

morning tea with jesunifemi

a 30-day Spirit-inspired Christian devotional



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a 30-day devotional inspired by the Holy Spirit to fuel your intimacy with God. Every single day is a message from God to you. I pray that this devotional helps you grow spiritually, bringing you into much more intimacy with God - your Father.

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DAY ONE

Crave Intimacy I

The amazing grace of the Master, Jesus Christ, the extravagant love of God, the intimate friendship of the Holy Spirit, be with all of you. 2 Corinthians 13 verse 14 MSG

Intimacy is of the Holy Spirit, just like grace is of our Lord Jesus, and love is of the Father. If you want to experience grace, latch on to Jesus, you will find grace. If you want to experience love in a way that will sweep you off your feet and leave you speechless and in awe, latch on to the Father. You will experience love in a way no one can meet up to. And if you seek intimacy with God, latch on to the Holy Spirit. You will find friendship with God. The Holy Spirit lives in every believer who has received Him. He is a gentle and peaceful Spirit. He is the Spirit of God. He doesn't go where He is not welcomed, and He doesn't force Himself on anyone. He is God's precious gift to His own people. The moment you build a consciousness that the Holy Spirit lives in you and that He is the Spirit of intimacy, the more intimate you will become with Him. You will find friendship with Him. He becomes your person and you become His person.

Many of us go on our daily activities every day without acknowledging the presence of God's Spirit in us. It's like having someone beside you all day and night, every hour of the day, everywhere you go but you don't acknowledge the presence of that person. You don't talk to the person. You don't ask for their opinions. Sometimes, the person tries to talk but you shut them out as though their opinions do not matter. After a while, the

person just decides to keep to Himself until you seek Him out.

Take a moment to reflect and repent if you have done this.

Crave intimacy with the HolySpirit. Crave His friendship. It's a beautiful relationship that your soul needs. As you continue the rest of the day, engage your friend who lives in you. But don't do all the talking. Let Him speak too. Wait for Him to speak. Honor His presence in your life.

Say after me: Today, HolySpirit, I acknowledge your presence in me. Speak to me today. Guide me into all truth. Please, direct my path and order my steps as I go about my day-to-day activities. Thank you, precious Spirit of God.

DAY TWO

Crave Intimacy II

"And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone." Matthew 14 verse 23

Intimacy is in quietness. Sometimes when we get too loud or noisy without a moment of stillness, we often miss God. In the Bible, we see people leave their comfort zones to go to a quiet place just to seek God. Even our Lord Jesus, after a rowdy day, set himself apart and went to a quiet place just to seek God.

I don't think desire is enough to build intimacy with the HolySpirit which is why I made another post for this beautiful topic. I want to show you how to build intimacy with the HolySpirit just as I have been taught to.

In Intimacy, there is an exchange of words. You speak and He speaks too. There is a sacrifice of time in intimacy. Intimacy is a product of time well spent with God which means you can't be too quick to wrap up prayers. You need to spend time with the HolySpirit if you want to be intimate with Him.

Stillness before God is a state of the heart. It can be cultivated in the presence of God. It is the moment when you allow God to speak. It is a moment of surrender to God. It is the moment you allow God. It is God's precious moment with you.

A lot of us mistake this state when we pray as a time to wrap up prayers. *God has heard me.* We say thank you Father and rush off. For me, I would suddenly stop praying as though the fuel has finished, then I say thank you Jesus for you have heard me.

Amen!

But God means "Shhhhh, let me talk," If we are patient enough in that moment of stillness, we will hear God speak to us clearly.

Another way to cultivate intimacy is through worship. People who worship God in Spirit and truth come into this state of stillness a lot of times. Their heart is in a place of surrender, and they can hear God. Worship is a very powerful tool you must employ to cultivate this stillness. You can be led easily if you are a worshipper.

I have also found out that spending time with God's word helps a great deal in cultivating intimacy with God. My Pastor always says, "Meditation of God's word is the classroom of the Holy Spirit." Most times when we actually read God's word, we do it in a quiet place, uninterrupted. We give God the room to interrupt us easily. I have noticed that those who hear God in every situation no matter where have learned this art of stillness before God in the place of spending time with God either through prayers, worship, or meditation of the word. Then, they carry that stillness into their day-to-day activities and still hear God despite the chaotic world revolving around them.

The greatest desire of my heart has always been to be intimate with God and I pray you catch this desire too.

SAY AFTER ME: Holy Spirit, please help me to cultivate intimacy with you starting today. Help me to be still before you oh Lord and help me to maintain this mindedness even throughout the day.

DAY THREE

Your Most Important Assignment

*"For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written. The just shall live by faith." Romans 1
verse 17*

The most important assignment of a believer is to keep believing. Our verse for the day is written several times in the Bible. The just shall live by faith. You started this new life by faith, and you can only keep going by faith. Even our walk with God is by faith. So, we have to keep believing in God, no matter what.

Kathryn Kuhlman once said, "Faith in a big God is enough to cross any hurdle". Challenges in life do not last forever. When we go through challenges, they present as though they don't have an expiry date. But they shall eventually pass away. I love how the Bible starts some stories with, "And it came to pass" It means nothing whatsoever, no matter how crazy it may seem to appear at the time, it will still pass away. The Bible says. The righteous person faces many troubles, but the Lord comes to the rescue each time. Our God is faithful and true to us, He will not suffer our foot to be moved. He will always show up for us.

Believe God. Don't give up now. God is not giving you a hard time. He is making your faith in Him stronger. A strong faith is a faith that is proven and tested. A tested and proven faith will come to a point just like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; that no matter what comes your way, you can't let go of your God.

"Jesus answered them, "Do you finally believe? In fact, you're about to make a run for it—saving your own skins and abandoning me. But I'm not abandoned. The Father is with me. I've told you all this so that trusting me, you will be unshakable and assured, deeply at peace. In this godless world, you will continue to experience difficulties. But take heart! I've conquered the world."

In all His glory and splendor, even our Lord went through challenges for our sake. He even spent three days in hell, in real torment. Yet, He came out. He came out. He came out with a full victory for us. You, yes you will surely come out victorious. Your most important assignment on earth is to keep believing in God.

SAY AFTER ME: I believe in God no matter what. I hold onto my faith in God firmly. Just, like my Lord, Jesus overcame this world. I will prevail over every challenge in His name. Amen

DAY FOUR

Know When to Switch

I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. Luke 1 verse 19

It's not every challenge you have to go through. You don't have to endure some things. God does not expect you to endure sicknesses. He does not expect you to endure oppression from the Devil. You cannot always take everything the Devil throws your way. You have an assurance of health in Christ Jesus. By His stripes, you are healed. So, why would you endure sickness? It's like having dollars in your account and yet you still go around, begging for leftover food. Healing is yours in Christ Jesus. Totally paid for. Not one naira is owed when it comes to your health. You need to insist on your inheritance in Christ. It is yours. So, take it! Sicknesses and Diseases have no legal right to stay in your body. You have the legal right in Christ to send whatever sickness off and it must leave because your body has been fully paid for.

Know when to switch! If the Devil is oppressing you or your family, you have the legal right to deal with him. You have the authority and power in Christ to trample over every demon. They have no right whatsoever to oppress you. It should not be heard that a demon is oppressing a child of God. They are far underneath your feet. Stand your ground on the victory you have in Christ no matter what. You are a man of faith! You are a

woman of faith! Don't tolerate such from the Devil. You are a child of God, seated at His right hand, far above principalities, and power and every ruler of darkness. You are not small. You are mighty in God's kingdom. Whatever cannot overcome Jesus cannot overcome you. You must know who you are. You must see your place in God's Kingdom. You must know how to sit in your place, and you must know when to switch. The Devil can only go to the extent to which you allow him. I pray that light dawns on your heart and that you see your place in Christ Jesus.

SAY AFTER ME: I have every legal right under Christ to trample over every oppression of the Devil. I have the authority to tell every sickness to leave my body under Christ Jesus. I command every sickness in my body to leave right now! I put an end to every form of demonic oppression. I have victory now! In Jesus Name.

DAY FIVE

Getting Convictions

I pray that the light of God will illuminate the eyes of your imagination, flooding you with light, until you experience the full revelation of the hope of his calling —that is, the wealth of God's glorious inheritances that he finds in us, his holy ones!
Ephesians 1:18

Conviction is simply the word of God, so deeply rooted in you which produces faith that commands your environment. Every Christian should live by convictions. Convictions about their health. Convictions on prosperity. Convictions on fulfillment of destiny. Convictions that God is with you no matter what. Convictions. Convictions. Convictions.

Convictions take a great deal of meditation to be birthed. It takes light given by the Holy Spirit to be birthed. It's more than knowledge. You have to know that you know that you know that you are healed for you to be healed.

CONVICTION = MEDITATION IN GOD'S WORD +
LIGHT GIVEN BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

If you can see it, then you can have it.

Today, I want you to make up your mind to have convictions. See them as investments for your future. You can truly live in health for the rest of your life if your heart is convinced. And if you've tried before, don't give up so easily. Convictions are the

fruit of meditation and patience. The issue we face is that we want something, and we want it here and now. Maybe, you have tried to meditate on a particular subject in God's word but after a while, gave up because it seemed like it was not working. I get it. I think we all have gone through that.

Light is given by the Holy Spirit. God gives understanding to the meek. If you want anything enduring in God's word, you have to pray for light. You have to wait until God gives you.

To get the finest gold, extra effort and time is needed. If gold smiths give up too easily, the result will be impurities, not poor gold. The beautiful things of life take time to unfold. Same as convictions. Maybe, if you got it so easily, you would also let go of it easily. Whenever time, effort, and patience are exercised into something, when we finally have it, we treasure it with all our heart.

Some of us spent years to get a degree and some took courses for a period just to get certified. It's the same way you have to entreat God's word. You stay on it until it yields results. Don't give up because you didn't get it instantly. Don't give up because it did not seem to work several times. Take the course to the end. Wait for that day, light will dawn upon your heart. Don't give up now. Look around you, there are people it is working for. God's word works. You are God's child too. It will work for you too. You just need to complete the course. Keep meditating as you continue to pray for light until you receive it. And when you have it, you can put it to work any day and time. It becomes a part of you that no one can take away. Is there a conviction

you have been wanting to have? It's time to go for it again! If it is God's word, then it is your inheritance, go for it!

SAY AFTER ME: Father, grant me light concerning my inheritance in Christ Jesus. Help me to stay on your word until I see what belongs to me clearly in Christ. Amen. I declare that it is my year of convictions, in Jesus' Name!

DAY SIX

Give God Something to Work With

"Now go! I will help you to speak, and I will tell you what to say." Exodus 4 verse 12

God can only work with what you give Him. In this scripture above, God was talking to Moses, telling Him to Go, and promising to help him speak. All Moses needed was to Go! Reading this verse made me understand much more what my Pastor always says that you need to give God something to work with.

If you want to get people saved, you have to go on evangelism. Yes, you might be shy and not know what to say but if you go and open your mouth to talk, trusting God, I believe God will do the rest. If Moses never went to Pharaoh to tell him what God said, the Israelites would never have been free. He didn't look like it. He didn't talk like it. But God told him to go anyway. God was saying just give me something to work with. Sometimes, we think God needs a lot from us before we set out. We give excuses and never end up doing it. God told Jeremiah that all He needed from him was to tell His people everything He told him and go everywhere He sent him. All God needed was an intermediary between Him and His people.

Several other examples across the Bible have launched out based on God's instructions despite not knowing how it will work or the outcome they will get. But we read about the mighty act God wrought through them because they gave God something

to work with. Jesus told Peter to throw in his net again for a catch. Peter did it doubting anything will happen. But he caught a mighty catch because he threw in his net. Today's lesson is that we might not have the whole picture. We might not have it all figured out at first, but we can still throw in our net.

Learning a skill can also be giving God something to work with in terms of your career. Sowing a seed is giving God something to work with as He pours out His blessing on your finances. Attending church service regularly is giving God something to work with; He can easily send a message to you through your Pastor's sermon. Think about the many things you can give God something to work with. Flip through your journal. Is there a pending instruction? Is there something you can start working on now? God is waiting for your side of the story. Give Him something He can work with.

SAY AFTER ME: From today, I don't hesitate to God's will. I partner with God and contribute to His work here on earth, in Jesus' Name.

DAY SEVEN

He is God Alone

"And the magicians did so with their enchantments to bring forth lice, but they could not: so there were lice upon man, and upon beast. Then the magicians said unto Pharaoh, This is the finger of God: and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said." Exodus 8:18-19

Today, I want you to take time out to worship God. God deserves to be worshipped all day and all night long because He is God and He is God alone. There is this adage that if you know how to meditate well, you will give God thanks more. There are so many reasons to give worship God and today I can't help but meditate on how great the God we serve is. I was reading Exodus recently and just kept meditating on the miracles God did to bring His people (Israelites) out of Egypt.

For the first three miracles God did in Egypt through Moses and Aaron, the King of Egypt would call his magicians instructing them to perform the same miracle. They actually did do it.

This made the King of Egypt more stubborn because he thought our gods could do it too. The magicians, however, could not reverse what God had done. They could not turn the blood river Nile back to a pure flowing river. They couldn't get rid of the frogs God had brought. They couldn't reverse whatever God did. And, after the third miracle, they failed to replicate all other miracles.

By the fourth miracle, they bowed and said to their King, God had done this.

Our God is so great. So mighty. He is God alone. He is the God of gods. He is the King of kings. The Lord of lords. He is in His own class.

Who is he that speaks when the Lord of hosts has spoken? Who can judge our God?

Who can open a door He Has shut? Or shut a door He has opened? He is the great I am. The whole earth trembles at His feet. Worship Him.

DAY EIGHT

God's Plan For You

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29 verse 11

Today God is saying to you that His plans for you are of good. It's not just good, it is of peace. And it is also for your future. God thinks way ahead of you. His instructions always go beyond the now. There are three things you must establish in your heart about God.

God is thinking of you. Stop thinking He does not have you in mind. Do not think you are so minor in all of His creations. You are not minor. His mind is full of thoughts of you, how to increase you, how to prosper you, how you will eat, the clothes you will wear. Everything that bothers you. Everything you can think of. He is thinking of all these things. He is thinking of you.

These thoughts are of peace, of good. Nothing harmful. Nothing disastrous. Everything good. His nature is good. His nature cannot permit evil thinking. He is thinking of your future. God thinks ahead of you. He is the all-knowing God. He sees ahead of you which is why you might not understand every instruction in the now.

When my bones were being formed, carefully put together in my mother's womb, when I was growing there in secret, you knew that I was there— you

saw me before I was born. The days allotted to me had all been recorded in your book before any of them ever began. Psalm 139 verses 15-16 GNT

Can you see how deliberate God is about you? Right from your mother's womb, even before she noticed you were there, he saw you there. He knows how your life will play out. He wants to guide you to be all that you were made to be. He cares about you much more than you care about yourself. Don't leave Him out of your life wanting to figure out everything yourself. Put Him first and trust Him.

Further Meditation: Read the whole of Psalm 139

SAY AFTER ME: The Lord has good plans for me; plans to prosper me and not to harm me, plans to give me hope and a future. I know with God I'm in the right hands, in Jesus' Name.

Amen

DAY NINE

You can do It!

“So, God created humans in his own image. He created them to be like himself. He created them male and female.” Genesis 1 verse 27 ERV

Today, I have come with a mighty charge for you. I have come to tell you that your dreams, goals, and visions are valid. The visions and assignments God has given to you are not impossible to fulfill. You can run with that God-given vision. You can complete your divine assignments. Yes, you can! You can do everything you set your mind to do! You can do all things through Christ who strengthens you.

You are God’s child, fashioned in His image and likeness. You have His nature. You were made to be like Him? Is there anything impossible for God to do? God created you to be like Him. Should there be anything impossible for you to do? You also have God’s Spirit in you, sealed in you until the day of promise. He is never leaving you. That’s enough assurance that all things are working together for your good.

You have the mind of Christ in you which gives you leverage above all. You can start a thing and see it to fruition. Jesus is your template. He started His race and finished unto the end. You will too. You know what, Jesus Himself is at the right of the Father, always interceding and advocating for you.

Can you see how graced you are? Can you see that you are backed up by the Spirit?

God is not telling you to become who you are not by giving you all these dreams and visions. He is telling you to rise and become who He already made you to be. It is who you are. It's your lane which is why you can run in it.

SAY AFTER ME: I was created in God's image and likeness, made to be like Him. Therefore, I can run with my God-given visions and complete my assignments here on earth in Jesus Name! Amen!

DAY TEN

Have Goals

*“Fools fold their hands and ruin themselves.” Ecclesiastes 4
verse 5*

The generation we find ourselves in is a bit dynamic. We sometimes, find ourselves following the crowd and saying trendy things that do more harm than good to us. For example, we say things like we continue to grind. But, to what end? There should be an end before a means.

Due to societal pressures to quickly make it or afford everything we want. For some, it is to fit into the crowd. I am not ignorant that some desperately need a means of survival. In all this, we need to learn to take a pause and ask ourselves really important questions.

Why am I doing this?

The writer in Ecclesiastes did a study on the life of man. He talked about a man who kept working so hard, struggling. He never stopped to ask himself *“Why am I working so hard?”* He had no family. No friends. He had misplaced his priorities and only realized that late in life. He was filled with regret.

God wants you to be hardworking. He hates laziness. He always rewards the faithful. Remember the story of the talents Jesus told His disciples. The last servant was rebuked because he did

not put to work the talent given to him. What he had was later taken from him and given to the most faithful.

Folding your hands is never an option.

Pray about your life and receive God's template. Write the vision and make it plain. Paste them somewhere you can see them. Run with it, leaning on God's grace. Stay faithful in that which He has called you to do.

DAY ELEVEN

Come Bodly

“Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.” Hebrews 4 verse 16

There is this story of a girl who made a momentary mistake and indulged in sin. She felt so unworthy. It was time for her quiet time, and she wanted to pray. But she felt too unclean to come before God. Tears flowed down her eyes as she poured out her heart to God, repenting of the mistake she had made. To her surprise, the warmth of God’s love and mercy embraced her. She wept much more. She thought she would be rejected instead she experienced God’s love in a way that never left her the same.

God spoke to her that He had forgiven her. She asked God if what she asked of Him the previous day was still hers.

God responded to her, “The Devil came and made a case against you — He said you didn’t deserve what you asked me for.” Her face fell at God’s words. Thoughts about her mistake infiltrated her mind when she heard God’s voice again.

“But he didn’t win the case. I sent him away. So, you have it.” Her face lit up at once. The words seemed to replay in her mind, pondering on what God had said. *Why didn’t the Devil win the case?*

God said — Because My Son already paid for it.

“Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.”

Her story reminds me of the woman who committed adultery that the Pharisees brought to Jesus for Him to judge. His response shocked her and also shocked her scorners. The Lord told her to go and sin no more.

Many a times, we might have found ourselves in a place where we felt unworthy to come before the presence of God. I know I have.

You find it hard to pray because you doubt if God would even listen to your prayers. The Devil keeps repeating it in your ears, that you have no right to come before God because of a mistake you made. It’s time to stop reminiscing about the mistake you made. It’s time to genuinely repent if you haven’t.

Now, come back to God’s presence. Your works didn’t give you access in the first place. Jesus did. So, you have the privilege of access to the Father through Jesus. It’s a privilege, so be grateful to God for it. God still has plans for you which you cannot fulfill if you keep brooding over your mistake. Forgive yourself. Then, come boldly with gratitude in your heart before the Lord.

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

DAY TWELVE

Provoke Others Unto Good Works

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Matthew 5 verse 16

We tend to undermine the direct and indirect effects our lifestyle has on others. Whether you know it or not, the human mind takes in information at a rate we are unaware of. This is why you pass by a place where a loud song is blasting, and you find yourself humming the lyrics later in the day.

If a passive one-minute listen to a song can have that much effect on us, how about the actions, statements, and perspectives of others we take in just by being in proximity to them? Some of us can't even help what we hear. For me, I cannot silence my lecturer who has a contrary belief to mine to wrap it up or even leave the class because I don't have a choice. I still have to learn from him. He has the platform.

The people in our space too. I'm talking about our colleagues, co-workers, boss, and others. They all always have something to say. Our minds are catching a lot of things. But one advantage of Christ is that we can decide what to mind. We can sieve through these thoughts and allow the word of God to superimpose on them.

Let's reverse it though. We can also influence others with our lifestyle. I mean, reflect on your life so far. Are there times in

your life when someone spurred you to intimacy with God? Is there a time when you just observed someone and wanted what they had too? Most times they don't even know this.

The life of a sixteen-year-old girl who was at the time one year older than me spurred me to desire intimacy with God. Her life was a magnet to the presence of God. Not just me. To every girl in our large dorm room. It was a mass effect. I still can't picture my life now without her being in the picture. I'm sure we all have stories to tell.

It's time for you to also provoke others unto good works. There is no better way to tell the story of the gospel than through our lives. Not in our strength because by strength shall no man prevail. But every day, as we draw from the presence of God and lean on the Holy Spirit to live the life of God. Let's provoke others unto good works.

DAY THIRTEEN

Paying the Price

I learned something very life-changing recently. I'm excited to share it with you too because I love to see you grow and become all that God had in mind when He made you.

For a long time, I felt very dissatisfied within without any obvious reason. My prayer time seemed too dry and boring. It seemed like nothing deep was going on no matter the time I spent praying. I was struggling. It seemed like the glory of God had lifted from my life. The presence of God was not as palpable as it used to feel. I wasn't used to this. I always felt God around me. Spending time with God stopped being something I looked forward to anymore. I started doing it out of duty whether or not I got what I wanted.

Dissatisfaction stepped in because my heart kept seeking but it wasn't filled. My expectations were not being met. For a long time.

I went to God about it.

He plotted a graph for me, giving me examples of men of God throughout the Bible. Men who did great things for God and fulfilled their destinies in the scriptures and even in contemporary times. God encountered them first — drew them to Himself. He showed these people His glory. His presence endeared their heart to God and left an imprint in their soul. The more time they spent with God, the more they longed for Him.

But it was a passing moment.

Moses was one of them. He thought God had departed from Him. He was dissatisfied and distraught. He climbed Mount Sinai for forty days and forty nights tarrying in God's presence until He touched God again. When He got down from the mountain, everyone knew He had been with God. His face was white because the glory of God had enveloped him so intricately. It became enduring for Moses.

He had paid a price to get what He wanted.

It became clear that I was dissatisfied because I wasn't paying the price to get what I wanted. I had seen a glimpse of God's power and glory. I was longing for it. But how will I get it?

Benny Hinn wrote in His book — Longing for God takes one to the Outer Court; thirsting takes one to the Holy Place; and seeking leads one to the Holy of Holies. I wish I could talk about three locations, but it might take an entire book.

I will just go straight to the price to pay.

The price depends on how hungry and dissatisfied you are —
Moses stayed until He got what He wanted.

I realized my mistake. I gave up too quickly. I should have stayed until I encountered God again. I should have kept at it. I should have kept coming until I was filled.

I should have paid the price.

Now, I know better because I understand how it works now. I will keep paying the price until I see God in glory.

This is my charge to you too because I know every child of God longs for God in their hearts — a craving so deep in our souls that only God can satisfy. I hope you pay the price too.

“God—you’re my God! I can’t get enough of you! I’ve worked up such hunger and thirst for God, traveling across dry and weary deserts. So here I am in the place of worship, eyes open, drinking in your strength and glory. In your generous love, I am really living at last! My lips brim praises like fountains. I bless you every time I take a breath; My arms wave like banners of praise to you.” Psalm 63:1-2 MSG

DAY FOURTEEN

Behold

“So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image” 2 Corinthians 3 verse 18.

Today is another great opportunity to be in God’s presence. When two or more are gathered in His name, He is there in their midst. There’s no place better to be than in a company of believers, in one accord worshipping God.

Go to church today. Worship God and pour out your heart to Him. The secret of God’s presence is that as we behold Him, we are changed to become much more like Him. Our inadequacies and self-formed identities are peeled off. We begin to see ourselves in the eyes of our creator then we because just like Him.

If we stay long enough like Moses on Mount Sinai or Jesus on the mount of transfiguration, we will drip God’s glory. It would envelope us like a cloak and also reflect in our nature. Even our faces will glow better.

If there is anything attitude you have seen about yourself that you don’t like. Instead of beating yourself over it. Come to God’s presence and behold. The veil will drop off and your will begin to ease into your new nature in Christ.

Go to church.

Don't just enjoy the sound of the music. Sing along too. Worship God. Lift up your hands to your Father and Creator. Isn't He worthy of your praise?

He surely is.

DAY FIFTEEN

God is Love

"No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us." 1 John 4 verse

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It's been fourteen days of writing teas to you. Thank you for going on this journey with me. I hope you have been blessed in several ways at one point or the other.

Today's scripture reveals how we can truly represent God in our world. How to reveal God through us? Many people around us have questions. Some have made indirect conclusions about who God is without ever going through the process of knowing Him.

They say common things like why a supposedly good God will allow wicked things to happen to good people. It is a common phrase. It has become an excuse for people not to believe in God.

But the first thing God reveals to those who truly know Him is His love. His love for us. And His incessant demand that we love others.

When you begin to yield to God, obeying His commandments to love others. No one will tell you that God is good, you will come to know it. When God says to meet that person's needs. Feed that person. Give out those clothes. Don't talk to people

like that. If we don't lean on God's grace to genuinely love people and obey God, we might struggle to do these things.

Sometimes we even have legitimate excuses as to why not to forgive but God says to forgive and even pray for the person. The more you walk in love, the more that theory that God is a wicked God fizzles out of you. God is good. He is love. He is not capable of evil. It's not in His capacity to do evil.

The more you walk in love, the more come into light of this truth.

This is a reminder to obey the love commandment. It's our way of revealing God to the world that the God we serve is love Himself. Walk in love today.

DAY SIXTEEN

Practical Christianity

“Then he said to the crowd, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me.”

Luke 9:23

During a Bible Study at my A-level fellowship, I asked a question that bewildered everyone including the Bible study coordinator. Bible study looked like a round table talk. Not like we were allowed to talk. We all just sat still in that fashion. I had joined for a few weeks and every week we did the same thing. The coordinator reads the Bible, and we talk about the character. People asked questions about the characters we read. After a few weeks, doing the same thing they have always done. I raised my hand. I had a question.

How does this apply to our lives? I asked.

Eyes stared down at me as though I had said something rude or out of the box. I genuinely just wanted to know. Everyone went quiet for a few minutes including the coordinator. So, I expanded on my question.

We come here every Thursday, reading the Bible and talking about the characters. But I still don't know how this applies to us.

Now their eyes almost popped out of the socket making me almost reiterate my question and wish I had never even asked. I

turned it over in my head wondering what I had said wrong or how to possibly rephrase it.

Finally, the coordinator answered me with a smile plastered across his face. Then he said “what do you suggest?”

It’s not like I had the answer or how to go about it. I honestly did not. I just felt bored all the time sitting here listening to the Israelites’ journey through the wilderness.

The stories were interesting to me, but I was an A-level student writing Cambridge. Everyone else apart from us at that time was either in the reading rooms studying or in their rooms preparing for evening prep.

I needed to know that these stories I was reading were not just about the past. It is about the present. I’m not just reading about men God walked with. I’m seeing them as templates for me, walking with God now. That’s what I desperately needed to know.

I don’t remember if I answered the question or not, but I made a lifetime decision that for every bible study whether personal or in church, I have to go home with something I can work with.

I’m going to practice whatever I learn from the word.

God’s words for me and you today are for us to truly live the word of God. Put into practice what you hear and read. Let’s not live a life of deceit, pretending to be spiritual when we are not. Let’s truly live the word as we receive grace from the Holy Spirit.

DAY SEVENTEEN

Dealing with Pride

“First pride, then the crash— the bigger the ego, the harder the fall.”

Proverbs 16 verse 18

Saul of Kish, the King of Israel before David. He was God’s first choice. God wanted to cut His covenant with Saul but Saul dishonored God.

Pride is putting yourself or others before God. Going ahead in your own strength without seeking help from He who made you. Pride is also thinking you know better than the One who formed you.

God had instructed Saul not to keep any of the spoils from the war with the Amalekites, but he saw how men were praising him for the victory. So, he disobeyed God. He was more concerned about the people than about God. Pride had settled in.

God was angry with him and rented His work from Saul’s hands, replacing him with David.

Search your heart to assess whether or not pride is there. If you notice pride, take out time to worship God more. As you worship God, you will become consumed with His will and every atom of pride will die. In worship, only one person can take the glory. You cannot be in God’s presence and glory in yourself at the same time.

Also, focus on what God is doing in you, instead of what is happening in others. If Saul had not shifted his gaze from God to the people, he would not have disobeyed God. There are some questions you should rather not answer or even initiate such as when people ask how much you gave, or how long you prayed. Sometimes it's unnecessary to say some things especially when you know it's not God taking the glory but you. It's the Pharisees' way of thinking just like Jesus taught.

Finally, lean on God. When you notice pride, search your spirit and talk to God about it. It might be that you have been doing things in your own strength for a while. Allow the Holy Spirit to help you fix what went wrong. Pray for a humble heart. You cannot be proud and humble at the same time. Pray.

DAY EIGHTEEN

Dealing with Comparison

"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it" 1 Corinthians 12 verse 27

If every Christian would discover their individual purpose, there would be no need for envy amongst us. Everyone would take their place and shine because that is how God designed it to be.

God has never made anything without a purpose in mind. If anything exists without a so-called "use" It is because its purpose is yet to be revealed to us. Nothing exists in this world without a divine purpose. God wouldn't have told Noah to bring all the animals into the ark if they were worthless creatures. God wanted to preserve them because they were important too. Even the butterflies are important in the eyes of God. They all contribute their quota to this earth in terms of beauty, splendor, and function. They might have a thousand species, yet each species is different.

See the trees. So many. So different. The trees all take their roots from the soil, yet they grow independently, bringing forth unique fruits. They don't compete with each other because if they do, a different kind of fruit will be missing. The earth would lose out on a particular taste and nourishment. They all just bring forth their own fruits according to their kind and contribute their share to humanity.

That's how Christians should function. Just like each tree bears different fruits, each believer is unique. Everyone has a role to play. If only, like the trees we will focus on drawing from the source, we will eventually grow out and spread, shining brightly. If we understand that our roles are different, we will stop comparing ourselves to others and just focus on what God is doing in us and through us.

Comparison robs of a particular service that the earth needs.

There's no need to compare your journey with others. Stay in your lane drawing from the same God and watch for the unique giftings being expressed in you. Pray for others too especially those you find yourself envious of. That way you will bear fruits quickly.

DAY NIGHTEEN

What to do About Your Visions?

“For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end, it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarry, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry.” Habakkuk 2 verse 3

When God gives you a word about your future or a prophecy. Hold fast to that word until you see its manifestations. However, not every word you receive is for now. Most times God is just preparing you ahead so that you can take a posture for what is coming your way.

A good example is David. We read the spectacular way he was chosen and anointed to be the King of Israel. Anyone would think he should have mounted the throne right away. If God anointed him, everyone else should bow and carry him to the throne. At least that’s how I felt the first time I read that account. I just thought no time to waste. Saul had been rejected. David had been anointed to replace him. What is everyone else waiting for? Isn’t God’s word the final say?

A lot of people have stepped out to carry out visions God placed in their hearts and when it didn’t work out, they questioned if they really heard God. Some visions have an appointed time. These kinds of visions require a different you. A different mindset. A different tenacity. A solid conviction in your spirit. These things need to be built in you for that vision to manifest which is why we go to God praying about it, meditating on these things, and confessing it. As we do this time and again, we

become the true custodians of that vision. We own it and it truly becomes ours.

Although David was anointed to be the King, his path to the throne was not straightforward. He went through a lot of trials. He served under Saul. He also became a mighty warrior that the people sang praises of. He became a leader who raised feeble and downtrodden men to mighty men of valor who won battles for him. He gained aides and allies. He learned honor for men whom God had anointed. For me, I would say he was anointed for the process. He became worthy of the vision God had placed before him. God eventually brought His word to pass.

Check the vision again and pray about it. Is it for now? Or is it for an appointed time? What are the steps to take towards the fulfillment of that vision?

What kind of person fulfills that vision? If there's someone who has gone ahead of you in that same line, you could follow them closely, just like David served under Saul for a season.

Don't forget the place of prayer and constant meditations on these things God has spoken to you about.

It shall surely come to pass.

DAY TWENTY

Honoring People

"Recognize the value of every person and continually show love to every believer. Live your lives with great reverence and in holy awe of God. Honor your rulers." 1 Peter 2 verse 17.

One of my all-time favorite female characters in the Bible is Abigail. She was the wife to Nabal, a foolish rich man. Her husband had belittled David, probably due to his lack of knowledge of who David was. David feeling insulted was about to charge toward Nabal's house with 400 mighty warriors to kill him and his household. Abigail heard the news from her servants and mounted her horse to meet David on his way. Sighting David from afar, she quickly dismounted and ran to him, bowing her face to the earth. She negotiated the fate of her family with wisdom before David. With an in-depth consideration of this story, David was a wanderer. He went about the wilderness with his men and made his home in caves. Honestly, he wasn't all that. He was Israel's 'most wanted person' with a price on his head. All he had were God's promises to him and the anointing of God to make him king. What did Abigail see differently? What did she see that made her bow to a man like David? She said to David "And it will happen when the Lord does for my Lord according to all the good that He has spoken (promised) concerning you, and appoints you ruler over Israel," 1 Samuel 25:30

Anyone who honors God's servant truly honors God. Abigail honored the promises of God over David's life and related with him based on those promises. You cannot honor others if you don't honor God. The honor for God is what made David honor Saul, refusing to kill him even when opportune to do so. You also cannot honor God if you don't know God. To know God is to honor Him. Abigail wasn't just an attractive and rich woman. She had adequate knowledge about her lineage and community. Nabal, her husband, would have probably acted otherwise if he knew who David was. But Abigail knew God and his promises to her descendants. If she didn't know God and how God had dealt with his people in the past; she wouldn't know God was capable of keeping His promises. I believe that's what David, also a man of the covenants, saw in Abigail, which made him later marry her.

Abigail saved her entire household and even David's destiny just by her act of honor. The Bible says to honor all men. Honor God's word by honoring people.

For a broader context, read 1 Samuel 25.

DAY TWENTY-ONE

Seeds Amongst Thorns

'Others fell among the thorns, so when they sprouted, the thorns choked them.'

Matthew 13:7

Jesus told us about the parable of the Sower who sowed seeds in various places and the results of what happened to the seeds at their various destinations. There were seeds that the Sower sowed that fell amongst thorns, but they weren't allowed to grow because the thorns choked them.

We can relate this to the life of a believer who goes to church on Sundays and hears a fiery message from His Pastor. While the words heard are still being taken in, the believer goes home to a company of people who do not share the same beliefs. They talk him out of what he has heard. Consequently, the words get choked up in his heart.

This strongly speaks of our associations as believers. To grow, we must protect the word of God in our hearts. The Bible says to guard our hearts with all diligence because that's what controls our lives. Whether we like it or not, who we associate with determines how much God's word transforms our lives. Evil communication corrupts good manners.

To grow as a believer, you must surround yourself with people of like faith, who are treading the same path as you — the path

of life. You cannot be fellowshiping with God and encourage the works of darkness simultaneously. Light and darkness cannot co-exist in the same place. You cannot grow if you are friends with the wrong people. They will choke God's word out of you.

The Lord says, to come out from amongst them and be ye separate. Touch not the unclean thing and He will receive you. What has light got to do with darkness? What has Christ got to do with Belial? Come out from them first. Then trust God to surround you with the right associations that will propel you in life and destiny. You need the right associations to grow.

DAY TWENTY-TWO

Dealing with Fear

“Do not yield to fear, for I am always near. Never turn your gaze from me, for I am your faithful God. I will infuse you with my strength and help you in every situation. I will hold you firmly with my victorious right hand.” □□Isaiah□

□41:10□ □TPT□□

Some situations might come our way leaving us so perplexed and anxious. It could be anything really — the fear of having not done so well in a life-determining exam, the fear of losing someone we love either emotionally or physically—the fear of the future in a lot of cases. The Bible recognizes the emotion called “fear” and has given us a way to navigate this in a godly manner.

The word of God teaches us how to deal with fear. We deal with fear by reminding ourselves that we are not alone, we have a God who goes before us and makes the crooked paths straight. In every situation, God has assured us that He is with us. Let’s not have an idea of God as just being present. What’s the advantage of having an influential person as a family member or a close friend? It’s not just about knowing them. It’s the open doors and help that comes with the package. God is not just ever-present. He is our ever-present help in times of need. So, whenever we are afraid and we come to God, He says, “Remember, that I am your God.” It means that whatever may come your way, don’t be afraid because God is on your side. The way you

deal with fear is a measure of who God is to you. The revelation of God in your heart - His almightiness and His love for you determines your response to fear.

The Bible says perfect love drives away fear. Don't just believe God is an almighty being who is sovereign and has all things under His control. God is love too. He loves you and He is also willing to bring you out of your distress with His mighty hand.

Even when you actually did mess up and you have a role to play in the distressing situation you are going through. God is your father. He is still not going to fold His hands and watch you fall. Even our earthly fathers still try to make up for our mistakes in their own little way and strength. How about our Heavenly Father? He is full of mercy. His mercies are new every morning. God's word says The Lord waits [expectantly] and longs to be gracious to you. He waits on high to have compassion on you. For the Lord is a God of justice; Blessed (happy, fortunate) are all those who long for Him [since He will never fail them]." Isaiah □ □ 30:18 □

Don't be afraid. You have a God who loves you and is willing to help you.

DAY TWENTY-THREE

The Perfect Job of Creation

Starting from the very beginning of all things. Of creation.

“When God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was completely formless and empty, with nothing but darkness draped over the deep. God’s Spirit hovered over the face of the waters.”

□□Genesis□ □1□:□1□-□2□ □TPT

The HolySpirit was brooding over the dark, formless and empty earth. I’m sure you have probably read it a couple of times just like I had before now. The picture of the HolySpirit I had before was that of a very “Holy” Spirit who wanted nothing to do with darkness at all. He is light after all. He shouldn’t even be associated with anything dark, desolate or dirty.

After all, light and darkness cannot coexist in a place.

That’s all true.

But after reading this verse recently, He showed me that he loves dark places, empty vessels, desolate places, flawed places. He hovers over them like the mother hen hovers over her young wanting to shield them. It is His nature to make something out of nothing.

Because He is the Spirit of creation.

He is always itching to make something out of worthless situations which is why He was seen hovering over the face of the

deep, anticipating a word from God to do something. He loves to do something. He longs to make something.

That's why the Father sent Him to us. Not because we are perfect and holy so we deserve to have His "Holy" Spirit in us too. He was sent to us to build in us according to the Father's template. The Father sent Him so that He can do the same work He did at creation in us too. So, let's not hide our flaws, insecurities and mistakes from Him because He's already hovering over them. He is waiting for our permission to make us as we yield solely to Him. He wants to work out the fruits of the righteousness we have received from God in us. He wants to help us stand firm in God's plans and purposes for our lives. Let's not hide from Him.

What does it really mean for the Holy Spirit to be grieved?

Contrary to what people think, or let me say, to my previous premonitions. I thought it meant that the Holy Spirit was not happy with me whenever I did something wrong. I was conscious not to make Him angry or withdrawn. Now, I realize it means He gets sad when He sees people live below God's expectation for them or when there is darkness in a place. Because He longs to occupy and fill you with light completely. He wants to build and create according to the template from the Father.

This year, more than ever, I want to yield to the Holy Spirit. He's already in me, hovering at the void and hidden dark places. I really want to see what He will make of me just as He made a perfect job of creation. Now that the word has gone ahead of me,

the Spirit of God is already seeing to it that the word comes to pass as I yield to Him this year.

This year, I welcome you to a journey of yieldedness to the Spirit of creation. Let's watch out and see what He makes out of us as we yield to Him.

Can you see it already? Because I can.

DAY TWENTY-FOUR

Stop Worrying About Your Needs

“And God is able to give you more than you need, so that you will always have all you need for yourselves and more than enough for every good cause.”

□ □ 2 Corinthians □ □ 9:8 □ □ NLT

Is there ever an end to our needs? I’m not sure it is in our wiring not to have needs. Human needs are numerous, ever-changing, and spontaneous. When we think we have settled one, another arises. We will always have needs that vary based on where we are in life — bills to pay, food to eat, money to purchase resources for our growth.

Countless needs!

This could be burdensome and sometimes makes us shift our gaze from seeking God and His kingdom. In fact, the Devil has a way of distracting us by reminding us of the cares of this world.

But you should know this. God cares about your well-being. He even cares about you much more than you care about yourself. He wants you to prosper in all that you do — everything about you matters to Him. Nothing can ever be too much for you to ask God. He is always ready to provide for you always. It is God’s responsibility to meet your needs because He is in charge of you.

In Matthew 6, Jesus was not insensitive when He was saying seek the kingdom of God first and all other things will be added to you. He first talked about the birds, how they don't sow or reap or save but God still feeds them because He has a responsibility towards them. Then adds that, are you not worth much more? If God pays this much attention to birds, how much more you?

Your Father in heaven knows that you have needs of these things. He's not ignorant of your needs. So, stop worrying. Where will my food come from today? Or my drink? Or my clothes? These are the things those who don't know God are always concerned about. You are different. Jesus says instead of worrying about all these things, be more concerned with the Kingdom of God and what He requires of you, and He will provide you with all these other things.

God loves you and wants you to have all that you need. He loves it when you go to Him first about anything whatsoever. So always ask and watch Him meet every need.

What are your needs? Write them down and bring them before God. He will keep His word and meet them all.

DAY TWENTY-FIVE

Don't Grow Weary

"Let us not grow weary or become discouraged in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap, if we do not give in. Galatians 6 verse 9"

Mordecai was Esther's Uncle. He trained her to become the woman she was. He was pivotal in the story of her becoming. Not just her, but also in the prompt deliverance of the Israelites when there was a plot to erase their existence. He also saved the King's life when there was a plot to kill him. But He wasn't rewarded for any of this.

Haman, a special advisor to the King hated Mordecai and plotted to kill him. Just a night before the day he was to be killed, the King could not sleep. He brought out his record book containing the chronicles of his reign as king — glancing through it when he saw Mordecai's name and how he saved his life. He inquired of his servants if Mordecai had been rewarded yet for his good deed. He instantly instructed that Mordecai be honored and told Haman (who was plotting his demise) to see to this effect. Mordecai had probably even forgotten his deeds or maybe even got disappointed about not being rewarded. But the Lord remembered and rewarded Him just in time. It's almost like his reward had been stored up for the right moment.

You may have been sowing seeds over and again, serving in God's Kingdom, doing good deeds continuously without really seeing a harvest. God's word tells us this could happen but also

says we should keep at it with the hope in mind that we would undoubtedly reap. At the proper time, mostly when we least expect, the harvest of our seeds sown will come bountifully and we will see that all our good deeds were not for nothing.

Let's not be weary of well-doing for in due season we will reap if we faint not. That's what the word of God says. Keep at it. Don't give up now. Anytime from now, the tides can change. Things can change in a split second in your favor. The story can still change in your favor. That's if we faint not. Do not stop serving God. Do not stop sowing your seeds. God does not forget. The book of memorial will eventually be open before the Lord and your harvest will rush in.

DAY TWENTY-SIX

Living a Prophetic Life I

“And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed;” Luke 4:17-18 NKJV

A prophetic life is a life lived according to the design of God before the foundation of the earth, lines upon lines, precept upon precepts. An example of someone who clearly lived a prophetic life is our Lord Jesus.

From the life of Jesus, we see that He was sent to the world for a very specific purpose, and nothing was confusing about it. From our verse today, the Life Jesus lived had been aforementioned by the prophets. His assignment was to seek and save the lost. Every moment He spent on Earth was fulfilling all that had already been written of Him.

A prophetic life is lived on divine directions and instructions to follow.

Divine direction is the believer’s meat. It is readily available but most of us do not know this. It is how you discover the purpose of your life. One of my favorite scriptures was quoted by our Lord Jesus to His disciples.

He answered and said unto them because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them, it is not given.

You really can know God's design for you. It has been given unto you to know. You have access to these truths. God does not want you to live in darkness at all. He wants you to live a life of purpose, according to His designs for you before the foundation of the earth. Lines upon lines. Precepts upon precepts.

God said in His word, to call upon Him and He will answer you and He will show you great and mighty things to come. You cannot know if you do not call. You cannot find it if you do not seek it. Seek and you shall find. A prophetic life is a life of seeking God daily for His plans and purposes for your life. Even if you have a picture in your mind already. A truly prophetic life cannot live without the One who designed it in the first place. There would be bumps along the way. You would need strength in some seasons just like Jesus needed strength in the garden of Gethsemane. There would be strategic relationships along this path. There would be times of doubt when you need clarifications. God supplies all that. It is a life fulfilled in constant fellowship with God. It can never be lived outside God.

We can all live a prophetic life. Jesus did. And He is our template in all things. It's time to stop living in the spur of the moment. You were created for a divine purpose according to the will of God. I want to stir your heart up today to live life-fulfilling prophecies. Remember that it has been given unto you to know all that is written of you.

DAY TWENTY-SEVEN

Living a Prophetic Life II

*“O LORD, I know that the path of [life of] a man is not in himself; It is not within [the limited ability of] man [even one at his best] to choose and direct his steps [in life]” Jeremiah 10
verse 23*

Whatever God is telling you is not simply for the hour alone, there is always a deeper and broader aspect of knowledge to it. God is Almighty. He does not think small. A simple instruction is never just simple with God. It sets off a chain reaction towards something great.

Joseph and Mary did not have the full knowledge of who Jesus was. They did not know He will later become the propitiation for their sins. They did not know the instructions they were following would have a transgenerational impact. They simply obeyed.

Don't struggle with that seemingly little instruction God is giving you. You are withholding your yourself in the Spirit. Nations are waiting for you to move. Every instruction God gave Mary and Joseph was to the end that prophecy be fulfilled. But lives were changed and are still being changed just because they decided to follow God without having all the pieces in the jigsaw puzzle all put together.

You will eventually get there — that destined place if you live on instructions.

Every word of prophecy means something. Always write it down. Every instruction matters. No matter how long you pray, a man that fulfils destiny at last is a man that lives on instructions. You can live a prophetic life just like Jesus did and end up ticking all of the prophecies.

DAY TWENTY-EIGHT

Sandcastles

‘Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain.’ Psalm 127 verse 1

A good friend of mine once told me I was building sandcastles. She said it as a joke, but it got me thinking for days. She was right. I had been going along with my emotions for a while, ignoring God’s leading within me. I picked what God was saying to me through her passing joke.

Emotions are fickle, temporary, rootless, and cannot stand the rest of time. Faith has the power and strength to stand in the face of opposition. Emotions will crumble you. Don’t live a life of emotions. You can’t build your life on emotions. Live a life of Faith. You’re a spirit being not a bag of emotions. You are not your emotions you are a spiritual being. You have the ability to know and discern correctly by the Holy Spirit.

So many times, we do what feel is good — just like Judas Iscariot felt the perfume in the Alabaster’s box should have been sold and the proceeds given to the poor instead of pouring it over the Lord’s feet. It might have been a noble feeling or thought but that wasn’t God’s plan for the Alabaster’s box. According to God’s plan, it belonged to Jesus. To anoint His body just before His death.

When we wander away doing our own thing or following our emotions, we get spent out. Exhausted so easily because God will not sponsor what is not according to His will. He won't watch us derail and proudly cheer us on. What kind of Father will He be?

If you start anything with your emotions, you will have to continue using your emotions to sustain it. There won't be any word backing it. You would just be floating in emotions building a sandcastle. Faith begins with a word because that's where you start from, not emotions.

Whatever you are doing, ask yourself, Is this God's plan? If you don't know what God's plan for you is, get alone with God and find out. If you are too busy to wait on God, you might work hard your entire life, and everything will be in vain.

Don't build sandcastles!

DAY TWENTY-NINE

The Power of a Lie

“You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman.

Gen 3 verse 4

Sometimes, we believe a lie without realizing it.

We turn the thoughts over and again in our heads until we start to see it as the truth. Truth is reality. A lie can never pass as the truth. The only problem is that you can't see it as a lie. The very moment light shines upon our minds, the veil comes off and we are set free. We are set free.

Every single time you believe a lie, it imprisons you. It's crazy because you don't even know its effect on you. It grows and then becomes a stronghold, except you are set free. You can only tell when the blindfold is removed. If you believe you don't deserve God's love anymore, then you have believed a lie because He loved us while we were still sinners. Beloved, you never even deserved it! When the blindfold comes off, happy are you. You can't help the laughter that bursts forth; it rushes out at the insanity of what a lie can do to you. You stare the devil in the eyes and laugh at his foolish tactics. He shrinks and feels so small when his ways are exposed.

There's no small lie, Every lie imprisons you. Behind every lie is the Devil. He's the father of lies. He has a ministry of sowing lies into the hearts of men until they self-destruct. He leaves men with a lie and goes on His way. Then he returns to see that his

seed has blossomed into a tree. Some have believed a generational lie, putting their children yet to come in darkness, while some are still living in it. It's our responsibility to seek the truth and break free. Whoever seeks finds. The truth is always unveiled when you seek for it. Leave no tables unturned. Leave no questions unanswered, Because every question unanswered is a potential prison.

*I am the way, the **truth**, and the life.* Those are the words of Jesus to us.

God is the Father of Light. His first words that were ever recorded were, "Light be!"

I pray that God grants you light and dispels every darkness the devil has planted in your heart even as you read this.

Break free!

DAY THIRTY

The Wilderness

Why will God bring me this far, only to leave me here? Why did He bother starting this journey with me, if He was never going to follow through? Why did He raise my hopes with all those promises of the future?

God left me high and dry.

Every time I read how God brought the Israelites across the Red Sea, it amazes me. It clearly shows God's mighty hand stretched out to save His people. I mean, if you ever want your faith stirred, this is a go-to story. If you have ever read the story, and if you haven't, God delivered the Israelites from the hands of the Egyptians where they had been enslaved for four hundred years.

He sent His servant Moses to bring them out of Egypt to a promised place. After crossing the Red Sea, and finally free from the Egyptians, the Israelites sang praises to God in great awe of God and His servant Moses. They sang and sang and sang. They just couldn't stop singing. God had indeed done great and mighty things for them.

A few moments later, the Israelites found themselves in the wilderness. The wilderness was out of their comfort zone. No water. No food. For days upon days. Well, the Israelites were definitely not playing when it comes to food. *A hungry man is an angry man.* They turned against Moses grumbling and complaining, asking to return to Egypt.

“And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, and the people of Israel said to them, “Would that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.” Exodus 16:2-3 ERV

I marveled after reading this. For a long time, I really could never understand the Israelites. They always seemed so ungrateful. It just made no sense that they had it in them to even complain after the huge miracle God had already done for them.

Wasn't that enough?

The diverse signs, and the miracles God had shown to them. The favor they received. How God preserved Goshen and went after the Egyptians all for their sake. Why should they ever complain? Moreso, how would God even feel after hearing that? For example, imagine you went out of your way for someone a couple of times, but because one time you didn't show up like you normally would have, the person sent you a long message about how disappointed they are or complaining that you are not a good friend. How would you even feel reading that? Sad and disappointed right?

Recently, I caught myself almost in that Israelites' way of thinking without realizing it. I forgot that God had already done a lot for me, my present hour's need/sorrows are really not enough to change who He is. I repented instantly. God said to me “*Remember the God who brought you out of Egypt, give Him praise for that, and watch Him bring you out of the wilderness.*”

Then He reminded me of this scripture that says, *"Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."* *Philippians 1:6*

GNT

If there's anything I want to tell you, is that never forget how God has shown up for you in times past. And stay grateful! Also, know that God is already working on your behalf even though you can't see it yet. Trust! Then, remember! He didn't bring you out of Egypt only to leave you in the wilderness. He's a good God. You need to see that and remain grateful. If you are finding it difficult to remember the goodness of God to you, start by thanking Him for the gift of life, and meditate on it. Command your soul to remember it all. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you remember. Before you know it, you'll be in tears in gratitude to God because He has surely done a lot even if you can't seem to see it. God has done a lot for you and He's still at work.

One last thing worthy of note, I want you to keep this in your heart because it has changed me for good. *"God is much more interested in your life - academics, work, finances, marriage, family, and whatever it may be than you are."* Because your life will always reflect Him. Your success will bring so much glory to Him so why would God not be interested in your success? If only the Israelites could see that God was indeed their God and He was solely for them. Maybe they would have just simply trusted and cast their cares upon the Lord.

The scripture says, "Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed." *Romans 10:11 GNT*

NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR

I hope reading this 30-day devotional has blessed you as much as it has been a blessing. I'm learning lately that writing the words of God to you is a privilege. And I pray that the Holy Spirit breathes upon these words and write it upon your hearts, just like He keeps working on mine.

For me, this is so much than a devotional. I come from time to time to feed on these words too. I encourage to do so too.

If these words truly blessed you, then don't keep it to yourself. Share with your family, friends, colleagues and everyone around you. You can also leave a review or testimony here thesavorblog@gmail.com

Lastly, keep me in your prayers.

I love you with the love of Christ.

