# Rhapsody of Realities

# Chris Oyakhilome



Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

#### A KEY FOR OTHER BIBLE VERSIONS USED:

NKJV -New King James Version
AMP -The Amplified Bible
AMPC -The Amplified Classic Bible

TANT -The Amplified New Translation

TLB -The Living Bible CFV -Contemporary English Version NASB -New American Standard Bible ISV -International Standard Version NIV -New International Version MSG -The Message Translation WEB -The World English Bible TNIT -The New Living Translation ASV -American Standard Version TEV -Today's English Version RSV -Revised Standard Version

GNB -Good News Bible

WNT -Weymouth New Testament

NRSV -New Revised Standard Version

MOFFAT -Moffatt New Translation WESNT -Wesley New Testament

EBR -Rotherham's Emphasized Bible

DRB -Douay-Rheims Bible

#### Rhapsody Of Realities...a daily devotional

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# Introduction

urray! Your favourite daily devotional, Rhapsody of Realities, is now available in over 2000 languages and still counting. The 2020 edition of the devotional has been packaged to enhance your spiritual growth and development and position you for resounding success throughout the year.

The life-changing truths in this edition will refresh, transform and prepare you for a very fulfilling, fruitful, and rewarding experience with God's Word.

#### - HOW TO USE THIS DEVOTIONAL FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT

- Read and carefully meditate on each article. Saying the prayers and confessions aloud to yourself daily will ensure the results of God's Word that you're speaking come to pass in your life.
- Go through the entire Bible in one year with the one-year reading plan, or in two years with the two-year reading plan.
- You can also split the daily Bible reading portions into two parts—morning and evening reading.
- Use the devotional to prayerfully write out your goals for each month, and measure your success as you accomplish one goal after another.

Enjoy God's glorious presence and victory, as you take a daily dose of His Word! God bless you!

= PERSONAL INFORMATION	E
Name:	
Home address:	
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Mobile:	
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E-mail address:	
Business address:	
GOALS FOR THE MONTH:	

# Rhapsody of Realities ... A DAILY DEVOTIONAL

www.rhapsodyofrealities.org



#### WEDNESDAY 1

# YOU HAVE ALL IT TAKES



But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD (Genesis 6:8).

This is a new year, and it presents enormous opportunities for increased greatness and progress. Make up your mind that your past won't be your master; it won't be your limitation no matter how successful or how disappointing it might have been.

One of the things you must do is to start early: be determined to be ahead in your goals. Don't delay or procrastinate on any project or assignment. Don't find yourself doing in March, what you should have done in January. Be an early riser; I'm not just talking about waking up by 4 am, but having an early start in the things you want to achieve.

The Word of His grace is your advantage; that's what you need to be ahead, and successful in all that you do. That Word came to us last night with so much power at the New Year's Eve Service; run with it! If for any reason you missed or couldn't participate in the service, watch out for the rebroadcast in any of our LoveWorld Networks today and the rest of the week.

Make up your mind you won't struggle in accomplishing your goals. Everywhere you go, be conscious of God's grace, His mighty hand of blessings upon your life. He has opened new doors for you; with opportunities that can't be humanly explained. Therefore, go forth and win, for He's all you need, and He's in you strong; alive and at work. Glory to His Name forever! Amen.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for your glory that's evident in my life. Your favour surrounds me like a shield, and I walk in your blessings and supernatural provisions this year, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Isaiah 43:19; Proverbs 12:24 AMPC; 2 Timothy 2:1

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 1 & Genesis 1-2

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 5:33-42 & Nehemiah 3





THURSDAY 2

#### HE BELIEVES IN YOU



For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them (Ephesians 2:10).

If you have faith in a system, you'll build it. Likewise, if you have faith in a people, you'll build them; and that's what Christ is doing with us. He has faith in us; so He builds us through His Word. He trusts us, and believes in us, because we're His Church; His workmanship. That's what we read in our opening verse.

The world may not believe in you or expect any good thing from you, but God does. That's the reason He called you into this glorious fellowship with Himself. Your value to Him is Jesus Christ; you're as valuable to God as Jesus is, and that's the price He paid for your salvation.

Therefore, refuse to limit yourself to the world's perception of you. What your creator thinks of you is all that matters. He sees you at your best; therefore, live your best; be the best of you for Him in your world! He saw what you would become if He gave His life in your place, if He took your place of sin and gave you His righteousness. He saw that through you, His

righteousness would multiply and be established in the earth and in the hearts of men.

Hebrews 12:2 says because of the joy—the glory that was set before Him—the Lord Jesus endured the Cross, despising the shame. You're that joy, the glory that He saw. He had faith that through you, His purpose to make men sons of God, bringing them into oneness with Himself, would be fulfilled. The Bible says you're His seed, prolonging His days. You're His dream come true. He absolutely believes in you. Hallelujah!

# **PRAYER**

Dear heavenly Father, I thank you for my wonderful life in Christ. Your grace and beauty are evidently manifested in and through me to my world. I was born to manifest your glory and righteousness; through me, your Kingdom reigns and expands in the earth and in the hearts of men, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Jeremiah 29:11; James 1:18 NLT

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 2 & Genesis 3-5

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 6:1-8 & Nehemiah 4-5





FRIDAY 3

# PRACTISE THE DIVINE LIFE



Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all (1 Timothy 4:15).

It's wonderful to be healed from any sickness or disease, but how about never being sick? That's surely more sublime, and that's the life lesus brought: a life of divine health. Divine health for the Christian isn't a promise; it came in the salvation package. It's part of the result and impact of eternal life in you. The Bible says. "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son" (1 Iohn 5:11).

Being born again, you have eternal life, and eternal life doesn't require healing. Therefore, it doesn't matter what attacks your body; if you'd stir up the life of God in your spirit, your whole body will be vitalized. The Bible says, "...if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also guicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in vou" (Romans 8:11). Hallelujah! Christ in you-the Holy Spirit in you—is life-generating!

The Bible says you were born after the second Adam, who is a life-giving Spirit. What you need is to learn to activate this life from within you, through meditation. You have to consciously practise that life, by insisting on the Word, affirming boldly that the divine life has supplanted the human life of which you were born of your earthly parents. Every so often, say, "Eternal life is at work in me; every facet of my being is inundated with the life of God."

The expression, "Meditate upon" in our theme verse, is Greek, "Meletao," also meaning "to practise." The result is that your progress and success will be undeniable and inevitable. When you feel symptoms of sickness in your body, it's a mirage; refute them with the Word. Never succumb to the rudiments of this world; the corrupting forces of this present world of darkness. And don't wait until there's a challenge to affirm the Word.

# **CONFESSION**

I'm an associate of the God-kind, with the indestructible life of God in me! I live in the Christ-environment, where divinity reigns; the divine life is operational in every fibre of my being, for I hail from God; born of Him. Praise God!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Hebrews 4:12; Isaiah 33:24; 1 John 5:11-13

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 3 & Genesis 6-8

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 6:9-15 & Nehemiah 6





### SATURDAY 4

# SING THE RIGHT SONGS



...for <u>ye are the temple of the living God</u>; as God hath said, 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).

C ome Christians sing the wrong songs as a result of ignorance of God's Word. Such songs have created in them a certain kind of unbelief that's difficult to cure. That a song is melodious or makes you feel emotional doesn't necessarily make it right. As long as it doesn't communicate the realities of the Gospel as it applies to the new creation, it's the wrong song and singing it could rob you of your faith and effectiveness in the things of God.

For example, when a congregation sings, "Let your glory fill this house; let your presence fill my heart...." Such a song doesn't get anywhere; God doesn't respond to it. Only your emotions respond. If you ask Him to fill your heart with His presence, when will He answer? That's an Old Testament request. Being born again, you're the tabernacle of Almighty God; His presence already fills your heart! He's made His home in you. You don't need to ask for what you already have. Many sing such songs, because they want to "feel" His presence; no! He's in you, and you're in

Him, whether or not you feel it.

God's Word is God. Once the lyrics of your songs aren't consistent with His truth, they're your words. However, He'll bless you for daring to believe, like He said to David: "...Because it was in your heart to build a temple for my Name, you did well to have this in your heart" (1 Kings 8:18 NIV). He blessed David for thinking about it at all. So, when you worship with the wrong songs, He'll bless you for thinking about it, but there're much greater blessings in His Truth.

You need to understand what the Word of God has brought you, and when you get a hold of it, don't lose it because of your feelings; simply because you feel far or near. Never relate to Him or sing to Him according to your feelings; His Word is the basis for our relationship with Him. Therefore, sing, preach, pray and live the Word. Praise God!

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for choosing me to know your will, filling me with the knowledge of your will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding. I have insight into mysteries and secrets of the Kingdom; the eyes of my understanding are constantly enlightened to know you more and worship you in Spirit and in truth, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

John 4:23-24; Psalm 82:5-6; Colossians 1:9

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 4 & Genesis 9-11

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 7:1-11 & Nehemiah 7-8





SUNDAY 5

# SATURATE YOUR CLOUD WITH THE RIGHT WORDS



If the clouds be full of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth: and if the tree fall toward the south, or toward the north, in the place where the tree falleth, there it shall be (Ecclesiastes 11:3).

As a Christian, you're a king-priest; the Bible says where the word of a king is, there's power (Ecclesiastes 8:4). Therefore, keep talking; I don't mean be loquacious; I mean keep affirming the Word. Jesus said you shall have what you say (Mark 11:23). Therefore, have what I call, "Talking sessions," where all you do is get into your closet, affirming God's Word about your life, your future and destiny. Learn to talk your money up; talk your family up; talk your business up; talk your health up.

If you don't know what to say, write out a portion of Scripture on who you are or what belongs to you in Christ, and begin to affirm them. You can also visit **Pastor Chris Digital Library** to watch and listen to faith-building messages; before long, the right words will form in your spirit and proceed from your mouth. Take this seriously, and you'd be amazed at the changes that'll happen in your life within a short time. That's because words are things; they have divine potency;

they possess spiritual energy.

When you talk, you release energy in the realm of the spirit, in the direction of the substance of the message, because words are vector quantities. I said, "Have talking sessions"; at such times, you're not merely talking into the air; you're addressing circumstances and situations, effecting positive changes in your life and future.

From this beginning days of the New Year, and all through, practise this. Shape and frame the future you want with your words. Store words in the spirit that would produce for you the right harvest at the appointed time. Recall what we read in our theme verse. So, now is the time to saturate your cloud with the right words and rule your world. Amen.

# **CONFESSION**

The Word of God is in my heart and in my mouth; the Word of faith which I've received, and it's producing results in me and in my circumstances. I know who I am, for greater is He that's in me, than he that's in the world. I'm an associate of the God-kind; I reign as a king in life. Glory to God!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Hebrews 13:5-6; Joshua 1:8 AMPC; Mark 11:23

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 5:1-20 & Genesis 12-14

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 7:12-21 & Nehemiah 9





MONDAY 6

# RECOGNIZE AND CELEBRATE GRACE



But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble (James 4:6).

When God promotes you, He increases His grace on your life. With that increased grace, you're able to accomplish much more. Grace gives you greater ability and opens doors for you. But something very important about grace that you must be conscious of is that it craves recognition.

You might have noticed that the name, "Grace" is most commonly answered by ladies. It sort of explains something about grace: it's ladylike; something alluring. A beautiful lady likes to be recognized; she dresses adorably because she likes to be acknowledged. That's really how grace is. If you fail to recognize grace, it'll cringe; it'll withdraw and cease to function.

It's part of the reason some Christians aren't seeing the manifestation of grace in their lives as they should. Learn to celebrate grace. Consciously acknowledge that you're full of grace, surrounded with divine favour everywhere, and every day. You'll be amazed at the increased blessings and manifestations of the Spirit you'll experience in your life.

Remember, the Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of

grace; so, in celebrating grace, you're celebrating Him. Therefore, He'll keep manifesting Himself—His beauty and glory—in your life. Suddenly, you find that you're being called and chosen for jobs, blessings, promotions and positions you didn't even qualify for. Even people who profess not to like you will be doing good things for you. That's the power of grace.

Even now, God's grace is increased in your life, causing His glory to be revealed in all that you do, ushering you into your next level of greatness and promotion. Receive it. Celebrate it. Affirm it. Glory to God!

# **PRAYER**

Dear heavenly Father, thank you for the outworking of your grace in my life, which causes me to grow and manifest the beauty, character and blessings of your Spirit. I recognize your superabundant grace on my life, resulting in favours, promotions, increase, advantage and innumerable blessings, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Peter 1:2 AMPC; John 1:16; 2 Corinthians 9:8

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 5: 21-48 & Genesis 15-17

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 7:22-32 & Nehemiah 10





TUESDAY 7

# THE INVINCIBLE LIFE



I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life (1 John 5:13 NIV).

Church history tells us how John, the writer of our theme scripture, faced intense persecution due to his faith. He was captured and plunged into a large vessel of boiling oil with the intention of frying him alive. They lit the fire while he was inside, but something remarkable happened: the oil burnt out, but John was still there; alive and unscathed.

His persecutors, who couldn't fathom how anyone could survive such a gruesome ordeal, concluded that his life was indeed divine, and for that reason, he earned the appellation, "Saint John the Divine." He was later banished into exile in Patmos, a Greek island, where he wrote the Book of Revelation.

What made this apostle, in spite of that horrific treatment, invincible? He had eternal life, which he wrote about and admonished the Church to be conscious of, as read in our theme scripture. He said, "I want you to know that you have eternal life." The word, "know" is translated from the Greek "eido," and it means to observe or become aware; knowledge

with awareness.

John came to a level of awareness that eternal life, the very essence of divinity, was at work in him. That same life of absolute victory, glory, righteousness, and dominion in Christ supplanted your human life, making you indestructible! Become fully persuaded of this truth. Don't just preach, sing and dance about it; let it be a present-hour consciousness in your spirit that you're a divine being, not a mere human. You're in the divine class; an associate of the God-kind. Blessed be God!

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the impact of your divine life in my spirit, soul and body. This divine life surges through my being, destroying and repelling sickness, disease, infirmity, death, poverty, and everything that's inconsistent with the provisions of the Gospel of Christ. I'm invincible, indestructible and impregnable, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 John 5:11-12; John 10:10 AMPC; Romans 8:11

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 6:1-18 & Genesis 18-19

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 7:33-42 & Nehemiah 11





It's time to embark on an epic journey that will transform you forever; get ready for RHAPATHON with Pastor Chris; a series of epics about Rhapsody of Realities, and its legendary hero, Jesus Christ!

Scheduled to take place from the 20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> January, it's going to be a victory parade of the many triumphs of the Messenger Angel authored by the man of God, Pastor Chris, and of its heroic partners, whose extraordinary incursions into different nations and cities have led to the massive spread of righteousness around the world.

Join millions of Rhapsody partners around the world during this 5-day live telecast to celebrate the global impact of the world's No.1 daily devotional, now in its 20<sup>th</sup> Year in Print! It'll be broadcast live on all LoveWorld networks and online.

RHAPATHON with Pastor Chris promises to be a program like no other, beginning a greater level of impact through God's Word for millions around the world.

For more information, please visit: www.rhapsodyofrealities.org

# X otes




WEDNESDAY 8

# PROMISES BACKED WITH SUPPLY



Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust (2 Peter 1:4).

Promises," as used in the verse above is different from its generic definition as a verbal or written commitment or an undertaking to do something. It's not the same as telling a friend, for example, "I'm going to give you \$200,000 tomorrow." In such a case, if, come tomorrow, you couldn't fulfil that promise for whatever reason, you may not be in any trouble with the Law, even though you had given your word to that friend.

On the other hand, if you issued him a cheque of \$200,000, dated today, all he'd need would be to present it before the bank, who is under obligation to pay him. In this case, you gave him something much more than a promise. If the cheque you issued him was a dud or worthless cheque, that becomes an offence, punishable by Law. This is because by issuing the cheque, you instructed a financial institution to pay money which you didn't own. Therefore, this promise must be backed by available funds.

That's the type of promise the Apostle Peter was

referring to. They aren't "promises" for the future, waiting to be fulfilled; no! They're such that the one who promised can be held liable should anything go wrong. They are promises backed already with the supply, waiting for you to cash them! This is the reason divine health, prosperity, the life of victory, dominion and glory in Christ, and all the blessings of the Gospel aren't "promises" that you should be praying for or expecting to come to pass in your life. Rather, they are present-hour realities, available to you to "cash" and enjoy in the NOW of your life.

Never say, "I'm sick," "I'm broke," "I'm weak," or "I'm afraid"; it's contrary to the God-life and your God-nature to talk like that. Speak the God-language, because you belong to a heavenly pantheon that speaks divine realities. Become more conscious that you were born into God's realm of life, with His nature and character in your spirit, and that you're in a vital union—an inseparable oneness with Him. Glory to His Name forever!

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for making me an associate of the God-kind. I bask in this glorious union, living the triumphant, victorious, successful and glorious life in Christ, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Corinthians 1:20 AMPC; 2 Corinthians 7:1 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 6:19-7:1-6 & Genesis 20-22

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 7:43-53 & Nehemiah 12





#### **THURSDAY**

# **NO "CONTRABANDS"**



...but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ve may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect. will of God (Romans 12:2).

The English translation of the word, "prove" doesn't give us the best expression of what Paul, by the Spirit, conveys in the theme verse. The Greek word is "dokimazo"; and it means to discern or examine; a more appropriate expression is, "to scrutinize."

To understand this better, consider the custom service section at the entry port of any country. They're mandated to scrutinize passengers, and in high alert cases, use more sophisticated machines to provide animated images of suspicious items. Right there, the traveller's eligibility is ascertained, either for entry or denial into that country. That's what the Spirit is telling us: you have the responsibility to "prove" or scrutinize what you allow into your world! There're contrabands things that aren't consistent with your divine nature in Christ—like sickness, death, poverty, anger, bitterness, frustration, etc.; don't allow them into your life.

Remember that the Bible says, "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life" (Proverbs 4:23). You're to consciously mount a garrison, a blockade, over your heart against the negativities of life. It's your responsibility, and you have the power and authority to do it. Jesus said, "And I will

give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (Matthew 16:19). Keys speak of authority, laws and principles. When you disallow or permit something on earth, heaven gives the authority and backs what you have said.

This year, more than ever, be resolute about not allowing "contrabands" in your life and in your environment. Vehemently refuse the works of evil and forbid them in your body, family, job and around you. Allow only divine realities into your world, things that are consistent with the perfect will of God for your life. If you don't take a stand, nothing will change; and it begins with the renewing or transformation of your mind. With a renewed mind, you'll think, permit and express only God's thoughts, His righteousness, love, kindness, joy and peace in your life, and in your environment. Hallelujah!

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for the power to determine what comes into my world. I disallow every kind of illegal transaction in my life. I vehemently refuse sickness, poverty, death, and everything that hurts and binds. Only things that are consistent with the God-life are permitted in, and around me, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 6:13; Romans 8:13 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 7:7-29 & Genesis 23-24

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 7:54-60 & Nehemiah 13





FRIDAY 10

# **GUIDANCE AND DIRECTION**



Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word
(Psalm 119:9).

od's Word is light. Psalm 119:105 says, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." It's interesting that it likens the Word to a lamp. A lamp doesn't have strong beams. You don't turn on a lamp and leave it in a stationary position; you'd have to carry it with you.

It lets you know that God's Word is something you need every day. The Christian life is a journey; every day is a fresh day to serve God; a new day to please Him, and walk in the path that He's ordained for you; you need His Word for guidance and direction.

Life may be filled with chances and choices, but through the Word, you receive illumination that gives you insight into the realities of the Kingdom-life. Psalm 119:130 (AMPC) says, "The entrance {and} unfolding of Your words give light; their unfolding gives understanding (discernment and comprehension) to the simple."

Stay in God's Word. Study and meditate on it until it gains the ascendancy over your life. That's when you receive light and understanding; a new mind-set that transforms your life. You begin to see differently; God's glory and abundant provisions become real to you.

Your journey in life should be on the clear path of progress, victory, and success only, because Jesus said, "...I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12). The way to follow Him is through the Word. Make God's Word your compass for navigating through life.

# CONFESSION

Dear Lord, your Word is the light that guides me in the path of success, victory, and greatness. Through your Word, I receive direction, illumination, and insight into the mysteries and realities of the Kingdom. My life is the testimony of your grace and blessings because I live in your Word. Hallelujah!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Isaiah 30;21; Psalm 119:105; Proverbs 6:23 NIV

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 8:1-27 & Genesis 25-26

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 8:1-13 & Esther 1-2





SATURDAY 11

#### **BE ABOUT HIS BUSINESS**



...while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven (Acts 1:10-11).

The Master's return is for sure, and closer than ever. For that reason, we must be about His business. Become consumed with the pursuit of the expansion of His Kingdom. Seek, above all, the rule and reign of His Kingdom in the earth and in the hearts of men. He needs to find us busy, doing what He told us to do. In John 14:15, He said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments."

He's given us the authority, and commissioned us to take the Gospel to the ends of the earth. So, enlarge your vision and increase your passion to make the Gospel known, getting others ready for the Master's return. Some are asking how soon He's coming back. Is it a matter of days, weeks, months or years so they can prepare and keep themselves clean before He comes. The time shouldn't matter, as long as you're in

fellowship with Him. Walking in the light of His Word and of your salvation, you'll be confident of His return.

What a day of rejoicing it'll be when the Master shows up! The Bible says "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed" (1 Corinthians 15:52). There'll be those looking for us, saying it can't be real. Some would be wailing, bemoaning how they missed the rapture. But thanks be unto God! We all still have the opportunity to do the needful and make ourselves ready for that glorious day. Keep loving the Lord with all your heart, winning souls and walking in love. Hallelujah!

# **PRAYER**

Righteous Father, what a great and glorious God you are! And what joy to anticipate Christ's glorious return! All my energies and passion are focused on doing your will and turning the unrighteous from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, making them citizens of your eternal Kingdom, where eternal life reigns, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Luke 12:37-38 NLT; 2 Timothy 4:7-8; Matthew 28:19-20

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 8:28-9:1-17 & Genesis 27-28

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 8:14-25 & Esther 3-4





SUNDAY 12

# HIS INCORRUPTIBLE LIFE IN YOU



Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body (2 Corinthians 4:10).

Through the Gospel, God has brought life and immortality to light (2 Timothy 1:10), and He wants that life to be manifested in our physical bodies. Think about that: His invincible life manifested in your physical body! This is what makes the Christian a superman.

Recall the experience of Paul on the island of Malta in Acts 28. He was bitten by a venomous viper, but he wasn't hurt; he didn't shout or try to cast out the poison. He didn't even pray or quickly recite some confession. He simply continued what he was doing as though nothing happened. The onlookers were perplexed as they had expected Paul to swell and suddenly drop dead as a result of the venom. But when that didn't happen, they concluded he was a god (Acts 28:6).

Paul knew he had the incorruptible life of Christ manifested in his physical body. That life came in the salvation package. Therefore, in your life, be fearless; you can't be poisoned or killed, because of the divine life in you. You might ask, "What am I going to do

to live this kind of life?" Just as you didn't have to do anything to live the human life, you don't have to "do something" to be what God has already made you.

The Bible says, "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us..." (Titus 3:5). Ephesians 2:8-9 says, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." The divine life in you came at no extra cost; if you have Jesus, you have it (1 John 5:11-12). What you need is the awareness, the consciousness of your identity in Him, and His incorruptible life in you. Glory to His Name forever!

# **CONFESSION**

The supernatural, immortal and incorruptible life of Christ is at work in me; therefore, I live above sickness, disease and all the depravities that affect the human nature. I'm an associate of the God-kind, manifesting the glory and virtues of divinity, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 John 5:11-13; Romans 8:11

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 9:18-38 & Genesis 29-30

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 8:26-40 & Esther 5-6





MONDAY 13

# **SET YOUR MIND** ON SPIRITUAL THINGS



Set your <u>affection</u> on things above, not on things on the earth (Colossians 3:2).

ven though "affection" is quite a good and strong rendering in the verse above, the Greek word, "phroneo" is a little more practical. It means to set your mind or your thinking; an activity of the mind; how your mind works. It originates from two words; one meaning, "To reign in," like you say, "I've got to reign this fellow in"; that is, to bring him under control. The second word means, "To block in or fence in."

Thus, the admonition to set your affection on things above means to have control on your mind and consciously set your thinking on spiritual things. Remember that the things you think about are the things that will control your actions.

For example, you may have been wrestling with certain habits; habits that affect the way you serve and live for the Lord; habits that reduce your effectiveness and efficiency. You might have prayed about it, yet, nothing seemed to have changed. It's not so much about prayer as it's about the use of your mind! Your mind is a very powerful machine; you can twist or control it any way you choose. So, what you must do is to first, consciously refuse to think on those things you know aren't wholesome, and deliberately focus

your mind on the Word.

Practise exercising your mind through conscious thought. If, for whatever reason, an unwholesome thought comes to you, say, "No," and then, switch your mind to something excellent; to the Word. Don't be surprised if such thoughts creep in again; resist it and repeat the process. James 4:7 says "...Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." God knows what's in the devil, and He tells us if we resist him, he'll flee; that's got to be the necessary result!

Exercise your mind to develop a liking for spiritual things; exercise your interests in the things of God. Attend church services. Study and meditate on the Word. Maintain a robust prayer schedule. Win souls. These are spiritual activities to consciously engage in, in training yourself to "reign-in" your outward man! Hallelujah!

## **CONFESSION**

I consciously exercise my mind to focus on the spiritual realities of the Word, and project myself to greater levels of success, prosperity and victory. By the power of the Spirit, I cast off worthless and unproductive thoughts, and use my mind correctly to picture the glorious and victorious life that I have in Christ, Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Philippians 4:8; Romans 12:2

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 10:1-23 & Genesis 31-33

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 9:1-9 & Esther 7-8





TUESDAY 14

# HE NOURISHES AND CHERISHES YOU



For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church (Ephesians 5:29).

The Lord Jesus, in John 10:11 & 14, said, "I am the good shepherd...." The Greek word for "shepherd" is "poimen" and it means "Pastor"; one that's called of God to nourish, carefully protect and cherish the flock. This is what Jesus does to the Church; He nourishes and cherishes it. The Apostle Paul implied this in his Spirit-inspired admonition in our theme verse.

How does the Lord nourish the Church? He does it through the ministry of the Word! It brings to mind something the Lord said to me while in prayer many years ago. He said, "Feed my sheep." While I was still pondering on the statement, He said it again. At this time, tears flowed freely down my eyes, because I knew what He meant. He wanted me to teach the Word; and I've been at it ever since.

What the Lord said to me back then parallels His encounter with Peter in John 21:17. After asking Peter three consecutive times, "Do you love me?" and Peter answered in the affirmative, He said to him, "Feed my sheep." He was telling Peter to feed them with the Word. The Word is food for the spirit, and anyone who dares to believe and receive the Word is nourished, built up, and sustained in the victorious life. In Acts 20:32, the Spirit 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."

The Church is very important to the Lord. The Bible says "...we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones" (Ephesians 5:30). We're one with Him. And through the ministry of the Word, He sustains, energizes, strengthens and prepares us for His soon return: "That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish" (Ephesians 5:26-27).

Even now, the Lord is nourishing you as you study this devotional. He's doing something to your spirit; He's invigorating and vitalizing you through and through, because He cherishes you. Hallelujah!

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for your Word that builds me up and positions me on the right course in life. I'm completely given to the ministry of the Word in study and meditation, and therefore, nurtured, edified, developed and sustained in the victorious life. I walk in divine health, prosperity, and enjoy unprecedented increase in every area of my life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Acts 20:32; Ezekiel 34:14-15; 2 Timothy 3:15-17

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 10:24-42 & Genesis 34-35

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 9:10-20 & Esther 9-10





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## X otes

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WEDNESDAY 15

## WALK IN THE SPIRIT



But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his (Romans 8:9).

There're Christians who are still easily controlled by the dictates of the flesh and its senses. So, always, they pray, asking the Lord to help them overcome the flesh with its affections and lusts. But that's a contradiction, because the Word says, "... those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires" (Galatians 5:24 NKJV). What you're supposed to do is live the Word.

God's Word reveals your identity, heritage, origin and ability in Christ Jesus; it's a mirror. Your responsibility is to accept the picture of you that the Word projects, and live accordingly. We read in our opening verse that you're not in the flesh, but in the Spirit. That's the declaration of God; that's how He sees you. Your recreated human spirit is perfected in Christ; so, what then? Galatians 5:16 states what you're supposed to do and the result: "...Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh."

You're to walk in the Spirit because you're born into the realm of the Spirit; you live in the Spirit; that's

your life now! The reason some still find themselves struggling with unhealthy desires and habits is that they're not walking in the consciousness of who they are in Christ; they're not walking in the Spirit. How do you walk in the Spirit? It doesn't mean floating in the air; it means walking in the light of God's Word; walking in the light of who you are in Him.

Now that you're born again, set your appetite on the things of the Spirit. If you find yourself lusting after or desiring the things of the world, you ought to say, "No, that's not who I am; I'm the righteousness of God in Christ; my spirit is clean; I'm a new creature. I thirst and yearn after God and His Word only. My affection is set on things above, not on things in the earth." Hallelujah!

## **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for giving me the ability to comprehend who I am in Christ. I'm born of the Spirit and yielded to the Spirit, to do your will and walk in your light. My life is the expression and manifestation of your righteousness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 8:1-2; Romans 8:5-9; Galatians 5:25

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 11:1-30 & Genesis 36-37

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 9:21-31 & Job 1-2





THURSDAY 16

## **BE CHRIST-IN-ME CONSCIOUS**



...For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people (2 Corinthians 6:16 NKJV).

The real essence of Christianity is the fact that Christ literally lives in you by the Holy Spirit. That's the reason Jesus came, to make fellowship and oneness with God possible. Through that fellowship, we were given eternal life—the life and nature of God. Therefore, you're by no means an ordinary person. You're full of God; full of His love, His grace and His wisdom.

This has to become a reality in your spirit; otherwise, you won't be living the true Christian life. You have to be Christ-in-me conscious. I'm referring to a consciousness about life where all you know is Christ; everything you see is Christ. The Bible says Christ is your life (Colossians 3:4). Christ is everything. Functioning with this mindset will literally transport you to the realm where you have no consciousness of need, failure or fear; you're on top and in victory every day, every hour, every minute and every second, because you carry God in you! You and God are the eternal winning team. Hallelujah!

But because many aren't "Christ-in-me" minded, they struggle through life, "looking" for God; "going"

to Him, and reaching out to Him for help. Whereas, the Bible says, "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4). Everything and anything you could ever need is inside the greater One that lives in you. What you need is to become conscious of His indwelling presence and the wisdom He pilots you with for success and greatness.

Don't ask Him for wisdom; He's your wisdom (1 Corinthians 1:30). Don't ask Him for help; He's your Help and your Helper. Don't ask Him for strength; He's your strength. Don't go anywhere without the consciousness that you're a God-carrying vessel. You'll be amazed at the sudden transformation: the grace, divine aura, influence and power that you'll exude. Why? In the spiritual realm, the first principle is knowledge; the second is consciousness, and the third is speaking; voicing. That's the reason this knowledge is coming to you today, for you to have the consciousness that you carry God in you, and then declare accordingly.

# **CONFESSION**

I'm not ordinary, for the Greater One lives in my spirit, soul and body! I'm full of God! I'm strong, sound, full of His love, wisdom and divine essence. My life is full of grace. Hallelujah!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Corinthians 3:16; Colossians 1:26-27

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 12:1-21 & Genesis 38-39

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 9:32-43 & Job 3-4





# FRIDAY 17

# **UNHINDERED PROGRESS**



Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all (1 Timothy 4:15).

The word, "appear" in our opening verse is the Greek "phaneros," which means to spread abroad, or to cause something or someone to shine. Here, the Spirit, through the Apostle Paul lets us know what meditating on God's Word does for you: it causes your prosperity and success to spread abroad or burst forth. Hallelujah!

The same truth is revealed in Joshua 1:8; the Word propels your advancement. The Lord said to Joshua, "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success." Notice that the key isn't just having the Word in your heart or the pages of the Bible, but in your mouth; speaking it forth, and it'll bring prosperity into your life.

When you study the Hebrew construction of the latter part of Joshua 1:8, you'd observe that the portion where it says "...thou shalt make thy way prosperous..." actually means "to burst forth with prosperity!" What it describes is a sudden gush, like the

rushing of a flood breaking through a barrier with so much power. That's the kind of prosperity and success you'll experience if you'd meditate, inundate your spirit with God's Word. You burst forth into prosperity with such power that nothing can hold back.

Perhaps you're into some trade or business and your brand hasn't "spread abroad"; it isn't well known. Practise meditating on the Word. As you do, you'll receive the ideas and inspiration you need to take things to the next level. It doesn't matter in which area of your life you desire to see extraordinary progress; do this, and before long, others will surely notice your unhindered progress.

## **CONFESSION**

Dear Father, your wisdom is at work in me and I'm moving with power and great glory; there's no stopping me. I'm propelled by your Word and the Spirit, in the path of success and greatness. I'm fulfilling my destiny in Christ, gloriously bursting forth in prosperity. Hallelujah!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Psalm 1:1-3; Isaiah 32:15; 3 John 1:2

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 12:22-50 & Genesis 40-41

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 10:1-8 & Job 5-6





SATURDAY 18

# **ALWAYS VICTORIOUS**



Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place (2 Corinthians 2:14).

There's a reason the Church is the most persecuted of the demographics in the world: Satan is afraid of what's coming, and he's making so much effort to cause fear in the hearts of many. But he's a failure. Mighty things are happening in the Church of Jesus Christ, and the devil can't contain it. What's happening with us is bigger than what's happening in Technology, Science, or Politics.

In Matthew 16:18, Jesus said, "...I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The word, "Gates" is symbolic in prophetic language for "power and dominion." So, the powers of hell, the dominion of hell, shall not prevail against the Church.

The Church, right from inception, has survived and endured many terrible persecutions, and will always out-live her detractors. That's because the Word of God is clear: "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is

written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us" (Romans 8:35-37).

We're forever victorious. We crush every opposition and conquer every adversity. That's the blessing upon the Church. The Holy Spirit is the Boss of the Church, and He's God. He's working in, with, and through us. It's impossible for us to fail. We won before we started; we're just acting out the script that's already been written. Hallelujah!

The Amplified version of our theme verse says, "But thanks be to God, Who in Christ always leads us in triumph [as trophies of Christ's victory...." That's what's happening. We're in a Holy Ghost victory parade. What you need is to stay focused on the work of the Lord, serving Him with joy. Hallelujah!

# **CONFESSION**

I'm a member of the glorious and triumphant body of Christ. Therefore, I'm indestructible; no matter what happens, I win, because the Word puts me over and guarantees my victory. Greater is He that's in me than he that's in the world. I reign and rule with Christ, now and always, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 8:37-39; 1 John 4:4; 1 Corinthians 15:57-58

# 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 13:1-23 & Genesis 42-43

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 10:9-20 & Job 7-8





# SUNDAY 19

# **HAVE NO FEARS**



And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last (Revelation 1:17).

hen you study the Scriptures, you find that always, God tells us, "Fear not"; be it morning, noon or night; irrespective of what you hear or the symptoms you might be feeling, He doesn't want fear in your heart. That's because He knows all things; He knows the future and can see that nothing is set against you or could harm you. He's the eternal God and lives in eternity. He sees the end from the beginning.

Therefore, even when you seem troubled about something and want Him to act right away, He's unruffled and never in a hurry, because He already saw that you prevailed. Your future is history to Him. When you study the story of Abraham, you'd observe the Lord giving him the history of his future; He said to him, "...a father of many nations have I made thee" (Genesis 17:5). At this time, Abraham had no child; but in the mind of God, it was already a settled fact. His future was history to God.

It's the same with you today. Have no fears, because He's seen everything and knows there's nothing in front of you that's capable of defeating or destroying you. Nothing! It makes no difference where you are or where you live in this world; there're no limitations on your path. All God wants is that you follow His Word. His Word guarantees your victory, prosperity and success.

His Word is your weapon against all adversary and adversity. His Word is the sword of the Spirit. If you'd live by His Word, and keep it in your mouth, nothing can stop you. Therefore, take away the limits. Say to yourself, "All limitations are gone from my mind! I can, and would be all that God wants me to be. I'M A SUCCESS!" Glory to God!

## **CONFESSION**

I'm bold and very courageous! The Word of God is producing in me what it talks about and I rise above all the limiting systems of the world. I have an extraordinary capacity to contemplate, think, envision and see endless possibilities; and no situation or difficulty can deter me, because I've been set on a perpetual journey of advancement, upliftment and promotion. Glory to God!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Joshua 1:6-7; Romans 8:35-39; 1 John 4:4

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 13:24-43 & Genesis 44-45

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 10:21-33 & Job 9-10





MONDAY 20

#### MEDITATE ON CHRIST



To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory (Colossians 1:27).

Thrist in you" isn't a religious clich. It's a divine reality, but many haven't understood the power and import of that reality. That's the reason for the headaches and fevers they complain of; that's why they wake up with cancer, diabetes, and all such anomalies in their physical bodies. How could you be sick, if indeed, Christ indwells your physical body?

Before Christ came, all men were under the curse of sin, and were therefore subject to Satan, condemnation, sickness, disease, poverty and death. The Bible says, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). This was the consequence of man's fall in the Garden of Eden. But guess what? The glory that was lost by sin, was restored in Christ! Therefore, if Christ is in you, then glory is the result: glory in your health, in your finances, in your work, family and every area of your life. Hallelujah!

Your life, now that you're born again, is for glory only. This should be your consciousness; otherwise,

you'll live an ordinary life. Let Christ manifest Himself in you, through the Word and the Holy Spirit. Become "Christ-in-me" conscious. Meditate on Christ: who He is, who He is to you, and in you, and His ministry in you today! Christ isn't around you or near you; neither is He merely with you; He's in you. That's the greatest thing in the world. Praise God for evermore!

# **CONFESSION**

I belong in a special class of divine beings—"the Christ-in-me species!" This is my assurance of a life of continuous triumph and eternal glory. The power, beauty and excellence of divinity are resident in my spirit. I manifest the life and glory of Christ. Hallelujah!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 5:30; 1 Corinthians 6:17; Romans 8:10 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 13:44-14:1-12 & Genesis 46-48

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 10:34-43 & Job 11-12





## TUESDAY 21

## **DIVINE ACCESS**



...who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this? (Esther 4:14).

There're people in this world that God has placed to give access to others; access to wealth, to power, to resources, etc. He has ordained someone to be your access, and you may never have that access except through that person. This is because, in working with men, in blessing men, He uses other men.

Take for instance in 1 Kings 17:9 (ASV), God said to Elijah, "Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Sidon, and dwell there: behold, I have commanded a widow there to sustain thee." It was a time of severe famine and if Elijah was going to have any more food, it was going to come from that woman. Elijah could go anywhere else, if he chose, but if he was going to walk in God's perfect will for that moment, it had to be through that woman.

For the woman, Elijah was her access for her next level. She was in abject penury, and if she was ever going to come out of that squalor, it would be her connection to Elijah. Through Elijah, she was in turn sustained and went from penury into prosperity (read the entire account in 1 Kings 17). That's not all; when

her son fell ill and died, she got a miracle; the young lad was raised back to life by the prophet, Elijah.

Likewise, the children of Israel remained as slaves in Egypt, until Moses responded to the call of God to bring them out. Moses was their access. Jesus Himself was our access to the Father's presence and He knew it. He said, "...No one comes to the Father, but by me" (John 14:6 RSV).

Recognize those you're to give access, and be prompt to do what the Lord has placed in your heart to do for their benefit or advantage. Also, recognize those the Lord has placed in your path to give you access, whether in ministry, your work, career, politics, etc. It's a principle in the Kingdom of God, and you have to understand it.

# CONFESSION

I'm the answer to the cry of many and a solution to my world! The eyes of my understanding are flooded with light to recognize and give access to those the Lord has placed in my path, and I'm both spiritually and financially well capacitated to fulfil this purpose. Likewise, I recognize and take full advantage of those that have been empowered by God to give me access to my next and higher level in my work, ministry, etc., in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Hosea 12:13; Genesis 12:2; Hebrews 13:16

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 14:13-36 & Genesis 49-50

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 10:44-11:1-3 & Job 13-14





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## X otes




WEDNESDAY 22

# **SELF-SUFFICIENT IN HIM**



All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you (John 16:15).

In Exodus 3, when God appeared to Moses and told him he'd deliver the children of Israel out of Egypt, Moses asked the Lord, "...Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?" (Exodus 3:13 NKJV). In the ensuing verse 14, the Bible says, "Then Moses said to God, Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you," and they say to me, "What is His name?" what shall I say to them?"

Notice that He didn't say, "Tell them, 'I AM' is my Name"; that's not His Name, but a description. He's the Self-Sufficient and Self-Existent One. He created everything from Himself; He needed no material from anywhere else to do anything. The Bible says, "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made" (John 1:3).

What's important here, that's so easily overlooked, is about what He expects of you. What does He want you to become? What has He made you? Several years ago, I was preaching a message, and I said, "If you don't

say YOU ARE, others will say you're not; therefore, you have to say YOU ARE." What does it mean, when you say you are? It's like God saying, "I AM."

Remember, you're created in His image; therefore, like Him, whatever you require will reproduce from within you; not from outside. In our theme verse, Jesus said, "All things that the Father hath are mine..." (John 16:15). This same Jesus delivered everything to us. The Bible says we're joint-heirs with Him (Romans 8:17). Everything you require for the life of absolute success, victory, dominion, glory and righteousness has already been granted you in Christ.

Why was Jesus the way He was? It's because He knew who He was ("I AM"); He had no consciousness of lack. He wants us to come to the same understanding that He's made us exactly like Him. We're His reflection; icon and glory! In Him, you're self-sufficient.

# **CONFESSION**

I'm created in God's image and likeness; therefore, I'm self-sufficient, for as He is, so am I in this world! Everything I require for the life of absolute success, victory, dominion, glory and righteousness are inside me. I live triumphantly today, and always, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Corinthians 9:8 AMPC; Acts 17:28; 2 Corinthians 3:5

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 15:1-28 & Exodus 1-2

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 11:4-14 & Job 15-16





THURSDAY 23

# TRANSLATED INTO THE KINGDOM OF HIS LOVE SON



Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son (Colossians 1:12-13).

In the above verses, the Word declares that the Father not only qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light, but also "delivered" us from the power of darkness. Then, it gets climactic where the Spirit says the Father "...hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son." How profound!

It would have been good enough if He only delivered us from the jurisdiction of darkness; but to go the extra step of transferring us into the Kingdom of His Love Son, is absolutely transcendent. But sadly, in spite of this glorious truth, some Christians, out of ignorance, still go about seeking deliverance from Satan. Like the fellow who said, "You know, demons are real; I need a powerful man of God to pray for me and deliver me"; no! There's no true born again person that needs deliverance from Satan. Satan is a defeated foe. You weren't delivered from the authority of darkness because you prayed hard or because

somebody prayed for you; it's the result of what Christ has done. The moment you accepted the redemptive works of Christ in your behalf, and confessed His Lordship over your life, the dominion of Satan over you was broken.

Recognize your present status, state, and estate. You're seated together with Christ in the heavenly realms, "Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come" (Ephesians 1:21). Live from that realm of victory, dominion, peace and joy evermore, and rule your world with the authority He's given you.

# **PRAYER**

Dear heavenly Father, I thank you for transferring me from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of your Love Son, Jesus Christ. I live in your presence, and function with the dominion of Christ over darkness, evil powers, demons, and their works. I live the victorious, prosperous and ever-glorious life that I've received in Christ, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 2:4-6; 1 John 4:4

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 15:29-16:1-12 & Exodus 3-5

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 11:15-30 & Job 17





FRIDAY 24

#### YOU ARE BOUNDLESS



And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth (Luke 12:15).

n Genesis 37, we read how Joseph's brothers plotted against him and sold him into slavery. As a slave in the house of Potiphar, Joseph could have been whining and crying, bitter about what his brothers did to him. His complaints would have been valid, in a sense, but he wasn't going to give any excuse for failure. The Bible says, "And the LORD was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian" (Genesis 39:2).

If, while as a slave in the house of Potiphar, Joseph was still prosperous, then it means true prosperity isn't about money. Therefore, your prosperity shouldn't be dependent on how much money you have or don't have; what others owe you or what you have in your bank account; your prosperity is in your heart. Someone says, "I would never have been in this terrible financial situation if not that someone I loaned money has refused to pay me back." No; don't think or talk like that. No amount of money could ever be taken from you, enough to make you broke or poor. You're

an heir of God, a joint-heir with Christ; plugged to a supply that never runs dry.

When you lend out money, if they pay you back, praise God; but the moment you give it out, rise above it. You are boundless. Jesus said in Luke 6:35, "...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." He's getting your attention on something higher: God's wealth is your wealth. You're only a conduit—a free-flowing conduit—for passing it to others. Your flow can't be blocked. So, in your life, with regard to your financial prosperity, focus on the Lord as your source. Glory to God!

## CONFESSION

All the wealth in this world belongs to me, for I'm an heir of God and a joint-heir with Christ. The silver and the gold are mine, including the cattle upon a thousand hills. Therefore, I refuse to be limited by anything in this world. I'm a free-flowing conduit of God's wealth and blessings to others, and I'm plugged to an unending supply. Glory to God!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Corinthians 8:9 AMPC; 1 Timothy 6:17; Philippians 4:19

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 16:13-17:1-13 & Exodus 6-7

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 12:1-10 & Job 18-19





SATURDAY 25

## **DIVINELY FAVOURED AND POSITIONED**



And Elisha said unto her, What shall I do for thee? tell me, what hast thou in the house? And she said. Thine handmaid hath not any thing in the house, save a pot of oil (2 Kings 4:2).

here're those who have become despondent because they lost their job or because their business took a tailspin. Being born again, such things shouldn't affect you. That you lost your job doesn't mean anything, and the reason you lost the job isn't so important either. What should matter to you is what we call, "divine positioning."

Recall what we read about Joseph in our preceding study; he was a slave. He wasn't receiving a salary, because slaves aren't paid a salary. But the Bible says, "Joseph was a prosperous man," even as a slave (Genesis 39:2). He didn't have to have a salary to be prosperous. He was the seed of Abraham, and that was all that was necessary. He had his dream in front of him, and he knew who he was. He functioned in divine grace. Hallelujah!

There's no disadvantage for you as a child of God. You've been divinely positioned for greatness in life. Romans 8:28 declares, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Nothing happens to you or with you by chance. Where you are right now; that situation in which you find yourself, is where your answer is. Don't wish you had the capital or anything else.

In our theme verse, Elisha asked the widow, "... what hast thou in the house?" With the little pot of oil she had, she became an oil distributor overnight. Praise God! All the capital you need is in your mind. All the advantage you need is Christ in you. Therefore, look to the Holy Spirit in you; trust Him for guidance and direction and do whatever He tells you. He'll cause His blessing to come on it, and it'll blossom beyond your dreams. Hallelujah!

## **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for the comfort in your Word. You've blessed the works of my hands and set me on the path of permanent success and prosperity. I'm flourishing like the cedar in Lebanon. I pray for your children around the world today who are faced with diverse challenges; they prevail by the Spirit, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Proverbs 8:10-12; Job 22:29; Romans 8:28

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 17:14-18:1-14 & Exodus 8-9

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 12:11-19 & Job 20-21





SUNDAY 26

## **REFUSE PRIDE**



But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble (James 4:6).

Sometimes, it's difficult to tell when people are proud, because pride is of the heart. Only God's Word can diagnose pride in the heart of a man. As you study, meditate or listen to God's Word; it "x-rays" your heart to reveal what's therein. If there's pride or something that's not right, the Word will reveal it for you to make the necessary changes.

The Bible says, "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12). God's Word discerns the thoughts and intents of the heart. In 1 Samuel 16:7, it says, "...man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart."

Don't wait for someone to accuse you of being proud. Use the Word to examine yourself. Study the Scriptures and see what's described as pride; behaviours of men and women that God referred to as proud, and expressions of pride with terms as,

"his heart was lifted up" (2 Chronicles 26:16; 32:25; Ezekiel 28:5,17). A proud look (Proverbs 6:17), and also Proverbs 21:4 that talks about "An high look, and a proud heart..." both of which God says are sin.

Fight to remain humble. Use the right words on people; gracious and loving words. Emulate Jesus. The Bible says in spite of His glory, majesty and greatness, He "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." (Philippians 2:5-8). Hallelujah!

# **PRAYER**

Precious Father, I receive your Word today into my spirit, gladly, and I thank you for the transformation it brings to my life. The humility of Christ is evident in my thoughts, communication and actions, thereby causing your grace to increase in my life for greater glory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Matthew 23:12 NIV; Proverbs 18:12 NIV; Psalm 138:6 NKJV

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 18:15-35 & Exodus 10-12

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 12:20-25 & Job 22-23





# THE CHURCH HAS AWAKENED



The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit (John 3:8).

There's a message that's reverberating throughout the world; it's the prophetic word that was given many years ago about the "sleeping giant." The world has heard that there's a "sleeping giant" somewhere in the world, and every nation has been on the alert. They've discussed this at the highest levels; they've tried everything to assess various nations to ascertain who this giant is, but no nation fits the descriptions.

Every time something happens in any nation, the world gets in a frenzy, because they were told that the "sleeping giant" will arise from the distress of others. So, they wonder what kind of distress would awaken this "sleeping giant." It's a message with a strong signal; and intelligence officials at the highest levels around the world are alert and waiting for the emergence of this giant.

But you see, this 'sleeping giant' isn't one of the countries in the United Nations, no; it's the Church of Jesus Christ! Glory to God! Truly, for many years,

it seemed the Church was sleeping. But it's not so anymore; the Church has awakened. The world may not know it, but they'll find out soon.

Our theme scripture says, "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth...." The Church is a mystery, and we're unstoppable! The Church is the greatest nation on earth, with the power and glory to tame this world. This isn't something to try to figure out with your brain; you can only relate with this truth with your spirit. When you look at the things happening in, with, and through the Church in different nations of the world today, you'd know that indeed, the Church is taking over, and the gates of hell can't prevail. Glory to God!

# **CONFESSION**

The Church is marching on, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Christians around the world are encouraged and fortified to stand strong and tall for the message of the Gospel, against every adversity and adversary, establishing the kingdom of heaven in all the nations of the world, to the glory of God, the Father! Hallelujah!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Matthew 16:18; 2 Samuel 3:1; Revelation 11:15-17

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 19:1-15 & Exodus 13-14

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 13:1-12 & Job 24-25





TUESDAY 28

# THE WORD OF HIS GRACE



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 (Acts 20:32).

The Word of God is more than history or a compilation of stories; the Word of God is God talking. And what He says is relevant in the "now" of our lives, and it's the material with which we build our lives. As you study the Scriptures, you'd often come across the phrase, "Thus saith (says) the Lord"; not, "Thus said the Lord." "Thus says the Lord" means the Word of the Lord is for you today and for your situation—now; it's efficacious in itself and by itself to build you and transform your life.

What we read in our theme verse was Paul's cogitations and conviction about the transforming and translational power of God's Word. The Word infuses boldness, excellence and dominion into your spirit. If the one who is hitherto timid would give himself to the study of God's Word, that timidity would be replaced with the spirit of power, love and a sound mind. That's the power of God's Word. However, even though every Word from God is full of power, the Apostle Paul was definite as to what builds your spirit and transforms

your life: it's "the Word of God's grace."

The Word of His grace is His Word about Christ, His redemptive work in our behalf; who we are today, what we have and where we are today, as a result of His death, burial and resurrection. That's what builds you spiritually, mentally, physically, financially, emotionally, and also causes you to prosper in other areas of your life. Hallelujah!

Give yourself to the study of the Word; contemplate and contrive the Word in meditation. As you do, the Holy Spirit will grant you insight into the mysteries and secrets of life and of our spiritual Kingdom. He'll also quicken the Word in you in such a way that results in an outburst of prosperity in every area of your life.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I'm yielded to be built, edified, energized and strengthened by your Word, for a life of greatness, victory and triumphs. Through the ministry of the Word, and the Holy Spirit, my growth—spiritually, physically, mentally, emotionally, and financially is evident; there's an outburst of prosperity in every area of my life, to the praise and glory of your Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Timothy 4:15; 1 Peter 2:2 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 19:16-20:1-16 & Exodus 15

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 13:13-25 & Job 26-27





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## X otes




WEDNESDAY 29

# HIS DIVINE HEADQUARTERS



To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory (Colossians 1:27).

The Holy Spirit is the embodiment of all power, and He lives in you in His fullness. He didn't come in a measure to give you a part of Himself, contrary to the understanding that some people have. 1 Corinthians 3:16 says, "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" Here, the Apostle Paul is emphatic: you're the temple of God and the Spirit of God lives in you.

But who is this awesome, wonderful Holy Spirit that lives in you? He's the conveyor of the presence and blessings of God. In the Old Testament, He's called the "angel of God's presence" (Isaiah 63:9). He's the One that manifests God's presence and His power wherever God wants it. Think about the fact that this awesome infinite personality of the Godhead lives in you! That makes you a God-carrying vessel; divinity's headquarters! Hallelujah!

This means that in your life, it's glory and excellence only, because Christ in you, is the hope of glory; the Holy Spirit in you means glory, excellence, strength, victory, joy, peace, prosperity and blessings in your life! Affirm this always, because the power of the Word of

God works through knowledge and affirmation. Every so often, say aloud, "The Holy Spirit lives in me. He has vitalized every fibre of my being; He's my life and everything I need to live joyfully always, and fulfil God's plan for my life gloriously." Hallelujah!

The Holy Spirit didn't merely come upon you as He did on God's people in the Old Testament, He came into you to make you the headquarters of His operations in the earth. He lives in you in all His glory, majesty, dominion, wisdom and strength. And through you, He blesses everything and everyone around you; He establishes the righteousness of God in the earth and in the hearts of men. Through you, He's able to express His love, because you're His extension in the earth; you hail from Him and are one with Him (1 Corinthians 6:17). Praise God for evermore!

# **PRAYER**

Blessed Father, I thank you for the Holy Spirit who lives in me in His fullness, making me the headquarters of your operations in the earth. I'm conscious, and take advantage of your glorious presence in me, and declare that I fulfil my destiny in Christ, demonstrating the glory, wisdom and excellence of divinity, bearing fruits of righteousness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Corinthians 6:17; Colossians 2:9-10; John 14:23

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 20:17-34 & Exodus 16-17

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 13:26-41 & Job 28-29





THURSDAY 30

# BORN FREE-INTO GOD'S PRESENCE



So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed (John 8:36 NIV).

any don't realize that the statement above by Jesus wasn't to Christians; the Christian wasn't set free or isn't going to be set free. Set free from what or from who exactly? The Christian is a new creation; he came from the resurrection of lesus Christ: therefore, he has the resurrection life. He was born-free, into righteousness and the presence of God. Hallelujah! 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

However, due to ignorance of the Word, some Christians still have a "deliverance mentality"-the mentality of always wanting to be set free from one bondage or the other: but the Christian doesn't require "deliverance." Understand this: The whole world has been saved and delivered by Jesus Christ through His vicarious death. When He died, He died for everybody. When God raised Him from the dead. He was raised for everybody. But that's the legality of salvation.

Salvation only becomes a vital experience in the life of the one who, in accordance to Romans 10:9, proclaims the Lordship of Jesus. At that moment, he or she is born again and translated into the Kingdom of light, with the human life supplanted by the life and nature of God. That's who the Christian is. He's born anew without sin, without a past, into the presence of God! God literally gave birth to you, through the Word.

James 1:18 says, "Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth...." 1 Peter 1:23 says, "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." This is the reality! You're superior to Satan and could never be in bondage to him because you have the life of the Word. Therefore, live in God's Word and enjoy your life in Him, and be all that He's called you to be. Hallelujah!

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the joy of being born into the liberty of the Spirit to serve you unreservedly, without any form of restrictions, limitations or fear. I boldly exercise the authority you've given me over Satan and all the powers of the enemy. Thank you for the life of victory you've given me in Christ and your glory which is manifested in me today, in the Name of Jesus. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Peter 1:4; Colossians 1:12-14

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 21:1-32 & Exodus 18-19

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 13:42-52 & Job 30-31





FRIDAY 31

#### THE WORD IS YOUR LIFE



Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God. which liveth and abideth for ever (1 Peter 1:23).

When we say the Christian is born of God, we're actually saying he's born of the Word; he's the Word's offspring. That's what we read in our opening verse. The Apostle James stated the same truth in James 1:18, saying, "Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures."

Then Paul took it to a climax and calls us the epistle (Word) of Christ: "Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart" (2 Corinthians 3:3). What does this mean? It means you don't have a life that's separate from the Word. This is so because the Word of God is your source, and every living thing must be connected to its source to live.

Man's body was made from the dust of the ground; so, man has to feed on cultivations from the ground to survive. Man, however, is a spirit, and the spirit of man came from God's Spirit, and was created with the Word of God. Therefore, you must continually feed on God's Word to truly live. The Lord Jesus said in Luke 4:4, "...It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God." Acts 20:32 says, "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."

Through the Word, you condition your life for victory every day, such that no matter the circumstances, you're always triumphant. In Isaiah 55:11, the Lord says, "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Culture and regulate your life with the Word and keep growing from glory to glory.

#### **CONFESSION**

Dear Father, I'm yielded to your Word which reflects my true nature, identity, origin and heritage in Christ. I'm the expression of the unseen Christ, the brightness of His glory. As He is, so am I in this world; and as I culture and regulate my mind with the Word, I'm transformed; I experience ever-increasing glory. Hallelujah!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Corinthians 3:2-3 AMPC; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Matthew 4:4

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 21:33-22:1-14 & Exodus 20-21

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 14:1-7 & Job 32-33





We trust you have been blessed by this devotional. We invite you to make Jesus Christ the Lord of your life by praying thus:

"O Lord God, I believe with all my heart in Jesus Christ, Son of the living God. I believe He died for me and God raised Him from the dead. I believe He's alive today. I confess with my mouth that Jesus Christ is the Lord of my life from this day. Through Him and in His Name, I have eternal life; I'm born again. Thank you Lord, for saving my soul! I'm now a child of God. Hallelujah!"

Congratulations! You are now a child of God. To receive more information on how you can grow as a Christian, please get in touch with us through any of the contacts below:

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Pastor Chris Oyakhilome, the President of LoveWorld Inc., a dynamic, multifaceted, global ministry, is the author of Rhapsody of Realities, the world's #1 daily devotional, and more than 30 other books. He's a dedicated minister of God's Word whose message has brought the reality of the divine life to the hearts of many.

Millions have been affected by his television broadcast, "Atmosphere For Miracles," which brings God's divine presence right into people's homes. The scope of his television ministry extends throughout the world with LoveWorld satellite television networks, delivering qualitative Christian programming to a global audience.

At the world-renowned Healing School, he manifests the healing works of Jesus Christ and has helped many receive healing through the operation of the gifts of the Spirit.

Pastor Chris has a passion to reach the peoples of the world with God's presence—a divine commission he's fulfilled for more than 30 years through various outreaches, crusades, as well as several other platforms that have helped millions experience a victorious and purposeful life in God's Word.





I grew up in a strict Muslim family where my father restricted us from relating with Christians. One day, I found a copy of Rhapsody of Realities on the streets. I took it home and began reading it but had to hide it from my family. I read it daily and took all the prayers and confessions. I started to experience God in a whole new way. One day, a friend took me to Church and I got born again. I kept reading Rhapsody of Realities and soon enough my family experienced a wave of salvation; through Rhapsody of Realities my entire family has gotten saved. Glory to God!

Aishatu; Nigeria

#### "Unwavering Faith"

My husband had a urine test carried out and was discovered to have red blood cells in his urine. Being a Medical Doctor, he knew the implications of this result and became worried. However, my faith remained unwavering. My mother and I kept reading Rhapsody of Realities and praying, believing that he would be alright. A week after, my husband got an ultrasound scan, and a cystoscopy, which confirmed everything was normal. Since then, my husband who never went to Church is now committed in Church. Thank God for Rhapsody of Realities!

"Made Whole Through Faith-filled Confessions"

In 2015, I developed a heart problem which caused chest pains and difficulty in breathing. I made a decision to read Rhapsody of Realities daily and take all the confessions in it. As I did, I got miraculously healed. I no longer feel pains in my chest and I breathe normally. My faith-filled confessions through Rhapsody of Realities has made me whole. Glory to God!

A. Owen; Zimbabwe



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# Rhapsody of Realities

## Chris Oyakhilome



Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

#### A KEY FOR OTHER BIBLE VERSIONS USED:

NKJV -New King James Version
AMP -The Amplified Bible

AMPC -The Amplified Classic Bible
TANT -The Amplified New Translation

TLB -The Living Bible CFV -Contemporary English Version NASB -New American Standard Bible ISV -International Standard Version NIV -New International Version MSG -The Message Translation WEB -The World English Bible TNIT -The New Living Translation ASV -American Standard Version TEV -Today's English Version RSV -Revised Standard Version

GNB -Good News Bible

WNT -Weymouth New Testament
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MOFFAT -Moffatt New Translation WESNT -Wesley New Testament

EBR -Rotherham's Emphasized Bible

DRB -Douay-Rheims Bible

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## **Introduction**

urray! Your favourite daily devotional, Rhapsody of Realities, is now available in over 2000 languages and still counting. The 2020 edition of the devotional has been packaged to enhance your spiritual growth and development and position you for resounding success throughout the year.

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Enjoy God's glorious presence and victory, as you take a daily dose of His Word! God bless you!

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## Rhapsody of Realities ... A DAILY DEVOTIONAL

www.rhapsodyofrealities.org



#### SATURDAY 1

#### **OUR FELLOWSHIP WITH DIVINITY**



That which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ
(1 John 1:3).

ow powerful this is: our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son, Jesus Christ! This is the greatest thing about Christianity—our fellowship with divinity. Christ's purpose was to produce associates of the God-kind; a special class of being with the life and nature of God, thus making it possible for us to fellowship with Him.

1 Corinthians 1:9 says, "God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord." As a result of this divine fellowship, anything that belongs to the Father belongs to us. Oh, the blessedness of our oneness with the Lord! It's deeper than association; it's greater than being in a covenant! He sees Himself in us. He's never satisfied until we're satisfied; our joy is His joy, and vice versa. No wonder, the Apostle Paul, writing to Timothy said, "...be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 2:1). We're to take advantage of His grace in our fellowship with Him.

You need to know that God truly loves you, so much so that He made you one with Himself. Anything that concerns you, concerns Him. You don't function aside or apart from Him. Become conscious of this. It's the reason you should never be perturbed about anything in life. Think about it: how could you be in lack when you're in league with the Monarch of the universe? We're sons of God; heirs of God and jointheirs with Christ! Glory to His Name forever!

Take full advantage of His love in your life and enjoy the blessed fellowship that He's brought you into. Walk with Him, talk with Him and live fully in Him. Hallelujah!

#### **PRAYER**

Precious Father, I rejoice evermore for your life and nature in my spirit, which makes it possible for me to fellowship with you, the Most High God! This is the highest honour and greatest privilege ever conferred. I'm so grateful that you made me inseparably one with you, to truly live for you and fulfil your will and purpose for my life, to your glory and praise, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Corinthians 1:9; 1 Corinthians 6:17; Hebrews 2:11

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 22:15-46 & Exodus 22-23

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 14:8-18 & Job 34-35





SUNDAY 2

#### **BEING BORN AGAIN**



Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever (1 Peter 1:23).

/hen you understand what it is to be born again, it'll put springs in your steps. To be born again is to have the very nature of God in your spirit; it is to have the active life of Christ in every fibre of your being—in your spirit, soul and body.

2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." Recall the words of the Lord Jesus in John 3:3, "...Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Then in verses 6 and 7, He said, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again."

Until, and unless a man is born again, what he has is the depraved, fallen human life which is susceptible to sin, defeat, sickness, disease and death. But at the New Birth, the human life is supplanted by God's divine nature. What great honour to become partakers of His life, carriers of His glory, dispensers of His grace and

the expression of His righteousness! We have become sons of God (1 John 3:2), now that we're born again.

We've become God's begotten children just like Jesus. James 1:18 says, "Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures." Jesus is the head of this new species, being the head of the body, the Church. He's the first to be born again, among a special race of super-beings. 1 Peter 2:9 says, "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light." This is who you are now that you're born again. Hallelujah!

#### CONFESSION

I'm God's dwelling place; He moves in and through me; He talks and blesses through me. I'm a conveyor of eternal verities and a partaker of the divine nature. I have the ability to effect changes in my world, because I'm born again and the greater One lives in me. Glory to God!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 John 4:4; 1 John 5:11-13

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 23 & Exodus 24-25

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 14:19-28 & Job 36-37





MONDAY 3

#### RIGHTEOUSNESS—A GIFT OF GRACE



For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him (2 Corinthians 5:21).

When you received Christ into your heart, eternal life was imparted into your spirit, and with it came righteousness. Righteousness is the nature of God that produces in you the rightness of God, and gives you right-standing with God. It's God's gift to you in Christ; a gift of grace delivered to you by Christ Jesus. John 1:17 says, "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ."

Romans 5:17 says, "...they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ." In other words, those who take a hold of that righteousness shall reign; that is, exercise dominion in life. So, it's your responsibility to take a hold of your righteousness in Christ by being conscious of it! Being conscious that you're the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus gives you boldness and confidence to pray and expect answers. It gives you mastery over the devil, his accusations, and the circumstances of life.

This is so beautiful, because it has nothing to do with your works or "performance" before God. Your righteousness is simply the result of Christ's vicarious suffering and triumphant resurrection. Therefore, it makes no difference how wicked or wayward you

think you've been; it makes no difference how far you think you've gone away from God; all you need is to embrace His righteousness.

Accept the gift that He's made available to you, and say, "Blessed Jesus, you're my righteousness. I believe you died for me and that God raised you from the dead for my justification." Hallelujah! Remember, you didn't ask Him before He gave you His righteousness. And His righteousness can't be improved upon, being the righteousness of the man, Christ Jesus, the only sinless one to walk the face of the earth. Thus, we're not going to be more righteous in heaven than we already are in Him.

So, in God's presence, we're at liberty; no fear, no condemnation, no inferiority! We're free to express ourselves and to be ourselves as we worship and fellowship with Him, because we have right standing with Him. All these and more are the result of His superabundant grace; the gift of His perfect righteousness. Hallelujah!

#### **PRAYER**

Blessed Father, I thank you for giving me your righteousness as a gift, thus inspiring in me the consciousness of dominion—to reign and rule as a king in life. I'm held in the grip of your grace, enjoying my regal liberty through the gift of my perfect righteousness in Christ Jesus. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 5:20-21; Ephesians 2:8-9; Philippians 3:7-9

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 24:1-35 & Exodus 26-27

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 15:1-11 & Job 38-39





TUESDAY 4

#### **KEEP IT SIMPLE**



But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking (Matthew 6:7).

Some people believe what they need when they're in a dire situation is a powerful prayer, but what exactly is a powerful prayer? To some, it has to do with the multiplicity of words or how loud they're able to shout when they pray. But really, what produces result isn't the intensity of your shout or multiplicity of your words; rather, it's your faith in the Lord and His Word—your confidence in the One to whom you pray.

This makes prayer not only exciting, but also something to keep simple. That's the essence of the Master's admonition in our theme verse. He said, "Don't pray like the heathen, who erroneously think they'll be heard for using vain repetitions." God isn't hard of hearing. The Bible says He already knows what you need before you ask Him (Matthew 6:8). Therefore, learn to pray like Jesus. He prayed and acted simply. Recall the simple way He prayed at the tomb of Lazarus. The Bible says, "...And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me

always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me. And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth" (John 11:41-43).

Jesus said in Mark 11:23-24, "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. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." That's it! So, make your prayers simple. Pray with faith, confident of the Father's love for you and the guarantee of hearing that you have in His presence.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for your Word in my heart, which comes forth from my lips in prayer, to effect changes in circumstances and situations around me. The power of the Holy Spirit is at work in me, bringing about a transformation in my life, from glory to glory, in the Name of the Lord Jesus. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Philippians 4:6; Luke 18:1; James 5:15-18

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 24:36-51 & Exodus 28

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 15:12-21 & Job 40-41





WEDNESDAY 5

#### PECULIAR LINEAGE OF CHAMPIONS



And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets: Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens...

(Hebrews 11:32-35).

The Christian isn't born after the first Adam, but after the second and last Adam, Jesus Christ. The first Adam was a failure, but the second Adam, in whose image we're born, and whose likeness we share, is an eternal victor. He heads up a new lineage of champions. When you grasp this truth, you'll never consider failure in anything you do. This is because the life He's given us, the life you have in you, can't fail. The word, "Can't" isn't even strong enough: It DOES NOT fail! Failure isn't consistent with it.

Think about it this way: Cats don't bark, because it's not consistent with their nature. So, even if we found one that could, it's wrong. Likewise, if you found

a Christian that failed, it's unnatural. We don't give up! It doesn't matter how low in the valley we get; we get back on the mountaintop. You can't knock us out, because we're a chosen breed; a peculiar people. Hallelujah!

You belong to the generation of "more than conquerors"; therefore, even now, declare out loud: "I know who I am. I've found my place in Christ and my inheritance in Him. I'm a success forever. Sickness, poverty, discouragement and fear aren't consistent with my nature. I have, and exercise, dominion over all circumstances and the adversities of life. Blessed be God!"

Jesus didn't die for nothing. He didn't die to produce failures, weaklings and victims. He died to raise a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, and a peculiar breed of victors. Hallelujah!

#### **PRAYER**

Precious Father, I thank you for choosing me for a life of greatness! I live a glorious and transcendent life because I've found my place in Christ. I know who I am: a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, God's own purchased special person, ordained for a life of excellence and manifesting the fruits of righteousness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Peter 2:9 AMPC; Titus 2:14; Deuteronomy 14:2

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 25:1-30 & Exodus 29-30

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 15:22-31 & Job 42





THURSDAY 6

#### LOOK BEYOND YOURSELF



I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me (Philippians 4:13).

In Matthew 17:20, Jesus said, "...nothing shall be impossible unto you"; in other words, you can do anything. The Apostle Paul lends credence to this in our opening verse. Also, in 2 Corinthians 3:5, he takes it a step further, saying, "Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God." This isn't talking about your human sufficiency or ability, but of God's ability in you; you're to look beyond yourself.

When you were born again, you received the very life and nature of God, meaning you have, and are to function with divine abilities. This is what gave Paul the boldness to say, "I can do all things through Christ!" It's the same with every one of us. But many haven't been able to look beyond themselves and their seeming inadequacies; hence, they concede to failure and to defeat. But not so with you; you're born of God and therefore up to any task.

Read 2 Corinthians 3:5 in the Amplified translation; it puts it in a better light: "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." You're to look beyond what your physical ability can do, now that Christ is in you. Your sufficiency is a God-sufficiency. Hallelujah!

This was David's mentality when he confronted Goliath. He eye-balled the giant and said, "I'll cut your head off your shoulders today and feed your carcass to the birds of the air" (1 Samuel 17:46). How could David, a mere stripling, make such a boast? He had learnt to look beyond himself, unto the Lord. He said to Goliath, "I come against you in the Name of the Lord of host, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied" (1 Samuel 17:45). David was saying, "I may be the one standing before you, but God is actually the One standing against you, because I'm standing in His Name, not in my name. I'm functioning in His might, not mine!" Hallelujah!

Have the same consciousness, because even better than what David had, the greater One lives in you today. He speaks through you, heals the sick through you and blesses through you. You have all His power and limitless resources domiciled in your spirit. Glory to His Name forever!

#### **PRAYER**

Gracious Father, I thank you for your power and ability at work in me through the Holy Spirit, causing me to do, and walk, in the supernatural. My boast and my confidence are in your eternal Word and power. I function in your might, with the consciousness that the greater One who lives inside me, makes all things possible unto me. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Corinthians 15:10; 2 Corinthians 4:7; Philippians 2:13

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 25:31-46 & Exodus 31

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 15:32-41& Psalm 1-2





FRIDAY 7

#### **BRING FORTH GOOD THINGS**



A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh (Luke 6:45).

Some Christians would say, "The greatest thing that happened to me was when I was born again." But in the actual sense, nothing "happened" to you when you were born again; you were the one that "happened" on the scene! You came alive in the spirit. When a baby is born, you don't say something has happened to that child; it's the child that "happened" or came into this world.

It's important that you understand this, for it'll give you an idea of how God wants you to think and live as a Kingdom person. You've been brought into Christ—a place where nothing should "happen" to you; rather, you make things happen; you bring forth good things. Hallelujah!

God's training in our lives through the Word and the Holy Spirit is for us to take absolute charge of our lives and be independent of circumstances. He wants you to control the good things that come to you, and make a choice not to let bad things in, because your spirit produces righteousness only. Read our opening verse again: Jesus said, "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh."

Notice that He didn't say, "Good things happen to the good man," but that the good man, out of the good treasure of his heart, brings forth good things. You're to bring forth your prosperity, your promotion, your joy, and every blessing you want to enjoy in life from within; they're all in you. No wonder the Bible says He has set eternity in our hearts. Then in John 7:38, He said, "He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water." Hallelujah!

#### CONFESSION

I bring forth good things today from within me. In all that I do, I exude excellence, perfection and righteousness. I have insight into mysteries and secrets, bringing forth creative ideas, because Christ has been made unto me wisdom. I initiate success, victory, divine health and prosperity from within, in the Name of Jesus. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Matthew 12:35; Psalm 37:30-31; Philemon 1:6

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 26:1-30 & Exodus 32-33

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 16:1-10 & Psalm 3-4





To celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Year in Print of the world's No.1 daily devotional, currently available in over 2,000 languages, partners are set to embark on 20 Projects in 2020, some of which involve the acquisition and distribution of languages, namely:

- Mission Myanmar: To flood the cities of Myanmar with the devotional in all 120 languages of the country
- Mission Indonesia: To reach all 17,000 islands with Rhapsody of Realities in all 707 Indonesian languages
- Impact China: To penetrate China, the most populous country in the world
- Mission Pakistan: To reach every province in Pakistan in all 75 languages of the country with the devotional

Others are: Mission Sri Lanka, Impact Europe, Mission India, Impact Papua New Guinea, and Impact Cuba to mention a few. Each new translation means more people will be able to have unrestrained access to God's Word as language barriers are removed.

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#### SATURDAY 8

#### HE ABOLISHED DEATH



...God; Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling...according to his own purpose and grace...manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel (2 Timothy 1:8-10).

Blessed be God! Where in the world would you ever read something like what we just read in the latter part of our theme scripture? Who would think that such a statement would ever be made on this earth? I want you to notice the tenses; it doesn't say, "Who shall abolish death"; rather, it says, "Who hath abolished death." When something is abolished, it means it's eradicated, obliterated, ended, stopped, or eliminated!

Jesus put an end to death! And I don't mean spiritual death; the concluding part of the statement shows that He's referring to physical death, for it says, "...and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel." This is supreme! He didn't just abolish death; He brought life and immortality in its place. What does it mean to be mortal? It means to be human; to be subject to death. But being born again, mortality has been swallowed up by immortality. Your humanity has been supplanted by the God-life; you're

now the God-man; a divine being that has passed from death to life.

You may ask, "If this is true, if Jesus has truly abolished death, why are people still dying then, including Christians?" God said, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" (Hosea 4:6). We can choose to lay down our lives. Think about Paul: the one who, by the Spirit, wrote the verses we read; he left this world knowing he was ready to go. He laid his life down, like Jesus. Paul said, "I have finished my cause; I fought a good fight; I have kept the faith" (2 Timothy 4:7). He completed his ministry and laid down his life during the great persecution.

The primary reason people die is because of the consciousness of death, and the fear of death. Don't think death. Don't fear death. Don't talk death. Death is an enemy—a defeated enemy that has also been abolished! It has no power over you. Praise God!

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the victorious life that you've given me, and for bringing life and immortality to light through the Gospel. I'm a partaker of your divine nature; therefore, eternal life is at work in me. I'm immune to the destructive system of this world, and I have no fear in me, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Corinthians 15:51-57; John 11:25-26; 1 John 5:13

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 26:31-56 & Exodus 34-35

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 16:11-18 & Psalm 5-6





SUNDAY 9

#### A GIFT FOR THE WHOLE WORLD



For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord (Romans 6:23).

Come don't understand it when we say Jesus didn't die for Christians. The salvation that He brought wasn't for Christians: it was for everybody in the world. Those who believe, and have made that salvation real in their lives through the proclamation of the Lordship of Jesus, become Christians. In the mind of justice, the whole world has been legally saved by Jesus Christ, because He paid the price for every man's sin, thus making eternal life possible and available to everyone. Nonetheless, vital salvation must be actuated through individual faith in Christ.

Because many don't know this, they walk on in darkness, living the depraved human life instead of the divine life in Christ. Romans 10:9-10 shows us how anyone can activate this glorious blessing of eternal life. It says, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead. thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

This is why He sent us to preach and teach the Gospel around the world: it's so the world may know and activate the life of God that's available in Christ. The human life is degenerate, broken, and God knows it; that's why He provided another life—the God-kind of life—so that human beings may transcend the ordinary human, mortal life and come into immortality; the life and nature of God.

John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life"; that's the God-life! It's for everyone who believes. If you're reading this, and you have never been born again, turn to the Prayer of Salvation on page 76, and pray accordingly, meaning it with all your heart. Instantly, eternal life will be imparted to your spirit, supplanting the human life with which you were born of your parents. Blessed be God!

#### **PRAYER**

Precious Father, I thank you for the gift of salvation and its blessings that I enjoy. Thank you also for the privilege of helping others activate this blessing in their lives, bringing them into oneness and fellowship with you. This life now works in every fibre of my being, repelling death, disease, infirmity, sickness and everything that's inconsistent with the provisions of the divine life, in Jesus Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 5:15-18; Romans 6:23

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 26:57-75 & Exodus 36-37

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 16:19-28 & Psalm 7-8





#### MONDAY 10

#### **JESUS IS "ADONAI"**



In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men (John 1:1-4).

As you study the Bible, you'll be enthused to discover who Jesus truly is. When He walked the earth, He looked as ordinary as everybody else, yet He was Himself God. Jesus was the God that spoke to Moses in the burning bush. He was the One that called Abraham out of Haran and said, "Walk before me, and be thou perfect; I am the Almight God" (Genesis 17:1). He was the One that stood before Moses and said, "Take your shoes off your feet for where you are standing is holy" (Exodus 3:5).

Jesus was God in a human body, but the people didn't know. You might then ask, "Why is He called the Son of God if He's Himself, God?" Many ask that question because they don't understand the true meaning of the expression, "Son of God." "Son of God" doesn't mean one that's born of God; rather, it means God in a human body. Jesus is Adonai; the Lord, God.

He was the One that said to Moses, "Your fathers,

Abraham, Isaac and Jacob knew me as El Shaddai, but I'm Jehovah" (Exodus 6:3). Jehovah is Yahweh. This is why the Jewish people had difficulty accepting Jesus Christ ordinarily, because everything written about Jesus in the Scriptures and the things He said of Himself, show that He is Adonai. Now you can understand why His Name has all power.

Think about it: that seemingly ordinary man of Galilee was actually God Almighty, walking the streets of Israel, but they didn't know it, to the point they even killed Him. John says, "He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own; and his own received him not" (John 1:10-11). Who is he talking about here? Jesus, the incarnate Word! The Apostle Paul tells us that in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead, bodily (Colossians 2:9). Hallelujah!

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for the revelation of your personality. You're the complete embodiment of Deity! Therefore, today and always, I celebrate your divinity, your Lordship and rulership over my life. You're the Most High God, the King of kings and Lord of lords, and you alone are worthy of all praise, worship and adoration. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Colossians 2:9; 1 Timothy 3:16; Matthew 1:23; John 1:14

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 27:1-26 & Exodus 38-39

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 16:29-40 & Psalm 9-10





#### TUESDAY 11

#### AT HOME IN CHRIST



And the Word was made (became) flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth (John 1:14).

Sometimes, I try to imagine what it was like being with Jesus when He walked the earth. What was Jesus like? John says He was full of grace and reality. When you came to Jesus, your search ended. When you came to Jesus, you arrived; you were home; you didn't want to go anywhere else. It brings to mind the two disciples of John the Baptist who came to Jesus and asked, "Master, where do you live?" (John 1:38), and they followed Him home, listened to Him all evening until it became too late for them to leave. They stayed with Him through the night and the Bible specifically records that they never went back to John.

When you come to Jesus, you're at home; you're fulfilled! Glory to God! There's just something extraordinary about Him. He's peace personified. He's love untainted. He's joy indescribable. He's the embodiment of life! In Him, you find rest. He said in Matthew 11:28, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Quit the struggle. Stop the fear. Fix your gaze on Jesus. His

divine presence in you, with you, and around you is your advantage over the crises and challenges of life.

Therefore, celebrate Christ in you. Celebrate His life in you and your oneness with Him. Love Him lavishly and prove it by your commitment to His Word. He said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15). The proof of your love for Him is acting on His Word; that way, He'll cause you to sail through life's troubles triumphantly.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Lord, I thank you for your love and divine presence which gives me the advantage over crises and the challenges of life. I sail through life triumphantly, and I refuse to struggle, fear or be perturbed, for your liquid love has been poured out on me lavishly. Therefore, I'm committed and determined to do your Word, because your Word is my life. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Matthew 11:28-30; Colossians 1:27

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 27:27-44 & Exodus 40

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 17:1-9 & Psalm 11-13





WEDNESDAY 12

## **TESTIFY OF HIS GOODNESS**



And when the woman saw that she was not hid, she came trembling, and falling down before him, she declared unto him before all the people for what cause she had touched him, and how she was healed immediately (Luke 8:47).

od always wants us to testify of His goodness. When you testify of what God has done in your life, you're connecting yourself to greater works of God for your future. Think about what we read in Luke 8 of the woman with the issue of blood who touched the hem of the Master's garment! The Bible tells us "...she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague" (Mark 5:29).

After she received her healing, she was going to sneak away, but Jesus said, "Somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me" (Luke 8:46). Then she came out of her hiding and "...declared unto him before all the people for what cause she had touched him, and how she was healed immediately." Why didn't Jesus keep quiet and let her go without testifying? It's because, through your testimony, you preserve what God gives to you.

She could have lost her miracle on her way home, or shortly afterwards; but Jesus wanted her to retain the miracle, because confession brings possession. When God does something for you, the way to keep it is to tell it; that's the principle of the Word of God.

We see another example when Jesus healed the demon-possessed man at Gadara. The Bible says, "The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with him..." (Luke 8:38 NIV). But Jesus urged him saying, "Return home and tell how much God has done for you. So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him" (Luke 8:39 NIV).

Always testify to what the Lord has done and is doing in your life, your church, ministry, your family and in the lives of those around you. Testify to yourself. Testify to the angels. Testify everywhere you go! The Psalmist says, "One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts. I will speak of the glorious honour of thy majesty, and of thy wondrous works" (Psalm 145:4-5). Declare the Lord's goodness—His glorious works in your job, business, and finances. Hallelujah!

## **CONFESSION**

The Lord has been gracious and kind to me; I'll speak of His goodness and His miraculous signs and wonders in my life! I testify of His mighty hand on my job, business, finances, and every area of my life! I'll shout it on the mountaintop, and sing His praises everywhere, for the Lord is good, and I'll never be quiet about it. Hallelujah!

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Daniel 4:2-3 NIV; Psalm 22:22 AMPC; Psalm 71:16-17

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 27:45-66 & Leviticus 1-3

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 17:10-21 & Psalm 14-16





THURSDAY 13

# **EXCEL IN THE GRACE OF GIVING**



But just as you excel in everythingin faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us-see that you also excel in this grace of giving (2 Corinthians 8:7 NIV).

Labout God's work, and put their resources into the push and spread of the Gospel around the world. But there're usually those who are more passionate than others. They're the ones Paul referred to in our theme scripture: they excel in the grace of giving.

Giving is a grace; it's one of the spiritual gifts in the Bible. What makes it spiritual is that it's God who gives the ability. Romans 12:6-8 says, "Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith...he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity...." Remember, He already said that upon receiving the Holy Spirit, we would all prophesy: "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy..." (Acts 2:17). However, the Word also says, "...to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom" (1 Corinthians 12:8), even

though the Holy Ghost enables everyone to prophesy and to see visions.

In the same way, everyone is enabled to give, but the grace of giving is also a gift. And the Bible says, "... earnestly covet the best gifts..." (1 Corinthians 12:31). So, it's okay to covet and desire to excel in the grace of giving. In every gift of God, you get better by practice. So, practise giving your best; it comes with its myriads of blessings and promotions of the Spirit. Praise God!

# **PRAYER**

Precious Father, I thank you for the understanding of your Word granted me even now; thank you for making all grace—every favour and earthly blessing—come to me in abundance, so that I may always and under all circumstances and whatever the need, be self-sufficient, possessing enough to require no aid or support, furnished in abundance, for every good work, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 12:6-8; Luke 8:1-3; 2 Corinthians 8:9-10 AMPC

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 28 & Leviticus 4-5

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 17:22-34 & Psalm 17-18





FRIDAY 14

# **GOD'S POWER IS DIRECTIONAL**



But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea (Exodus 14:16).

once, while still a young secondary school student, I was ministering at another school to some 500 young people. Standing in front of them, I said, "How many of you want to receive the Holy Spirit?" Everybody's hand went up. So, I said, "Alright, in the Name of Jesus, receive the Holy Spirit!" I waited, but nothing happened. I prayed again and I waited; yet, nothing happened. At this time, I needed to know from the Lord, what exactly I was supposed to do. So, I asked everyone to talk to the Lord in prayer, and while they were at it, I too was consulting with the Lord.

I said, "Lord, I just prayed that they receive the Holy Spirit, and nothing has happened. What am I supposed to do?" Then, very quickly, He said to me, "Pray again, and touch the person closest to you"; and I said, "Thank you, Lord!" Then I calmed the congregation, and said, "Receive the Holy Ghost!" and went ahead to touch the person closest to me. Straightaway, the entire hall of young people went under the power, and were filled with the Holy Spirit, speaking in tongues everywhere!

Here's the lesson from that experience: God's

power is directional. As read in our theme verse, God said to Moses, "...stretch out thine hand over the sea...." Why? It's because the power of God can be directed. Also, when Peter and John ministered to the man at the gate of the temple called Beautiful, the Bible says Peter set his gaze on the man (Acts 3:4); he directed the power of God at him, and a miracle ensued.

Whenever you're required to stretch your hands in a certain direction or God's people stretch their hands towards you in prayer, never take it lightly. There's something about our hands. When we stretch our hands towards nations, cities, people or even situations and circumstances, there's a profuse effusion of divine power, emitting from us like missiles. If it's towards an individual, there's an impartation of special grace, healing or whatever blessing we're imparting at the time. Praise God!

# **PRAYER**

Dear heavenly Father, I thank you for your power that's working tremendously in and through me. I pray for your children around the world who are in distress and pain, that they're relieved by the power of your Spirit. Your power is transmitted to them even now, to strengthen their faith for the miraculous, in lesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Exodus 7:19; Acts 3:3-6 CEV; Exodus 17:10-13

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 1:1-20 & Leviticus 6-7

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 18:1-11 & Psalm 19-20





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# X otes




SATURDAY 15

## HE'S WORKING WITH US



And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen (Mark 16:20).

There have been those who were once actively involved in the Gospel, putting in everything they've got, but at some point, they started feeling discouraged, for one reason or the other. Some gave up altogether. It reminds of a similar case with Jesus' disciples. They left everything, including their businesses and careers, to follow Jesus. They were having the time of their lives, going everywhere with the Master, preaching the Gospel. Then Jesus was crucified and buried! Though He resurrected, they didn't see Him every day as they used to.

With time, their zeal began to dissipate. They thought it was all over. Some went back to their businesses, including Peter, the great Apostle. The Bible says, "Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee..." (John 21:3). But guess what? Jesus showed up on the shore one day, and after He had performed another miraculous sign, He said, "...Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep" (John

21:16). In other words, He was saying to Peter, "Leave these other things; go and do what I sent you to do." But first, they were to receive the Holy Spirit, who would enable them.

Afterward, they became more vibrant, preaching the Gospel, because it became clear to them that the Master was more with them now through the Holy Spirit than ever before: He was in them. Our theme verse says, "And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen."

It's the same with us today; we're not working alone. So, never be discouraged; remain passionate in preaching the Gospel, knowing that the Lord Himself is working with, in, and through you. Glory to His Name forever.

# CONFESSION

I thank Christ Jesus my Lord, who has enabled me, counting me faithful in the ministry of reconciliation. I'm fortified with increased grace to proclaim the Gospel everywhere, with miracles, signs and wonders, by the power of the Holy Spirit who lives in me. Hallelujah!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Matthew 28:18-20; 1 Corinthians 15:57-58; Joshua 1:9

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 1:21-45 & Leviticus 8

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 18:12-23 & Psalm 21-22





SUNDAY 16

## **WISDOM FOR WEALTH**



But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth... (Deuteronomy 8:18).

Cclesiastes 2:26 (GNB) says, "God gives wisdom, knowledge, and happiness to those who please him, but he makes sinners work, earning and saving, so that what they get can be given to those who please him. It is all useless. It is like chasing the wind." This is the description of the so-called prosperity of the heathen; he's nose-to-the-grindstone, struggling and toiling to make more money; but God says, "It's all useless. It's like chasing the wind."

However, to the righteous, He gives wisdom, knowledge and joy; wisdom for wealth. Wisdom gives you the power to get wealth; wealth without travail. The word, "get" in our theme verse is the Hebrew, "asah" and it means power to produce, create, or make wealth. That means there's power to do it. There's a difference between the wealth made by sinners and the wealth produced through the power of God's Spirit. It's the reason you should never be envious of non-Christians who seem to have lots of money, because the wisdom of God—the power for wealth—is available to you and guides you in true prosperity.

Become wisdom-conscious. 1 Corinthians 1:30

says Christ has been made unto you wisdom. Love and embrace wisdom, and He'll show you visions of the businesses and things you should do to multiply your resources. Suddenly, you'd find that the thoughts that come to you are thoughts that beat the economics and economies of this world, because they emanate from the active wisdom of God deep within your spirit.

That's what the Bible says: "For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it. I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions. Riches and honour are with me; yea, durable riches and righteousness. My fruit is better than gold, yea, than fine gold; and my revenue than choice silver. I lead in the way of righteousness, in the midst of the paths of judgment: That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance; and I will fill their treasures" (Proverbs 8:11-12; 18-21). Blessed be God!

# **PRAYER**

Dear Lord, thank you for granting me the wisdom, power and ability to make wealth. You've divinely enabled me to walk in prosperity, greatness, health, success, and victory forevermore, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ecclesiastes 2:26; Proverbs 10:22 NIV; Psalm 1:1-3

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 2:1-22 & Leviticus 9-10

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 18:24-19:1-7 & Psalm 23-24





MONDAY 17

# HIS WORD NEVER FAILS



Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away (Matthew 24:35).

C ometimes, there're those who are working for The Lord, giving their time, expending energy, and resources, and then they think it's not yielding any result in their lives. They look at their lives and think they're not making commensurate progress. Never allow such thoughts arise in your heart. The results of your labour of love in the Gospel may not be immediately obvious to you, but others are surely being impacted by it.

Think about it: many prophets of old, for example, didn't see the result of their own prophecies. But we're today enjoying some of the prophecies they gave. In their day, there must have been those who thought their prophecies were false, because some of the prophets lived and died, and their prophecies weren't fulfilled in their day. But the truth is, in many cases, some of those prophets weren't speaking of their days.

For instance, Joel said, "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy..." (Acts 2:17). Those alive in his day didn't know what the last days were. They may have considered Joel's prophecy as false. But at the appointed time, that prophecy was fulfilled. The Bible

says in Acts 2:1-4 that the apostles were all sitting in one place, in one accord; then suddenly, there was a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind and it filled all the house where they were sitting and cloven tongues like fire sat on each of them and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost. Glory to God!

It took many years for the prophecy to come to pass, and the Spirit alerted Peter, who confirmed it, saying, "But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel" (Acts 2:16). Hallelujah! Never think your service in the Lord and in the Gospel is worthless, just because you think His Word to you hasn't come to pass. Don't be distracted; the results are there. Even the ones you're yet to see will still happen. It doesn't matter what anybody says or what circumstances show; remain focused and fervent, serving the Lord. Keep your gaze on Him. His Word is true and never fails.

# **PRAYER**

Forever, O Lord, your Word is settled in heaven; from everlasting to everlasting, you're God! Heaven and earth shall pass away, but your Word never fails. Therefore, I embrace the glorious truths you've spoken concerning me, and I appropriate and walk in the reality of my blessings in Christ, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 24:35

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 2:23-3:1-12 & Leviticus 11-12

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 19:8-20 & Psalm 25-26





TUESDAY 18

## **RECEIVE**



...much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ (Romans 5:17).

nce, I was about to minister to someone who's been sick and confined to a wheelchair for years. I asked him, "Will you be healed today?" He said, "Yes, of course." Then I said, "What will happen when I pray for you now?" He said, "I'll walk and I'll run." So, I placed my hands on him and said, "You're healed." Immediately, he jumped out of the wheelchair, staggered a little and was perfect. Hallelujah!

Now, when I said to him, "You're healed," he didn't wait for anything more; he received instantly. That was his role: to receive. Giving is one thing, but receiving is another. Many don't seem to know how to receive. Receiving is by faith; it's with your spirit, and it's not something you do passively. The Greek word is "lambano," and it means to take active possession; to reach out, take a hold of something and make it yours.

In Acts 3:6, Peter addressed a man who was crippled from birth and said, "...silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk." In verse 7, we read that Peter took the crippled man by the hand

and yanked him up. The Bible says, "...immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. And he leaping up stood, and walked..." (Acts 3:7-8). The man could have said to Peter, "Please don't pull me up, my legs are too feeble to carry me"; no! He received. Hallelujah!

We've been given all things that pertain to life and godliness; all spiritual blessings that exist in Christ Jesus. Receive. If there's no receiving from your end, it amounts to nothing. Your response to God and His Word is the proof that you've received. And that is what faith is: the response of the human spirit to the Word of God. The change you desire in your life, finances, health and family have already taken place; receive and act accordingly.

# **PRAYER**

Dear heavenly Father, I thank you for the blessings I receive from acting my faith on your Word. As I speak in accordance with your Word and walk in its light, I'm led forth with peace, maintaining my victory and dominion in Christ. I'm making progress by the Word today, confident in its ability to put me over and cause me to excel in all I do, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Mark 7:7-8; Mark 11:24; James 1:22-25

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 3:13-35 & Leviticus 13-14

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 19:21-29 & Psalm 27-28





## WEDNESDAY 19

# **SEE AT A HIGHER PLANE**



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).

an is primarily a spirit being; and the spirit has its inner senses. But for most people, their inner senses are untrained. So, you find that most are only used to what they can see and perceive in this earth-realm, because they've only been trained to describe things with their natural senses. How limiting that is!

Don't live your life to the limits of your natural senses. God tells us in His Word that there's more than the human senses can comprehend. He said, "...I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions..." (Acts 2:17). When He said the young men shall see visions, He was talking about the ability to see beyond the ordinary; the ability to see with, and from your spirit; your inner senses. That's why they're called visions, because what you see at that realm, the natural man calls invisible.

Take young David's encounter with Goliath for

example. He was so sure he could take down Goliath, even though others were afraid of him. Why? He saw differently. He saw through the Word that the man, Goliath, standing in front of him couldn't in any way defeat the armies of Isreal. So, he said, "...who is this uncircumcised Philistine..." (1 Samuel 17:26). He saw what others couldn't see, and that's what we read in our theme verse: we don't look at the things which are obvious to the natural eyes, for such things have no foundation.

Stop looking at how much you have in the bank. Stop looking at the situation you're in or what people are saying about you. See the invisible! Train yourself to see beyond this world, beyond the walls and the barriers. See through the Word. See by the Spirit, at a higher level. Hallelujah!

# **CONFESSION**

The eyes of my understanding are flooded with light, causing me to see the invisible, and energizing me for the impossible. My mind is anointed to see what the ordinary eyes can't see. I see glory, victory and prosperity. I see beyond the walls and barriers. Praise God!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Corinthians 4:17-18; Joshua 6:1-2; Romans 12:2

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 4:1-20 & Leviticus 15

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 19:30-41 & Psalm 29-30





THURSDAY 20

# IF YOU DON'T SAY IT, IT'LL NOT HAPPEN



For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven (Psalm 119:89).

oshua 1:8 reveals the power of the spoken Word. It says, "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth...." This is God's recipe for success: success in every area of your life—job, finances, health, family, academics, etc.—is in your mouth. Jesus said in Mark 11:23, "For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain... and...shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith." He placed the premium on words.

With the mouth, you catapult yourself into that thing that you've believed. The Bible says the Word of God is living and active (Hebrews 4:12 NIV), but not on the pages of your Bible. The Word is living and active on the lips of a believing Christian! Imagine the victory of David over Goliath: it happened because of the words David spoke. He had known from the Word given to Israel that it was impossible for them to be defeated, because anyone at war with Israel would have their chief ally—God Almighty—to contend with.

However, David understood that having the knowledge wasn't enough; so, he followed it with

proclamations. He said to Goliath, "This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcases of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel" (1 Samuel 17:46). David was talking! He said again and again what would happen to Goliath, and it happened exactly as he had said!

That's the power of the spoken word. If you don't say it, it won't happen. God needs your words to act upon, because you represent Him in the earth. His Word is forever settled in heaven; however, it's your responsibility to settle it in your life and in the earth through your faith-filled affirmations. Praise God!

# **CONFESSION**

The Word of God is in my heart and on my lips, producing results. I walk in peace, prosperity, divine health, protection, progress, supernatural success and blessings today and evermore. I'm an heir of God and a joint-heir with Christ. The world belongs to me! Blessed be God!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Proverbs 6:2; Mark 11:23; Romans 10:8-10

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 4:21-41 & Leviticus 16-18

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 20:1-12 & Psalm 31-32





FRIDAY 21

## HE MAKES GREAT



Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all (1 Chronicles 29:12).

I read and meditated a lot on the verse of scripture above in my teenage years. I thought, "If it's with God to do all these wonderful things, then they shall be fulfilled in my life!" I had no doubt about it, and it's been so. Riches and honour come from God; it's with Him to make great and to give strength. Hallelujah!

Without Abraham asking, God said to him, "I'll make you great" (Genesis 12:2) and He did. He's the One that makes great. This is why I tell Christians and ministers of the Gospel to not be afraid of criticism and persecution, for they're springboards for promotion. It makes no difference what is said or published about you or against you; be unperturbed. The Bible says, "No weapon fashioned against you shall prosper" (Isaiah 54:17). Nothing, and no one can dishonour you.

They may try to dishonour you by saying and writing unwholesome things about you, but how could they take from you the honour they didn't confer on you? It's not possible. The Lord glorified you with Himself! He has made you great and no one can undo

it. There's no institution or government in the world, powerful enough to disrepute you, because your reputation is Christ.

Every so often, affirm that your life is excellent and full of glory, crowned with honour and greatness, and the pleasure of the Lord is prospering through you. Give no room to distractions and detractors. Let all that matters to you be to please the Lord. All majesty, dominion, greatness, power, honour and glory belong to Him, and you're the focus of His love, and a jointheir with Him. Praise God!

# **CONFESSION**

The greatness, the power, the victory, the majesty, and the kingdom are mine, because the Lord has conferred these on me! My life is excellent and full of glory, crowned with honour; and the pleasure of the Lord is prospering through me. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Genesis 12:1-3; Colossians 1:21-23 AMPC; 1 John 4:4

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 5:1-20 & Leviticus 19-21

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 20:13-24 & Psalm 33-34





The Healing School Autumn Session, scheduled to hold this March to April in Johannesburg, South Africa, provides a unique opportunity for many around the world to be imparted with God's healing power!

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# X otes




## SATURDAY 22

## **TAUGHT OF HIM**



But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things (1 John 2:20).

As a Christian, if you've received the Holy Spirit, His grace is on your life; there's an "unction" on you. That word, "unction" is the same as the anointing. 1 John 2:27 says, "But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him."

This means whatever problem you're faced with as a child of God, be it financial or in your job, health, family—whatever it may be—the Holy Spirit can teach you what to do. If you'd listen to Him in your heart, you'll hear His voice! You'll hear Him tell you what to do, because it's His will and desire to guide and lead you from glory to glory, in the path of triumph!

No Christian should walk in darkness or confusion in life. You should never be at crossroads or make the wrong choices and investments in life, because you have a "Teacher" inside you, who has sanctified your mind to think excellently so you can make quality and

intelligent decisions.

Read the words of Jesus in John 14:26: "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." By the Holy Spirit, you can know how to run your family, job, business, finances, academics, and everything you need to know about life. Always be conscious that you're not an ordinary person. You're blessed and anointed of God, with insight into the mysteries and secrets of life.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Lord, I thank you for the impact of your Word in my life. I'm fruitful and productive, conscious of your wisdom at work in me, granting me insight into the secrets and mysteries of the Kingdom, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

John 16:13; Colossians 2:9-10; Isaiah 30:21; Isaiah 54:13

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 5:21-43 & Leviticus 22-23

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 20:25-38 & Psalm 35-36





SUNDAY 23

# STAND UP AND STAND STRONG



And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord GOD, thou knowest (Ezekiel 37:3).

n your journey of faith, there could be times of difficulties, when you face serious challenges. But at such times, don't loathe yourself or gripe that you're going through such tough times; refuse to be discouraged. Don't make the mistake of running helter-skelter, seeking help from man, no; talk your way out of it.

This was what the Lord told Ezekiel to do in the valley of dry bones (Ezekiel 37:4). Ezekiel found himself in a valley full of dry bones and the Lord asked him, "Can these bones live?" That was an impossible situation, but God told Ezekiel to "prophesy to the bones." As he prophesied, a great miracle took place: "...there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone" (Ezekiel 37:7).

If you've found yourself in a situation where everything around you seems "dry," there can be a change; and you're the one to effect that change with your words. Remember, words are "things," they have energy and spiritual tangibility. What you say,

becomes.

Therefore, the challenges you face are your opportunities to demonstrate your faith in the Lord, and prove His Word. Rather than being overwhelmed in the hour of crisis, declare your health, success, prosperity, and victory in Christ Jesus. The Word in your mouth is a creative force; it'll bring forth miracles. God's Word created everything, and as such can create anything. Use faith-filled words to frame your world, and programme your spirit for success and victory.

## **CONFESSION**

I flourish like the palm tree; I'm fruitful and productive. I grow like a cedar in Lebanon; majestic, stable, durable and incorruptible. I'm bearing fruits unto righteousness, established on the path of success and glory forevermore, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Job 11:15-18; Mark 11:23; 2 Corinthians 4:17-18

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 6:1-29 & Leviticus 24

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 21:1-9 & Psalm 37





MONDAY 24

# THE RESURRECTION GAVE US NEWNESS OF LIFE



Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life (Romans 6:4).

If Christianity were all about salvation from sin, there wouldn't have been the need for Jesus to rise from the dead. His death on the Cross would have been enough; it paid for all our sins and guaranteed complete propitiation. However, that's redemption, and not Christianity!

Redemption refers to saving someone by paying a price. When Jesus died, He paid the price for man's redemption with His own life; He did that for all humanity; not for Christians. The Christian isn't the man that Christ died for. Look at it this way: when Jesus hung on the Cross, in the mind of God, we were all hanging there too (in Him), for He was our representative. When He cried out, "It is finished," and gave up the ghost, we also died in Him.

Now, here's the big thing, which Satan didn't see coming and the angels still marvel at and seek to look into: Christianity is based on the resurrection of Jesus, and not on His death. The resurrection of Jesus Christ gave us something far beyond redemption; it ushered us into a newness of life. We've been raised up together with Christ (Ephesians 2:6).

Romans 10:9 says, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." It lets us know that salvation comes by believing in the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the subsequent confession of His Lordship. A Christian is one who identifies with the resurrected Christ. The Christian has no past, for the Bible says in 2 Corinthians 5:17: "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature..."; meaning that he is a new species, one that never existed before.

No wonder James declares that "Of his (God's) own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures" (James 1:18). Being born again, therefore, you're not the "redeemed"; you're the fruit of the redemptive work of Christ. Redemption was consummated with His death, but Christianity came from the resurrection. Hallelujah!

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for making me one with Christ. I'm a new creation and I walk in the newness of life, conscious that I've been raised together with Christ, and made to sit together with Him in the place of victory, authority and dominion forever, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 2:20; Romans 6:4

# 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 6:30-56 & Leviticus 25

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 21:10-17 & Psalm 38-39





# TUESDAY 25

## IN CHRIST WE HAVE NO NEEDS



But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19).

ike the Lord Jesus, the Apostle Paul had no consciousness of lack. He understood the message of the Gospel that as new creations in Christ, we're heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ. We're not in lack or want. Why then did Paul pray, saying, "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus?" He was addressing the spiritually immature.

Paul didn't include himself in the prayer. He didn't say, "My God shall supply all our needs." When you've come of age, you'll realize that in Christ, we don't have any unmet needs. Matthew 6:33 says, "...seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." When you seek the Kingdom of God first, every good thing you could ever wish for is added—"annexed" with it—without having to ask. You won't need to pursue the things that the Gentiles seek: fame, money, recognition, acceptance, etc.; they're packaged in the Kingdom that you've inherited.

Remember the words of Jesus; He said in Luke 12:32, "Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" and He's

done it. He said in Luke 17:21, "...the Kingdom of God is within you." If you have the Kingdom, then you have everything. No wonder Peter exclaimed in 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." Blessed be God! Paul's climactic submission on the subject is equally so surreal; he said in 1 Corinthians 3:21, "...all things are yours!"

In your life, never look at what you may consider a need; rather, see what God already lavishly made available to you in Christ. You possess all things, being a joint-heir with Christ. Christ owns the whole world, and you're one with Him; called into partnership with Him (1 Corinthians 1:9). Since this is true, what in the world could you ever be in need of? Nothing! Affirm God's Word in your life. He has said all things are yours; declare the same, and live accordingly. Praise God!

## **CONFESSION**

I'm an heir of God and a joint-heir with Christ; all things are mine. I'm in my place of divine inheritance in Christ, and it's a large place—a place of wealth—where I lack nothing. Glory to God!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Psalm 34:10; 1 Corinthians 3:21-22

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 7:1-23 & Leviticus 26-27

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 21:18-26 & Psalm 40-41





WEDNESDAY 26

# DON'T FRET OVER YOUR **GOALS AND DREAMS**



And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not (Galatians 6:9).

Come people get troubled, almost to the point Of despondency when it seems they haven't been able to achieve their goals for success within a given time frame. Don't be that way! When you get under pressure because of what you want to accomplish within a certain time, you become a slave to time. Use and invest your time wisely, but don't be a slave to time.

Moses had this in mind when he prayed to the Lord to "...teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom" (Psalm 90:12). Each day you live is an opportunity to accomplish so much, so schedule your day properly. Live your best every day. Do what you must do in pursuit of your Godgiven purpose, and trust the power of God's Spirit to put you over. But while at it, be conscious that you live in eternity-God's realm of life where time is an interruption.

Furthermore, success is relative; in other words, it's measured at different stages. So, don't become miserable just because you haven't seen all the results you want. Review where you are at the moment and make the necessary adjustments; imbibe the required

learnings and forge ahead.

Success is also by grace; therefore, be more conscious of the grace-advantage; God's divine ability to cause you to excel beyond your dreams. Psalm 37:4-5 says, "Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."

Nothing is too difficult for, or impossible with, the Lord (Jeremiah 32:27). Therefore, trust Him; He's a restorer of time and of wasted years (Joel 2:25). Trust His ability to make you all He desires for you to be. He's more passionate about your success than you could ever be. He can do for you or cause you to achieve in a second, what naturally should have taken you five or ten years to achieve. Therefore, stand firm on His Word and refuse to gripe or panic about your goals and dreams.

## **CONFESSION**

The Lord makes all things beautiful in His time and has perfected all that concerns me. I enjoy my days in prosperity and abundance as I fulfil my destiny in Christ. My path is as the shining light that shines brighter and brighter unto the perfect day. Hallelujah!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Joel 2:25; Matthew 6:31-32; Philippians 4:6-7

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 7:24-8:1-13 & Numbers 1-2

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 21:27-39 & Psalm 42-43





THURSDAY 27

# MAINTAIN YOUR COMPOSURE AND CONFESSION



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).

od loves you and cares about you. He always wants to see you win and live happy every day. Jesus said, "...In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). Never allow circumstances frustrate you; train your faith. Regardless of what you face, tell yourself, "All things are working together for my good" (Romans 8:28).

2 Timothy 3:12 says, "Doubtless, all that'll live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution"; it's part of the deal. But the beautiful part is that you'll always win, because you've been called into the triumphant life. Things might not exactly be going as you've expected, but maintain your composure and confession of the Word. Don't accept defeat. Don't give in to sickness or anything that hurts. Don't say, "I've been infected," just because you noticed some symptoms in your body. You belong to the "new creation" breed.

Symptoms or the doctor's diagnosis shouldn't

change your confession. Keep the Word in your mouth. How you feel or the figures in your bank statement don't change who you are. The things you see with your physical eyes are temporary; that means they're subject to change. Therefore, set your faith on course. Your faith is the victory that overcomes the world (1 John 5:4).

Every adversity you face is your opportunity to experience and manifest the glory of God: "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory" (2 Corinthians 4:17). No matter what you go through in life, it'll turn out for your good, as long as you turn your eyes away from the conditions or circumstances, to the Word. Hebrews 12:2 says, "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith..."

#### CONFESSION

Blessed be God, who gives me the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ, and has made me more than a conqueror. I live triumphantly today and always, fulfilling God's dream and bringing glory to His Name. Hallelujah!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

James 2:17-22; 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 8:14-26 & Numbers 3-4

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 21:40-22:1-10 & Psalm 44-45





FRIDAY 28

#### LEAD OTHERS TO SALVATION



For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek (Romans 1:16).

We've received the mandate to take the Gospel to the ends of the earth; it's a calling for all who are in Christ, and it's something you're to do with courage, conviction and faith. Only the Gospel can catapult the sinner into salvation and righteousness. It's only through the preaching of the Gospel that the righteousness of God can be unveiled and embraced.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the only message that when received, makes sinners sons of God in a moment of time. Therefore, be ever so passionate about leading others to salvation. The Bible says those that turn many to righteousness shall shine as stars forever (Daniel 12:3). Light up your world with the Gospel. Let it be what you live for.

2 Corinthians 5:15 says, "And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again." If you truly believe that Jesus died to save you, then you must continually live for His glory and

lead others to salvation. We're in the last days, and the time is short. This isn't a matter of convenience. There may be peculiar times, occasions, and places where you may need to be tactful in preaching the Gospel, but your focus must always be to lead people everywhere into salvation in Jesus Christ.

We're His co-labourers and partners, working together with Him to reach the lost and bring salvation in Christ to every man. In your sphere of contact, be a burning and a shining light. Devote your life to reaching others with the Gospel. Keep influencing and impacting your world positively through the power of God that works in you. He's counting on you for the salvation of many in your world. Therefore, be faithful in leading others to Christ and bringing them to church.

#### **CONFESSION**

My life is for the glory of God. Everything I am, everything I do, and everything I have is pledged for the expansion of God's Kingdom and His righteousness. Thus, the blessings of God are manifest in my life, and His glory revealed in increasing measure as I lead men and women to righteousness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Corinthians 9:16; 2 Corinthians 3:6; 2 Corinthians 5:18-20

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 8:27-38 & Numbers 5

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 22:11-21 & Psalm 46-47





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#### X otes



SATURDAY 29

#### RELISH THE WORD



But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever. Amen (2 Peter 3:18).

\ \ \ our most exciting times should be when you're in fellowship with the Word. God's Word is everything; it's what you need to be all that God has destined you to be in life. Having come to Christ, you must have a strong desire to grow in your spirit and spiritual growth is through the Word. Just as a new-born baby is fed with natural food to enhance its growth and wellbeing, so also does God expect you to feed on the Word.

The Bible says, "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever" (1 Peter 1:23). We're born of the Word. 1 Peter 2:2 says, "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby." Nothing else will make you grow spiritually, except the Word. God's Word will build you up in every area of your life, making you sound and balanced.

Relish God's Word. Delight yourself in it. The Psalmist said, "I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil" (Psalm 119:162). Cherish God's Word.

Know it for yourself; it's the way to multiply grace and peace in your life: "Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord" (2 Peter 1:2). As you consciously meditate on the Scriptures, you're programmed to only think God's thoughts, and influenced only by His character, ideas and opinions.

The Word of God in your consciousness will cause you to walk accordingly. Upgrade your life with the Word. Take charge and subdue your world and your environment, living victoriously every day through the Word and by the Spirit.

#### **CONFESSION**

Blessed Lord, I delight in your Word, for your Word is my life and the light by which I see. I'm yielded to its power to transform and build me up in every area of my life, delivering to me my inheritance in Christ. I have the greatest treasures in your Word: peace, righteousness, everlasting joy, abundance and blessings evermore are my present-hour possessions in Christ. Hallelujah!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Acts 20:32; Psalm 19:7; Job 23:12

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 9:1-13 & Numbers 6

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 22:22-30 & Psalm 48-49





We trust you have been blessed by this devotional. We invite you to make Jesus Christ the Lord of your life by praying thus:

"O Lord God, I believe with all my heart in Jesus Christ, Son of the living God. I believe He died for me and God raised Him from the dead. I believe He's alive today. I confess with my mouth that Jesus Christ is the Lord of my life from this day. Through Him and in His Name, I have eternal life; I'm born again. Thank you Lord, for saving my soul! I'm now a child of God. Hallelujah!"

Congratulations! You are now a child of God. To receive more information on how you can grow as a Christian, please get in touch with us through any of the contacts below:

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Pastor Chris Oyakhilome, the President of LoveWorld Inc., a dynamic, multifaceted, global ministry, is the author of Rhapsody of Realities, the world's #1 daily devotional, and more than 30 other books. He's a dedicated minister of God's Word whose message has brought the reality of the divine life to the hearts of many.

Millions have been affected by his television broadcast, "Atmosphere For Miracles," which brings God's divine presence right into people's homes. The scope of his television ministry extends throughout the world with LoveWorld satellite television networks, delivering qualitative Christian programming to a global audience.

At the world-renowned Healing School, he manifests the healing works of Jesus Christ and has helped many receive healing through the operation of the gifts of the Spirit.

Pastor Chris has a passion to reach the peoples of the world with God's presence—a divine commission he's fulfilled for more than 30 years through various outreaches, crusades, as well as several other platforms that have helped millions experience a victorious and purposeful life in God's Word.



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#### "My Thinking Has Changed!"

Only when I started studying Rhapsody of Realities did I observe a change in my thought pattern. Now, I'm beginning to get the reality of who I am in Christ. Due to ignorance, I lived beneath my rights and privileges for so long, but that has stopped. I've made up my mind to live victoriously as I continue to discover my inheritance in Christ Jesus!

-Queen H; USA

"Strengthened To Deliver"

I met a pregnant woman who, due to some complications, was experiencing late delivery. I decided to cheer her up by sharing the day's devotional with her. There was a part of the message that talked about strength, and this immediately got her attention. She began to declare she was strengthened. Not long afterward, she made her way to the hospital, armed with nothing else except her copy of Rhapsody of Realities. To the glory of God, she was delivered of her baby safely without any further complications.

-Richard O; Kenya

"A Desert Region Is Now A Fruitful Place"

The Rhapsody of Realities messages I receive daily on my mobile device through an online messaging app enabled me to start up a ministry in a semi-desert region of Karamoja. The messages built me up to know who I am in Christ as well as guide others in the right direction. I started out by reaching only a few people with the physical copies of the devotional, but now I'm able to share the daily messages online with many people at once. Moreover, my job contract which was stopped at some point was reinstated. This enabled me to purchase landed property and building materials for the church. Thank you Rhapsody team for the great work!

-Daniel K; Uganda



## Rhapsody of Realities

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# Rhapsody of Realities

## Chris Oyakhilome



Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

A KEY FOR OTHER BIBLE VERSIONS USED:

NKJV -New King James Version AMP -The Amplified Bible

AMPC -The Amplified Classic Bible TANT -The Amplified New Translation

TLB -The Living Bible CFV -Contemporary English Version -New American Standard Bible NASB ISV -International Standard Version NIV -New International Version MSG -The Message Translation WEB -The World English Bible TNIT -The New Living Translation ASV -American Standard Version TEV -Today's English Version RSV -Revised Standard Version

GNB -Good News Bible

WNT -Weymouth New Testament NRSV -New Revised Standard Version

MOFFAT -Moffatt New Translation WESNT -Wesley New Testament

FBR -Rotherham's Emphasized Bible

DRB -Douay-Rheims Bible

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### Introduction

urray! Your favourite daily devotional, Rhapsody of Realities, is now available in 2010 languages and still counting. Now in its 20<sup>th</sup> year in print, the 2020 edition of the devotional has been packaged to enhance your spiritual growth and development and position you for resounding success throughout the year.

The life-changing truths in this edition will refresh, transform and prepare you for a very fulfilling, fruitful, and rewarding experience with God's Word.

#### - HOW TO USE THIS DEVOTIONAL FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT -

- Read and carefully meditate on each article. Saying the prayers and confessions aloud to yourself daily will ensure the results of God's Word that you're speaking come to pass in your life.
- Go through the entire Bible in one year with the one-year reading plan, or in two years with the two-year reading plan.
- You can also split the daily Bible reading portions into two parts—morning and evening reading.
- Use the devotional to prayerfully write out your goals for each month, and measure your success as you accomplish one goal after another.

Enjoy God's glorious presence and victory, as you take a daily dose of His Word! God bless you!

= PERSONAL INFORMATION
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## Rhapsody of Realities ... A DAILY DEVOTIONAL

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#### IT'S UP TO YOU



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

You have far more influence on your destiny than you may realise. Whether you live or die, succeed or fail, are rich or poor, weak or strong, great or small; it's a lot more dependent on you than on God. If you were waiting on God to do anything about your life, you might have been waiting in vain, because He already did all that's required for you to have the best life.

The Bible says the works were finished from the foundation of the world (Hebrews 4:3). All you have to do now is ENJOY everything that the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ provided for you. 2 Peter 1:3 says, "According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness...." You've been given everything you require to live triumphantly, happily and fulfilled in life. But your response is the key.

Every time you speak, you shape your life and future to either align with God's divine provisions and destiny for you or to be at variance with it. Where you are today—your current state and estate—are the result of what you said yesterday. Thus, the next five or ten

years will produce for you the harvest of your current words. Words are powerful and important; they create or destroy. You determine how you want your life to be—in line or at variance with the Word.

When you face challenges, keep your confidence in the Lord and get radical with your affirmation of the Word. As you speak, the Spirit will cause things to happen in line with your words; He needs your words. Every now and then, declare, "I'm healthy and strong, because I have the life of God in me!" Don't wait for symptoms to show up in your body to make such declarations. Talk that way now, and it'll keep sickness away from you. It's up to you to create your triumphant life and blessed future with the word of God on your lips.

#### **PRAYER**

The Word of God is my life and sustenance, and has made me fruitful in every good work. I live in divine health, supernatural abundance, and in continual victory and prosperity. The light of God's Word illuminates my path, and all things are working together for my good, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Mark 11:23; 1 Peter 3:10; 2 Peter 1:3-4

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 9:14-32 & Numbers 7-8

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 23:1-10 & Psalm 50-51





#### MONDAY 2

#### LIFE IS SPIRITUAL



That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth (Philippians 2:10).

A certain lady called her daughter who lived in the United Kingdom on the phone and said, "I'm coming to see you with two dangerous friends, because in the cult that I belong to, it's my turn to sacrifice my own daughter. So, the three of us are coming to see you." Now, they lived in a different continent, but she said, "We'd come into the house through the front door as insects—like tiny grasshoppers."

Then, she warned the daughter, "I'll be in front, the other two will be behind, but you have to kill them immediately, because their mission is to kill you." On the day appointed, her daughter was waiting in the United Kingdom, and sure enough, these three insects came through the door, one after the other. Even though she was scared stiff, she did as her mother had instructed. When she killed the last two insects, the first one (her mother), disappeared. Soon afterwards, there was news in their home country that the two ladies suddenly died.

This isn't a mere story. If you study the Scriptures, you'd observe that demon spirits are real and have come into people's homes and lives through animals, birds, insects, etc. Recall that in the Book of Genesis,

Satan came in through the serpent. What does this tell you? Not every insect or animal is normal. Some people got a bite from an insect and they ignored it, not knowing that the insect was just the clothing for the real spirit that was behind it. A legion of demons requested permission of Jesus to enter into a herd of swine (Mark 5:11-13).

Life is spiritual. There're things you just can't ignore or take lightly, including seemingly "little pains"; deal with them with God's Word and the Name of Jesus. Some of the eventually serious problems many have suffered came from something they thought was minor. They never used what Jesus gave us: His Name, His authority; consequently, their condition became debilitating and deadly.

Be discerning and bold to cast out devils, in whatever form they may come. Before you start thinking about "medicine" due to pain or a symptom you noticed in your body, rebuke the devil, who is more likely to be the culprit. Remember, Jesus said we would cast out demons in His Name (Mark 16:17).

#### **CONFESSION**

I've been granted the power of attorney to use the Name of Jesus! Therefore, I disallow demonic activities in my life, environment, and in the lives of my loved ones. The dominion of Satan in anyone and anything around me is broken, even now, in the Name of Jesus. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Philippians 2:9-10; Mark 16:17

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 9:33-50 & Numbers 9-10

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 23:11-21 & Psalm 52-54





TUESDAY 3

#### **FOCUS ON CHRIST**



Though I walk in the midst of trouble, thou wilt revive me: thou shalt stretch forth thine hand against the wrath of mine enemies, and thy right hand shall save me (Psalm 138:7).

The Lord Jesus is the Sun of Righteousness, when you focus on Him, you'll not see the debilitating and crippling influences around you. Too many people focus attention on challenges and problems; they keep thinking about the troubles and hardships in the world when they ought to focus on Christ. Christ is your all. Christ is your life. Christ is the solution to every problem. Hallelujah!

What this means therefore, is that if you're in Christ, that is, if you're born again, you have nothing to fear; you need not worry about problems, tests, trials and adversities. That's because in Christ you're a victor. The Bible says, count it all joy when you go through diverse tests (James 1:2). Colossians 1:27 says, "... Christ in you, the hope of glory." What does this mean? It doesn't mean that you should hope for glory because Christ is in you; rather, it means you have a guaranty, a certainty that everything in life will produce glory for you, because Christ is in you.

Christ in you is your assurance or certainty that

divine health is yours. Christ in you is your confidence that you'll never be defeated, broke or despondent in life. Christ in you is your assurance that your life will forever be excellent and full of glory. This is the reason you have to be Christ-conscious at all times. Focus on Christ. Romans 8:10 says, "And if Christ is in you, though your body be dead because of sin, the Spirit gives it life because of righteousness."

It doesn't matter what happens or has happened to your body, Christ is the answer! Christ in you makes you excellent and sound. Meditate on Christ. Think about who He is to you, who you are in Him and His ministry in you today. 1 John 4:4 says, "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." His presence in you makes you an overcomer and more than a conqueror. Hallelujah!

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, you're everything to me; knowing you more and serving you is all that matters to me. It makes no difference what problems, tests, trials, and adversities may come my way, I'm unruffled, knowing that in Christ I'll never be defeated, broke or despondent, in Jesus Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Isaiah 50:7; Colossians 3:1-4

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 10:1-31 & Numbers 11-13

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 23:22-35 & Psalm 55





WEDNESDAY 4

#### A SACRED TRUST



According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust (1 Timothy 1:11).

The Apostle Paul took personal responsibility for the Gospel. His words in our theme verse show that to him, the Gospel was a sacred trust. In 1 Corinthians 9:16, he said, "...necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!" Again, in 1 Timothy 1:12, he declared, "...I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry."

Your conviction about the Gospel must be absolute. Think about it: the salvation of lost souls is God's number one passion; it's all that heaven stands for. Yet, God committed such a great commission and responsibility to you and me. This is something to be hallowed; too sacrosanct to take likely.

In Mark 16:15, Jesus said, "...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature"; this is the Great Commission. The question is, "Can God trust you to fulfil it?" Are you about His business, or you're still busy pursuing your own dreams? Let the Gospel and its spread around the world mean more to you than anything else in this world. Be committed to it, irrespective of the oppositions you might face.

Take a cue from Paul; even when the Holy Spirit

expressly testified that he'd suffer severe afflictions and be imprisoned if he went to preach in Jerusalem (Acts 20:22-23), he was undaunted. His response was: "...none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God" (Acts 20:24). Talk about burning your bridges? That's it!

Be an activist for the Gospel. None of the adversities you face can defeat you if you stand your ground and refuse to quit. Remember that God counted you faithful and committed the Gospel to your trust; He believes in you. So, be an effective witness of the Lord Jesus Christ, and do it passionately with joy. Hallelujah!

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, your Word and the Holy Spirit infuse me with boldness and courage to preach the Gospel, and I do it joyfully as an effective witness of Jesus Christ. Thank you for the unparalleled fulfilment that I experience as I win souls and lead many to righteousness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Mark 16:15; Acts 20:20-27

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 10:32-52 & Numbers 14-15

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 24:1-9 & Psalm 56





THURSDAY 5

#### PRAYING ALWAYS IN THE SPIRIT

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints (Ephesians 6:18).

Cometimes, there're those who wonder what The Spirit meant when He said through the Apostle Paul, "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit." But it's very clear. Another translation says, "...With every kind of prayer." He's saying to you, "I want you to pray with the spirit in every kind of prayer." In other words, there're different kinds of prayer. Now, whether it's a prayer of faith, a prayer of thanksgiving, a prayer of intercession, a prayer of agreement, the prayer of dedication or consecration or prophetic prayer, you're to add to it. praying in the spirit.

Praying in the spirit is one kind of prayer, but he's telling us that with all the different kinds of prayer, we should pray in the spirit. Don't say, "I'm not praying in the spirit today, because I'm praying a prayer of intercession." We can't leave out the spirit when it comes to prayers; we must pray in other tongues. That's what praying in the spirit is; it means that the prayer is coming from the inspiration of your spirit, uttered in other tongues.

For instance, when you want to pray the prayer of faith, you may start by speaking in tongues before going ahead to release those declarations of faith. It's like saying to you, "With every food, take water"; meaning whether you're eating a protein meal or vegetables, irrespective of the type of food, drink water along with it. The Apostle Paul, while communicating this truth to the Corinthian Church, said, "For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful. What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also" (1 Corinthians 14:14-15).

Take this seriously. Pray always in the spirit, and your life will be so upgraded to enjoy ever-increasing glory. You'll be vibrant and exuberant with praise at all times; more effective in your Christian walk, and circumstances will be under your feet. Hallelujah!

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the opportunity and privilege of prayer! Thank you for enlightening me to pray effectively in the spirit. I'm inspired and energized to make tremendous power available through prayer, building myself on my most holy faith, resulting in a life of absolute dominion in Christ, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 6:18 AMPC; Jude 1:20

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 11:1-26 & Numbers 16-17

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 24:10-21 & Psalm 57-58





FRIDAY 6

#### AN IMPORTANT FACTOR FOR SUCCESS



Receive my instruction, and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold (Proverbs 8:10).

Spiritual instructions may come to you in the most unexpected or unusual way, but be quick to carry them out. Proverbs 4:13 says, "Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go: keep her; for she is thy life." Sometimes, what you need for your next level isn't so much a "big idea," as it is heeding a simple instruction.

Consider the Lord's instructions to Joshua for instance. He was instructed to take over and subdue Jericho (Joshua 6:2-5). From the human standpoint, that was an impossible venture, because Jericho was one of the most fortified cities at the time. But Joshua followed the Lord's instructions and the result was victory for the children of Israel.

Some people would give anything for secondary factors such as money, human connections and uncertain philosophies in their attempt at success. But they ignore the surest measure for guaranteed progress in life: following God's Word—doing things God's way. His instructions convey His wisdom, which if followed would lead to success, victory, excellence and glory.

Realise that in life, your victories are, and would

be, entirely dependent on divine strategies given to you by God through the Spirit and His Word. Therefore, consciously practise fellowship with the Holy Spirit and the Word. That's where you receive His instructions and guidance that put you over circumstances and the adversities of life.

Every instruction of the Spirit is entrenched in the infallible principles of God's Word. Such instructions may not be spectacular, but they always produce the supernatural. Therefore, always act on the instructions of the Spirit in divine wisdom. When you do, it'll make no difference the "wall" you're faced with in your life; it could be the wall of sickness or financial trouble, but they'll crumble before you. Glory to God!

#### **PRAYER**

The Word of God is my life, and His instructions are the meditations of my heart and the force that propel my actions. I'm making supernatural progress as I take heed to God's Word and do what it says, in lesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Proverbs 13:18; 2 Timothy 3:16; Joshua 1:8 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 11:27-12:1-17 & Numbers 18-19

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 24:22-27 & Psalm 59-60





SATURDAY 7

#### **REBUKE THE ADVERSARY**



They fought from heaven; the stars in their courses fought against Sisera (Judges 5:20).

A certain Pastor was posted to a church for a new assignment; the church hadn't grown for many years. So, when he resumed, he decided to fast and pray. One day, while he was praying in the church building, he saw a huge animal, a beast, and as he turned to it, the beast said, "I will not allow you take my people from me. I've been in charge of this church for many years." In response, the Pastor said, "They're God's people; they're not your people and you will leave this church today, and never return."

The animal got infuriated and charged toward him; but unafraid, the Pastor declared, "In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, get out NOW!" The beast fell down, and scampered out of the church, to never return. The very next service, when the people came to church, they worshipped and praised God like they'd never done. It was obvious that there was a new move of the Spirit, and the church began to experience unprecedented growth. The devil had been taken out.

Members of the church didn't know there was an evil force affecting the people inside the church. But thanks be unto God that the Pastor knew exactly what

to do. We're not to negotiate with the "adversary"—that's one of Satan's names (1 Peter 5:8). It tells you something; he is one who withstands you in anything. Don't tolerate or accommodate him around you; get on the offensive.

Ephesians 6:12 says, "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." Notice that it says, "We wrestle not against...," not "We wrestle not at all." Many struggle in life, unable to actualize their dreams, not realizing they're in a warfare. When the forces are up against you, there's something behind it. Therefore, use what you have; use the Name of Jesus. Don't fold your arms and watch things go wrong; operate in the spirit; rebuke the adversary and maintain that which the Lord has given you.

#### **CONFESSION**

I declare that Satan has no authority or place in my life and in my affairs. The Name of the Lord Jesus has all power and authority. Therefore in His Name, I prevail against all adversaries and adversities.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Peter 5:8-9; 2 Corinthians 10:3-5; Ephesians 6:10-13

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 12:18-44 & Numbers 20-21

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 25:1-12 & Psalm 61-64





To celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Year in Print of the world's No.1 daily devotional, currently available in over 2,010 languages, partners are set to embark on 20 projects in 2020. Some of these projects involve the distribution of millions of copies to different nations, the acquisition and distribution of languages, building a workforce for the Gospel in different nations, organizing community development projects, and so much more! These projects are:

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- 10. ReachOut Arabic

- 11. Impact Papua New Guinea
- 12. Impact India
- 13. Impact China
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SUNDAY 8

## **WORDS ARE THE GREATEST ASSETS**



Take with you words, and turn to the LORD: say unto him, Take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously: so will we render the calves of our lips (Hosea 14:2).

Vords are the greatest assets in the world, far more valuable than gold and diamonds. There's nothing else that could change your life and situation, and give you permanent victory in life, more than words—the right words. Anyone who understands and functions in this truth is made for life. Study the Bible: all the great characters we read about and admire were made with words.

What created or gave rise to a David? Words! What helped David defeat Goliath? You may say, "Five smooth stones," no; it was words. When he picked the stones, he relied on words; study the account in 1 Samuel 17. He was sure of defeating Goliath because he put his faith on words.

Words are things; they're latent with spiritual energy. The whole world was created with words. And who is Jesus Himself? The Word! (John 1:1). Jesus is the result of words spoken by God. In the Scriptures, Moses was described as a man mighty in words; so was Jesus likewise described.

Invest your life in words. Much more than you'd

look for gold and want to test the quality to be sure it's the right one, go for words. Fill your heart, your mind and your life with the right quality of words. Don't store every kind of words in you, for words kill and words make alive. Colossians 3:16 tells you the kind of words to store up in you. It says, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly..."; keep them (God's words) in the midst of your heart (Proverbs 4:21).

Never be too busy to study the Bible to learn and store up God's Word in you. It's what you'd need in the day of adversity, and for an extraordinary life of success. Our opening verse says, "Take with you words"; you can't take with you what isn't in you. So, keep investing in the greatest asset: words! When you face crisis, don't cry. Don't panic. Speak words. Jesus said you shall have what you say (Mark 11:23); so, speak and effect a change. Hallelujah!

## **CONFESSION**

My heart is a fertile receptacle for God's Word, which produces results in me, bringing about undeniable victories and transformations. My life is modelled in line with God's thoughts, precepts, direction and destiny that He's created for me. My life is excellent and full of glory, in Jesus' Name. Glory to God!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Proverbs 18:21; Ecclesiastes 8:4; Matthew 12:37

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 13:1-37 & Numbers 22-23

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 25:13-27 & Psalm 65-66





MONDAY 9

# SANCTIFIED CONVEYOR OF BLESSINGS



And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing (Genesis 12:2).

As a Christian, you must have the consciousness of a blessed person. Affirm always that you're blessed and highly favoured everywhere, at all times and in every situation. When you have this consciousness, even if you applied for something or went somewhere and were rejected, you'll be unperturbed. That's because you know who you are, and those who rejected you don't. If they knew you, they wouldn't reject you.

Imagine Jesus at the well of Samaria: when He asked the woman for water, she refused. She said, "You're not supposed to be asking me for water because you're a Jew, and I'm Samaritan" (John 4:9). She rejected Jesus! Why? She didn't know she was addressing the Messiah; but, the Master wasn't offended. He simply said to her, "...If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water" (John 4:10).

Jesus knew who He was; so, He wasn't moved by that rejection. A child of God can be rejected if his true nature in Christ is unknown. He too may not even know himself. But when you discover that you're an heir of God, a sanctified conveyor of divine verities, things will change. You'll go everywhere with boldness, and if they turn you down anywhere, it'll mean nothing to you. You'll only say, "If only they knew me!"

God said to Abraham, "I'll bless you and make you a blessing." You're the seed of Abraham; that means because of your presence in any place, such places are blessed. The divine influence comes upon the places you go and the people with whom you interact. There's something that follows you; it's called, "the blessing"; grace! When you walk into a building, salvation comes into that house! Blessings begin to manifest. Blessed be God!

That you were denied a job offer or business contract doesn't make you a loser; far from it! Your work or business is an opportunity for you to bless your world; your door to the world, to express yourself and the perfections that God has put within your system. Hallelujah!

## **CONFESSION**

I'm a divine package of blessings; I dispense eternal verities to my world! I'm fruitful and productive in every good work, producing fruits of righteousness, ministering salvation and positively impacting my world with the perfections of the Spirit. I know who I am! Hallelujah!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Peter 2:9; Ephesians 1:3; Genesis 12:2-3 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 14:1-26 & Numbers 24-26

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 26:1-11 & Psalm 67-68





TUESDAY 10

## LOOK BEYOND THE CHANNELS



For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills. I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field are mine (Psalm 50:10-11).

ust as in our opening verse, in Haggai 2:8, the Lord asserts His sovereignty over the earth's resources saying, "The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the LORD of hosts." David minced no words about this either, as he consciously acknowledged the Lord as the creator and owner of all things: "The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein" (Psalm 24:1).

What does this mean for us? It means we're as much the possessors of the earth's riches and wealth as God Almighty, because we're His heirs. Romans 8:17 says, "And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ...." Sadly, in spite of this truth, many Christians still find themselves struggling financially, unable to prosecute their dreams. The problem, for the most part, is ignorance. They're ignorant that God, who is their source, lives in them, and that as a result, all the prosperity, wealth or finances they'll ever need, will spring forth from within them.

2 Peter 1:3 says, "According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life

and godliness...." Your wealth is within you; bring it forth. Jesus said in Matthew 12:35, "A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things...." Don't lament that the reason you're unable to execute your projects is due to unpaid allowances and remunerations. Those are channels, but God is your source. And He's made all you require available to you in Christ Jesus.

Refuse to limit your finances to anything that you see, or the so-called earthly sources. The truth is, there're no earthly sources; they're all channels, and you must look beyond these channels! Your one and only true source is your heavenly Father, and you're plugged into His eternal supply, where you never run dry. He's the Great Provider, and He lives in you. If you wanted a facility for your business or funding for your projects, first bring it forth from within! Look beyond the government, men, and your employer and family members when it comes to your finances. They may be channels, but your source is the Lord. Hallelujah!

## **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you, for out of my belly flows rivers of wealth and prosperity! I produce from my innermost being, durable riches, wealth, strength, health and victory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Corinthians 8:6 AMPC; Jeremiah 17:5-8 NIV

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 14:27-52 & Numbers 27-28

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 26:12-23 & Psalm 69-70





WEDNESDAY 11

## FRAME YOUR "AION"



Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God... (Hebrews 11:3).

The Greek word "aion," translated, "worlds" above refers to "course of life"; the structure and administration of one's life; how things go with you and how they work around you from day to day, including how they affect your hopes and aspirations. Our opening verse shows that with your faith and through God's Word, you can frame the course of your life to be consistent with God's plan and be everything you want to be.

Read our opening verse again; it says through faith, the world's system, with respect to socio-economic structures and environmental management, were programmed through words that came out of the mouth of God. This is the power of prophecy! Today's world was shaped by prophetic words of years ago.

Now, if the successive ages of men and societies were framed by God's prophetic words, and we're born after Him, it therefore shows the right we have to determine what should happen in our lives and in our world. You're to reprogramme your life and create your future with the words you speak. If you haven't been doing this, begin today to frame your life, your world, and your times! What kind of life do you want to have in the next ten, twenty or thirty years? It all

depends on you.

Many who are in debt, defeat, despondency, sickness and frustration today, framed their lives that way many years ago with their words. If that has happened to you, here's the good news: you can begin to re-programme your life with the Word, and it starts first, by changing your way of thinking. The Apostle Paul said in 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."

Through the ministry of the Word, you experience a metamorphosis—a transformation in your life and circumstances from glory to glory. You're able to scrutinize and disallow illegal transactions and imports such as sickness, poverty, death, defeat, etc., from your "aion"—your course of life. Blessed be God!

## **CONFESSION**

My mind is renewed by the Word to think the right thoughts and speak the right words that transform my life and circumstances. The structure and administration of my life are perfected in line with God's perfect will for me, and I dwell in health, peace and abundance everyday, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Joshua 1:8; Hebrews 11:1

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 14:53-72 & Numbers 29-31

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 26:24-32 & Psalm 71-72





THURSDAY 12

## YOUR NEW IDENTITY IN CHRIST



Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. Selah (Psalm 87:3).

here're many beautiful and glorious descriptions of the new creation in the Scriptures. It's one of the reasons you must study the Bible to know more about the glorious things spoken and written of you in the Word. What name has God called you? Answer that name, for you'll cheat yourself if you don't.

In Genesis 17:5, God spoke to Abram and said, "Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee." "Abram" meant exalted father, but God had a different plan for him and called him the "father of many nations."

Abraham immediately adjusted to his new reality and identity, introducing himself by his new name. Some must have made jest of Abraham when he changed his name. Recall also that Sarah, his wife was barren; another hopeless case.

But Abraham was fully persuaded by God's Word, and called himself what God had called him. In the same way, you have to learn to agree with God and His Word. Accept your new identity and reality in Christ. He's called you holy, righteous, prosperous, victorious, more than a conqueror, etc. Walk in agreement with God, with His description and perception of you.

When Paul wanted to address the Christians at Ephesus, he referred to them as saints, and the faithful in christ Jesus (Ephesians 1:1). That's your description as well. If you aren't a saint, then it means you're not born again, because saints are those who are born again. In Colossians 1:22, He calls you holy, unblameable and unreproveable. Accept and walk in the light of these truths and you'll be ever productive in your faith-walk of righteousness.

## **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I accept my new reality and identity in Christ. I'm a saint, I'm holy, unblameable and unreproveable in your sight, because I'm born again, with your nature of righteousness in my spirit. I live in absolute mastery over the circumstances of life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Peter 2:9; Ephesians 2:10 AMPC; Colossians 1:22-23

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 15:1-20 & Numbers 32-33

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 27:1-8 & Psalm 73





FRIDAY 13

## **SEE VICTORIES AND POSSIBILITIES**



Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it (Numbers 13:30 NKJV).

Moses to send a man out of every tribe to spy out the land of Canaan. These twelve men were to infiltrate Canaan and report back to Moses. However, when they returned to the camp with the feedback of their surveillance, they all confirmed the land of Canaan to be a magnificent country—a land flowing with milk and honey—and even presented some of its fruits as proof.

But quite sadly, ten out of the twelve spies bewailed their weakness and how the inhabitants of Canaan were fierce, and how huge and well fortified their cities were. Worse yet, they lamented how fear gripped their hearts on sighting the descendants of the giant, Anak in the land. Read their distressing report in Numbers 13:31, 33).

This news of gloom of how the land devours its inhabitants aroused discouragement in the hearts of the Israelites. But two of these spies—Caleb and Joshua—spoke differently. They saw victories and possibilities; therefore, they interrupted the people saying, "…Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it" (Numbers 13:30)

NKJV). They further charged the assembly, "Just don't rebel against GOD! And don't be afraid of those people. Why, we'll have them for lunch! They have no protection and GOD is on our side. Don't be afraid of them!" (Numbers 14:9 MSG).

Never be intimidated by your detractors and adversaries. If you're a business person for example, don't wallow in deep thoughts about how influential your competitors are or get intimidated by the high-rise conglomerates close to you. Don't become unsettled at the many blue-chip multinationals you have to contend with. You're the seed of Abraham; therefore, you have the advantage.

See and talk differently. See through the eyes of the Spirit. See through the Word. Irrespective of the daunting challenges that may stare you in the face, see your victory, success, your triumphs and your advancements. Praise God!

## **PRAYER**

I see victories and possibilities only; I'm bold and courageous. I win, irrespective of the challenges and circumstances that I face; they're "bread" for me. As I set my gaze on God's unfailing and eternal Word, I walk continually in victory, health, success, prosperity and righteousness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Numbers 13:25-30; 2 Corinthians 4:18 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 15:21-47 & Numbers 34-36

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 27:9-20 & Psalm 74





#### SATURDAY 14

#### **CONTINUOUS TRANSFORMATION**



And have clothed yourselves with the new [spiritual self], which is [ever in the process of being] renewed and remolded into [fuller and more perfect knowledge upon] knowledge after the image (the likeness) of Him Who created it (Colossians 3:10 AMPC).

The Greek word translated "renewed" above is the verb "Anakainoo," and it means a qualitative difference, in terms of newness and quality. It's a word that describes a keyword in 2 Corinthians 3:18: "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."

The Greek word translated "Changed" is "metamorphoo"; a change in state, form, kind, quality or glory; a continuous transformation. But how is it done? It's through knowledge, full and exact knowledge (Greek: "epignosis"). This isn't just the knowledge of mere or distant acquaintance, but one that relates with that which is known. You're being renewed in this full knowledge of God which you gain through meditation and revelation.

In "Epignosis," you become what you know; the

knowledge that's granted you transforms your life. As you receive God's Word into you, your spirit is renewed, refreshed, polished anew; you glow more and more! It's the reason you must let the Word of God dwell in you richly, because the more you know Him, the more the glory, grace, wisdom and effectiveness of the Spirit are manifested and increased in your life.

The Lord Jesus said in John 6:63, "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." It's only God's Word that can impact, transform, brighten and glorify the human spirit.

## **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the knowledge of the Word and the transformation it brings to my spirit. As I meditate on the Word, my heart and mind are open to have a full, deep and intimate relationship with the Word. Therefore, I grow in grace, and continually, your glory, power, beauty and perfections are manifested in and through me, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 1:17; Romans 12:2 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 16:1-20 & Deuteronomy 1-2

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 27:21-31 & Psalm 75-77





The 1-Year Global Pray-A-Thon is ongoing. The 24-hour nonstop prayer marathon kicked off on Monday, January  $6^{th}$  2020, and will run throughout the year till January  $6^{th}$ , 2021!

Make sure you're vitally involved in this glorious opportunity to fulfill your priestly ministry as a Christian by:

- Taking out at least 15 minutes anytime each day of the week to join in the global prayers
- Participating in the regular prayer times of 12noon and 10pm (Local/GMT) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays

To join the live stream of the Global Pray-A-Thon, please follow the Pastor Chris Live Super User on KingsChat.

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SUNDAY 15

#### **HEAVENLY WORDS**



For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak (John 12:49-50).

esus tells us in the verse above that His words are the Father's commandments; everything He said came from the Father. In other words, the Father gave Him a commandment of what He should say or what He should speak. What He said in the next verse is even more inspiring. He said, "And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak" (John 12:50). Amazing!

In John 20:21, Jesus said, "...peace be unto you. As my Father had sent me even so send I you." Notice that He wasn't only talking to James, John, Peter or the other Apostles, but to us today. Thus, the same way He spoke the Father's words, we're to speak heavenly words; divine words. We've been given a commandment of what we should say, and what we should speak.

In Christianity, we don't live for ourselves; we live for Him. We don't speak for ourselves or from ourselves; we speak for Him, and from Him, just like Jesus. We have words given to us to speak. Hebrews 13:5-6 says "...for he hath said...So that we may boldly say...." Speak heavenly words like Jesus, and live the life of heaven on earth.

God designed divinity to be released through words! Words are unlimited and eternal; they go into the realm of the spirit. You can speak from your closet and it will have impact anywhere in the world. Therefore, when you have a situation to deal with, meditate on the Word; soak your spirit in the Word until only the Word comes out of your mouth; divine words from heaven. Hallelujah!

## **PRAYER**

My life is the testimony of God's grace. His mercies and compassion surround me every day! I walk in His glory and perfection today, manifesting His righteousness and exercising the dominion of the Spirit in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Mark 11:23; Proverbs 6:2; Romans 10:9-10

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 1:1-25 & Deuteronomy 3-4

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 27:32-44 & Psalm 78





MONDAY 16

#### ANYONE CAN BE SAVED



But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them (2 Corinthians 4:3-4).

Our theme scripture is quite instructive; it reveals the reason certain people find it difficult to give their hearts to Jesus Christ; Satan is behind it. Once, I ministered to someone who was willing to give his life to Christ, but he was reluctant to confess the Lordship of Jesus. I knew what the problem was. So, I said, "In the Name of Jesus, you lying devil, come out of him!" Instantly, he opened his mouth and made the confession of the Lordship of Jesus Christ, and he was born again. Glory to God!

There're people who won't give their lives to Jesus Christ because demon spirits wouldn't let them. That's why it's important to intercede for the lost, rebuking the devil and the darkness in their hearts, so they'd receive the glorious light of the Gospel of Christ. Think about the fact that a fellow left his house, willing to go to church, but as soon as he approached the entrance of the church, he wouldn't go in. The brethren tried every way to persuade him to enter the church, but he

wouldn't budge. An evil spirit that had followed him all his life would let him go anywhere else, but church.

However, while he was at the door, the Word of God was being taught inside the church. And suddenly, he became calm, and entered for the service. As those who had tried to persuade him began to wonder at the sudden change of mind, he said to them, "A spirit walked out of me."

Imagine how many people want to come to church or give their lives to Christ, but are being hindered by the devil. But that's where we come in. Jesus gave us authority to cast out devils (Mark 16:17); it's one of the signs of our divinity. So, in preaching the Gospel, when you find people who seem to be resisting the message, intercede for them, that the devil would lose his grip on them. Don't give up on anyone, for anyone can accept the Gospel of Christ and be saved.

## **PRAYER**

I thank you blessed Father, for the light of the glorious Gospel of Christ that floods the earth, resulting in the massive salvation of souls around the world! The power and influence of Satan is broken and the hearts and minds of many are open to receive the message of the Kingdom, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 AMPC; 1 Timothy 2:1-5 CEV

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 1:26-56 & Deuteronomy 5-7

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 28:1-10 & Psalm 79-80





TUESDAY 17

## **EVERYTHING IS SUBJECT TO YOU** IN HIS NAME



And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it (John 14:13-14).

Trior to His ascension, the Lord Jesus said, "... All power is given unto me in heaven and in 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" (Matthew 28:18-19). All authority in heaven and earth has been given to Jesus. Everything that exists in this world and beyond is subject to the Name of Jesus. What does this mean? It means everything is subject to you, because you live in His Name. His Name belongs to you.

When you speak in His Name, your words carry the same power and authority as though Jesus Himself were the one speaking. His Name has power everywhere. It has power over governments, devils, principalities and powers. Hallelujah! Use that Name.

Read our opening scripture again. This is talking about making demands in the Name of Jesus and bringing all things into subjection to you. Peter acted on this when he said to a man who was crippled from birth, "In the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up

and walk." He then got the crippled man by the right hand, pulled him up, and his ankle bones received strength; healed by the power of God (Acts 3:6-8).

You have the greatest blessing and gift of all times; the Name of Jesus; use it every day, and everywhere. When you make a demand or decree a thing in His Name, He sees to it that it happens. His Name is the solution to every problem. It makes no difference the predicament you're in; declare, "In the Name of the Lord Jesus, I'm more than a conqueror. Everything is subject to me. Blessed be God!" With His Name, you can never be defeated; you have dominion over Satan and the powers of darkness. Hallelujah!

## **CONFESSION**

I walk the path of success, victory and triumph, because I function, and do all things, in the Name of Jesus. My life is for glory and excellence; I live victoriously and dominate life's situations and circumstances, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Matthew 28:18-20; Luke 10:17-19; Philippians 2:8-11

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 1:57-80 & Deuteronomy 8-10

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 28:11-20 & Psalm 81-82





WEDNESDAY 18

#### **IMMERSED IN CHRIST**



For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ (Galatians 3:27).

his verse refers to two different phenomena. Firstly is baptism into Christ, and secondly, putting on Christ. Baptism into Christ is like water into water; inseparable oneness. Putting on Christ is living in His new environment and character. You've been completely immersed in Him that Christ is all there is about you and seen in you.

This is your reality now; you've put on Christ by virtue of the New Birth; you're in Him and He is in you: "...we dwell in him, and he in us..." (1 John 4:13). Colossians 3:3-4 says your life is hid with Christ in God, and Christ is your life. Hallelujah! Make this your consciousness and confession. Every so often, you say, "Christ is my life. Christ is my dwelling place. I live in the environment called Christ."

2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "...if any man be in *Christ...."* That's the place; it's the habitation of glory. Sickness, disease, infirmity, fear, unbelief and darkness of any kind can't be found in Christ. When you came into Christ, the depraved, defeated and broken human life was supplanted with the God-nature; you came into righteousness, honour, peace and glory. You were dead, but came alive in Him.

Think about it: since you're immersed in Christ, and everything about your life is Christ, how then could you be said to have an incurable disease? How could you have a blood or heart condition? It's not possible! The problems, the darkness, misery, pains and challenges that were associated with your natural human life have all passed away in Christ.

The latter part of 2 Corinthians 5:17 in NKJV says, "...behold, all things have become new." God wants you to see, reckon, and have the consciousness that you're in a new enclave, a new home called Christ, where everything about your life is transcendent; excellent and full of glory! Therefore, walk boldly and fearless, full of faith and confidence, because you're in Christ; divinely protected from all evil and made victorious. Hallelujah!

## **CONFESSION**

My life is hid with Christ in God; I'm totally immersed in Him. Everything about my life is transcendent; excellent and full of glory! I walk bold and fearless, full of faith and confidence, divinely protected from all evil and made victorious in Christ. Glory to God!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Colossians 3:3-4; 1 Corinthians 6:17; Galatians 2:20

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 2:1-20 & Deuteronomy 11-12

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 28:21-31 & Psalm 83-84





THURSDAY 19

## THE WORD IS EVER SURE



Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away (Matthew 24:35).

od's Word is ever sure; surer than your experiences. Psalm 18:30 says, "As for God, his way is perfect: the word of the LORD is tried: he is a buckler to all those that trust in him." One of the things that you have to consciously practise is taking God at His Word; acting on His Word, no matter the circumstances or situation you find yourself in. His Word has integrity.

He said in Isaiah 55:11, "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Maybe it's a health crisis you're confronted with; the Word guarantees your divine health. There's no need to cry and beg God for healing; He already gave you something better than healing—His life in you. That's your right and assurance for a life of dominion over sickness, disease and infirmities.

Have faith in God's Word. Accept that whatever He says is true, and then act accordingly. The entire Scriptures chronicle everything that's involved in Christ's redemptive work, the implication of all that He accomplished in your behalf, and the testament sealed in His death. Not only are these accounts authentic and trustworthy, they were delivered to us to live by.

Therefore, it makes no difference what you feel, hear, see or what your experience has been; the Bible says, "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" (2 Peter 1:19). There's something more trustworthy than your experience, than the pain you may be going through; it's the Word of His grace. Hold on to God's Word. Things may not seem to be changing on the outside, but keep affirming the Word concerning that situation, until faith rises in you like a giant. Faith accepts and exalts the Word above the natural circumstances of life. This is why it's vital for you to regularly meditate on the Word and build your faith strong. When your faith is strong, it doesn't matter what you see, hear or feel-it doesn't matter how negative or impossible things may look in the natural—you'll always win.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for your Word that's ever sure. Even now, your Word prevails in me, producing fruits of the message therein. I win today, and every day, by the power of your Word. I live in your glory always, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Acts 20:32; Matthew 24:35 NIV; Psalm 119:89

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 2:21-52 & Deuteronomy 13-15

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 1:1-12 & Psalm 85-86





## FRIDAY 20

## DO WHAT JESUS SAID TO DO-CAST OUT DEVILS



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 6:12).

Any of the challenges that some people are faced with in life are caused by demons, especially the ones the Bible describes as the rulers of the darkness of this world. They're largely responsible for the anger, frustration and depression that people experience in their lives. Most don't know it, but anger, especially uncontrolled anger, often leads to regrettable extremities. In many cases, a demon is behind uncontrollable anger.

It's clear from our opening verse: flesh and blood, that is, fellow humans aren't your problem. Any horrible experience or action against you by someone is often the result of whatever evil spirit or force influencing that person or the situation. So, the real culprit is the devil. What you're supposed to do is to cast the devil out, and you can do that even without confronting the person. Demons will hear and obey you even from afar as distance isn't a factor in the exercise of spiritual authority.

As a Christian, don't be casual with, or ignorant of demonic activities. Stay in God's Word and be quick to exercise your dominion in Christ. If you're a parent for

example, it matters where your children go to school or even the hospitals they visit. Take authority over such places and be spiritually perceptive.

Sometimes, you even find pastors and ministers of the Gospel who are having challenges with demonic forces in their ministry. They gather people, and suddenly, demons stir up some trouble, and the church is left in disarray; then they start all over again. Things like these happen to people, causing them frustration because they haven't understood, and therefore, aren't doing what Jesus told us to do, which is to cast out devils.

Notice that it's the first thing Jesus said we would do in His Name, letting us know the importance. So, once you notice Satan's activities in anything concerning you, knowing that oftentimes he acts incognito, cast him out. Don't pray against people; deal with the spirit behind it and you'll see remarkable changes.

## CONFESSION

I've been given the authority and ability to cast out devils in the Name of Jesus and I exercise that dominion even now, and frustrate the influence and manipulations of Satan in my environment. Satan has no place in my body, home, work, finances and my loved ones, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Luke 10:18-19; Mark 1:21-27 GNB; Mark 16:17

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 3:1-38 & Deuteronomy 16-17

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 1:13-23 & Psalm 87-88





# HE PERFECTS YOUR LIFE

SATURDAY 21



The LORD will perfect that which concerneth me... (Psalm 138:8).

The scripture above should give you absolute confidence in life, because it shows that your future is secure. Think about the fact that the Lord Himself is the One who perfects all that concerns you! That means you have nothing to worry about. I was so delighted to make this discovery as a young lad many years ago. It made me know that my future was secure. He that owns tomorrow perfects my life and all that concerns me. Hallelujah! Make that your daily confession.

Acts 14:17 AMPC declares that the Lord gives you rain from heaven and fruitful seasons; He satisfies your heart with nourishment and happiness. Blessed be His Name forever! Trust the Lord with your life. Don't say, "Well, I don't know what tomorrow holds; life is full of ups and downs." Don't talk like that! Your tomorrow is settled.

In Jeremiah 29:11, He said, "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end." There's an expected end; the script has been written: you'll forever be a victor! You already won, because everything in life has been programmed

for your advantage (Romans 8:28).

Read Isaiah 54:17 and notice how the Lord brags about your invincibility and the fact that you have nothing to fear. He said, "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn...."

Your life is for the glory of God. Nothing in this world can defeat you or put you under. There's nothing to struggle with or try to overcome, because you have triumphed already in Christ; refuse to think otherwise. Don't allow the circumstances rob you of your joy, fulfilment and peace.

Peace is a consequence of trust, and trust is a product of knowledge. This is why you must get to know the Lord for yourself in such a personal way, through study and meditation on the Word. Hallelujah!

## **PRAYER**

Dear Father, my spirit is refreshed in your presence, and your joy fills my soul, knowing that you perfect all that concerns me. My path is that of the righteous that shines brighter and brighter unto the perfect day. You have made my life pleasant, and my future is bright. Thank you for guiding me in success, victory and filling me with your glory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Genesis 17:6; Colossians 1:9-10; Proverbs 4:18

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 4:1-13 & Deuteronomy 18-21

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 1:24-32 & Psalm 89





The Healing School Autumn Session, scheduled to hold this March to April in Johannesburg, South Africa, provides a unique opportunity for many around the world to be imparted with God's healing power!

Through the healing ministry of the man of God, Pastor Chris, many have had their broken bodies completely restored. This session will be another opportunity for such demonstration of God's power in the physical wellbeing of His children.

To attend the 2020 Autumn Session of the Healing School in Johannesburg, South Africa, register by sending an email to <u>application@</u> <u>healingschool.org</u> or on your mobile device at <u>www.enterthehealingschool.mobi</u>

For more information, visit: www.enterthehealingschool.org

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## SUNDAY 22

#### THE STORY OF THE WORD



In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made (John 1:1-3).

ust as no other apostle gave us the revelation of the Church like Paul, no one gave the Church the revelation of the Person of Jesus, the incarnate Word, like John. He tells us the story of the Word, and starts from the beginning. In John 1:10-14 He says, "He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.... And the Word was made (became) flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth." Hallelujah!

He was in the world, but the world knew Him not; who was that? The Word! We read in verse 14, "And the Word was made (became) flesh, and dwelt among us..."; John is letting you know the origin of Jesus. While the other Gospel writings (Matthew and Luke) began their account by tracing the earthly genealogy of Jesus, John's Gospel declares His divinity, giving us the actual origin of the man Jesus—who He really is.

Jesus Christ is the Word that pre-existed creation

and by whom all things were created (John 1:1-3). He was "...the Voice of the Lord God that Adam and Eve heard walking in the garden" (Genesis 3:8). He is the Wisdom that David and Solomon wrote so passionately about. His birth was such a marvel to the hosts of heaven; it was a miracle beyond what they had ever seen (Luke 2:13-14).

Suddenly, they were looking at the Creator of the universe, the Ancient of days, wrapped in swaddling clothes; the Word in heaven had visited men in the flesh! Every step Jesus took was the Word of God in motion. He was the Word personified. Glory to His Name forever!

## CONFESSION

Blessed Lord Jesus, you are God, the eternal Rock of ages; the Word that pre-existed all creation and by whom all things were created. How great thou art, O Lord! You're the embodiment of grace and truth, you're the Word of life, and the light of life; the living bread from heaven that gives life to every man in the world. Blessed be your Name forever!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

John 1:1-14; 2 Corinthians 3:2-3

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 4:14-44 & Deuteronomy 22-24

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 2:1-11 & Psalm 90





MONDAY 23

## **ACTIVATING THE TREASURES IN YOU**



...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).

This is so profound! There're treasures in you; divine treasures. Hallelujah! It brings to mind the words of Jesus in Matthew 12:35: "A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things...." Every good thing you require in life is already in the treasure domiciled in your spirit; it's in you. What many haven't learnt is how to bring forth that which they require from within. Jesus said out of your belly shall flow rivers of living waters (John 7:38); He didn't say they shall flow from heaven. So, how do you activate the treasure in you?

Philemon 1:6 gives us an important insight; it says, "That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus." There're three keywords in that verse. The first is "communication," translated from the Greek word "koinonia," and it means fellowship or participation. The second word is "effectual," which derives from the Greek word "energes"; and it means to become active or operative. The Lord wants your participation or fellowship in the faith to become active, to produce

results through the <u>acknowledging</u> of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus. That's the third key word, "acknowledging," and it's from the Greek word "epignosis." "Epignosis" is full discernment and recognition of spiritual truths. This means that your participation or fellowship in the Gospel of Christ will become effective through your full and absolute knowledge of every good thing that you have in your spirit by virtue of your oneness with Christ. Beyond recognizing who you are in Christ, your inheritance and heritage in Him, you must affirm them to become your vital experience in life.

Study the Word to know more about the divine treasures in you. God has imparted amazing blessings to your spirit, but through knowledge and affirmation you activate these and other blessings to produce results in your personal life. Praise God!

### **CONFESSION**

I have the life of God in me; His glory and righteousness are in my spirit. Thank you, righteous Father, for the amazing blessings you've deposited in me in Christ Jesus. I acknowledge your peace and joy that mantles my heart always. I'm blessed beyond measure. Hallelujah!

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Psalm 87:3; 1 Corinthians 2:12-13

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 5:1-16 & Deuteronomy 25-27

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 2:12-20 & Psalm 91





TUESDAY 24

### HE BUILDS US THROUGH HIS WORD



And I say also unto thee...<u>I will build my</u> church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it (Matthew 16:18).

These words above came from the very lips of the Master; He's personally responsible for building His Church. But how's He doing it? We know that the Lord Jesus is in heaven, but the Holy Spirit is with us, and in us, continuing 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.

The Word is the only ingredient that can transform and build our lives on all three levels: spirit, soul and

body. When the Word of God gets into your spirit, it produces in you what it talks about. For example, the Word of salvation, which is the very first step. Romans 1:16 says, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth...." That means God's power to save anyone is in the Gospel of Christ—His Word of salvation.

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!

### **CONFESSION**

Blessed Father, thank you for the power of your Word in my life; I'm built and nourished by your Word for a life of greatness and joy in the Holy Ghost. My mind is renewed and my life transformed even now, by the power and glory of your Word. Hallelujah!

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Matthew 4:4; Joshua 1:8

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 5:17-39 & Deuteronomy 28

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 2:21-29 & Psalm 92-93





WEDNESDAY 25

### **DISCIPLINE YOURSELF TO PRAY**



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 (Zechariah 4:6).

True success is spiritual, and based on spiritual principles. If you're going to be successful in anything, you must learn to take charge from the realm of the spirit, and the primary way to do that is through prayer. When you learn to bow your knees and discipline yourself to pray, there'll be nothing you can't change or achieve.

Some Christians think life is a joke; they pray three minutes and they're done. Even while they're praying, they're distracted by everything else; then at the end of the day, they wonder why certain things happened that has made them victims in life. Discipline yourself to pray; make it a conscious part of your routine. Your nightmares will be over once you discover the efficacy of prayer. When you take charge and change things in the realm of the spirit, they'll manifest in the earth-realm. When Deborah and Barak fought against Sisera and his armies, the Bible says, "They fought from heaven; the stars in their courses fought against Sisera" (Judges 5:20).

The spirit realm is where you set the circumstances of your life to control whatever happens in the natural world, and laugh your way through. You become like David—a mystery and a wonder to your world! Glory to God!

### **PRAYER**

Precious Father, I thank you for the opportunity to receive the ministration of your Spirit through prayer. As I give attention to commune with you, my eyes are open to spiritual realities, and your thoughts are unveiled to my spirit, causing me to walk in dominion, victory and ever-increasing glory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 8:26-27; Ephesians 6:12; 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 AMPC

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 6:1-16 & Deuteronomy 29-30

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 3:1-12 & Psalm 94





### THURSDAY 26

### **HEAVEN IS NOT A PROMISE**



We, however, are citizens of heaven, and we eagerly wait for our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, to come from heaven (Philippians 3:20 GNB).

hen we say every promise in the Word of God has already been fulfilled in us the new creation, there're those who ask, "What about heaven? Isn't that promised us?" Heaven isn't a promise, because we were born there: "But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven..." (Hebrews 12:22-23).

Also, read again our opening verse: it says, "We <u>are</u> citizens of heaven," not "We <u>shall</u> be citizens of heaven." You're a bona fide citizen of heaven NOW. Recall the words of Jesus in John 8:23; He said to the Jews, "I'm from above"; referring to His heavenly origin. Then concerning us, He said, "You're not of this world," even though we live in this world. That's because the Christian lives in two worlds contemporaneously.

Look at it this way: perhaps, you're a citizen of the United States, living in the United Kingdom. The fact that you're not living in the United States doesn't nullify your American citizenship, neither does it make your American citizenship a promise. Therefore, that you're in the earth doesn't preclude you from enjoying all the blessings, rights and privileges of your heavenly citizenship.

According to the Bible, heaven is our home; it belongs to us now. We were born there, and live there NOW! Psalm 87:4-5 talks about it. It says, "I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to them that know me: behold Philistia, and Tyre, with Ethiopia; this man was born there. And of Zion it shall be said, This and that man was born in her: and the highest himself shall establish her." When you study the context, you'd observe that he's referring to the new creation who is born in Zion, which is the heavenly Jerusalem in Hebrews 12:22.

In the new birth, we were translated into the Kingdom of God's Love Son (Colossians 1:13). This isn't a promise; it's already done. This is a heavenly kingdom, and operates from heaven. Hallelujah!

### **CONFESSION**

Like the Lord Jesus, I'm not of this world; I'm born from heaven and live the life of heaven now in the earth! I'm conscious of my heavenly blessings, rights and privileges and I enjoy them to the full. Hallelujah!

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

John 17:15-16; 1 Corinthians 15:48-49 AMPC

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 6:17-49 & Deuteronomy 31-32

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 3:13-19 & Psalm 95-96





FRIDAY 27

### STAND YOUR GROUND IN THE WORD



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

ne of the fiery darts of the wicked is fear. Therefore, as a child of God, under no circumstances are you supposed to yield to fear. When the spirit of fear throws a dart at you, respond and say, "No! I'm a child of God! I refuse to fear!" Proverbs 3:25 says, "Be not afraid of sudden fear, neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it cometh." Refuse to be intimidated by devils, men, circumstances, lack or want.

When things happen or circumstances arise that tend to stir fear against you, affirm the Word. If it's the fear of lack that's trying to get a hold of you, declare boldly, "The Lord is my Shepherd; I refuse to lack! I'm plugged to His eternal and unfailing supply." You have to confess your boldness in Christ. If, for instance, you're in a dark or lonely place and you hear some strange sound, be unmoved; rather, declare, "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil: for greater is He that's in me, than he that's in the world!"

When you make that declaration, the devil will

chicken out, because the truth is, he's afraid of you. So, when he throws his darts in your direction, neutralize them with your faith-filled confessions. Be bold about the Word of God. Be bold to affirm what God has said about you. Every so often, declare boldly, "I'll always be a success. I'll forever walk in divine health. I refuse to fear." Such declarations are statements of distinction, showing that you're not of this world.

2 Timothy 1:7 says, "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." It makes no difference what the enemy tries to use to intimidate you; refuse to budge! Stand your ground in the Word!

### CONFESSION

I refuse to be intimidated in this life, for I'm strong in the grace that's in Christ Jesus. Fear has lost its power over me, for greater is He that's in me, than he that's in the world. The Word of God has taken full possession and expression in, and through my spirit, my soul and my body. Blessed be God!

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 8:15; 2 Timothy 1:7; Deuteronomy 31:6

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 7:1-35 & Deuteronomy 33-34

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 3:20-25 & Psalm 97





SATURDAY 28

### BE CONSCIOUS OF THE SPIRIT



If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit (Galatians 5:25).

There's a spirit world that's greater than this physical world. The physical world is a region or part of the spirit world. The Bible says God is a Spirit, and He created all things; meaning that there's a spirit connection to everything that God made. Nothing is detached from Him. In the realm of the spirit, He created a region for the physical man, even though man himself is a spirit being.

God gave man a physical body to live in, while in the physical region of His spiritual world. The earth isn't a separate entity from God's realm. Remember, in Genesis 1:2, the Bible says the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. The Spirit of God incubated over the chaotic mass, which means the earth was within the coverage or reach of the Spirit, and governed by the Spirit. Many, because they don't realise this, and because they haven't understood the importance of it, limit their lives to the earthly region of this world. They don't realise that there's a greater play in the spirit world.

For every one of us that's born again, the Bible tells us to walk in the Spirit. How do you walk in the Spirit? It's walking in the light of God's Word; walking

according to Kingdom principles. Become conscious that you live in, and are from another realm, a heavenly realm that's greater than this world. That consciousness will put you over the elements, failures, frustrations, darkness and corruption in this physical world.

Life is spiritual, and we live in two worlds. But most people, every day, are only conscious of the physical realm. This is why many go through pain and affliction; victims of incurable diseases, because they're unable to control life from the spirit. The Bible says you're in the world, but not of the world. You're born after Christ, the man from heaven; you bear the image of the heavenly. You're from the Kingdom of God's Love Son. Hallelujah! And in that Kingdom, we play by divine principles; the strategies and weapons of our warfare are not of this world (2 Corinthians 10:4). We reign by grace through righteousness, and we prevail with, and through the Word. Hallelujah!

### **CONFESSION**

The eyes of my understanding are enlightened to recognise my divine abilities in Christ, and to comprehend and apprehend the spiritual realities of the heavenly Kingdom to which I belong, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 8:9-10 NIV; Romans 8:13-14

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 7:36-50 & Joshua 1-2

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 3:26-31 & Psalm 98-100





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SUNDAY 29

### WEALTH FOR EVERYDAY SOLUTION



Give us this day our daily bread (Matthew 6:11).

As a child of God, the government of your country isn't supposed to decide your prosperity. There's a higher government—heaven's government—and you belong in that government. Under heaven's government, your financial prosperity is for all-time; there's supply for you every day!

Unlike the governments of this world, there's no "welfare" system or pension program with God. He's bigger, and does better than that. He has a glorious plan for your life and has made provisions for your future. You never have to live your life on some pension, charity, or benefit from the government or anyone. The Bible says He has given you all that pertains to life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3); all that you need, to require no aid or support. Hallelujah!

God's purpose is that you're big enough to help others. He didn't intend for you to be the one needing help. The Bible says saviours shall arise from Mount Zion (Obadiah 1:21); that's you and me. We're heirs of God, and through us He blesses and makes many rich. There're many around us who are in dire need, and we must heed their cry for help.

We read in our theme verse how Jesus taught His

disciples to pray. Part of the content of that prayer format was, "Give us this day our daily bread." He was letting us know that there's a daily provision, and your name is on it! The provisions you never claimed have accumulated, waiting for you.

It's time to lay claims to them. It's about time you said, "Father, I'm ready; all your daily provisions for me that I never claimed, I receive them now!" Have the boldness to call them forth. Don't wait to get to heaven and discover there was so much you could have had that you never took advantage of. Claim what's yours. Your salary or pension or profit from business aren't your source. God is your source, and He has provision for you EVERY DAY. Praise God!

### **CONFESSION**

Thanks be unto God who daily loads me with benefits! He's made all grace—every favour and earthly blessing—come to me in abundance, such that I'm always and under all circumstances and whatever the need, self-sufficient—possessing enough to require no aid or support, and furnished in abundance for every good work and charitable donation. Hallelujah!

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Timothy 6:17; 2 Corinthians 9:8 AMPC; Romans 8:32 NIV

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 8:1-21 & Joshua 3-4

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 4:1-10 & Psalm 101





MONDAY 30

### THE WORD IN YOUR SPIRIT



And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God (Ephesians 6:17).

Corinthians 10:3 says, "For though we walk  $oldsymbol{\angle}$  in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh." We're not into a physical battle; it's spiritual, and our weapon is the Word of God; the sword of the Spirit. As you release God's Word—the rhema of God—vou're getting on the offensive in the realm of the spirit; power is released that shatters the enemy. This is the reason for meditation.

God's Word is powerful in your mouth, after meditation-voracious meditation. During this kind of meditation, your whole attention is on the Word; you allow no distraction whatsoever. This is what makes the difference between someone that's quoting scriptures from the head and someone that's quoting scriptures because it has become resident inside him. This was what distinguished David from the rest of the Israelites. They were all circumcised and knew about the covenant, but they trembled before Goliath. None of them could face the giant.

But when David showed up, he wondered why everybody was afraid of Goliath and said, "...who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the

armies of the living God?" (1 Samuel 17:26). He was saying, "We're circumcised and by circumcision, we're in league with God. But this guy is uncircumcised; he doesn't have God on his side!" The circumcision meant something to David that others didn't know about.

That's what happens when the Word is in your spirit. Jesus said out of your belly shall flow rivers—gushers, floods—of living water (John 7:38). Colossians 3:16 says, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly...." Become voracious in your study of, and meditation on the Word. Have the Word in your heart and in your mouth; it'll make you a wonder and give you the winning mentality. Praise God!

### **CONFESSION**

From my innermost being flow gushers of living water. As I meditate and receive the Word gladly into my spirit, it brings forth righteousness, wisdom and revelation, prosperity, victory and abundance. Praise God!

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Joshua 1:8; 1 Timothy 4:15

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 8:22-39 & Joshua 5-6

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 4:11-25 & Psalm 102





TUESDAY 31

### **KNOW WHO YOU ARE**



They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course (Psalm 82:5).

any who are victims in life are actually not victims of the devil but of ignorance. In Hosea 4:6, God said, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge...." He didn't say His people are destroyed by the devil.

Think about it: what would you do or how would you live if you discovered that no sickness could actually fasten itself to your body? If you found out that you have a life that's incapable of failure, a life that can't be defeated or destroyed; how would that affect your mentality? It'll most certainly change your appreciation of yourself. These were my discoveries in the Word of God many years ago. But many aren't acquainted with these truths, and as a result, they measure their lives on the basis of the flesh; what they perceive with their natural senses.

Your life is based on the information that you have. Your standard of life is limited to your knowledge. No one ever lived beyond the level of his knowledge. If you have the knowledge of God's Word, it'll make the difference in your life. Our theme verse says, "They

know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness...." This is the reason some of God's children are suffering and struggling in life. They don't know who the new creation really is.

When the reality of the Word and who you are in Christ dawns on you, you suddenly come to a place of absolute confidence and independence, where you realize that the world doesn't determine what happens with you. You become like Jesus, who had no sense of need. That's the life He came to give us; and as you study and meditate on the Word, not only do you discover your inheritance in Christ, you also receive the faith to relate with, and enjoy all that God has made available to you in Him. Glory to His Name forever!

### CONFESSION

My heart is flooded with knowledge and spiritual understanding. I know who I am; an heir of God and a joint-heir with Christ. I know what belongs to me in Christ. I live above lack, sickness, disease, defeat and all the rudiments of this world. My life is upward and forward only, from glory to glory, from faith to faith, and from grace to grace! Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Peter 1:2-3; 2 Corinthians 5:17-18

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 8:40-56 & Joshua 7-9

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 5:1-11 & Psalm 103





We trust you have been blessed by this devotional. We invite you to make Jesus Christ the Lord of your life by praying thus:

"O Lord God, I believe with all my heart in Jesus Christ, Son of the living God. I believe He died for me and God raised Him from the dead. I believe He's alive today. I confess with my mouth that Jesus Christ is the Lord of my life from this day. Through Him and in His Name, I have eternal life; I'm born again. Thank you Lord, for saving my soul! I'm now a child of God. Hallelujah!"

Congratulations! You are now a child of God. To receive more information on how you can grow as a Christian, please get in touch with us through any of the contacts below:

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Pastor Chris Oyakhilome, the President of LoveWorld Inc., a dynamic, multifaceted, global ministry, is the author of Rhapsody of Realities, the world's #1 daily devotional, and more than 30 other books. He's a dedicated minister of God's Word whose message has brought the reality of the divine life to the hearts of many.

Millions have been affected by his television broadcast, "Atmosphere For Miracles," which brings God's divine presence right into people's homes. The scope of his television ministry extends throughout the world with LoveWorld satellite television networks, delivering qualitative Christian programming to a global audience.

At the world-renowned Healing School, he manifests the healing works of Jesus Christ and has helped many receive healing through the operation of the gifts of the Spirit.

Pastor Chris has a passion to reach the peoples of the world with God's presence—a divine commission he's fulfilled for more than 30 years through various outreaches, crusades, as well as several other platforms that have helped millions experience a victorious and purposeful life in God's Word.





### "Rhapsody Literally Opens Doors!"

I was chosen to head a project team working on a rig platform offshore in Nigeria. One day, while working, we were accidentally shut inside and didn't have the access code to open the door. The area was so cold that we started to stiffen and lose strength. Unable to reach the control room because the radios had lost network due to the cold, my team members became afraid but I prayed and asked God what to do. I took out a copy of Rhapsody of Realities from my pocket and read it aloud. After reading, God spoke to me to place the devotional on the door. As soon as I did that, the access code was set to default settings and the door opened up. We all came out safe and filled with much rejoicing. Hallelujah!

-O. Onofua; Nigeria

### "Marriage Preserved By The Messenger Angel"

I gave a copy of Rhapsody of Realities to my colleague at work and later discovered that he had planned to commit suicide because his wife had asked for a divorce. Through studying the devotional daily, he learnt how to apply the Word for a successful marriage. Today, he and his wife live happily. Praise God!

-M. Theresa; Canada

### "Healed By My Confessions Of Faith"

In 2015, I was diagnosed of a heart problem. I began experiencing chest pains and difficulty in breathing. I came in contact with Rhapsody of Realities and started reading it, confessing the Word out loud daily. Now, I am healed and can breathe normally. Praise God!

-A. Owen; Zimbabwe



### Rhapsody of Realities

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We will like to know how this devotional has blessed your life. Please write a brief testimony of the impact of Rhapsody of Realities on your life and any prayer request(s) that you may have. We will be happy to pray with you.

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# Rhapsody of Realities

## Chris Oyakhilome



Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

### A KEY FOR OTHER BIBLE VERSIONS USED:

NKJV -New King James Version AMP -The Amplified Bible AMPC -The Amplified Classic Bible TANT -The Amplified New Translation TLB -The Living Bible CFV -Contemporary English Version -New American Standard Bible NASB ISV -International Standard Version NIV -New International Version MSG -The Message Translation WEB -The World English Bible TNIT -The New Living Translation ASV -American Standard Version

RSV -Revised Standard Version
GNB -Good News Bible

WNT -Weymouth New Testament

NRSV -New Revised Standard Version

-Today's English Version

MOFFAT -Moffatt New Translation
WESNT -Wesley New Testament

EBR -Rotherham's Emphasized Bible

DRB -Douay-Rheims Bible

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### Introduction

urray! Your favourite daily devotional, Rhapsody of Realities, is now available in 2010 languages and still counting. Now in its 20<sup>th</sup> year in print, the 2020 edition of the devotional has been packaged to enhance your spiritual growth and development and position you for resounding success throughout the year.

The life-changing truths in this edition will refresh, transform and prepare you for a very fulfilling, fruitful, and rewarding experience with God's Word.

### - HOW TO USE THIS DEVOTIONAL FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT

- Read and carefully meditate on each article. Saying the prayers and confessions aloud to yourself daily will ensure the results of God's Word that you're speaking come to pass in your life.
- Go through the entire Bible in one year with the one-year reading plan, or in two years with the two-year reading plan.
- You can also split the daily Bible reading portions into two parts—morning and evening reading.
- Use the devotional to prayerfully write out your goals for each month, and measure your success as you accomplish one goal after another.

Enjoy God's glorious presence and victory, as you take a daily dose of His Word! God bless you!

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# Rhapsody of Realities ... A DAILY DEVOTIONAL

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FRIDAY 1

### THE PERFECTION OF THE HEART



Amaziah was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jehoaddan of Jerusalem. And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, but not with a perfect heart (2 Chronicles 25:1-2).

hat we just read in our theme scripture is quite interesting; it says Amaziah did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, but not with a perfect heart. God wasn't judging the rightness of his action, but the perfection of his heart. His conduct was right; at least God said so, but he lacked heartiness—the quality of hearty sincerity.

We find another example in 1 Kings 15, with King Asa. 1 Kings 15:14 shows a flaw in his actions, which nevertheless, didn't dent the perfection of his heart as far as God was concerned. It says, "But the high places were not removed: nevertheless Asa's heart was perfect with the LORD all his days."

The foregoing show two people, one whose conduct was right in the sight of God but his heart wasn't perfect with God; and then another one whose conduct wasn't perfect, but his heart was perfect with the Lord. Here's an imperfect heart (Amaziah)

doing perfect things, and a perfect heart (Asa) doing imperfect things. But God called Abraham to a higher quality of perfection when He said, "...walk before me, and be thou perfect" (Genesis 17:1); He was asking for the perfection that works from within; perfection of the heart that produces perfect actions.

That's what we have in Christ; you were born perfect after Him, with a perfect heart that produces righteousness. He's given you that perfection of heart (that perfection of the spirit). Believe it; affirm it; and act accordingly. Live from your heart, manifesting His virtues and perfections in you to your world: "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation, [God's] own purchased, special people, that you may set forth the wonderful deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9 AMPC).

### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the perfection of my heart. I produce righteousness, because of the nature of Christ in me. My life is the expression of your glory and excellence, now and always, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Kings 15:14; Matthew 5:48 AMPC; 1 John 4:17

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 24:13-35 & 2 Samuel 9-11

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 2:1-11 & Psalm 143-144





SATURDAY 2

### FORGIVENESS IS IMPERATIVE



Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven (Matthew 18:21-22).

orgiving others of their wrong isn't an option for a child of God. If you ever have an issue with anyone, whether your brothers and sisters in the Lord, or with outsiders, don't let it go beyond that day. The Bible says, "...Don't let the sun go down on your wrath" (Ephesians 4:26).

But what if you forgive them and they wrong you again the next day? You'll have to forgive again. That's what we read in our opening scripture. Jesus said we're to forgive others "seventy times seven" times, in response to Peter's question. That number symbolizes boundlessness. And these things were written for our learning, for our admonition. In essence, Jesus was saying, "Forgive, no matter how many times someone offends you," because you have enough capacity to forgive.

If Christ Jesus forgave you, why should there be anything too much for you to forgive? The Bible says, "Put up with each other, and forgive anyone who does

you wrong, just as Christ has forgiven you" (Colossians 3:13 CEV). Someone may say, "I'll never forgive so-and-so, because what he did was so terrible"; no! Not when you're born again. We have the nature of God to forgive. This is why forgiveness is imperative; it's not a piece of advice. You must always forgive, and quickly too. Let God's love in your heart flow through you lavishly.

### **CONFESSION**

The love of God is shed abroad in my heart by the Holy Spirit; that love mantles my heart and mind, causing me to see others as God sees them. There's no one and there's no wrong I can't forgive. I have the capacity to absolve others of their faults, and demonstrate the God-nature in me; the nature of love, through my words and actions, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Mark 11:25; 1 Peter 4:8 CEV; Ephesians 4:32

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 24:36-53 & 2 Samuel 12-14

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 2:12-16 & Psalm 145-146





SUNDAY 3

### LIFE IS A RACE



Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain (1 Corinthians 9:24).

The Amplified Classic Version of the scripture above says, "Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but [only] one receives the prize? So run [your race] that you may lay hold [of the prize] and make it yours." Life is a race, a competition. Thus, in the race of life, you're to run in such a way as to win the prize. Don't "run" (live) like it doesn't matter.

In the 25th verse of 1 Corinthians 9, Paul said, "And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible." To be temperate in all things means to exercise self-control; to play by the rules. In the race of life, you must be careful what you do and how you live, because you're in the race to win.

If those who compete in Athletics for "a corruptible crown" buffet themselves and run with purpose and definitiveness, how about us whose race is spiritual, and our crown, incorruptible? Always live with the consciousness to obtain the prize from lesus

Christ.

Our walk of faith and in the faith isn't for nothing. There's a prize to be won, but there's a discipline to go through, if you must win. To have a great life, there's a discipline required; the discipline to do the Word and be yielded to the leading of the Spirit. That's what guarantees your victory.

### **CONFESSION**

I count not myself to have apprehended; but this is the one thing that I do: I forget those things which are behind, and reach forth to those things which are before. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. I'm a spiritual sportsman, equipped for the life of victory with the Word. Praise God!

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Hebrews 12:1 NIV; 1 Corinthians 9:25-27

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 1:1-18 & 2 Samuel 15-17

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 3:1-9 & Psalm 147-148





MONDAY 4

### **EMPOWERED FOR SOUL WINNING**



And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness (Acts 4:31).

The only serious evidence that shows anyone has genuinely received the Holy Spirit is soul winning; dynamic evangelism. Everyone who is filled with the Holy Spirit speaks the Word with boldness. The Word enjoins us not only to receive the Holy Spirit, but to be filled with Him continually (Ephesians 5:18 AMPC).

Jesus said, "...If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink" (John 7:37). Having drunk of Him, what should follow? He gave the answer in the very next verse: "...out of his (your) belly shall flow rivers (gushers) of living water" (John 7:38). The evidence that you've drunk of the Spirit is the gushers—the fountain of words of life that flow from you to the world.

Read the Bible! The most consistent thing that happened after men were filled with the Holy Spirit in Bible days was that they spoke the Word of God with boldness. When the apostles had prayed and got filled with the Holy Spirit, as read in our theme verse, the result was that they spoke the Word with boldness! Their lives manifested that glory to win souls.

The Holy Spirit came into your life to make you a witness. Jesus said: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me..." (Acts 1:8). If you're timid about preaching the Gospel, it means you haven't recognized the Holy Spirit in your life, because the Spirit grants you boldness to stand up for Jesus Christ.

You can't have the Holy Spirit and not know how to win souls. All it takes is for you to take the step; decide to speak to someone about Jesus, and as you open your mouth, the Holy Spirit will put words in your mouth that they can't resist or gainsay. The boldness of the Spirit will be stirred within you. There's a depth in God you'll never know until you begin to win souls; therefore, be excited to do it. As you do, you'd enjoy the glory and blessedness of Christianity, beyond what you ever thought possible. Praise God!

# **CONFESSION**

The glorious Gospel of the blessed God is committed to my trust and I'm dedicated to its spread around the world. I'm the custodian of His saving power that unveils His righteousness, eternal life, and destiny for all mankind. I'm His light in a dark world, infused with the ability to turn men to righteousness. Blessed be God!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Psalm 67:2 TLB; 1 Corinthians 9:16; Acts 1:8 AMPC

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 1:19-51 & 2 Samuel 18-19

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 3:10-23 & Psalm 149-150





TUESDAY 5

# THE HONOUR OF SERVICE IN GOD'S HOUSE



If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire (1 Corinthians 3:15).

To be a leader is a great honour; whether it's in politics, government, education, it doesn't matter. To be called a leader of people is always a great honour. However, to be a leader in the house of God is even a far greater honour, because that's a role that belongs to Christ. It's about His work. It means some of His work has been given to you.

In Matthew 16:18, Jesus said, "...I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Notice that He didn't say, "Let us build my Church"; rather, He said, "I will build my Church." Part of how He builds His Church is through those He's appointed to lead and teach His people; the leaders of the Church. Every part of the work that we carry out to fulfil His vision is a huge responsibility, because it means He's carrying it out through us. If that's the case, we're only expected to do whatever we do in His Name and according to His will; not our will, because He's only given us the honour of service in His house. This should let you know the level of appreciation we should have for such recognition in God's house. Whatever

assignment is given to you to carry out in the house of God, hallow it. Relish and cherish it, and do it as unto Christ. Handle it with great care, because at the end of the day, the Bible says we'll all give account to God for all that we did.

Remember, there're two major judgements at the end of all things. One of them is the judgement seat of Christ, which will be to receive our rewards and praises from Him; but some will have more honour than others. Some may lose on theirs due to their motives. He doesn't want us to serve Him out of human ambitions or fleshly desires. He wants us to do His work in love, in humility, in obedience to Him, and to serve His purpose. Serve the Lord gladly with wholehearted devotion, and please Him in all things.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the honour and blessedness of service in your house and in the Kingdom. My heart and mind are sanctified to produce works that are acceptable to you as I serve with love, humility and obedience to you, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 John 1:8; Revelation 3:11; 2 Timothy 2:20-21

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 2:1-25 & 2 Samuel 20-21

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 4:1-10 & Proverbs 1





WEDNESDAY 6

# DIVINE WISDOM VERSUS INTELLIGENCE



Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory (1 Corinthians 2:6-7).

There's a difference between intelligence and wisdom. There're lots of people who are living by intelligence, and despite their "intelligence," life defeats them. Intelligence is part of our animal characteristics. Humans are only given the highest intelligence, but when you're born again, you're translated from human intelligence to divine wisdom.

Wisdom is what gives you divine interpretations; it gives you insight into reality. For example, in Luke 8:51-56, a child was sick, and the father invited Jesus. But before Jesus arrived, the child died. So, they informed Him that the child had died, but He went anyway. The Bible says, "The house was filled with people weeping and wailing...." Jesus said to them, "... Stop the weeping! She isn't dead; she is only asleep" (Luke 8:52 NLT). That was wisdom talking. But they

thought He was insane, because according to their "intelligence" (biological understanding), the little girl was dead; her heart had stopped.

But life is spiritual, and Jesus understood this. He was wisdom personified. Wisdom knew that the child was sleeping. All He said was, "Little girl, get up"; and the Bible says the girl came to life! This is what God is bringing you into: a perfection of His wisdom in you that brings you into alignment with His thoughts and ways of doing things. Then you see as God sees; you understand from His perspective.

The only way you can see how God sees is by using the spectacles of His Word. Suddenly, your thinking process will be elevated; your mindset will be renewed. Even your perception of yourself and your interpretation of life's circumstances would all change, because of the ministry of divine wisdom in your life.

# **CONFESSION**

Christ is made unto me wisdom! I live victoriously, taking advantage of God's Word and His grace available to me. I have light, understanding and excellent wisdom. I walk in victory in my job, business, family, finances and everything about my life. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Colossians 1:9; Proverbs 2:6; 1 Corinthians 1:30

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 3:1-21 & 2 Samuel 22

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 4:11-21 & Proverbs 2





THURSDAY 7

## HIS THRONE IN YOUR HEART



Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? (1 Corinthians 3:16).

The scripture above is so profound. It shows that the throne of God is in your heart, since He lives in you in His fullness. The same thought is expressed in 2 Corinthians 6:15-17. It says, "...for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people...." What a blessing this is!

The word translated "temple" is the Greek word, "naos." It doesn't refer to the ordinary everyday temple, but to an inner shrine; the shrine that houses the image of the "god"; the inner sanctuary where the image of the god is kept. For the Jews, it was the Holy of Holies; that's where the presence of God was. They didn't have an image inside, but the presence of Jehovah was there.

When the Holy Spirit took up His abode in the quarters of your heart, you became that "shrine"; the place of His presence. Think about that! It means you carry heaven in you. When Jesus came to this world, He came with heaven in Him to bless the world with. He brought it in His heart, because the Holy Spirit lived

inside Him. He came with the throne of God in His heart. No wonder He was such a blessing to the world!

The same applies to you. You're much more than a religious person; by reason of the New Birth, you've been translated into the Kingdom of God, and now carry His throne in your heart. You're heaven's ambassador to this world. In reality, everywhere you go, God goes, because you're His house. He talks in you, and He looks through your eyes. Therefore preach the Gospel; cast out devils; heal the sick; cleanse the lepers; raise the dead. Bless the world with the grace and glory of heaven that's in you. Hallelujah!

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for making me a partaker of your life and glory. I carry your divine presence in my heart and impact my world with the blessings of my divinity, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Colossians 1:27; Colossians 2:9-10

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 3:22-36 & 2 Samuel 23-24

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 5:1-13 & Proverbs 3





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# X otes




FRIDAY 8

# SPEAKING YOUR BELIEVING



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
(2 Corinthians 4:13).

ur opening verse parallels the principle in Romans 10:9-10; the "believe and affirm" principle. It says, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." In Christianity, we speak our believing. Remember, believing is acting your faith.

Faith must speak; it doesn't remain alone; you affirm the Word. Express your faith with your mouth; it's the instrument with which you chart your course in perfection, prosperity and success. You're to use the power of words to create and sustain your victorious life.

Our salvation has already been consummated and made available in Christ Jesus, but to catapult yourself into the blessings and benefits of salvation, you must go beyond believing in the heart, to speaking. This is because with the mouth, confession is made unto

salvation. This is the reason some people, even though they've been Christians for long, have never really enjoyed the blessings of Christianity. They haven't acted on the Word.

You're to make confessions of the Word; that means you speak the same things that God has said concerning you. That's your faith-response to the Word. He gave you His Word so you might respond. Your confession or affirmation is that response, and it activates the power of God's Word in your life. Until you make those confessions, your faith won't produce results. Your believing and your "speaking" must go together. That's what we read in our opening verse. So, speak the Word only, and always, for a life of constant victory and excellence. Praise God!

## CONFESSION

The Word of God is in my heart and in my mouth and prevails in and through me today. I believe and therefore I speak, because the Word of God is my life, and the glory and blessings therein are evident in my life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Mark 11:23; Matthew 12:37

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 4:1-26 & 1 Kings 1

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 6:1-11 & Proverbs 4





SATURDAY 9

# BEAUTIFY YOUR LIFE WITH FAITH-FILLED WORDS



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 (James 3:2).

The words you speak are a true measure of your spirituality. It makes no difference what others might think or say about you; what matters are the words that come out of your mouth every day, irrespective of who you may be talking to: God, men, yourself, circumstances, or nature. Be sure to only and always speak faith-filled and spirit-filled words.

The Apostle James likened the tongue to the rudder of a great ship that the captain uses to navigate the ship aright, irrespective of the fierce winds driving against it (James 3:4-5). This means that with your words, you can keep yourself in health, in faith, in success, and in excellence. Don't talk fear, lack or your inabilities. Consciously speak faith-filled words.

There's no need praying and asking God to make His promises real in your life; they're already real. Simply acknowledge and affirm who you are in Christ and your inheritance in Him, and walk accordingly. Don't say, "Lord, you promised to bless me; you promised to make me fruitful"; rather, say, "Lord, I thank you for you've blessed me with all things; you've

made me fruitful and productive." Hallelujah!

It's wonderful that with your faith-filled words, you can disallow sickness, disease, infirmity and weakness from your body. Always speak health, strength and abundance. Use your tongue to come out of trouble, depression, poverty and frustrations. Today, where you are, and what you are in life, are the result of yesterday's words. Jesus said you shall have what you say (Mark 11:23). Therefore, beautify your life with your faith-filled words.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Lord, I thank you for the blessing of your Word and the wisdom it imparts to me. I declare that my faith is working and I live a life of total joy and fulfillment in Christ. I'm sound, excellent, full of life and aglow in the spirit. I walk in the glory of God, manifesting the righteousness of Christ, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Psalm 34:12-13; Proverbs 18:21

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 4:27-54 & 1 Kings 2-3

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 6:12-20 & Proverbs 5





SUNDAY 10

# LIVE TRIUMPHANTLY EVERY DAY



For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith (1 John 5:4).

There's a higher life in Christ to which we've been called. We're not ordinary. Jesus didn't only give us this supernatural life, but also came to demonstrate to us how to live this life. When He walked the earth, His life and ministry were an absolute demonstration of the righteousness of God, and dominion of the Spirit. He had a mind-set of absolute mastery. He wasn't subject to the corruption and darkness of this world. He ruled over nature and lived above the elements. Hallelujah!

Christ's triumphant life on earth was an example for us to follow. Since we have the same life and nature with Him, we're to live victoriously every day, with dominion over circumstances. The Bible says as He is, so are we in this world (1 John 4:17). You've been built with possibilities within your system. You're in this world, not as a victim, but as more than a conqueror. God has given you dominion over all things (Genesis 1:28). He gave you a life that's superior, not only to circumstances and the forces of nature, but also to spiritual beings of evil—Satan and his cohorts.

Refuse to live an ordinary life. Take a cue from the Master: He walked on water, opened blind eyes, unstopped deaf ears, made the lame to walk, restored speech to the dumb, raised the dead, and literally transcended natural laws. We can, and are to do likewise, because we're of the same stock with Him. Divinity is at work in you. Christ is alive and at work in you; therefore, nothing can put you down. Live triumphantly every day.

# **CONFESSION**

My life is supernatural and I live triumphantly every day. Christ in me is my assurance of a life of endless possibilities and ever-increasing glory. I'm superior to Satan, the circumstances of life and the darkness and economic conditions of this world. I'm a victor in Christ Jesus, now and forever, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 John 4:4; 1 John 5:4; Luke10:19

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 5:1-30 &1 Kings 4-6

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 7:1-9 & Proverbs 6



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MONDAY 11

# BE CONTENT WITH WHAT YOU HAVE



Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5 NIV).

od wants our lives to be void of covetousness; don't lust after what belongs to others. Be content with what you have. That doesn't mean you shouldn't dream or desire to attain greater levels of success; rather, it emphasizes being fulfilled and understanding that what you have is enough to get whatever else you want. But the truth is that there isn't really anything that you don't have.

The Bible says all things are yours (1 Corinthians 3:21); better than that, Christ is in you, and Christ is everything. So, in Him you have all things. When the crippled beggar at the gate of the temple called 'Beautiful' asked Peter and John for alms, Peter didn't say, "I don't have what you're asking for," and walk away; he knew he had something, and what he had was enough to produce whatever else may be required. He used what he had: the Name of Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit, to effect a cure and restore life to the man's hitherto dead and crippled limbs.

Always be conscious of what you have: the power

and glory of Christ in your spirit. Your heart is the habitation of the Lord; do you know what that means? The ability of God is operational in you. How could anyone know this and ever be in lack or need or be envious of others? That's why this knowledge is coming to you now, so you'd be content and confident in who you are, what you have, and all that Christ is to you and in you, and has wrought in your spirit.

Never think, "If I only had this or that"; you have what's most important: Christ; and that's all you need. Christ in you is the hope, the guarantee that everything else you could ever require is already in you. Glory to God!

# **PRAYER**

Precious Father, you're my all; I thank you for filling me with yourself, which is the greatest and best of all—Christ in me! That's my assurance that everything I could ever require is already in me as I produce fruits of righteousness for your glory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Peter 1:3; 1 Corinthians 3:21

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 5:31-47 & 1 Kings 7-8

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 7:10-24 & Proverbs 7



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TUESDAY 12

# **HUMILITY AND GREATNESS**



But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble (James 4:6).

When Jesus walked the earth, He demonstrated humility. When it was time for Him to be baptized, He didn't feel superior to John the Baptist, even though He was the Son of God. Rather, He allowed the Scriptures to be fulfilled (Read Matthew 3:13-15 NKJV). That's because truly great people are humble and motivated by one thing only: fulfilling God's Word; doing things God's way. They're also inspired to serve.

Jesus said to His disciples, "Whoever must be great amongst you, must have the heart of a servant" (Matthew 20:26). Not only did He say this to them, He acted it by washing the feet of His disciples. Then He explained His action, saying, "You call me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are

you if you do them" (John 13:13-17 NKJV).

In Philippians 2, we read again about His unparalleled humility. Though He was Himself God, He humbled Himself and died a criminal's death in our behalf. But see the result of His humility: "Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:9-11 NKJV). Hallelujah!

Philippians 2:5 says, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus"; meaning, emulate His humility. It's the pathway to greatness; there're no shortcuts. Pride goes before a fall, but humility promotes.

# **PRAYER**

Dear heavenly Father, I thank you for the enlightenment of the Scriptures. I'm a product of your Word, and I walk in humility and love, conscious of your grace that pilots me in my upward and forward journey of greatness, in the Name of the Lord Jesus. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Proverbs 18:12; Matthew 18:4; Ephesians 5:1 AMPC

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 6:1-24 & 1 Kings 9

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 7:25-40 & Proverbs 8





WEDNESDAY 13

# **POWER TO HEAL**



Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk (Acts 3:6).

The Christian isn't the sick, wanting to be healed. Sadly, that's been the understanding of many. Being born again, you have the God-life; the "imperishable" life. As Jesus said, the Christian has the power to heal; he's called of God to take healing to the world. Study the Scriptures and you'd find that's what Jesus did; the Bible says He went about doing good, healing ALL that were oppressed of the devil (Acts 10:38).

The Apostles did the same thing; they ministered healing to the sick. We read, for example, about Peter and John in Acts 3, going into the temple and were attracted to a lame beggar who sat at the gate of the temple, asking alms of everyone entering and leaving the temple. Peter's response was very inspiring; he said, "...Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength" (Acts 3:6-7).

Notice that what Peter had to give him wasn't "prayer" or the power to pray. This is where some

Christians miss it; they think God gave us "power to pray for the sick"; no! He gave us power to heal the sick. Read Matthew 10:1; it says, "And when he (Jesus) had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease." Jesus gave us power to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease; not some manner, but ALL. So, it makes no difference what the case is; you have power to heal it.

Jesus said in 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." Put what you've got to work. Refuse to allow the devil run rampage in your life or in the lives of your loved ones in the form of sickness. You're a healer; walk in this consciousness.

# **PRAYER**

Dear heavenly Father, I thank you for your grace and glory at work in me to minister healing to the sick. I acknowledge your divine life in me that dispels sickness, disease and infirmities, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Matthew 10:7-8; Mark 3:14-15

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 6:25-59 & 1 Kings 10-11

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 8:1-13 & Proverbs 9





THURSDAY 14

# THE "KNOWING" OF FAITH



Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen (Hebrews 11:1).

ur relationship with the Lord is one of faith. It makes no difference how you "feel" outwardly; physical feelings have nothing to do with it. Oftentimes, our experience of Him and with Him can't be described with human words; but then, there's a deep inner "knowing," an awareness in your spirit.

It brings to mind the account of the woman with the issue of blood in Mark 5. She had suffered hemorrhage for twelve years, and the doctors weren't able to help her. The Bible says, "When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment...And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague" (Mark 5:27-29). How did she know that the "feeling" she felt in her body was one of healing? It was her faith at work!

The Bible doesn't say, "She saw that the bleeding had stopped," but that "she felt in her body that she was healed." That's the feeling of faith. In the case of the lame man at the gate of the temple called Beautiful as recorded in Acts 3, when Peter ministered to him, the Bible says his feet and ankle bones received

strength (Acts 3:7). Bones don't feel, so it couldn't have been a physical "feeling." But something got injected into his feet and bones, and God knew, and said his feet and ankle bones received strength. The result was that the man leapt and walked. His faith was operational; he responded, and in his response, the power of the word spoken by Peter was manifested, and his miracle happened.

It also reminds of what we read about David; the Bible says he "perceived" that God had confirmed him king over Israel. This wasn't mere mental or physical knowledge; it was a knowing in his spirit. There's the knowledge of faith, the hearing of faith, the feeling or perception of faith, as you're sensitive to the leading and guidance of the Holy Spirit, and the Word.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the earnest of the Spirit which you've given me. I'm sensitive to your leading and guidance and know what to do at all times; my profiting through the Word is evident, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:6; James 2:18-26 NKJV

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 6:60-71 & 1 Kings 12-14

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 9:1-10 & Proverbs 10





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# X otes




## FRIDA

# **GLORIFIED IN HIM**



Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified (Romans 8:30).

esus Christ is the effulgence of the Father's glory, the express image of His Person (Hebrews 1:3). And that's exactly what He's made us; we've been glorified in Him. He said in John 17:22, "And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one."

The Christian is the fruit of Christ's suffering. The Bible talks about the glory that should follow His sufferings (1 Peter 1:11); we're that glory; the joy He saw that made Him endure the Cross and despise the shame (Hebrews 12:2). Thus, for the Christian, there's no more shame, because Jesus already bore your shame. He paid the price for you to live a glorious life. Everything required for your success has been consummated. He died so you can live a life of honour, dignity and excellence. Hallelujah!

The most beautiful part of His vicarious death is that it didn't end with the grave. He rose triumphantly back to life on the third day. Blessed be God! Just as death couldn't hold Him, nothing today can hinder

your glorious life in Him. If you couldn't walk, rise up and walk! Walk out of that sickness, for the glory has come: Christ in you, the hope of glory (Colossians 1:27).

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ! He's brought us victory, success, health and prosperity. He's brought us into His glory and ordained us to manifest the same in the earth: "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light" (1 Peter 2:9).

## CONFESSION

My life is the manifestation and testimony of God's grace and glory; His wisdom and righteousness are revealed and evident in me. I'm His light in a dark world, and I impact my world with the righteousness of God in my spirit, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Peter 2:9 AMPC; John 17:22 AMPC

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 7:1-24 & 1 Kings 15-17

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 9:11-19 & Proverbs 11





# SATURDAY 16

## LIVING BY FAITH



(For we walk by faith, not by sight:) (2 Corinthians 5:7).

These profound words of the Spirit penned by Paul the apostle to the Corinthian Christians give a succinct and precise overview of the Christian life: we live by faith, not by sensory perception. The same truth is reiterated in Romans 1:17: "...The just shall live by (his) faith."

It's imperative to understand that Christianity is a life of faith; it has nothing to do with your senses. You were born again by faith, and you can only live the Christian life successfully by faith; there's no other way!

Faith is a lifestyle; it's not something you pick up to use whenever you want to get something from the Lord. You can strengthen your faith, stir it, grow it or increase it. Living by faith is living from your spirit according to God's Word. You look into the mirror of God and are metamorphosed (changed, transfigured) into the same image of God's glory that you see, from glory to glory (2 Corinthians 3:18).

As you do this, the forces of life in the Kingdom are revealed to you and released into your world. They work within you and attract to you the men, resources, circumstances and materials that are consistent with your new nature in Christ Jesus. When you declare

that you have dominion over the devil, the world, and its circumstances, that reality is established as you proclaim. Hallelujah!

Hebrews 11:6 says without faith, it's impossible to please God; that means you can't live for Him. To please Him is to live by faith every day, meaning that everything in your life is directed according to His Word; your confidence is on the eternal realities of the Kingdom and not the earthly, transient, temporal circumstances of life (2 Corinthians 4:18). Glory to God!

# **CONFESSION**

My actions, reactions, thoughts, words and responses to situations and circumstances shall conform to the express will of the Father by the Word, not according to sensory perceptions. My life is regulated by the eternal realities of the Kingdom, and the blessings therein are unleashed into my world. I live victoriously every day, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Corinthians 4:16-18; Hebrews 11:1-13

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 7:25-8:1-11 & 1 Kings 18-19

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 9:20-27 & Proverbs 12





SUNDAY 17

## **CONSECRATED UNTO HIM**



These are the names of the sons of Aaron, the priests which were anointed, whom he consecrated to minister in the priest's office (Numbers 3:3).

Consecration is a word mostly used in the Old Testament section of the Bible in reference to items that were to be set apart as holy for sacrifices and worship. It's also used to describe the "setting apart" of the priests who were to be dedicated to the Lord. It generally refers to devoting or sacredly setting apart anyone or anything to the worship or service of the Lord.

In the Old Testament, the tribe of Levi were thus consecrated to the service of God in the priestly order (Numbers 3:12). The Hebrews consecrated or devoted their fields and cattle, and sometimes the spoils of war, to the Lord (Leviticus 27:28-29). Also, according to the Law, the first-born of both man and beast were consecrated to God. For us in the New Testament, the Scriptures describe us as consecrated to the Lord; holy and sanctified, not because of our works, but by God's choice.

1 Peter 2:9 says, "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath

called you out of darkness into his marvellous light." However, too many of God's people aren't living in the vital reality of this consecrated life. As a result, they've missed out on the blessings of living and functioning with the knowledge that they've indeed been set apart unto God; set apart from sin, sickness, poverty and death, unto righteousness, holiness, victory, prosperity and divine health. See yourself this way and walk accordingly.

Ephesians 1:4 says, "According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love." We're His "called out" ones; His chosen and sanctified ones. No wonder we're holy and without blame before Him in love. Hallelujah!

# **CONFESSION**

What a blessing to be chosen and sanctified unto God for His divine use! I'm holy and sanctified, because I belong to Jesus; my life is dedicated to Him in worship and service, and His righteousness is expressed in and through me always. Thank you, blessed Lord, for setting me apart for holiness, success, victory, prosperity and divine health, in Jesus Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Exodus 28:41; Exodus 19:6 AMPC; Revelation 1:6 AMPC

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 8:12-30 & 1 Kings 20-21

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 & Proverbs 13





MONDAY 18

# IF HE ISN'T LORD OF ALL, HE ISN'T LORD AT ALL



The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all) (Acts 10:36).

A certain man had just given his life to Christ but was still being buffeted by the devil. He called on the Lord complaining, "I thought that with you in my life, I wouldn't have any more problems!" The Lord, in His response, showed the man how he had given Him only one room in his entire house. In that revelation, God was in that one room when the devil came into the house, fought the man and wounded him.

The man thought about it and said, "All right Lord, I give you three additional rooms." That night, the devil came again and troubled him. This time, he was mad at God. He asked angrily, "I've now given you four rooms and still you allowed the devil in. What more should I do?" Then the Lord answered him kindly, "The house isn't mine; you gave me four rooms in your house and the devil can't come into any of those rooms."

Finally, the man got the message and said, "All right, Lord, I turn the entire house over to you; it's all yours now." The next night, the devil came again, but there was a new owner. God was at the gate and the devil couldn't come in. That's what happens when Jesus has it all in your life.

Christianity isn't just a casual acceptance of Jesus Christ as your Saviour; He wants to be Lord (Master or Boss) of your life, not just legally but vitally. If He isn't Lord of your life and everything about you, then He isn't your Lord at all! He said in Luke 9:23, "...If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me." Today, this statement is largely interpreted as enduring the persecution, ridicule, harassment and criticism the world throws at us, but at the time of Jesus, "taking up a cross" meant going to one's death by crucifixion. That Jesus implied this is obvious from His next statement: "For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it" (Luke 9:24).

True consecrated Christianity isn't a flippant, casual relationship but a radical commitment to Christ and His cause. You're to give Him your all, and live for Him fully and truly. Hallelujah!

# **CONFESSION**

I boldly declare that Jesus is Lord of my life; He's the Lord over my finances, family, career and all that concerns me. He's my all and my life is for His glory now and forever. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Luke 9:23-24; Matthew 6:24 AMPC; 1 John 2:15-17 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 8:31-47 & 1 Kings 22

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 10:14-21 & Proverbs 14





TUESDAY 19

# YOU BELONG TO HIM



For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's (1 Corinthians 6:20).

love the story I heard many years ago of a Chinese brother. It's a powerful expression of our consecration to the Lord and oneness with Him. The story goes that he was travelling on the same train as three gentlemen who wanted to play a card game that required a fourth person. So, they asked him, "Sir, would you mind joining us to play this game?" He replied, "Oh, I'm sorry. I would have joined you, but I'm not here with my hands."

"You're not here with your hands?" they chorused in bewilderment. "No, I'm not," he affirmed. They looked at him closely; he seemed complete and his hands didn't look like prostheses. "So, what about these hands here?" they queried. "They're not mine," he replied. Now they thought he was out of wits. Knowing their thoughts, he quickly spoke up and explained: "I've been bought with a price. I now belong to Jesus. These hands now belong to Him and I only use them for what He wants." He then went ahead and explained the Gospel to them to receive Christ.

What a beautiful thought this is! What a mindset

this brother had! This is what happens when you understand the significance of the salvation you've received from Christ. You recognize that you're not your own; it's no longer you that live, but Christ that lives through you. You belong to Him, and can only do the things that He approves; only those things that please Him. You glorify Him in your spirit, soul, and body, for they're His. Hallelujah!

# **CONFESSION**

I've been crucified with Christ; it's no longer I who live, but Christ lives in and through me. Therefore, I present my body as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto the Lord, which is my reasonable service. I glorify the Lord in my spirit, soul, and body, making them vents for His righteousness. Hallelujah!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Galatians 2:20; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 8:48-59 & 2 Kings 1-3

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 10:22-33 & Proverbs 15





WEDNESDAY 20

# YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR LIFE



Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good report. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear (Hebrews 11:1-3).

Our theme scripture is quite instructive; it reveals an important faith-principle with which you can make your life excellent, from glory to glory. It says the things that are obvious to our natural eyes weren't made of things that appear; they came out of things that aren't observable to the senses. The context shows that these things came from words, for it says, "Through faith, we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God."

In Genesis 1, we read that God spoke and brought order, beauty and form to a world that was formless, chaotic and in darkness. He framed the world. In the same way, your life and your future have been framed, only that this time, it was by you. What you're going to be like in the next few months and years is already planned and laid out by none other than you! And if you currently don't like what you have (that is, how your life has turned out), you alone can change it.

Some people may argue with this, but God's Word lets us know that's how it is. You planned the life you're living now with your words. You are today exactly

what you described yourself to be years ago. You're responsible for the quality of life you have today. Of course, there would have been several other factors of influence: sociological, environmental, family, etc., but they only gave you a foundation; they gave you material with which to build your life. Whatever you eventually built on that sub-structure came from you.

If you're having a wonderful life that you're really glad about, you built it. If you're living in defeat and as a victim, it's also the result of your tongue-work. God isn't responsible for the life you're living. He gives you a vision; He shows you a picture and lets you know the kind of life He wants you to have. He may even be specific and tell you exactly what He wants your life to be. However, He's not going to build it for you. He'll only deliver the necessary materials and tools into your hands.

There're also those materials you'd have to acquire, and He'll show you where they are and how to acquire them. The responsibility is yours to locate them, take possession of them and use them to build your victorious life.

### **CONFESSION**

I take charge of my life and make it what I want it to be in line with God's will for me. I give form, beauty and order to my world through the energy of my words. I live in righteousness, victory, health, success and prosperity, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Acts 20:32; Mark 11:23; 2 Peter 1:3

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 9:1-41 & 2 Kings 4-5

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 11:1-11 & Proverbs 16





THURSDAY 21

### YIELD YOURSELF TO HIM



Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace (Romans 6:13-14).

The Greek word translated "yield" above is "Paristemi," and it also means to present. In other words, you're to present yourself unto God as one who's alive from the dead. You might ask, "Why do I have to present myself to God again? Isn't my acceptance of His salvation enough?"

First, for the Lord to instruct us to present ourselves to Him means He chose us for that purpose. You can't give God something He doesn't want or hasn't chosen. God, in His sovereignty, instructs us to present ourselves to Him, and it behooves us to do just that. Secondly, we have an example to follow in Jesus, "... who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God..." (Hebrews 9:14).

Also, in Romans 6:9-10, we read that "...Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth

unto God." In the same manner that Christ died unto sin once and now lives unto God, we must consider ourselves dead to sin but alive unto God (for indeed, we are). In other words, you must live for Him and unto Him, because you belong to Him.

Jesus didn't merely send some angels to save you; He took your place of condemnation and died in your place. He paid the ultimate price for you. Having accepted the salvation He purchased for you with His life, you have to accept the responsibility that comes with it, and live as one who understands the worth and value of that sacrifice. And you do that by consecrating your life to Him; by living for Him and serving Him with whole-hearted devotion, keeping His Word, fulfilling His purpose for your life, and producing works of righteousness. Hallelujah!

### **PRAYER**

Blessed Jesus, thank you for the ultimate price you paid for my salvation, and the resultant gift of righteousness which I've received. I yield myself to you as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable as an instrument of righteousness, to establish your will, and manifest your goodness, mercies and grace in the earth. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 6:19; Romans 12:1

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 10:1-21 & 2 Kings 6-7

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 11:12-19 & Proverbs 17





This year's Children's Day is special as it aims to promote the new life in Christ with a Special Children's Day edition of the "I Know Who I Am" series. "I Know Who I Am" is a collection of beautifully illustrated, inspiring storybooks, suffused with the unique message of the man of God, Pastor Chris. "I Am Perfect", the special Children's Day edition, will expose children to the winning mentality.

### A MONTH-LONG EVENT

Children's Day 2020 will be a month-long event consisting of a series of activities such as fun-filled parties, "I Know Who I Am" Symposia in schools, outreaches to indigent children, and a special time of prayer for children around the world.

### JOIN US

Join us today to transform the lives of 10 Million children with this special book in several languages by:

- PRAYING along with us on this project
- → SPONSORING copies of "I Am Perfect" for free distribution
- **→ TRANSLATING** the book into your local language
- **VOLUNTEERING** to be a part of the activities

### X otes




FRIDAY 22

# TRAINING YOURSELF IN THE FAITH-LIFE



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 (Hebrews 11:6).

The Bible says, "The Just shall live by faith"; that means faith is our lifestyle. Therefore, you must train yourself in the faith-life. When you came into Christ, God gave you a perfect life and showed you how to live that life to the full. His will is for you to be in charge and in control of your life, with everything working out right for you. But the extent to which you live that life is a function of your faith. That's why it's so important for you to understand how faith works, and to learn to use what you've got.

For example, when you feel some discomfort in your body, the first thing shouldn't be to call the doctor or dash to the drug store. Speak to your body. You say, "I speak perfection, health and wholeness to all the systems of my body; they respond to the divine life in me and function rightly, in the Name of Jesus!" Stick to the Word, and you'll surely have a testimony!

Sometimes, when people face challenges, they'd say, "I've been using my faith, but nothing is happening." That's because they're struggling to make their faith work. Speak faith-filled words ever before

trouble shows up, so that when it does, your faith will be steadfast.

Learn from Jesus: He talked to trees, winds, waves, water, fishes, food, etc., letting us know that everything in life has intelligence and that sound conveys energy. Therefore, apart from talking to your body to be in health, learn to talk to things in your home, your work tools, your money—everything in your care and under your watch—they all have intelligence. Use your mouth to retain their value and keep them perfect.

It makes no difference the circumstances you face; stick to the Word. Maintain your confession, and the only guaranteed outcome would be the triumph of your faith. Hallelujah!

### **CONFESSION**

I consciously disregard temporal circumstances and shift my gaze and focus on the eternal realities of our heavenly Kingdom. Irrespective of contrary winds and opposition, my faith grows by the Word, prevails and triumphs. I speak perfection to my health, finances, family and all that concerns me, and they respond to my faith-filled proclamations, in the Name of Jesus. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Hebrews 10:38; 2 Corinthians 4:18 AMPC; Mark 11:20-24

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 10:22-42 & 2 Kings 8-9

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 11:20-29 & Proverbs 18





SATURDAY 23

### HE'S THE ONLY WAY OUT



Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved (Acts 4:12).

There're three kinds of sin. The first one is inherited sin. The Bible says, "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned" (Romans 5:12). The sin of Adam was passed to all men. Everyone that came from Adam became an heir of Adam's transgression. How terrible! But that's the reality.

The second one is "imputed sin." Imputed sin is based on Law, and you may not be the guilty one. In Joshua 7, we read how the children of Israel paid dearly for the sin committed by just one man, Achan. Having recently conquered a greater nation, the children of Israel were preparing to go wipe out a smaller one. Before going to capture Jericho, God had instructed them, "When you get to that place, don't keep anything that's theirs; destroy everything" (Joshua 7:11 AMPC).

But Achan took a coat and other items, and hid them for himself (Joshua 7:20-21). And the result? The whole country (Israel) lost the battle. The man's sin was imputed to the whole country. Aside the inheritance, Adam's transgression was also imputed to all men.

You didn't have to be guilty personally; it's a class sin; everybody becomes part of it. It's like when the President of your country signs a bad deal or initiates a bad policy; it affects the entire nation.

The third class of sin is "personal sin." This is the one that you committed by yourself. Clearly, everyone born into this world has the sin-nature and requires salvation. If a man says he's free from personal sin, how about inherited sin, and or imputed sin? But thanks be unto God! Salvation—the deliverance of man from his fallen nature and the depravity of sin and its effects, the recreation of his spirit and the restoration of fellowship with God—is possible and available through Jesus Christ! He's the only way out!

This is why we preach the Gospel; that all men may believe in Jesus Christ and receive remission of sins and the life and nature of God. Hallelujah!

### **PRAYER**

Dear Lord, thank you for the privilege to receive the Gospel which is your power to save, heal and deliver. I pray for the unconverted in the world, that the scales would fall off their eyes to recognize their sins, and accept your provision for remission in Christ, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Acts 13:38-39 ASV; Romans 10:9-10

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 11:1-16 & 2 Kings 10-12

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 11:30-34 & Proverbs 19





SUNDAY 24

### YOUR REASON FOR BEING



Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake (John 14:11).

One of the things I believe God helped me to find out for myself early in life was my purpose for being. I often wondered, "Why do people live in the first place if they'd eventually end up dying?" It became a question I needed an answer to. Then as I studied about Jesus, I wanted to know, "Why did Jesus come?" As the years passed, by the Spirit of God, I got the answer for life; I found out why we lived, and life changed for me.

Think about it: what is it on earth that you could consider to be lasting, to be eternally rewarding? Do you want the whole world to be yours? There've been people before you who ruled the whole world. Think about the Pharaohs, the Caesars; they ruled the world; they had everything. In fact, they were esteemed to be gods. But guess what? When their time came, they passed on, and it all ended. So, what do you want in life? The applause of men? Fame? Self-satisfaction? There've been many who had those in abundance, but it didn't change anything.

Until and unless you discover your purpose for life, you haven't lived. Fellowship with God is the idea. Fellowship with God isn't just being friends with Him;

it's not just being close to Him; it's being in oneness with Him, united in purpose and in pursuit. That's the greatest thing you could ever know—to be in fellowship with the Lord and relate with Him as One that you know and that knows you. That's the reason for life: to know that God loves you and you love Him, and walk with Him; to understand what it is to be in God and God in you. This was the prayer of Jesus to the Father concerning us: "...that they may be one, even as we are one" (John 17:22). The greatest thing that a human being could ever know is to discover Him, discover yourself in Him, and to discover Him in you. Then you can say, like Jesus, "...I am in the Father, and the Father in me..." (John 14:11); a glorious relationship which changes your perception and everything about your life. With this understanding, you discover your place in His body-the body of Christ-and go on to fulfil that role

### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for calling me unto the fellowship of your Son, Jesus Christ. Now, I can boldly declare that I'm in you and you're in me. What an honour! My passion and desire is to please you with my life as I do all that you've destined for me, knowing that in you, I have life to the full, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Corinthians 5:14-15; Mark 8:36-38

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 11:17-57 & 2 Kings 13-15

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 12:1-11 & Proverbs 20





MONDAY 25

### **USE WHAT HE GAVE YOU**



That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth (Philippians 2:10).

learnt very early, as a young Christian, how to put the Word of God to work. I wanted to deal with issues and situations right away, using the Word.

For example, back then, if I mistakenly dashed my foot against something, I'd immediately place my hand on it and say, "Heal, in Jesus' Name!" I was learning to use authority. I might still experience some pain, but I found out I had no swelling, and I knew it was supposed to swell. Instead of getting worse, it quickly got back to normal! If it was a cut and it was bleeding, I'd say, "Seal up, in Jesus' Name! No bleeding!" and I continued with whatever I was doing.

As I practised the Word like that, and I saw the result, I testified to those around me, sharing my experience of the efficacy of the Word of God. I practised the Word on my body, using the all-conquering Name of Jesus and authority that He gave us.

I remember one night, as a teenager, after an encounter with Juju priests and their shrines, while sleeping, I felt some weight on me, pressing on me; it

was a spiritual attack; the only time I ever experienced such. I found myself struggling to call the Name of Jesus, but I couldn't even open my mouth. I finally got that figure off me, as I called out, "Jesus!" Then I went straight on my knees and said, "You devil, in the Name of Jesus, you'd never repeat this; and wherever you are, I bind you, in the Name of Jesus! Never again!" From that day till now, it never happened again, and never will.

Use what you have. Use the Name of Jesus. Otherwise, the devil will prey on you. Use that name to change the atmosphere in your home; use it to change the state of your business. Reign and rule over circumstances in His Name. Hallelujah!

### CONFESSION

The Lord has given me power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the ability of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt me. With the all-conquering Name of Jesus, I rule and reign over the devil and circumstances of life. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Philippians 2:9-11; Luke 10:18-19

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 12:1-19 & 2 Kings 16-17

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 12:12-21 & Proverbs 21





TUESDAY 26

# BE CONSCIOUS OF THE POWER IN YOU



But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth (Acts 1:8).

2 Corinthians 4:7 says, "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us." There's power in you. Ephesians 3:20 says, "Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us." All of the power of divinity is at work in you; it's not in heaven, but in your recreated human spirit. There's no telling what you can do, how far you can go—the limitless extent of your success and prosperity—if you'd recognise and put the power in you to work.

What has affected many is their lack of consciousness of who they are and what they carry in them. The consciousness of the power of God in your life is the activating force. If you're not conscious of who you are and what's in you, it'll not work. The Lord Jesus walked the earth with the consciousness of His divine origin and personality. He said, "All power is given to me in heaven and in the earth!" (Matthew 28:18). He knew it, and affirmed accordingly.

When He entered the synagogue, He said, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised" (Luke 4:18). What a consciousness! When He made that declaration, the devils couldn't stand it; then He uttered words that brought healing and restoration to the sick and the afflicted. Glory to God!

1 John 4:17 says as He is, so are we in this world. The power of the Spirit is vested in you, because you're one with Him; you're a member of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones. You're the representative of His Kingdom. The Holy Spirit came to live in you so the Kingdom, power, glory, righteousness and dominion of Christ would be manifested in and through you. Become conscious of this reality. Hallelujah!

### **CONFESSION**

I'm an embodiment of divinity, an ambassador of Christ, replete with the maximum load of God! I refuse to think failure, defeat, or impossibilities, for I'm conscious of God's indwelling power in me. Through meditation on the Word and speaking in tongues, I bring that power to bear on anything and in every area of my life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 3:20-21; 2 Corinthians 4:7

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 12:20-50 & 2 Kings 18-19

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 12:22-31 & Proverbs 22





WEDNESDAY 27

### **GROW YOUR FAITH**



We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth (2 Thessalonians 1:3).

It's your responsibility to increase the measure of faith God has given to you, and the way to do that is by learning more of God's Word: "...faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17). The less of God's Word you receive into your spirit, the less faith you'll be able to express when you're faced with the challenges of life. So, every day, grow your faith by feeding voraciously on God's Word.

Someone once said, "My faith is very little; that's why I sometimes feel weak spiritually." Then grow your faith! That's your job. Don't stay at the level of little faith. Little faith exhibits fear and doubt (Matthew 8:26). In Matthew 14, Simon Peter was walking on water toward Jesus until he saw the winds and waves and began to sink. The Bible says Jesus immediately "...stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?" (Matthew 14:31).

Little faith is also carnal or given to carnal reasoning. We see an example of this in Matthew 16:6 when Jesus said to His disciples, "...Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the

Sadducees." The Bible says they reasoned among themselves, saying, "It is because we have taken no bread" (Matthew 16:7). They didn't understand what Jesus was teaching and thought He meant physical loaves of bread. Jesus perceived their carnal reasoning and said to them, "...O ye of little faith, why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread?" (Matthew 16:8).

When the one with little faith feels a discomfort in the stomach, he's quick to say, "I think it's because of something I ate or something I drank." Yet Jesus said, "...and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them..." (Mark 16:18). God wants your faith to be stalwart; not weak, and not little. Therefore, study and practise the Word of God; that's how to grow your faith to be strong. Be like the ones described in Thessalonica, whose faith grew exceedingly, and also those in the Faith's hall of fame (Hebrews 11) who used their faith for exploits.

### CONFESSION

The Word is living and active in me, and inspires faith in me to overcome challenges and maintain my victorious life in Christ. I'm born of the Word; therefore, I live by the Word. As I study and meditate on the Word, my faith is strengthened and improved, from glory to glory, and the blessings of acting on the Word are evident in my life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Acts 20:32; James 1:22-25; Matthew 14:26-31

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 13:1-30 & 2 Kings 20-22

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 13:1-13 & Proverbs 23





THURSDAY 28

### **HUMILITY IN SERVING THE LORD**



Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble (1 Peter 5:5).

Ver the years, I've seen highly spiritually gifted Christians, including ministers, whose work turned to emptiness, because they weren't walking in humility. No matter how highly gifted you are, when it's mixed with pride, it's not acceptable to God. Your desire should be that whatever you offer to the Lord in ministry and in your service to Him be accepted, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

Everything you do in the house of God is an offering to Him; your service is a sacrifice to God. But God won't accept your sacrifice if it's mixed with selfishness and greed; pomposity, pride and arrogance. Greatness in the house of God isn't measured by some results that you have achieved or attained. Our opening verse says, "God resists the proud, but He gives grace to the humble." Humble yourself. It's something you must consciously and deliberately practise.

When thoughts of pride arise in your heart, rebuke them. The Bible says, "And whosoever shall exalt

himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted" (Matthew 23:12). So, you see that it's either humility or humiliation. The Scriptures are replete with stories of those who were proud and how they ended up abased. But God doesn't want us to go in that direction.

Correct and guide yourself with the Scriptures, with the wisdom of God at all times. Being born again, you were born great, and truly great men are always humble. Keep walking in humility, for it's a great blessing and the pathway to promotion with God.

### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I'm submissive to the authority, influence and impact of your Word. Pride, arrogance, haughtiness, or egotism have no place in me, for I walk in love and humility, experiencing everincreasing greatness and unlimited progress in life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 AMPC; 1 Peter 5:5-6

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 13:31-14:1-14 & 2 Kings 23-25

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 14:1-9 & Proverbs 24





Democracy Day is an annual celebration in countries such as Canada, Cape Verde, United Kingdom, United States of America, and Nigeria. In Nigeria, it commemorates the nation's restoration of democracy in 1999.

This year, as the country marks 21 years of uninterrupted democracy come June 12, partners of Rhapsody of Realities will seize the opportunity to distribute millions of copies of the devotional around the country. They'll also organize seminars and undertake community projects in different parts of the country.

### How To Join In The Campaign:

- Pray for the success of the campaign
- → Join the free distribution campaign teams
- Attend the Democracy Day lectures and seminars organized in your region
- Sponsor the free distribution campaign
- Organize Democracy Day outreaches as part of the 1 Million Rhapsody Outreaches

### X otes




FRIDAY 29

### THE CHRIST CULTURE



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 (Romans 12:2).

In Christianity, we have a culture; it's the Christ culture. Many come into Christ with their own culture, and try, in many ways, to influence the Church with their earthly culture. But the only culture we must follow and imbibe is the culture of the Spirit and of the Scriptures. Our theme verse tells us to be transformed by the renewing of our minds (Romans 12:2); that means be cultured by the Word. It's a decision that vou must make.

If you'd renew your mind with the Scriptures, you'd have the Kingdom culture. For example, in Christ, we have a culture to honour and respect everyone, not only those we think are deserving of honour. Romans 12:10 says, "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another." Also, in Matthew 5:44, Jesus said, "But I say unto you, 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." This is Kingdom-culture; it's different from that

of the world.

Matthew 5:42 says, "Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away." It's our culture to give in love; you don't turn away from the one who comes to borrow from you. We help and don't despise anyone. This is how Jesus lived, and we're to emulate Him. Therefore, train yourself in the Christ culture; the culture of love, kindness, forgiveness and righteousness.

### **PRAYER**

Precious Father, I yield myself to the ministry of the Word and the Spirit to learn, develop and live out the Christ life here on earth; a life of love, excellence, victory, dominion and grace. As I study the Word, my mind is renewed to think and walk in the reality of who I am in Christ, giving full expression to your righteousness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Philippians 2:5; 2 Peter 1:5-8

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 14:15-31 & 1 Chronicles 1-2

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 14:10-19 & Proverbs 25





SATURDAY 30

# A CHRISTIAN CAN'T BE DEMON-POSSESSED



And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 2:6).

any have asked, "Can a Christian be demonpossessed?" A Christian may be influenced by a demon, but he really can't be possessed by a demon. For a Christian to be demon-possessed means he or she has consciously and deliberately given up his faith in Jesus Christ, which is apostasy.

According to the Bible, there's no recovery from such a state, because the person has wilfully given himself to Satan. But a true Christian can't be in such a situation, because he's superior to Satan. No matter how a Christian has yielded to the oppression of Satan, the day he realizes himself and says "No," that'll be the end of Satan's manipulations in his life. James 4:7 says, "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

For the Christian, the problem is never about demon-possession; rather, it's about yielding to evil spirits that cause them to do terrible things, and in the process, destroy their own lives. Oftentimes, such Christians aren't knowledgeable enough in God's Word to live otherwise (Hosea 4:6).

The Christian is seated with Christ, far above all

principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named (Ephesians 2:6; 1:19-21). Hallelujah! If the foregoing is true, (and thank God it is), why would he require "deliverance" from Satan, let alone being possessed of him? Even if a Christian is being influenced or oppressed by the devil, the solution is God's Word. Psalm 119:130 declares, "The entrance of thy words giveth light...." If you'd receive God's Word—His light into you and accept it—it'll eject every satanic presence; darkness will be dispelled.

This is why studying and meditating on the Word should be top priority for you as a child of God. Know and stay in the Word, and exercise your dominion in Christ.

### **CONFESSION**

Christ is exalted in me—spirit, soul and body. I have the light of life; there's nothing of darkness in me. I'm full of joy, peace, love, kindness, and continually filled with the Spirit, as I walk in the light of Christ, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 1:19-23 AMPC; 1 John 4:4; Mark 16:17

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 15:1-17 & 1 Chronicles 3-4

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 14:20-30 & Proverbs 26





SUNDAY 31

### THE "PILL" OF FAITH



Jesus replied, "Why do you say 'if you can'? Anything is possible for someone who has faith!" (Mark 9:23 CEV).

magine that you were given a pill and told that if you'd take the pill, it makes no difference the infirmity, disease or sickness that attacks your body; irrespective of the location of the problem, the pill would effect a cure. What would your response be? I'm sure you wouldn't hesitate to place an order for that pill immediately. You'd even want to have it in excess.

But did you know that there's actually such a pill? It's called the pill of faith! In Mark 9:23, Jesus said, "If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth." The word "believe" as used in the King James Version and several other versions is wrongly applied. It's from the same word as "faith," only that it's the verb form. Faith is the noun, and "believe" is the verb of faith. This means the verse should actually read, "All things are possible to him that has faith."

The CEV, which we quoted in our theme verse puts it more accurately; it says, "...Anything is possible for someone who has faith!" How reassuring! And reading it from the 21st verse makes it even more so. Jesus didn't say, "Many things are possible if you have

faith," but that "ANYTHING is possible." Meaning that it doesn't matter what the situation is; God has given you power to make your life beautiful. You can do anything and change anything that's contrary to God's will for you with your faith.

When the disciples were terrified and cried to Jesus for help when they faced turbulent weather, the Bible says He turned to them and said, "...Where is your faith?" (Luke 8:25). In other words, use the pill! It can do anything. There wouldn't be any hopelessness or despondency in your life if you'd put your faith to work. Hallelujah!

### **CONFESSION**

Blessed be God! I've overcome the world, its systems and structures. My faith is strong and effective for continuous success, victories and triumphs! I have no fear, for nothing is impossible unto me. My life is being constantly framed by the Word of God, resulting in ever-increasing praise and glory to the Father. Hallelujah!

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Mark 11:22-23; 2 Corinthians 4:13; 1 John 5:4

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 15:18-16:1-16 & 1 Chronicles 5-6

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 14:31-40 & Proverbs 27





We trust you have been blessed by this devotional. We invite you to make Jesus Christ the Lord of your life by praying thus:

"O Lord God, I believe with all my heart in Jesus Christ, Son of the living God. I believe He died for me and God raised Him from the dead. I believe He's alive today. I confess with my mouth that Jesus Christ is the Lord of my life from this day. Through Him and in His Name, I have eternal life; I'm born again. Thank you Lord, for saving my soul! I'm now a child of God. Hallelujah!"

Congratulations! You are now a child of God. To receive more information on how you can grow as a Christian, please get in touch with us through any of the contacts below:

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Pastor Chris Oyakhilome, the President of LoveWorld Inc., a dynamic, multifaceted, global ministry, is the author of Rhapsody of Realities, the world's #1 daily devotional, and more than 30 other books. He's a dedicated minister of God's Word whose message has brought the reality of the divine life to the hearts of many.

Millions have been affected by his television broadcast, "Atmosphere For Miracles," which brings God's divine presence right into people's homes. The scope of his television ministry extends throughout the world with LoveWorld satellite television networks, delivering qualitative Christian programming to a global audience.

At the world-renowned Healing School, he manifests the healing works of Jesus Christ and has helped many receive healing through the operation of the gifts of the Spirit.

Pastor Chris has a passion to reach the peoples of the world with God's presence—a divine commission he's fulfilled for more than 30 years through various outreaches, crusades, as well as several other platforms that have helped millions experience a victorious and purposeful life in God's Word.





"Rhapsody Of Realities Is Heaven's Gift"
The Messenger Angel has impacted my life in a tremendous way! It was through the devotional that I got born again. My mum got healed of cancer of the uterus because she received a copy of Rhapsody of Realities on her hospital bed. I have experienced complete transformation in my mindset, work and family. Rhapsody of Realities is heaven's gift to me and I am so thankful for it! Praise God!

-L. Uganda

### "Filled With Power"

I received a copy of Rhapsody of Realities devotional during a free distribution campaign. One morning as I studied an article titled, "The Infilling Of The Holy Ghost," I suddenly felt the atmosphere in my room change. Before I could realize what was going on, I lay on the floor, shaking, and for the first time, I began speaking in tongues. Since then, I speak in tongues all the time, and it has built my faith strong. -D. T, Nigeria

"Restored Eyesight Through Rhapsody Of Realities!" I am so grateful to God for the gift of the Messenger Angel. I used to have poor vision and my tear channels were drying up. The doctors told me that I could go blind. For two years, my vision deteriorated. One day, my husband came home with copies of Rhapsody of Realities and I began reading them. My family and I started praying for my ailing eyes using the prayers and confessions in the devotional. By the next day, my already dried-up tear channels were filled with tears and I got completely healed. Glory be to God!

-A. Romania



# Rhapsody of Realities

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We will like to know how this devotional has blessed your life. Please write a brief testimony of the impact of Rhapsody of Realities on your

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# Rhapsody of Realities

# Chris Oyakhilome



Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

A KEY FOR OTHER BIBLE VERSIONS USED:

NKJV -New King James Version
AMP -The Amplified Bible

AMPC -The Amplified Classic Bible
TANT -The Amplified New Translation

TLB -The Living Bible

CEV -Contemporary English Version NASB -New American Standard Bible ISV/ -International Standard Version NIV -New International Version MSG -The Message Translation WFB -The World English Bible TNLT -The New Living Translation ASV -American Standard Version TFV -Todav's English Version RSV -Revised Standard Version

GNB -Good News Bible

WNT -Weymouth New Testament
NRSV -New Revised Standard Version

MOFFAT -Moffatt New Translation WESNT -Wesley New Testament

EBR -Rotherham's Emphasized Bible

DRB -Douay-Rheims Bible
TPT -The Passion Translation

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## Introduction

urray! Your favourite daily devotional, Rhapsody of Realities, is now available in 2010 languages and still counting. Now in its 20<sup>th</sup> year in print, the 2020 edition of the devotional has been packaged to enhance your spiritual growth and development and position you for resounding success throughout the year.

The life-changing truths in this edition will refresh, transform and prepare you for a very fulfilling, fruitful, and rewarding experience with God's Word.

### - HOW TO USE THIS DEVOTIONAL FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT

- Read and carefully meditate on each article. Saying the prayers and confessions aloud to yourself daily will ensure the results of God's Word that you're speaking come to pass in your life.
- Go through the entire Bible in one year with the one-year reading plan, or in two years with the two-year reading plan.
- You can also split the daily Bible reading portions into two parts—morning and evening reading.
- Use the devotional to prayerfully write out your goals for each month, and measure your success as you accomplish one goal after another.

Enjoy God's glorious presence and victory, as you take a daily dose of His Word! God bless you!

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	GOALS FOR THE MONTH:

# Rhapsody of Realities ... A DAILY DEVOTIONAL

www.rhapsodyofrealities.org



MONDAY 1

## **IT'S ABOUT WORDS**



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

A major reason some Christians have never really enjoyed the spiritual splendour and glory of Christianity is that they've never truly understood the importance of words. Even though they've been born again for long, they've struggled for the most part. Some eventually give up after many years of struggling to live the Christian life because they don't understand the foundational principle of the Christian life. It's about words!

We function in the realities of the new creation through words. This is the spiritual principle that makes salvation possible in the first place: "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Romans 10:9-10).

Our salvation is only activated when we vocalize our faith in the Lordship of Jesus. Salvation is the beginning of all the blessings in Christ; and if this principle works for salvation, it'll work for everything else in Christ.

The Lord Jesus, during His earthly ministry, was an absolute success because He spoke the Father's

words and lived in them. In John 12:49, He said, "For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak." Hebrews 13:5-6 makes reference to the same principle. It says, "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

The foregoing scriptures imply that our confessions should be in accordance with the Word of God, because we're children of the Word. We live by words. Recall the words of Jesus in our opening verse: "For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned." It's about your words: the right words coming out of your lips.

## **CONFESSION**

Through my wholesome, faith-filled words, I create a triumphant life and blessed future; I shape my life and future to align with God's divine provisions and destiny for me and all that concerns me. I hold fast to the profession of faith without wavering. I declare that I live in divine health, supernatural abundance, and in continual victory and prosperity, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Corinthians 4:13; Mark 11:23

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 16:17-33 & 1 Chronicles 7-8

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 15:1-10 & Proverbs 28





TUESDAY 2

#### **NOTHING TO FEAR**



For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith (1 John 5:4).

There's so much negative information in the world today and this has instilled fear in the hearts of those who aren't rooted and grounded in the Word. These may indeed be perilous times, but the Lord Jesus referred to this in Luke 21:25-26 in describing some of the signs of the end of the age. He said, "...There shall be...distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth...."

In Luke 18:8, He asked a thought-provoking question: "...when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" You're to stand your ground in faith, irrespective of the circumstances around you, and happenings in the world today.

The Word says in Ephesians 6:16, "Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked." With your shield of faith, you have the ability to neutralize ALL (not some) of the fiery darts of the enemy. The

Lord Jesus already destroyed the works of the devil (1 John 3:8). He paralyzed Satan, demolished his works, and made an open spectacle of him and his demons in hell (Colossians 2:15).

Today, Satan and the powers of darkness are under your feet; therefore, you have nothing to fear. Irrespective of what happens around you, speak the Word in faith.

## **PRAYER**

My faith is the victory that overcomes sickness, disease and infirmities. The divine life in me makes me superior and unsusceptible to any kind of virus or infection. I walk in dominion over sickness and the debilitating elements of this world, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 John 5:4 NIV; Colossians 2:15 AMPC; Romans 8:35-37

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 17:1-26 & 1 Chronicles 9-10

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 15:11-19 & Proverbs 29





WEDNESDAY 3

#### SUPERIOR TO SICKNESS AND DISEASE



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 (Mark 16:17-18).

The above scripture is extraordinary; it reveals something striking about you—the Christian—the new creation: you're superior to sickness, disease, and infirmities. You have a life that can't be infected by any disease pathogen. You can't be poisoned or destroyed. It makes no difference that you were told that a certain poison or virus has gotten into your system; it shall have no power over you. In Luke 10:19, Jesus said, "Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you." This is either true or false, but thank God it's true!

Live with the consciousness that you're a partaker of the divine nature. Don't join the bandwagon of those who are flustered and rattled by the spread of infectious diseases; the life in you is divine; it's not sustained by blood but by the Spirit of God who lives inside you: "But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you" (Romans

8:11).

The foregoing verse isn't a promise but a vital reality now that the Holy Spirit lives in you: He's the life of your physical body. Maybe you've even been diagnosed with an incurable disease as you read this; declare the Word until the divine life in you gains the ascendancy. With faith in your heart, keep affirming, "The same Spirit that raised up Jesus from the dead lives in me and has invigorated my physical body. I have the life of God in me; that life destroys sickness and disease. I walk in divine health. I refuse to be sick!"

Christians are people who have come from death. They're a different breed. That's why the Bible says, "But ye are a chosen generation..." (1 Peter 2:9). The word "generation" is the same word for "breed." You're a special breed, superior to anything that's of the devil.

Take charge of your life from the realm of the spirit and subdue your world and your environment. Even now, declare that you live victoriously through the Word, and by the Spirit, over and above sickness, disease and death. Hallelujah!

## **PRAYER**

I walk in victory and dominion over Satan, the world, and its systems. Thank you, Father, for your divine life in me, and the power of your Word and the Holy Spirit to live triumphantly above sickness, disease and infirmities, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Peter 1:4; Romans 8:10-11 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 18:1-27 &1 Chronicles 11-13

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 15:20-28 & Proverbs 30





THURSDAY 4

## **AFFIRM HIS TRUTHS**



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 (2 Corinthians 4:13).

2 Timothy 3:1 admonishes that in the last days, perilous times shall come. Nevertheless, Romans 8:35-37 lets us know that in spite of the tribulation, distress, famine, peril, and pandemics that would characterise the signs of the end of the age, you have nothing to fear. This is because you're more than a conqueror: "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword...Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us" (Romans 8:35-37).

What you need is to hold on to God's Word; know and have it in your consciousness and establish it through speaking. The power is in affirmation. For example, the Word says, "No weapon fashioned against you shall prosper" (Isaiah 54:17). Jesus said in Luke 10:19, "...nothing shall by any means hurt you." Then in John 16:33, He also said, "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." Believe

and affirm these truths.

Jesus didn't overcome the world for Himself but for you. He overcame the world and all the evil, darkness and negativities therein, and gave you the victory. What you're required to do now is to establish and maintain that victory in your life with your faithfilled confessions.

He said in 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." The Word of God in your mouth is a creative force. Praise God!

## **PRAYER**

I declare that my life is for glory and beauty; and in my path, there's life, success, victory and health. I pray for God's people around the world, who may be sick or afflicted, that the healing power of God works through them, and their health is perfected, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Luke 6:45; Philemon 1:6; Proverbs 18:21

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 18:28-19:1-16 &1 Chronicles 14-16

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 15:29-39 & Proverbs 31





FRIDAY 5

## YOU'RE A NECESSARY PART OF HIS AGENDA



For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building (1 Corinthians 3:9).

ne of the things that must be paramount to you in life is being an active part of God's agenda, promoting the Gospel and seeing to it that the knowledge of salvation covers the earth as the waters cover the sea. This should be your driving force and purpose in everything you do.

The reason you're in that business or working in that company or organization is so God can use you in that "chariot" to transform lives and be a blessing in your world. That's our main purpose for being in the earth; otherwise, immediately after you're born again, the Lord would have taken you to heaven. But He left you in the earth to carry out His purpose, to take His message to others while you develop character and spiritual understanding.

Have a plan for the Gospel, for you're the Lord's partner in spreading the good news of His saving power around the world; you're His co-labourer (1 Corinthians 3:9). A dispensation of the Gospel has been committed to your trust. This was what made Paul say, "...necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto

me, if I preach not the gospel" (1 Corinthians 9:16).

You're Christ's ambassador, His minister of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:19). Live with this consciousness—winning souls and changing lives around the world. Hallelujah!

## **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the Gospel of Christ that has blessed and enriched me. I'm grateful for the privilege to be called into partnership with you in bringing others out of darkness into the glorious liberty of the sons of God. I'm committed to the ministry of the Gospel, grateful that you've made all grace abound towards me, to be effective in the spread of the Gospel in my world and beyond, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Matthew 6:33; 1 Corinthians 9:16-17; 2 Corinthians 5:18-20

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 19:17-42 &1 Chronicles 17-19

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 15:40-49 & Ecclesiastes 1-2





SATURDAY 6

## HE HAS QUENCHED YOUR THIRST



For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed (John 6:55).

here're those who are always crying to God to "quench their thirst" and fill them afresh. They misunderstand the words of Jesus in John 7:37, where He said, "In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, **let him come unto me, and drink."** This doesn't mean that when you're "thirsty" for God, you go to Jesus.

Also, don't be confused by what the Spirit penned through Paul in 1 Corinthians 10:4, saying, "And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ." In the Old Testament, they drank water from the rock, and that rock was Christ. Today, you don't need to "go" to Jesus anymore to get that drink; you're in Him, and He's in you! He said, "He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water" (John 7:38).

What did He mean by "rivers of living water"? The 39th verse explains it. It says, "(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that **Jesus was not yet glorified**)." This water is the Holy Spirit. 1 Corinthians 12:13 NIV says, "For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink." In other words, when you received the Holy Spirit, you got the drink of the Spirit. He's quenched your thirst!

We don't cry to God to fill us when we think we're thirsty; we get ourselves filled with the Spirit; and the Word shows us how: "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs (songs of the spirit; singing in the spirit), singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord" (Ephesians 5:18-19). This is the way to stay perpetually filled and drenched in the Holy Ghost! It's by ministering to yourself in the spirit—singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord. Hallelujah!

## **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the gift of the precious Holy Spirit in and with whom I'm filled continually. I'm forever refreshed through the Spirit, for out of my belly flows gushers of living water, to give life and sustenance to everything about me, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

John 4:14; 1 Corinthians 14:14-15; Ephesians 5:18-19 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 20:1-18 & 1 Chronicles 20-22

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 15:50-58 & Ecclesiastes 3-4





SUNDAY 7

## FLOURISHING THROUGH WORDS



...the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life (John 6:63).

experimented with words, trying to understand the effect they have on natural things. A certain researcher grew two plants of the same kind, under identical conditions. Then he decided to speak words of love and kindness to one, while he spoke words of hate and abuse to the other.

Every day, he subjected the plants to this constant barrage of words, and a few weeks later, he noticed the plant he'd been speaking to nicely grew luxuriantly, but the other plant became frail. He continued with the same pattern of speaking and, eventually, the plant receiving positive words bloomed, but the other one being pelted with negative words withered away.

If you're going to live the glorious life that God has planned for you to live, you must learn to speak the right words. Whether you flourish or fail, live or die, depends on your words. You're created in the image and likeness of God; you look like Him, and function like Him. That means, like Him, your words are spirit and they're life; they produce the message they bear or communicate.

Everything in creation responds to spoken words. If a book got completely burnt, for example, it doesn't cease to exist. It simply transmogrifies from a compressed form to an expanded form. And though it's no longer visible to the optical eye, its particles still exist, with specific sound codes in them. If you could release the appropriate codes through your words, you could recall the seemingly varnished particles and bring back the material into its compressed, tangible form.

This lets you know you can talk to anything, no matter how dead, and bring it back to a blossoming state. You can make progress from glory to glory and flourish evermore through the words that you speak, for your life is the result of your words.

### **PRAYER**

My heart is an unfathomable reservoir of things that are honourable, winsome, gracious, excellent and praiseworthy, and I bring them forth by words. I declare that I flourish like the palm tree; I'm stately, upright, fruitful, majestic, stable, durable and incorruptible. In my path, there's life, success, victory, and wealth, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Proverbs 18:21 AMPC; Psalm 34:12-13 AMPC; Psalm 92:12-15

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 20:19-31 & 1 Chronicles 23-25

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 16:1-12 & Ecclesiastes 5-6





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## X otes




MONDAY 8

## BEWARE OF THE SPIRIT OF THE WORLD



Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him (1 John 2:15).

There's a type of spirit that many Christians are oblivious of, and the Bible talks about it in 1 Corinthians 2:12; it's "the spirit of the world": "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." This spirit is responsible for worldliness amongst Christians. That's the spirit that tries to set trends—the trends of the world.

When Christians aren't careful, they find themselves moving with those trends of the world; what the world says, how things are done, not realising they're being swayed by the spirit of the world into worldliness. We can use certain things in the world without following what the Bible calls "The fashion of this world" that passes away (1 Corinthians 7:31).

The fashion of this world refers to the trend of this world, and it's under the spirit of the world. Remember that Satan is the god of this world's system. So, when our theme verse says, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world...," that's what it's talking about. Refuse to be controlled or influenced by the

systems of this present world. Jesus said you're in the world, but not of the world. Hallelujah!

Some people today are drifting; they're born again, but they've been conquered by the world. They don't have the Gospel-motive. Your motivation in life should and must be Christ Jesus and the purpose for which He died. Don't let your focus be on the transient things of this failing world, for none of its so-called "trends" can give you true joy.

Paul said in Galatians 6:14, "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world." This is the attitude that you must have.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, by whom I navigate my way through life. I refuse to be swayed by the spirit of the world, for I'm not enticed by the fashion or trends of this world. I'm from above, and my mind is set on things above, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Proverbs 1:10 GNB; John 15:19 CEV; Romans 8:5-6

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 21:1-25 & 1 Chronicles 26-29

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 16:13-24 & Ecclesiastes 7-8





#### TUESDAY 9

#### **RECOGNIZE CHRIST IN YOU**



I pray that Christ may make His home in your hearts through your faith; so that having your roots deep and your foundations strong, in love, you may become mighty to grasp the idea (Ephesians 3:17 WNT).

As a result of ignorance of the Word, some Christians sing certain songs that aren't consistent with the New Testament. For example, some would sing, "Holy Spirit, fall afresh on me." That doesn't make any sense, because the Holy Spirit lives in you. He's not in heaven; so, where is He going to "fall" from?

They could sing such a song and get so emotional and cry, thinking they're getting blessed. But the truth is, they're not really getting blessed; rather, such songs create a certain kind of unbelief that's difficult to cure, resulting in their faith getting weaker and more and more ineffective.

How could a Christian be asking the Holy Spirit to fall afresh on him when the Holy Spirit is with us and in us forever? Jesus said, "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever" (John 14:16). Since the Holy Spirit came on the day of Pentecost, He hasn't gone back, and He'll never leave us. It's a painful thing in the body of Christ to see God's children in search of

what they already have.

This isn't unconnected with the reason for the Apostle Paul's prayer in our theme verse: "That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith...." "Wasn't Christ already dwelling in their hearts?" you may wonder. Yes, you'd notice he didn't say, "Our hearts"; he was praying for the spiritually immature in Christ.

That's how we pray for young converts, because they haven't recognized the indwelling Christ. Sadly, many, including those who have been Christians for a long time, still require this prayer today because they haven't recognized the indwelling Christ. They're still in search of what's right inside them. They want something to come from Heaven; yet, everything they could ever ask for has been granted them (2 Peter 1:3). Colossians 1:27 says, "Christ in you, the hope of glory." Recognize Him in you. Hallelujah!

## CONFESSION

Christ is alive in me, because He has settled and made His home in my heart by faith; everything about Him is resident in my spirit. I'm living the supernatural life, naturally, because Christ is in me. I don't walk in darkness about anything, because I'm conscious of His light in my heart, guiding me in the path of righteousness, to fulfil my destiny in Him. Hallelujah!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 3:17-19 AMPC; Colossians 1:26-27; 2 Corinthians 6:16

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 1:1-26 & 2 Chronicles 1-4

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 1:1-11 & Ecclesiastes 9-10





## WEDNESDAY 10

## SUCCESS IN YOUR SPIRIT



Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life (Proverbs 4:23).

he Word is so important. With the Word, you'll build your life; you'll build your spirit; you'll build real success within you, because success starts first from the human spirit. If you have it inside you, no circumstance in life can take it away from you. But if you don't have it in you, your life will depend on circumstances, and circumstantial success isn't true success.

This has happened to far too many people. Their lives depend on how good things are in their country, in their finances, in their job, in their place of work, etc. And so, you have a lot of people drifting around, looking for some greener pastures. But that shouldn't be you. Success is built into your spirit. You're the seed of Abraham; that means your life's journey should be in one direction only: upward and forward.

Your success is independent of circumstances. That's how God designed it, because He Himself is independent of circumstances. You're born in His image and likeness. The nature He's given you is one of ever-increasing glory and greatness; always making progress. This has to be your mindset; otherwise, you'll be like everyone else whose life is dependent on circumstances; who keeps praying that things will be all right.

But a child of God who understands the Word doesn't live like that; he brings forth success from within. The Bible says from your heart are the issues of life (Proverbs 4:23). The Lord Jesus said in Matthew 12:35, "A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things...." Success and all the good things of life are in you; bring them forth.

#### **CONFESSION**

The greater One lives in me! My spirit is awakened and stirred up to be independent of circumstances, to bring forth good things always, irrespective of the situation around me. The Word of God in my spirit produces wealth, prosperity and success, anytime, anywhere! Hallelujah!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Luke 6:45; Joshua 1:8 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 2:1-21 & 2 Chronicles 5-7

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 1:12-24 & Ecclesiastes 11-12





THURSDAY 11

## THE HOLY SPIRIT: **GOD AT WORK IN YOU**



Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak to you, I speak not from myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works (John 14:10).

The Holy Spirit is the active agent of the Godhead; He's the power of God; He carries out the acts of God. Man was created and formed by the Holy Spirit; everything God does outside of His throne is done by the Holy Spirit. Nothing works without the Holy Spirit: there's no life without Him.

The Lord Jesus, in the days of His earthly ministry, did nothing without the Holy Spirit. In our opening verse, He identifies the Holy Spirit as the Father that dwells in Him and does the work. That's a fact to recognize in your life as a Christian.

The Holy Spirit in your life is your key to extraordinary and absolute success. None of those who walked with Him as revealed in the Scriptures were ever defeated; none was a failure. Everyone who received Him gained the mastery and became the champion. Many in the Church today need to know for sure who the Holy Spirit is and His ministry in their lives. He is Himself, God.

If you were to carry out any task for the Lord in your local Church, for example, until and unless you execute it by the power of the Spirit, there'll be no

impact. You can further understand Paul's submission in Colossians 1:29 in describing his total dependence on the power of the Spirit for effective ministry work. He said, "Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily." It should and must be the same for every one of us.

The Bible says, "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure" (Philippians 2:13); that's referring to the Holy Spirit. You can't do God's work or even live the Christian life without the Holy Spirit. Zechariah 4:6 says, "...Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts." It's for the same reason that He wants us perpetually filled with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18). The Holy Spirit is God at work in you, building you, and building others through you.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit who has come to take His abode in the quarters of my heart, permanently. In all that I do, I acknowledge Him as my Helper, Comforter, Counsellor, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener, and Standby. I'm totally dependent on His power, taking advantage of His divine ability, strength and wisdom at work in me to fulfil my purpose, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Corinthians 3:5 AMPC; John 14:16 AMPC; Philippians 2:13 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 2:22-47 & 2 Chronicles 8-11

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 2:1-7 & Songs Of Solomon 1-2





FRIDAY 12

## YOUR RECIPE FOR A HAPPY LIFE



For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it

(1 Peter 3:10-11).

od's plan for you is that you live a glorious life, happy and excited every day, irrespective of the happenings around you. This takes living by the Word. The Word of God unveils the fundamental principles of success that you can act upon for a Godcentred fulfilling life.

For example, our opening scripture is very instructive on how to have a blissful life. In The Living Bible translation, it reads, "If you want a happy, good life, keep control of your tongue, and guard your lips from telling lies. Turn away from evil and do good. Try to live in peace even if you must run after it to catch and hold it" (1 Peter 3:10-11).

The admonition is clear: do you want a wonderful life? It's up to you! Eschew evil and do good; live peaceably with all men. Practise this. God is giving you the recipe for a successful life, a life that's filled with joy and good things.

Your life will be beautiful, fulfilling, inspiring and

excellent if you'd live by the Word. His Word is so simple, yet has the power to produce what it says. It's your instruction manual for life, the light that guides you in righteousness, glory and victory. 1 Thessalonians 5:16 says, "Rejoice evermore." Put this to work in your life. Be full of joy always, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.

## **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for giving me such a beautiful, extraordinary, exciting, fulfilling, exceptional and excellent life; a glorious life that radiates joy, excellence and peace. Irrespective of contrary circumstances, I stir up joy from within; your glory, grace and righteousness are seen and manifested in me, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 14:17; Nehemiah 8:10 AMPC; 1 Peter 1:8

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 3:1-26 & 2 Chronicles 12-15

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 2:8-17 & Songs Of Solomon 3-4





SATURDAY 13

#### HOLDING FORTH THE WORD OF LIFE



Do all things without murmurings and disputings: That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain (Philippians 2:14-16).

otice the underlined portion of our theme scripture: "Holding forth the word of life"; in holding forth the Word of life, you're presenting Jesus to the world, for He is the living, incarnate Word and He is life. Your life continually reflects Jesus as you meditate on His Word and live it daily.

2 Corinthians 3:18 says, "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." As you look into God's mirror (His Word), where the beauty of Christ is expressed, you're transfigured into the same image of glory that you see in the Word. Then you discover that you're not the weak, struggling person that you thought you were; you're not the fearful, vengeful or arrogant

person that others had described. You're the glory of God. Christ is your beauty, wisdom and righteousness. You're the effulgence of His glory as He (Christ Jesus) is the effulgence of the Father's glory, for as He is, so are you, in this world (1 John 4:17).

This is why it's important that you meditate on the Word. The Word reveals your origin, identity and inheritance in Christ. Make studying God's Word part of your conscious routine, not something you do casually. It'll build your faith and help you grow in grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

## **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for the ability to see the glorious realities in your Word. As I meditate on the Word, I'm transfigured into the same image of glory. I'm the expression of your righteousness, goodness, excellence, glory, grace and power to my world. I walk in the reality of my inheritance, authority and ability in Christ, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Corinthians 3:18 AMPC; James 1:25; 1 Timothy 4:15

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 4:1-31 & 2 Chronicles 16-19

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 3:1-10 & Songs Of Solomon 5-6





SUNDAY 14

## **BE OF GOOD CHEER**



These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world (John 16:33).

magine you were on a flight that was experiencing some turbulence and you were beginning to get worried. Then you heard the captain say, "Please be informed there's some turbulence in the air, but it's not a problem at all. So, sit back and relax; we're fine." You're most certainly going to feel a sudden calm; the anxiety will disappear. Why? The captain says the turbulence doesn't matter!

This is the kind of assurance we have from Jesus in our theme verse. He said, "...be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." Such powerful, comforting and uplifting words! In the midst of the trials, temptations, troubles; in the midst of the persecution and hatred, He wants you to be of good cheer, because everything is going to be all right. Never allow sadness and unhappiness in your life as a result of whatever you may be going through. You're a victor in Christ Jesus.

Even when things don't seem to be going right,

be unflustered. The Word says, "Count it all joy when you go through diverse tests" (James 1:2). That challenging situation is for your promotion and testimony. You live on the mountaintop, because you're seated together with Christ in the place of glory and dominion. Therefore, when you face distressing situations, turbulent times, live above them.

Christ has made us masters over circumstances. Now He wants you to display extraordinary courage in fulfilling His dream for you. Philippians 4:6 says, "Do not be anxious about anything..." (NIV). It makes no difference what's going on; don't lose your cool! It's been written about you already that you won: "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith" (1 John 5:4). Cheer up, for your future is greater than your past. Praise God!

## CONFESSION

God has separated me from the world and given me a life that's beyond this world: a life of faith and victory through the Word. I live victoriously and triumphantly above sickness, disease, inflation and terror. I'm more than a conqueror because greater is He that's in me than he that's in the world. Hallelujah!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

John 16:33 AMPC; Psalm 31:24 TLB; Isaiah 60:1-2

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 4:32-5:1-11 & 2 Chronicles 20-22

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 3:11-18 & Songs Of Solomon 7-8





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## X otes




MONDAY 15

## IT'S IN YOU NOW



The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full (John 10:10 NIV).

Just as divine health, prosperity, forgiveness, justification, sanctification and righteousness aren't promises from God for the new creation, even so is eternal life not a promise! Eternal life isn't life in heaven or life you receive when you get to heaven; it's in you now.

Jesus would never have needed to come if all there is to eternal life is going to heaven. After all, Enoch went to heaven before Jesus came (Genesis 5:24). Also, Jesus said God isn't the God of the dead, but of the living; He's called the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Read Luke 20:37-38); meaning that Abraham, Isaac and Jacob are alive and in heaven.

Even Elijah was carried to heaven with a chariot of fire (2 Kings 2:11); he didn't need Jesus to have come first. This proves that eternal life isn't about living endlessly in heaven. Jesus didn't come to give us something that was already available; He was the manifestation of the life which God promised before the world began. God's plan for man was to live like God, live in His image, live as His reflection in this

world. But man lost out on God's plan due to Adam's transgression.

However, through Christ Jesus, eternal life—the life and nature of God is now available to anyone who believes in Him. There's animal life, plant life, human life, and then you have the God-life, which you receive when you're born again. That's the life Jesus spoke about in our theme verse. It's indestructible and untainted.

That eternal life controls everything about your life now; it vitalizes your physical body. It destroys sickness, disease, infirmity and everything that's not of God in your physical body. Hallelujah!

#### **CONFESSION**

Eternal life is my present-hour possession in Christ. I have that unfading, incorruptible, indestructible, imperishable life, resident in my spirit. I've been brought from humanity to eternity; therefore, I have dominion over death, sickness, disease, infirmity, failure, lack, and all the rudiments of this world.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

John 3:16; John 10:27-28; 1 John 5:11-13

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 5:12-42 & 2 Chronicles 23-25

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 4:1-6 & Isaiah 1





#### TUESDAY 16

#### HIS INSTRUCTIONS MAKE GREAT



And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing (Genesis 12:2).

od expects that when we receive His Word, we should live accordingly. When we have words in Scripture that show us principles of life or that give us definite instructions from God, we have to take heed; we have to take such words seriously and live by them. His instructions make great.

Life becomes challenging, a labyrinth of confusion for those who don't follow God's Word but would rather act on human wisdom and intelligence. Take for instance, the experience of Isaac in Genesis 26. He received an instruction from the Lord not to leave his country to Egypt, because of the famine in his country. People were migrating to Egypt at the time for greener pastures so it made sense (human wisdom) that Isaac sought to leave Gerar to seek relief in Egypt.

However, the Lord instructed him, saying, "... dwell in the land which I shall tell thee of: Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I sware unto Abraham thy father" (Genesis 26:2-3). Isaac followed the Lord's instruction and the result is penned for us in Genesis 26:12-13: he grew, waxed great and became very great, so much so that the Philistines envied him in the same land that was impoverished

by famine.

Follow the leading of God's Spirit for your life. There's no other way to greatness and a successful life besides following God's plan, His instructions, will and purpose for your life. It makes no difference the pressure you're under, yield to the Spirit for answers; don't make impulsive decisions that'd most certainly worsen the situation. Consult and trust Him for guidance.

The Holy Spirit knows and has the blueprint for your greatness and prosperity. Your greatness is His plan and His idea. He said to Abraham, "...I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing" (Genesis 12:2). Never suppose that your greatness is dependent upon your works or anyone. As the seed of Abraham, greatness is in you, harnessed and brought to the fore as you follow God's instructions and fulfil His purpose for your life.

## **CONFESSION**

I'm the seed of Abraham, graced for greatness and anointed to be fruitful and productive in every good work. I've been ordained to prosper and to live in glory. Therefore, I live the glorious life, fulfilling my purpose and destiny in Christ. Great things are happening for me and through me, by the power of the Word and the ability of the Holy Spirit, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Genesis 26:12-13; Galatians 3:29; Proverbs 4:13

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 6:1-15 & 2 Chronicles 26-28

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 4:7-18 & Isaiah 2





WEDNESDAY 17

## **TONGUES AND INTERPRETATION**



Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret (1 Corinthians 14:13).

any years ago, as a young teenager, I was preparing, alongside my friends, for a crusade; so, we met often, praying and fasting, with words of prophecy. One day, I arrived early to pray ahead of the others. While I was praying, speaking in tongues, I had the intuition that I was saying things in the Spirit that had to do with the crusade, but the words were coming out in tongues and I didn't have the interpretation. None of my friends, two of whom had the gift of interpretation of tongues, had come.

I continued speaking in tongues and I was still feeling the unction so strong. Then, I said, "Lord, I need the gift of the interpretation of tongues so I can know what the Spirit is bringing to my understanding." As I continued praying and speaking in tongues, suddenly, I received the interpretation and began to speak them out in English Language. Oh, how elated I was!

Then I took my journal and began to write. I spoke the words and interpreted. And guess what? Those things that were brought to my understanding about the crusade all came to pass. Praise God! Interpretation of tongues is so important. Tongues and interpretation of tongues equal prophecy. And prophecy brings edification.

As you speak in tongues in prophetic utterance, you can trust the Holy Spirit to bring the message to your understanding. If you thought you were blessed speaking in tongues, wait until you receive the interpretation. The experience will bring you such unspeakable joy! If you don't have the interpretation, the Lord says to ask for it, and it's His desire to grant it, through the Holy Spirit. Hallelujah!

# **PRAYER**

Dear heavenly Father, thank you for the Holy Spirit who has given me the ability to speak in tongues and commune with you in a heavenly language. I take advantage of this privilege, not only to declare divine mysteries, but also to bring them to my understanding through prophetic utterance, by the Holy Spirit, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Corinthians 14:5; 1 Corinthians 14:12-19

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 7:1-53 & 2 Chronicles 29-30

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 5:1-10 & Isaiah 3





THURSDAY 18

# LET PEACE RULE IN YOUR HEART



And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:7).

In 2 Corinthians 2:10-11, Paul said, "To whom ye forgive anything, I forgive also: for if I forgave anything, to whom I forgave it, for your sakes forgave I it in the person of Christ; Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices." Here, the Spirit, through the Apostle Paul, highlights the importance of forgiving others, so that Satan doesn't take advantage of the situation. It's the way to allow the peace of Christ to rule in your heart.

You may have a reason to be offended or angry, but Ephesians 4:26 says, "Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath." Some have left the church because they were angry, and others have quit their jobs because of anger. Some have accommodated anger against others for so long, without realizing its destructive effect on their own lives.

Practise the Word. Don't retain anger in your heart; give it up quickly. You may say, "But what so-andso did against me caused me terrible pain"; it makes no difference. When you're filled with the Spirit, your heart is ruled with peace and you live joyfully and in love, irrespective of the actions of others.

Read what the Word says in James 5:13: "Is any among you afflicted? let him pray..."; he didn't say, "Let him fight or be vengeful"; neither did He say, "Let him tell the whole world about it." The word "afflicted" in that verse also means to be aggrieved or offended. He says if that happens to you, pray about it. Don't get troubled and become bitter.

The Bible says, "Be anxious about nothing; in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your request be made known to God" (Philippians 4:6), and His peace will rule in your heart.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for pouring out your love on me lavishly. I share the same love with those in my world, loving them unconditionally. Thank you for giving me the capacity to forgive and love like you do, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Colossians 3:13 CEV; 1 John 3:14; Mark 11:25-26

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 7:54-8:1-8 & 2 Chronicles 31-32

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 5:11-21 & Isaiah 4





FRIDAY 19

### LIFE HAS COME



But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name (John 20:31).

Without eternal life, man is lost. He's an eternal spirit that won't just dematerialize and be forgotten. He goes to hell! The Bible says hell is the place of condemnation, the place of death, "... prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matthew 25:41).

When Adam sinned against God, all men died. In Romans 5:12, the Bible says, "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." Sin brought death. That's how death came to be in everything; it's in all of nature. It's the reason everything in the natural world degenerates. It's the reason things get old and go extinct.

Men live and become weak, grow old and they pass on. It's all because of the response of nature to the curse of death. Death is the elimination of life, the cessation of the functionality of life. God understood and saw all of these from the dateless past and planned that man should have eternal life; the indestructible life!

Everyone, including all of nature, has been looking forward to eternal life! They needed life, because there was death in everything. Romans 8:20 says, "For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope"; what hope? The hope of eternal life which God that cannot lie promised before the world began (Titus 1:2)!

Then John brings the good news, which we read in our theme verse. 1 John 5:11 says, "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son." You have eternal life now, meaning you're in the ageless zone; you've passed from death to life. Whereas death works in the world, life works in you and everything that's connected to you. Hallelujah!

# **CONFESSION**

The Lord has called me with a holy calling, according to His own purpose and grace. He's abolished death and has brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel. Death has been defeated by Jesus, and now I have the all-conquering, unfading life of God in me. Glory to God forever!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 John 5:11-13; John 3:35-36

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 8:9-40 & 2 Chronicles 33-34

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 6:1-10 & Isaiah 5-6





# SATURDAY 20

# **MANIFESTING ETERNAL LIFE**



In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour (Titus 1:2-3).

otice what we just read: God manifested His word of promise for eternal life through "preaching"; preaching to who? To every creature, not just people. Jesus said in Mark 16:15, "...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." The problem is that we've only been preaching the salvation message to human beings; consequently, we're living in an environment that's working against us.

Environmental degradation is on the rise, because we're not preaching to all creation. This is the reason Paul cries out: "For the earnest expectation of the creature (creation) waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God" (Romans 8:19). The whole creation is groaning in pain, because the creation is in bondage, waiting to be liberated into the glorious liberty of the sons of God.

I first discovered this truth as a teenager and taught it even to my parents. I'd say to my dad, "Everything in life has intelligence; therefore, you can talk to your belongings; talk to your cars and they'll never be grounded or immobile. Preach to them." When I said those things, I sounded weird. But this is what we've been commissioned to do.

You can preach to your clothes, furniture, etc. Everything in life is waiting for your manifestation; waiting for you to liberate them. And when you do this, you'll discover that in your life, you're always new, always advancing; you see life working in everything around you. The supernatural becomes an everyday occurrence, because you're manifesting eternal life. Hallelujah!

# **CONFESSION**

I speak blessings to everything around me. I bring deliverance to every creature in my world, taking them out of bondage and corruption, into the glorious liberty of the sons of God. I acknowledge God's divine presence in my life; therefore, His splendour, excellence and perfection are expressed through me. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Timothy 1:8-10; Mark 16:15 NIV; Titus 1:2-3 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 9:1-31 & 2 Chronicles 35-36

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 6:11-18 & Isaiah 7





SUNDAY 21

# YOU'RE ACTING OUT A SCRIPT



For we are God's [own] handiwork (His workmanship), recreated in Christ Jesus, [born anew] that we may do those good works which God predestined (planned beforehand) for us [taking paths which He prepared ahead of time], that we should walk in them [living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live] (Ephesians 2:10 AMPC).

ow beautiful and inspiring this is; it shows that predestination is at work in us. As God's children, our lives have been prearranged; we're acting out a script written by the best and greatest Scriptwriter of all time—the Holy Spirit.

It reminds of the words of Jesus referenced in Hebrews 10:7; He said, "...Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God." His day-to-day life when He walked the earth was a fulfilment of that which was written concerning Him before the world began. In many places in the Scriptures referring to Jesus, you'd find statements such as, "That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the Prophet." Jesus acted out the script that was already written about Him. It's the same

with us today.

Everything that happens to you, whether good or bad, isn't an accident; there's nothing happening to you today that's a surprise to God. He fashioned all things to work out together for your good (Romans 8:28). As read in our theme verse, your path has been prepared ahead of time. There's neither defeat nor failure in that script. And the script isn't going to change.

Yours is to simply play your role, and not try to rewrite the script. Don't try to make God "do" something; He's already done everything and given you everything you require for an excellent life. That's what the script (His Word) shows. Live your life according to the script. Accept and declare what He's said concerning you and you'd live a glorious and excellent life of purpose.

# **CONFESSION**

I know who I am. I'm full of God by the Holy Spirit, doing the works which He planned for me ahead of time. I'm walking in His predestined path for me and in that path, there's health, abundance, perpetual victory and perfection of all that concerns me. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 1:11; 1 Peter 2:9; Romans 8:29-30

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 9:32-43 & Ezra 1-3

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 7:1-8 & Isaiah 8





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MONDAY 22

# MONEY IS A DECEPTION



Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours (1 Corinthians 3:21).

Money is a deception and a distraction in the world. Not many realise this, but it's the truth. When God made this world, there was no such thing as money. Money was an evolution; the world didn't start out with money. But today, we act like money "fell" from heaven and God said, "Thou must use money." But it's not so.

Here's how you can easily understand this deception: when you deposit money in the bank, you're aware that there's no special store created to store the money, with your name on every bill. Where then is all the money that the bank is keeping for you? They only have a record against your name in figures as proof that you have money there. That should tell you something: money is an illusion; it exists only in the mind of the poor.

Your real quality and value have nothing to do with the bills in your pocket or safe-deposit box. If you can build, not your bank accounts, but your mind and your heart—the quality of your personality—it'll control how much money responds to you.

Take your mind beyond money and focus on

God's purpose. His purpose for your life is that no matter what happens to the financial systems and operations of the world, you'll always win. You're bigger than inflation and the economy of the nation where you live. You're bigger than this world! You're the seed of Abraham, meaning you own the world. Believe this and you'd be free from the power and intimidation of money.

Your dream in life shouldn't be where to get money or how to get money. The first and most vital element is your mind. Put it to work, and money will respond to you always.

# **CONFESSION**

I rule and reign in this life, independent of the financial systems of this world. I'm fulfilling God's purpose and plan for my life, walking in paths that He's arranged for me. He's made all things I require for life and godliness available to me, and I celebrate the grace of prosperity and abundance that I enjoy as the seed of Abraham. Hallelujah!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Luke 12:15; 1 Timothy 6:10-11 AMPC; Matthew 6:19-20

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 10:1-23 & Ezra 4-6

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 7:9-16 & Isaiah 9





TUESDAY 23

# REFUSE THE "INADEQUACY SYNDROME"



Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world

(1 John 4:4).

There's so much "inadequacy syndrome" amongst many in the Church, and it has lasted so long that it now looks and sounds normal. For example, you hear such statements as, "Fill me, Lord; I'm hungry for you!" They think that the more they cry about their hunger for God, the quicker He'd respond to them. But such declarations aren't consistent with the Word, with who we are and what we have in Christ.

Think for a moment: how much more of Him do you want when He lives in you in His fullness? You're in the Father, and the Father is in you. Become fully conscious of this reality. Quit trying to reach out to Him or acting like a stranger and a foreigner; you're one with Him. Hallelujah! The problem with many is their ignorance of the Word.

The Bible says, <u>Christ in you</u>, the hope of glory (Colossians 1:27). It isn't a part or an aspect of Him that lives in you; it's the totality of His person! You're full of Him. The Bible says you're the temple of the Holy Spirit; you're God's house, His living tabernacle. God isn't more in heaven than He is in you; you better

believe this, for it'll get rid of the dependency and inadequacy syndrome.

It's a mistake to think the more we confess our weakness, the greater He is in us. No, don't talk against the Word. Your confession of inadequacy destroys your faith and your effectiveness in Christ, and it's contrary to everything that Jesus came to do for you. For example, how could anyone read what we have in our theme verse and still pray, "Oh Lord, help me to overcome"? Or like some would say, "We shall overcome someday."

The Word says you've overcome; notice it's in past tense; it's not a promise, but a done deal, a present-hour reality. Your confession, irrespective of how you feel or what's happening around you, should, and must be what the Word says concerning you. Don't confess your feelings of inadequacy; confess the Word.

# CONFESSION

I am in the Father and the Father is in me and I'm conscious of this reality. Everywhere I go, I go in and with the Father who lives permanently in me. I'm His divine headquarters; in Him I live and move, and have my being; the world is subdued before me. Glory to God!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Colossians 2:9-10; Colossians 1:26-27; John 1:16

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 10:24-48 & Ezra 7-8

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 8:1-8 & Isaiah 10





WEDNESDAY 24

# SERVICE THROUGH THE SPIRIT



For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son... (Romans 1:9).

Oftentimes, when the Lord gives you a responsibility or an assignment to carry out for Him, it's usually not because you're an expert. He gives you that assignment and expects you to be diligent. He expects you to put in your best, but the most important of all is that He expects you to do it by the power of the Holy Spirit.

No assignment in the house of God should be carried out by people who are not full of the Holy Spirit. This is because there's nothing you can do for God that'll be acceptable to Him without the Holy Spirit. Hebrews 9:14 tells us that Jesus offered Himself as a sacrifice through the Holy Spirit. It's always been so with God.

Even in the Old Testament, when the Lord wanted Aaron's garment (the Priest's garment) to be made, just because the design was given by God, Moses had to get only those whom the Lord had filled with the Spirit to get the job done (Exodus 28:3). Think about it: He would only allow His priests wear clothes that were made by Spirit-filled individuals! Likewise, craftsmen that were to work in the tabernacle had to be filled with the Spirit to do the work.

On one occasion, the Lord said to Moses, "Get

seventy leaders of the children of Israel, so they can assist you with the work." Then God said, "I'll take of the Spirit that's upon you and put upon them" (Numbers 11:16-17). In other words, without the Spirit, He wasn't going to let them do the work. That's how important being filled with the Spirit for service is in the house of God.

It makes no difference the capacity in which you serve in church; perhaps, you're a worship leader or music minister, an usher, a cell leader, outreach fellowship coordinator, a pastoral staff, or your role is cleaning the pews and opening the doors to the auditorium; it must be done through the Spirit.

This is where fellowship with the Spirit is so important. Before you set out to do anything, get filled with the Spirit; spend time in fellowship with the Holy Spirit, and He'll guide you on how to do God's things, God's way, so your service would be accepted of Him.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the opportunity to serve in your Kingdom. I yield myself to the influence and guidance of the Holy Spirit at all times, for the purification and sanctification of all that I do in service to you, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 5:18; Romans 15:16; Hebrews 9:14

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 11:1-18 & Ezra 9-10

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 8:9-17 & Isaiah 11-12





#### THURSDAY 25

## LET NOTHING DISSIPATE YOUR ZEAL



For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me... (1 Corinthians 9:16).

any years back, I had some friends who were also in ministry. Though they loved the Lord, they were a little troubled by what they called my "extremes," because I was always up and about for the Gospel. I was holding crusades in villages, in schools, organizing several programmes and seminars in churches; I was always on the go for the Gospel.

They thought somewhere along the line, I'd find that my extreme positions and actions were misdirected, and I'd learn my lesson and come down to their level. But the years have come and gone, and I've had no regrets serving the Lord that way. Had I not understood the Scriptures, I'd probably have tried to be "moderate" in my service to the Lord, to satisfy such people; and the impact we're making today wouldn't have been there.

Many have been dissuaded like that; so, be different. Remain focused. Serve the Lord with undivided attention. When you catch the vision to stand out from among your peers, in your passion for and sponsorship of the Gospel of Christ, stay focused. That's the way. Be like Paul; commit to the Gospel as

though it rested on you alone to evangelize the whole world! When you do, the grace of God is released upon you to achieve His dream.

Remember, it's His work; He's the One seeking to do it through you. You're just His "suit"; He's the One inside, talking through you, looking through your eyes, working through your hands. He said in 2 Corinthians 6:16: "...! will dwell in them, and walk in them...." Hallelujah! All He wants is for you to say, "Yes, Lord! I'm ready." Then He'll take over and fulfil His purpose through you. Keep your passion for the Gospel everburning; refuse to allow anything or anyone dissipate your zeal for the Lord and His work.

## **PRAYER**

Blessed Father, you've called and ordained me to be a package of blessings to my world as I take the Gospel of the Kingdom to the ends of the earth. Your divine power works in me mightily, causing me to be steadfast, unmoveable, and always abounding in the work of leading people to Christ, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Corinthians 15:58; Romans 12:11 AMPC; John 4:34 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 11:19-30 & Nehemiah 1-3

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 8:18-24 & Isaiah 13





FRIDAY 26

### THERE'S ENOUGH FOR EVERYONE



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 (Acts 20:32).

n the world today, it's obvious that there're lots more poor people than there are rich people. But according to God's plan, purpose, principles, and according to the Bible, this world was designed to have more rich people than poor people. Most of the world has never known this truth, but that was God's plan from the beginning. His Word shows us that there's more than enough for everybody in this world!

Read our opening verse again; it says God's Word is able to deliver your inheritance into your hands. The Word doesn't discriminate. Act on it, and it'll produce results in you and for you. There's an inheritance for you in Christ Jesus. It makes no difference that you were born in the most squalid region of the earth, with the poorest forebears; in Christ, no one is poor.

Even if you were poor and you came to Christ, the Bible says, "He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne

of glory..." (1 Samuel 2:8). Where are you in your life today? The Word of God can bring you an actual transmutation, a change of state, a change of quality and a change of character; a real transformation. That's the way God accomplishes His purpose in us; it's through His Word.

You can literally take the Word of God, meditate on it and begin a process of change for yourself, and determine how far you're going to go in life. It doesn't matter where you grew up; it doesn't matter what obtains in the country where you live; the Word of God can deliver to you your inheritance in Christ.

# CONFESSION

The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, and I'm an heir of God and a joint-heir with Christ. Therefore, the world is mine! The Lord has set my feet upon the rock to stay, for I'm seated with Christ in heavenly places, far above poverty, lack and the economics of this world. I'm in my place of inheritance in Christ Jesus, where I prosper continually. Hallelujah!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 8:16-17; Romans 12:2; 2 Corinthians 9:8 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 12:1-25 & Nehemiah 4-6

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 9:1-10 & Isaiah 14





SATURDAY 27

# TO BLESS IS TO GIVE THANKS



Else when thou shalt bless with the spirit, how shall he that occupieth the room of the unlearned say Amen at thy giving of thanks, seeing he understandeth not what thou sayest?

(1 Corinthians 14:16).

enerally, to bless means to invoke the power of God into something or into one's life, resulting in promotion, increase, furtherance, strength, etc. But there's another aspect of blessing. For instance, the Bible talks about us blessing the Lord; how do you bless Him? And when we say, "Bless your work," how do you do it? Also, our theme verse talks about blessing in the spirit; that is, blessing in other tongues; how do you do that?

But then, reading the concluding part of the verse gives us a clue: it says, "How does the one who doesn't understand what you're saying, say "Amen" at your giving of thanks?" He equates "blessing" to "giving of thanks." In Matthew 26:26, the Bible says, "And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it...." How did Jesus bless the bread?

The Apostle Paul, by the Spirit, explained it in 1 Corinthians 11:23-24 which says, "For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you,

That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it...." Matthew said Jesus took bread and blessed it; then Paul gets the revelation and tells us exactly how Jesus did it: it was by giving thanks.

This lets you know how to bless your food when next you're at the table for a meal. It's not by saying, "Oh God, bless this food for Christ's sake"; it's by giving Him thanks for the food. That's how Jesus blessed the bread. Likewise, when we say, "Let's bless the Lord," it means to give Him thanks; you're thanking Him for who He is, for what He's done in your life and for all His mighty works. This is what you should do always.

When you learn to thank or bless God for something, you receive a wholeness of whatever it is you're thanking Him for, because thanksgiving brings about wholeness. Glory to His Name forever.

# **PRAYER**

Blessed Father, you're so gracious and kind! I give you praise and thanks for your presence in my life and for your mighty hand of blessing that rests upon me. I acknowledge your grace, mercy, wisdom and power by which I live triumphantly today and always, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Thessalonians 5:18 NIV; Colossians 3:17; Psalm 107:1

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 13:1-12 & Nehemiah 7-8

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 9:11-15 & Isaiah 15-16





SUNDAY 28

# **EVER FRUITFUL...EVER BLESSED**



And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection (Luke 8:14).

The word "perfection" in the scripture above, which is from the Greek, "telesphoreo" is a compound word, and it appears in only that verse of the Bible. It means to bring to fruition, to come to a ripened state, to come to a mature state where it triggers a result.

Incidentally, the verse above actually refers to someone who didn't bring fruits unto perfection. But it gives us God's plan, His idea, which is the fact that He wants us to be ever fruitful and productive—bringing our fruits to perfection.

There're lots of people who start something and never finish. They're always stopping in the middle of something; they just never get through. They always have a story to tell as to why they didn't finish. Their projects are aborted, and processes truncated. But your story is different. You're a fruitful vine, bearing fruits, and carrying your projects to perfection. Whatever it is

that you do, the Spirit of God is at work in you to bring it to fruition. Affirm this about you always. As you walk with the Lord in the light of His Word, there'll be no aborting of your ideas or even of physical pregnancy. This is your heritage as a child of God.

Another beautiful thing about this is that you produce fruits in and out of season. You're ever fruitful and productive, "...standing firm like a flourishing tree planted by God's design, deeply rooted by the brooks of bliss, bearing fruit in every season...never dry, never fainting, ever blessed, ever prosperous" (Psalm 1:3 TPT). What a life! Blessed be God!

## **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for giving me a life of everincreasing glory; a life of blessings evermore and consistent productivity. There's no abortion of my plans, projects and dreams; I carry them to fruition, producing results to perfection, by the power of the Holy Spirit, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Philippians 1:6; Philippians 3:13-14; Jeremiah 29:11

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 13:13-52 & Nehemiah 9-10

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 10:1-7 & Isaiah 17





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# X otes




MONDAY 29

# THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT



For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;
(2 Corinthians 10:4).

There're those who, even though they claim to be Christians, are antagonistic to the Gospel, because their understanding of the Gospel is corrupted by the theories of men. Some of them may have even been raised in church, and chosen of God, like Saul of the Old Testament, but instead of moving on with the Word, they used their senses to interpret God and lost out completely on God's plan for them.

Such people are described in the Bible as belonging to the house of Saul; the arm of flesh. They're ruled by the flesh and not by the Spirit. But then, there's the "house of David"; the Bible says, "... there was long war between the house of Saul and the house of David: but David waxed stronger and stronger, and the house of Saul waxed weaker and weaker" (2 Samuel 3:1).

The "house of David" symbolises the Spirit; those who walk in the Spirit; those who speak and live according to God's Word. There's still that raging war today, where those who walk in the flesh try to act like

they're in charge, but the wisdom given to us of God is something they can't resist or gainsay.

When you come in contact with such people, use and speak the wisdom of God, knowing that all they have are mere theories and words that come out of their natural minds. Ours are words too, howbeit, words of divine wisdom; so it's words against words. They speak the wisdom of this world that comes to nought; but we speak the wisdom of God that produces undeniable results in our lives, circumstances and situations, and in the lives of others. Glory to God!

## **CONFESSION**

With the Word of God in my mouth, I cast down all strongholds of reasonings, arguments and theories of men. Even now, I come against the spirit of the world that initiates evil or negative imaginations in the hearts of men, to cause them to go against the Gospel, and I proclaim victory over it in the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Colossians 2:8 AMPC; 1 Corinthians 2:6-7

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 14:1-28 & Nehemiah 11-13

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 10:8-18 & Isaiah 18:1-7





TUESDAY 30

# **HOLD ON TO THE WORD**



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 (2 Peter 1:19).

As God's children, we're not trying to win in life; whatever trouble comes to us isn't "Live"; we're only acting out a script. In that script, it's written that you won. You're only going to have a problem if you don't follow the script. The script is God's Word.

It doesn't matter what comes at you when you follow the script—the Word—you'd boldly declare, "Nay, in all these things I'm more than a conqueror!" You'll always be unmoved. Why? You already have the sure word of prophecy that no matter your experiences, the Word is more dependable!

Read our theme verse again; it reveals the secret of keeping afloat, the secret of winning continually, growing always and ever making progress. No matter who you are, no matter what your experiences may have been, it says, "Take heed to the Word of God as a light that shines in a dark place."

Let's suppose you're currently in a dark place

in your life and your experiences are so terrible; everything seems to be completely against your knowledge of the Word of God. You're praying and it's like nothing is changing; God says, "Look at that word of prophecy which may be like a flicker of light, and hold on to it! Hang in there, unwavering, until the day dawns, and the day star arises in your heart." Hallelujah!

As you hold on to the Word, you'd hear the voice of the Spirit telling you, "Relax, everything is all right." Hallelujah! In that seemingly dark place, God's Word is there; the challenge came to pass. Therefore, refuse to give up or be dismayed.

# **CONFESSION**

I have a more sure word of prophecy with which I make war and subdue circumstances. I'm unperturbed by the circumstances of life because I have the secret of keeping afloat; the secret of continually winning, growing always, making progress and never going down. Whatever comes against me, the Word is my confidence and advantage. Hallelujah!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Matthew 24:35; Isaiah 40:8; 1 Peter 1:25

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 15:1-21 & Esther 1-4

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 11:1-9 & Isaiah 19



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We trust you have been blessed by this devotional. We invite you to make Jesus Christ the Lord of your life by praying thus:

"O Lord God, I believe with all my heart in Jesus Christ, Son of the living God. I believe He died for me and God raised Him from the dead. I believe He's alive today. I confess with my mouth that Jesus Christ is the Lord of my life from this day. Through Him and in His Name, I have eternal life; I'm born again. Thank you Lord, for saving my soul! I'm now a child of God. Hallelujah!"

Congratulations! You are now a child of God. To receive more information on how you can grow as a Christian, please get in touch with us through any of the contacts below:

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Pastor Chris Oyakhilome, the President of LoveWorld Inc., a dynamic, multifaceted, global ministry, is the author of Rhapsody of Realities, the world's #1 daily devotional, and more than 30 other books. He's a dedicated minister of God's Word whose message has brought the reality of the divine life to the hearts of many.

Millions have been affected by his television broadcast, "Atmosphere For Miracles," which brings God's divine presence right into people's homes. The scope of his television ministry extends throughout the world with LoveWorld satellite television networks, delivering qualitative Christian programming to a global audience.

At the world-renowned Healing School, he manifests the healing works of Jesus Christ and has helped many receive healing through the operation of the gifts of the Spirit.

Pastor Chris has a passion to reach the peoples of the world with God's presence—a divine commission he's fulfilled for more than 30 years through various outreaches, crusades, as well as several other platforms that have helped millions experience a victorious and purposeful life in God's Word.





# "An Instrument Of Change"

I used to be very religious before I came in contact with Rhapsody of Realities. I would use nasty words often to criticize people whom I thought weren't "holy" enough. One day, I got a copy of the devotional and started reading it. Since then, my life has completely changed. I no longer criticize others because through Rhapsody of Realities, I have been taught what true Christianity is. Glory to God!

-O. B; Nigeria

# "An Avalanche Of Blessings"

One day, my friends and I were walking on the streets in search of jobs when we met a group of people distributing copies of Rhapsody of Realities and teaching God's Word. I was reluctant at first but they assured me that God had good plans for me. From then on, I began reading it and soon got born again. I got blessed with a job miraculously. Soon, every member of my family got saved as they too started studying the devotional. Now, we enjoy overflowing blessings every day! Praise God!

-S. B; Nepal

# "Awakened To The Truth"

I came in contact with Rhapsody of Realities through a group of women who often give out copies of the devotional. Although I have been a Christian for many years, the revelation of the Word in the devotional has awakened me to the true Gospel. Every day, as I say the prayers and confessions out loud, faith is stirred in me and I enjoy intimacy with the Holy Spirit. Now, I have all that it takes to deal wisely in the affairs of life. Glory to God!

-A. N; Brazil



# Rhapsody of Realities

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# Rhapsody of Realities

# Chris Oyakhilome



Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

#### A KEY FOR OTHER BIBLE VERSIONS USED:

NKJV -New King James Version AMP -The Amplified Bible AMPC -The Amplified Classic Bible TANT -The Amplified New Translation TLB -The Living Bible CFV -Contemporary English Version -New American Standard Bible NASB ISV -International Standard Version NIV -New International Version MSG -The Message Translation WEB -The World English Bible TNIT -The New Living Translation ASV -American Standard Version TEV -Today's English Version

GNB -Good News Bible

WNT -Weymouth New Testament

NRSV -New Revised Standard Version

-Revised Standard Version

MOFFAT -Moffatt New Translation WESNT -Wesley New Testament

EBR -Rotherham's Emphasized Bible

DRB -Douay-Rheims Bible

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# Introduction

urray! Your favourite daily devotional, Rhapsody of Realities, is now available in 2010 languages and still counting. Now in its 20<sup>th</sup> year in print, the 2020 edition of the devotional has been packaged to enhance your spiritual growth and development and position you for resounding success throughout the year.

The life-changing truths in this edition will refresh, transform and prepare you for a very fulfilling, fruitful and rewarding experience with God's Word.

## - HOW TO USE THIS DEVOTIONAL FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT

- Read and carefully meditate on each article. Saying the prayers and confessions aloud to yourself daily will ensure the results of God's Word that you're speaking come to pass in your life.
- Go through the entire Bible in one year with the one-year reading plan, or in two years with the two-year reading plan.
- You can also split the daily Bible reading portions into two parts—morning and evening reading.
- Use the devotional to prayerfully write out your goals for each month, and measure your success as you accomplish one goal after another.

Enjoy God's glorious presence and victory, as you take a daily dose of His Word! God bless you!

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# Rhapsody of Realities ... A DAILY DEVOTIONAL

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# WEDNESDAY 1

# **BAPTISED INTO CHRIST**



Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life (Romans 6:3-4).

t's important for us to understand what's meant by the statement "...baptized into Jesus Christ..." in the scripture above. It's different from dipping someone into water for a baptism. Water baptism is symbolic: when you're dipped into water in baptism, you're declaring that you've identified with the Lord in His vicarious death and burial. You're brought out of the water in likeness of His resurrection.

The subject in Romans 6 isn't water baptism. It's the immersion of the believer into Christ, upon his proclamation of His Lordship and faith in His resurrection. In 2 Corinthians 5:17, Paul the Apostle uses the term "in Christ" when he declares: "...if any man be in Christ, He is a new creature...." You become one with Him! God sees you in Jesus Christ. When we say we're in Christ, it's not like having

something inside a container; rather, it means we're inseparably united with Him, joined with Him in one Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:17).

Ephesians 5:30 says, "For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones." Jesus said, "I am the vine, ye are the branches..." (John 15:5), meaning that we're of the same stock with Him. You've become the expression of Christ. This is how you should and must think. 1 Corinthians 12:13 says, "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body..."; that body is Christ.

Now that you've been baptised into Jesus Christ, the Bible says to walk accordingly; "...walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4). Walk bold. Be absolutely fearless, knowing that you and Christ are one. With Him, you're indomitable—ever making progress. Hallelujah!

# CONFESSION

I'm inseparably one with Christ, for in Him I live, move and have my being! I'm the embodiment and expression of His glory and divinity. My inseparable oneness with Him makes me supernatural, impregnable to sickness, disease and infirmity. No matter what comes my way, I'm bold and fearless! Glory to God!

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Acts 17:28; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Galatians 3:27

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 15:22-35 & Esther 5-7

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 11:10-33 & Isaiah 20





THURSDAY 2

# **GROWING IN CHRIST**



And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts (Galatians 5:24).

Our opening verse leaves no grey area: if you belong to Christ, you've crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. Why then are some Christians still struggling, trying to crucify the flesh? It's because Satan has lied to them and they believe it, due to their own ignorance of God's Word.

Satan may taunt you by saying, "If you were a real Christian, you wouldn't have told a lie yesterday!" That shouldn't immediately wane your confidence and dissipate your faith and enthusiasm to serve the Lord. Remember who Satan is—a liar and the father of lies. He's a deceiver and the accuser of God's people (Revelation 12:10).

If your hands were lifted in worship to the Lord, and Satan suddenly reminded you of something you did wrong, don't suddenly drop them and start crying, feeling sorry for yourself. Rather, worship even more and say, "Father, thank you for your love and the blood of Jesus Christ that cleanses me from all unrighteousness."

Never allow Satan deceive you into thinking you're not a real Christian because of something you did wrong. If you're born again, you're a real Christian. What the Word of God says is that you live out the

nature of God that's inside you. Walk in the Spirit and in righteousness. Live according to God's Word, because that's your life.

Every so often, say to yourself, "I'm of the Spirit and I'm ruled and guided by the Word." Study and stay in God's Word and you'll live above the deceptions, manoeuvres and manipulations of Satan. The more you study, listen to, and meditate on the Word, the more you walk as the Word admonishes. This is because the Word has the power to produce in you what it talks about.

Through the ministry of the Word, you're strengthened, encouraged, your faith is stirred and you grow steadily in Christ. The more you grow in the Lord, in grace and knowledge of His Word, the less of sin you'll find in your life; for sin shall not have dominion over you (Romans 6:14).

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for your Word which is profitable to me for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, causing me to grow spiritually and my faith to be stirred unto good works. I'm rooted and established in the Word, displaying the virtues and perfections of the Spirit, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 8:8-9; Galatians 5:16; I Corinthians 6:9-11

# 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 15:36-16:1-15 & Esther 8-10

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 12:1-10 & Isaiah 21





FRIDAY 3

# HIS LIGHT IN YOUR HEART



For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 4:6).

n Habakkuk 2:14, the Bible says, "For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea"; and our opening scripture says, "For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts...." His light is in your heart. Then it continues further to state why that light is in your heart: "...to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."

The foregoing clearly shows how the knowledge of the glory of God will cover the earth. This knowledge comes through knowing Jesus Christ, and is given through us who have received His light. Jesus, in His prayer to the Father, said, "…thy word is truth" (John 17:17). In John 1:9, He said, "That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world." His Word is the true light. So, when it says, "God, who commanded the light to shine out

of darkness, hath shined in our hearts," it's telling us that we now carry that light of God's Word in us.

This means that the more of the knowledge of God you have, the brighter your light shines. The less of Him you know, the less of His light you exude. This is why it's imperative that you take the ministry of the Word very seriously in your personal life. Through studying and meditating on the Word, more glory is added to your life and you keep glowing with His righteousness.

God's plan wasn't for man to grow, get old and die; that was the result of the curse. But Jesus brought the blessing. He brought immortality (2 Timothy 1:10), which is unveiled through the knowledge of God in Christ. Moreover, through that knowledge, you're rejuvenated, refreshed and renewed.

# **PRAYER**

Righteous Father, I thank you for your Word is the light with which I navigate my way through life. As I increase in the knowledge of your Word and meditate therein, my faith is stirred and I'm projected by the Spirit in the upward and forward life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Matthew 5:15-16; Isaiah 60:2; Psalm 119:105

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 16:16-40 & Job 1-2

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 12:11-21 & Isaiah 22





## SATURDAY 4

# **VICTORY OVER DEVILS**



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 6:12).

There're people who'd like to convince themselves that demons aren't real, they are mere figments of our imagination. But they're wrong! Demons are real and oftentimes, Satan, who thrives on the ignorance of many, proliferates the deception that he doesn't exist. But our theme verse tells us that we wrestle against "...principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." These are evil spirits.

Until their appointed time of judgment, Satan and his demons are going to do everything they can to get at you, to destroy your work and try to frustrate you. But have no fear; they're not a factor. In Christ, you have the victory over Satan and the cohorts of darkness. They are mere rebels, running rampage and trying to wreak havoc and bring frustrations to those who let them. This is why you must know and stay in the Word and maintain your victory in Christ. The Bible says to resist the devil, and he will flee from you (James 4:7). How do you resist the devil? With the Word!

It makes no difference if it's a health condition that can't be medically explained, or issues with your job, business or family; affirm the Word! Ephesians 6:13 says, "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." The evil day is when Satan throws his darts at you. It's the day of crisis; the day when you're the target of the adversary. That evil day will come, and it doesn't come only once. But as long as you're in the Word—fully dressed with the whole armour of God—you'll always be victorious!

You live and function in the Kingdom of light where Satan has no chance. You live in the victory and authority of Jesus Christ. You have something that the devils can't withstand—the Name of Jesus. Use it, and triumph gloriously, always!

# **CONFESSION**

I live and function in the Kingdom of light, with authority over Satan and the cohorts of darkness. No weapon fashioned against me shall prosper. I live in the victory and authority of Jesus Christ, and my faith is a weapon of defence against the fiery darts of the wicked; an instrument of victory over and against the adversary and adversities. I live triumphantly in Christ, every day. Hallelujah!

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Luke 10:17-19; James 4:7 AMPC; Matthew 10:1

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 17:1-15 & Job 3-5

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 13:1-6 & Isaiah 23-24





SUNDAY 5

# **REJOICE TODAY**



Be joyful always (1 Thessalonians 5:16 NIV).

Yesterday is gone, and tomorrow is yet to come, but today is yours to use. Therefore, make the best of today and be joyful. Don't live in the regrets of yesterday or be apprehensive of the uncertainties of tomorrow. The regrets of yesterday and fear of tomorrow are the enemies of today's happiness. God wants you joyful, TODAY!

Our theme verse says, "Be joyful always." This can neither be applied to yesterday nor postponed to tomorrow; it's for the NOW. Whether anybody treats you well or not, be joyful all the same.

It makes no difference that those you thought could be of help to you turned their backs on you; remain joyful. After all, God never told you to put your trust in men (Psalm 118:8-9). Whether or not there's money in your bank account, be joyful. If you allow circumstances, the happenings around you or the actions of others determine your joy, then, you're not acting on the Word. Remember, the blessing is for those who do or act on God's Word (James 1:22-25). The Word says rejoice evermore (1 Thessalonians 5:16); so, practise it.

Make up your mind that nothing will ever take away your joy. This is a decision you must make. There's a cooperation that's required between you and the Holy Spirit. He tells you what to do, but you have to decide to do them. If you say, "I'm going to be ever joyful as the Word of God says, irrespective of circumstances," He'll help you make it so.

Yes, in Christianity, there're challenges. But the Lord says in James 1:2, "Count it all joy, when you go through diverse tests"; in other words, "rejoice!" What's important isn't the challenges you face but your response to them. You were born a winner, a victor; nothing in this life is set against you to hurt you or make you a victim. The Bible says, "In all these things, we're more than conquerors" (Romans 8:37). Hallelujah!

# **CONFESSION**

My life is a bundle of joy and happiness, for the joy of the Lord is my strength! Irrespective of circumstances, I remain cheerful and boisterous with praise, knowing that I draw out prosperity, peace, success, health and other blessings from deep within me. Glory to God!

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Philippians 4:4; Isaiah 12:3; Romans 14:17

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 17:16-34 & Job 6-8

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 13:7-14 & Isaiah 25





MONDAY 6

# CHRIST: THE STANDARD OF RIGHTEOUSNESS



My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous (1 John 2:1).

John 3:9 says, "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin...." Some have misunderstood this and ran off with the wrong idea that whatever they do is right, because as Christians, they can't sin. Yes, for the Christian, sin isn't compulsory, but we don't judge righteousness by what a Christian does; we judge righteousness by the light of Christ and His Word.

The Bible talks about walking in the light as He is in the light (1 John 1:7). How consistent are your actions with the rightness of God? That's how you know what's right from what's wrong. If you declare that whatever you do is right, that makes you the standard of rightness and of righteousness. But you're not the standard of righteousness.

For example, we read in 1 Corinthians 2:16 that "...we have the mind of Christ"; this doesn't mean every thought of your heart, therefore, is always right. Yes, we have the rightness of God, but He tells us in Romans 12:2, "Be not conformed to this world, but

be transfigured by the renewing of your mind." Even though you're born again, your mind still needs to be renewed.

Let's look at our theme verse again; it says, "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not...." If it weren't possible for you to sin, He wouldn't have said "I'm writing this to you so that you don't sin." But at the same time, He lets you know sin isn't compulsory; you don't have to sin. That's the reason for the very next statement: "If any man sin"; instead of "When any man sins." He creates a balance.

Don't go from one extreme of "Sin is compulsory as long as we're in this flesh" to the other extreme of "Whatever I do is right"; no! Your actions, thoughts, behaviour, responses and reactions must be consistent with the Word of God, with the righteousness of Christ, for He is the standard of righteousness. Hallelujah!

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for your grace and the power of your righteousness at work in me! I live free from sin and sin-consciousness, producing fruits of righteousness and good works, manifesting the love of Christ today and always, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 6:1-2; 1 John 2:29 AMPC; 2 Corinthians 5:21

# 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 18:1-23 & Job 9-11

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 1:1-9 & Isaiah 26





TUESDAY 7

# **GIVE NO PLACE TO SATAN**



Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me
(John 14:30).

emon spirits, if given a chance or a foothold, could harass, influence and even torment a Christian. Paul the Apostle enjoins us, "Leave no [such] room or foothold for the devil [give no opportunity to him]" (Ephesians 4:27 AMPC).

Take for example some Christians who experience what seems like a nightmare, but actually more real an experience than a dream. In some cases, it could be an experience with some beastly figures. The person may be praying about these things, yet the situation lingers.

Oftentimes, it's because Satan tries to maintain a connection between him and such individuals by sowing something in their hearts, such as a thought—an unclean thought. As long as such folks harbour and nurture those thoughts from Satan, a connection is established. So, even when they scare him off with the Name of Jesus, as long as his thoughts remain in their hearts, he maintains his connection and keeps coming back.

Sometimes, it could be fear. He plants fear and with that connection he keeps coming back. When you

pray and rebuke him, because of what he's kept in you which you're helping him preserve without realising it, he keeps coming back. This is why, like Jesus, you must have nothing of Satan in you. He (Jesus) said in our theme verse, "...for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me."

Keep your heart free from anything that's of the devil. Refuse to harbour fear, anger, grudge, bitterness and unforgiveness. Let love rule in your heart. Never allow fear to take a hold of you, irrespective of the happenings around you. Jesus said, "...I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven" (Luke 10:18). Never be afraid of him, for he's a defeated foe, and has no authority over you.

# **CONFESSION**

I'm the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus, and I have the light of life. There's nothing of darkness in me. Through the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ by which I'm constantly cleansed and purified, Satan has no place in me. He has nothing in my life and I rule over him, in the Name of the Lord Jesus! Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 4:27 AMPC; James 4:7; 1 John 4:4

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 18:24-19:1-7 & Job 12-14

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 1:10-17 & Isaiah 27





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# X otes




WEDNESDAY 8

# HE KNOWS WHERE YOU ARE



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 (Zechariah 4:6).

A certain man had a shop in a rural area. At a point, he wanted to move to the city, like his friends had done. But one day, while he was praying, he heard the Lord say to him, "Stay here." So, he stayed. Two years later, the government signed a contract to expand the road in the area.

The road was constructed and expanded and a new settlement with expatriates was established in the area. His shop became the strategic corner shop for everyone in the neighbourhood. Suddenly, his business boomed, being the only shop in the area. Soon enough, what used to be located in the torn-up street and sidewalk became a major department store where everybody transacted business. Most of his friends who had relocated to the city started coming back, but he already had the major share of the market. A few years later, he had expanded to a chain of major stores.

It doesn't matter where you are, God knows you're there and will channel His grace towards you as long as you stay in His Word. Our theme verse says

it's "...Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts." Where He tells you to stay is where you should be. He told Isaac to remain in Gerar even though others were relocating due to famine. The Bible says, "And Isaac dwelt in Gerar" (Genesis 26:6). He was in God's place, in God's time, for God's purpose, in God's way.

Read the result of Isaac's obedience in the 12<sup>th</sup> verse: "Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the LORD blessed him." The man heard from God and it changed the course of his life. It's called the blessing of God! Don't move jobs or change business just because you think the field or pasture is greener on the other side. Hear from God. Be directed by the Holy Spirit. That's the way of true success and progress from glory to glory.

# **PRAYER**

Righteous Father, I thank you for the guidance of your Word and leading of your Spirit in my life. You guide me continually, satisfy my soul in drought and make fat my bones. I walk in your instructions and principles, fulfilling my purpose and manifesting greatness, prosperity, success and victory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Psalm 32:8; Proverbs 3:5-6; Isaiah 30:21

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 19:8-41 & Job 15-18

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 1:18-2:1-2 & Isaiah 28





THURSDAY 9

# SIMPLE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE SPIRIT



But God chose the foolish things of this world to put the wise to shame. He chose the weak things of this world to put the powerful to shame (1 Corinthians 1:27 CEV).

od's Word is so simple. His instructions may sound or seem trifling, but when carried out, they always produce the supernatural. Imagine that while in Church on a service day the Pastor says, "Tell three people, 'I'm blessed and victorious.'" You might say to yourself, "I don't have to do that." Why? It sounds too simple to mean anything. But that's where many have missed it. Our theme verse says God confounds the mighty with simple, little things.

Think about this: when God delivered the children of Israel from the hands of their oppressors, the Egyptians, He didn't lead them on the road that made the most sense. The Bible says, "Instead, he led them in a roundabout way through the desert toward the Red Sea..." (Exodus 13:18 GNB). Then, trapped between the Red sea and an invading army, Moses began to "pray" to God for intervention. But God interrupted him and said, "Lift up your rod and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it..." (Exodus 14:16 AMPC).

Consider the simple instruction given to Moses for a problem of such magnitude! It didn't make "common sense." How could stretching forth your rod over the sea make any difference at such a critical time? But it did! Moses obeyed the instruction, the sea parted and the children of Israel walked through on dry ground. Hallelujah! God is still that way today. He gives simple instructions.

Also see the example of the Master: He said to a man with a withered arm, "...Stretch forth thine hand..." (Matthew 12:13). How could the man stretch forth the same hand that was withered? He could have complained, "Sir, can't you see it's withered?" But he didn't; rather, he acted on that simple instruction and the Bible says the hand "was restored whole, like as the other."

An instruction from the Lord, however simple, is for your benefit. When you're in church for example, a consciousness of the presence of the Holy Spirit is so important. When instructions are given, comply. God always seeks opportunities to bless and improve our lives from glory to glory and many of such blessings are packaged in simple instructions of the Spirit.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for the counsel I receive from your Word. My heart is attentive to the instructions from your Word and the Holy Spirit. Your guidance puts me over circumstances and challenges of life, to lead me in the path of success, victory, excellence and glory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Proverbs 4:13; Proverbs 8:10; 2 Timothy 3:16-17

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 20:1-16 & Job 19-21

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 2:3-12 & Isaiah 29





# FRIDAY 10

# LOOK BEYOND YOUR PAST



Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old.

Behold, I will do a new thing...

(Isaiah 43:18-19).

any gripe and grumble about their past, weighed down by the mistakes of yesterday, instead of looking at the future with the hope and opportunities it presents for greater success. It makes no difference what was said, done or written against you yesterday; see your bright and glorious future ahead. Focus on the present and the future.

Those who live in yesterday are often frustrated and can't experience true joy. In your relationships, refuse to focus on the mistakes and misgivings of yesterday. There's no beauty or glory in yesterday; therefore, refuse to live your life on the basis of yesterday's experiences.

Someone may say, "Now that I have this new job, I don't want what happened to me in the past to happen again. I'm going to be very careful." Then, as a result of being too careful to avoid whatever negative experience they might have had in the past, their productivity falls short of their actual capacity. Their best is unseen and unheard because they've allowed their past experiences to guide their lives.

Let the Word of God, not your past experiences, guide you. Be inspired by the joy and inspiration of a better and more glorious tomorrow. Our theme verse says, "Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old...." What's that terrible experience that wouldn't leave your mind? Let it go!

Neither the accomplishments nor failures of yesterday should make you a captive of your past. Rather, armed with the Word and with faith in your heart, apprehend the glorious future the Lord has ordained for you, and He'll do new and greater things through you.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for renewing my mind through your Word and enlightening my spirit to see and walk in my glorious future. I refuse to be held back by yesterday's experiences, for my path is as a shining light, shining brighter and brighter, for your glory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Isaiah 43:18-19 NIV; Philippians 3:13-14

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 20:17-38 & Job 22-24

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 2:13-21 & Isaiah 30





SATURDAY 11

# **ENJOYING LIFE'S JOURNEY**



The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows) (John 10:10 AMPC).

've always loved the window sitting on a flight. A window seat offers great views; it affords one the unique opportunity to be inspired by the things you see from such a high altitude: the icy expanse of the Arctic, the glistening peaks of the Alps, the Andes, the clouds, etc. Every so often, as I look out and savour the beauty and wonder of God's creation, I say, "Blessed Father, you're amazing! There's so much beauty!"

Thus, before arriving at my destination, I enjoy the journey. Life is that way too; a journey to be enjoyed. Between now and when the Master comes back, there's a lot to enjoy; therefore, no one should live a frustrated life. If you'd learn to pay attention to all the beautiful things and people around you, to enjoy them, you'd live happy every day.

It's a wise choice when you make up your mind to enjoy your life and yourself even in simple things. Some don't even enjoy their meals; they always rush it angrily. Others wake up angry; even while driving or commuting to their place of work, business or school, they're angry, unhappy and frustrated. They ignore all the love and beauty around them.

Read our theme verse again: Jesus came that we may have and also enjoy life! Enjoying your life isn't only about going for a game show, or watching a comedy, or engaging in some adventure. Rather, it means enjoying every moment of life's journey; enjoying everything you do, as long as it's consistent with a godly life, because you're a child of God and you know God is fulfilling His dream through you.

God has given you a life of joy, but you have the responsibility to express it. Let the joy of the Lord be evident in your life with such radiance that fully expresses the peace of God in you. Make a conscious choice to enjoy the moments of your life.

# **CONFESSION**

The Lord has given me all things richly to enjoy. He's brought me into a life of rest, full of joy and glory. Nothing is too good for me. I'm full of joy today, living the great life of righteousness, health, wealth, prosperity and success that I have in Christ. Glory to God!

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Timothy 6:17; Isaiah 12:3; Proverbs 17:22

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 21:1-16 & Job 25-28

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 3:1-12 & Isaiah 31





SUNDAY 12

# LIVE AS A CHRISTIAN



Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God (1 John 3:9 NKJV).

To properly understand the verse of scripture above, you'll have to study it in the right context. The purpose of that verse is actually in the 6<sup>th</sup> verse of the preceding chapter and it says, "...He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked" (1 John 2:6 NKJV). Notice it doesn't say, "He who says he abides in Him walks just as He walked." Rather, it says if you're a Christian, you ought to walk (live) as a Christian; walk as He (Jesus) walked.

Now, Romans 8:6 tells us, "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." He's teaching us here to walk in the Spirit. He says, "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh" (Galatians 5:16). These are all instructions and guidance given to us in the Word of God.

Romans 6:1-2 says, "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?" No Christian is at liberty to do

wrong. You were called to display righteousness; to walk in His rightness. The life that we have in Christ is sin-free. However, in your walk of faith, it's possible to make mistakes; so, the Bible says, "...the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:7). He prepared for us automatic cleansing.

What He expects is that you yield yourself to the Word, to be taught, to be guided in righteousness. Through the Word, you'd discover that you're cleansed from all unrighteousness (John 15:3), and have the capacity to live sin-free. Praise God!

# **PRAYER**

Precious Father, I thank you for your grace and the power of your righteousness at work in me! I yield myself to the Word, to be taught, to be guided in righteousness. Sin has no dominion over me. I have the rightness of God in my spirit and it's expressed in my thoughts, words and actions, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 John 5:18; 1 John 2:1; 1 John 2:28-29

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 21:17-36 & Job 29-31

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 3:13-22 & Isaiah 32





MONDAY 13

# **OVERCOMING ANXIETY**



Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything, but in every circumstance and in everything, by prayer and petition (definite requests), with thanksgiving, continue to make your wants known to God (Philippians 4:6 AMPC).

Around the world today, many are terrified, not just about the future, but even about the present. There's fear and terror, but the word "terror" isn't new. If you study the Bible, you'd be amazed at how many times it talks about terror. Nevertheless, Jesus assured us of victory over all crises. He said in John 16:33, "...In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

There's no need for you to have anxiety or panic-bouts over anything; you've already overcome Satan, the world and every crisis: "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4). Therefore, stop the fear. Stop the anxiety. Anxiety refers to worry; it's a state of nervousness. But our theme verse says, "Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything...."

If you say, "But I can't help being worried," then

you're accusing God of lying to you. You're accusing Him of asking you to do something you couldn't do. The fact that He says, "Don't be anxious," means you can live without anxiety. Your response, therefore, should be, "Blessed be God! I live in the peace and provisions of Christ; I do not fret! He has perfected all that concerns me. Hallelujah!" That's how you respond to God.

Refuse to have anxiety about your son, your daughter, your husband, your wife, your brother, your sister, your house rent, your health, your job, business, education, or about anything! When you do, the Bible says the peace of God that's beyond human comprehension will garrison your heart and mind in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:7). Hallelujah!

## **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for your Word that stirs faith in my heart and dispels fear and anxiety. I reject every thought of fear, for I'm shielded from the pain and darkness in the world. Greater is He that's in me than he that's in the world. I'm full of might by the Spirit of the Lord, for the peace of God which passes all understanding mantles my heart and mind, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Deuteronomy 31:6; 2 Timothy 1:7; Matthew 6:25-26 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 21:37-22:1-21 & Job 32-35

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 3:23-29 & Isaiah 33





TUESDAY 14

## INVIGORATED BY THE HOLY GHOST



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, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man (Ephesians 3:14-16).

In our theme Scripture, the Apostle Paul, by the Spirit, prayed for the Christians in Ephesus to be strengthened with might in their inner man. If Paul prayed thus for them, it must mean that he knew what it meant to be strengthened and must have been strengthened himself. Therefore, he wasn't trying to get God to fulfil a promise or do something that we don't already have as Christians.

Why then did Paul pray for the saints in Ephesus that way? It was because the people hadn't come to the full knowledge of the divine might at work in them by reason of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. It was more of getting them to be conscious of the divine energy, the supernatural might of the Spirit inherent in them. This "strengthening" wasn't coming from Heaven; it's by the Spirit of God that's already inside them. He wanted them to understand the ministry of the Holy

Spirit inside them and walk in His might.

There's a Spirit inside you that invigorates you. That Spirit gives you supernatural power, the ability to perform. Hallelujah! This is why you must never confess or accept that you're weak. There's no weakness in your life, for the Holy Spirit, the embodiment of all glory, dominion and strength, lives in you in His fullness. No part of your body is available for sickness, disease, infirmity, or to the devil. The Holy Spirit in you keeps your spirit, soul and body invigorated and ever alive.

Romans 8:11 declares, "But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you." This is no longer a promise but a present-hour reality. Glory to God!

## **CONFESSION**

Every fibre of my being is energised and infused with miracle-working ability. I'm strengthened and invigorated by the Holy Spirit in my inner man, thereby competent for any task. I'm conscious of, and function with His divine power that works in me mightily. Hallelujah!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 6:10 AMPC; Philippians 4:13; Colossians 1:9-11

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 22:22-23:1-11 & Job 36-39

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 4:1-11 & Isaiah 34





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## X otes




## WEDNESDAY 15

## PROSPERING THROUGH THE WORD



And the elders of the Jews builded, and they prospered through the prophesying of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo. And they builded, and finished it, according to the commandment of the God of Israel, and according to the commandment of Cyrus, and Darius, and Artaxerxes king of Persia (Ezra 6:14).

The New International Version renders the verse above thus, "So the elders of the Jews continued to build and prosper under the preaching of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah, a descendant of Iddo...." Notice the underlined words in the verse. Those two prophets—Haggai and Zechariah—brought them the Word of God. And the result was the encouragement of the people, and they grew and multiplied.

That's amazing. It tells us the place of the Word—the importance and transforming power of God's Word. It makes no difference if you're into business or you're a student; irrespective of your vocation, you need the Word for your life. There's no substitute for that. You have to keep learning and meditating on

the Word of God for guidance, encouragement and strength. Through the ministry of the Word, the wisdom and skill you require for your next level are imparted to you. The Word helps to build your spirit strong, so you can face anything and win in any situation.

God surely does have a plan for your success; He's made adequate provision for your prosperity, but He doesn't do anything outside of His Word. In 3 John 1:2, He said, "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." Your soul prospers through conscious meditation on the Word.

## **CONFESSION**

I'm yielded to the ministry of the Word of God in my life. I'm the seed of Abraham, blessed to be a blessing, and I prosper by the Word, in the Name of Jesus. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Timothy 4:15; Acts 20:32

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 23:12-35 & Job 40-42

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 4:12-20 & Isaiah 35





THURSDAY 16

## **RECKON YOURSELF ALIVE IN HIM**



For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord (Romans 6:10-11).

The word "reckon" in the scripture above is "logizomai" in Greek. It's an accounting term. It means to count or record something to be so; to record or number with the sum. For instance, Mark 15:28 says Jesus was "numbered" (reckoned) with the transgressors. Jesus wasn't a transgressor, yet He died between two thieves. He was numbered with the transgressors.

Now, the Bible says, "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4). When Jesus died, we died in and with Him, because He died in our place. He was on the Cross on behalf of everybody that ever came to this world and that'll ever come to this world.

That's what our theme verse is talking about when it says, "...Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord." Therefore, you can now declare, "I'm dead to sin, and I'm alive to God!" This

should be your constant confession of the Word. You may not feel like you're close to God, but the question is, are you born again? If yes, then take it to account, reckon that all that Jesus did was for you.

Instead of saying, "I'm so weak; I'm not able to resist temptation like some other Christians," reckon or consider yourself to be dead to sin! Don't think, talk or act like someone who's struggling with sin. Change your way of thinking and accept what Jesus did in your behalf. This consciousness will empower you to live right!

Use your mind! Reckon yourself to be dead to sin. Let it be your present-hour mentality. That's the practical way to be in sync with how God sees you and how He thinks about you. You were in Christ when He died, you were in Him when He was buried, and you were in Him when He was raised from the dead. He sees you alive in Him now. Praise God.

## **CONFESSION**

I'm alive to God, and I belong in the Kingdom of His dear Son where I reign and rule by the power of the Spirit! I walk in the finished works of Christ, being the direct beneficiary of His vicarious sacrifice. I'm strong, because He's strong! And I live because He lives! Blessed be God!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 2:1; Romans 6:4; Romans 6:10-11 NIV

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 24:1-27 & Psalms 1-6

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 4:21-31 & Isaiah 36





FRIDAY 17

## THE WORD IS FOOD INDEED



For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed (John 6:55 NKJV).

There are some who still cry to God to fill them afresh, to satisfy their spiritual thirst or hunger. It's a baseless cry and may yield no results. He knew we were hungry and He sent the Bread from heaven. Today, any Christian who's begging and crying to God to be filled is wasting his or her time.

When Jesus said, "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled" (Matthew 5:6), He was only introducing the message that He brought to the Jews; the New Testament hadn't begun yet. He wasn't talking to the Christian, the new creation.

In John 6:35, He said, "...I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst." That bread is available to anyone who comes to Him. The question then is: have you come to Him? If you're born again, yes! You're in Him through the New Birth; so why are you still hungry? The Bread has come; Jesus is the Bread from heaven (John 6:41).

Also, from our theme verse, we read that His Word is the Bread, because Jesus and His Word are one.

John 1:14 says, "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us...." So, if you're experiencing spiritual hunger, what should you do? How do you get filled? "Eat" the Word; get under the ministry of the Word of God. Even now, as the Word of God is coming to you through this devotional, you're being fed; you're being nourished spiritually.

The Bible says, "...Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). Rather than sing and cry, "Lord, I'm hungry for you," study the Scriptures, for only the Word of God satisfies your hunger. Now you can understand why the prophet said, "Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts" (Jeremiah 15:16).

## CONFESSION

My hunger has been quenched through the Word of Christ which dwells in me richly in all wisdom and spiritual understanding. My life is upward and forward only; I'm fruitful in every good work as I increase in the knowledge of God, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

John 6:35; Acts 20:32; 1 Peter 2:2

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 25:1-12 & Psalms 7-10

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 5:1-12 & Isaiah 37





SATURDAY 18

## **CONQUER YOURSELF**



For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

(Mark 8:36-37).

Throughout history, there have been hundreds of well-known leaders who subdued other men. The whole world was subject to them; they had everything under their tyranny. Some were even so revered and placed by others in the class of God. But Jesus said, "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Mark 8:36-37).

Never pride yourself in your ability to subdue or dominate others; rather, learn to use your authority over yourself. Conquer yourself! That's when you really win: when you say to yourself, "I'm going to do the right thing and say the right thing only," and keep at it.

When your words and actions are under your charge, consciously subjected to God's Word, then you're ready for true success. When you tell yourself, "Nothing filthy will come out of me" and consciously ensure such a lifestyle through the Word, that's the way of victory.

Refuse to give vent or expression to satanic manifestations such as anger, hatred, bitterness, jealousy and envy. Be sure that only the blessings, grace and compassion of Jesus are seen and experienced by everyone around you. Make the choice that only His love and works of righteousness will effuse from you to your world.

## **PRAYER**

Blessed Father, I thank you for the blessing and privilege to receive your Word. My mind is stayed on your Word; the Spirit of excellence at work in me brings discipline and stability into my life, to produce fruits of righteousness and manifest your love, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Corinthians 9:25-27 NLT; Proverbs 25:28 AMPC; Proverbs 16:32 CEV

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 25:13-26:1 & Psalms 11-16

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 5:13-19 & Isaiah 38





## BE CONCERNED ABOUT THE PAINS OF OTHERS



Stoop down and reach out to those who are oppressed. Share their burdens, and so complete Christ's law (Galatians 6:2 MSG).

ears ago, as a teenager, I'd cry so hard in prayer, because of many in the world who didn't know the Lord; the suffering humanity of sinners, the sick and the needy. I felt the burden and thought the responsibility to do something about the pain of broken people around the world rested on me. I'd wake up at night, praying with tears, because of the needy, the poor and the afflicted.

That motivated me to go from house to house, to hospitals, schools, and villages, preaching the Gospel, and I'm still at it today. Don't shut your heart to the plight of suffering humanity. Too many people are going through so much. The suffering isn't just the man who has lost his job; how about his children who probably can't further their education as a result? Think about little children who may have lost both parents; how terrible life must be for them. Their future has turned bleak.

Many families are going through tough times because of a loved one who's sick or has died; all these should get your attention to pray and increase your passion and speed for spreading the Gospel. If we can save more, there'd be less pain. Don't be overly concerned about your situation that you forget what others are going through.

Your blessing is in blessing others. You're lifted when you lift others. Therefore, explore every available and innovative means to reach out to those who are suffering and in pain. Don't ignore their cries.

## **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the wonderful works of salvation; thank you for the glorious Gospel of Christ through which life and immortality are unveiled. I'm committed to its spread around the world, and many are brought out of sin, poverty and affliction into the glorious life in Christ. Your Word is growing and prevailing in nations of the world, delivering men and women into their inheritance in Christ, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Galatians 6:10 AMPC; 1 John 3:17 GNB; Romans 15:1

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 26:2-18 & Psalms 17-18

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 5:20-26 & Isaiah 39





MONDAY 20

## WISDOM AND DIRECTION FROM THE WORD



I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever... (Ecclesiastes 3:14).

The Word of God can be applied to everything in life. The wisdom therein is all-encompassing. 2 Timothy 3:15 says the Scriptures are able to make you wise; wise unto salvation, causing the glory of God to be revealed in you. The more you study the Scriptures, the more refined and accurate your ideas will be: ideas for creativity, innovation, perfection, strategy, health and prosperity.

This is something many Jews in Israel understand and take advantage of; they take their ideas for arts, science, technology and even their military from the Holy Scriptures. They understand that God-inspired ideas are unfailing; hence their amazing victories and prosperity.

Your God-inspired ideas will survive and beat every obstacle and system of this world. When there's a crash in the economy, for example, you'll keep making progress, because you play from a higher realm; your ideas and strategies come from the wisdom of the Spirit, through the Word. Blessed be God!

Think about it: who would have thought that David, with a stone and a sling, would take out Goliath,

the giant of Gath, the champion of the Philistines? (1 Samuel 17:50). How could anyone explain how Isaac dug and found water in the same arid place everyone else had abandoned? He acted on divine insight that came to him from the Lord.

He was about to relocate as a result of the drought, but God said, "Stay in this land and I'll prosper you"; the same land where there was famine. He simply did what God asked him to do, and the Bible says he "... waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great" (Genesis 26:13). Don't follow the world's principles and ideas for success. Open your heart to the Holy Spirit and His Word for wisdom and the right ideas you need for a life of ever-increasing glory, success and prosperity.

## **CONFESSION**

Every piece of information I require for my next level of success is accessible to me. I have an extraordinary amplitude of comprehension; I'm full of the wisdom of the Spirit, through the Word, and I make great things happen in my life and in the lives of others. I see the invisible and do the impossible, for my mind is anointed for extraordinary ideas for success. Glory to God!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Proverbs 2:6 AMPC; Ephesians 1:17-18; Psalm 119:105

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 26:19-32 & Psalms 19-20

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 6:1-9 & Isaiah 40





## TUESDAY 21

## "CHRIST IN YOU" —THE ONE THING NEEDFUL



To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory (Colossians 1:27).

Some people lament how they've done everything they know to do, yet their lives are still at variance with the realities of God's Word. They ask such questions as, "What more should I do to prosper?" "What more should I do to be healed?" They're faced with these and other questions in their lives for which they seek answers.

Now, I've got something to tell you about this and it's very important: One day, I was having this wonderful fellowship with the Lord about the amazing things that the prophets did in the Old Testament and the amazing abilities that He gave to His children. As I cogitated on these things, looking through the Scriptures, I pondered, "What does God want? What's His plan? If we were to ask Him for anything, what should we ask for?"

Then, the Lord said to me, "Whatever good thing you could ever desire is nothing compared to the 'one thing needful,' which you already have: Christ in you!" Christ in you covers everything; it's the biggest thing we got from God. Your recognition and acknowledgement of this truth will stop your hunger and desire for

anything else; you'll virtually find it foolish asking God for anything else.

If you can only accept that Christ has taken up His residence in the quarters of your heart, it'll change your life. Everything that He gives, is in Him. Everything that He is, is in Him. Remember, the fullness of the Godhead—the totality of divinity—bodily dwells in Christ Jesus; and we're complete in Him. If this is true, then what else do you want?

That's why Paul said, "All things are yours"; the world is yours (1 Corinthians 3:21-22). Once you have this consciousness, the world becomes so small to you. Your boldness becomes so strong; you'll have no fear of the future, no fear of darkness, failure or lack; because in Him, you have, and you've overcome all things; you're more than a conqueror. Blessed be His Name forever!

## **CONFESSION**

All things are mine. I have a healthy, prosperous, vibrant and successful life, for Christ has taken up His residence in the quarters of my heart. I have nothing to fear: no fear of the future; no fear of the dark; no fear of failure, because Christ in me is my assurance of a life of continuous triumph and eternal glory. Blessed be God!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Corinthians 3:16; 1 Corinthians 6:17; Colossians 2:9-10

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 27:1-26 & Psalms 21-22

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 6:10-18 & Isaiah 41





Every year, the biggest Gospel carnival is held across the nations of the world, where copies of the world's most translated and widely distributed devotional, Rhapsody of Realities, are distributed in streets, schools, hospitals, stadiums, and many other places. These campaigns create huge opportunities for the propagation of the Gospel.

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## X otes




WEDNESDAY 22

## PRAYER STRENGTHENS YOU TO DO HIS WILL



And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him (Luke 22:43).

ne of the many benefits of prayer is that it strengthens you against unbelief, to do God's will. Unbelief isn't only about not demonstrating faith for what you want from God. Unbelief is also a refusal to act as God said we should act. Imagine that you're unhappy about something and you want to take a certain action, and the Spirit says, "No need; let the matter go." Yet, you go ahead with your decision; that's unbelief.

Think about Moses in Numbers 20; God instructed him to speak to the rock and water would come out of the rock for the children of Israel to drink. But being angry at the people, Moses "struck" the rock twice, instead of "speaking" to the rock. The Lord was displeased and said to Moses and Aaron, "...Because ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them" (Numbers 20:12). Moses' disobedience was a result of unbelief; God said so.

Perhaps, if he had done as God instructed, he'd have been healed of the anger and frustration with the people. This is part of the reasons for prayer. In the place of prayer, you're supposed to give up the

consciousness of everything else and everybody else. When you're in prayer, you give up offences, and humbly fellowship in God's presence. Your spirit is calm from every disturbance or distraction. At that moment, you can yield to His love and direction.

Even if you had a lot of things you wanted to tell Him, sometimes He interrupts you; He starts talking before you talk. Suddenly, all the doubt, anger and frustration will disappear, and you're strengthened. This happened with Jesus as He prayed during that moment of anguish; the Bible says, "...there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him" (Luke 22:43). In the place of prayer, He received strength to do the will of the Father.

So, pray more, especially in these last days. The more frequently you pray, the more you're pulled by the Spirit's mind, to His ways, strategy and direction. Hallelujah!

## **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for your peace that garrisons my heart and mind. Thank you for the opportunity of fellowship with you in prayer and being strengthened to do your will, and live for your glory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Philippians 2:13; Romans 8:26-27; Isaiah 40:31

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 27:27-44 & Psalms 23-25

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 1:1-14 & Isaiah 42





THURSDAY 23

## SUBJECT YOUR PLANS AND DESIRES TO HIM



I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service (Romans 12:1).

ftentimes, people have desires that aren't in sync with God's plan. They don't care about God's will, as a result, they do whatever they choose, hoping somehow God would accept their actions. They try to force their will on Him, but it doesn't work that way. Ask, "Why are you taking these actions?" and they'd tell you, "I prayed about it." As far as they're concerned, God ought to accept their actions and choices since they "prayed" about it. That's absurd!

There's a difference between doing something because you "prayed" about it and doing something because God said so and that's His will for you. The latter is the best and safest place to be; fulfilling God's purpose for your life. Never find yourself doing things for which you think you don't need God's approval. That a plan, an idea or desire has been in your heart all your life doesn't mean it came from God.

There're people who are born with demons right from birth. Some others receive demons while growing

in an environment that's littered with evil, wickedness and demonic manifestations. It's one of the reasons some people grow up with morbid desires that stay with them for many years and finally, they act on them.

But now that you're born again, God expects you to present your body to Him, as a living sacrifice. Also, your mind must be yielded to His Word; your heart must be regulated by the Word. This is the reason for meditation. Meditating on the Word guards your thoughts in the things of God, in the direction of His plans and purpose for your life. Don't act on carnal desires of the mind that are inspired by the world and its systems. Stay focused on the Word.

## **CONFESSION**

My spirit, soul and body are filled with God; I give vent only to His thoughts, ideas and desires. He's at work in me both to will and to do of His good pleasure. My life is the expression of His will and glory. Hallelujah!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 12:1-2; Proverbs 3:5 AMPC

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 28:1-16 & Psalms 26-29

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 1:15-23 & Isaiah 43





FRIDAY 24

## **LOVE LIKE HE DID**



And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise (Luke 10:37).

The words in our opening verse are a part of the Lord's dialogue with a certain lawyer who asked Him in Luke 10:25, "...Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

In His response, Jesus told the parable of the Good Samaritan: a traveller had been stripped of his clothing, beaten and left half-dead by the roadside. First, a priest, and then a Pharisee, came by, but both avoided the man. Finally, a Samaritan helped the injured man.

Then as read in our theme verse, Jesus said to the inquisitive lawyer, "...Go, and do thou likewise" (Luke 10:37); in other words, do what the Samaritan did. How does this apply to you today? Ephesians 5:1 tells us to be emulators of God in love.

Everything about God and His eternal Kingdom centres on His love. He wants everyone in the world to know how much He loves them. The Bible says, "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" (John 3:16). His love is the basis for everything and He gave us the honour

to demonstrate that love and preach it everywhere, because it's been shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5).

Commit yourself to helping others know Christ and experience His love. Let your life portray Him at all times. That's what the Samaritan did; he epitomised the love of God, and we're to do likewise.

## **PRAYER**

Precious Father, I thank you for the message of salvation through which I've been made your righteousness in Christ Jesus. And now, I'm honoured with the responsibility of propagating this Gospel of your love to my world. I'm constantly compelled from within to tell of your love and manifest your grace for your glory and praise, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 5:1-2; John 13:34-35

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 28:17-31 & Psalms 30-31

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 2:1-10 & Isaiah 44





## SATURDAY 25

## **KEEPING YOURSELF IN HEALTH**



My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh (Proverbs 4:20-22).

The Word of God is medicine; it has curative powers. If you'd meditate on the Word, it'll destroy every, and any form of disease and infirmity in your body. The Bible says, "He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions" (Psalm 107:20).

God's Word is the solution to every challenge. Its potency and efficacy are undeniable. As you meditate on the Word, a metamorphosis takes place in your life. If you're facing challenges in your health, don't despair. Get a hold of God's Word and there'll be a change.

The Word of God does much more for your spirit than physical food does for your body. Stay in the Word, and you'll always be healthy and sound. Meditating on the Word will cure the blood condition, get rid of the HIV and any infectious virus; it'll heal your bones, heart and skin and produce life in you! It'll cure that nerotic wound that has defied treatment. Speak the Word to that infirmity; talk to the cancer; talk to the diabetes. Command that they be healed, and it shall be so. Keep yourself in health with the Word.

## **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for your Word is medicine and life to my body. I'm born of the incorruptible seed of your Word; therefore, my life is sustained by your Word, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Psalm 107:17-20; Matthew 8:16; Psalm 34:12-13

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 1:1-17 & Psalms 32-34

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 2:11-22 & Isaiah 45



Leave comments on today's devotional at www.rhapsodyofrealities.org



## SUNDAY 26

## DEAD TO SIN, ALIVE TO GOD



Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord (Romans 6:11).

The verse above reveals a profound present-hour truth about the new creation: he's dead to sin and alive to God! This is the perspective you should have of the Christian life; you're to reckon (count) yourself to be dead to sin and alive to God. To be "alive to God" means to be awakened to His reality and realm of life, to be in conscious fellowship with Him.

Ephesians 2:1 AMPC says, "AND YOU [He made alive], when you were dead (slain) by [your] trespasses and sins." When Jesus died, you died in Him; when He was raised back to life, you came alive with Him. Colossians 2:13-14 (ESV) says, "And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross."

This is simply amazing! Before you were made alive with Christ, your sins and the ordinances that were against you were nailed to the Cross. In other words, both your sins and what caused them to be sin in the first place were all nailed to the Cross.

1 Corinthians 15:56 lets us know that the strength of sin is the Law; however, the very thing that gave life to sin, which is the Law, has been abolished by Jesus (Ephesians 2:15). He gave you victory over sin, death, and the grave. See yourself in this light.

The Word of God is Light, and it's also a mirror that shows who you really are. 2 Corinthians 3:18 says, "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." Now, the Word says you're dead to sin and alive to God; as you contemplate that reality in the Word, you're metamorphosed into that truth—into the same image that is revealed in the mirror.

The image in the mirror is of one who's dead to sin but alive to God and His righteousness. Your response should be, "Blessed be God! I'm dead to sin, and alive to God. I'm alive to His realm of life." Walk in this reality. Hallelujah!

## CONFESSION

I'm alive to God, awakened to the realities of the Kingdom! He's real to me, in me and through me! I hear and know His voice; I know His thoughts, His will, and walk in His divine destiny for me. Hallelujah!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 6:7-11; Ephesians 2:1-6

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 1:18-32 & Psalms 35-37

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 3:1-12 & Isaiah 46





MONDAY 27

## DOMINION OVER DEATH



Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him (Romans 6:9).

The scripture above is one of the most amazing verses in all of Romans 6 because of its implications. It doesn't say, "Knowing that Jesus being raised from the dead dieth no more..."; rather, it says, "... Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more...." The Question is, who is Christ?

Christ is Jesus and His body-the Church! Jesus is the head, and the Church is His body. The head and the body form Christ. When it's personalized, it's "Jesus." In certain cases, a title is added to it to call Him "Jesus Christ" or "Christ Jesus." But every time you're studying the New Testament and you see "Christ", except the context dictates otherwise, it means Jesus and the Church. His body.

If death has no more dominion over the head, it doesn't have dominion over the hand, over the legs or any other part of the body. Verse 10 says, "For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God." What a verse! You ought to read this and declare, "I'm alive from the dead!" Have that consciousness!

Death has no dominion over you because through Jesus Christ, you have eternal life; you've been brought into life and immortality (2 Timothy 1:10). Therefore, be fearless, for death has been paralysed; defeated by Jesus. Hebrews 2:14-15 says, "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage."

When Jesus defeated death, we were in Him. Together with Him, we've triumphed over death and the grave. No wonder it says in 1 Corinthians 15:54-55, "...Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?"

## **CONFESSION**

I'm crucified with Christ, nevertheless, I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God! I'm free from sin and death. I'm a partaker of the divine nature! Glory to God!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Corinthians 15:55-57; Romans 8:1-2; John 5:24

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 2 & Psalms 38-41

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 3:13-21 & Isaiah 47





TUESDAY 28

## **BORN SIN-FREE**



Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness (Romans 6:18).

aul had difficulty communicating the truth in the verse above due to the limitation of language. He said in the next verse, "I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh..." (Romans 6:19). The Message translation says, "I'm using this freedom language because it's easy to picture..." (Romans 6:19 MSG). He had to bring the discussion to a seeming mundane level that they could relate with.

The reality is that the new creation wasn't "set free" from sin; rather, he was born sin-free; there's a difference between the two. Born sin-free means you were born without sin. This is easy to understand when you realise that the new creation is the result of the resurrection (not the death) of Jesus Christ. Your new life started with the resurrection of Jesus Christ: "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4).

2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature..."; a new species or kind of man, born in righteousness with no past of sin to be set free from. In Christianity, we don't get set free; we're free-born! That's the reality for the one who's born again. You're sin-free. No wonder Romans 6:14 says, "For sin shall not have dominion over you...."

The concept of sin can't be properly understood until you have a good understanding of the doctrine of righteousness. So, when the Bible says, "For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness" (Romans 6:20), the expression "free from righteousness" actually means righteousness-free or you were "righteousness-exempt." In other words, you were a slave of sin, and couldn't practise righteousness.

However, now that you're born again, it's the reverse; you can practise righteousness and produce fruits and works of righteousness because that's your nature in Christ Jesus. Hallelujah!

## **CONFESSION**

I'm a new creation, a new kind of man; old things are passed away and all things have become new. I walk in righteousness and produce works and fruits of righteousness. Glory to God!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 6:4-7

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 3 & Psalms 42-44

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 4:1-10 & Isaiah 48





The 1-Year Global Pray-A-Thon is ongoing. The 24-hour non-stop prayer marathon kicked off on Monday, January  $6^{th}$  2020, and will run throughout the year till January  $6^{th}$  2021!

Make sure you're vitally involved in this glorious opportunity to fulfill your priestly ministry as a Christian, especially in these last days. You can participate by:

- Taking out at least 15 minutes anytime each day of the week to join in the global prayers.
- Participating in the regular prayer times of 12 noon and 10pm (Local/GMT) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

To join the live stream of the Global Pray-A-Thon, please follow the Pastor Chris Live SuperUser on KingsChat.

#### X otes




WEDNESDAY 29

## HE'S ABLE TO KEEP YOU FROM FALLING



Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen (Jude 1:24-25).

The scripture above is just so comforting; the Lord is able to keep you from falling and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy. This is part of His ministry in your life. Glory to His Name forever! If we had read that "He picks you up each time you fall," that would have been wonderful. But His job isn't to pick you up each time you fall, but to keep you from falling.

Some believe that as Christians, we fall and then we get up, but that's not what the Word says. Don't believe in falling. Accept what the Word of God says rather than your experiences or that of others. Accepting and living out God's Word is where the power and glory is. Every time you affirm the Word, it produces in you what it says. Therefore, rather than have a rising and falling mentality, every so often, declare, "The Lord is able to keep me from falling;

therefore, none of my steps shall slide. I'm up all the time, steadfast, immoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. Glory to God!"

Irrespective of the happenings around you, be bold to declare, "My life is upward and forward only; I'm standing strong in faith; nothing shakes me; I'm deeply rooted in Christ, the Solid Rock, and He never lets me fall!" Make this your contemplation and understanding of Christ, and His ministry in your life will be fulfilled. Blessed be God!

#### **CONFESSION**

I have a life that's upward and forward only; no ups and downs, because in Christ, I'm forever up! He upholds me with His right hand of righteousness that I may never stumble. My path is of a shining light, shining brighter and brighter unto the perfect day. Hallelujah!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Proverbs 4:18; 2 Peter 1:8-10; Jude 1:24-25 TPT

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 4 & Psalms 45-48

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 4:11-16 & Isaiah 49





# THURSDAY 30 KEEP INFLUENCING YOUR WORLD WITH THE GOSPEL



And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned (Mark 16:15-16).

Preaching the Gospel isn't something you choose to do or not to do; it's your calling; it's your primary responsibility on earth to win souls.

2 Corinthians 5:18 says God has reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ, and has given to us the ministry of reconciliation. Your commitment to the Lord must reflect in your dedication to soul-winning. Be absolute about this. Paul said, "I'm compelled to preach the Gospel, and doomed if I don't" (1 Corinthians 9:16). This isn't about convenience; it's required of you; it's a responsibility for which you'll give account and be rewarded of the Lord when He judges His saints.

1 Corinthians 4:1-2 says, "Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful." Be faithful in reaching others with the Gospel. The Apostles lived for this cause. Many have suffered severe persecutions and

some were killed for preaching the Gospel.

Therefore, even if you were reviled or disdained for preaching Christ, keep at it. Keep influencing and impacting your world positively with the power of God in His Gospel. Be exceedingly passionate about this because the time is short.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for giving me the opportunity and ability to influence those in my world with the Gospel. Testimonies of salvation abound today, all around the world, as the Gospel is preached and received gladly. Thank you for your blessings and bountiful provisions in my life, and for the boldness and courage you've granted me to proclaim the Gospel with power, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Matthew 28:19-20; 1 Corinthians 9:16-17

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 5:1-11 & Psalms 49-51

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 4:17-24 & Isaiah 50





FRIDAY 31

#### HIS POWER, GLORY AND RIGHTFOUSNESS



O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is; To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary (Psalm 63:1-2).

ven though the glory of God and the power of God are interchangeably used in Scripture sometimes, they're not exactly the same. For example, when Moses was asked of the Lord to talk to the rock, what God wanted was for His glory to be manifested. But Moses rather struck the rock, and God's power was manifested.

However, from God's response to Moses, we know He wasn't pleased because He reprimanded Moses by saying, "You didn't glorify me before the people" (Numbers 20:11-12). So, here's the point: the glory is greater than the power because the glory includes not only the power of God but also the grace and righteousness of God. The glory of God, actually, is the term that encapsulates all of His splendour and His righteousness. He manifests His righteousness in His glory.

His power is manifested through us to accomplish His purpose. Nonetheless, that power could be abused as Paul indicates in 1 Corinthians 9:18: "What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel." Thus, it's possible for someone to misuse the power of God but you can never misuse the glory of God.

Always, what God wants is for us to manifest His glory, and to do that, you have to walk in His grace and in His righteousness as well; they all go together.

#### **PRAYER**

Thank you Lord, for you've made me a light in a dark world, and my light shines everywhere. I impact my world, not only with your power, but with your glory, righteousness, wisdom and love today and always, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

John 2:11; Matthew 6:13b; 1 Peter 2:9 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 5:12-21 & Psalms 52-55

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 4:25-32 & Isaiah 51





We trust you have been blessed by this devotional. We invite you to make Jesus Christ the Lord of your life by praying thus:

"O Lord God, I believe with all my heart in Jesus Christ, Son of the living God. I believe He died for me and God raised Him from the dead. I believe He's alive today. I confess with my mouth that Jesus Christ is the Lord of my life from this day. Through Him and in His Name, I have eternal life; I'm born again. Thank you Lord, for saving my soul! I'm now a child of God. Hallelujah!"

Congratulations! You are now a child of God. To receive more information on how you can grow as a Christian, please get in touch with us through any of the contacts below:

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Pastor Chris Oyakhilome, the President of LoveWorld Inc., a dynamic, multifaceted, global ministry, is the author of Rhapsody of Realities, the world's #1 daily devotional, and more than 30 other books. He's a dedicated minister of God's Word whose message has brought the reality of the divine life to the hearts of many.

Millions have been affected by his television broadcast, "Atmosphere For Miracles," which brings God's divine presence right into people's homes. The scope of his television ministry extends throughout the world with LoveWorld satellite television networks, delivering qualitative Christian programming to a global audience.

At the world-renowned Healing School, he manifests the healing works of Jesus Christ and has helped many receive healing through the operation of the gifts of the Spirit.

Pastor Chris has a passion to reach the peoples of the world with God's presence—a divine commission he's fulfilled for more than 30 years through various outreaches, crusades, as well as several other platforms that have helped millions experience a victorious and purposeful life in God's Word.





#### "Rhapsody Changes Hearts"

Growing up in a Muslim family, I was never allowed to go to Church. I came in contact with Rhapsody of Realities as a teenager and got born again. Each time I talked about Christ, my father would beat me till he inflicted injuries on me. One day, I was led to share an article from Rhapsody of Realities with my family, and to the glory of God, they all listened patiently. I prayed for them, and to my utmost surprise, my father gave his life to Christ. Rhapsody changed my father's heart! Praise God!

-ZA; Nigeria

#### "Delivered From Depression"

I used to suffer from chronic depression and my spiritual life was spiraling downwards. One day, while scrolling through one of my social media pages, I found a Rhapsody of Realities article posted by a friend. I read it and decided to download the month's edition. Since then, my life has been upward and forward only. The depression is gone and my life has gotten sweeter. Praise God!

-M K; Kenya

#### "Rhapsody Provides Answers"

Life was difficult for me and my family. I had no job, and we barely had enough to feed. My wife and I started searching for answers and we found them in Rhapsody of Realities when someone gave us a free copy. We began practising the words contained in the devotional. Not long afterward, I got a good job and many other blessings followed. Since then, we've experienced growth in every area of our lives. Praise God!



## Rhapsody of Realities

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# Rhapsody of Realities

## Chris Oyakhilome



Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

A KEY FOR OTHER BIBLE VERSIONS USED:

NKJV -New King James Version
AMP -The Amplified Bible

AMPC -The Amplified Classic Bible
TANT -The Amplified New Translation

TLB -The Living Bible

CEV -Contemporary English Version NASB -New American Standard Bible ISV/ -International Standard Version NIV -New International Version MSG -The Message Translation WFB -The World English Bible TNLT -The New Living Translation ASV -American Standard Version TFV -Todav's English Version RSV -Revised Standard Version

GNB -Good News Bible

WNT -Weymouth New Testament
NRSV -New Revised Standard Version

MOFFAT -Moffatt New Translation WESNT -Wesley New Testament

EBR -Rotherham's Emphasized Bible

DRB -Douay-Rheims Bible
TPT -The Passion Translation

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### Introduction

urray! Your favourite daily devotional, Rhapsody of Realities, is now available in 2010 languages and still counting. Now in its 20<sup>th</sup> year in print, the 2020 edition of the devotional has been packaged to enhance your spiritual growth and development and position you for resounding success throughout the year.

The life-changing truths in this edition will refresh, transform and prepare you for a very fulfilling, fruitful, and rewarding experience with God's Word.

#### - HOW TO USE THIS DEVOTIONAL FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT

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- Go through the entire Bible in one year with the one-year reading plan, or in two years with the two-year reading plan.
- You can also split the daily Bible reading portions into two parts—morning and evening reading.
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PERSONAL INFORMATION

# Rhapsody of Realities ... A DAILY DEVOTIONAL

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SATURDAY 1

#### SERVE THE LORD WITH YOUR LIFE



For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it (Luke 9:24).

certain man advised his son who was a Christian against being too active for Jesus Christ. He was concerned that the son could lose his life for serving Jesus Christ and preaching the Gospel. But the son replied, "Dad, I'm only doing what Jesus said I should do; I'm serving Him with my life."

The man was offended and said with acerbity, "You're doing what Jesus said you should do? That's why He died young; at thirty-three! They killed Him!" Like that man, there're many who neither understand Christ's purpose, nor the meaning of life. It's not how long you live; it's about the life you live.

The truth is, for such people, the issue really isn't that they want to live long or want their loved ones to live long. If that were the case, God promised them eternity; their real problem is the fear of death.

As long as the fear of death dominates a man, he can't live to his best potentials; he can't fulfil his calling in life. He'll say and do things he really doesn't believe, all in a bid to save his life. But we read in our opening verse, "...whosoever will save his life shall <u>lose it</u>...." Live your life for Christ unreservedly! You've got to be able so say, "Come what may, I stand for Jesus Christ and His Kingdom! I'll preach the Gospel, no matter what!"

Remember what He said in Luke 10:19, "Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you." As you go about preaching the Gospel, especially in these last days, be fearless, for the Lord Himself is your defence. Even now, He's saying to you the very same words He said to the Apostle Paul in Acts 18:10, "For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city."

#### **CONFESSION**

I live in the realm of life, where death has no power. I'm crucified with Christ; nevertheless, I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me, and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God who loved me and gave Himself for me. Hallelujah!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Colossians 3:23-24; 1 Corinthians 15:58; Acts 20:24

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 6:1-14 & Psalms 56-59

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 5:1-8 & Isaiah 52





#### SUNDAY 2

#### **EXAMINE YOUR OWN FAITH**



Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves... (2 Corinthians 13:5).

There're those who think the Lord permits calamities or is responsible for misfortunes that people suffer. It's like the fellow who lamented, "I'm out serving God, working for Him every day; yet, He allowed the devil to kill my baby." But that can't be true! The Lord isn't responsible for evil or the mishaps that people experience; it's not consistent with His nature. He is love personified; there's no darkness in Him.

Whatever you may have suffered that's inconsistent with the provisions of Christ in His Gospel, didn't come from God. Life is spiritual and you're responsible for your life—the things that happen with you. It's about your faith and how you use it. Jesus said in Matthew 17:20, "...If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you." This is a sovereign declaration; the question is, what are you doing with your faith? How are you putting your faith to work?

The Bible says, "Now the just shall live by faith..." (Hebrews 10:38). Using your faith to deal with the crises of life every day is your responsibility. James

1:22 says, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." That's the key; doing the Word. You act your faith by "doing" the Word; we're Word practitioners.

If things aren't working out as you expect them to, the fault isn't with God, for He is perfect. Since He's perfect, then you have to check elsewhere for what might have gone wrong. It could be that you didn't understand Him or His Word well enough. Perhaps you didn't do exactly what He said; or maybe your timing was wrong. Therefore, the right thing to do will be to examine your own faith as read in our theme verse.

The life of faith given to us isn't a deception. The Lord isn't hiding behind faith so He wouldn't do what He said He'd do. Faith always works. If it didn't work, then it wasn't faith. Keep growing your faith by increasing your knowledge of the Word.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, you're perfect and in you there's no variableness, neither shadow of turning. I take charge of my life, growing my faith through the Word and strengthening it by use. I thus produce victories and triumphs in every situation and circumstance, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Psalm 18:30; 2 Corinthians 1:20; Hebrews 13:8

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 6:15-7:1-6 & Psalms 60-63

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 5:9-16 & Isaiah 53





MONDAY 3

#### **GIVING THANKS ALWAYS**



Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ (Ephesians 5:20).

The human brain is divided into two major parts: the right side and the left side. The left side is what you use to analyze, calculate and plan. It also makes excuses. If, for example, there're tasks for you to accomplish, but you say, "I'm not sure I'll be able to do this for such-and-such a reason," that's the left side of your brain working. It produces reasons for success or failure.

The right side of your brain, on the other hand, is the one that spontaneously catches pictures, creates imaginations, and gives answers. It produces creativity, beauty, colours. But sadly, because the world around us is mostly sense-ruled, we're taught to reason more. Therefore, most people depend on the analytical side of their brain (the left side), and as a result, they're not creative; they don't produce clear-cut answers.

However, it's important to note that the right side of your brain can be activated, and one of the best ways of achieving this is what God shows us in our theme verse: "Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father...." God knows this works, because He created you. He knows if you're always thankful, you'll have an attitude of joy in spite of your

situation and be able to create answers and solutions. Here, you'll see colours, beauty and the brighter side of life.

Therefore, learn to give thanks always for all things. It makes no difference that you're in debt or many who are owing you money are unable to pay; give thanks! Your landlord may have given you a notice to quit; give thanks nonetheless! Perhaps you heard that the company or organisation where you work is retrenching workers and your name is on the list, give thanks! Irrespective of such challenges, give thanks!

The Bible lets us know that giving thanks in all things is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Hebrews 13:15 says, "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name." When you have this attitude—the thanksgiving attitude—your life will be one of victory, glory, joy and unending testimonies. Hallelujah!

#### **PRAYER**

Blessed Father, you're gracious and kind! From the depth of my heart, I'm grateful for your grace, mercy, wisdom and power by which I live triumphantly today, prospering in all that I do, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Thessalonians 5:18 AMPC; 1 Chronicles 16:8-10

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 7:7-25 & Psalms 64-67

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 5:17-24 & Isaiah 54





TUESDAY 4

#### LIVING ON GOD'S WORD



And he said unto them, Where is your faith? And they being afraid wondered, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! for he commandeth even the winds and water, and they obey him (Luke 8:25).

A certain young man was deathly ill, and thought he'd die. On a certain Friday evening, he was brought to me. After explaining to me what the problems were, I said to him, "See me on Sunday."

Later on, as he shared his testimony, he said, "When Pastor Chris said to me, 'See me on Sunday,' I knew I wasn't going to die before Sunday, because I'll have to see him." He held on to the word to see me on Sunday. We ministered to him eventually and he was miraculously restored.

That's how to live your life on the Word of God; you take the Word that's come to you from God and anchor your life on it; you live by it. It also brings to mind an experience between Jesus and His disciples on a certain occasion. He had said to them, "…Let us go over unto the other side of the lake…" (Luke 8:22). During the sail, it became so stormy that the disciples were terrified and cried to the Master saying, "…Master, master, we perish…" (Luke 8:24).

The Master's response to them is what we read in our theme verse. He asked them, "Where is your faith?" His question wasn't about the wind and the storm. Rather, He was saying, "I told you we're going to the other side, and if I said that, then we must arrive at the other side, irrespective of the boisterous and tempestuous wind; we don't perish on the way!" He was saying, "You should have relied on my words."

It makes no difference what's going on around you, refuse to be agitated. Don't be flustered by the economic or political wind around you; live your life on God's Word. Stay your life on His word and know that until you've fulfilled it, nothing can stop you; nothing can destroy you. Go about God's business, preaching the Gospel unafraid and unintimidated. The greater One lives in you. Hallelujah!

#### **CONFESSION**

I'm completely yielded to the ministry of the Word, and through study and meditation, the Word mingles with my spirit, producing in me the message it carries. I respond to situations and circumstances from the standpoint of the Word. Therefore, I live victoriously every day, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Joshua 1:9; Luke 10:19; 1 John 4:4

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 8:1-17 & Psalms 68-69

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 5:25-33 & Isaiah 55





# WEDNESDAY 5 HE SUBSTITUTED HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS FOR YOUR SIN-NATURE



For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him
(2 Corinthians 5:21).

The idea of the new creation having a sin-nature is mostly common amongst Christians who look at it from the standpoint of "I was once a sinner, but now I'm saved." But the new creation isn't the man that was in sin and in the darkness; that man actually died with Christ.

The old nature of sin was crucified with Christ and supplanted by God's nature of righteousness: "Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin" (Romans 6:6). When Jesus arose from the dead, you arose with Him with a new life and a new nature. The life in you isn't a continuation of the old life or a combination of the old and the new; it's a new life altogether—a new life of righteousness. Blessed be God!

Romans 6:4 says, "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." No

wonder the Bible says in Colossians 3:10, "...put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him."

You were born righteous in Christ Jesus. He substituted His righteousness for your sin-nature. His substitutionary work took care of the sin-problem and brought forth a new creation—a new species—recreated in righteousness and true holiness. Glory to God!

#### **CONFESSION**

I'm born of God, and have His nature of righteousness in my Spirit. As Jesus is, in His glory and righteousness, so am I. There's no old nature within me, for I've been born into a newness of life; I'm the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus, called into the fellowship of the Godkind. Hallelujah!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 8:1-4; Romans 5:17

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 8:18-39 & Psalms 70-73

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 6:1-9 & Isaiah 56





#### THURSDAY 6

#### YOUR KEY TO ENDLESS VICTORIES



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 (Zechariah 4:6).

n Ephesians 5:18-19, the Apostle Paul tells us, "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord." Then, as you study the book of Acts, you'll observe that the apostles ministered in the Name of Jesus, with the Word of God, and by the power of the Holy Spirit. That's why they had such extraordinary results. It's the same today. There're people who try so hard to succeed through their own might and natural wisdom, yet true success eludes them. This is because they function from the mind—the sense-realm—which is grossly limited.

True success is by the Spirit. If you've been trying to succeed by your own power or ability, it's time to quit the struggle and rely on the strategies of the Spirit and His wisdom to guide you. 2 Corinthians 3:5 says, "Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to

## think anything as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God."

Our competence; the ability, wisdom and grace by which we function are of the Spirit. Trust in Him. How do you intend to grow your Church, cell group, or fellowship? How do you intend to multiply your finances or grow your business? It's got to be by the Spirit! He'll make you a wonder as you walk with Him and allow Him to guide you in your affairs. He'll unveil the realities of the Kingdom and the reality of the glory of God to you. He's the key to a life of endless victories and extraordinary success.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear heavenly Father, thank you for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in my life, who causes me to do and walk in your perfect will. I'm continually filled with the Spirit to be effective in the ministry of the Gospel, communicating your divine presence to my world and bringing in a great haul of souls to the Kingdom, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Proverbs 3:5-6; Philipians 2:13; 2 Corinthians 3:5 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 9:1-29 & Psalms 74-77

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 6:10-20 & Isaiah 57





FRIDAY 7

#### **SPEAKING WISDOM**



But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory (1Corinthians 2:7).

ur opening verse says we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery; what is it to speak wisdom? Reading 1 Corinthians 2:12-13 gives us an idea. It says, "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. 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."

Notice the underlined portion; it didn't say, "Which things also we speak of"; rather, it says we speak them. We read something similar in verse 6; it says, "Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect...." We don't talk about wisdom; we speak wisdom, and wisdom is the Word of God. Speaking wisdom is speaking the Word.

For example, Colossians 1:27 says, "...Christ in you, the hope of glory." When you, on the basis of that scripture affirm, "I'll forever be a victor; my life is the expression of the glory and dominion of Christ,"

you're speaking wisdom. When you declare, "I have no lack or want because I'm an heir of God and joint-heir with Christ; the whole world is mine"; you're speaking the wisdom of God. You're speaking wisdom, when, irrespective of the symptom you may be feeling, you say, "The life of God is activated in every fibre of my being; I'm full of life."

There're those who may consider you to be out of wits for speaking the wisdom of God; that's because the wisdom of God is foolishness to the natural man.

1 Corinthians 2:14 declares, "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."

Speak the wisdom of God always, and your life will glorify God. Declare your oneness with the Lord. Declare your righteousness, health, dominion, and glory in Christ Jesus. Glory to God!

#### **CONFESSION**

The wisdom of God is in my heart and in my mouth always. I have a great life. I acknowledge and declare that I'm excellent and full of glory, living the life of righteousness, dominion and glory in Christ Jesus. Hallelujah!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Corinthians 2:12-13 AMPC; Proverbs 18:21; Mark 11:23

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 9:30-10:1-21 & Psalms 78

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 6:21-24 & Isaiah 58





The International Youth Day is celebrated on the 12<sup>th</sup> of August every year to recognize the contributions and efforts of youths to international development, and enhance their contributions to the socio-cultural, political, and economic advancement of the globe.

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#### X otes




SATURDAY 8

#### **CAST OUT DEVILS IN YOUR NATION**



But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them (2 Corinthians 4:3-4).

n our day, activities of demons are rampant in many cities, with a bid to stopping people from receiving the Gospel. Part of our theme verse says, "...the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not...." That's Satan at work; he's the god of this world and has his agents in different nations, with a mission to stop people from receiving the Gospel.

When you notice a slowness in people heeding the call to salvation in certain places in spite of the vigorous preaching of the Gospel, do what Jesus said to do: cast out devils (Mark 16:17). Cast them out of the cities, towns, villages, localities and nations, as you pray fervently in the Spirit. Until and unless you act and put a stop to the works of these demons, they'll keep running rampage, making the inhabitants of such regions less and less receptive to the Gospel. But thanks be unto God! We have the authority in the Name of Jesus to

dislodge and dispossess them of their hold over these regions and reassign the desolate heritages. We have the right to reassign these regions, formerly destitute of the Spirit of God, to angels.

It makes no difference what obtains in the city or nation where you live or the demons in that particular region that hold sway over men's lives; cast them out! Once you do, the hearts of many in those regions will become open to receive the Gospel gladly and heed the call to salvation.

Make it your life's work that the Gospel of Jesus Christ would grow mightily and prevail where you are. Let the desire for His righteousness to be established in your city, locality and country cause you to intercede and break the cords of bondage over men's lives; let it mean everything to you.

#### **PRAYER**

Thank you, blessed Father, for all the nations are yours. I proclaim the Name of Jesus over every city, every nation, and every government. The power of evil is broken over the cities and the nations of the world, and the Gospel grows mightily, prevailing gloriously, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Acts 19:11-20; Mark 16:15-17

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 11:1-24 & Psalms 79-81

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 1:1-8 & Isaiah 59





SUNDAY 9

#### **HE'S YOUR TICKET**



Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light (Colossians 1:12 NIV).

magine you were on your way to a ticketed event but you're without the ticket. At the gate, you'll most likely be refused, and disappointed. But with your ticket, you'll be confident and simply display it and go in. That's like what the Name of Jesus represents to you: it's your ticket to every blessing; it represents more than you could ever imagine or desire. Hallelujah! He said in John 16:23, "And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you."

Everything you could ever ask or desire is fulfilled in Christ; all you need do is declare they're yours in His Name. Every so often, declare, "I'm an heir of God and a joint-heir with Christ, a partaker of the inheritance of the saints; all things are mine, in the Name of Jesus!" When you make such declarations, nature responds to you. Glory to God!

Due to ignorance of the finished works of Christ,

many still beg God to bless them, to heal them, to deliver them, etc. It gives them some sort of satisfaction to approach Him with a beggarly attitude. But He doesn't want that; not after all that Jesus accomplished in your behalf through His vicarious sacrifice! He brought you into oneness with divinity. By Him, you have boldness and access by the Spirit to the Father and the blessings of heaven. Blessed be God!

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the power and authority in the Name of Jesus by which I live in the overflowing goodness, victories and blessings of heaven. In His Name, I walk in the glorious heritage and liberty of the sons of God. Hallelujah!

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 3:12; Acts 13:38-39; 1 Corinthians 3:21

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 11:25-36 & Psalms 82-84

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 1:9-14 & Isaiah 60



Leave comments on today's devotional at www.rhapsodyofrealities.org



MONDAY 10

# A NEW LIFE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS



For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him (2 Corinthians 5:21).

hen a man receives Christ, he receives a new life; he's as one who never existed before: a new creation in Christ. This new life is the life of righteousness; superior to sin, the devil, death and hell. This new life is the reason you can live a righteous life. The reason men sin is that they have the nature of sin. That nature is supplanted by God's nature of righteousness when a man is born again.

It wasn't just a mere change that took place in you when you were born again; it was an actual replacement or supplanting of the life and nature of sin by the life of righteousness. Real Christianity isn't the inclusion or impartation of another nature, but an actual recreation of the human spirit by God. You've come alive to God through the new birth. Thus, it's natural for you to live right and fulfil the will of the Father.

Religion teaches that if a man would live right, then God would qualify him to be a righteous person, but that's a contradiction. No one can live righteously, until He's first made righteous by God. God's righteousness in your spirit is what gives you the ability to live right.

Hence, in Christianity, what God does is to first make you righteous, before He'd be justified to expect you to live right. The Bible says Jesus Christ died on account of our offences, and was raised back to life for our justification (Romans 4:25). Justification means to be declared righteous. Blessed Be God!

# **CONFESSION**

I'm born of God and have His nature of righteousness in my Spirit. As Jesus is, in His glory and righteousness, so am I in this world. I've been born into a newness of life; I'm the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus, called into the fellowship of the Godkind. Hallelujah!

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 5:17; Romans 8:1-4

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 12:1-16 & Psalms 85-88

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 1:15-22 & Isaiah 61





TUESDAY 11

## **FAITHFULNESS IN SERVICE**



And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men (Colossians 3:23).

Lach one of us is called to fulfil a unique role in Christ; we all have varied assignments given to us by God. It was the same in Bible days. Some assignments could be greater or more far-reaching than others, but how you perform in your assignment is judged by your faithfulness. The Lord will judge and reward you on the basis of your faithfulness in service, in the assignment given to you, not the one given to someone else.

Remember, He's the One who gives you the ability to do whatever He assigns to you. If He gave you more to do than someone else, He doesn't think that makes you greater as a person; it's about His placement and choice. So, it matters that you're diligent in carrying out what He's assigned to you.

Proverbs 22:29 says, "Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men." Take God's admonition in our theme verse to heart; whatsoever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men.

If you serve the Lord as though you're serving

man, whatever reward you get won't go beyond this world. Therefore, whatever assignment God gives you in His Kingdom, do it with joy, passion, and with faith, as unto the Lord. Practise it, and you'd be amazed at the demonstration of His grace in your life. Amen.

# **PRAYER**

Precious Father, I thank you for the honour and privilege to fulfil destiny in serving as a faithful steward and minister of your Gospel of grace. I do all things as unto you, producing outstanding results for your glory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Chronicles 31:20-21; Ephesians 6:5-9; Colossians 3:17

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 12:17-13:1-14 & Psalms 89

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 1:23-30 & Isaiah 62



Leave comments on today's devotional at www.rhapsodyofrealities.org



# WEDNESDAY 12

# **EMBRACE HIS LOVE**



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 (John 3:16).

ur God is gracious and kind. His love for man is beyond human comprehension; it's love without limits. John 15:13 says, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

The Lord Jesus laid down His life for us, like no one ever did. He was divine and without sin; yet, He became the sin-sacrifice, offered up for the sin of the world. He was crucified of His own will in the place of others. Think about it: He took our place of sin on the Cross, so that we might take His place of righteousness: "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (2 Corinthians 5:21).

How do you describe such love that made Him die for sinners-the criminals, murderers, robbers, etc? He came, lived, worked wonders, died and resurrected, all for the love of man. Everything He did was for the love of man. He declared His purpose for coming in John 10:10; it was so that man may have life, and have it to the full. The life He's given us is one of blessings, joy and pleasures forevermore.

Now, as a result of what Jesus did, we're holy and without blame before the Father in love. We can boldly stand in the presence of God without guilt, inferiority or condemnation. You don't have to feel insecure or uncertain about your stand with God. Be bold, confident, assured and glad that you belong to Him; that He brought you into oneness with Himself. Hallelujah.

No matter where you've been, what you've done, how deep in sin you think you've been, you don't have to run from God. He said in Isaiah 1:18, "... though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Embrace His love. Trust Him with your life. Perhaps you've never been born again, this is your moment. Turn to the prayer of salvation on page 76; pray that prayer and mean it with all your heart.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the great love with which you've loved me; thank you for choosing me before the foundation of the world to be holy, blameless and accepted in your presence, according to the good pleasure of your will. I walk in the consciousness that you love me endlessly and unconditionally; justified and at peace with you, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 John 3:1-2; 1 John 3:16; 1 John 4:19

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 14-15:1-4 & Psalms 90-93

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 2:1-11 & Isaiah 63





THURSDAY 13

# **CUT OFF SATAN'S INFLUENCE**



All nations compassed me about: but in the name of the LORD will I destroy them (Psalm 118:10).

The underlined word "will" in the verse above doesn't exist in the original Hebrew text; rather, it's in the affirmative. The NIV, like several other translations, puts it correctly; it says, "All the nations surrounded me, but in the name of the LORD I cut them off." He didn't say, "...I will cut them off."

David was making a proclamation in the Spirit ever before he would destroy his enemies with the sword. He had to first destroy them with words. This is so important because it shows us how we should deal with the adversary. You're to cut off the influence of Satan over the nations, leaders, and governments of the world. That's what you do in praying for nations and leaders.

David was emphatic with the phrase, "cut off" because sometimes, you've got to say it several times. When we hear of wars, pandemics, insecurity, economic downturns, etc., and we notice that Satan is taking advantage of them to keep people in fear and mislead nations, then we step in. Like David, we cut off Satan's influence.

When you see the adversary on rampage, holding nations hostage in whatever form, don't keep quiet; cut off his influence with your prayer and faith-filled words. The Bible says, "Where the word of a king is, there is power..." (Ecclesiastes 8:4), and we're king-priests unto God (Revelation 1:6).

Even now, with the authority given to us in the Name of Jesus, take your place and cut off principalities, powers, the rulers of the darkness of this world, and spiritual wickedness in high places. Expel them from your home, the schools, your government and from public places. Praise God!

# **PRAYER**

Precious Father, I thank you for the authority in the Name of Jesus with which we prevail over Satan and his cohorts. By that authority, I cut off principalities and powers, rulers of the darkness of this world, and spiritual wickedness in high places, from every sector, establishment and aspect of government in my nation, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Psalm 118:10-12 NIV; Ephesians 6:12; Mark 16:17

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 15:5-13 & Psalms 94-98

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 2:12-18 & Isaiah 64





FRIDAY 14

# DON'T HOPE; ACT YOUR FAITH



Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen (Hebrews 11:1).

ope is a good virtue, but it doesn't change your condition. There's a difference between faith and hope. Hope is future; but faith is NOW. Understand it from this perspective: Jesus was prophesied as the hope of the nations; He was the hope of Israel; He was called the hope of salvation.

In other words, if man would ever be saved, the Son of God would have to come; there would have to be the sacrifice for the sins of the world, and Jesus was that sacrifice. When John the Baptist saw Him, he exclaimed, "...Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29).

Now, Jesus came and fulfilled the plan of God. He was crucified in our place. He paid the full price for man's sin and then God raised Him up to give us the inheritance. Colossians 1:12 says, "Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light." Now that God has given us the inheritance through Jesus Christ, there's no reason to hope for it.

"Hope" (Jesus) came and completely fulfilled

everything that God sent Him to give us and to do for us. Hallelujah! Everything you could ever desire of God has been consummated, accomplished, and granted you in Jesus Christ. You now must act your faith.

Don't say, "I hope someday this sickness will leave my body"; stop hoping; act your faith. If the condition must change, it's got to be by faith. Faith takes possession NOW! Hallelujah!

# **CONFESSION**

My faith is active and prevails now! In the Name of Jesus, I walk in the light of my inheritance in Christ, in power and grace, living in divine health and supernatural prosperity. I'm victorious evermore, because I live in and by the Word. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 6:16; 1 John 5:4; Hebrews 11:1

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 15:14-33 & Psalms 99-101

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 2:19-30 & Isaiah 65





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# SATURDAY 15

# TRUST IN HIS FINISHED WORKS



For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast (Ephesians 2:8-9).

There're those who think they ought to be accepted by God or blessed of Him for their good works; they trust in their self-righteousness. But what God rewards is your faith in the finished works of Christ; His substitutionary work in your behalf.

The Apostle Paul revealed the fruitlessness of trusting in your good works or observance of the Law to answer for you before God. He writes, "...I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith" (Philippians 3:8-9).

Notice the underlined portion; it reveals the summary of the Gospel, which is, to be found in Christ, not having your own righteousness, but accepting God's righteousness through the faith of Christ Jesus.

Never try to impress God with your "religiosity";

He has already blessed you with ALL spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ (Ephesians 1:3). There's really nothing you could ever want that isn't already yours in Christ. Everything He owns belongs to you.

Remember, He gave you His life. Therefore, your faith should be anchored on what Christ came to do; what He's accomplished for you and in you. The reason for your divine health, divine prosperity, and life of endless victories and blessings is that Christ already made them yours. Your focus and trust should be on Him, what He's done and who He is, not on your works.

# **PRAYER**

Blessed Lord, you're great and greatly to be praised. Thank you for blessing me with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ Jesus and making me a partaker of the glorious heritage of the saints in the Kingdom of light. My life is the testimony of your grace and manifestation of your glory, excellence and righteousness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Peter 1:3; 1 Corinthians 3:21; Romans 4:14

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 16:1-27 & Psalms 102-103

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 3:1-12 & Isaiah 66





SUNDAY 16

# **NEITHER HELPLESS NOR FORSAKEN**



Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee (Hebrews 13:5).

This is absolutely remarkable! The Lord says He'll never, in any degree, leave you helpless nor forsake you. The Amplified Classic translation lets us know He repeated the clause "I will not" three times (for emphasis): "...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!]."

This very scripture brings to mind the words of Jesus in John 14:18: "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you." Yes, Jesus is in heaven, but He didn't leave us without support. He didn't leave us desolate, bereaved, forlorn or stranded. He sent us the Holy Spirit, not only to be with us, but to live in us. That same Spirit has become your courage, your help, your sufficiency and your all.

Trust Him with your life. Fellowship with Him, and He'll make you successful in all things. He says

He won't relax His hold on you; meaning He's with you all the way in your journey of life, seeing to it that you win always. He knows how to take care of you.

His help is something you shouldn't doubt at all; it's guaranteed. The Bible says He's your "very present help in time of trouble" (Psalm 46:1). If you ever find yourself in trouble or a difficult situation, be assured you're not alone; He'll get you out or show you what to do to come out victoriously.

The Holy Spirit is your supreme advantage, refuge and strength. Acknowledge and appreciate His work in your life and love Him with all your heart.

# **CONFESSION**

Dear Holy Spirit, I acknowledge you as the One who leads me in the way of success and victory. Thank you, for you're my supreme advantage, refuge and strength; a very present help in trouble. I'm mightily helped of you, and therefore confident that my progress, prosperity and advancement is for all time, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

John 14:16 AMPC; John 14:26

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 1 & Psalms 104-106

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 3:13-21 & Jeremiah 1





MONDAY 17

# YOUR WORDS REVEAL YOU



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

What kind of words come out of you and where do you get them from? Why do you say the things you say? These are critical questions for your heart. As a Christian, you ought to always examine your life, especially with respect to your words, because your words locate you; they reveal your character. If a man's words are hurtful and biting, then that's who he is inside. But if your words are gracious, kind, uplifting and heart-lifting, that's the character of your personality. You're the character of your words.

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." As a Christian, you've got good treasures within you by reason of your divine nature in Christ. There's excellence in your spirit. So when you speak, it should be out of that abundance.

Jesus also said, "He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water" (John 7:38). He was speaking of the Holy Spirit, which those who believe in Him would receive (John 7:39). Thus, the presence of the Holy Spirit in

your life means you're enabled to let out rivers of living water which come forth in words; divine words!

This means if a Christian speaks foul, brash or bitter words, he's exuding an attribute that isn't consistent with his true nature. James 3:11 tells us that fresh water and bitter water don't issue from the same fountain. Yours is the fresh water from God's fountain inside you. You don't have a mix. You have only goodness and blessings within you, which are revealed each time you speak.

Your speech is the true measure of your maturity as a Christian: "...And if anyone does not offend in speech [never says the wrong things], he is a fully developed character and a perfect man..." (James 3:2 AMPC). Through your words, bring healing and life to others; bring them hope, strength and courage. Chart your course in victory, from glory to glory with your wholesome, faith-filled words.

# **CONFESSION**

Through my wholesome, faith-filled words, I chart my course in victory, from glory to glory. By the power of the Holy Spirit, I speak life and wisdom all the time. I live in divine health, supernatural abundance and in continual success and prosperity, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Matthew 12:35-37 AMPC; Mark 11:23; James 3:2-5 NIV

# 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 2 & Psalms 107-108

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 4:1-7 & Jeremiah 2





TUESDAY 18

# LIFE DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A STRUGGLE



And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made (Genesis 2:2).

Read the creation story in the book of Genesis: After God saw that all He had created was very good, pleasant, and excellent in every way, He ceased from His work and rested on the seventh day. That seventh day would be man's first day. When he awakened, he found that everything was ready. There was nothing left for man to do except to enjoy what had been created, take care of them, and appreciate his Creator. This was a shadow of the sabbath and rest for God's people. You were born into His rest (Hebrews 4:9-10).

There're people who perpetually live a life of struggle. They hardly ever accomplish a goal without a brawl with the devil. They've always had to fight their way through life, praying and fasting for days on end, and casting out all kinds of devils. This has been their experience from childhood to adulthood. They had to fight intense "spiritual battles" before they could gain admission into a university. When it was time to graduate, the conditions were just as difficult and they had to fight the same kind of battles. Getting a job after school was the same story. Finding a spouse and raising kids weren't any different. Their lives have been an endless string of hardships and difficulties.

Something is wrong.

If you're born again and filled with the Holy Spirit, you ought to live a life of endless joy and rest, where you heap success upon success through the power of the Holy Spirit. But if you don't understand how to appropriate and enjoy your divine inheritance in Christ, you'll likely live "a life of ceaseless battles," like the one we just described. Refuse that kind of life.

Embrace the stress-free life in Christ. He said in Matthew 11:28, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." You already came to Him at salvation and He's already given you rest: "For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his" (Hebrews 4:10). This is the reality of your life.

The Lord Jesus didn't whip the devil to leave us still "fighting" and struggling our way through life. His vicarious sacrifice in our behalf, and His work to give us the victory were complete. So, change your way of thinking where necessary and accept His Word today. Accept the life of joy, peace and glory that He's given you.

## CONFESSION

The Lord has made my life easy, glorious and exciting; I live a stress-free life in Christ. I'm in God's rest; therefore, I enjoy a life of joy and peace with prosperity! Praise God.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Matthew 11:28-30 CEV; Hebrews 4:9-10

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 3 & Psalms 109-112

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 4:8-13 & Jeremiah 3





## WEDNESDAY 19

# GIVE CARE AND ATTENTION TO OTHERS



And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me (Matthew 25:40).

od's desire is for you to be highly successful and happy, so you can reach out to help others who are despondent, for He said: "...I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing" (Genesis 12:2). Instead of seeking attention and expecting someone to make you happy, He wants you to be the one offering care to others.

There're those who get frustrated because they think others don't care about them. The more they crave attention, the more it seems they're ignored, and this upsets them. Philippians 2:4 TLB says, "Don't just think about your own affairs, but be interested in others too...." Even in prayer, don't be self-centred, conscious of your needs only; be conscious of the needs of others.

I remember a dear brother who was brought in for one of our meetings, sick and so weak. While he was still trying to keep his broken body stable on the chair, another sick person in a more terrible state was brought in and laid beside him. His debilitating condition moved this brother to tears, and he later said when he saw this sick man and how dire his state

was, he forgot about himself and began praying for him to be healed. The man received his healing and he also was healed!

When you get concerned about others, God will take care of your own desires. Maybe you've been praying and asking God for a new job for a while now, why don't you pray for others who are out of jobs too? Rather than being overwhelmed by the issues in your family, begin to pray for other families around you. When you live with this consciousness, miracles will happen in your life without your having to ask. Hallelujah!

Always be gracious enough to help others, and loving enough to care about them. You're God's outstretched arm of blessings, love and care to your world. Think this of yourself today, because it's God's perception of you.

# **CONFESSION**

God is able to make all grace—every favour and earthly blessing—come to me in abundance, so that I may always and under all circumstances and whatever the need be self-sufficient, possessing enough to require no aid or support, and furnished in abundance for every good work and charitable donation. Glory to God!

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Matthew 7:12; Matthew 7:12 GNB

# 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 4 & Psalms 113-116

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 4:14-23 & Jeremiah 4





THURSDAY 20

# IT'S A MATTER OF CHOICE



For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost (Romans 14:17).

In life, there'll be circumstances or even people I that'll try to frustrate your aspirations for a happy and joyful life. Nevertheless, everything still boils down to your choice. Yes, it's a matter of choice!

If a man chooses to allow the disappointments of others or the damning effects of life's unfavourable conditions stop him, then he'd most likely live a frustrated life, unable to fulfil God's purpose for him. Such a person would often vent his anger and frustration on others. He'd want to see everyone else unhappy because he finds no reason why they should be happy. This is the case with many people today.

However, based on the knowledge of God's Word concerning you, your choice can, and should be different. Choose to live your life in the light of His truth and make up your mind that your joy and fulfilment in life would be independent of circumstances. Choose to take pleasure in every day and enjoy the moments of your life. It's His will for you!

In Deuteronomy 30:19 TLB, the Lord said to

the children of Israel, "...I have set before you life or death, blessing or curse. Oh, that you would choose life; that you and your children might live!" This is as touching as it is instructive. He gave you the power to choose the life of blessings because that's His desire for you—to live in blessings evermore.

Life to the full, divine health, supernatural insight and great amplitude of mind, prosperity and wealth, a life of glory and ever-increasing joy; these and more are your divine provisions in Christ. But you must make the choice to apprehend and appropriate these realities in your personal life. Choose to walk in God's Word and glorify God in your life today.

# **PRAYER**

Dear heavenly Father, thank you for giving me the life of blessings, full of joy and glory. I walk in divine health, supernatural insight and great amplitude of mind, prosperity and wealth. Thank you for your abundant grace and wisdom to rule my world, in lesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Peter 1:8; John 15:11; Philippians 4:4

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 5 & Psalms 117-118

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 1:1-8 & Jeremiah 5





# FRIDAY 21

# THE "LITTLE CLOUD" MEANS SOMETHING



And it came to pass at the seventh time, that he said, Behold, there ariseth a little cloud out of the sea, like a man's hand. And he said, Go up, say unto Ahab, Prepare thy chariot, and get thee down, that the rain stop thee not (1 Kings 18:44).

Oftentimes, many are too worried and overwhelmed by their problems and the circumstances of their lives to notice the blessings of God around them. The answer or miracle they need may already be in the little signs or details around them which they're not discerning enough to observe.

But notice something different about the Prophet Elijah in our opening verse: After three and a half years of drought, he began praying to God for the heavens to open and bring forth rain. As he prayed, he sent out his servant several times to check if the rains were coming. Each time, the young man returned with a negative report, saying, "No, master, there's no sign of rain outside."

At the seventh time, however, he came back saying, "I'm not sure if it counts for anything, but I see a 'little cloud' in the sky, the size of a man's hand." At this point, Elijah sprang to his feet and said, "Yes, that's it!" and immediately sent a message to King Ahab: "Quick, get into your carriage and head for the city

before the rain stops you!"

Elijah's servant only reported that he saw a little cloud, but that was all Elijah needed; he knew he had made progress. He was able to observe something different in the present state of affairs. Can you observe something different in your life today? Like Elijah, choose to see that "sign" of change as an indication that you already have the victory.

Don't wait; immediately affirm, and keep affirming that you're victorious in Christ. Keep declaring your victory, confident that God's Word and His life in you has made you whole and brought perfection to your physical body, your life and circumstances.

Recognize the work of God in and around you and give Him glory. Refuse to allow your mind to be clogged with worries so you can hear God's voice and discern His presence, beauty and signs. Like Elijah, see that you've made, and are making progress and impact through the subtle signs in your everyday life.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, my spiritual eyes are open to recognize your wondrous works, see your glory, revel in your beauty, discern your presence and the visible and invisible signs you display even in the minutest details for my attention. With this consciousness, I walk in victory and triumph in every situation and circumstance, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Zechariah 4:10; John 6:9-11 MSG

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 6 & Psalms 119:1-112

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 1:9-18 & Jeremiah 6





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SATURDAY 22

# MAKING PROGRESS FROM GLORY TO GLORY



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 (Philippians 3:13).

any people think of progress or success as having an increase in income, getting a promotion at work, buying a new house, etc. But true progress is more than these; it's the development of your spirit through the Word and the ministry of the Holy Spirit. It's that excellence which is obvious, first in your inner-man, and which inevitably radiates outwardly. It comes forth from the "you" in you.

When you have this awareness, you won't be intimidated by the crises or challenges of life. That others are making progress doesn't mean you're failing. So, don't measure your progress or lack of it by the success of others.

True success means living the victorious life through God's Word, and achieving His desired goals for your life. It's therefore unwise to measure your success by comparing yourself with someone else, because you may not know God's plan for that person's life.

Between you and the Lord, you can know whether

you're successful or not. You can look at your life today and tell whether you're a success at the current phase of your life, for success is relative and measured at different phases in line with your divine purpose.

The life God has given you is one of everincreasing glory where you heap success upon success. If you're successful now, He can count on you for more. Therefore, measure and celebrate your success at each point by comparing your performance or accomplishments with the set goals.

You can be a success at a certain level and then the goal broadens, the challenges are increased, but you must win at every level. When you overcome the challenges and attain those new goals, you become a success again at a new and higher level. It goes on that way from glory to glory. That's God's plan and idea for your success.

# **CONFESSION**

Dear Father, thank you for showing me how to make progress at different levels of life. My gaze is on you only, and my drive and pursuit are on fulfilling your plan and purpose for my life. I refuse to compare myself with others, but measure my success in life with your Word and purpose for my life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Proverbs 4:18; Philippians 3:13-14; Hebrews 12:1-2

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 7 & Psalms 119:113-176

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 1:19-29 & Jeremiah 7





SUNDAY 23

# FOLLOW GOD'S PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE



For we are God's [own] handiwork
(His workmanship), recreated in
Christ Jesus, [born anew] that we
may do those good works which God
predestined (planned beforehand)
for us [taking paths which He
prepared ahead of time], that we
should walk in them [living the good
life which He prearranged and made
ready for us to live]
(Ephesians 2:10 AMPC).

It's important that you reflect on your life and be sure you're walking in sync with the Spirit and following God's plan for your life. If you give Him your attention, He'll guide you aright always. Jesus said of the Holy Spirit, "...He'll guide you into all truth" (John 16:13). Trust Him with your life, and He'll lead and guide you in God's perfect will for you.

When you're walking in God's plan, everything you require—within the ambits of His will for you—will be supplied at the right time. At every milestone in your journey, whatever you need will be in place, because you're on the path that God planned for you. Struggling would become unnecessary, because you're on course and piloted by the Spirit.

Some people pursue ambitions that have no connection with the purpose of God for their lives. They're not yielded to the guidance of the Holy

Spirit. God doesn't want you doing something simply because others are doing it; seek and follow His guidance. Yield yourself to the Word. His Word is the true light.

The Psalmist said in Psalm 16:11, "Thou wilt shew me the path of life..."; how? Through the Word! His Word is a lamp unto your feet and a light unto your path (Psalm 119:105). Through His Word, He leads you in the paths of success, victory, and boundless joy—those paths He already pre-arranged for you. Your life shouldn't be a labyrinth of circumstantial events; you're not a child of chance. God prepared for you before you came, which means predestination is at work in you.

Never allow the fleeting pleasures of self-centred ambitions sway you. Don't be perturbed by any unfavourable condition in which you may find yourself. Choose rather to follow and remain in God's plan for your life, by serving Him wholeheartedly and living in His Word, and He'll guide you to fulfil your destiny in Him.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, through your Word and fellowship with the Spirit, you guide me to fulfil your destiny for me, bringing glory to your Name. I'm divinely helped of the Spirit, to make decisions and take actions which are in sync with your divine purpose, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 1:11-12 AMPC; Romans 8:29-30

# 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 8 & Psalms 120-127

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 2:1-7 & Jeremiah 8





MONDAY 24

## **CHRIST-INSPIRED RESPONSE**



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 (Luke 6:35).

ave you ever been ill-treated? I believe many of us, at one time or the other have suffered some sort of ill-treatment or injustice. But how God expects us to respond in such a situation is clear in His Word. He said in James 5:13 AMPC, "Is anyone among you afflicted (ill-treated, suffering evil)? He should pray...." How remarkable!

It parallels what Jesus also said in Luke 6:28; He said, "...pray for them that despitefully use you." God is aware of such situations in our lives where we face persecutions or put up with mistreatments from other people. However, He doesn't ask us to pity ourselves, complain, or get bitter at those who mistreat us; rather, He tells us to pray!

It's very tempting to react in the exact opposite when maltreated. Some may even try to retaliate or get back at those mistreating them, and in the process, behave in a way different from who they truly are. Never allow someone else's bad behaviour change your good conduct, or character.

Perhaps you were nice and loving to someone

who in return treated you unfairly. Don't decide never to show love to anyone else because of the betrayal; that won't be Christ-like. If you succumb to that, you'll be allowing someone else's flawed attitude or poor judgement control your character.

The question you should ask yourself is this: "Was it right for me to have helped and shown love?" If it was right, then keep doing what's right. That way, you protect your spirit from unhealthy infiltrations and deny the devil the opportunity of a traction in your life.

No matter how you're treated, maintain the Christattitude. He said, "Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you. And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloke forbid not to take thy coat also. Give to every man that asketh of thee...love ye your enemies, and do good...and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil" (Luke 6:28-35).

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for the ability to do right and display your goodness and love to all. I walk in righteousness and dispense your blessings to my world. Through me, many come to know your truth and embrace your righteousness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Luke 6:28-35 AMPC; Matthew 5:38-45 TPT

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 9 & Psalms 128-134

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 2:8-15 & Jeremiah 9





TUESDAY 25

# **ENJOY YOUR LIFE**



Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy (1 Timothy 6:17).

You can have and enjoy your best life now. You don't have to wait for the government of your country to set things right and make society conducive before you enjoy your life. Enjoying your life is a choice you have to make for yourself, if you really want to have God's best today and for all time.

Life is a gift, and a calling from God. Everything in life, including the world around you, was created for your benefit. All you need to enjoy life to the full is to be yourself and stay in God's Word. Jesus said, "...I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows)" (John 10:10 AMPC). Think about that!

God has richly given you all things to enjoy. 2 Peter 1:3 says, "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." Enjoy your life to the full; everything you require to that effect has been given to you.

Paul said in 1 Corinthians 3:21, "...all things are yours." We also read that God has given you richly (not sparsely) ALL things to ENJOY. What you need is to spend time in the Word, to know what's yours in Christ Jesus, so you can live by His Word and enjoy your life to the full, for His glory.

#### **CONFESSION**

I've been called into God's rest. I take charge of my life and enjoy it to its fullest, for Christ has made me a sharer, partner and participator of the divine nature. Therefore, I take advantage of the immense treasures and blessings of the Christ-life. Glory to God!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Timothy 6:17 NIV; Matthew 11:28-30 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 & Psalms 135-138

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 2:16-23 & Jeremiah 10-11





WEDNESDAY 26

## A HAPPY HEART AND A CHEERFUL MIND



A happy heart is good medicine and a cheerful mind works healing, but a broken spirit dries up the bones (Proverbs 17:22 AMPC).

A disease such as cancer draws its life from depression, bitterness, anger, resentment, malice and sadness. But laughter, which is one of the easiest, quickest and instantly recognizable expressions of joy and cheerfulness, has curative powers. If people who are sick or faced with dire circumstances in their lives would act simply on God's Word by learning to laugh often, they'll be amazed at the sudden change.

There're those who haven't laughed in a long time. They've almost forgotten how to laugh. They look at their lives and conclude there's nothing to be happy about. In fact, they'd feel guilty if they caught themselves laughing. They believe laughing is for those who aren't serious about life. Yet, their stiffness hasn't made life any easier for them.

God wants you to know from His Word that laughter is a healer. Your expression of joy is a good starting point for healing and restoration. Sometimes, when life seems to get tough, learn to pull back and laugh. Have a merry heart and a cheerful mind.

Interestingly, you don't have to pray to God to give you happiness or cheerfulness; it's a function of your recreated human spirit. You make yourself joyful with the Word of God. Remember, one of the fruits of your recreated human spirit is joy (Galatians 5:22); you've got joy in your spirit; and laughter and cheerfulness are expressions of joy.

#### **CONFESSION**

Irrespective of the circumstances, I'm full of joy twenty-four hours a day, for the joy of the Lord is my strength! I've been brought into a life of rest, with joy unspeakable and full of glory. The Lord continually fills my mouth with laughter and joy in the Holy Ghost! Glory to His Name forever!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 14:17; Psalm 126:2; Galatians 5:22

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 10:14-11:1 & Psalms 139-141

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 3:1-11 & Jeremiah 12



Leave comments on today's devotional at www.rhapsodyofrealities.org



THURSDAY 27

#### **GODLINESS WITH CONTENTMENT**



[And it is indeed, a source of immense profit, for] godliness accompanied with contentment (that contentment which is a sense of inward sufficiency) is great and abundant gain (1 Timothy 6:6 AMPC).

The Bible defines contentment for us in our opening verse as "a sense of inward sufficiency"; then it says that "godliness accompanied with contentment is great and abundant gain." Paul, by the Spirit, further writes, "For we brought nothing into the world, and obviously we cannot take anything out of the world; But if we have food and clothing, with these we shall be content (satisfied). But those who crave to be rich fall into temptation and a snare and into many foolish (useless, godless) and hurtful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction and miserable perishing" (1 Timothy 6:7-9 AMPC).

This is the ordeal of those who struggle to be rich. But you shouldn't get into that dilemma as a child of God, because being born again, you've entered into a life of contentment. You've ceased from your struggles and the glory of God now works within you.

The Bible says in 2 Corinthians 8:9, "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." And in Proverbs 10:22, it says, "The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it." This is your life as a child of God! God's inherent blessing in your life is the basis for your riches.

Your prosperity is inherited through the Spirit, because you're the seed of Abraham. In Christ, you have entered into God's rest. You no longer worry over your rent and other bills. As Abraham's seed, you're ever aglow, full of praise and giving glory to God.

Function from a place of inward sufficiency, and operate from a vantage position of rest and satisfaction, irrespective of circumstances. No matter the situation, be full of joy; continue to praise, serve the Lord, and delight yourself in Him. He'll create the opportunities for you to keep making progress from glory to glory.

#### **CONFESSION**

Dear Lord Jesus, I acknowledge you as the Lord of my life; you're the Lord over my choices, desires, plans, and purposes. Always and at all times, I function from a place of inward sufficiency, and operate from a vantage position of rest and satisfaction, irrespective of circumstances. Hallelujah!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Hebrews 4:10; 2 Corinthians 9:8 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 11:2-34 & Psalms 142-145

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 3:12-25 & Jeremiah 13





#### HE BEARS YOU UP

FRIDAY 28



Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit Himself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered (Romans 8:26).

There're times you may be confronted with so many predicaments that you wonder, "How am I supposed to pray about all of these problems?" The truth is, if you decide to pray about every problem or issues around you one after the other, you may spend eternity on your knees. Moreover, you may not even remember all of them.

But the good news is, God doesn't expect you to carry your own burden. The Bible says, "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you" (1 Peter 5:7). In fact, He doesn't expect you to pray about your problems, because you don't even know about all of them. So how do you handle them? It's part of the reasons He gave you the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit bears you up in the time of weakness or limitation.

When you don't know what to do, what to pray for or how to go about a certain situation, He steps in. God gave us the Holy Spirit to guide us in all situations of life. When it comes to dealing with everyday problems, the same Holy Spirit stands in the gap (intercedes) for us as read in our theme verse. He takes charge in our behalf.

Be ever conscious and yielded to the ministry of the Holy Spirit in your personal life. He prays through you with groanings and deep sighs which can't be uttered in articulate speech, making intercession for you according to the will of God.

This is why it's important that you pray often in other tongues; it helps you to activate your spirit and give vent to the divine utterances of the Holy Spirit. When you pray through your spirit, you inevitably address every necessary issue in your life that needs attention.

The psalmist remarked, "The LORD will perfect that which concerneth me..." (Psalm 138:8). As you pray in the Spirit, the Lord would indeed put everything that concerns you into shape, even those things that you're unaware of. You only need to trust Him with your life, realising that He's big enough and willing to take care of you. Blessed be His Name forever!

#### **PRAYER**

Dear loving Father, thank you for the extraordinary ministry of your Spirit who imparts to me the knowledge of your will concerning issues of importance, and helps me pray aright, causing circumstances to align with your perfect will for me and my loved ones, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Corinthians 14:2; Romans 8:26-27; Jude 1:20

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 12 & Psalms 146-150

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 4:1-9 & Jeremiah 14





The 1-Year Global Pray-A-Thon is ongoing. The 24-hour non-stop prayer marathon kicked off on Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup> 2020, and will run throughout the year till January 6<sup>th</sup> 2021!

Make sure you're vitally involved in this glorious opportunity to fulfill your priestly ministry as a Christian, especially in these last days. You can participate by:

- Taking out at least 15 minutes anytime each day of the week to join in the global prayers.
- Participating in the regular prayer times of 12 noon and 10pm (Local/GMT) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

To join the live stream of the Global Pray-A-Thon, please follow the Pastor Chris Live SuperUser on KingsChat.

#### X otes




SATURDAY 29

#### STAY FOCUSSED ON THE WORD



Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith...
(Hebrews 12:2).

The Amplified Classic translation of our opening verse says, "Looking away [from all that will distract] to Jesus...." What God is telling you here is simple: stay focussed on the Word! Jesus is the incarnate Word; fix your gaze on Him; don't get distracted.

Recall the case with Peter and the Master when they walked on the sea; Peter began to sink when he took his focus off Jesus. If he had kept his gaze on the Master, he wouldn't have been overwhelmed by the billowing waves and tempest (read Matthew 14:25-31). The same thing happens to many today; when they allow themselves to be overwhelmed by problems and circumstances instead of focussing on the Word of God, they sink even further.

There's no situation you can't handle successfully with the Word of God. Make the Word of God your stay; live in the Word! Learn from Jesus; He lived the Word, even though He is the Word! He was focussed, and was never distracted from the Word. He looked at the result of His faith; for the joy that was set before Him He endured the Cross, despising the shame. He didn't care what people thought about Him; His focus

was to carry out the will of the Father.

It should be the same with you. They may call you names because of your devotion and dedication to the Lord, but don't let that affect you. If anything, be inspired to love Him more; be challenged to serve Him even more passionately. Don't be moved by hard times and turbulent circumstances; hold on tight, with your focus on Jesus.

1Timothy 6:12 says, "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life...." Don't turn away from the Word. Isaiah 26:3 reveals part of the result of keeping your focus on God's Word; the Lord will keep you in the peace of prosperity: "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."

#### **CONFESSION**

The Word of God is producing results in me by the power of God's Spirit as I walk in my heritage in Christ! I experience the peace of prosperity because I live in God's Word! I'm unflustered by tests, trials, and persecutions, because the Word makes me triumphant always. Hallelujah!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Hebrews 4:12; Isaiah 55:10-11

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 13 & Proverbs 1-2

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 4:10-18 & Jeremiah 15





SUNDAY 30

#### MAINTAIN YOUR FAITH



He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt: and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God (Daniel 3:25).

In Daniel chapter three, we find the story of King Nebuchadnezzar; his image of gold, and the decree that everyone worship it. When Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego wouldn't bow to this golden image, he threatened to throw them into a burning furnace. But the three Hebrew boys were unmoved. They believed only in the God of Israel and wouldn't give up their faith.

"We won't bow to your god," they told the king. "You may set up your fire; do what you have to do!" Their courage and doggedness made the King furious; so he commanded that the fire be made seven times hotter. "Our God is able to rescue us from the fire. But even if He doesn't, we still won't bow," they added.

"All right then," fumed the angry king, "We shall see!" When the Hebrew boys were eventually cast into the furnace, the fire was so hot that even the men who threw them in died in the process. Inside the fire, the bonds on their hands and feet burnt up, but they were unharmed by the fire.

They got up and began pacing in the midst of the fire, most likely worshiping the Lord. To the king's amazement, there was a fourth man in the fire, walking with the three lads. The Lord had joined them in the fire and rescued them. Thus, neither King Nebuchadnezzar's threat nor his brutal actions could stifle the faith of the lads. God ensured they came out victoriously.

Similarly, you must refuse to be intimidated or swayed by obnoxious laws or decrees enacted against the faith and Gospel of Jesus Christ. Take a stand for Christ; stick to His Word and watch Him do great wonders in, and through your life. Focus on pleasing Him, doing what He wants. Don't be bothered by what people think about you or what they do to you. What matters is what God thinks. Therefore, love and serve Him with all your heart.

#### **CONFESSION**

Dear Father, I thank you for your Word is my life. Irrespective of circumstances and situations, I stick to your Word and follow your guidance and will for my life. Thank you for the blessings I receive and enjoy today, and for showing me the key to a victorious faith-walk, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Acts 18:9-10; Daniel 3:25-30

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 14 & Proverbs 3-4

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 & Jeremiah 16





MONDAY 31

#### IT'S ALL PART OF GOD'S PLAN



Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God—what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect (Romans 12:2 GNB).

As a Christian, every person who comes into your world has a role to play, whether good or bad. You'll surely come across different kinds of people in your journey of life. No matter how they relate with you, recognise that God has placed them along your path for your benefit.

It doesn't make any difference whether they're helpful or hostile; their relationship with you is part of God's plan to promote you. Once you understand this, you'll be happy and grateful to God for anyone who comes into your world. A playwright once said, "All the world is a stage, and all the men and women merely players; they have their entrances and their exits, and one man in his time plays many parts."

Your only concern should be to please your heavenly Father. Don't get concerned about the wrongs done to you; ignore the negative actions,

comments or ill-treatments from others. Only respond in love to those who hurt or despitefully use you.

The highest and topmost quality of God's character is living out His love in you, for the Bible says "...the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us" (Romans 5:5). You're a testimony of the Father's love, and your life is an outshining of that great love—unconditional and self-giving. Hallelujah!

### **CONFESSION**

It makes no difference how I'm treated by anyone, I respond only in love and kindness, because the love of God has been shed in abundance in my heart by the Holy Spirit. Every day and in all circumstances, I'm living out that love in me that the Name of Jesus may be glorified. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Matthew 5:43-48

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 15:1-34 & Proverbs 5-7

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Thessalonians 2:1-9 & Jeremiah 17



Leave comments on today's devotional at www.rhapsodyofrealities.org



We trust you have been blessed by this devotional. We invite you to make Jesus Christ the Lord of your life by praying thus:

"O Lord God, I believe with all my heart in Jesus Christ, Son of the living God. I believe He died for me and God raised Him from the dead. I believe He's alive today. I confess with my mouth that Jesus Christ is the Lord of my life from this day. Through Him and in His Name, I have eternal life; I'm born again. Thank you Lord, for saving my soul! I'm now a child of God. Hallelujah!"

Congratulations! You are now a child of God. To receive more information on how you can grow as a Christian, please get in touch with us through any of the contacts below:

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# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Pastor Chris Oyakhilome, the President of LoveWorld Inc., a dynamic, multifaceted, global ministry, is the author of Rhapsody of Realities, the world's #1 daily devotional, and more than 30 other books. He's a dedicated minister of God's Word whose message has brought the reality of the divine life to the hearts of many.

Millions have been affected by his television broadcast, "Atmosphere For Miracles," which brings God's divine presence right into people's homes. The scope of his television ministry extends throughout the world with LoveWorld satellite television networks, delivering qualitative Christian programming to a global audience.

At the world-renowned Healing School, he manifests the healing works of Jesus Christ and has helped many receive healing through the operation of the gifts of the Spirit.

Pastor Chris has a passion to reach the peoples of the world with God's presence—a divine commission he's fulfilled for more than 30 years through various outreaches, crusades, as well as several other platforms that have helped millions experience a victorious and purposeful life in God's Word.





#### "Rhapsody Plants Seeds Of Faith"

I went to the salon to fix my hair one day, and after I was done, I brought out a copy of Rhapsody of Realities to share some articles with the hairdresser. She seemed excited to receive the Word but told me she was not born again. She said she was born a Muslim, hence, she could not receive Christ. As I shared more articles with her, seeds of faith were planted in her, and by the end of the day she had given her life to Christ. Glory to God!

-R A; Nigeria

#### "Growing With Rhapsody"

I had been a Christian for many years but never understood what it meant to have a relationship with the Holy Spirit. One day, I received a free copy of Rhapsody of Realities and began studying it. Through studying the devotional, I now have an intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit and keep growing every day. Praise God!

-E; Gambia

"Dwelling In Eternity"

I was running late for my class one day and got scared that I would miss my test. I panicked and soon forgot all I had studied. As I sat in the bus on the way to school, I began reading an article from Rhapsody of Realities titled, "You Have Enough Time". The article taught me not to panic because of time since I dwell in eternity. This stirred faith and boldness in me. I got to class quite late but I was able to complete the test, and I scored an A! Glory to God!

-FE; Ukraine



We trust the Rhapsody of Realities devotional has blessed you. Please take a few minutes to complete this form and return it to us at any of the addresses below.

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	.13
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# Rhapsody of Realities

## Chris Oyakhilome



Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

A KEY FOR OTHER BIBLE VERSIONS USED:

NKJV -New King James Version
AMP -The Amplified Bible

AMPC -The Amplified Classic Bible
TANT -The Amplified New Translation

TLB -The Living Bible

CEV -Contemporary English Version NASB -New American Standard Bible ISV/ -International Standard Version NIV -New International Version MSG -The Message Translation WFB -The World English Bible TNLT -The New Living Translation ASV -American Standard Version TFV -Todav's English Version RSV -Revised Standard Version

GNB -Good News Bible

WNT -Weymouth New Testament
NRSV -New Revised Standard Version

MOFFAT -Moffatt New Translation
WESNT -Wesley New Testament

EBR -Rotherham's Emphasized Bible

DRB -Douay-Rheims Bible
TPT -The Passion Translation

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## Introduction

urray! Your favourite daily devotional, Rhapsody of Realities, is now available in 2,119 languages and still counting. Now in its 20<sup>th</sup> year in print, the 2020 edition of the devotional has been packaged to enhance your spiritual growth and development and position you for resounding success throughout the year.

The life-changing truths in this edition will refresh, transform and prepare you for a very fulfilling, fruitful, and rewarding experience with God's Word.

#### - HOW TO USE THIS DEVOTIONAL FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT

- Read and carefully meditate on each article. Saying the prayers and confessions aloud to yourself daily will ensure the results of God's Word that you're speaking come to pass in your life.
- Go through the entire Bible in one year with the one-year reading plan, or in two years with the two-year reading plan.
- You can also split the daily Bible reading portions into two parts—morning and evening reading.
- Use the devotional to prayerfully write out your goals for each month, and measure your success as you accomplish one goal after another.

Enjoy God's glorious presence and victory, as you take a daily dose of His Word! God bless you!

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# Rhapsody of Realities ... A DAILY DEVOTIONAL

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TUESDAY 1

#### LIVE FOR CHRIST



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).

here're Christians who're fretful about the rapture, uncertain about their eternal security. The Lord doesn't want us to live in such fear or anxiety. The truth is, eternal security is real for the one who's born again, but it's conditioned on your living the Christ-life, living in His righteousness until the end.

If, for example, someone who's been born again changes his mind later about following Jesus, such a person is in trouble, because his eternal security with God is in jeopardy. When you're born again, you're born into God's presence; you live in God's presence. He's your Protector. He keeps you, and no one is able to pluck you out of His hand, according to the Scriptures.

However, life is full of choices. You're the one to make a choice to live for Him continually. When God guides us. He presents us with the options, and then He also tells us what to choose. But He doesn't force us in the choices we make, though He lets us understand the consequences of making the wrong choices.

What you must do, therefore, is to live according to His Word. That's the simplest thing ever. When you're born again, living for Christ is the most natural thing to do with your new nature in Christ. Living right is so natural to you that you have to be tempted to do wrong. This is also where the ministry of the Holy Spirit comes in. The Holy Spirit helps you live the Christian life, and with Him in your life, you never have to worry about missing your way.

Moreover, the Bible says, "Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy" (Jude 1:24). As you live for the Lord, serving Him passionately with absolute conviction, He'll fulfil His purpose and ministry in your life.

#### **CONFESSION**

I live purposefully, fulfilling my ministry and calling in Christ Jesus. I refuse to allow anything take my attention away from the Lord and His eternal Kingdom. I'm not slothful in business; I'm fervent in spirit, serving the Lord so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry which I've received of the Lord Jesus, to testify of the Gospel of the grace of God. Hallelujah!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Peter 1:5-11; 2 Corinthians 5:15

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 15:35-58 & Proverbs 8-9

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Thessalonians 2:10-20 & Jeremiah 18





#### VVEDINESDA

## YOUR FAITH IS A TOOL



And he said unto them, Where is your faith? And they being afraid wondered, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! for he commandeth even the winds and water, and they obey him (Luke 8:25).

esus was with His disciples in the boat one day, and a tempest arose. The disciples became afraid and the Bible says, "...they came to him, and awoke him, saying, Master, master, we perish. Then he arose, and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a calm" (Luke 8:24).

The Master turned to the disciples and asked them a very pertinent question: "Where is your faith?" That's the big question in life. With your faith, you can do anything; you can move mountains; you can achieve great results. Faith is a tool. Use it. If you'd learn to use your faith, you'll live triumphantly every day

Stop crying for help! Use your faith to make your life glorious. With your faith, you can destroy cancer, diabetes or heart trouble. You can change the circumstances of your life! So, build your faith. Make

a choice to feed your faith by learning and living on God's Word.

The Bible is a compendium of divine revelations from God's Prophets and Apostles; the message has been proven again and again. Irrespective of the issues in your health, family, finances, job, academics, or ministry, you can prevail gloriously by growing your faith in the Word and putting it to work every day. Remember, our faith is the victory that overcomes the world (1 John 5:4).

#### CONFESSION

With my faith, I consistently frame my life in the path of glory and excellence, living the life of victory, success, joy, health and prosperity which God has ordained for me. I refuse to be disadvantaged or helpless in this life; my faith in the Word is effective and prevailing. Praise God!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 John 5:4; Hebrews 10:38-39; Matthew 17:20

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 16:1-24 & Proverbs 10-11

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Thessalonians 3:1-13 & Jeremiah 19-20





THURSDAY 3

#### HAVE A PERSONAL PRAYER CULTURE



Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you (Jeremiah 29:12).

The Lord called us to pray because He planned to answer. It's therefore important that you have a plan for prayer. If you don't have a plan for prayer, you're most unlikely to pray. There're lots of activities that could occupy your time and prevent you from praying. You have to make deliberate efforts to have a prayer culture and discipline; you could set an alarm system for reminders. Never be too busy to pray.

Prayer isn't only when you want something from God. Prayer is that fellowship with the Lord where you talk to and with Him, and you give attention to Him in your spirit, to hear what He has to say to you. Every Christian must have such times.

If you've had challenges doing this consistently, you can ask the Lord to guide you in planning your personal prayer schedule. Don't neglect it. There're corporate prayer times where you participate in prayer programs and services, maybe in your church or cell group, but that's different from having your personal prayer schedule.

Someone may say, "Well, I pray once a week, not every day." No, that's not good enough. Have a

prayer schedule for every day, because it helps you have a spiritual consciousness every day. You may then wonder, "How long should I pray?"

It's not for anyone to determine for you how long you should pray, but you'll know if or when you're not praying enough, because it's a relationship between you and the Lord. If you think you're not praying enough, then add more time. The truth is, the more time you spend in prayer, the more helpful it is to you, because apart from the fact that you're talking to the Lord, there's the edification of your spirit that you get from praying. Not only that; there's also the education of your spirit. No one educates you like the Holy Spirit. In that atmosphere of prayer, He teaches you; He brings you information that enlightens and guides you. Glory to God!

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I'm grateful for the opportunity of continuous fellowship with you through prayer. I have the discipline of prayer, and even now, I pray for lost souls around the world, that their hearts be open to accept the Gospel of Christ and be saved. Also, I pray for Christians who are sick in their bodies, that great grace be directed toward them for healing, restoration and feeling of wellness, in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Luke 18:1; Jude 1:20; Ephesians 6:18

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 1-2:1-4 & Proverbs 12-13

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8 & Jeremiah 21





FRIDAY 4

#### SEE YOURSELF THROUGH THE WORD



There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit (Romans 8:1).

In our opening verse, the Spirit, through the Apostle Paul isn't telling us that there're two groups: those in Christ Jesus who walk in the flesh, and those in Christ Jesus who aren't walking in the flesh. That's not the essence of His communication; rather, He's holding out a picture of who you really are.

When you study and understand the New Testament, you'd observe what's called the "Mirror Principle"; God's Word is a mirror. You're what you see in the Word (2 Corinthians 3:18). Therefore, don't read our theme verse and assume you're not free from condemnation or that you're still "walking in the flesh" because you err sometimes; no!

Read the 9<sup>th</sup> verse of the same chapter; it clarifies it by saying, "But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you…" (Romans 8:9). That's God talking! When He describes those in Christ Jesus who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit, He's referring to you.

Therefore, see yourself through the Word. Now

that you're born again, there's no condemnation for you. When you understand this and live accordingly, you'll never again struggle with sinful habits, bad thoughts or works of the flesh. The Bible says, "Sin shall not have dominion over you" (Romans 6:14); see yourself thus, for that's how God sees you.

God knows that if you saw yourself the way He sees you, you'd act accordingly. Accept who He's made you—His righteousness in Christ Jesus—and walk in that light. Glory to God!

#### CONFESSION

I'm a child of God, with the nature of God in my spirit. I'm justified before God, without guilt, fear, inferiority or condemnation. Sin has no power over me and I can't be entangled by any yoke of bondage. I'm conscious of my nature of righteousness and walk accordingly. Glory to God!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 6:11-15; Romans 8:2-4; Galatians 2:20-21

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 2:5-3:1-6 & Proverbs 14-15

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Thessalonians 4:9-18 & Jeremiah 22





SATURDAY 5

#### STAY TRUE TO THE GOSPEL



We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair (2 Corinthians 4:8).

The Christianity that we have today didn't come to us on a platter of gold. If you read about Christian martyrs, you'd find that many were killed, beheaded, for their testimony of Christ. On one occasion, over six thousand men were slaughtered for their faith in Jesus Christ, and they were soldiers. They believed the Gospel with all their hearts, and nothing was going to stop them from transferring to the next generation the same faith that they had received.

All the years that you've probably had liberty to worship the Lord, to praise Him in the church, attend crusades and participate in life-transforming meetings, that liberty came through the deep struggle, prayers, sweat, tears, blood, faith, determination and passion of other men and women who staked their lives on the Gospel. They weren't only persecuted, many were buried alive. Some were sawn in two; violently killed, for their faith in Jesus Christ.

Persecution of Christians is still happening in several countries today. Some countries have concentration camps where Christians are subjected to harsh and heinous treatments for their faith in Jesus. A very recent report officially shows that Christians are

the most persecuted group in the world.

I'm bringing this to you so you understand that the faith of Jesus Christ that we have, the message of Christ that we've believed, is worth everything. In spite of the persecution, those before us maintained their faith and stayed true to the Gospel. It should and must be the same in our day.

No matter what's happening in your city or nation, stay true to Christ. Don't vacillate. As read in our theme verse, we don't give up; we don't quit. Preach the Word in and out of season. Nothing should be terrifying or intimidating enough to keep you quiet, for greater is He that's in you than all the adversaries and adversities in the world. Hallelujah!

## **CONFESSION**

Irrespective of the tribulation, distress, persecution or peril in this world, I'm more than a conqueror through Him that loved me—Christ Jesus, my Lord! I'm persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor anything, shall separate me from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus. I remain steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of spreading the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 8:35-39; 1 Thessalonians 3:7-8 NLT

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 3:7-4:1-18 & Proverbs 16-17

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 & Jeremiah 23





SUNDAY 6

#### THE CHURCH IS GOD'S TREASURE



And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it (Matthew 16:18).

n Matthew 13:44, Jesus said, "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field." Jesus bought the whole field because of the treasure in the field. The treasure is the Church, and the field is the world.

Jesus bought the whole world with the price of His own blood, because of the Church; He gave everything. This tells us what Satan wants. When he creates or inspires crises in the world, his eyes are on God's children, the Church. His end game is always to go after the Church of Jesus Christ. He's completely averse to God's people serving and worshipping God freely. But he's a failure.

Why is Satan so much against the Church? It's because the Church—you and I—have what Satan lusted for from the very beginning. He had said, "...I will be like the most High" (Isaiah 14:14), but he couldn't. Rather, he was kicked out of heaven. Then

he found out the Church, which Jesus created, would share God's Name, share God's throne—His seat—with Him!

Today, we're one with God by virtue of Christ's love. Jesus said, I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. That's a truth that can't be broken. Hallelujah! There's no force in the universe that can stand against the Church. Don't see the Church as a mere organization; it's the sacred body of Jesus Christ—His pearl of great price.

# CONFESSION

The Church of Jesus Christ is making impact with great glory, greater ability and unstoppable influence. We're giving no place to Satan, because greater is He that's in us than he that's in the world. And Christians around the world are on the alert to continually neutralise all of Satan's strategems and manoeuvres against the Church, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Exodus 19:5; Titus 2:14; 1 Peter 2:9 AMPC

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 5:1-6:1-2 & Proverbs 18-19

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Thessalonians 5:12-28 & Jeremiah 24





MONDAY 7

# THE RAPTURE IS CLOSER THAN EVER



Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord (1 Thessalonians 4:17).

By the Spirit, the Apostle Paul got the revelation of the rapture of the Church and said, "Behold, I shew you a mystery..." (1 Corinthians 15:51). This is why many don't understand the Rapture; it's a mystery; divine revelation. He said, "...We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed" (1 Corinthians 15:51-52).

The underlined portion shows how fast the Rapture will happen; it'll be so fast there'd be no time for those who weren't prepared, because it's something for which you should have been prepared all your life.

In our theme verse, we find an expression that's synonymous with the term, "Rapture"; it's the phrase, "caught up" which is from the Greek word, "harpazo." It means to seize, catch (away, up), pluck, pull, take by force.

At the Rapture, it makes no difference where you are, the power of God will snatch you away from this world. Christians who had died will be resurrected, and together with them, we'll be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord. What a day that will be!

When is this going to take place? It's closer than ever; it's going to be anytime soon. Your responsibility is to be prepared by living your life for the Lord, every day. Keep walking in love, and your faith activated to be caught up to be with the Lord at His appearing.

The Bible says He's coming for a Church without spot, wrinkle, blemish or any such thing (Ephesians 5:27). Live every day, every moment of your life in His righteousness, producing works and fruits of righteousness.

# **CONFESSION**

The Lord Jesus is coming for a Church without spot, wrinkle, blemish or any such thing, and I'm ready. My faith is activated to be caught up to be with the Lord forever! And while in expectation of this glorious "catching away," my life and passions are about His Kingdom and its expansion; through me, many more are being enlisted for the Rapture, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; 1 John 2:28; Matthew 24:27

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 6:3-7:1 & Proverbs 20-21

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Thessalonians 1:1-12 & Jeremiah 25





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# X otes




# TUESDAY 8

# WE'RE PILGRIMS IN THE EARTH



If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you (John 15:19).

In the days of Esther, the Jews had become comfortable in a strange land; a land of their captivity. They enjoyed liberty in the land and were at ease, until Haman, an influential but wicked man in the kingdom (also a friend of the king) sought to exterminate them.

Esther, the queen, who had been completely oblivious of Haman's hatred and quest to destroy the Jews received a touching message from her uncle, Mordecai, about Haman's wicked plot. She quickly intervened and called for prayer and fasting across the land (Esther 4:16). Of course, God heard their prayer and delivered them from the hand of wicked Haman.

Sometimes, you can so enjoy liberty on earth that you forget you're in a "strange land," a pilgrim in the earth. This has happened to many; they've focused on the journey more than the destination. Some Christians have become complacent, carried away and distracted by the things of this world. Yet, Jesus said, "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul" (Mark 8:36).

Let your heart be on the Lord; let the weightier matters of the Kingdom inspire you to action. Win souls. Watch and pray as Jesus said to do. Pray for your nation that the Gospel will spread by free course and be embraced.

There're certain nations where the Gospel thrived years ago, but today those same nations now disallow the preaching of the Gospel, with Christians under so much persecution. What happened? The answer is simple: the Christians in those nations didn't do what Jesus said to do: "Watch and pray..." (Matthew 26:41).

We must remember our purpose; our reason for being here, and it's for a time. We're ambassadors of Christ, sent from the heavenly Kingdom for the salvation of souls in the earth. Therefore, like the Bible says, "...seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth" (Colossians 3:1-2).

# CONFESSION

I'm from above, and I'm conscious of it. Doors of opportunity for ministry are opened around the world, and utterance granted to God's children to proclaim the Gospel of Christ unhindered, in power and effectiveness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Acts 26:16; Colossians 4:2-4; Hebrews 11:13

# 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 7:2-16 & Proverbs 22-23

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Thessalonians 2:1-10 & Jeremiah 26





WEDNESDAY 9

# **BEWARE OF FALSE TEACHERS**



BUT ALSO [in those days] there arose false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among yourselves, who will subtly and stealthily introduce heretical doctrines (destructive heresies), even denying and disowning the Master Who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction (2 Peter 2:1 AMPC).

The same way there're false brethren and false prophets who create problems in the house of God, there're also false teachers. These are people who arrogate to themselves the teaching ministry, even though they weren't called to be teachers, thereby exposing themselves to demons, and promoting false doctrines. They indoctrinate with errors, usually inspired by the spirit of deception.

For example, some false teachers teach that the coming of Christ has already taken place, and thus mislead a lot of people. Some others say the Holy Spirit's ministry ended with the apostles. Some come with dream interpretations, telling people how different

sleeping positions affect their dreams, and teach the effects of eating in dreams.

Some go as far as telling you it's a relative of yours that's responsible for your life's problems, and create enmities between relatives. Yet, the Bible says we wrestle not against flesh and blood (Ephesians 6:12). But sadly, some have been deceived by such false teachings.

It readily brings to mind the words of Jesus when He said, "...Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures..." (Matthew 22:29). Know the Word for yourself, and no one will deceive you. Make studying the Scriptures a priority in your life. The Holy Spirit opens your heart to His truths and His will, and you can prove all things (1 Thessalonians 5:21), test every spirit (1 John 4:1) and rightly divide the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15).

# **PRAYER**

Precious Father, thank you for your Word by which I navigate my way through life. I am yielded to your Spirit, who is my guarantee of a life of limitless potentials and endless possibilities. I can't be deceived. I'm fulfilling your destiny for my life, because I'm acquainted with your Word, which is my light and my salvation, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Peter 2:3 MSG; 1 Timothy 4:1-2

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 8-9 & Proverbs 24-26

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Thessalonians 2:11-17 & Jeremiah 27





# **ADDRESS THEM BY NAME**



When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, Thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him (Mark 9:25).

If you ever wanted to know how to cast out devils, Jesus demonstrated it clearly in the verse above. He addressed the spirit responsible for the condition. He said, "...Thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him." He didn't just say, "I rebuke you"; He said something that was the rebuke. He addressed the particular devil by name: dumb and deaf spirit. And of course, the devil went out.

It's not enough to say, "Satan, I bind you." Satan is a generic name for the devil. What's the particular devil or demon you're dealing with at that particular time? You can know by the type of affliction, problem, or else, by the Holy Spirit revealing it to you. In carrying out their work, demons manifest the character of their being, and this can help you identify them and address them appropriately. Through the manifested character of a devil, you can know what his name is, because a

name is a description of character. Demons are named according to their character, as seen in the Scriptures.

For example, if you identify an unclean spirit, then you don't need to be wondering what the name of that demon spirit is. You address him by that name and say, "You unclean spirit, I command you to come out in the Name of Jesus!" No devil can resist when you order them out in the Name of Jesus.

The Bible says, "...at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth" (Philippians 2:10). Mark 6:7 says He gave us power over unclean spirits to cast them out. In Matthew 10:8, He was emphatic when He said, "Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils...." Hallelujah!

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I'm grateful for the authority given me to use the all-powerful Name of Jesus to cast out devils. Satan has no place in my life, or in my home or in the lives of my loved ones. I walk in continuous victory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Mark 1:25-26; Mark 16:17; Luke 10:18-19

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 10:1-18 & Proverbs 27-28

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Thessalonians 3:1-10 & Jeremiah 28





# FRIDAY 11 MANIFESTING HIS VIRTUES AND EXCELLENCE



But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation, [God's] own purchased, special people, that you may set forth the wonderful deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Peter 2:9 AMPC).

As God's children, we're called to display the virtues and perfections of Christ; this is our ministry; this is our life. Jesus said, "I am the vine, ye are the branches..." (John 15:5). The branches are the fruit-bearing part of the vine. We bear His fruits, His virtues.

Hatred, bitterness, rage, lying, and the likes aren't God's virtues. Therefore, they aren't part of the makeup or features of your recreated spirit. Rather, you're to display God's kindness, love, compassion, patience, meekness, gentleness, wisdom and excellence. Exude excellence in your home, school, place of work, and everywhere. Let it show in everything about you.

Furthermore, display His virtues and perfections through your gracious, soul-lifting and faith-inspiring words, full of life and power, converting the soul.

He's made us wonders in this world; vessels to show forth His glory and righteousness. Through you, He expresses His love to others, establishing His Kingdom in the hearts of men. Hallelujah!

# CONFESSION

I live a life of glory, power, success and influence. I'm His workmanship, fashioned in Christ Jesus to display His wonderful deeds, virtues, perfections, excellence and wisdom in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 2:10; Matthew 5:14-16

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 11:1-15 & Proverbs 29-31

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Thessalonians 3:11-18 & Jeremiah 29





# SATURDAY 12

# FOCUS ON FULFILLING HIS DREAM



Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world (1 John 2:15-16).

There's no doubt, the coming of the Lord is nearer than ever. But the Bible says, "...for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition" (2 Thessalonians 2:3). The Amplified Classic puts it thus: "...for that day will not come except the apostasy comes first [unless the predicted great falling away of those who have professed to be Christians has come], and the man of lawlessness (sin) is revealed, who is the son of doom (of perdition)."

This means there'd be people who had professed to be Christians, but they'll fall away from the Faith; there'll be an apostasy—people giving up their faith in Jesus, by choice. This is already happening, and the major reason is the cares of this world; the deceitfulness of riches, and the lust for other things. So, what's God looking at, and how should you walk in these last days? What choices should you make?

His counsel is what we read in our opening verse. Stay in Christ! Focus on the things of the Kingdom, and not on the transient pleasures of this world. Colossians 3:1 captures it beautifully. It says, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God."

Focus your energies on fulfilling God's dream, His vision of Kingdom expansion and world evangelisation. Refuse to be among those clinging to the things of the world, concerned only about their personal gain and comfort. They've been conquered by the spirit of the world. Jesus said, "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" (Mark 8:36). It's so important that you live your life established in Christ, deeply rooted and founded in Him. Remain steadfast, unmoveable, doing the work of the Lord with joy. Hallelujah!

# **CONFESSION**

Dear Father, thank you for calling me with a holy calling, and for granting me the inner strength to live for you. I'm deeply rooted and grounded in Christ; I've crucified the flesh with its affections and lusts. My only passion is the expansion of your Kingdom, propagating Christ's love and His salvation to the ends of the earth. Hallelujah!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Revelation 3:11-13

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 11:16-33 & Ecclesiastes 1-2

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Timothy 1:1-7 & Jeremiah 30





SUNDAY 13

# PERFECT AND COMPLETE IN HIM



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 (Colossians 4:12).

n the verse above, the words, "perfect" and "complete" could have been interchangeably used. In other words, in the place of "perfect" above, you could also have "complete," and vice versa.

"Perfect" here is dealing with standing strong; unmoveable. It also means "mature"; to come to a state of perfection or maturity, to be "full grown." It's a place of fullness; fullness of understanding, wisdom and knowledge; fullness of the Spirit. Hallelujah!

Thus, Epaphras, through the Spirit, was praying for the Colossian Christians to come to that place of maturity, standing strong, complete and perfect in Christ. God wants that in your life. He wants you to be a full-grown Christian, mature to do the things of God.

The more mature you are spiritually, the more you can actually fulfil God's dream for your life. Therefore, set a goal for yourself for spiritual growth. Say to yourself, "I'm going to grow; I'm going to come to a

place of maturity, where I only think spiritual, think mature in Christ, and full of God's Word"; and proceed to achieve it.

Ephesians 4:12-13 says God gave ministry gifts to the Church for this purpose: "...the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 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 it weren't possible for us to attain the measure of the fullness of Christ, God wouldn't tell us to go for it. This is His dream. Therefore, go for it by studying and meditating on the Word voraciously, and yielding yourself to the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

# **CONFESSION**

In Christ dwells all the fulness of the Godhead bodily, and I'm complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power. I live the transcendent life in Christ, stable, unmoveable, and established in the faith as I walk continually in the light of the Word. Hallelujah!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 4:14-15; Hebrews 5:14

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 12:1-21 & Ecclesiastes 3-5

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Timothy 1:8-14 & Jeremiah 31





MONDAY 14

# HE WANTS YOUR HEART



My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways (Proverbs 23:26).

People are the same, irrespective of their condition. That is to say, the poor and the rich, for example, are exactly the same, except there's a transformation in their hearts. If a man is poor and wicked, he won't be different when he becomes rich. While poor, he doesn't have the resources to carry out the wickedness in his heart. So, when he becomes rich, he's able to prosecute the wickedness in his heart with his resources.

Money amplifies character. People only carry out the good or bad in their hearts, depending on their resources. Jesus said, "Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt..." (Matthew 12:33). This means people aren't different from how they are inside. So, what does God want? He wants a change in your heart; a transformation inside.

That's why He sets up His kingdom first in your heart. He puts His love first in your heart. Your heart is where He seeks to work; that's where all His blessings are. Then from your heart, they can flow out to others.

Being born again, you have the life and nature of God in your heart; and now in Christ, you're a life-giver.

The transformation and glory evident in your soul and body are the result of the impact and influence of the life and nature of God in your spirit. In our theme verse, He says, "My son, give me thine heart...." If you've never been born again, this is your moment; give Him your heart. Turn to the Prayer Of Salvation page at the back of this devotional and pray that prayer, from the bottom of your heart.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for setting up your Kingdom in my heart. With my heart, I envision and apprehend the realities of the Gospel and of our Kingdom-life. I pray for the unsaved around the world, that their hearts be open to receive the Gospel, and be saved; that your power for salvation will mantle their hearts even now, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Luke 6:45; Hebrews 10:22

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 13:1-14 & Ecclesiastes 6-8

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Timothy 1:15-20 & Jeremiah 32





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# X otes




# TUESDAY 15

# HE'S WITH YOU AND IN YOU



And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you (John 14:16-17).

The comforting and soul-lifting words above were spoken by Jesus prior to His ascension. He knew the disciples would miss Him; so He said, "Relax! I'm going to the Father, and I'll ask Him to send you the Holy Spirit (another Comforter). When He comes, He'll live in your heart, and you won't have to look for me or feel my absence. Instead of walking in the streets with you, I'll walk in the streets in you." Glory to God!

Jesus fulfilled His promise and the Father sent the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost (read Acts 2:1-4). Now that you're born again, you never have to look for Jesus; you never have to cry, "Lord, where are you?" He's in you now! That means the presence of God is in your heart! I don't know what your perception of God and Christianity has been prior to now; but know this, if you've received the Holy Spirit, you have God

inside you. No wonder John said, "Ye are of God little children, and have overcome "your adversaries," because greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4). Hallelujah!

Irrespective of what you may be facing in your life, there's a new revelation; it's the revelation of divinity in you! Paul called it the mystery which was hidden in the past generations, but is now made manifest to God's saints, which is "...Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:26-27).

Adam didn't know it. Abraham didn't know it. Isaac didn't know it. None of the patriarchs of old knew this mystery. This is greater than "Emmanuel" (God with us); this is Heaven in you! The fullness of the Godhead fully tabernacled in you, and expressed through you! Blessed be God forever!

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for the great honour and blessing of having Christ live in me by the Holy Spirit; by virtue of His indwelling and abiding presence, I'm infused with divine energy and supernatural wisdom to do the will of God, and live triumphantly over the devices of the evil one and the corrupting influences in this world. Hallelujah!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Acts 2:1-4; 1 Corinthians 3:16; Acts 17:28

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 1:1-24 & Ecclesiastes 9-12

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Timothy 2:1-15 & Jeremiah 33





WEDNESDAY 16

# THERE ARE FALSE BRETHREN



And that because of false brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage (Galatians 2:4).

The Bible tells us about these three groups: false teachers, false prophets, and false brethren. It also clearly shows us the different things they'll do in these last days. Could there really be false brethren in churches? Absolutely! False brethren are those who come in amongst God's people, not for their love for Jesus Christ, but for a different purpose.

Our opening verse says they come in unawares, to spy out our liberty in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage. They present a false image, in order to gain some advantage. The Bible says, "And in their covetousness (lust, greed) they will exploit you with false (cunning) arguments..." (2 Peter 2:3 AMPC).

False brethren always look for ways to make money off other brethren. Meanwhile, they're the ones who neither tithe nor give in church. Their goal is to make merchandise of the brethren. They can do anything for money, including betraying their Pastor, leader, or even the church. They're the ones who take church matters to the public or report to the authorities or news media for pecuniary reasons. The Bible says

they're among us to spy on us, hoping to get some matter of accusation against us.

It may not be so easy to identify false brethren because of their pretentious ways. But Jesus said, "Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them" (Matthew 7:20). One of the identifying signs of false brethren is that they despise authority. They'll try to convince others on why they shouldn't believe or do everything the Pastor or leadership of the church says. If they heard you wanted to seek pastoral guidance for something personal to you, for example, they'll ridicule the idea and make you feel you're being naïve.

God's counsel to us concerning false brethren is that we mark, and not associate with them, because of their corrupting influence. Many true Christians have fallen away from the Faith because of such unwholesome association. Therefore, do what the Word says: "Withdraw yourself from every brother or sister that walks disorderly" (2 Thessalonians 3:6).

# **PRAYER**

Thank you Lord, that through the Spirit, I can identify the spirit of error and act wisely. The Word guides me in the right paths and in my relationships. I'm piloted in the direction of your perfect will and purpose for my life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 John 1:9-10; 2 Thessalonians 3:6 AMPC

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 2:1-21 & Songs of Solomon 1-2

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Timothy 3:1-7 & Jeremiah 34





## THURSDAY 17

## **GET SERIOUS WITH GOD**



Say a quiet yes to God and he'll be there in no time. Quit dabbling in sin. Purify your inner life. Quit playing the field. Hit bottom, and cry your eyes out. The fun and games are over. Get serious, really serious (James 4:8-9 MSG).

phesians 5:15-16 is an apt admonition for us especially in these last days. It says, "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise. Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." The stakes are very high. You can't live your life carelessly as a child of God. You belong to Jesus Christ; therefore, serve Him with your life. Live for Him.

The Bible says, "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). God has a purpose for your life which you must fulfil. That's the most important thing for you: discovering your purpose in Him and fulfilling it.

Life isn't about your personal dreams, plans, aspirations or ambitions. The Bible says, "Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner

of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness" (2 Peter 3:11). It makes no difference what beautiful structures you see in this world or the earthly fulfilment of men; everything shall be destroyed.

It reminds of King Solomon who built God the most beautiful temple ever. It was greatly celebrated, and of course, God was happy with him and blessed him. But our God doesn't live in temples made with hands. When they went into idolatry and began to serve Baal, the beautiful temple was destroyed; a resultant punishment for not walking in line with His Word.

God doesn't care about earthly things. Everything you'll ever have in this world came from something that was already here, and if that's true, why don't you live your life for the One who made all things originally? Serve Him with your life. Get serious, really serious with your service of the Lord.

# **PRAYER**

I was born for the glory of God, to walk with Him and bring Him honour. He planned from the beginning that I should serve Him with my life, and walk worthy of Him, pleasing Him in all things, and fruitful in every good work. This is my passion, pursuit, and purpose every day, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Peter 1:18-19; Ephesians 2:10 AMPC; 1 Corinthians 7:23

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 3:1-14 & Songs of Solomon 3-5

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Timothy 3:8-16 & Jeremiah 35





FRIDAY 18

# DON'T IGNORE THE URGE TO PRAY



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

As a Christian, it's important that you know how to take the life that God has given you seriously, and how to respond spiritually when certain things happen around you. This is why prayer is important. When we pray, something happens. He never told us to pray in vain. Whenever you have that urge to pray, don't ignore it.

Everyone who has the Holy Spirit would have the urge to pray from time to time, because He Himself is the Spirit of prayer. He teaches us to pray, and He prays through us. He stirs our hearts to pray and even puts words in our mouths with which to pray. As long as you're living a Spirit-led life, you'll always have the urge to pray. Otherwise, how do you resist the devil?

The devil is a spirit being; we don't resist him with muscles or physical might. We don't resist him with earthly things; we resist him with our faith. The Bible says resist the devil and he'll flee (James 4:7); he has no option. He's terrified of us because of the Name of Jesus.

When you come to understand the enormous

power given you to paralyse Satan's activities—whether in your life, the lives of your loved ones, your city or nation—you'd love to pray! Don't sit idly by and watch the devil run rampage around you. Pray. Use the Name of Jesus against him.

As you fellowship with God in prayer, the Holy Spirit will show you things to pray about and how to pray. He'll teach you how to handle matters in the realm of the spirit and prevail. Hallelujah!

# **PRAYER**

Thank you blessed Father, for the privilege of prayer and the blessing of praying in tongues. I'm responsive to the guidance and promptings of the Spirit in ensuring that through prayer, your will is established on earth as it is in Heaven, and your character and personality are manifested through me, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Thessalonians 5:17; 1 Corinthians 14:2; Romans 8:26-27

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 3:15-25 & Songs of Solomon 6-8

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Timothy 4:1-8 & Jeremiah 36





SATURDAY 19

# BE CONSCIOUS OF YOUR LIFE IN CHRIST



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 (1 John 4:17).

hen you read in the verse above, "...as he is, so are we in this world," it's not talking about us being like Jesus before He died, but the resurrected Jesus with eternal life. We have the same life with Him now. The Bible says, "He that hath the Son hath life..." (1 John 5:12). If you have Jesus, you have eternal life—the God-life; it's not the biological life with which you were born of your parents.

That's why Jesus said, "...Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3). And when He said your biological life can't see the Kingdom of God, He wasn't talking about just going to Heaven; He was talking about the reality of the Kingdom of God; the dominion of God in the world; the life and nature of God experienced in this world.

When you're born again, you experience the kingdom of God now in this life; it becomes your everyday experience; your everyday walk. This is what Christianity is. Christ is literally alive in you; you're inseparably one with Him. 1 Corinthians 6:17 says,

## "But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit."

Having become so mingled with the Lord in one spirit, how could you be bothered about viruses, bacteria, germs or anything that ravages the world? This is why John wants you to know what you have. He says, "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life..." (1 John 5:13).

When you understand who you are in Christ, you'd realise it's impossible for you to be sick. Once you recognise and become conscious of your life in Him, you have nothing to fear in this world, because you're indestructible. What a life He's given us! Hallelujah!

# **CONFESSION**

I have the wondrous, incorruptible, imperishable, miracle-life of God in me. I'm an associate of the God-kind! The very essence of divinity is at work in me, and that divine life surges through my being, repelling sickness, disease, infirmity, death, poverty, and everything that's inconsistent with the provisions of the Gospel of Christ. I'm invincible, indestructible and impregnable. Hallelujah!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 John 5:11-13; 1 Corinthians 15:47-49 AMPC

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 3:26-4:1-20 & Isaiah 1-2

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Timothy 4:9-16 & Jeremiah 37





SUNDAY 20

# **PURCHASED BY HIS BLOOD**



For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's (1 Corinthians 6:20).

In 1 Corinthians 11:25, the Bible records that Jesus took "...the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me." His blood represents His life; He gave His life for us that we may live. It just lets you know how important you are to God. The Bible says we weren't bought with silver or gold or precious stones but with the blood; the precious blood of Jesus Christ, Son of the living God (1 Peter 1:18-19).

"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" (2 Corinthians 8:9). In your life, the most important thing you should have your mind on is that His blood, which represents His life, is your true value. And because of that blood, you're protected. You're God's property; therefore, you're not left to the dictates of your adversaries or the dominion of sin.

His blood speaks your righteousness. You're

purified and preserved by His blood. The Bible 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" (Hebrews 9:12). Thank God for the precious blood of Jesus Christ! Hallelujah!

# CONFESSION

The blood of Jesus gives me remission, justification, redemption, access, fellowship, cleansing and the blessings of the New Testament. I'm born of His Word, a new creation, superior to Satan, the world and its failing systems and elements. Blessed be God!

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Peter 1:18-19; Hebrews 10:14-20

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 4:21-5:1-15 & Isaiah 3-5

## 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Timothy 5:1-10 & Jeremiah 38





MONDAY 21

# YOUR NAME IN THE BOOK OF LIFE



And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life... (Revelation 22:19).

any have assumed that when someone gives his heart to Christ, that's when his name is written in the Book of Life. But that isn't what the Bible teaches. It's never really about your name being written in the Book of Life; the problem is about being removed from the Book of Life.

In Exodus 32:32, Moses said to God, "...blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written." Moses knew about the Book of Life; it's not the book where your name is written when you're born again, because Moses wasn't "born again." So, what's the Book of Life? It's the book where God registers everyone who was ever born into this world.

Read our theme verse again; it was a warning to everyone. God's plan originally was to have every one of us with Him. The Bible says He's "...not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9). Everlasting fire was never prepared for human beings (Matthew 25:41), but for the devil and his angels. But God gave man the power

of choice.

Whoever doesn't find their names in the Book of Life eventually, have themselves to blame. God's reply to Moses in Exodus 32:33 that we read earlier was, "... Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book" (Exodus 32:33). What this simply means is that you live your life unto God.

Walk every day in love and in righteousness, and your name will remain in the Book of Life. Live a life that glorifies Jesus Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:15 says, "And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again."

# **PRAYER**

Faithful and righteous Father, thank you for the privilege to be a witness of your saving power; I pray for souls around the world today, to receive your Word and be converted. Also, I declare that my works in the Kingdom, and walk with you, are purified by your Spirit, for your glory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Isaiah 50:7 TLB; Mark 10:29-30; Revelation 3:5

## 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 5:16-26 & Isaiah 6-8

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Timothy 5:11-18 & Jeremiah 39





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#### X otes




TUESDAY 22

# ALERT AND SENSITIVE IN THE SPIRIT ALWAYS



Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour (1 Peter 5:8).

n a certain day, as Jesus taught in one of the synagogues, He noticed a woman who was bent double; she couldn't straighten herself. She had been in that condition for eighteen years. Then, Jesus said to her, "...Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity. And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God" (Luke 13:12-13).

Although the religious leaders present were indignant that Jesus healed the woman on a Sabbath day, the Master's response revealed something striking. He said, "...ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" (Luke 13:16).

The Master stated clearly that it was Satan who kept the woman in that condition through "a spirit of infirmity." And as soon as He dealt with the spirit, the woman straightened up; she was made whole by the power of God.

Jesus understood the spirit world. He knew life was spiritual, and demon spirits are real and responsible for a lot of the infirmities that people suffer from. And through the Scriptures and insight He grants us by the Holy Spirit, we understand how to identify Satan and his works.

If you don't know the Scriptures, you could be a victim of Satan's devices. Study and meditate on the Word often; speak in tongues every day; be filled with the Spirit, and your spiritual alertness and sensitivity will always be at its peak. There're spiritual dimensions to life. You need to know what God initiates, and what the devil instigates. The Bible says "…we are not ignorant of his (Satan's) devices" (2 Corinthians 2:11).

#### **CONFESSION**

By the authority given me in Christ, I keep Satan and his cohorts under my feet! I live in God's glory, walking in divine health, peace, safety, abundance and joy. I walk in the fullness of the blessings of the Gospel today. Hallelujah!

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:8-9; 1 John 4:4

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 6:1-18 & Isaiah 9-10

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Timothy 5:19-25 & Jeremiah 40





#### WEDNESDAY 23

#### LIVING IN CHRIST



So then, just as you have received Christ Jesus as Lord, <u>continue to live your lives</u> <u>in Him</u> (Colossians 2:6 NIV).

Before we review Paul's amazing submission in the verse above, let's read what he said in the 20th verse: "Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances" (Colossians 2:20). Notice his amazing communication; he says the Christian doesn't live in this world, in this natural plane of life. Where then does the Christian live? He lives in Christ!

Christ is the home and new environment of the one who's born again. Notice 2 Corinthians 5:17; it says, "If any man be in Christ..."; Christ is a place. You're not supposed to be affected, ruled or influenced by the rudiments of this world, because you live in a different environment. In that environment, everything is perfect; there's no failure, weakness, defeat, sickness, disease, poverty or anything of darkness. We only have God's glory and righteousness.

Now you can better understand what we read in our opening verse; "just as you have received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in Him." Living in Christ is living in the kingdom of heaven in the earth, with absolute mastery over circumstances, shielded, nourished and protected by His divine power. Hallelujah!

#### **PRAYER**

Christ is my home; Christ is my life and Christ is my all! In Him I live, and move and have my being. His glory is all I see, have and experience. I'm not subject to circumstances; rather, I reign and manifest the glory and righteousness of Christ, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Philippians 3:20-21 AMPC; Romans 8:1; 2 Corinthians 5:17

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 1:1-14 & Isaiah 11-12

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Timothy 6:1-16 & Jeremiah 41



Leave comments on today's devotional at www.rhapsodyofrealities.org



THURSDAY 24

#### YOUR MOMENT TO SHINE



Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid (Matthew 5:14).

his present world is a world in spiritual darkness. It was the same in the days of Jesus. Recall at His arrest, He said, "...this is your moment, the time when the power of darkness reigns" (Luke 22:53 NLT). After Jesus ascended to heaven, the world remained in darkness. But you're the solution to that darkness. We read in our opening verse that you're the light of the world. You have to shine ever more brightly in these last days, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Our world isn't for the devil; it's for the Lord. He put us here to run this world with His light and righteousness from the realm of the Spirit. As you walk in faith, putting the Word to work and insisting on your divine rights and heritage in Christ, you're making your light shine.

It doesn't matter the darkness in the world—the sickness, disease, poverty and insecurity ravaging this world-you've been empowered to rule and reign in Christ, through the Word. Others would see you and understand who a true Christian is; they'd see the glory

and excellence of Christ in you.

Isaiah 60:1-2 says, "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee." This is your moment to shine as the light in a dark world by walking in righteousness, prosperity, health, soundness of mind and body as guaranteed in the Word of God.

#### **PRAYER**

I'm the light of the world, a city set on a hill to bring illumination to my world. The glory and righteousness of Christ are manifested in and through me; I walk in prosperity and blessings, soundness of mind and body, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Isaiah 60:1-3; John 9:5; Philippians 2:15; 1 Thessalonians 5:5

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 1:15-2:1-10 & Isaiah 13-14

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Timothy 6:17-21 & Jeremiah 42





#### FRIDAY 25

#### **UNDERSTANDING GOD'S TIMING**



Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard... (Daniel 10:12).

We're in a very special dispensation in God's Kingdom. Through the knowledge of the Word, we're guided by the Spirit to walk in accordance with His plan and timing.

For example, in Daniel 9, the Bible tells us that Daniel, while in exile with the children of Israel, understood God's timing as he studied the writings of Jeremiah the Prophet. He found out they were meant to be in that captivity for seventy years and had almost exhausted their time in captivity. However, as nothing seemed to be changing, Daniel decided to seek the Lord in fasting and prayer to bring God's programme into reality.

In the closing days of Jesus' ministry in Israel, He wept over Jerusalem because they didn't know the "time" of their visitation. The Lord whom they had been waiting for had come to them, but they didn't know it. Many are like that today.

Make it your priority to be in sync with God's will

and timing for your life. Study the Scriptures avidly, and give time to prayer. We're sent by God to enforce His will in the earth, using the Name of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit.

But if you don't know God's will and timing, things will happen in the earth that are neither in your interest nor in the Lord's interest. This is why you must pray in the Spirit for the nations, for the Church of God, and for ministers of the Gospel around the world. Pray as though the kingdom depended on you, for it does. Hallelujah!

#### **PRAYER**

Precious Father, thank you for seasons of the miraculous and manifestations of your works and blessings like never before, which will culminate in the rapture of the Church. I pray for the saints around the world who are facing severe persecutions and injustice, that they be strengthened to stand firm in all the will of God, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Daniel 9:2-4; 1 Peter 5:8-9; 1 Chronicles 12:32

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 2:11-22 & Isaiah 15-18

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Timothy 1:1-18 & Jeremiah 43





#### SATURDAY 26

# THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF YOUR DIVINE ESSENCE



Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world (1 John 4:4).

any don't understand the Spirit's language in the verse above when it says, "Ye are of God..."; it means you hail from God; you're born of Him. This is what makes the Christian a divine being, and not a mere human person. Hallelujah!

This is where some have missed it; their lack of consciousness of who they really are in Christ. The Apostle John, addressing this, said in 1 John 5:13, "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life...." God wants you to have the conscious, active knowledge that His life is in you. You're a divine life-carrier; a God-conveyor.

Referring to the Lord Jesus, the Bible says "...in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him..." (Colossians 2:9-10). Notice the expression, "And ye are complete in Him...." This means all of divinity resides in you as it does Jesus. No wonder Peter calls us "Associates of the God-kind"; partakers of the divine nature (2 Peter 1:4).

You're filled or replete with God. That's what it means to be "complete in Him"; nothing else needs to be in you to make you divine. This is why sickness, disease and infirmity can't be a part of your life. If you'd meditate on the God-life in you, you'd never be sick another day of your life.

You were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God (John 1:13). The same life that makes it impossible for God to get sick, be defeated or have anything "happen" to Him is what you have in you. Your consciousness of this reality will make you eternally triumphant and walk in dominion every day of your life. Glory to God!

#### **CONFESSION**

Blessed be God! I have and walk in the consciousness of my divine essence; I walk in dominion over sickness, disease, death and the elements of this world. Christ in me is greater than all; and I celebrate my oneness with the Lord, today and always, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Peter 1:4; John 5:26; 1 John 5:11-13

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 3:1-21 & Isaiah 19-22

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Timothy 2:1-10 & Jeremiah 44





SUNDAY 27

#### TRUST LIKE A CHILD



Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding (Proverbs 3:5).

Being trusting isn't the same as being gullible, and recognising this distinction is essential because there're gullible people who think they're trusting. To be gullible means to be easily deceived. But children aren't easily deceived; they're usually trusting. They trust your character. Adults, however, can be gullible. An adult will try to reason out whatever he's told before he trusts it, and he may not give much concern to the character of the one he's trusting.

If you hold out a child from the balcony, for example, and ask someone else whom the child trusts to stay at the ground-floor and catch him, the child will be ready to let go because he trusts the one at the ground floor. The child may not know if the fellow downstairs has the power or ability to catch him, but he believes he wouldn't let him fall. That's the kind of childlike faith you're to have towards God.

The Lord Jesus admonished in Matthew 18:3 (AMPC) that we be like little children, "...[trusting, lowly, loving, forgiving]...." He wants you to trust the character of God. His character is made plain in the Word; He never fails. Boldly place your confidence in Him to fulfil His purpose in your life.

Sometimes, many try to "help" God out in doing what He intends. Perhaps, He's given you a vision or ministered some ideas to you relating to your purpose, and you're so excited and eager to see everything work out, which is good! But if you're not trusting and yielded to the Holy Spirit, you may try to play "God." You may be playing His role by trying to help Him in your own wisdom. But the end result won't be pleasant.

The best of all is to trust that He alone knows and has the blueprint for your life. Take a cue from Abraham who trusted and followed the Lord even though He didn't know where God was leading Him. The Bible says, "By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went" (Hebrews 11:8).

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I live my life, trusting you wholeheartedly in all things, leaning on your Word and acting on your instructions. I commit my plans, aspirations and desires to you, being fully convinced that you're more interested in, and passionate for my success than I could ever be, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Proverbs 3:5-6; Psalm 18:30

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 4:1-16 & Isaiah 23-24

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Timothy 2:11-26 & Jeremiah 45





MONDAY 28

# REFUSE THE "DIRTS" THAT CAN CLOG YOUR "WELLS"



He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water (John 7:38).

saiah 12:3 says, "Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation." Wells of salvation refer to all the blessings of Christ inherent in the deep recesses of your spirit. The Bible says out of your spirit are the issues of life. You carry within you a fountain of blessings.

Now, the devil always seeks to block up "the wells." Think about it in line with what happened in Bible days: whenever an invading force came into a city, they blocked up the wells in that city with dirt to frustrate the inhabitants. The wells were the people's source of water—a spring of life, as it were.

Isaac suffered a similar ordeal in the hands of the Philistines. In Isaac's case, the Bible records, "For all the wells which his father's servants had digged in the days of Abraham his father, the Philistines had stopped them, and filled them with earth...And Isaac digged again the wells of water, which they had digged in the days of Abraham his father; for the Philistines had stopped them after the death of Abraham..." (Genesis 26:15,18).

In the same way that the Philistines stopped the wells of water belonging to Isaac (in order to frustrate him), Satan seeks to clog the wells of living water in your spirit by ensuring the joy of Christ isn't expressed in your life. He also wants to keep you from ministering the same joy to other people.

His tools for clogging your "wells" include bitterness, jealousy, hatred, resentment, unforgiveness, fear, and judgmental attitude. Don't allow Satan plant such "dirts" in your life. He knows you can't live happily, enjoy life or bless your world effectively when you're angry, resentful and malicious.

Choose rather to let the joy and love of God radiate from within you to others every day and the devil will have no foothold in your life.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for your love that's shed abroad in my heart by the Holy Spirit, and for the fullness of Christ in my heart. I'm riding through life gloriously, making progress with giant strides, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 4:31-32; James 3:15-17; Hebrews 12:15

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 4:17-5:1-2 & Isaiah 25-26

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Timothy 3:1-17 & Jeremiah 46





The 1-Year Global Pray-A-Thon is ongoing. The 24-hour non-stop prayer marathon kicked off on Monday, January  $6^{th}$  2020, and will run throughout the year till January  $6^{th}$  2021!

Make sure you're vitally involved in this glorious opportunity to fulfil your priestly ministry as a Christian, especially in these last days. You can participate by:

- → Taking out at least 15 minutes anytime each day of the week to join in the global prayer.
- → Participating in the regular prayer times of 12 noon and 10pm (Local/GMT) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

To join the live stream of the Global Pray-A-Thon, please follow the Pastor Chris Live SuperUser on KingsChat.

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#### TUESDAY 29

# A SURE WAY TO EXERCISE YOUR SPIRIT



But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness. For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come (1 Timothy 4:7-8).

Exercising yourself unto godliness means exercising your human spirit, which is the real you. And one sure way to exercise your spirit is praying in tongues; it keeps your spirit aglow and afire for God. Jude 1:20 says, "But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost." 1 Corinthians 14:4 says, "He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself...."

Christians who regularly pray in tongues are more attuned to the things of the Spirit. They're more sensitive and responsive to the leading and guidance of the Holy Spirit; no slothfulness in them. When you pray often in tongues, your spirit is trained and ready for dynamic evangelism.

Cultivate the habit of starting out your day speaking in tongues. Then at regular intervals during the course of your day, pray in tongues. The beautiful thing is, you can speak in tongues under your breath even while at work or conducting your business. It's the fastest way to activate and energize your spirit.

There're people who are more concerned about keeping their bodies fit than paying the most attention to exercising their spirits. As you train yourself to pray often in other tongues, apart from the many other benefits it has on your life, it'll open your spirit to receive and understand God's Word and enhance your walk in the divine life.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, how I love your Word! Thank you for showing me how to exercise and energize my spirit through speaking in tongues. My spirit is activated to receive your guidance today; and I'm making tremendous progress in my life, and the work of the ministry, from glory to glory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Timothy 4:7-8 AMPC; 1 Corinthians 14:4 AMPC; Hebrews 5:14

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 5:3-21 & Isaiah 27-28

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Timothy 4:1-10 & Jeremiah 47





WEDNESDAY 30

#### **FAITH IN HIS WORD**



...Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour (Matthew 8:13).

n a certain occasion, after His resurrection, the Lord Jesus appeared to His disciples as they rounded off a fruitless fishing mission. The disciples had toiled all night and caught nothing. Then Jesus said to them, "...Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and you shall find..." (John 21:6). The Bible says, "...they threw the net out and could not pull it back in, because they had caught so many fish" (John 21:6 TEV).

Imagine if they had argued with Jesus! They had faith in His Word and that's where the fish came from—the Word of God. The Bible says, "Through faith, we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God..." (Hebrews 11:3). The fishes were framed by the Word of the Master. Jesus set a precedence for us on how to live triumphantly every day, how to experience the miraculous through faith in the Word.

Consider this: A certain Centurion's servant was sick and dying. Then the Centurion sent the elders of the Jews to beseech Jesus to come heal his servant. The Master agreed, but almost immediately, the Centurion sent words back to Jesus saying, "You don't have to come under my roof; just say the word, and my servant shall be healed" (Luke 7:2-7).

When Jesus heard the words of the Centurion, the Bible says He marvelled at his faith and said, "I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel." When the messengers got back to the Centurion's house, they found the sick servant perfectly whole at the word of Jesus (Luke 7:9-10).

What's your desire? In which area do you require a change or a miracle? Act your faith in God's Word. The Word of God is the answer to every trouble. You don't have to become suicidal because you lost your job or business. You can trust the Lord for something better. He's the God who quickens (gives life to) the dead. He can give you back, and much more, all that you thought you lost.

Even now, act on His Word. He said in John 14:14, "If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it"; ask whatever you will, knowing He's bound by His Word and never fails.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for your precious Word which bolsters faith in my spirit and puts me over and above all of life's predicaments. Your Word is mixed with faith in my heart; therefore, my faith is alive and active, prevailing over circumstances, and causing them to align with your perfect will for me, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 10:17; 2 Corinthians 4:13; Hebrews 11:6

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 5:22-6:1-9 & Isaiah 29-30

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Timothy 4:11-22 & Jeremiah 48



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We trust you have been blessed by this devotional. We invite you to make Jesus Christ the Lord of your life by praying thus:

"O Lord God, I believe with all my heart in Jesus Christ, Son of the living God. I believe He died for me and God raised Him from the dead. I believe He's alive today. I confess with my mouth that Jesus Christ is the Lord of my life from this day. Through Him and in His Name, I have eternal life; I'm born again. Thank you Lord, for saving my soul! I'm now a child of God. Hallelujah!"

Congratulations! You are now a child of God. To receive more information on how you can grow as a Christian, please get in touch with us through any of the contacts below:

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# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Pastor Chris Oyakhilome, the President of LoveWorld Inc., a dynamic, multifaceted, global ministry, is the author of Rhapsody of Realities, the world's #1 daily devotional, and more than 30 other books. He's a dedicated minister of God's Word whose message has brought the reality of the divine life to the hearts of many.

Millions have been affected by his television broadcast, "Atmosphere For Miracles," which brings God's divine presence right into people's homes. The scope of his television ministry extends throughout the world with LoveWorld satellite television networks, delivering qualitative Christian programming to a global audience.

At the world-renowned Healing School, he manifests the healing works of Jesus Christ and has helped many receive healing through the operation of the gifts of the Spirit.

Pastor Chris has a passion to reach the peoples of the world with God's presence—a divine commission he's fulfilled for more than 30 years through various outreaches, crusades, as well as several other platforms that have helped millions experience a victorious and purposeful life in God's Word.





#### "The Upward Life With Rhapsody"

Before I came in contact with Rhapsody of Realities, my life seemed nothing but a mess. I struggled with everything I did, and hardly ever produced good results. All that changed when I received a copy of Rhapsody of Realities. Through the confessions and prayers, my life has taken an upward turn and it is evident for all to see. Glory to God!

-I.N; Uganda

#### "Revived By Rhapsody"

I had a friend whose husband would always fall ill. One day, she came crying that he was admitted in the hospital and had been in a coma for some days. We went together to the hospital, where I was led by the Holy Spirit to pray for him whilst placing a copy of Rhapsody of Realities on his body. I declared that he would be revived before the next day. To the glory of God, the doctors called later that night to say that he had regained consciousness. Praise God!

-B; Dubai

"Restored Through Rhapsody"

Some years ago, I was involved in a bike accident. As a result, one of my legs got broken, leading to my stay in the hospital for 3 years. Over time, my leg began to stink and the doctors said it would have to be amputated. While there on the hospital bed, I received a copy of Rhapsody of Realities. I began to study the messages and pray accordingly. One day, the doctors tested me and said there was no longer need for the amputation. Shortly afterwards, I got discharged. Glory to God!

-I.M; Nigeria



We trust the Rhapsody of Realities devotional has blessed you. Please take a few minutes to complete this form and return it to us at any of the addresses below.

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	life and any prayer request(s) that you may have. We will be happy to pray with you.

Thank you for taking time to complete this form. We appreciate your efforts.

# Rhapsody of Realities

# Chris Oyakhilome



Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

#### A KEY FOR OTHER BIBLE VERSIONS USED:

NKJV -New King James Version
AMP -The Amplified Bible

AMPC -The Amplified Classic Bible
TANT -The Amplified New Translation

TLB -The Living Bible CFV -Contemporary English Version -New American Standard Bible NASB ISV -International Standard Version NIV -New International Version MSG -The Message Translation WEB -The World English Bible TNIT -The New Living Translation ASV -American Standard Version TEV -Today's English Version

GNB -Good News Bible

WNT -Weymouth New Testament

NRSV -New Revised Standard Version

-Revised Standard Version

MOFFAT -Moffatt New Translation
WESNT -Wesley New Testament

EBR -Rotherham's Emphasized Bible

DRB -Douay-Rheims Bible

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### Introduction

urray! Your favourite daily devotional, Rhapsody of Realities, is now available in 1,315 languages and still counting. The 2019 edition of the devotional has been packaged to enhance your spiritual growth and development and position you for resounding success throughout the year.

The life-changing truths in this edition will refresh, transform and prepare you for a very fulfilling, fruitful, and rewarding experience with God's Word.

#### - HOW TO USE THIS DEVOTIONAL FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT

- Read and carefully meditate on each article. Saying the prayers and confessions aloud to yourself daily will ensure the results of God's Word that you're speaking come to pass in your life.
- Go through the entire Bible in one year with the one-year reading plan, or in two years with the two-year reading plan.
- You can also split the daily Bible reading portions into two parts—morning and evening reading.
- Use the devotional to prayerfully write out your goals for each month, and measure your success as you accomplish one goal after another.

Enjoy God's glorious presence and victory, as you take a daily dose of His Word! God bless you!

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GOALS FOR THE MONTH:

# Rhapsody of Realities ... A DAILY DEVOTIONAL

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#### WE'RE PROLONGING HIS DAYS



Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand (Isaiah 53:10).

Ponder again on what we just read: it pleased the Lord to bruise Him and make His soul an offering for sin; He'd bring forth seed that would prolong His days, His influence, and establish His rule forever. It answers the question the prophet asked in Isaiah 53:8: "...who shall declare his generation?"

We're His seed, declaring His generation. The pleasure of the Lord is prospering in our hands. We—the Church—are the ones declaring who He really is and His plan of salvation for all mankind. We bear witness to His deity, and continue all the beautiful things that He began, both to do and teach (Acts 1:1); His miraculous works and teachings about the Kingdom of God, which He continued through the Apostles. They, in turn, delivered the same teachings to others, and finally, it got to us. And we're carrying it on until He returns.

He said in John 20:21, "...as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you." We're His ambassadors.

We're His witnesses. We're the effulgence of His glory, the dispensers of His love, righteousness, and grace. Hallelujah!

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Heavenly Father, I'm so thankful for the love and grace you've lavished upon me. Thank you for expressing yourself to the world through me. I'm the effulgence of your glory, the express image of your person, and my life is a manifestation of your praise and glory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 9:8; Galatians 3:29; Isaiah 53:8-11

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 15:35-58 & Proverbs 8-9

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 20:9-18 & 1 Samuel 20



Leave comments on today's devotional at www.rhapsodyofrealities.org



MONDAY 2

#### **GREATNESS, HUMILITY AND ORDER**



And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted (Matthew 23:12).

very striking quality of truly great people is their humility. It makes no difference where they are, they respect leadership; they honour structures, principles, and maintain order. It brings to mind something that Jesus did when He was to feed a crowd of five thousand men (women and children not counted). He said to His disciples, "...Make them sit down by fifties in a company. And they did so, and made them all sit down" (Luke 9:14-15).

The instruction was simple: sit down in manageable groups, and the men did. Not to heed such a simple instruction would be to be out of order, which oftentimes is the result of pride. Don't try to "rise," when the instruction is for you to "sit." Relax and calm down. Get in order.

1 Peter 5:5-6 says, "...be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time." Those who are proud, despite their desire for expansion, progress or advancement, don't experience much, because God resists the proud. He gives grace

to the humble.

When you come for a Church meeting, for example, and you're given an instruction as to where to park your vehicle or directed in the auditorium as to where to sit, don't complain. Comply. Don't shrug with contempt at the venue or facility managers; don't disrespect the ushers.

Our opening verse in the Amplified Classic says, "...whoever humbles himself [whoever has a modest opinion of himself and behaves accordingly] shall be raised to honor." Humility is the speed for life, the catalyst for ever-increasing greatness and unlimited progress. It's the way to experience quantum leap, and be elevated to honour in your life.

## **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I'm submitted to the authority, influence and impact of your Word. Pride, arrogance, haughtiness, or egotism have no place in me. I walk in true humility and as a result, I experience everincreasing greatness and unlimited progress in every area of my life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

James 4:6; James 4:10; Proverbs 29:23

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 16:1-24 & Proverbs 10-11

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 20:19-26 & 1 Samuel 21





TUESDAY 3

## WITH HIM YOU CAN DO ALL THINGS



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 (Zechariah 4:6).

True success in life is primarily dependent on your relationship with the Holy Spirit. He's the most important factor for your success. The Bible says, "...it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy" (Romans 9:16). In John 15:5, Jesus said, "I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."

The man who's in fellowship with the Spirit, who's yielded to Him for guidance and inspiration, is described for us in Psalm 1:3: "And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." How inspiring!

Become more conscious of the Holy Spirit's indwelling presence and glory in your life. Make your times of fellowship with Him the most important moments of your life.

One moment of fellowship with the Holy Spirit can give a lifetime advantage and boost in your journey of success that nothing else can create for you. He's your guarantee of a life of rest and peace. He's the one who glorifies your life and brings you into favours, promotions and blessings untold. He's all you need, for with Him, you can do all things and be all that God created you to be. Hallelujah!

### **PRAYER**

Righteous and gracious heavenly Father, I thank you for the glory of your presence in my life; the blessing of having the Holy Spirit in my life, who causes me to walk in wisdom and in your perfect will at all times. I'm effective in the ministry of the Gospel, impacting my world with your righteousness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Acts 1:8 AMPC; Philippians 4:13 AMPC; 2 Corinthians 3:5 AMPC

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 1-2:1-4 & Proverbs 12-13

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 20:27-38 & 1 Samuel 22





WEDNESDAY 4

## **GET YOUR EMOTIONS INVOLVED**



...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months (James 5:16-17).

Some people pray absent-mindedly, without their emotions, and it's one of the reasons their prayers are ineffective. Notice our opening scripture; it talks about Elijah praying in a heartfelt, emotive manner; he was passionate.

Not many realize that it's okay to get emotional with the Lord, because He's got emotions too. The Bible says, "He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh..." (Psalm 2:4). Laughter is an emotion. Joy is an emotion, and God expresses His joy (Zephaniah 3:17). Therefore, in prayer, it's okay to focus your mind on Him and express your love lavishly and passionately.

When you get your emotions involved in prayer, your spirit is conditioned in a way that's receptive to the Holy Spirit. At that moment, your mind is channelled to your purpose of prayer and attentive. Recall that the Bible says, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth

*in thee"* (Isaiah 26:3). Learn to stay your mind and emotions on the Lord in prayer!

If, while you're praying, your mind strays to other thoughts, consciously get it back to focus on the Lord and the subject matter. On the other hand, if you're praying in tongues or praying without a particular subject, you can still keep your mind and emotions on the Lord and let your spirit or the Holy Spirit bring forth words or thoughts to your consciousness at that time.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the privilege and honour to pray and receive answers. Even now, my mind is completely yielded to you, with my thoughts and words synchronized with your Spirit, in earnest supplication and worship, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Samuel 1:9-13; James 5:16 AMPC; 1 Corinthians 14:14-15

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 2:5-3:1-6 & Proverbs 14-15

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 20:39-47 & 1 Samuel 23





THURSDAY 5

# **LOVE YOUR ENEMIES**



But I say unto you, 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 (Matthew 5:44).

Some Christians have what they call, "Enemy vanquishing services," where they pray against their perceived enemies. But that's not scriptural. The Word says, "...Love your enemies...."

Whatever God tells you to do is for your benefit. If He tells you to love your enemies, it means you can, and it's also for your advantage. So, you've got to do the Word. Moreover, the Word shows that the adversary we contend with isn't flesh and blood: "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood..." (Ephesians 6:12).

Christians who pray against their enemies do so mainly out of fear and insecurity, and that's because they're ignorant. If Jesus Christ is your Lord, the Master and Shepherd of your life, then you have nothing to fear. David understood this and exclaimed in Psalm 27:1, "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?" Have this same consciousness.

Consider Solomon; the Lord said to him, "...Ask what I shall give thee" (2 Chronicles 1:7). Solomon asked for wisdom and knowledge. Then, God said to him, "...Because this was in thine heart, and thou hast not asked riches, wealth, or honour, nor the life of thine enemies...Wisdom and knowledge is granted unto thee; and I will give thee riches, and wealth, and honour, such as none of the kings have had that have been before thee, neither shall there any after thee have the like" (2 Chronicles 1:11-12). This is instructive! The Lord commended him for not asking for the destruction of his enemies.

The desire of the Spirit is to see the salvation of your enemies. They're already in trouble with God if they don't repent. However, your role is to intercede for them and bring them words by which, or through which they can be saved.

## **PRAYER**

Gracious and loving heavenly Father, I thank you for the counsel in your Word. You've given me a heart that loves only, and granted me the capacity to express your love that's shed abroad in my heart by your Spirit. I lavishly express your love today, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 John 4:16; Matthew 5:43-45; Romans 5:5

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 3:7-4:1-18 & Proverbs 16-17

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 21:1-9 & 1 Samuel 24





FRIDAY 6

## **KEEP YOUR HEART PURE** WITH THE WORD



Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God (Matthew 5:8).

s a Christian, you're a sanctified vessel, called to live righteously unto God. Iniquity or evil shouldn't be found in your heart. You must keep yourself and your heart pure with the Word of God.

If, having been born again, your heart is still full of lust for evil things, something is wrong; there has to be a change! Make up your mind about it. You'll need to have sessions of meditation and fasting without further delay.

The Word purifies the mind and spirit. God desires to take you to the next and higher level in your walk with Him, but you've got to let go of any ungodly lifestyle. The Bible says, "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).

What's that weight that's not letting you run as effectively as you should in fulfilling God's plan for your life? Get rid of it. Jesus said, "...for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me" (John 14:30). Be sure that Satan has nothing in you.

Pay attention to changes the Holy Spirit may be

guiding you to make, and receive corrections. It's all so you can fulfil His destiny for you gloriously without reproach. Refuse to allow any weight or sin cling itself to you, so you can make faster progress in your life.

Remember what the Word says: "...sin shall not have dominion over you..." (Romans 6:14). The moment you say "No," that's it! Psalm 119:9 says, "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word." All it takes is acting on the Word. So, make it your life's work to live in the light of God's Word.

## CONFESSION

I'm the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus, His workmanship, created to produce fruits of righteousness. I've crucified the flesh with its passions and desires; Satan has nothing in me! Hallelujah!

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Corinthians 7:1 NIV; Psalm 24:3-5; 1 John 3:3 AMPC

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 5-6:1-2 & Proverbs 18-19

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 21:10-19 & 1 Samuel 25





SATURDAY 7

### **TELL THE STORY**



Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost (Matthew 28:19).

Years ago, sitting in church as a kid, I watched a drama piece being performed by the drama group. I was particularly enthralled by the last act. As the actors walked off the stage, the young boy who acted the preacher's role picked up the song: "Christ is coming, the King of glory; no more sorrow; no more weeping; tell the story among the nations; Christ is coming by and by."

The song hit me, and tears began to stream down my face. I left that service singing that song in my heart repeatedly. I felt like the song was talking to me. Though I was quite young, it created a burden in my heart. Every so often, I'd pray, "Lord, I'll tell the story among the nations." Now, what's the story?

The story isn't that Christ is coming but that He came once before. The Bible talks about His second coming, but He already came and went back to heaven, and many aren't aware yet.

As I read the Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—I found they were all telling the story. It's the story of Jesus; His origin, His birth, His life on earth, His death, His resurrection, and ascension. The Book

of Matthew has a theme: it's mainly about Jesus, King of Israel.

Mark takes it a bit further, showing us this Jesus is the Christ. Luke tells us He was God's answer; and John sees Him as the Word and tells from the beginning, the story of the One who made all things, and pre-existed the beginning. It's the story of the Word who became flesh and dwelt among us.

John and the rest of the Apostles have gone to heaven, having told the story of the Son of God. Now, we must tell it, and keep telling the same story. We must remain dauntless in proclaiming His undying love for humanity, as we usher men into the glory of His divine presence and love. Amen.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for the salvation of men, and for trusting me with the message of reconciliation. Your Word in my heart is as a burning fire shut up in my bones. I take my place in the end-time army, as a bearer of divine truths to my world. Through me, many are turned from darkness to light, and brought into the glorious liberty of the sons of God, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Mark 16:15; 2 Corinthians 5:18; Psalm 67:2 TLB

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 6:3-7:1 & Proverbs 20-21

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 21:20-28 & 1 Samuel 26





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## X otes



SUNDAY 8

## THE PURITY OF THE SPIRIT



And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth (John 17:19).

here are Christians who don't have the reverential fear of God; they think they're at liberty to live the way they choose. But that's dangerous. There's a way of life that's not right for a Christian, and if you're going to fulfil the purpose of God for your life, then you've got to have purity of heart; you must live according to your nature of righteousness and true holiness in Christ.

In Joshua 3:5, we read something striking that Joshua said to the children of Israel. He said, "... Sanctify yourselves: for to morrow the LORD will do wonders among you." Joshua understood the power of sanctification; the power of separating yourself from the wrong things; the power of purifying your mind and vour life.

You're God's vessel, sanctified to be in fellowship with Him through the Holy Spirit. Don't jeopardize that communion because of a bad attitude or worldly lifestyle. 2 Corinthians 13:5 says, "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves...." Use the Word to purge and examine yourself always. 2 Timothy 2:21 says, "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."

Do you want to continually experience the supernatural in your life? Then, keep yourself in the purity of the Spirit; don't live the wrong life. Don't get yourself entangled with the things of this world, for the Bible says, "No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life..." (2 Timothy 2:4).

You were separated from the World through the Gospel, but you've got to take the world out of you, through the sanctification of your mind and soul. This happens as you yield to the authority and lordship of the Word, and guidance of the Holy Spirit in your life. Hallelujah!

## CONFESSION

I'm sanctified, set apart, for God's use. I'm continually transformed by the renewing of my mind, in the image of Christ. I stay on the path of purity, yielded to the Word, and the authority and guidance of the Holy Spirit, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Timothy 2:21-22; 2 Corinthians 6:17; Romans 6:1-2

# 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 7:2-16 & Proverbs 22-23

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 21:29-38 & 1 Samuel 27





MONDAY 9

## ONE NAME FOR GOD



And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth (John 1:14).

It's possible to know God with a limited revelation; and a lot of people are that way. They have a very myopic view of who God is. But you see, you can't live beyond the revelation of God that you have. In the Old Testament, God revealed Himself in several names. He said to Moses. "I am the LORD: I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Iacob, by the name of El-Shaddai, but by my name JEHOVAH was I not known to them" (Exodus 6:2-3).

However, in the New Testament, He revealed Himself in the Name, Jesus! The Bible says the totality of divinity resides in Jesus Christ (Colossians 2:9). So, the Name of God in the New Testament is Jesus. In Matthew 28:19, Jesus commanded His disciples to baptize the people in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. In carrying out that divine instruction, they baptized people in the Name of lesus.

Read the Book of Acts; the Apostles understood that the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, is Jesus; that's the Name for the Godhead. The Father responds in that Name; the Holy Spirit answers to the name as well.

The Psalmist declared, "...for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name" (Psalm 138:2). We read in our opening verse that the Word became flesh and dwelt amongst us. That's Jesus! Philippians 2:9 says, "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name."

If the Name of Jesus is higher than every other name, then it's obvious that's the Name of God Himself. He couldn't have a name that's lesser than the Name of Jesus.

This is the Name that's been given to us to live by. All power, dominion, glory, and majesty is vested in that Name. Heal the sick, cast out devils, raise the dead, and work wonders in that Name. It's got all of heaven's authority behind it. Glory to God!

# **CONFESSION**

God has highly exalted Him, and given Him a Name that's 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. I live in, and by, the Name of Jesus, and I rule and dominate my world by the power of that Name. Glory to God!

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Matthew 28:18-19; Ephesians 1:19-23; Philippians 2:9-11

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 8-9 & Proverbs 24-26

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 22:1-13 & 1 Samuel 28





## TUESDAY 10

# YOUR WORDS AND YOUR LIFE



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

Jords possess creative energy. Words are things; they have substance and never die. Jesus showed us how to use words. In every miracle He did, in every blessing He imparted, He used words. He spoke, and whatever He said came into existence.

He taught that the most powerful force in life is the force of words and cautioned us not to speak empty, inoperative words (Matthew 12:36). He said in John 6:63, "...the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." The same goes for your words; they're eternal.

Read Romans 10:9 and see the power of words with respect to salvation: "...if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." A man will only go to hell or to heaven on the basis of his words. If he spoke the words that God said we should speak for salvation, he'd be saved. But if he didn't, he'd be damned. It's that simple.

There're blessings untold for the one who's born again, but to enjoy them, you must acknowledge and speak them forth. 1 Peter 3:10 says anyone who wants to enjoy life and see good days must speak wholesomely. Where you are today in life is a reflection of what you've been saying all your life.

Therefore, build your life with the right words. Speak words that are consistent with the glorious life of righteousness, peace, health, wealth and joy that you have in Christ Jesus.

# **PRAYER**

Thank you, Father, for giving me an extraordinary life of righteousness, peace, success and dominion. I'm indestructible, and in the ageless zone by virtue of your life and glory in me. Your graces, wisdom, and righteousness are revealed in me today, in all I do, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

James 3:5-6; Mark 11:23; 1 Peter 3:10

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 10:1-18 & Proverbs 27-28

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 22:14-23 & 1 Samuel 29





WEDNESDAY 11

# A LIFE OF PURPOSE WITH GOD



Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new (2 Corinthians 5:17).

eing born again, even though you still have Bthe same physical body, your spirit has been recreated in the likeness of Christ. This is what lesus made possible for us: He gave us His life and nature of righteousness, having taken our place of sin and condemnation on the Cross. Now we have and live a life of purpose in the earth.

The moment you were born again, you were born into a life of purpose with God. You're God's outstretched hand of blessing to your world. It makes no difference what you were, prior to giving your heart to the Lord. It makes no difference that others may have thought you wouldn't amount to anything in life. Today, you're a prince of power with God. Understand, acknowledge, and appreciate your new destiny in Christ.

We read in our opening verse that "...old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." You've been catapulted to a life of victory, success, prosperity, hope, and assurance. But that's not all. Through you, God wants to bring many others into the same blessed union and fellowship of the Spirit, so their lives can also have meaning and purpose with divinity.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I rejoice for your seal on me, designating me a child of divine destiny, living out and fulfilling your purpose in the earth. I live over and above the natural courses of life, the corruption, evil, and decadence prevalent in this world of darkness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Peter 2:9; Ephesians 2:10 AMPC

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 11:1-15 & Proverbs 29-31

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 22:24-34 & 1 Samuel 30





THURSDAY 12

## MAKE THE GOSPEL YOUR PRIORITY



But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal (Matthew 6:20).

s Christians, we're workers together with God (1Corinthians 3:9). In other words, we have the same purpose; we're on the same course. We have the same vision, and we put everything into achieving that vision, which is turning men from darkness to light, and from the domain of darkness into the Kingdom of His love-Son.

There's no other reason for you being on earth than to demonstrate His glory in bringing others to Him, and also train for the Spirit-life. This is why you must use your earthly resources, the things that He has blessed you with, for the furtherance of the Gospel. Your relevance in the spread of the Gospel is one of the major reasons He channels prosperity your way. Your involvement in soul winning attracts more grace and prosperity to your life.

Therefore, it's important that, always, the spread of the Gospel around the world is top priority to you. Matthew 24:14 (TLB) says, "And the Good News about the Kingdom will be preached throughout the whole world, so that all nations will hear it, and then, finally,

the end will come." These compelling words reiterate the urgency of the moment—the need to preach the Gospel throughout the world, to every man, woman, boy and girl.

It's our heavenly Father's desire that everyone hear the Gospel of the Lord Jesus and have the opportunity to believe in His Name. But it's our responsibility to make it happen.

## **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I'm grateful for the opportunity to be relevant in the spread of the Gospel. You've made all grace abound towards me, such that having all sufficiency in all things, I abound in every good work for the spread of the Gospel and the establishment of your righteousness in the earth, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Matthew 6:19-21; 2 Corinthians 9:8 AMPC

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 11:16-33 & Ecclesiastes 1-2

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 22:35-43 & 1 Samuel 31





FRIDAY 13

# BE MEEK AND LOWLY IN HEART



Whoever will humble himself therefore and become like this little child [trusting, lowly, loving, forgiving] is greatest in the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 18:4 AMPC).

The more knowledgeable you are in the things of the Spirit, the more humble you become. If your knowledge in Christ, and of God, doesn't produce a greater level of humility in you, then something is wrong; your knowledge is of the flesh and such knowledge puffs up (1 Corinthians 8:1).

True knowledge of God is the knowledge of the Spirit, and in unity with His Spirit. The more you know Him, the more you reveal and reflect Him in your thoughts, character, words and actions. In Matthew 11:29, He said, "...I am meek and lowly in heart...."

The One who said this is the same One described as the embodiment of all knowledge and wisdom. Philippians 2:5-8 further lets us in on His humility. It says, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of

#### the cross."

Don't be high-minded. That's what Jesus meant when He used the word, "lowly" in our theme verse. It means to "condescend without being condescending"; it's one of the key things about humble people.

Humility is a life; it'll work in you, whether you're with the high and mighty or with the lowly. It's often expressed in action by the willingness to take on the responsibility of service to others, in loyalty to the Word.

Something else about humble people is that they take responsibility, even for other people's errors, and don't keep record of the wrongs done to them. They free those who hurt them, because true humility is submitting to the Lordship of Jesus Christ through the Word.

## **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for the impact of your Word in my spirit. I'm completely yielded to the authority, influence, and impact of your Word, producing positive transformations in my character, lifestyle, communication, and attitude, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Peter 5:5-6; Proverbs 29:23; James 4:6

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 12:1-21 & Ecclesiastes 3-5

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 22:44-53 & 2 Samuel 1





### SATURDAY 14

# **DON'T GO OVERBOARD**



Thou art snared with the words of thy mouth, thou art taken with the words of thy mouth (Proverbs 6:2).

In your personal life as a Christian, you must demonstrate the Word everywhere, and at all times. Don't let casual talk rob you of the effectiveness of the Word in you, and through you. Never become so casual with the Word and in your talk that you lose respect for the truth of God's Word and who He's made you. Maintain the consciousness of the honour the Lord has placed on your life, such that even when you joke, it's never against the Word, your identity or heritage in Christ.

The Bible says, "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" (Ephesians 4:29). Your jokes shouldn't be coarse; don't go overboard. It's okay to be funny, but don't get so funny that you forget who you are. Express dignity, honour, even when you joke.

When you talk about God, be reverent, because His angels are always present. Many have got themselves into trouble because of their casual or idle communication, forgetting that they're snared or taken captive by their words.

Never say anything that's against your body or your life, all in the name of making a joke. You may not mean it, but if you say it, you'll have it. That's what Jesus said in Mark 11:23. He didn't say, "You'll have what you say, only if you weren't joking"; rather, He said, "You shall have what you say." It's a law of the Spirit; use it to your advantage.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for the honour you've placed on my life. I never lose sight of the truth of your Word and who you've made me in Christ. My words are inspiring; I'm excellent in my communication, everywhere and every time, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Proverbs 26:18-19 NKJV; Proverbs 18:21; Proverbs 15:4

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 13:1-14 & Ecclesiastes 6-8

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 22:54-62 & 2 Samuel 2





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## X otes




SUNDAY 15

# LET THE WORD CONTROL YOUR VALUES



For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace (Romans 8:6).

When the Bible talks about the carnal mind, it doesn't mean a sinful mind per se, even though the carnal mind is prone to sin. A carnal mind means a mind that's ordinary; of mere human understanding; just normal human life.

The person who's carnally-minded, even though he's born again, reasons and acts like the natural man. He lives according to the senses. He's more attuned to, and concerned about the things of the flesh. The Word and the spiritual realities of the Kingdom hardly get his attention.

Now, the Bible tells us that to live that way is enmity against God (Romans 8:7); meaning that the carnal Christian walks at cross-purposes with God. He's not ruled by or subject to the Word of God; a state that leads to death—separation from everything gracious and divine! Why in the world should anyone live at such a base level?

Be Spirit-ruled and Word-governed. Refuse to be stirred by and attracted to fleshly things. The Bible says, "...they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh..." (Romans 8:5). What are the things that stir

you up? Remember, where a man's treasure is, there will his heart be also.

You're after the Spirit if your affection time and energies are focused on things pertaining to Christ, His Gospel, and the eternal life that He's given us. So, let the Word of God control your values, ideas, opinions, choices and decisions.

# **CONFESSION**

I'm not moved by what I feel, see or perceive through the senses! I'm born again and full of the Holy Ghost, with the very life of Christ in me. Therefore, I'm not ordinary! My mind and affections are set on the Lord and things pertaining to Christ, His Gospel, and eternal Kingdom. Blessed be God!

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 John 2:15-17; Romans 12:2; Colossians 3:1-2

# 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 1:1-24 & Ecclesiastes 9-12

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 22:63-71 & 2 Samuel 3-4





MONDAY 16

## **EXUDE JOY AND ESCHEW ANGER**



Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God (James 1:19-20).

any don't realise how maintaining a joyful heart is key to fulfilling God's purpose for their lives. Isaiah 12:3 says, "Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation." Your faith prevails in an atmosphere of joy, joy that comes from your inner man.

Some allow their desires or failed expectations rob them of their joy. But as a Christian, your joy is independent of circumstances. True joy is in fulfilling your purpose; doing the things the Father asked you to do.

The Word admonishes us in James 5:13: "Is any among you afflicted (ill-treated, suffering evil), let him pray; Is any merry, let him sing Psalms." In Ephesians 4:26, the Word tells us that we shouldn't allow our anger, fury or exasperation last for long.

God's holy anger is only expressed towards those who do evil and works of unrighteousness; and it's not your job to be angry on His behalf. For example, when Samuel was angry that the children of Israel asked for a king, God said, "Samuel, why are you angry? They didn't reject you; they rejected me" (Read 1 Samuel 8:6-7). God didn't permit Samuel to be angry.

Anger defaces your beauty in the spirit. Therefore, eschew anger. Manifest the joy of the Lord always, for the joy of the Lord is your strength; that's where your glory is. Hallelujah!

# **CONFESSION**

I've put on the new man, which, after God, is created in righteousness and true holiness. I'm full of joy! In me, there's no bitterness, rage, or anger. I only give vent to the love and righteousness of God, expressing His kindness, meekness, patience and goodness. Hallelujah!

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Proverbs 19:11 NIV; James 1:19-20; Ecclesiastes 7:9 CEV; Colossians 3:8

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 2:1-21 & Songs of Solomon 1-2

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 23:1-12 & 2 Samuel 5-6





TUESDAY 17

## THE GOSPEL MUST BE PREACHED



For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain (Philippians 1:21).

n some countries today, the authorities are trying to use the weapons of fear, persecution, and intimidation to suppress and prevent the preaching of the Gospel. But the Gospel can't be stopped. Jesus said in Matthew 24:14, "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

Never be intimidated by any government, group, or individuals who set themselves against the Gospel. They'll fail, as they've always failed. When Saul of Tarsus made havoc of the Church, Jesus knocked him out and said, "...it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks" (Acts 9:5).

There's no legislation, gang-ups, trumped-up charges and pronouncements against the Church that can stand. Christians need to be more conscious of this, and stand for the Gospel everywhere, preaching it boldly with absolute convictions, even unto death.

Consider the Apostle Paul's persuasion about Christ and the Gospel in our opening verse; so inspiring! You can't be threatened with death when you're already dead! We've been crucified with Christ; nevertheless, we live. Therefore, have no fear of death, because to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

As far as the Gospel is concerned, some of us have

come to understand that whether it's death or life, we win. Thus, we're unapologetic about the Gospel; we're ready and able to face anything! We've put it all on the line; we've counted the cost and come to one conclusion: the Gospel must be preached; no threats can stop us!

Square your shoulders, chin up, chest out, because you're Christ's ambassador; the bearer of the news of His saving power. This is your purpose; it's the reason you're alive. You're totally consecrated to God; you're His property; therefore, nothing and no one can hurt or hinder you from fulfilling your destiny in the Gospel.

Let the passion to spread the Gospel around the world burn in your heart like never before. Remain resolute and declare like the Apostle Paul: "...necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!" (1 Corinthians 9:16).

# **CONFESSION**

By words and deeds, through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God, the Gospel is being fully preached around the world, and many are being hauled into the Kingdom of God! The spirit of dominion is stirred in God's children around the world to preach the Gospel fearlessly, and in faith, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Philippians 1:14; Acts 18:9-10; 2 Corinthians 1:7-10

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 3:1-14 & Songs of Solomon 3-5

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 23:13-25 & 2 Samuel 7-8





WEDNESDAY 18

## YOUR STATUS AND YOUR STATE



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).

There's a clear distinction between your status and your state. Your life isn't about what you're going through. The revelation of God's Word that you have unveils your status, but that may not change your state or situation, until you put the Word to work.

The first thing you need to understand is what God says about your status, because if you understand your status, then you can change your state. This means you superimpose the tenets and principles of the Kingdom on your situation for a change.

In our Kingdom, for example, it's written that greater is He that's in you than he that's in the world. If you're conscious of this reality, and understand your status as the one in whom Christ literally dwells, you'll be unperturbed, irrespective of the adversities you face, because you know you'll always win! The greater One is in you.

The prognosis about your health situation may seem dire, but your status is that you have the very life and nature of God, and divine health is at work in you NOW! This must be clear to you. And once you act on that truth, the health situation will change.

Perhaps it's a situation of lack; there's no money in your account; that doesn't mean you're broke or poor. Take your eyes off the situation; focus on your status. The Word says you're the seed of Abraham; you own the world. You're an heir of God, and a joint-heir with Christ. Hallelujah!

Always remember that the challenges you face, irrespective of how they come, are subject to change. Your role is to act on the Word; keep affirming who you are in Christ. As you keep your focus on the Word, you're metamorphosed, and every unfavourable situation will align with your status as an associate of the God-kind.

# CONFESSION

The Sovereign Lord is my refuge and strength, and my ever-present help. He makes my feet like the feet of a deer, and enables me to go on high heights! Whatever comes my way, my victory is assured, because greater is He that's in me than he that's in the world! I know who I am! Hallelujah!

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Corinthians 4:17-18; Romans 4:18-21; Ephesians 2:4-6

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 3:15-25 & Songs of Solomon 6-8

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 23:26-33 & 2 Samuel 9-10





THURSDAY 19

# FOCUS ON THE PERSON, NOT ON THE POWER



But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you... (Acts 1:8).

here's a difference between the Person of the Holy Spirit and the impartations of the Holy Spirit. In the Scriptures, we read how handkerchiefs and aprons taken from the body of Paul healed the sick (Read Acts 19:12). The Holy Spirit wasn't on the handkerchiefs and aprons, but His power was on them.

As a Christian, you're a greater and better recipient of the Spirit's power. He lives in you, and is real in you as a person, but He has also imparted your whole being with His power. This is where many have missed it: they seem to be more conscious of the power than the Person of the Holy Spirit.

You can have the power of the Holy Spirit, and not be in fellowship with the Person of the Holy Spirit, and that's dangerous. It happened to some in Bible days, and still happens today.

For example, Samson was endued with the power of God; the power was in his hair, but he wasn't living right. He disregarded the Word of God, and fell in love with a Philistine. He knew his decisions were wrong, but he was confident that if trouble came, all he had to do was activate the power of God in Him. He knew

how to "shake himself" (Judges 16:20) for the power to work. He knew how to make contact with the "power," but wasn't in fellowship with the "Person." Of course, he would pay dearly for his error eventually.

That's just like some people today. Someone could be healing the sick, casting out devils, but his ways aren't right with God; he's not in fellowship with the Holy Spirit. All he has are the impartations of the Spirit. That's not what God wants.

Your fellowship with the Holy Spirit is the most important thing in your life. Apportion regular times in the day to spend with Him, and He'll reveal mysteries to you concerning your life, future, family, job, finances and everything else related to you. He'll fly you on eagle's wings and navigate you through life victoriously. Hallelujah!

## **CONFESSION**

Blessed Holy Spirit, I rejoice for your glorious presence in my life. You're real in me and to me as a person; your power is at work in me. I sanctify myself, being fully yielded to your guidance and instructions, as I fulfil my calling in Christ. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Acts 1:8; Matthew 7:21-23; Acts 19:11-12

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 3:26-4:1-20 & Isaiah 1-2

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 23:34-43 & 2 Samuel 11-12



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FRIDAY 20

# UNDERSTAND YOUR PURPOSE



Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations (Jeremiah 1:5).

neing born again, there's a definite place for you bthat nobody else occupies. You don't have a duplicate. Nobody was ever like you; no one is like you today, and no one will ever be like you. There's a definite purpose for your life, and when your purpose is clear, everything else lines up for you.

Have you discovered why God created you? You may say, "He created all of us to serve Him; to worship Him and be in fellowship with Him." All of that is nice, but why did He create YOU? It's about YOU.

I discovered my purpose very early in life. As a teenager, I wrote in my diary, "I was born as an answer to the cry of millions." My purpose was clear; I knew what to live for, and I made up my mind to be God's best for me, because I'm the only one of me that He has.

Sadly, many live and grow old without ever knowing the reason they came. Nothing could be more miserable than that! There's no life more empty and frustrating than to live without a purpose.

You're not an accident in this world. God didn't bring you into this world to merely "complete the square." Consider the fact that there're over 7 billion people on the face of the earth, but no two fingerprints are alike.

You're unique, and so is your destiny in Christ. Whatever God destined you to do, nobody can do it exactly like you. Nobody can say what He wants you to say the exact way you'd say it. Nobody can get your kind of results.

Therefore, get excited about your uniqueness. Fulfil your purpose. Be what God made you to be. He planned before the foundation of the world that you'd serve Him and live for Him. Through you, His righteousness would be established in the earth, and in the hearts of men. Glory to His Name forever!

# **PRAYER**

I'm filled with the knowledge of God's will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding. My life is for the glory of God, and I'm pleasing Him in all things, doing the good works which He prearranged ahead of time. I'm God's vessel of righteousness, and through me, His righteousness is established in the earth and in the hearts of men, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Acts 26:16; Colossians 4:17; Ephesians 2:10 AMPC

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 4:21-5:1-15 & Isaiah 3-5

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 23:44-56 & 2 Samuel 13-14





SATURDAY 21

# IMPACT YOUR WORLD WITH HIS DIVINE PRESENCE



...he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand (Isaiah 53:10).

The Bible records that if all the miraculous works Jesus did were to be written, the whole world wouldn't contain the books. That's absolutely true. His entire life was an unending stream of miracles, signs, and wonders. He brought hope, joy, and life to many. The Bible says He went about doing good, healing ALL that were oppressed of the devil, for God was with Him (Acts 10:38).

This Jesus, although in heaven, is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8). He's still loving, gracious, merciful, compassionate, and works miracles today as He did in Bible days. He still lifts, blesses, and transforms lives today, but He's doing it through us.

That's what we read in our opening verse; we're His seed, prolonging His days. We stand in His stead, bearing His glory and divine presence. He gave us the Holy Spirit, so we can minister His grace, wisdom, salvation, righteousness, love, healing, wholeness and beauty in a dark world, to a broken humanity.

When we come before the sick, the downtrodden,

the poor, the rejected, the neglected, and the fainthearted, Jesus shows up in us and there's a turnaround in their situation. He's the solution that the world is looking for, and we minister Him, for we're partakers of His divine nature and dispensers of His verities and love.

You bear His divine presence; you're Heaven's headquarters, because you're God's house; His living, moving, active tabernacle. Therefore, impact your world with His divine presence. He's as present in you and active through you today as He was in Bible days. Have this consciousness, the Christ-consciousness, and bless your world with His divine presence that you bear.

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, what a privilege it is, not only to be a partaker of eternal verities, but a bearer, conveyor, and dispenser of your divine presence. Through me, your manifold wisdom, grace, perfection, salvation, righteousness, love, healing, wholeness and beauty are made manifest, bringing a lasting transformation to my world, by the power of your Spirit, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Matthew 28:19-20; Matthew 10:7-8

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 5:16-26 & Isaiah 6-8

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 24:1-12 & 2 Samuel 15-16





As Nigeria marks her 59<sup>th</sup> independence anniversary on the 1st of October, Rhapsody of Realities partners all over the country are ready to organize ReachOut Nigeria during which they'll impact every community, language, age group, and profession in Nigeria with the Gospel. This will be achieved by the following:

- Reaching Out Through Languages: Of the 502 languages spoken in Nigeria, 299 of them are living languages. This year, partners are distributing not only the English translation of Rhapsody of Realities during ReachOut Nigeria, but a total of 300 languages!
- Reaching Out To Locations: Partners will also be reaching out to every inhabited community to bring God's Word to the dwellers
- Reaching Out To Age-groups: The ReachOut Nigeria campaign will be tailored to effectively reach the elderly, adults, youths, teens and children.
- Reaching Out To Communities of Practice (CoP): The campaign will reach groups of people who share a common craft or profession such as: civil servants, lawyers, engineers, teachers and so on.

It's time again to bless the soul of Nigeria! To participate in ReachOut Nigeria 2019, please call: +234 802 501 3846, +234 1 888 8186

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SUNDAY 22

# MORE THAN SKILL AND DEXTERITY



...I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship (Exodus 31:3).

It takes much more than skill and dexterity to do God's work. You have to be filled with the Spirit! Recall what we read in our opening scripture. The Lord specifically appointed Bezaleel for an assignment, but He had to fill him with the Spirit first.

Church maintenance, the music or technical department, children's ministry, the first timers' ministry, the ushering department, pastoral care units, cell ministry, etc., are all aspects of pastoral work. You can't do them through the flesh, but by the Spirit. You must, and always, do what you do in the house of God and in the Kingdom by the power of the Spirit, otherwise, it'll be of no divine significance or impact.

Paul said in 2 Corinthians 3:5-6, "…our sufficiency is of God; Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life." It's the Spirit that gives life; therefore, your work and service in the house of God must be sanctified by Him.

In Romans 15:15-16, Paul testified of the grace given to him to be a minister of God to the Gentiles.

Then, he prayed "...that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost." There's no ministry without the Holy Spirit. Nothing succeeds without Him.

If you function in any capacity as a leader or worker in the church, the Spirit must sanctify your work! Zechariah 4:6 says, "...Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts." There's a constant infilling of the Spirit that you require, and must experience, as you walk with the Lord. Read Ephesians 5:18-21 to learn how to be filled with the Spirit, always.

#### **PRAYER**

I do all things by the power of God's Spirit. I'm continually filled with the Spirit, in wisdom, sound judgement, knowledge, glory and dominion! Therefore, I experience unstoppable success and ever-increasing glory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Exodus 35:31; Philippians 2:13; Acts 4:31

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 6:1-18 & Isaiah 9-10

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 24:13-27 & 2 Samuel 17-18



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MONDAY 23

# THE BREAD OF GOD



For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world (John 6:33).

In Luke 4:4, Jesus said, "...man shall not live by **bread alone, but by every word of God."** Also, in John 6:35, He said, "...I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst." A symbolism to this effect is seen in Luke 9, when Jesus multiplied five loaves of "bread" and gave to His disciples to feed the multitude with.

The bread is symbolic of the Word of God that He gives us, which we, in turn, should "give" or share to others. As we distribute the bread (the Word), as we share the Gospel with others, and bring more souls to the Kingdom, there's multiplication. Acts 6:7 says, "And the word of God increased: and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith."

As you win more souls, the Word of God increases, because the Word goes into every man's world. If there were five hundred people that received the Word, they'd take the same Word to five hundred worlds, and the cycle continues.

Do you want the Word of the Lord to increase? If your answer is "yes," then sow it into the hearts of men; "distribute the bread." Recall that as the disciples distributed the bread to the multitude in Luke 9, the bread kept multiplying.

This was the Lord's idea and expectation when He gave the great commission in Matthew 28:19-20. He told us to take the Gospel to every man's world, and make students of those in our environments. Therefore, preach, teach, share the Word in such a way that others would receive, and become effective preachers and teachers of the same Word. Hallelujah!

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for making me a custodian of the truth of the Gospel, and an ambassador for Christ, empowered to make students of the nations, and show them how to live. Through the power of the Spirit, I make many others effective, enlisting them in your mighty workforce. Thus, the light of the glorious Gospel shines intensely, and spreads into everyman's world, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

John 6:57-58; Romans 1:16; 2 Corinthians 3:6

# 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 1:1-14 & Isaiah 11-12

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 24:28-39 & 2 Samuel 19-20



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TUESDAY 24

# **INCREASE IN KNOWLEDGE**



Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart (Ephesians 4:18).

The Apostle Paul, by the Spirit, highlights the awful state of the non-Christian in our opening text. Let's read from the Amplified translation for further clarity: "Their moral understanding is darkened and their reasoning is beclouded. [They are] alienated (estranged, self-banished) from the life of God [with no share in it; this is] because of the ignorance..." (AMPC)."

What a dreadful state for anyone to be in! If ignorance of God and His Word could put man in such a state of hopelessness, hemmed in the domain of darkness, imagine then what the accurate knowledge of God would do!

Knowledge in this context isn't scientific or mental. Rather, it's a special kind of knowledge: "epignosis" (Greek). It refers to accurate, full and precise knowledge of God; experiential knowledge of God, acquired through revelation and acquaintance.

After receiving salvation, yielding yourself to the ministry of the Word is crucial. Proverbs 11:9 declares,

"...but through knowledge shall the just be delivered."

You already have an inheritance bequeathed to you in Christ, but through the knowledge of God, you're able to take a hold of what's rightfully yours in Christ.

Yield yourself to knowledge. Have a voracious appetite for the Word. Those who don't know the Word easily get overwhelmed by circumstances, and defeated by the crises of life. But through the knowledge of God, grace and power over crisis (peace) are multiplied in your life (2 Peter 1:1-3). Hallelujah!

# **PRAYER**

Dear heavenly Father, I thank you for the unveiling of your Word to my spirit, and for filling me with the knowledge of your will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding. I'm built up, edified, and strengthened by your Word even now, for exploits, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Acts 20:32; 2 Peter 1:1-2; 2 Timothy 3:15-17

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 1:15-2:1-10 & Isaiah 13-14

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Luke 24:40-53 & 2 Samuel 21-22



Leave comments on today's devotional at www.rhapsodyofrealities.org



# WEDNESDAY 25

# BORN INTO THE SUPERNATURAL REALM



Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son (Colossians 1:12-13).

hen Jesus walked the earth, He lived the Kingdom life. His life and ministry were miraculous and supernatural. He fed five thousand men with a little boy's lunch (women and children not counted). He raised the dead, walked on water, etc. He did so many other supernatural things, which are recorded for us in the Bible.

But here's the point: the miracles that Jesus performed weren't miracles to Him. Rather, they were the expressions of His Kingdom life. The things He did, and the way He lived shows the way we ought to live and function today, for we're in the Kingdom now. Being born again, we've been born into the Kingdom of God's dear Son, where the supernatural is natural with us.

Therefore, like Jesus, your entire life, every day, should be an unending gusher of the miraculous and supernatural. Every move you make, every step you

take, every word you speak, should be outflows of the supernatural! This is because the Word of God is clear: "...as He (Jesus) is, so are we in this world" (1 John 4:17).

We have the same life He has. His power is in you, working all the time, because He lives in you. But you have to learn how to let it flow out to the world. Divinity is at work in you. It's the reason you must inundate your mind with God's Word and thoughts from the Spirit of God! Consciously practise the Godlife by living out God's Word.

Many live as ordinary men due to their ignorance of the Word (Psalm 82:5). Study and meditate on God's Word continually, to appropriate the blessings of the supernatural life in Christ and live in that realm—EVERY DAY!

# **PRAYER**

I'm born of the incorruptible seed of God's Word; therefore, I remain connected to the Word, for therein lies my health, wealth, prosperity, and progress in life. As I study and meditate on the Word, my inheritance in Christ is unveiled to me, and I walk in that reality. I'm living the supernatural life naturally, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Peter 1:2-4; John 14:12; 1 John 4:17

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 2:11-22 & Isaiah 15-18

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 1:1-13 & 2 Samuel 23-24





THURSDAY 26

# SEE THROUGH THE WORD



Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new (2 Corinthians 5:17).

The scripture above isn't a promise. Now that you're born again, you're a new creature already. The Word doesn't say you'd become a new creature once your ways or behaviour have become perfect; no! The qualification is being in Christ.

Then, the latter part of the verse says, "...<u>behold</u>, all things are become new." This means, see through the Word! See spiritually. It doesn't matter what your life was like before you gave your heart to Christ; now that you're born again, things have changed!

Notice the underlined word, "behold"; it means to see from God's perspective. Don't look at the physical anymore; see through the Spirit. Maybe you were born with a heart condition; old things are passed away! That blood condition is passed away. That cancer has passed out of your body! Those bad habits are gone. Glory to God!

Even the positive things in your life are replaced with better ones. Have this consciousness. See yourself and your life through the Word. All things in your life, now that you're born again, are of God (2 Corinthians

5:18). That means they're divine; they're perfect. No strange "bodies" in you; nothing of the devil is in you.

Jesus said, "...for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me" (John 14:30). As He is, so are we. The enemy doesn't have his sickness, disease, infirmities, failure, or weakness in you. You were created perfect in Christ Jesus. This is the Word of God concerning you; see yourself in this light.

# **PRAYER**

Dear heavenly Father, I thank you, for I'm the first and the best of your creations; I'm indestructible and impregnable to the corrupting influences of this world, because greater is He that's in me, than he that's in the world. I'm a new creature; I'm supernatural. My life is a manifestation of the glory and beauty of divinity. I'm alive to God, spirit, soul, and body, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Corinthians 3:18 AMPC; James 1:23-25

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 3:1-21 & Isaiah 19-22

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 1:14-23 & 1 Kings 1





FRIDAY 27

# DON'T CONFORM TO THE HUMAN NATURE



I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life (1 John 5:13 ESV).

Being born again, you have the life and nature of God in you; therefore, you're not an ordinary person. 2 Peter 1:4 says, "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature...."

Some Christians refer to themselves as "ordinary human beings," feigning some kind of humility, but that's sad. As long as you believe, confess, and act on that statement, you're conforming to the human nature. Whereas, your human nature was supplanted by God's divine nature the moment you were born again.

2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." You're a new creature, with a new life—the divine life—not the human life. The life in you now is no longer by blood, but by the Spirit.

The Bible says the life of the flesh is in the blood (Leviticus 17:11). But Romans 8:8-9 says, "So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God...." But

read the concluding part; it says, "But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit...."

Being born of the Spirit, you're sustained by the Spirit; He's the life of your physical body. Romans 8:11 says, "But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you."

Now you can further understand when the Bible says in John 1:12-13, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." Become more conscious of the God-life in you, and give expression to your divine nature in Christ.

# CONFESSION

I have the life of God in me, and I walk in the consciousness of this reality. There's no death in my path, because I'm the embodiment of life, born of the Spirit, to rule and reign as a king over circumstances. Blessed be God!

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

John 5:24; Romans 8:8-10; 1 John 5:11-12

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 4:1-16 & Isaiah 23-24

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 1:24-34 & 1 Kings 2





SATURDAY 28

# YOU'RE IN THE REALM OF LIFE



Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life (John 5:24).

The curse of death is on everything in the earth, and that's the reason everything in the earth depreciates. But when you're born again, you're translated from the realm of death into the realm of life.

This is why you must vehemently refuse sickness, because sickness is incipient death; gradual, progressive death. If sickness tries to attack your body, don't accept it! Act on the Word. In your path, there's no death; there's no darkness; therefore, refuse to accommodate anything that's of darkness. The Bible says, "…Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:7).

What we read in our theme scripture were the words of Jesus. Later on, after He had ascended, and the New Testament Church started, the Apostle Paul reechoed the same truth. In Romans 8:1, he said, "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."

Why is there no "death" or condemnation for those who don't walk after the senses, but live in accordance with the Word? The answer is in the second verse: the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made them free from the law of sin and death (Romans 8:2). Glory to God!

The world is under the curse of the law of sin and death, but you don't live under that law. You live by the law of the Spirit of life, and in that realm, only life controls. Meditate on this truth and let it inundate your soul and reveal itself in your body.

# **CONFESSION**

The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from death, and the law of sin; I live and walk by the law of life, because I dwell in the realm of life. There's no darkness or death in my path. Life is at work in every fibre of my being, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### **FURTHER STUDY:**

John 5:24; 1 John 5:11-13

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 4:17-5:1-2 & Isaiah 25-26

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 1:35-42 & 1 Kings 3





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# X otes




SUNDAY 29

# **OUR PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY AS KING-PRIESTS**



And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen (Revelation 1:6).

very Christian is a king-priest unto God. You Lmay say, "I never answered the call to be a priest." But the day you made Jesus Christ Lord of your life, you were immediately catapulted to that office. And your primary responsibility as a king-priest is intercession.

In intercession, you take hold together with God; you side with Him in bringing His will to pass on behalf of someone else. That means you must know His will and purpose concerning a person, a country, a situation, or whatever you're praying about, to be able to pray accurately.

Some Christians have cultivated the erroneous belief that the ministry of intercession is for certain Christians or for only those in the church's prayer group, but that's not true. We all have an obligation of intercession (Ephesians 6:18).

In 1 Timothy 2:1-3, the Apostle Paul, by the Spirit, writes, "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men...For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour." So, you

have to fulfil your ministry of intercession as a kingpriest, and in so doing, there're certain facts to note.

First, the prayer of intercession is always on behalf of another. Secondly, you'll have to be persistent, because you're trying to prevail on someone else to align with God's will. Therefore, you must continue in prayer for as long as it takes, concentrating the influence of God's power towards the one for whom, or the situation for which, you desire a change. Also, watch out for the note of victory in your spirit; that's when you become certain that you have what you asked for.

Take up the ministry of intercession and learn to cause changes in the Name of Jesus. God has given you the dominion and the authority to alter the course of events in the earth—the occurrences in your life, in your family, and in the lives of those around you. You can achieve this through your intercessory ministry as a king-priest.

# **PRAYER**

Dear heavenly Father, I thank you for counting me faithful and committing to me the ministry of intercession. I affirm that the Gospel of Jesus Christ has free course and is glorified in the nations of the World, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ecclesiastes 8:4 TLB; Romans 8:26-28; 1 Peter 2:9-10

# 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 5:3-21& Isaiah 27-28

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 1:43-51 & 1 Kings 4





MONDAY 30

# PROPHECY FOR CHANGE



Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith (Romans 12:6).

Inderstanding the gift of prophecy and how it works is very important, so we can use it accurately. Prophecy is often in operation in an utterance of faith. An utterance of faith is declaration of words that'll come to pass, or words that you desire to come to pass.

However, you can't use that level of merely declaring words of faith to alter the course of a nation, a city, a family, or another person's life. You'd have to know the will of God, and the direction of the Spirit, to utter words that are in consonance with the Spirit of God in order to effect the kind of change that's consistent with His will.

What this means is that the gift of prophecy must operate through revelation, not just through your utterance of faith. For instance, you might have been in a prayer meeting where the prayer coordinator, being led of the Spirit said, "Prophesy to your country." Then as a result, you began to speak prophetic words; things you desired to see happen in your country.

However, just because you went ahead and prophesied as instructed didn't necessarily mean you spoke precisely the mind of God about your country at that particular moment. The words you uttered may be inconsistent with God's revelation.

This shows that you can't just stay with the forthtelling part of prophecy; you need the revelatory part as well. You must know the mind of God. When you do, you'll know what words to speak, and not take sides against Him. It's the reason we pray a lot in the Spirit. When we pray in the Spirit, our spirits are more open to allow the wisdom of God to bubble up within us, and guide us in the right choice of words.

Moreover, studying the Scriptures also plays a vital role. As you study and meditate on the Scriptures, your spirit is flooded with light; you're enlightened as to the plans and purposes of God by which you're able to pray and prophesy in accordance with His will. Hallelujah!

# **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the gift of prophecy, which is operational in my life and with which I bless and edify my world. I prophesy that your righteousness is established in the hearts of men around the world; and through the truth of the Gospel, salvation, healing and health, prosperity and success, deliverance, wholeness, preservation, peace and joy spread in the nations of the earth, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Corinthians 14:1-5; Ezekiel 37:9-10; Acts 2:17

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 5:22-6:1-9 & Isaiah 29-30

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 2:1-11 & 1 Kings 5





#### "Healed of High Blood Pressure"

A year ago, I joined the Rhapsody of Realities Influencers' Network online, and made the commitment to be a distributor of Rhapsody of Realities. Before long, I started experiencing such peace that could have only come from God, despite the challenges I was hiterto having. I had been battling with high blood pressure, but after I began re-sharing the affirmations on healing to my online contacts, I got healed; my blood pressure is back to normal. Glory to God!

M. Jessie; Zambia

#### "My Seed Brought My Miracle Baby"

In 2018, I partnered with Rhapsody of Realities devotional, through the "ReachOut Nigeria" campaign, and I received a harvest of over 2000% of my initial partnership. I partnered again as I was led of the Spirit, and I experienced an unending stream of the miraculous. My husband and I had desired to have a child for over 3 years, and after my partnership with the devotional, I discovered I had conceived. Glory to God!

M. Winifred; Nigeria

"My Brother is Completely Healed"

My brother took ill, and the situation grew worse such that he became despondent, but I prayed for him. Not long afterwards, it became an emergency that he had to be taken in an ambulance to the hospital. But because I had prayed, and I've been listening to the man of God, Pastor Chris, I wasn't moved; I went to bed knowing all was well. Today, my brother is completely healed, and I give all the glory to God. Hallelujah!

D. Williams-Harrison; Canada



We invite you to make Jesus Christ the Lord of your life by praying thus:

"O Lord God, I believe with all my heart in Jesus Christ, Son of the living God. I believe He died for me and God raised Him from the dead. I believe He's alive today. I confess with my mouth that Jesus Christ is the Lord of my life from this day. Through Him and in His Name, I have eternal life; I'm born again. Thank you Lord, for saving my soul! I'm now a child of God. Hallelujah!"

Congratulations! You are now a child of God. To receive more information on how you can grow as a Christian, please get in touch with us through any of the contacts below:

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# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Pastor Chris Oyakhilome, the President of LoveWorld Inc., a dynamic, multifaceted, global ministry, is the author of Rhapsody of Realities, the world's #1 daily devotional, and more than 30 other books. He's a dedicated minister of God's Word whose message has brought the reality of the divine life to the hearts of many.

Millions have been affected by his television broadcast, "Atmosphere For Miracles," which brings God's divine presence right into people's homes. The scope of his television ministry extends throughout the world with LoveWorld satellite television networks, delivering qualitative Christian programming to a global audience.

At the world-renowned Healing School, he manifests the healing works of Jesus Christ and has helped many receive healing through the operation of the gifts of the Spirit.

Pastor Chris has a passion to reach the peoples of the world with God's presence—a divine commission he's fulfilled for more than 30 years through various outreaches, crusades, as well as several other platforms that have helped millions experience a victorious and purposeful life in God's Word.



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