# ZION REALITIES ...A daily devotional

Pastor Beloved Isaac

**September 2024 Edition** 

All Scripture quotations unless otherwise indicated, are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

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

**NKIV** - New King James Version - The Amplified Bible AMP

- The Amplified Classic Bible AMPC - New Living Translation NLT NIV - New International Version - The Message Translation MSG

TLB - The Living Bible

Contemporary English VersionGood News Bible **CEV** 

**GNB** 

- New American Standard Bible NASB ISV - International Standard Version WEB - The World English Bible ASV - American Standard Version - The Amplified New Translation **TANT** TEV - Today's English Version

**RSV** - Revised Standard Version **WNT** - Weymouth New Testament **NRSV** - New Revised Standard Version

- Mofftt New Translation MOFFAT WESNT - Wesley New Testament

**EBR** - Rotherham's Emphasized Bible

DRB - Douay-Rheims Bible **TPT** - The Passion Translation - Complete Jewish Bible CIB

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## INTRODUCTION

This 2024 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 fulfiling, fruitful, and rewarding experience with God's Word.

- HOW TO USE THIS DEVOTIONAL FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT -

- 1. Take out time everyday to study the daily article and the scriptures included.
- 2. Speak the confessions out loud, don't just read them.
- 3. You can also take out time to study the scriptures in the daily article, search the different versions of the bible and meditate on them.
- 4. Daily write down the inspirations of the Spirit that come to you through the devotional.

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

Pastor Beloved Isaac

sunday 01



#### SPEAK THE RIGHT WORDS

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

Words are so important in the Kingdom of God. By your words, you can consistently chart your course in victory and success; you can recreate the circumstances of your life. The very principle of salvation is based on words. Romans 10:10 says, "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

It's important to note the two keywords in the scripture above, "heart" and "mouth." With your heart, you believe and are made right with God, but with your mouth, you confess your way into salvation.

The Greek word for mouth is "stoma." Stoma means the edge or front of a weapon. That means your mouth was given to you as a weapon. It brings to mind what the Word says in Ephesians 6:17: "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."

When you speak forth the Word of God, you're applying a weapon. For instance, if you're attacked by sickness, don't just talk about it, or complain to people about the situation; cut it down with your mouth by speaking the Word of God that addresses the condition.

Remember, what you say comes to be. Your words either make or mar. Like the words of Jesus, your words are spirit and life. Jesus said you shall have what you say (Mark11:23). Ecclesiastes 8:4 says where the word of a king is, there's power, and He's made us kings and priests unto God (Revelations 1:6). We make decrees as kings, and we pray as priests, speaking forth God's Word to bring about a transformation in our lives and that of others.

Use your mouth aright. Speak God's Word only and always. Hallelujah!

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for your precious Words that give life. Thank you for the glory and transformation I experience in my life as a result of your Word that dwells richly in my heart, and proceeds out of my mouth. I walk in divine wisdom, and in the joy and peace of the Spirit, today and always, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY**

Isaiah 49:2; Revelation 19:15; Mark 11:23

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 1-3

 $\frac{\text{MONDAY}}{02}$ 



#### **OUR SOLID FRONT IN CHRIST**

2 Timothy 2:3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

n Christianity, we have a solid front in Christ. The Spirit of God, through the Apostle Paul, referenced this in Colossians 2:5 (AMPC). It says, "For though I am away from you in body, yet I am with you in spirit, delighted at the sight of your [standing shoulder to shoulder in such] orderly array and the firmness and the solid front and steadfastness of your faith in Christ [that leaning of the entire human personality on Him in absolute trust and confidence in His power, wisdom, and goodness]." In the face of daunting challenges and oppositions, we don't chicken out or give in; rather, we face them head-on, because we're bold and courageous. We're victors in Christ Jesus.

It baffles the spiritually unlearned how we're able to face challenges, dire crises in life and still be aglow in the spirit, full of joy and exuberant with praise to the Lord. It's because we've come to know that, come what may, our victory is inevitable. We're destined to always win. We're never

disadvantaged. Jesus 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" (John 16:33).

Those who don't stand their ground, with a solid front in the midst of trouble have ignored the Word and walk in fear and unbelief. But that's not God's will for you. The real Christian life isn't one of struggle, failure or defeat; it's a life of ever-increasing glory, and our challenges are as bread. The Bible calls the crises we face a "light affliction," because we're born to overcome: "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).

Nothing, in life or death, was designed to defeat you. Therefore, be strong. Be tough. Endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. Keep your head high; square your shoulders. No matter what's going on in your life or around you, maintain your faith in the Word of God and win.

#### **PRAYER**

Precious Father, I thank you for the victorious and glorious life I have in Christ. Your Word puts me over at all times, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, I prosper in all that I do, and my faith prevails always, to the glory of your Name. I'm forever lifted, strengthened, full of joy and peace, because the greater One lives in me, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY**

Ephesians 6:10-13; 2 Timothy 2:1; 1 Corinthians 15:58

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 4-5

 $\frac{\text{TUESDAY}}{03}$ 



### SUCCESS BY THE SPIRIT

Luke 16:15 And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.

Aman isn't a success because other people say he is. A long list of academic, political, or business achievements isn't essentially the definition of success. That a person is famous and celebrated by men doesn't mean he or she is a success before God. A successful life, one that pleases God, is that which achieves those things that God has called the person to do.

Thus, the first thing is to know what God has called you to do. There're people that are praised in this world and acclaimed to be successful, who will eventually end up in hell. Some are already there. It doesn't matter what anyone says about you, the only one who matters is the one who made you. He's the one who knew the purpose for which you were born. So, don't live your life to the applause of men. 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). He also said, "...for that which

## is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God" (Luke 16:15).

What do you esteem in your life? What are the things that are important to you? What drives you? What are you passionate about? Until, and unless those things are the same things that God considers important, things of Kingdom and eternal value, they're useless. Don't run in vain; don't put your efforts in the wrong things. Don't seek to please men; do all things with only one goal in mind: to please the Lord Jesus and be a success for Him.

God wants us to be successful according to His definition of success, not according to man's standards. He wants us to have a great life; He wants us to do excellently well; He wants us to be productive in our lives; producing results that glorify Him. And we can only do this by the power of God's Spirit. Without the Holy Spirit, no matter what you do, it'll be empty. True success is by the Spirit and in fulfilling God's call, plan and purpose for your life.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for the power of the Holy Spirit at work in me, and manifested in all that I do, such that my works here on earth are sanctified before you, and impactful to bring many into your glorious salvation. I enjoy a life of unending victory, success, prosperity, health, and righteousness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY**

Romans 15:16; John 15:5; Luke 12:15

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 6-8

wednesday 04



#### CONSCIOUSLY LIVE RIGHT

Proverbs 1:10 My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not.

The word "sinners" in our opening verse isn't referring to the heathen or people who don't know God. Rather, in this particular context, it refers to the children of Israel who weren't living right; those that broke the Law, and weren't living according to God's instructions.

That's why the Spirit instructs, "Suppose they say, "Come on; let's find someone to kill! Let's attack some innocent people for the fun of it! They may be alive and well when we find them, but they'll be dead when we're through with them! We'll find all kinds of riches and fill our houses with loot! Come and join us, and we'll all share what we steal." My child, don't go with people like that. Stay away from them" (Proverbs 1:11-15 GNB). How instructive!

Being born again, you have the nature of God to do right, and must therefore consciously live right. You've been separated from the world, unto God, from unrighteousness unto righteousness, and from darkness to light. You might have been a gangster, but now that you're born again, you can't go back to such gangs. Yes, you may preach the Word to them, but you can't roll or stick with them anymore. "...Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good" (Romans 12:9).

You must let go of any attitude that's not of God. In **1** Corinthians 6:5-9, the Apostle Paul chided the Corinthian church because their way of life didn't portray the new nature of righteousness they had received. As a Christian, it's important you recognize that you've been completely delivered from the worldly lifestyle. You're not the same man you were before you were born again. Your old nature of sin was supplanted by God's nature of righteousness.

Recognize your new identity. See the picture of the new you and live accordingly. You're a new creation. Your conduct must now reflect your new personality in Christ Jesus—your new nature—which is the nature of righteousness.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for I'm renewed in the spirit of my mind and perfected in righteousness and true holiness. Sin and all forms of ungodliness unrighteousness can't and have dominion over me. My life is for your glory, and I walk worthy of you, pleasing you in all things, and bearing fruits of righteousness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

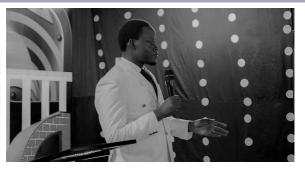
#### **FURTHER STUDY**

1 Thessalonians 5:22-23; Ephesians 4:23-29

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 9-10

THURSDAY 05



### SPIRITUAL INSTRUCTIONS

Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Oftentimes, the Word of God comes to us as spiritual instructions. Proverbs 4:13 says, "Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go: keep her; for she is thy life."

When an instruction of the Spirit is given, not only is it important that those instructions be understood, they must also be acted upon. Any form of resistance or disobedience is what God refers to as "witchcraft." The Bible says, "For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry..." (1 Samuel 15:23).

An example is King Saul. God instructed Saul to destroy the Amalekites and everything they had, including their animals, but he ignored the instruction. He didn't destroy their sheep and oxen, because according to him, "...the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice unto the Lord thy God in Gilgal" (1 Samuel 15:21).

That wasn't the instruction. The instruction was clear: destroy everything. God didn't say, "Preserve the choice animals for a sacrifice unto me." It's important that you follow God's Word and His instructions to the letter. Do things His way, and you'll always be a success. Saul lost the kingship over Israel forever, by choosing his own way and harkening to the voice of the people against God's specific instruction (Read entire account in 1 Samuel 15:1-23).

Be wise. Even when God's instructions are contrary to your human reasoning, be like Peter: act on them. When the Lord Jesus asked Peter to cast his net into the sea after a fruitless fishing expedition (Luke 5), even though the instruction was contrary to Peter's reasoning, he obeyed and got a miracle for it. God's instructions may come to you in the most unexpected way, follow them, because therein lies your promotion.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for the counsel I receive from your Word, and the divine instruction that comes to me daily by your Spirit. I'm a doer of your Word, not a hearer only; I take fast hold of instruction; my heart is attentive, and I act fast on your Word. Promotions, advancements, significant attainments are evident in my life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY**

Proverbs 8:33; Proverbs 8:7-10; Proverbs 10:17

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 11-12

 $\frac{606}{106}$ 



# TRAINING YOUR SPIRIT FOR SUCCESS

1 Timothy 4:8 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.

n 1 Thessalonians 5:23, the Apostle Paul, by the Spirit, penned down a beautiful prayer for the saints. But something worthy of note is the order. Let's read: "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." The spirit comes first, the soul second, and third, the physical body. This is the Spirit's order, and that shows us why we ought to give premium to the development of our human spirit.

Sadly, many are only concerned about what takes place in their physical bodies, or how their minds function, losing sight of the most important—their spirit. God is much more concerned about your spirit. **Proverbs 4:23** says, "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." "Heart" is synonymous with the human spirit, and that verse tells us that's where the issues of life emanate from.

Prosperity, health, wellness, peace, victory, joy, and every good thing you could ever imagine are all domiciled in your spirit. Can you see why you should rather give more time to the development of your spirit? Jesus said in Luke 6:45, "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good...."

Your heart—your spirit—is a treasure house of good things. The ideas and thoughts that'll make you creative and excellent in all you do, are resident in your spirit. The highest potentials of the human nature are in his spirit. So, keep educating your spirit with the Word. Do this through conscious study and meditation on the Scriptures. Fasting, prayer, and swiftly acting on spiritual instructions are also ways you train and exercise your spirit for success and excellence.

#### **CONFESSION**

Dear Father, I thank you for your Spirit guides me in all things, and floods my heart with light that I may know and walk in your perfect will always. My faith prevails today, as I put your Word to work; your righteousness, and the forces of life within my spirit, are unleashed, and your glory is revealed in and through me, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY**

Joshua 1:8; Proverbs 20:27; Proverbs 4:23 (AMPC)

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 13-16

 $\frac{\text{SATURDAY}}{07}$ 



#### TRUE CONFESSION OF THE WORD

1 Timothy 6:13 I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession.

The word "Confession" here, is translated from the Greek word "Homologia," which means to speak the same thing in consent. Confessing the Word means you agree with, and say what the Word of God says about you, Himself, your world or anyone or situation.

Why is it so important that we confess the Word boldly? It's because our confessions are or create realities. Jesus said, "You shall have what you say" (Mark 11:23). What are the things you're supposed to say? They're the same things God has already declared in Scriptures.

Hebrews 13:5-6 says, "...for he hath said...So that we may boldly say...." The reason He said what He said is so that we may boldly say the same thing. God's Word isn't for you to hear and be quiet; you respond by saying the same thing. That's true confession of the Word. God gave you the Word so you'll boldly proclaim it.

Someone might ask, "Must I say it?" Emphatically yes! Otherwise, you'll never experience the vital reality of the Word of God in your life. It's the way to get your spirit to take a hold of the Word to become a reality in your life. The Christian life is lived by words; it's for talkers; talkers of the Word. Perhaps you know someone who's been attacked by cancer, diabetes or any kind of sickness; advise them not to keep quiet! They should have "talking sessions." You say, "What if they're too weak to talk?" Let them mutter or even whisper: "I have the life of God in me; the Spirit that raised up Jesus from the dead lives in me; therefore, my whole body is vitalized and energized with divine life. No sickness can stay in my body. The presence of God's Spirit destroys every trace of sickness and disease in my body."

If they mutter it long enough, it'll turn into a shout, and soon enough they'll bounce off that sickbed. God's Word is medicine. It cures every infirmity and keeps you in divine health.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Lord, thank you for the victorious and prosperous life I have in Christ. I live in health and in glory every day, because of your grace and righteousness in me. You've blessed me in all things, and with all things; therefore, I'm forever grateful! I'm guided by your wisdom to walk in, and fulfil your perfect will for me, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY**

Mark 11:23; 1 Timothy 6:13

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 17-18

sunday 08



# FULFILL YOUR MINISTRY IN THE GOSPEL

Acts 20:24 But 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.

The Apostle Paul took personal responsibility for the Gospel. The Gospel to him was a sacred trust. He affirmed this in his epistle to Timothy, when he said, "According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust" (1 Timothy 1:11).

In 1 Corinthians 9:16, he said, "For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for 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." He knew he had to fulfil his ministry in the Gospel.

God has counted you faithful and committed the Gospel to your trust; therefore, fulfil your ministry in the Gospel. See the spread of the Gospel around the world as your sacred responsibility, and be passionate to do all it takes to fulfil it. Always remember that you're fully responsible for those in your world, to bring them the message of salvation.

The Apostle Paul encountered several obstacles and challenges in the course of preaching the Gospel, but he remained undaunted. Even when the Holy Ghost expressly testified that he was going to suffer afflictions and be imprisoned as he preached the Gospel (Acts 20:22-23), he remained resolute and focused. His response is what we read in our opening verse. He was determined to finish his course with joy; very inspiring!

Your attitude should be the same. Refuse to be moved by the problems and the difficulties that you might face in preaching the Gospel. Always remember that God counted you faithful and that's why He's put you into the ministry. So, like the Apostle Paul, be determined to fulfil your ministry in the Gospel, and finish your course with joy.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for setting me on the path of success, glory, victory and divine destiny in the Gospel! I'm steadfast and unmovable, walking preordained pathways, in and mightily helped to fulfil my ministry in the Gospel and finish my course with joy, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY**

Mark 16:15-18; 1 Corinthians 9:16-17

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

John 19-21

 $\frac{\text{MONDAY}}{09}$ 



# DISTRIBUTIONS OF THE HOLY GHOST

Hebrews 2:4 God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will.

The word translated "gifts" here, doesn't mean gifts like we have it in **1 Corinthians 12:4**, where the word "gifts" is translated from "charisma." Here, "gifts' is translated from the Greek word "merismos," and it means "distributions." It's more accurately rendered "distributions of the Holy Ghost," instead of "gifts of the Holy Ghost," in the KJV.

What do we mean by distributions of the Holy Ghost? Acts 5:12 says, "And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch."

The Word states that many signs and wonders were done by the hands of the apostles. Who are we? We're God's outstretched hands. We're bearers of the divine order. We serve the blessings of the New Testament and one of those blessings is the Holy Ghost; we "distribute" the Holy Ghost. It's the reason we can lay hands on someone and the person receives the Holy Spirit.

Oftentimes, we say in prayer, "I bless you in the Name of Jesus. I bless you with the Word, and I bless you with the Holy Ghost." That's what we're doing: distributing the blessings of the Spirit. When Jesus blew on His disciples in **John 20:22** and said, "... Receive ye the Holy Ghost," they received the spirit of understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures. That's "distribution"; and He's given us the grace to do likewise. Hallelujah!

#### **PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, I thank you for the privilege to be not just a beneficiary of the glorious blessings inherent in the New Testament, but also for the grace and ability to distribute these blessings to others. I pronounce blessings and the favour of God on my friends, family, colleagues, and associates today, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY**

2 Corinthians 3:4-6; Acts 8:14-17

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 1-3

TUESDAY 10



#### THE GLORY OF THIS LATTER HOUSE

Haggai 2:9 The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts.

Notice the expression "The glory of this latter house" in our opening text. The emphasis here is on the word "this", a demonstrative adjective that specifies what is being referred to. So, in our opening verse, it refers to the present: "this latter house"; it didn't say, "the latter house." They're two different things. The prophet wasn't talking about the glory of a house in the future, but the glory of "this present house," the house currently being built.

It's important to make this clarification, because oftentimes when these words are given in prophetic language, it's often said that "The glory of the latter house, shall exceed the former," but that's not what God said. We have the tendency to always push it to the future, as though we have a plan to build the latter house someday; but it's not futuristic!

There was a former house, but it was destroyed; hence, the need for this latter house. So, the prophet says the glory of this current house, that is, whatever you're building right now, whatever projects or visions you're involved in, expect that the glory will by far surpass anything you've ever seen or experienced. What house are you building now? Make it the glorious house of your dream now; don't push it to the future.

You've been exposed to new ideas and innovations; put them to work; upgrade and surpass the old experience. In the previous vision, you had a pattern, and you were going to build it according to that pattern, but you've gained new insight, you've seen a bigger vision, so you need to upgrade and change the levels to conform to this new vision. You declare, "I make all things new in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ; I'm making adjustments for this new level." Hallelujah!

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, you've made me the expression of your grace and righteousness. I have the nature of Christ; therefore, as I continue to behold your glory in your Word, I make progress from glory to glory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY**

1 Peter 1:10-11; Isaiah 43:18-19

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 4-6





#### REVELATION KNOWLEDGE

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

The English translation of the New Testament section of the Bible was derived from the Greek. The old Greek words are written differently from what you'd see in English, because the English language isn't rich enough to express certain spiritual realities; it's overly generic in nature.

For instance, the English language uses only one word to represent "love," but in the Greek, about four different words are used. This helps to clarify what kind of love is being referred to. When you say for example, "I love my wife," in the Greek, it's a different word from when you say, "I love my country." Then when you say, "I love football," that's another Greek word.

The same goes for the word, "knowledge"; there're at least four different words translated "knowledge" in Greek. Our opening verse 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" (2 Peter 1:3). "Knowledge" here isn't dealing with general knowledge or the knowledge of science (Greek: "Gnosis") but with absolute knowledge that comes through revelation and relationship; the Greek word is "epignosis."

2 Peter 1:2 says, "Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord." This means, if you want to multiply grace and peace in your life, you've got to know more about God and Jesus Christ. You have to have the "epignosis" of God and of Jesus our Lord. "Epignosis" is the precise and accurate knowledge of God that you gain through revelation and meditation.

This type of knowledge isn't just something you acquire from reading history books; it's a revelation that's granted you. A part of it is already given to you in the scriptures, while the rest of it is through your relationship with God, and fellowship with the Holy Spirit; all in consistency with the Word. Hallelujah!

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the enlightenment I receive from studying the Scriptures. Through consistent study and meditation on your Word, I increase in knowledge; grace and peace are multiplied in my life. I have dominion in every situation, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY**

Proverbs 11:9; Ephesians 1:17-18

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 7-8

 $\frac{\text{THURSDAY}}{12}$ 



#### SO MUCH TO LEARN IN CHURCH

Luke 4:16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.

There's so much to learn in church. Every church service you attend, the Spirit of God has something special planned for you. It's an opportunity for your life to be improved. It's therefore important that you cultivate the habit of attending church services. Attending church is like being in school. Imagine a student who isn't consistent with his lectures in class, he's very unlikely to make good grades.

I recall a certain gentleman, very well read and widely travelled. After two years of being consistent in church, he said to me, "I never knew I would discover and learn so much in my life, just by coming to church."

There're many things that we have to do in building our lives as Christians. For instance, how do we worship God? Jesus said, "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24). This means worship is very important to the Father, and He desires that

we worship Him the right way. We have to find out what it means to worship Him in spirit and in truth. Such things are learned from the Word of God, when you go to church regularly. Then you'd be amazed at your growth, at your wisdom, at the way you relate with others, at the happenings in your life. You'll know you're growing; you'll see your life go upward and forward.

Some Christians are always looking for someone to pray for them or counsel with them when there's an issue. When you form the habit of fellowshipping with God and other faithful Christians, you'll move out of that class, because you'll have the knowledge of the Word of God that puts you over in life.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the opportunity to fellowship with you and with other saints in church. I live in your presence, where there's fullness of joy, and pleasures for evermore! My life is the manifestation of your blessings, and the revelation of your glory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY**

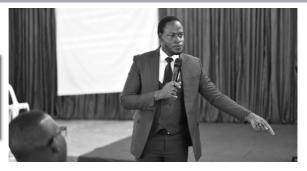
Hebrews 10:25; Psalm 133:1-3; 1 Timothy 3:15

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 9-10

 FRIDAY

 13



#### ALL THINGS ARE YOURS

1 Corinthians 3:21 Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours.

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." This is extraordinary! Could this really be true? It sure is, because God said so! His divine power, not your own ability or human wisdom, has given unto you, ALL things that pertain to life and godliness.

This means you're not supposed to ever be in lack or want. How could you be in need of money for your children's school fees when all things are yours? How could your business go bankrupt when all things are yours? Why should you be in search of a financier for your projects when all things are yours? Why would you be crying and begging for money to start a business when all things are yours?

The problem is that you haven't believed enough. The moment you dare to believe God's Word that, really and truly,

all things belong to you, your situation will change. This is neither a fable nor a fairytale; all things are indeed yours, because you're an heir of God and a joint-heir with Christ. The whole world belongs to Him. He said in **Haggai 2:8**, "The silver is mine, and the gold is mine...." They also belong to you, because you're His joint heir.

This is the Word of God, and He didn't lie to us. Believe it. Consciously and consistently affirm that you'll never be poor or broke in life, because you're a joint heir with Christ. Even now, place your right hand on your chest and declare, "All things are mine! Everything I require for life and godliness has been granted me by God."

Now, how did God give us all things that pertain to life and godliness? The latter part of **2 Peter 1:3** shows it to us. It says, "... through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue." Your knowledge of God and His Word is so important. That's your ticket to a life of ever-increasing glory and superabundance. So, stay in, and with the Word. Study and meditate on the Word every day.

#### **CONFESSION**

The Lord is my shepherd; I don't lack or suffer want for any good thing; I have all things that pertain to life and godliness. I'm an heir of God, and a joint-heir with Christ; the world belongs to me. I'm enjoying my inheritance of financial abundance and supernatural prosperity in Christ. Glory to God!

#### **FURTHER STUDY**

Psalm 68:19; Romans 8:17; Psalm 16:6 (NKJV)

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 11-13

saturday 14



### A SELF-HEALING MECHANISM INSIDE YOU

Romans 8:11 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.

saiah 53:5 says, "Buthe was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed." This is one of the scriptures that many Christians use all around the world, to claim healing. In reality, however, the Prophet Isaiah was here talking to the Jews and not to Christians. He gives them a preview of the grace of the coming Messiah, and tells them, "...with his stripes we are healed."

Then the Apostle Peter, in his epistle, looks back at the Cross, and says "...by whose stripes ye were healed" (1 Peter 2:24). But he was talking to the Jews. He wasn't talking to every Christian. The Jews were the ones under the covenant; the covenant of healing was for the Jewish Church, the Old Testament Church. They were the ones healed by His stripes.

The Church of Jesus Christ that was born after His resurrection, in the real sense, doesn't require healing from

God. The Church has a self-healing mechanism. What the Church received is eternal life; eternal life doesn't need healing. Eternal life is the God-life, the very essence of divinity; life that is "uninfectable," untainted with sickness, disease and infirmities. If you have eternal life, it doesn't matter what trouble you may have in your body, if you'd stir up the gift of God—the life of God in your spirit—your whole body will be vitalized.

Our opening text says, "If the spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead lives in you, He'll vitalize your mortal body. The Spirit in you is life-generating. The Bible says the first man, Adam, was made a living soul, the second Adam was made a life giving Spirit (1 Corinthians 15:45). We're not born after the first Adam; we're born after the second Adam, Jesus Christ. Jesus never needed healing; and as He is, so are we in this world.

You have a life-giving Spirit resident in you. You were given a life that's greater than healing. As long as you're a babe in Christ, you'll need healing. The Bible calls healing the children's bread. When you come to maturity, you'll give up childish things. You won't be seeking healing. Rather, you'd say, "I've got the life of God in me; therefore, I'll never be sick." And if you're used to getting sick, say, "I'll never be sick again, because I have the life of Christ in me." Hallelujah!

#### **CONFESSION**

I have the life and nature of God in me; therefore, I'm an overcomer and more than a conqueror. I live a triumphant and victorious life every day, far above sickness, disease, the devil and the negative system of this world!

#### **FURTHER STUDY**

1 John 5:13; John 5:26; Romans 8:10

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 14-16

sunday 15



### WORK HIS GRACE TO MAXIMUM CAPACITY

Galatians 2:21 I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

Some Christians frustrate the grace of God in their lives. You shouldn't do that. Don't frustrate the grace of God in your life. Rather, let it work to its fullness, to its maximum capacity and final fruition. Let it produce all that it could do in your life. Don't let it be that Christ died in vain in your life; instead be determined to be all that His death, burial, and resurrection consummated for you.

In our previous study, I shared with you something about the divine life that Jesus brought, where sickness is not a part of your system. The question is, will you let it work, or are you going to be seeking healing? Healing is what we give to the world, and it's the children's bread. When you come to maturity, you appropriate divine life, and affirm that it runs through every fibre of your being. You're conscious that your body, being the temple of the Holy Ghost, can't be sick.

Should anything untoward happen to or in your body, you

speak in tongues. Maybe it's stomach trouble, put your hand on your tummy and speak in tongues. If it doesn't stop at that moment, you don't stop speaking in tongues either. The more it persists, the more you shout in tongues. Frighten the devil out. James 4:7 says, "...Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

You may ask, "What if the pain is so severe that it's even difficult to talk, let alone shout?" If you have to whisper it, go ahead. Before long, the Spirit will well up from within you and overwhelm the pain. We're not victims; we're victors! Your victory over that pain is guaranteed! Hallelujah!

Before you go in for your meetings, maybe it's a business or a political meeting, whatever it is, take some time to speak in other tongues. Charge up yourself! With the meeting in focus, speak in tongues, then declare, "The wisdom of God is at work in me. Christ is in me. Christ has been made unto me wisdom." That's how you appropriate and take advantage of God's grace to enjoy the benefits of the blessings that are yours in Christ Jesus.

#### **PRAYER**

Precious Father, I thank you for the abundance of grace you've made available to me in the Gospel. I take advantage of this grace to receive everything that is mine in Christ Jesus. I declare that health, prosperity, strength and increase are mine, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### **FURTHER STUDY**

2 Timothy 2:1; Romans 5:17; 2 Peter 1:2

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 17-19

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 $\frac{\text{MONDAY}}{16}$ 



#### SPEAK LIFE ALWAYS

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

**Proverbs 15:4** says, "A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit." The things you say are so important; you can make or mar your life with the words you speak. The current situation that you find yourself in, whether good or bad, is the result of the words you've spoken in the past. Jesus said you shall have whatsoever you say (Mark 11:23). So, endeavour to always say the right things, particularly, things that are consistent with the divine life that you received in Christ Jesus.

Look at our opening verse again; it says, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue...." You can bring death into your life, family, business and finances, if all you think and talk about all the time is death. Likewise, you can speak life into your body and circumstances, and be full of health and life.

A dear lady shared her testimony in my pastor's meeting. She had been in a terrible state, and wanted to die because of her condition. She'd been involved in a ghastly accident and was in a coma, but she could hear everything going on around her. She heard the doctor talking about her prognosis, which was very bad, and she wanted to die because she thought she would never be normal again. While she was contemplating death, God said to her, "You cannot die now," and she thought, "What?"

Then in her spirit, she heard the Lord say, "If you really want to die, it'll take you some time. You'd have to reverse the order, because you've spoken so much life prior to this time; therefore, to die, you'd have to start talking death to undo the life you've been speaking." Hallelujah! The power of our words!

It's so important for you to speak life always. The Bible says, "For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned" (Matthew 12:37).

#### **CONFESSION**

Eternal life is at work in me. I'm full of life; my entire being is inundated with divine life and energy. I've passed from death unto life. I am the glory of God, a life-giver, and dispenser of eternal verities! Hallelujah!

# **FURTHER STUDY**

James 1:26; Philemon 1:6; Colossians 4:6

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 20-22

 $\frac{\text{TUESDAY}}{17}$ 



# SPIRIT AND LIFE

John 7:38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

As God's children, we're all called into the ministry, and the Lord Jesus gives us a good definition of what Christian ministry is in our opening verse. Ministry is the outflow of the rivers of living water in you. The thirty-ninth verse explicates: "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."

The "rivers of living water" He's talking about is the Holy Spirit. So, ministry is actually the outpouring of the life of the Spirit of God from within you! You can't give what you don't have. He says out of your belly, meaning out of your innermost being, shall flow rivers of living water. This means the Holy Spirit pours out Himself through you.

Talking to His disciples earlier in **John 6:63**, the Master said, "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are

*life."* This is wonderful! The Master's words weren't ordinary; they were spirit and life. Make this your objective in life, to speak words that are spirit and life. Don't seek to be an orator or a good preacher; seek to release words of life. That's what makes the difference. That's how you can stand before others, and as you speak, miracles happen; blessings abound.

A young girl told a story. She was brought into the church, and as she sat listening to the teaching, not even knowing what was being said, an evil spirit that had bound her for so many years suddenly went out of her. She could see the evil spirit looking at her and threatening her from a distance, but that devil couldn't stay. "The devil was afraid of what Pastor was saying and then ran out of the church," she said.

Someone else testified that he'd been sick for so long but noticed that every time he came to church, he got better. So he decided to keep coming, until one day, he realized he was completely normal. This is so because the words we speak are spirit and they're life! And until you minister spirit and life, you're not fulfilling your role. We're life-giving spirits. Hallelujah!

#### **PRAYER**

Thank you Father for the honour to be useful to you in ministry. I yield myself fully your Spirit and ask that you be pleased to use me continually for your glory in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY**

1 Corinthians 2:4; 1 Peter 4:11

# 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 23-25

wednesday 18



# GUIDANCE AND DIRECTION THROUGH THE WORD

Psalm 119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

What many require the most in life are guidance and direction. Often, many find themselves in a quagmire, unsure of what steps to take; they pray for guidance, but even when they pray, they're not sure when God is talking to them. If you want to know and hear the voice of God more clearly, it's very simple; study His Word. God's Word has the ability to bring illumination to your spirit and give you insight into reality.

God's Word reveals the truth regarding all things, being the true light (John 1:9). Therefore, let it guide you in all your affairs, and you'll deal wisely in life. The scriptures were given to make you wise unto salvation (2 Timothy 3:15). That means, through the Word, you're made wise to glorify God. Therefore, study and meditate on the Word, and you'll always walk in divine wisdom. Wisdom is a force; it guides you in the direction of God's perfect will.

2 Timothy 2:15 says, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." The more you study and meditate on the Word, the wiser, smarter, and more sagacious you become. Your wisdom can't be resisted because you speak from beyond this world. Some may not understand you but every time you speak, they can't forget your words; they hear wisdom and see wisdom in you. You become a problem solver; an answer to the cry of many.

#### **CONFESSION**

My path is illuminated with the light of God's Word; therefore, I do not lack direction. I'm an answer from God. Everywhere I go, I'm relevant, because I'm loaded with divine wisdom and insight to provide the right answers to questions, and solutions to problems. I'm indeed an answer to the cries of millions all over the world because I function in the wisdom of God. Hallelujah!

# **FURTHER STUDY**

Joshua 1:8; 1 Timothy 4:15; John 8:12

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Acts 26-28

THURSDAY 19



# FAITH IS BEYOND REASON

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

aith is a very simple Kingdom principle to understand and apply. The reason some Christians struggle with their faith is that they try to reason out the Word of God with their minds. Faith is the response of the human spirit, not the mind, to the Word of God. Faith is of the spirit, not the senses. The Bible says, "With the heart, man believeth..." (Romans 10:10). You don't believe with your mind, you believe with your heart—your spirit. You can reason with your mind, but faith isn't in the realm of reason.

For example, if you've been educated in Biology or Medicine, you know that it's absolutely impossible for a woman to conceive a child without a male sperm. How then can you reason out and explain the birth of Jesus Christ? It's beyond human or natural comprehension. How can you explain the death, burial, resurrection, and glorious ascension of Jesus with the knowledge of science? You've got to accept what God said in His Word, and that's faith. You take God at His

Word, whether it makes sense to you or not.

Ephesians 1:3 says, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ." Don't try to reason out how it happened or if this is really so; believe it and act accordingly. Acknowledge, and affirm that you've been blessed, not just with material things such as houses, cars, money, etc., but with all spiritual blessings, because God said so.

The blessings and realities of our transcendent life in Christ are beyond sense knowledge and can't be subjected to empirical verification. Now, these blessings, though already spiritual realities, aren't in physical shapes or forms that the mind can easily relate with or comprehend through reasoning. Therefore, to those who're controlled by their minds, who live in the realm of the senses, these blessings aren't "real," until they can "see" or "touch" them. To them, "seeing is believing"; but that's not Christianity.

In Christianity, "believing is seeing." We believe and see the blessings as real because of what the Word says. Ours is the life of faith in the Word, through the Word, and by the Word.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for revealing your Word to my spirit and making me see clearly the blessed life you've given me in Christ, a life of faith beyond this world. I live in glory, victory and prosperity above this world and its systems, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY**

Hebrews 11:6; John 20:29

# 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 1-3

 $\frac{1}{20}$ 



# RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Hebrews 13:5-6 ... for he hath said... So that we may boldly say....

Speaking God's Word and responding to God's Word are two different things. Many think they're the same, but they're not. Most have never been taught how to respond to God's Word and many don't know what it is to actually speak God's Word.

A good example of speaking the Word in response to a situation was the encounter between the Lord Jesus and Satan as recorded in **Matthew 4:1-4** (read entire reference). The Master responded to Satan, quoting the scripture that says, "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). He spoke the Word; He said exactly what God already said through Moses, the Prophet.

So, when do you speak the Word? It's mainly when Satan throws thoughts at you, and circumstances raise their voices against you. You say, "It is written," and then go ahead to say

what is written; don't try to put it in your own words. Say it exactly as it is in Scripture. We learnt that from Jesus. He didn't try to paraphrase or put it in His own words; He said, "It is written," and then quoted what was written. He wasn't trying to give the interpretation; He gave the Word. It's one of the reasons you must have the Word of God in you richly.

Then, how do you respond to the Word? Our theme verse shows us exactly how: it's by the vocalization of your faith on the basis of what God has already said. Your confession, resulting from your faith in a specific word or statement from God is your response to that Word. That's what changes your life and circumstances.

For example, the Word says in 1 John 4:4, "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." Your response should be, "Yes, I am of God and I've overcome Satan and the adversities of life, because greater is He that's in me, than he that's in the world." Glory to God! That's how you activate the power of the Word to produce what it talks about in your life.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for showing me the way to a life of continuous victory. I live above discouragement and the crippling principles of the world. As I speak the Word and respond to the Word in faith, I maintain my victory and dominion in Christ, today and always, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY**

Romans 10:9-10; Hebrews 13:5-6

# 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 4-7

saturday 21



# A HIGHER LIFE IN CHRIST

1 John 5:11-12 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

There's a higher life in Christ; a life that's higher and greater than the ordinary human life, sickness, disease, failure, and death. That's the life we've received in Christ. In John 10:10 (AMPC), Jesus said, "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)."

God's purpose is for you to walk in the supernatural every day. That's the Christian life; it's walking in the glory of God; reigning and exercising dominion over circumstances: "For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; 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). This is God's dream for His children.

The reason many live as ordinary men, instead of living the transcendent life in Christ is their ignorance of the Word:

"They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness..." (Psalm 82:5). Imagine an eagle that grows up amongst chickens, and never learned to fly. It'll live the life of chickens, yet it's an eagle, with powerful wings to fly.

That's the way some Christians are; they don't know they have power over sickness, power over crises, power over the devil, and circumstances of life. Therefore, they live as victims. The Bible says you're seated together with Christ far above all principalities and power (Ephesians 1:21 and Ephesians 2:6). Satan isn't a factor. You're superior to him and his demons.

Now that you're born again, you're born into a life of glory and excellence. Become conscious of who you are in Christ. It's not possible for you to fail or be defeated in life, for the Greater One lives in you: "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). This is the higher life in Christ.

#### **PRAYER**

My life is replete with the goodness of God, and the manifestations of the glories of the Kingdom. I'm alive to God—spirit, soul, and body. Therefore, sickness and disease have no place in my body, because the Spirit of God lives in me, and He rids my system of everything inconsistent with the divine life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY**

Job 22:29; Proverbs 4:20-22 (NLT); 1 Timothy 4:15

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 8-10

 $\frac{\text{SUNDAY}}{22}$ 



# VICTORY BY THE WORD

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

ames 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." 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." Being a Christian, you must study and meditate on the Word, because your life came from the Word of God; you're an offspring of the Word; therefore, you can only be sustained by the Word. Stay in the Word, for everything in life is sustained by its source.

Not to stay in the Word is to starve your spirit of the material it needs to survive, grow, and function normally. The development of your spirit is to the degree of how much of God's Word you ingest. The more of God's Word you receive into your spirit, the more your spirit is educated and built for victory and success.

Success in life isn't dependent on the number of degrees

you bagged in college; it's in the amount of God's Word you know and put to work! This is why you must know and live by the Word. Build your faith with the Word. The world today is plagued with all kinds of crises, economic problems, etc., and many are confused, wondering when the crises will end. But if you have the Word in you, you have nothing to fear.

God's Word is alive and full of power; that means it's active, operative and effective. Hence, it doesn't matter what the case is, if you'd meditate on the Word, it'll produce in you and for you the desired results. "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" (Joshua 1:8). The Word in your spirit and in your mouth will make you a victor for life.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear heavenly Father, I'm fulfilled, knowing my roots are in your Word. Therefore, your Word is my daily meditation, morning, noon, and night. I walk in health, prosperity, victory, and success continually, because my faith is in the Word. Blessed be God!

# **FURTHER STUDY**

Isaiah 55:10-13; Psalm 119:11; 2 Timothy 2:15

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 11-13

 $\frac{\text{MONDAY}}{23}$ 



# **BEYOND RELIGION**

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Being a Christian is much more than reading the Bible and praying to God; it's living the transcendent life, the Godlife, here on earth. This is beyond religion. Those who don't know what Christianity is call it a religion.

What the Bible refers to as religion is found in James 1:27: "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." Christianity, by its very nature and definition is heaven alive in you, divinity at work in humanity.

The Christian is by all means a superman. He's one with whom anything is possible, because he has the life and nature of God; He has authority over all the powers of darkness. 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." He was referring to the believing ones: Christians.

Then in Luke 10:19, He said "...nothing shall by any means hurt you!" It doesn't matter how harmful, poisonous or evil that thing is, it doesn't have the power to hurt you. You're not ordinary. You're not of this world. You're of God, which means your origin is in God; you're born of Him. This is Christianity. Eternal life has been imparted to your spirit; you've received the life of God that dispels darkness, sickness, disease, poverty, failure and death. You've become an associate of the God-kind. This is beyond religion.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the working of your Word in my spirit. My life is the expression of your glory, beauty, and grace. You've made me a life-giver, an associate of the God-kind, manifesting the divine life to my world, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY**

John 16:33; 1 John 4:4; 1 John 5:11-12

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 14-16

 $\frac{\text{TUESDAY}}{24}$ 



# HIS LIVING TABERNACLES

2 Corinthians 6:15-17 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? 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. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.

Our theme scripture reveals one of the many amazing blessings of the Christian! Notice that it doesn't say, "We shall be the temple of the living God when we get to heaven," but that "we are the temple of the living God." It doesn't get better than that. This is a present-hour truth.

The word translated "temple" isn't the ordinary everyday temple, but the specific word that refers to an inner shrine; it's the Greek word "naos." "Naos" refers to the shrine that houses the image of the "god"; it's the inner sanctuary where the image of the god is kept. That's what Paul is saying here.

For the Jews, it was the Holy of Holies; that's where the presence of God was. They didn't have an image in there, but the presence of Jehovah was inside there. The place that the presence of God resides is the very place that Paul is referring to here. When the Holy Spirit took up His abode in the quarters of your heart, you ceased to be an ordinary man;

you became God's living tabernacle.

In reality, everywhere you go, God goes, because you're His house. He talks in you, and He looks through your eyes, but not many Christians are cognizant of this reality; hence, they live as mere men. The temple of God, which you are, is where God resides in all His power and majesty.

Likewise, when you show up, the devil bows, because he can't stand God's glory, and that glory is in your spirit.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for the indwelling presence of your Spirit in me; I'm not an ordinary person. I'm your living tabernacle. Therefore, no sickness, disease or infirmity can successfully lodge in my body, because the life in me is divine, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY**

Romans 8:10-11; Philemon 1:6; 1 Corinthians 6:19

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 1-4

wednesday 25



# LIVING IN CHRIST

John 15:7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

The Complete Jewish Bible translation of our opening text says, "If you remain united with me, and my words with you, then ask whatever you want, and it will happen for you." This is so powerful.

What the Lord Jesus is saying is that if you abide or stay in Him, and His words dwell in you, whatever demand you make of anything that you like, prefer or desire, shall happen for you. He didn't say God will do it, or that He (Jesus) will do it. This isn't prayer; the verses on prayer are different. This one is about living in Christ, and His words dwelling in you–knowing your rights and authority in Christ, and learning to put that authority to work.

It's amazing what God has made possible for us in Christ Jesus! You can say, "In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I'm going to walk in health continually; I'll never be sick in my life," and it shall be so. If you had problems with your body;

maybe a tumour or cancerous growth in your body and you say, "In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I command this cancer to die and pass out of my body"; if you say that, the Master says it'll come to pass; it'll happen.

It's important to understand this and practise it in your life. The Word of God is for doing, not just for you to hear. You hear it and you do it. That's how to walk in the glory of God. Remember the key: abide in Him and let His Words abide in you.

Have the Word of God in you in abundance, so that in every situation, in every crisis of life, in all circumstances, you'll respond according to the Word, and not according to your senses. Words that you don't know can't abide in you. That's why you must study the Scriptures. Get the Word into your system. The Bible says, "Let the word [spoken by] Christ (the Messiah) have its home [in your hearts and minds] and dwell in you in [all its] richness..." (Colossians 3:16 AMPC).

#### **CONFESSION**

I'm joined to the Lord, and one spirit with Him. I manifest Christ to my world, because I'm His epistle, written and read of men. I take advantage of the authority in Christ, declaring that the counsel of the Lord prevails in my life, and in my world, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY**

John 15:4-5; 1 Corinthians 6:17; Acts 17:28

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 5-9

 $\frac{\frac{\text{THURSDAY}}{26}}{26}$ 



# IMPORTANCE OF CORPORATE WORSHIP

Psalm 133:1-3 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.

One of the many benefits of going to church is the opportunity for corporate worship. Worshipping God on your own is wonderful, but as Christians, we're required to come together in our respective congregations to worship the Lord, because His intention is to grow His children as families. Of course, there're families where nobody recognizes another—no communication between parents and the children—that's not ideal.

God lets us have our individual worship, individual prayers, individual Christian service, but there's also corporate worship, corporate prayer, and corporate service; things we do together as a congregation. In as much as each one of us has the responsibility to study the Word of God on our own, we should also come together to hear the Word of God as a congregation. These are Christian responsibilities and they're designed by God for the growth, nourishment, and strengthening of the individual child of God, and the body of

Christ as a whole.

Don't miss such things. They're not just programmes of the church; they're responsibilities given to us through the Word of God. It's got nothing to do with whether you feel like it or not, because even when you don't feel like going to work on a Monday morning, you still go because the job is important to you.

Ensure to take advantage of the corporate worship with fellow believers. David said, "I was glad when they said let us go into the house of the Lord" (Psalm 122:1). Hallelujah!

### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, thank you for the instructiveness of your Word. Now, more than ever, I take going to fellowshipping believers church with seriously. and other And in accordance with your Word, your blessings are evidently manifested in my life, and your glory is seen in all that I do, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY**

Luke 4:16; Hebrews 10:25; John 4:24

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 10-13

 $\frac{1}{27}$ 



# BE ACTIVE IN SOUL WINNING

Daniel 12:3 And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

esus said, "...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). If you truly believe in what Christ did for you; if you believe that His work of salvation was important, and that you actually received that salvation, you can't keep it to yourself. You have to tell others about Jesus. You have to be active in soul winning.

Every so often, pray and ask the Lord to put someone in your heart that you can lead to Christ and invite to church; someone you can share the Word of God with and bring to church. It's important to pray for the salvation of those in your world, and in far off regions, whose hearts the Lord would make ready to receive eternal life (Acts 13:48).

The Bible says in **Acts 2:47** that the Lord added to the church daily, such as should be saved, letting us know that every day, there're those that are appointed and ordained for salvation. There're those whom the Lord ordained should become part

of the church, but it's our responsibility to reach out to them and bring them into the Kingdom.

Some people don't find the things of God pleasant; they don't see the need to go to church, not because they're congenital atheists, but because they don't understand or know enough. They've always and only heard the wrong information, from the wrong people about God. This has beclouded their opinion and given them the wrong perception about God and the Church.

It's part of the reason we must be more passionate, strategic, painstaking, and unrelenting in our soul winning efforts. We must keep preaching the Gospel and interceding for lost souls. The Bible describes those who aren't born again as hopeless, and alienated from the life of God, thus, appointed to the judgment or wrath of God (Ephesians 4:18, Ephesians 2:12; Ephesians 2-3).

Make it your life's purpose that the sinners in your world aren't going to keep living without hope. Share the Gospel with them. Help them discover God's light, and receive His righteousness. You're His witness. He saved you and made you His partner in saving others.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for giving me eyes that see, ears that hear, and an understanding heart. Your love compels me to intercede and preach the Gospel to the lost, bringing them out of darkness into your marvellous light. I'm an active soul winner, and my light shines ever more brightly, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY**

Ezekiel 33:7-9; Acts 1:8; 2 Timothy 4:2

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 14-16

 $\frac{\text{SATURDAY}}{28}$ 



# THE WORD IMPARTS FAITH

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

God's Word is trustworthy and infallible; you can stake your life on it. But you can't rely on or trust in something you don't know about. You can only have faith in something you have information on.

For instance, if I made you a promise that I'd give you a car-gift tomorrow, you'd have faith for the car because the information has bolstered your hope; I've given you the reason to expect a car tomorrow. And because you trust my word, you'd move from mere "hope" to the confident assurance that, come what may, you're going to have a car tomorrow.

Though you haven't even seen it yet, you'd immediately start sharing your testimony of a new car, just because I said, "I have a car for you." Faith came to you because of what I said, which you heard. If I didn't say anything, or even if I said it, but you didn't hear it, you wouldn't have had faith to the point

of telling your friends, "I now have a car."

That's how it is with God's Word. Information from God's Word will cause you to have faith in God. That's what we read in our opening verse: faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God. The Word produces and imparts faith to your spirit. You don't have to struggle or try to make it happen; just hear the Word, and faith will be stirred in your spirit.

You may have noticed that, sometimes, as you listen to God's Word, maybe while in church or during your personal study, all the challenges you may have been facing suddenly seem like nothing. The reason is, when the Word of God enters your spirit, it sparks up faith in you. The Word becomes real in your spirit, giving you a sense of victory and dominion.

#### **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for your Word is living and active in me. I'm born of the Word; therefore, I live by the Word. As I study and meditate on the Word, my life is improved, from glory to glory, and the blessings of acting on the Word are evidently manifest in my life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY**

Hebrews 4:12; 1 Timothy 4:15; Hebrews 11:3

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 1-4

 $\frac{\text{SUNDAY}}{29}$ 



# YOU'RE BLESSED

Ephesians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.

The Christian is the blessed of the Lord, and part of what it means to be blessed is to be empowered to prosper. God has empowered you to prosper in everything you do. This is so wonderful, because it means there's no dryness, stagnation, lack or unproductivity in your life. You've been chosen and ordained for a life of praise, joy, excellence, victory, and glory in Christ Jesus.

In John 15:16, the Lord Jesus said, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you." He emphasized the life of fruitfulness, productivity, and ever-increasing glory we've received in Christ, a life of transcendental blessings! This is your heritage. You became an heir of God and a joint heir with the Lord Jesus Christ the day you were born again.

Some Christians look at their lives and situation to conclude that maybe they're not really blessed after all. "I don't have a car; I don't have a house; I don't have money; how could anybody say that I'm blessed?" they would query. What they don't realize is that life is spiritual, and the spiritual world controls the physical realm.

If you'd first acknowledge and profess in agreement with God's Word that indeed, you're the blessed of the Lord, those things which you can see and perceive—the symbols of prosperity—such as houses, cars, a good job, money, etc., will necessarily manifest as the results of the blessing. They're not the blessing, but the effect of the blessing. The blessing is an unseen power or force that causes good things to happen to you, with you, for you, and through you! It causes the glory of God to be seen in your life.

The Holy Spirit is inside you to teach you God's Word and how to activate His blessings in your life. He'll teach you to talk right, walk right and live right until those around you are overwhelmed by the results of God's blessing upon your life.

#### **PRAYER**

Thank you blessed Father, for your grace and blessings upon my life! I prosper in all things. I'm fruitful in every good work. I produce fruits of righteousness, because I'm righteousness, a tree chosen of and ordained for a life of praise, joy, excellence, victory, and glory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

# **FURTHER STUDY**

Proverbs 10:22; Deuteronomy 28:2-6; Galatians 3:9

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 5-8

 $\frac{\frac{\text{MONDAY}}{30}}$ 



# BLESS AND CREATE WITH WORDS

Genesis 1:22 And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth.

The first chapter of Genesis gives a clear narration of how God brought creation into being. It tells us in verses twenty and twenty-one precisely what God did: He spoke words. He said, "...Let there be..." and everything He said came into being. Then in the twenty-second verse, we observe something: He blessed every living creature that He created saying, "...Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth."

He spoke to create, and He blessed what He created, with words. When He said, "Be fruitful and multiply," He invoked into them the power to multiply, the power to increase mightily and to spread. He did it with words. He did the same thing after He created man. Genesis 1:27 says, "... God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."

Then in verse twenty-eight, we read that He blessed them

saying, "...Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." Observe that God created man in His own image, and likeness. That means He created man to look like Him (in His image), and to function like Him (in His likeness).

Therefore, since God creates and blesses with words, it means we have the ability, and are required to function like Him. We bless and create with our words. Your words are so important. Only say things that are consistent with the will and purpose of God for your life.

Proverbs 18:21 says, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue...." Use your tongue to speak blessings, creative and corrective words, words of peace, health, and prosperity. Bless, that is, invoke the power of multiplication, increase, fruitfulness, and productivity into your finances, your business, and other areas of your life with words. God has given you a wholesome tongue (Proverbs 15:4), to create or recreate the circumstances of your life to align with His destiny and perfect will for you. Keep yourself in the transcendent life, with words.

#### **CONFESSION**

The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage. I'm walking in the light of God's glory; I'm a success. I walk in prosperity, health and righteousness. Blessed be God!

# **FURTHER STUDY**

James 3:2; Proverbs 15:4; Mark 11:23

# 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Corinthians 9-13

# PRAYER OF SALVATION

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!

You can write to us and tell us what the Lord has done for you through this devotional by using our email at

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God bless you!

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