a beast that perishes, which means that he lacks the understanding of his purpose for living. He is in honour but does not understand what it means to be in it. He walks in darkness as to the honour bestowed on him because he is ignorant of his purpose. Making your life count begins with discovering purpose and following it through and through. Significance is the mark of a life that counts, and it is borne out of a life lived in God's purpose; and not that which is based on circumstances.

Never take life as it comes. Live it as it is meant to be lived; according to God's purpose for you.



DON'T REVENGE

Proverbs 15:1 - "A soft answer turneth away wrath; but grievous words stir up anger."

As Christians, we are called to a lifestyle of love- unconditional love even towards enemies and unfriendly people. Responding with love to those who wrong you will confuse and win them over to your side.

Have people been hurting you with their words and actions? From now on, smile and do good to them. Is anyone persecuting you because you're a Christian? Why not pray for them to have an encounter with Christ, so they can change. When you respond with love to those who hate you, some may see you as a fool and try to advise you otherwise. Ignore them and obey the counsel of Jesus. Don't insult anybody, your words should be seasoned with salt always (Colossians 4:6).

Don't try to avenge yourself for vengeance is of God and not man. Also, don't pray for your persecutors to die because God is not interested in the death of a sinner. No matter what you're going through in the hands of anyone, always respond in love.

Confession: Father, I receive the grace to respond in love to all those who hurt me.



ONE DIRECTION ONLY

2 Peter 1:3: According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue.

The verse above says God has called us to glory and virtue. That means we've been called to a life of honour, heavenly dignity, and excellence. No matter what situation you find yourself in, your life is one of honour, dignity and excellence. Glory to God!

He "...called us by and to His own glory and excellence (virtue)." There should be no mediocrity in your life because excellence is working in you.

The Apostle Paul says, "We encouraged you, we comforted you, and we kept urging you to live the kind of life that pleases God, who calls you to share in his own Kingdom and glory" (1 Thessalonians 2:12 GNB). What a life He's given us! How could you live an ordinary life when you have a calling to glory and virtue?

It doesn't matter how dark and gloomy things get in this world; be unruffled because your journey in life is one direction only: upward and forward. You're not of this world! Your path is different. It's a path of glory and excellence, prosperity and success, peace and joy. Hallelujah!

CONFESSION

My life is for the glory of God and I experience His goodness and mercies today; my life is one of honour, excellence, praise, glory and thanksgiving to the Lord at all times. Hallelujah!



FIGHT WITH PRAYERS

Colossians 4:12: Epaphras, who is one of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.

Paul describes these demoniacal forces in Ephesians 6:12 when he said, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." These evil forces are the ones darkening the minds of men, swaying them from the path of God's truth.

It's the reason we must fight for them in prayers as Epaphras did. I encourage you to write down names of people who you might have noticed or heard are not walking in the light of God's Word or have strayed from the faith, and fight for them in prayers. Pray fervently for them every day, and you'd see remarkable results. Hallelujah!

PRAYER

Dear Father, I break the influence of Satan over my family members, friends and others around the world who aren't yet born again. I pray that their minds and hearts are opened to the Lord, as the light of the glorious Gospel shines with great intensity into their hearts to embrace the grace of God for their Salvation, in Jesus' Name. Amen.



SUFFICIENCY

Acts 1:8:But you shall receive power (ability, efficiency, and might) when the Holy Spirit has come upon you....

2 Corinthians 3:5 AMPC says, "Not that we are fit (qualified and sufficient in ability) of ourselves to form personal judgments or to claim or count anything as coming from us, but our power and ability and sufficiency are from God." Blessed be God! This means you don't lack ability for anything.

It brings to mind what the Scripture says in Philippians 2:13, "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." The Holy Spirit makes you willing and able to perform; to deliver at the highest level of excellence all the time. No wonder the Bible says, "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us" (2 Corinthians 4:7).

It's not your power, but His divine ability that's at work in you. Therefore, look beyond yourself. Take advantage of the person, power, grace and ministry of the Holy Spirit in your life! The Holy Spirit is your advantage. In your ministry, career, business, job or academics, be conscious of His grace and power at work in you and through you.

Do all things by His mighty power. Follow His wisdom and guidance, conscious that you're up to any task because He lives in you—walking and working in and through you. Zechariah 4:6 says, "... Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts." He's filled you with supernatural ability to do things that are beyond human ability and comprehension. Hallelujah!

CONFESSION

I'm sufficient in Christ's sufficiency; I do all things by His mighty power, guided by His wisdom and grace. I walk in health, victory, strength, prosperity and glory, as the Lord walks in me, and works in and through me to perfect His will and good pleasure, in Jesus' Name. Amen.



HOW TO RECEIVE PROPHECIES

2 Peter 1:19 - "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:"

Many times, we receive prophetic words from men of God - they could be words to comfort us, teach us, edify us, sometimes, they can even be a promise of something God is going to do. These are always beautiful moments but there are some things we should note about handling prophecies:

Understand that the anointing you do not rever or trust will rarely work for you. If you do not consider a man of God as an authority over you, it's harder for them to give you words and harder for you to believe those words or even see them as weighty.

Understand that you are an annointed man/woman too, a prophet in your own right, so, no prophet should utter doom or curses over you in the name of prophecy. When such happens, rebuke them with immediate effect and remind yourself of who you are in Christ.

After a prophetic word has been given to you, receive it from the minister with thanksgiving, then receive it with faith from God too. This shows that believe the words that have been spoken, and you anticipate their Fulfilment.



HOW TO RECEIVE PROPHECIES 2

2 Peter 1:19- We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

Like we started yesterday, prophecies are reverent words that must be treated reverently. Other ways to receive prophecies are:

Understand that the fact that the word was said does not mean it will come to pass, you will still need to ask God for things you need to do if there are any to bring them back fruition because many times, the distance between a prophetic word and it's Fulfilment is the state of heart and action of the recipient.

Finally, as pastor Toks usually say "the best of the men of God, even in their best state, are still men." We need to understand that even if the of word is always accurate, the vessel might not necessarily be, so wisdom is profitable in some cases to see if these words align with what scriptures have said. When they do not, it is safe to discard them. This can so be also be termed as "judging prophecies." It is not dishonour when we discard words said over us that do not align with the word of God.



REFLECTIONS

Psalms 37:4 - "Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

It's the last month of the year, we rejoice and are glad in this and we will be using today's Devotion to reminisce and do some soul searching.

How has this year been for you?

How far did you go in hitting your spiritual growth goals?

How intentional was your Devotional life?

How frequently did you attend church this year?

How was your fellowship with the brethren?

Did you encourage anyone to attend church?

Did you share the gospel with anyone this year?

Did you pray for, or give to your pastor this year?

How do you plan to do better in 2024?



GUARD YOUR THOUGHTS

2 Corinthians 10:5- "Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;"

OK, so you didn't blow as you hoped to this year, you didn't achieve some lofty goals you have set for yourself, maybe you planned to hit a million dollars in revenue at your startup, or you planned to be a more available father, or you planned to reduce you and your kids' junk intake by cooking more, but now, it's December now and you are not able to tick those boxes.

It is very easy to begin to give yourself to frustration, sadness, depressing thoughts and even anger over your unfulfilled dreams and goals, but watch it, in doing this, you are inadvertently giving a place to the devil in your life. The devil does not only attack us with sicknesses, things going wrong in our lives, etc, he also does through our thoughts. If we keep allowing thoughts of how we have failed in one thing or the other to get the better of us, not only will the situation not change, we are also going to set ourselves up to become a worse version of ourselves.

Give no place to the devil this season, rather, engage in the act of thanksgiving because there are always things to thank God for even in our seemingly unproductive season.

Confession: I choose joy always!



COD IS MORKING

Philippians 2:13 - For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

We are gradually moving into the new year, and for many of us, this means that we have been spending time with God, getting instructions and direction for the new year(It is a good idea to do this if you haven't started yet).

In this course of this, you have probably been getting some instructions that sounds too big to be achieved or promises that are too good to be true.

Today's devotional is just to encourage you to choose to trust God more than you trust in your own abilities- whether it is starting a new business, changing your current job, starting a ministry, nudges to win more souls, etc, God is able to help you through achieving them all.

In addition to this, yes, God's promises are too good, but yes, they are true too.

Keep this comfort in mind and receive God's words with thanksgiving.

Prayer:

Pray that you receive directions for all the instructions you are receiving per time.



woRTH FINDING

James 1:5-8 "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do."

God's will is worth finding out. God's blessing and ease are the proof of it. You need to discover it, what He wants you to do, where He wants you to go, how He wants you to do it, and which one He want you to choose.

If we're going to thrive as Christians, God's will has to be bigger to us than anything else. Underestimating God's will can put a believer in bondage and cripple him more quickly than anything else.

QUESTIONS: How do you know when you are at the centre of God's will?



worth finding out 2

James 1:5-8 "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do."

Therefore, if God has told you to do something, don't try to figure out how it will work or where the provision will come from, stop making excuses and get started! If you don't know exactly how to do it, pray and ask God to give the wisdom and direction.

It is also important to state that, sometimes trying to identify the will of God can also be like a bowl of water with particles in it, the water can't be trusted until the particles settle, this is the case especially when you have a troubled mind. One way to test the will of God in such a situation is to let time pass through, that which is not of God will surely rest and die a natural death, if you wait with prayers. So test it with time, while not folding your arms, but praying and watching.

Supernatural peace and joy always come when you are in the centre of the will of God also, not because there might not be persecutions and trials, but that, a peace that passes all understanding garrisons your heart and mind- and that is the anchor for the soul.



KEEP IT FULL

Isiah 26:3 You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You."

You will notice that God has given us a promise, but we must meet His condition. The promise is: He will keep you in perfect peace. The condition is if your mind is stayed on Him. The mind plays a vital part in you walking in perfect peace no matter your circumstances.

I'm not talking about mind power. I am talking about the power of God's Word working in a faithfilled heart and a renewed mind.

As you renew your mind to God's Word and fill your heart with faith, you will begin to approach every situation in your life without worry or fear.

"And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well" (Luke 12:29 & 31, NIV).

Your mind can not be full of negative voices, worry, or fear when you keep your mind on God. It is a choice you have to make, regardless of your feelings. Put God first place in all you do and think and you will walk in perfect peace.

Confession: I will keep my mind on God and full of His Word. I refuse to allow worry or fear to be a part of my life. I trust You Lord and follow after You above anything else.



SO WE SPEAK

2 CORINTHIANS 4:13; We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;

It is never enough to believe that God can do something, it is expedient to speak out what we want to receive from God.

It's not that God cannot heal you if you don't declare your realities or confess the scriptures, or that He cannot give you a job if you do not declare your receiving of it; in fact, everything has been given to us and every work has been done by God already, it only means that when you declare the promises and realities, you are evidencing the faith you have in God.

Speaking as evidence of your faith also helps you walk in the reality of what God has given you. This means God does not necessarily need your faith to do things for you, He has already done all things in Christ(Ephesians 1:3), but your faith, evidenced by speaking, brings you to a place of receiving that which God has already done.

Faith is the only acceptable currency to receive things from God.



WHATEVER YOUR HANDS FINDS TO DO

Ecclesiastes 9:10 - "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave , whither thou goest."

Be the best in whatever your hand finds to do. When a man dies and leaves the earth, he ceases from his earthly works. It is day now, let's do what is required of us diligently and excellently, for the night comes when we shall cease from our earthly works, and our reward in heaven shall be based on our earthly labour of love.

This is a charge to you today to be the best in your career, ministry, academics, business, on your job and in everything destiny has cut out for you to do. Refuse to be mediocre. The seed of God's excellent character is in you. You're God's child, hence you have God's ability to do valiantly and excellently in life. Give your best every time you have the opportunity to do so. Yes, your boss may not appreciate what you do, and he or she may not reward you for it; nevertheless, keep at it. You are becoming better every time you give your best. Your remarkable side is finding better expression daily. Also as you commit yourself to being the best in all you do, always keep a positive attitude to life, people and work.



DON'T WAVER

Hebrews 3 ITherefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we confess. He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house.

In Hebrews 3:1, we are encouraged to make the correct confession. Then, in Hebrews 4:14, we are instructed to "maintain our confession." When the Bible designates Jesus as our High Priest, we instantly understand that it is our confession that engages His ministry on our behalf.

When we maintain our confession, it is essential not to alter what we have declared. We must ensure that our spoken words align with the Word of God. In Hebrews 10:23, the phase we are now contemplating says, "Let us firmly uphold the confession of our hope without faltering." Take note of the addition: "without wavering."



DON'T WAVER 2

Hebrews 3 ITherefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we confess. He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house.

If we examine these passages in Hebrews in the order in which they are presented, we discern that, concerning our confession, there are three consecutive stages. First, we make the confession; second, having made it, we firmly hold onto it without altering it; and third, we steadfastly maintain it without any doubt.

Why was "without wavering" included? To me, based on logic and personal experience, it suggests that when we make the correct confession, we will encounter adverse forces and pressures that will oppose us. Even though we have declared the right confession and are holding onto it, there might come a moment when it feels like all of Satan's forces and the powers of darkness are unleashed against us. The temptation is to let go of our confession. Nevertheless, the writer advises, "Don't let go! Maintain it—without wavering." The graver the situation and the more significant the challenge, the more crucial it is to remain resolute without any doubt.



YOU ARE NOT ALONE

Isaiah 49:16 - "Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me."

God has designed life such that as men, we are dependent on one another. Once in a while, we might need help and may become weary if it does not come (Proverbs 13:12). I have experienced this countless times but God has always helped me. He is the ever-present help in the time of need. Sometimes, there may be nobody to help. At other times, those you have trusted may just decide against helping you, but not God. David, in Psalms 27:10 said, When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up.

Even if everybody were to forsake you in your time of need, God would never do so. The yorubas will say that when fire burns a parent and his/her child at the same time, the parent would naturally focus on saving him/herself first irrespective of the depth of love towards that child. However, with God, He will put you first. God asked a vital question in Isaiah 49:15, Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.

Even doctors, yes, they are great, but once in a while, even they do not have solutions to some health problems. Although some ailments have been termed incurable by man, there is no such thing with God. He does the impossible. Set your love upon God, then call upon Him today. He will answer you.



HE COMMISSIONED US

Revelation 1:18 There is authority in the Name of Jesus. When Jesus appeared to John on the isle of Patmos, He said, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore ... and have the keys of hell and of death"

Just before He ascended to be seated at the right hand of the Father, Jesus said, "All power [authority] is given me in heaven and in earth" (Matt. 28:18). He immediately delegated His authority in the earth to the Church, "Go ye therefore " (Matt. 28:19). Then He promised, "And these signs shall follow them that believe; IN MY NAME."

In My Name! In the Name of Jesus! He authorized us. He gave us His Name as the authority. The power is in the Name. The authority is in the Name. He gave us the Name that is above every name. He gave us the Name that is recognized in three worlds—the Name that has authority in heaven, on earth, and under the earth. Angels, men, and demons have to bow at that Name—and that Name belongs to us. We are authorized to use that Name.



WHAT WE ARE

Ephesians 1:17-19 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power.

There is an inheritance that God has in His people. In other words, we are God's possession, purchased by the blood of Christ. Thus we are His portion or inheritance which He will finally and ultimately possess throughout eternity.

In Ephesians 1-3, Paul emphasizes that although the Gentiles were formerly alienated from God and strangers to His promises to Israel, now in Christ they are equal members of God's covenant people. Just as the Jews were formerly God's chosen inheritance, now His inheritance is in the saints, the church, made up of Jewish and Gentile believers on equal footing. GLORY!



SERVICE

Ephesians 4:29: Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

Our service to God as a Christian is beyond being a worker in the church. Our service as a believer is to spread the gospel, by doing this, we become God's hands reaching out to others.

The word "Ego/pride" has turned several people away from their act of service. They want to put themselves first before considering what the word of God entails and wills.

They're always like: 'He is younger than me, how do you expect me to help him study so he can pass?" "She is my junior colleague, let her do the job herself."

This is not what we are. We are not called to live a life of pride, self-centredness, and selfishness.

As you go in this new month, go with this understanding.



Comfort

Romans 5:17 For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace.

The Christian life is not produced by attempting to act out a script studied. It's a real life It's a whole life A fulfilling and victorious life It's worthy and full of meaning. it's the life of Christ lived out through us.

"If death got the upper hand through one man's wrongdoing, Can you imagine the breathtaking recovery life makes, sovereign life, In those who grasp with both hands this wildly extravagant life-gift, this grand settingeverything-right, that the one man Jesus Christ provides?" Romans 5:17(The Message Version)

Impact the natural things you do with this very life of GOD. Lead a successful life influenced by this Life. Draw up counsels! Live on for Christ! Do the unimaginable! Walk in dominion over the works of darkness.



CONSISTENCY

1 Corinthians 15:58: Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Consistency breeds immeasurable favor. Go ahead and do that thing the Lord has laid in your heart to do, be content with whatever your process is, wait on the Lord and you will surely be favored!

Don't give up!

Stop trusting your circumstances. In my life, I watched how God used pain to glorify His name and to answer other prayers (pain in this context is a "process"), we all have to grow. Just trust in Him. He will not forsake you. Never! Be still and wait on Him. God is always faithful. Put your focus on Him.

Jonah 2:7 "When I had lost all hope, I turned my thoughts once more to the Lord. And my earnest prayer went to you in your holy Temple." Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Pray for more focus on the Lord. Sometimes fasting is needed. We hate the thought of fasting, but fasting is a great blessing. Starving the flesh gets your focus straight. Cherish the Lord. Cherish every moment because every second in His presence is a blessing.

Activity:

List 5 problems you think you have.

Now, talk to God about it, start with thanksgiving and end with thanksgiving.



HELP FROM GOD

1 Chronicles 12:22 For at that time day by day there came to David to help him, until it was a great host, like the host of God.

David was lonely and needed help at the cave of Adullam, guess what type of men came to him, everyone who was in distress, everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was discontented. So he became captain over them. Under the hand of God and His servant David, these men — who began as disaffected people with nowhere else to go (1 Samuel 22:1-2) — developed into an amazing force. David and his mighty men needed each other and were each nothing without the other. They became David's mighty men.

Often we look to the wrong sources for help. Many times, this may be due to confusion and urgency. We look to people rather than to look up to God that can use anyone. The truth is God uses men to meet needs, to care, and so on, but we can't determine who He will use and it is not our duty to search. There are times you can be led to call someone or see someone, only make sure it's from God.

When you pray to God for help, trust him totally, don't look up to a particular person because he can use anybody. Don't mistake trusting men for God.Trust God and He will raise men to help and assist you. Premium men, not men that will seek some things in return from you.

QUESTIONS: Who are the men around you now? Do you think they are potential mighty men? What do you need to do to get them to where God intends them to be, as they become a great help for you?



GooD SACCESS

Genesis 24:12 And he said, O Lord God of my master Abraham, I pray thee, send me good speed this day, and shew kindness unto my master Abraham."

The anchor scripture is about the prayer of Abraham's servant, when he got to the city where Abraham had instructed him to get a wife for Isaac. He recognised/acknowledged God, the God of his master Abraham. He knew he needed God for the success of the assignment and he didn't hesitate to call on him. He asked for "good speed" some bible translations call it "success". Right in the middle of the task he involved God, he didn't get carried away by the whole task. He relied on God and not on his effort. What he asked for is as good as saying, "God crown my effort with success." There is a place of effort, there is a place of getting good results from your effort. God is the one that gives success. He is the one that can give you a supernatural result. He can help out on the task.

Brethren, as you go about your activities today, ask God for good speed (success). This will save you a lot of stress, it will make your day super productive with little effort. Ask God and He will grant unto you freely.

QUESTION: Do you believe God can give you good success?



RENEWAL

Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

It is of necessity for us to experience renewal on a daily basis. Just like for our physical growth, we have to eat daily - three square meal of balanced diet.

Remember that even after you do that today, you will still have to fill your stomach the next day because the food you ate yesterday can't sustain you up through that week, so you eat on a daily basis.

Another instance is a car will keep running as long as there is fuel in its tank. In order for it to work, we need to keep filling it on a daily basis.

For us to grow as believers we have to give ourselves to daily renewal because it is by renewal that we are being transformed from one level of glory to another. That's is how we grow, and for us to grow in the things of God we have to be intentional about it. You have to give in to your growth by sacrifice, time, study, and a lot more.

Happy new month, and have a renewing day.

Question:

How do give yourself to daily renewal?



RENEWAL 2

Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

For you to grow, there are things you should do:

 Feed on God's word on a daily basis: 2 Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.
Prayer: 1 Thessalonians 5:17 Pray without ceasing, and more specifically, Pray much in other tongues.

1 Corinthians 14:2 For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries. It is an heart to heart communication to our father, from out spirit to his spirit. This is how we get our minds refresh so we must be that always.

Like one of the songs we sing which never get old because it is something we must do if we really want or Desire growth.

The song says "Read your Bible, Pray everyday, if you want to grow." This must be our everyday reality.

Action plan:

Spend at least an hour praying and studying the bible



FERVENCY

Romans 12:11 Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord.

It is God's will for us to be continually filled with the spirit of God. One thing about being filled with the Spirit is that it is discernable because it is going to affect other parts of your life. In as much as being honest can be recognized, being full of the Holy Ghost can be recognized also because it will not only affect your spiritual life but will affect your mental and physical health. As you maintain a spirit-filled life, your thinking will be clearer, as you will be more sensitive.

It is very easy to discern if someone is not doing well physically or emotionally For instance; you can notice if someone is not feeling well or retarding in his health. You can tell by the person's look or approach to work and some other factors based on his/her personality.

Our spiritual health is discernable too. Being fervent in the spirit is maintaining our spiritual health. Being filled in the spirit is also continual, and not something that happens once in a while.



INSPITE OF...

Ephesians 5:20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

Another mark of a spirit-filled life is a heart full of thanksgiving to God irrespective of the situation or circumstances you find yourself in. People who are full of the spirit are full of joy. They praise God in spite of their trials because they see them as opportunities to act on God's word.

We count it all joy. You see it is not joyful when you are faced with trouble or a test, lose a loved one, or receive a termination letter from work but we can choose to count it all joy. It is not joyful when the bills are due and there is no money when one is diagnosed with a deficiency or terminal illness, betrayed by a friend, or feels thorns of life gather against you but you can count it all joy because in the midst of them all, God is still good and that is why Paul said that with thanksgiving and prayers, we should make our requests known to God.

Question:

Why should we praise God in spite of our challenges?



WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE?

Numbers 13:2 Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the children of Israel;"

In Numbers 13 and 14 we read the story of the spies sent into Canaan Land from the camp of Israel. Remember, Canaan Land is referred to as the "Promised Land." Why? Because God's word to them was that it belonged to them.

The report of the Lord was that the land belonged to them. So they sent the spies to check out the land. When they returned, they brought back a report. Actually, two different reports were brought back to the camp.

Caleb and Joshua brought back this report, "Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it." (v30) But the other ten spies brought back a different report.

They said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we." (v31) The land was full of giants. They chose to look at the giants and not the promise of God. Look at the very next verse, "And they gave the children of Israel a bad report." (v32)

The children of Israel were given two reports. One lined up with what God had promised. The other contradicted God's word and the Bible calls it a "bad report." Both parties saw and acknowledged the giants. But one party sided in with the promise of God and the other took sides against the promise.

So, what happened? The whole congregation lifted up their voices and cried, and wept that night. Then they complained. Then they came up with a new plan.

Why? They chose to believe the bad report instead of the good report.



WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE 2?

Numbers 13:2 Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the children of Israel;"

What if the children of Israel had chosen to believe the good report, the one that lined up with God's word?

They would have gone in and defeated the giants because God would have rolled up His sleeves and fought for them. They would have lived in the Promised Land! But instead they wandered in the desert for another forty years and none of them entered into Canaan. Numbers 14:9 refers to their choice to believe the bad report as rebellion. Verse 11 refers to it as rejecting God and unbelief. That means doubt is a sin.

So, how do we apply this to our life? When evil reports come at us we have to decide if we are going to take sides with them or if we are going to believe the report of the Lord. In the face of all evil, pain, sickness, disease, and poverty, (all the evil reports coming at us), choose to believe, speak, and side in with the promises of God! Then, He will go to work to change your circumstances!



CHOOSE COD'S REPORT

Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? Isaiah 53:1

Every day, we get "reports" from the news, our experiences, our friends and family, and many other sources. We also get reports from the Word of God which oftentimes contradicts what others are saying.

Whose report will you believe? The Word, or the world? Is it what you saw in your scary dream or what you saw in the Word of God? Is it the news of the failing security system or the assurance of security and safety you have from God's Word? Is it your background or your new creation realities? Don't let the devil shift your gaze from who you are and what you have in Christ. It's carnal to think of yourself as a normal man.

This is our report when we have symptoms of sickness in our body. "By His stripes we were healed," (Isaiah 53:5, 1 Peter 2:24) and when one of our loved ones is sick.

Always remember, we have a supernatural Father-God! Just because we don't see a way doesn't mean that He doesn't have a way.

God can bring one opportunity across your path that will thrust you to a new level. He has explosive blessings that can blast you out of debt and into abundance.

Whose report will you believe? Isaiah 53:1 says, "Who has believed our report? And to whom is the Arm of the Lord revealed?"

See what Isaiah says here, The one who has seen the arm of the Lord revealed, or has allowed the hand of the Lord to be revealed in his life is the one that will believe our report. Which means, the revelation of the almightiness of God will help you in believing the report of God's Word. By extension too, God's arm is revealed to those who believe the report of God's word. When we believe the report of the Lord, He rolls up His sleeves and He fights for us.



MOTIVE

Proverbs 16:9:We can make plans, but God determines our steps.

As believers, we cannot avoid having to make decisions, ranging from the littlest things to major life-changing ones. in the midst of these, however, the Word of God and His Spirit should be our boundaries. They should be what spur us whenever we are about to make decisions. Our first call should be "What does the word say about this? What's God's stance on this matter?"

In addition to this, our motive when making decisions should not all be about money, ambition, or selfish desires but should be based on the advancement of God's kingdom. It should be in line with God's will at all times.

Question:

What decision have you made in time past or you are about to make? Think about it, is it in line with God's plan for your life?



COD'S PLAN

Proverbs 16:9 We can make plans, but God determines our steps.

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20E

1 Timothy 6:12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses."

Kenneth Hagins says, "The life of God changes conduct, corrects habits, and forms new ones, criminals become law abiding citizens, prostitutes become moral, thieves become honest, drunkards become sober, no case is incurable, it changes a man."

The greatest gift a man can receive is eternal Life- Life has God has it. Every saved man has it, whether young or old, regardless of the skin colour or gender. It does expire nor age. It is the God-kind of Life.

It will change your conduct, produce healthy life, prosperity, and victory at all sides, It's all inclusive.

It's the will of GOD our/your father, that we live a supernatural life. You're from the order of men that do supernatural things naturally, and natural things supernaturally. Therefore, superimpose the supernatural on the natural this week.

Let it flow from inside out. Take advantage of it.



THE FATHER FACT

Ephesians 3:14-15: For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,"

The Father Fact and the Family Fact are the two mightiest facts of the Bible; the Plan of Redemption swings about this two¬fold center. These two basic facts of revelation have been covered by the verbiage of Theological speculation.

The whole Plan of Redemption is:

First, the Father God's Dream for a Family.

Second, Redemption from a Sin Catastrophe.

Third, the Dream Coming True.

Fourth, the Family Home, the New Heavens and the New Earth.

The entire Plan of Redemption is a revelation of the heart-hunger and loneliness of the great Father God; the first step in this stupendous drama of Creation was God's dream and His blueprints of Man's beautiful Home.

No prospective husband-father ever dreamed more ardency of the home-nest than did the Father God dream over the contemplated home of His child — the human: so He took ages on ages to build an earth-home, to store it with treasures that only His mind could conceive and His power create.

After He had perfected an earth, He placed the stars and suns and moons and wonderful constellations throughout space and to each of these seen as well as unseen worlds He Fastened the earth by the invisible cords of gravitation.

Each star and constellation is held in its place by the word of His power, and each one has a regular course marked out over which it travels.



WHAT IS MAN?

Psalms 8:4 What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit[<u>a</u>] him?"

If the Earth is the reason for the heavens, and Man is the reason for the Earth, what is the reason for Man?

There is only one answer, and it is very simple: the lonely heart of the great Father God. Paul tells us in Ephesians that "all Fatherhood heads up in God, whether the families on earth or the families in heaven."

God's heart yearned for children, craved sons and daughters,

He had angels to minister to Him as servants, but He wanted children, so He spent with Love's wonderful patience age on age in the preparation of the Earth and Heavens for His Man.

If this be true, and true it is; then Man is a most wonderful Being.

IF God so wanted Man and so loved Man that He spent millions of years in preparation for him, what a place that Man must hold in His heart, in His dream, in His Eternity! "Man has become master of the world. Other creatures hold their lives at his pleasure; the earth yields her stores of fruits, fuels, and minerals to his machinery; he collects power from the rivers and the sun; he communicates his thoughts around the world almost instantaneously; he explores the universe with his telescope and spectroscope; and he rides on air, land, and water at speeds exceeding that of the swiftest of birds." (Even in his fallen and dethroned estate man bears traces of his original position as master

of the universe.)

The Father and His Family. God loves you, He is your Father. Think about it.



IN HIS NAME

John 14:13-14 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son."

What does the expression "in His Name" mean? We know that the expression "in Christ" as used about one hundred and thirty times in the New Testament, shows us the believer's position, his Legal Standing, his place in the family and in the purposes or program of God.

When Jesus gave to the Early Church the Right to use His Nam.. that Right meant that they were to represent Him; they were acting in His stead, and when the prayed in Jesus' Name, it was as though Jesus Himself were praying.

I mean that we are taking, Christ's place and acting as Christ's representatives. Christ is at the Right Hand of the Father-we are here as His representatives, not only collectively, but individually.

When we pray in Jesus' Name, we are taking the place of Christ; we are using His name, using His authority to carry out His will on the earth.

When we say, "Father, we ask this in Jesus' Name," we are praying representatively. We are saying, "Father, Jesus is up there at Thy Right Hand and He gave us the Power of Attorney to carry out your will on earth. So here is this great need. We ask Thee in His Name to meet it."

That need may be for finances; it may be for power in ministry; it may be for salvation of souls; it may be for the healing of a sick one-but we take Jesus' place and use Jesus' Name just as though Jesus Himself were here. The only difference is that instead of Jesus doing it, we're doing it for Him; we are doing it at His command.



IN HIS NAME 2

Philippians 2:9-11 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Jesus has given to us the same authority He had when He was here, and the believer's position in Christ gives him the same Standing with the Father that Christ had when He was here.

This unlimited use of the Name of Jesus reveals to us the implicit confidence that the Father has in the Church. This in itself is a challenge. The simplicity of Peter's use of the Name of Jesus in the Book of Acts compels us to believe that Peter knew he was acting in Jesus' stead, with the same authority that Jesus had.

You will notice he does not stop even to pray for a sick one all he does is to say, "In Jesus' Name, rise and walk." There is no hint that he attempted to exercise what we call "faith" in any manner; it reduced itself to a simple business proposition with the Early Church-they remembered what the Master said and what He said, was true, to them. He said, "Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in My Name, I will give it you."

Use the name of Jesus today.



BIBLE IN ONE AVEL

JANUARY	MARCH	MAY	JULY	SEPTEMBER	NOVEMBER
1 - Genesis 1-4	1 - Judges 1-3	1 - 1 Kings 5-7	1 - 2 Chron, 29-32	1 - Esther 8-10	1 - 1 Cor. 1-4
2 - Genesis 5-8	2 - Judges 4, 5	2 - 1 Kings 8-11	2 - Isaiah 7-12	2 - Ezra 7-10	2 - 1 Cor. 5-7
3 - Genesis 9-11		3 - Ecc. 1, 2	3 - Isaiah 13-23	3 - Nehemiah 1-7	3 - 1 Cor. 8:1-11:1
	3 - Judges 6-8				
4 - Genesis 12-14	4 - Judges 9-12	4 - Ecc. 3-5	4 - Isaiah 24-27	4 - Nehemiah 8-10	4 - 1 Cor. 11:2-14:40
5 - Genesis 15-17	5 - Judges 13-16	5 - Ecc. 6-8	5 - Isaiah 28-35	5 - Nehemiah 11-13	5 - 1 Cor. 15
6 - Genesis 18-20	6 - Judges 17-21	6 - Ecc. 9-12	6 - Isaiah 36-39	6 - Malachi 1-4	6 - 1 Cor. 16
7 - Genesis 21, 22	7 - Ruth 1-4	7 - 1 Kings 12-16	7 - Isaiah 40-43	7 - Matthew 1, 2	7 - 2 Cor. 1-7
8 - Job 1-7	8 - 1 Sam. 1-7	8 - 1 Kings 17-19	8 - Isaiah 44-48	8 - Matthew 3:1-4:11	8 - 2 Cor. 8, 9
9 - Job 8-14	9 - 1 Sam. 8-12	9 - 1 Kings 20-22	9 - Isaiah 49-57	9 - Matthew 4:12-7:29	9 - 2 Cor. 10-13
10 - Job 15-22	10 - 1 Sam. 13:1-16:13	10 - 2 Kings 1-4	10 - Isaiah 58-66	10 - Matthew 8:1-11:1	10 - Acts 18:12-20:1
	11 - Psalm 23				
11 - Job 23-31		11 - 2 Kings 5-8	11 - Hosea 1-3	11 - Matthew 11:2-13:53	
12 - Job 32-37	12 - 1 Sam. 16:14-19:11		12 - Hosea 4-7	12 - Matthew 13:54-	12 - Ephesians 4-6
13 - Job 38-42	13 - Psalm 59	13 - Jonah 1-4	13 - Hosea 8-13	16:26	13 - Romans 1:1-3:20
14 - Genesis 23-25	14 - 1 Sam. 19:12-21:15	14 - 2 Kings 14:26-29;	14 - Hosea 14	13 - Matthew 17:1-19:2	14 - Romans 3:21-7:25
15 - Genesis 26-28	15 - Ps. 34, 56	Amos 1, 2	15 - Micah 1-3	14 - Matthew 19:3-23:39	15 - Romans 8
16 - Genesis 29-33	16 - 1 Sam. 22:1,2; Ps.	15 - Amos 3-6	16 - Micah 4, 5	15 - Matthew 24:1-26:2	16 - Romans 9-11
17 - Genesis 34-36	57, 142	16 - Amos 7-9	17 - Micah 6, 7	16 - Matthew 26:3-27:66	17 - Bomans 12, 13
18 - Genesis 37-41	17 - 1 Sam. 22:3-23; Ps.		18 - Nahum 1-3	17 - Matthew 28	18 - Romans 14:1-15:13
19 - Genesis 42-45	52	18 - 2 Kings 18-20	19 - 2 Chron. 33, 34	18 - Mark 1:1-13	19 - Romans 15:14-
20 - Genesis 46-50	18 - 1 Sam. 23; Ps. 54,	19 - 2 Kings 21-25	20 - Zephaniah 1-3	19 - Mark 1:14-3:35	16:27
21 - Exodus 1-4	63	20 - Ps. 1, 2	21 - 2 Chron. 35	20 - Mark 4, 5	20 - Acts 20:2-21:16
22 - Exodus 5-11	19 - 1 Sam. 24-26	21 - Ps. 10, 33	22 - Habakkuk 1-3	21 - Mark 6:1-8:28	21 - Acts 21:17-26:32
23 - Exodus 12-15	20 - 1 Sam. 27-31	22 - Ps. 43, 66, 67	23 - Jeremiah 1-6	22 - Mark 8:27-10:31	22 - Acts 27, 28
24 - Exodus 16-18	21 - 2 Sam. 1-4	23 - Ps. 71, 89	24 - Jeremiah 11, 12	23 - Mark 10:32-13:37	23 - Colossians 1:1-3:4
25 - Exodus 19-24	22 - 2 Sam. 5-7; Ps. 30	24 - Ps. 92-95	25 - Jeremiah 26, 7-10	24 - Mark 14-16	24 - Colossians 3:5-4:18
26 - Exodus 25-28	23 - 2 Sam. 8:1-14; Ps.	25 - Ps. 96-100	26 - Jeremiah 14-20	25 - Luke 1, 2	25 - Hebrews 1, 2
27 - Exodus 29-31	60	26 - Ps. 102, 104	27 - Jeremiah 35, 36	26 - Luke 3:1-4:15	26 - Hebrews 3:1-4:13
28 - Exodus 32-34	24 - 2 Sam. 8:15-10:19		28 - Jeremiah 45, 25	27 - Luke 4:16-6:49	27 - Hebrews 4:14-7:28
		27 - Ps. 105, 106			
29 - Exodus 35-40	25 - 2 Sam. 11:1-12:14;		29 - Jeremiah 46-49	28 - Luke 7:1-9:50	28 - Hebrews 8:1-10:18
30 - Psalm 90	Ps. 51, 32	29 - Ps. 116-118	30 - Jeremiah 13, 22, 23		29 - Hebrews 10:19-
31 - Leviticus 1-7	26 - 2 Sam. 12:15-15:37	30 - Psalm 119	31 - Jeremiah 24, 27-29	30 - Luke 13:1-18:30	12:29
	27 - Ps. 3, 69	31 - Ps. 120-125			30 - Hebrews 13
FEBRUARY	28 - 2 Sam. 16-20		AUGUST	OCTOBER	
	29 - Ps. 64, 70	JUNE			DECEMBER
1 - Leviticus 8-10	30 - 2 Sam. 21, 22; Ps.		1 - Jeremiah 50, 51	1 - Luke 18:31-21:38	DECEMBER
2 - Leviticus 11-14	18	1 - Ps. 127-129	2 - Jeremiah 30-33	2 - Luke 22, 23	1 - Titus 1-3
					2 - Philemon
3 - Leviticus 15, 16	31 - 2 Sam. 23, 24	2 - Ps. 130-134	3 - Jeremiah 21, 34	3 - Luke 24	
4 - Leviticus 17-22		3 - Ps. 135, 136	4 - Jeremiah 37-39, 52	4 - John 1:1-18	3 - 1 Timothy 1-3
5 - Leviticus 23-27	APRIL	4 - Ps. 146-150	5 - Jeremiah 40-44	5 - John 1:19-4:54	4 - 1 Timothy 4-6
6 - Numbers 1-4		5 - 1 Chron. 1-5	6 - Lamentations 1-5	6 - John 5, 6	5 - 2 Timothy 1:1-2:13
7 - Numbers 5-7	1 - Ps. 4-6	6 - 1 Chron. 6-9	7 - 2 Chron. 36:1-8	7 - John 7:1-11:53	6 - 2 Timothy 2:14-4:22
8 - Numbers 8-10	2 - Ps. 7-9	7 - 1 Chron. 10-12	Daniel 1-4	8 - John 11:54-17:28	7 - 1 Peter 1:1-2:10
9 - Numbers 11-15	3 - Ps. 11-16	8 - 1 Chron. 13-16	8 - Daniel 5, 6	9 - John 18:1-20:31	8 - 1 Peter 2:11-4:11
10 - Numbers 16-19	4 - Ps. 17, 19	9 - Ps. 42, 44	9 - Daniel 7-9	10 - John 21	9 - 1 Peter 4:12-5:14
			10 - Daniel 10-12		10 - 2 Peter 1
11 - Numbers 20-24	5 - Ps. 20-22	10 - Ps. 45-47		11 - Acts 1, 2	
12 - Numbers 25-27	6 - Ps. 24-26	11 - Ps. 48-50	11 - 2 Chron. 36:9-21	12 - Acts 3:1-8:3	11 - 2 Peter 2
13 - Numbers 28-31	7 - Ps. 27, 28	12 - Ps. 73-76	Psalm 137	13 - Acts 8:4-11:18	12 - 2 Peter 3
14 - Numbers 32-36	8 - Ps. 29, 31	13 - Ps. 77, 78	12 - Ezekiel 1-3	14 - Acts 11:19-12:25	13 - 1 John 1, 2
15 - Deut. 1-4	9 - Ps. 35, 36	14 - Ps. 79-81	13 - Ezekiel 4-11	15 - Acts 13, 14	14 - 1 John 3, 4
16 - Deut. 5-8	10 - Ps. 37, 38	15 - Ps. 82-85	14 - Ezekiel 12-17	16 - James 1:1-3:12	15 - 1 John 5
17 - Deut. 9-11	11 - Ps. 39, 40	16 - Ps. 87, 88	15 - Ezekiel 18-20	17 - James 3:13-5:20	16 - 2 John
18 - Deut. 12-18	12 - Ps. 41, 53	17 - 1 Chron. 17-22	16 - Ezekiel 21-24	18 - Acts 15	17 - 3 John
19 - Deut. 19-26	13 - Ps. 55, 58	18 - 1 Chron. 23-27	17 - Ezekiel 25-28	19 - Galatians 1, 2	18 - Jude
20 - Deut. 27-30	14 - Ps. 61, 62	19 - 1 Chron. 28, 29	18 - Ezekiel 29-32	20 - Galatians 3, 4	19 - Rev. 1
21 - Deut. 31-34	15 - Ps. 65, 68	20 - 2 Chron. 1-5	19 - Ezekiel 33-35	21 - Galatians 5, 6	20 - Rev. 2, 3
22 - Psalm 91	16 - Ps. 72, 86	21 - 2 Chron. 6-9	20 - Ezekiel 36-39	22 - Acts 16	21 - Rev. 4
23 - Joshua 1-5	17 - Ps. 101, 103	22 - 2 Chron. 10-16	21 - Ezekiel 40-42	23 - Philippians 1	22 - Rev. 5
24 - Joshua 6-8	18 - Ps. 108-110	23 - 2 Chron. 17-21	22 - Ezekiel 43-48	24 - Philippians 2	23 - Rev. 6:1-8:5
25 - Joshua 9-12	19 - Ps. 138-141	24 - Obadiah	23 - 2 Chron. 36:22, 23;		24 - Rev. 8:6-11:19
26 - Joshua 13-17	20 - Ps. 143-145	25 - 2 Chron. 22	Ezra 1:1-5:1	26 - Philippians 4	25 - Rev. 12-14
27 - Joshua 18-21	21 - 1 Kings 1-4	26 - Joel 1-3	24 - Haggai 1, 2	27 - Acts 17:1-10	26 - Rev. 15, 16
		27 - 2 Chron. 23:1-26:8			
28 - Joshua 22-24	22 - Prov. 1-3		25 - Zechariah 1-8	28 - 1 Thess. 1-3	27 - Rev. 17, 18
	23 - Prov. 4-7	28 - Isaiah 1-5	26 - Zechariah 9-11	29 - 1 Thess. 4, 5	28 - Rev. 19
	24 - Prov. 8, 9	29 - 2 Chron. 26:9-23;	27 - Zechariah 12-14	30 - 2 Thess. 1-3	29 - Rev. 20
	25 - Prov. 10-14	Isaiah 6	28 - Ps. 107, 126	31 - Acts 17:11-18:11	30 - Rev. 21
	26 - Prov. 15-20	30 - 2 Chron. 27, 28	29 - Ezra 5:2-6:22		31 - Rev. 22
	27 - Prov. 21-24		30 - Esther 1, 2		
	28 - Prov. 25-29		31 - Esther 3-7		
	29 - Prov. 30, 31				
	30 - Song of Songs 1-8				
	or only or onlys 1-0				

