ZION REALITIES ...A daily devotional

Pastor Beloved Isaac

October 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:

NKJV - New King James Version AMP - The Amplified Bible

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

TLB - The Living Bible

CEV - Contemporary English Version

GNB - Good News Bible

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

RSV - Revised Standard Version
WNT - Weymouth New Testament
NRSV - New Revised Standard Version
MOFFAT - Meffet New Translation

MOFFAT - Mofftt New Translation WESNT - Wesley New Testament

EBR - Rotherham's Emphasized Bible

DRB - Douay-Rheims Bible
TPT - The Passion Translation
CJB - Complete Jewish Bible

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FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO PLACE ORDERS:

The Word Nation CO (U) LTD

Kasana, Luwero; Uganda.

Tel: +256-777359371,+256-700732649 Email: info@thewordnation.org

Website: www.thewordnation.org

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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

 $\frac{\text{TUESDAY}}{01}$



EVER FRUITFUL AND PRODUCTIVE

John 15:1-2 (AMPC) I AM the True Vine, and My Father is the Vinedresser. Any branch in Me that does not bear fruit [that stops bearing] He cuts away (trims off, takes away); and He cleanses and repeatedly prunes every branch that continues to bear fruit, to make it bear more and richer and more excellent fruit.

saiah 32:15 says, "Until the spirit be poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness be a fruitful field, and the fruitful field be counted for a forest." The Spirit has been poured upon us from on high. Now, He lives in us. You don't need to struggle to be successful, fruitful or productive. Your life, your ministry or your home may look like a desert; your finances may be below zero; what you need is a new mindset. Start thinking success. Think increase. Think growth, expansion, fruitfulness and productivity, because it's God's will for you.

You might even say, "But my life is already so fruitful; no dryness, everything is working out fine"; there's a greater glory: Your fruitful field can become a forest! You can be more productive spiritually, materially, financially, academically, etc. You can reach and win more people with the Gospel.

That's the life God wants you to live, where you're constantly increasing in relevance, fruitful and productive in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God (Colossians 1:10). Jesus said, "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples" (John 15:8). Our fruitful and productive lives glorify God. It's one of the evidences of the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives. He brings in that grace that affects your life and causes things to grow, increase, and expand.

PRAYER

Dear Father, I rejoice for the presence of your Spirit in my life, and the grace which causes the wilderness to be a fruitful field, and the fruitful field to become a forest. I'm persistently productive in every area of my life: in my job, in my finances, in my academics, and in the Gospel. I walk worthy of you always, pleasing you in all things, producing fruits and works of righteousness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

Luke 13:6-9; John 15:16; John 15:4-5

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 1-3

wednesday 02



BE A WISE BUILDER

Luke 6:47-48 Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like: He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock.

The Lord Jesus in the verse above talked about the wise builder; the one who hears the Word and puts it to work. Whereas, He likened the one who hears the Word but doesn't act on it to a man who builds his house on the sand. Such a building is without a foundation, and when the storms of life beat against it, it comes to ruin (Luke 6:48-49).

God's Word is the material given to us to build our lives; therefore, it matters that your life is built on the solid foundation of God's Word, and not on religious assumptions and theories of men. You must take heed to build your life according to the prescriptions of the Word.

It's like the admonition the Lord gave Moses in the Old Testament, which is reiterated for us in **Hebrews 8:5**, "Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly

things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount."

The Word of God will make you what God wants you to be without you having to struggle. Remember the words of Jesus in **Matthew 4:19**, He said, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men." God's Word will catapult you from one level of glory to a higher level; it will build your life and make you a success. If you desire good health, strength and vitality, the Word is the medicine and recipe you need. So be a wise builder; build your life with the Word, and you'll experience tremendous progress, peace and prosperity in your life.

CONFESSION

My path is as the shining light that shines brighter and brighter unto the perfect day, because I see and live by the Word. I prosper in all things; I'm positioned and inspired by the Word to be a source of blessing, nourishment, edification, encouragement, healing, joy and inspiration to my world, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

Jeremiah 17:7-8; Acts 20:32

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Galatians 4-6

THURSDAY 03



COUNT IT ALL JOY

James 1:2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations.

Though you're fully dedicated to the preaching of the Gospel and are making an impact for the Lord, you may find yourself facing fierce oppositions and persecutions. However, at such times, you must stand for what you believe. Some friends, relatives and loved ones may even spite and ridicule you; remain unperturbed and count it all joy!

In the book of Acts, we read of how the Apostles rejoiced to be scourged by the Jews for preaching the Gospel. They were threatened never to preach in the Name of Jesus (Acts 5:40), yet the Bible says "...they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name..." (Acts 5:41-42). This is so inspiring! It doesn't matter who might be against you or the persecutions you might be facing today for preaching the Gospel; like the Apostles, count it all joy! 2 Timothy 3:12 says,

"Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."

Also, the Lord Jesus said in Mark 10:29-30, "... Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life." Persecution is part of the deal; Jesus promised we would have them. When you're persecuted for the Gospel, rejoice, because the words of the Master are being fulfilled in you.

Continue in the faith and refuse to let your faith buckle in the face of adversity because you're more than a conqueror. When you go through diverse tests and trials, rejoice and be exceedingly glad; for great is your reward in heaven.

PRAYER

Dear Father, you're the strength of my life, and in you I've found joy, fulfilment and peace. The tests, trials and adversities that come my way are bread for me because you've made me more than a conqueror, and my faith is the victory that overcomes the world, blessed be your Name.

FURTHER STUDY

Matthew 5:11; Proverbs 24:10

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 1-3

 $\frac{604}{04}$



THE NAME OF THE FATHER, THE SON AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

Matthew 28:19-20 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost....

There're two things I want you to observe. First is the very idea that men should be baptised into a Name; and then the second is the fact that the Name is Jesus. Notice the Master didn't say, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the names of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost..." Rather, He said, "in the Name"; He used a singular term, even though He was referring to the Trinity—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

In carrying out the instructions of Jesus, the apostles didn't baptize anyone saying, "We baptize you in the Name of the Father, we baptize you in the name of the Son, and we baptize you in the name of the Holy Ghost." The Bible says they baptized in the Name of Jesus. When Peter addressed the Jews in Acts chapter two he said to them, "...Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of

sins..." (Acts 2:38). The apostles understood without any ambiguity that the Name Jesus is the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

This is easy to understand when you study Philippians 2:9-11: "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth..." This is referring to anything and every being that exists in heaven, on earth, and under the earth. Thus, if there were any other names in heaven belonging to anyone else, they'll have to bow to the Name of Jesus. When you call the Name "Jesus," you're talking of Deity; the fullness of the Godhead—the Father, Son and Holy Spirit: "For it pleased the Father that in him (Jesus) should all fullness dwell" (Colossians 1:19).

PRAYER

Blessed be God, who has given me the power of attorney to use the awesome Name of Jesus in prayer, and live by it! My joy is full today because I know the Father has granted every request and petition I make of Him, in Jesus' Name.

FURTHER STUDY

Acts 2:38; Acts 4:12

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 4-6





YOU ARE A SPIRIT

John 4:24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Man is a spirit; he has a soul, and lives in a body. Your body is not you. When you were born again, it wasn't your mind or your body that was born again; it was your spirit. Your spirit is where the light of God is: "The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly" (Proverbs 20:27). Through your physical body and its senses, you make contact with the physical world; but you can only relate to God, and the realities of the spirit realm from your spirit.

It's important for you to understand this because life itself is spiritual. The entire universe according to the Bible came from the realm of the spirit (Hebrews 11:3). The life of God in you is in your spirit, though it affects your physical body. It's your spirit that has the nature of God; that's where the Holy Spirit dwells. Your spirit became one nature with the Lord; inseparable from Him

when you received the Holy Spirit: "But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit" (1 Corinthians 6:17).

Christians who are not conscious of this reality function from their minds; and a mind that's not renewed and trained in the things of God can't be a sure guide. Romans 12:1 says, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Did you notice it says, "...ye present your bodies as a living sacrifice?" "Ye" is old English for "you"; that means "you" (your spirit) are to present your body as a living sacrifice, because your spirit is the real you! Your spirit is what matters to God, and that's why He directs everything He wants to do for you and in you to your spirit.

PRAYER

Dear Father, I thank you for the rich fellowship that I have with you, and for your translational power that's at work in me as a result of my intimate walk with you! Therefore your glory is revealed in my life today as I yield my spirit to you in fellowship and celebrate your presence in my life, in Jesus' Name.

FURTHER STUDY

1 John 1:3; 1 Corinthians 1:9

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 1-4

sunday 06



EXERCISE YOURSELF IN GOD'S LOVE

Romans 5:5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

As indicated above, the love of God is already in your spirit, but you still have to exercise yourself in it. There's no law or culture against love, as everyone wants to be loved; including the hardened criminal. But to receive love, you must show love. Motivated by His love for humanity, God gave His Son for our sakes (John 3:16). In the same vein, love must be the motivation for everything you do.

You can't impact your world for Jesus or do anything of significance for Him without love. Except you're driven by the love of God you'll not be effective in leading others to Christ. Read the inspiring words of the Apostle Paul in 2 Corinthians 5:14-15: "For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again."

The love of God will motivate you to preach the Gospel anywhere you are, and to anyone, irrespective of their status. **Acts 8:28-39** tells us how the love of God constrained Philip to preach the Gospel to the Ethiopian Eunuch. Thank God he did; for who knows, perhaps how much longer it would have taken the Gospel to get to Africa. Love will make you go the farthest mile and give your best and your all for others to receive the Gospel.

Recall what we read in **2 Corinthians 5:14-15**; you're not supposed to live unto yourself anymore, but unto Christ. His love should compel you to do the needful for the spread of the Gospel. Refuse to be quiet about your faith. The reason some Christians live and work amidst unbelievers with no desire to see them won to Christ is that they've not exercised themselves in God's love. Be zealous for the Gospel; let your ultimate passion and burning desire be for the Gospel to spread to the regions beyond.

CONFESSION

The love of God is overflowing through me to my world today; being deeply rooted in and securely founded on His love, I fearlessly and confidently make the Gospel known everywhere I am because necessity is laid upon me to preach the love of Christ.

FURTHER STUDY

Ephesians 5:1-2; 1 John 3:16-17

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 1-4

 $\frac{\frac{\text{MONDAY}}{07}}{$



KEEP TALKING THE WORD

Joshua 1:8 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.

Something to observe in the scripture above is the fact that it didn't say "this book of the law shall not depart out of thy heart"; instead, it says, "this book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth! The Word of God, spoken forth in faith from the mouth of a believer produces results. Hebrews 4:12 describes the potency and efficacy of the Word: "... the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

From the original Greek text, the "Word of God" as rendered in **Hebrews 4:12** above is the "logos" of God; the entire body of truth and revelation of God's Word. The "logos" of God is the revelation of God's Word that you've received and stored in your spirit. However, as long as the Word remains only in your spirit it won't

produce all the desired results you require. You have to have the Word in your mouth; that's when it becomes the creative, operative and active word! The Word in your mouth is the sword of the Spirit, which is the "rhema" of God (Ephesians 6:17); that's the Word of God that changes things.

Be a Word-talker. When you have issues to deal with, use the Word to effect a change; keep talking the Word and it will prevail against every adversity! James 4:7 says, "...Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." Use the Word against the fiendish and vexatious characters of hell today, and paralyze their manipulations and nefarious activities in your sphere of contact. The Word of faith in your mouth is your weapon of victory against the enemy.

CONFESSION

I'm winning and reigning every day in life through the Spirit and by the Word of God! The Word of God is in my heart and in my mouth today, causing circumstances and situations to align with God's perfect will for my life! I'm an aeonian overcomer by the power of God's Word; blessed be God!

FURTHER STUDY

2 Corinthians 4:13; Proverbs 18:21

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Thessalonians 1-5

 $\frac{\text{TUESDAY}}{08}$



YOU ARE IMPORTANT TO GOD

Luke 15:7 I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.

As the scripture above reveals, all of heaven rejoices over a single soul that receives salvation. This lets you know how important every human person on the face of the earth is to the Lord. The Bible says in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." He loved the world of humans, and that includes you. God loves you personally; He knows you by name and knows where you live; you're important to Him.

Your value to God is revealed in the price He paid for your salvation: "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold... but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot" (1 Peter 1:18-19). You're worth the blood of Jesus Christ; this therefore means you're God's most valuable treasure. Now you

can better appreciate when the Bible says, "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation, [God's] own purchased special people, that you may set forth the wonderful deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9 AMP).

Function everyday with the understanding that you're important to God, and that consciousness will inspire boldness and confidence in your spirit. Suddenly, you'll realize that nothing is impossible or unachievable because you're a joint-heir with Christ. See yourself in this light; think, talk, and act as one who's important to God and indispensable to Him.

You're His minister of reconciliation and oracle of salvation; you're indispensable to Him in reaching the world with the Gospel: "And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:18).

PRAYER

Dear Father, I thank you for making me a peculiar treasure unto you, and for making me the custodian of eternal verities. I recognize myself as one charged with the divine responsibility of influencing my world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and I diligently carry out this glorious ministry today, in Jesus' Name.

FURTHER STUDY

Ephesians 2:10(AMP); Romans 8:31-32

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Thessalonians 1-3





LOVE AND FELLOWSHIP

1 Corinthians 1:9 God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

aving believed in Jesus, one of the greatest and most beautiful things you should crave and practise is rich and constant fellowship with Him. If you truly love the Lord, then you'll make fellowshipping with Him a paramount endeavour in your life, because there's no love without fellowship. Fellowship means oneness of spirit; a sharing or communing together. So as one who's been called into fellowship with the Lord, you must constantly commune with Him, and seek His thoughts, opinions, counsel and guidance in all your endeavours. This is done through study and meditation on the Word, and prayer.

Realize that there can be no fellowship without communication. You should be in continued communion with the Lord. This is something you consciously do in response to His love. If you really love Jesus, you should be willing to spend time with Him through prayer

and study of the Word. The more fellowship you have with the Lord, the more His attributes and character of love are manifested in your life.

Abraham was called the friend of God (James 2:23), because of his intimacy with the Lord. Now, God has called you into fellowship with His Son Jesus Christ; that means you're His partner and friend, a direct result of the Abrahamic covenant of which we're heirs. Developing a close intimacy with Him should mean more to you than anything else in the world.

Your fellowship with the Lord is unique to you. He doesn't have, has never had and will never have a copy of you and that's why He cherishes your fellowship and love. Take your times of personal Bible study, worship and praise very seriously; let nothing interfere or stop you from observing your quiet times with the Lord. The more you relate with Him through His Word and the Holy Spirit, the more you would get to know Him and become more like Him in speech and actions.

PRAYER

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has called me into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ. I declare that I'm growing in grace, wisdom and knowledge, and the power of the Holy Spirit is revealed in me in increasing measure as I spend time with you today in fellowship, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 John 1:3

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Timothy 1-6

THURSDAY 10



UNDERSTANDING THE ANOINTING

1 John 2:27 But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you....

When someone is anointed of the Holy Spirit, it means he's empowered with divine ability to accomplish things beyond human wisdom and strength. He can do things that natural men can't do or understand, because of that anointing working in him. It's like what the Apostle Paul said in Colossians 1:29: "Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily." Paul was referring to the anointing of God's Spirit, testifying to it as the supernatural ability by which he functioned.

Acts 10:38 says "How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him." All the mighty works Jesus did, as recorded in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John were done through the anointing of the Holy Ghost working in Him; He did them as a man sent and anointed of God:

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you..." (Acts 1:8).

John 3:34 says "For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him." That means the one who's sent of God is anointed without measure; and you're sent of God, for Jesus said in John 20:21: "... as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you." You can accomplish the same things Jesus did by reason of the anointing that you've received of Him: "...the works that I do shall you do also, and greater works than these shall you do because I go to the Father" (John 14:12).

No wonder Paul said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13). He was referring to the anointing of God's Spirit at work in Him; take advantage of that power in your life today.

CONFESSION

The anointing of God's Spirit that's at work in me energizes and strengthens me to function supernaturally today! I can do all things by reason of that anointing, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

Isaiah 10:27; Acts 10:38

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Timothy 1-4

FRIDAY 11



CONQUER FEAR AND ANXIETY

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

The Word of God tells us to be anxious for nothing; that means to have no anxiety about anything. Rather, in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving you should make your requests known to God. The result of this is that the peace of God which surpasses all understanding shall garrison your heart and mind in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:7).

The Bible is replete with the admonition for us not to fear. God knows you could live without anxiety, panic and fear, that's why He said to banish fear and anxiety. Be stable in prayer and supplication with thanksgiving as you express your faith in God's Word. Fear is actually faith in the ability of the adversary to hurt you; fear is faith in the ability of all that is negative to stand against you and defeat you! To conquer it you have to have faith in the positives: faith in God's Word, faith in His love for you, faith in His grace, power and ability to put you

over in life!

The knowledge of God's Word is the beginning of your deliverance from fear and anxiety. You can't have faith in God's Word if you don't know the Word. Your faith grows with the knowledge of the Word. As faith is stirred in your spirit, fear is dispelled. Jesus said in John 8:32: "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." God's Word is the truth that delivers you from fear.

It doesn't matter in which area fear tries to attack you, refuse to fret! Find out the truth from God's Word concerning the situation and stay your mind on that truth, refusing to be moved by any contrary or negative information.

PRAYER

Dear Father, I thank you for your Word in my spirit today stirs faith and dispels fear and anxiety, in Jesus' Name. I reject every thought of worry and anxiety for I know that my faith in your Word and in your mighty power, love and grace towards me is my victory over the devil and the powers of darkness. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

Deuteronomy 31:6; 2 Timothy 1:7

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Titus 1-Philemon 1

 $\frac{\text{SATURDAY}}{12}$



FAVOUR GOD'S RIGHTEOUS CAUSE

Psalm 35:27 Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour my righteous cause...

esus said in Mark 16:15, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Soul winning is topmost in God's heart. 2 Peter 3:9 tells us that the Lord is unwilling that any person should perish, but that all should come to repentance. He's so passionate about saving the souls of men that He sent Jesus to die for all men. The Lord's righteous cause is that all men would come to the knowledge of His grace and love in Christ Jesus.

As a Christian, you must vibrantly be about this great cause. You must be totally committed to propagating the message of salvation to those in your sphere of contact and regions beyond. Proverbs 11:30 says, "he that winneth souls is wise." Also, Daniel 12:3 says, "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." When you favour God's

righteous cause not only will the wisdom of God function in you in an unusual measure, your life will be radiant with God's glory.

Proverbs 14:35 says, "The king's favour is toward a wise servant...." Being fervent in soul winning will attract the Lord's blessings and prosperity to your life; you can never be disadvantaged for favouring His righteous cause. No wonder the Lord said, "Let them shout for joy and be glad, that favour my righteous cause"; He takes special care of soul winners.

Realize that you're the preacher in your world; your home, office, class or neighbourhood. God has anointed you to deliver men from bondage into the glorious liberty of the sons of God; therefore passionately be about your heavenly Father's business of turning men and women to righteousness! Talk to somebody about Jesus today!

PRAYER

Dear Father, I thank you for the privilege and opportunity to minister your Word with power to those in my world today. This is what I live for; favouring your righteous cause by making manifest the savour of your knowledge in every place. I thank you for the great grace you've granted me to be effective in the ministry of the Gospel, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

2 Corinthians 5:18; 2 Corinthians 3:6

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Hebrews 1-4

 $\frac{\text{SUNDAY}}{13}$



THE WORD DIET

1 Peter 2:2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.

any today put in a great deal of effort in keeping their bodies in shape. They place themselves on all kinds of diet just so they can either gain or lose the necessary body weight and look perfect. While this is acceptable and commendable, a greater emphasis should actually be on developing your spirit; feeding your spirit with the right spiritual diet.

Every Christian is required to grow spiritually and this is only possible when you place yourself on a Worddiet. Only God's Word can provide you the needed spiritual nourishment for a balanced, healthy, vibrant and triumphant life. **Ephesians 4:15** admonishes that we "... grow up in him in all things which is the head, even Christ." You can only grow in Him through the Word. Let your appetite for the Word transcend the ordinary; be so Word-hungry and Word-conscious that it gets you feeding constantly on the Word.

Victory for the Christian is through the Word. Anyone who neglects or ignores God's Word becomes defenceless against adversity and evil. Your ability to face adversities and remain standing and victorious in the evil day is by the power of God's Word. Knowing this, therefore, take your devotions with the Word seriously. Never let a day go by without studying the Scriptures. Use your Zion Realities. Put the Word of God in your mobile devices; watch and listen to faith-messages voraciously, even while you're on the go.

1 Peter 2:2 says, "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby"; that means place yourself on a Word-diet. Desire and go for the Word more than your necessary food (Job 23:12); meditate on the scriptures day and night (Psalm 1:2)! Do this, and you'll experience the prevailing power of God's Word in your life and your spirit will become strong in the things of God.

PRAYER

Dear Father, your Word is life to me; it's the light by which I navigate my way in righteousness, victory and dominion. As I give myself to your Word, I experience its prevailing and transforming power in my life today, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

Colossians 3:16; Proverbs 4:20-22

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Hebrews 5-7

 $\frac{\text{MONDAY}}{14}$



SAVED IN CHILD BEARING

1 Timothy 2:15 Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

The above verse of scripture is not talking about salvation with regard to being born again. The word translated "saved" is from the Greek "sozo"; an all-inclusive word, which means to save, deliver, protect or be preserved. Thus, the Christian woman at childbirth is going to be helped, delivered, saved and preserved from the pangs, trauma and complications associated with childbearing. You might want to ask, "What about the curse on the woman in Genesis 3:16?" I'll explain, but first let's read it: "...I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children...."

Genesis 3 tells us how Adam disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden; he committed high treason and lost his dominion to Satan. Then God cursed the ground for Adam's sake, and made the pronouncement in Genesis 3:16 on Eve as a result of the betrayal. This "curse" on Eve is the reason for "labour," when a woman is to give birth; it's often

characterized with varying degrees of complications, pain and hardship.

However, the Bible says in 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creation: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." So the woman who's born again is not under the curse anymore; therefore she shouldn't go through complications and hard labour in childbirth. The redemptive and finished works of Christ on our behalf have made us free from every curse.

The Christian is the blessed of God. We were called to inherit a blessing (1 Peter 3:9). Therefore stand in the liberty and glory of what Christ has done for you.

PRAYER

Dear Father, I thank you for the blessing of the new creation that places me far above every curse. I know from your Word that I've been called to inherit a blessing. I pray for expectant mothers today, declaring that your Word is fulfilled in them as they deliver safely and easily, without complications, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

Exodus 1:19; 2 Corinthians 5:17

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Hebrews 8-10

TUESDAY 15



GIVE THE LORD HIS CUT

Malachi 3:10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

God's plan for His kids is for them to walk in f inancial independence. His financial plan is such that guarantees your prosperity irrespective of all the economic meltdowns, downgrades, etc., plaguing today's world. Recent happenings in many nations have further confirmed that the economic systems of the world can't give permanent prosperity, because they're doomed to fail. Therefore, as a Christian, you must play by a different set of rules; you must employ Kingdom principles in your finances.

One of such principles of financial increase for the Christian is tithing. Tithing means giving the Lord ten percent of your income; it's a means of "circumcising" your finances. When you study in both the Old and New Testaments, you'd observe that the word circumcision is translated from the Hebrew "namal," and Greek "peritemno" respectively, which means "to cut out" or

"take out a cut from." Thus, when you tithe or give to God, you're "taking out a cut" for Him; you're giving Him "His cut" of your income.

Observe again from our opening verse the great blessing that accrues to you from doing this: "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Not only do you sanctify and connect your finances to Jehovah, when you pay your tithes consistently, you also set yourself up to receive unprecedented f inancial blessings.

Plus that, your understanding of spiritual realities is enhanced; you become divinely circumspect. The wisdom of God functions in you in such a unique way, guiding you away from trouble! That wisdom also causes you to function with financial intelligence such that you don't incur losses because the devourer has been rebuked for your sake.

CONFESSION

Durable riches and wealth are mine because I'm the seed of Abraham! Through my giving and paying of tithes, my finances are sanctified unto the Lord and my prosperity is guaranteed! The adversary and devourer are rebuked for my sake, and I function in increased grace for financial abundance in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

Malachi 3:10; Galatians 6:7-8

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Hebrews 11-13

wednesday 16



HAVE CONFIDENCE IN GOD'S ABILITY

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all of thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding, in all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths.

To trust the Lord means to have confidence in His Word, and hold tenaciously to His promises; it means to depend on Him completely. It means to believe what God says and exercise unshakeable faith in His ability. His grace is past finding out; His power is infinite; and His love is unimaginable. When you consider just how great and awesome the Lord is, you'll never worry or be anxious or depressed, no matter what happens to you or around you. The mere realization that you belong to the mighty God, who loved you enough to have given His Son Jesus to die in your stead should cheer you up for victory.

Those who linger in frustration and sadness really don't trust the Lord, for if they did they'd realize that there's no disadvantage for the child of God. Romans 8:28 says, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called

according to his purpose." This isn't a promise, but a statement of reality. Nothing can work against you; nothing and no one can make you a victim; so quit the pityparty and lay hold of your victory in Christ.

Believe in the Lord with all your heart and trust His Word; have confidence in His ability to make you all that He's destined for you to be. Jesus said to His disciples, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Matthew 4:19). All He said to them was "follow me"; in other words, trust me; have confidence in me, and I'll make all your dreams come true. Have unshakeable confidence in the ability of the Word of God to make you what it talks about. It begins with being a doer of the Word; consciously putting the Word to work in your life! That's all you need to have a great life!

PRAYER

Dear Father, I put my trust and confidence in your Word, conscious that your Word is all I need for progress, success and victory. I live triumphantly by the Word today, excited that it's producing in me fruits unto righteousness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

Psalm 118:8-9; Psalm 125:1; Isaiah 55:11

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

James 1-5

 $\frac{\text{THURSDAY}}{17}$



FAITH IN THE WORD

Luke 7:6-7 ...And when he was now not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, saying unto him, Lord, trouble not thyself: for I am not worthy that thou shouldest enter under my roof: Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed.

As seen in the opening Scripture, a Roman centurion, whose servant was at the point of death pleaded with the leaders of the Jews to ask Jesus to come heal his servant. When he heard that Jesus was on His way, he sent words to the Master saying "You don't need to come here Lord! Just say the Word and my servant will be healed." Responding to the centurion's faith, the Master uttered the word of healing and the centurion's servant was healed instantly.

On another occasion, a woman came and pleaded with Jesus to heal her daughter who was tormented by a devil (Mark 7:25). The Master said to her, "...go thy way; the devil is gone out of thy daughter" (Mark 7:29). He spoke in the past tense: "the demon is gone out of thy daughter!" This was all the woman needed to hear, and she knew her daughter had been healed. The woman and the Roman centurion exercised faith in the Word of

the Master.

This should be your attitude as well; have faith in the Word of God. The Bible clearly reveals the potency and efficacy of God's Word. His Word is absolute reality, and all you need to experience victory and promotion in life is to have faith in the Word; live by the Word! For example, the Word says you're righteous (2 Corinthians 5:21); believe it and keep declaring your righteousness, irrespective of the feelings of condemnation satan may sometimes bring to your mind. That's how to exercise faith in the Word!

PRAYER

Dear Father, I thank you for the power of your Word and its ability to impact my spirit, soul and even my physical body. I'm living in strength, health and victory as I exercise faith in your Word, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

Isaiah 55:10-11; Luke 5:5

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Peter 1-2

 $\frac{18}{18}$



THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Matthew 28:20 (TLB) ...Be sure of this—that I am with you always, even to the end of the world.

The Lord Jesus, through the statement above, assures us of His everlasting presence with us. Thus, it makes no difference where you find yourself, who or what may come out against you; be sure of one thing: your victory is guaranteed because the Lord is with you. This has nothing to do with whether or not you "feel" that He's with you; feeling is not faith. By faith you know He's with you and in you because the Word says so. The consciousness of the presence of God in you and with you will go a long way in determining the quality of life you'll live.

When you're conscious of the Lord's indwelling and abiding presence, it stirs faith, courage, and boldness in your spirit. That consciousness will give you the giant-killer mentality; because you know that greater is He that's in you, than he that's in the world. Like the Prophet Elisha, you're fearless and unperturbed by the

number or size of your adversaries; because you've come to know that 'they that be with you, are more than they that be with them' (2 Kings 6:16).

Live every day with the consciousness of God's presence; whether you're alone or in the company of others. Completely eradicate from your vocabulary such statements as "I'm so lonely and alone in this world; there's nobody to help me." Rather, boldly say, "The Lord is my strength, comfort and refuge; He's in me and with me always!"

Refuse fear, worries, stress and doubt; take advantage of the Lord's presence in you and with you! He's there to lead, guide, protect and strengthen you; therefore be bold, strong, and courageous!

PRAYER

Dear Father, I rejoice and lift my hands to you in worship for your love, grace, kindness and presence in my life! Thank you for your glory that's revealed in me today, as I live conscious of your power and presence, and impact my world with your glory, grace and righteousness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

John 14:16-18; Hebrews 13:5-6

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Peter 3-5

saturday 19



LIFE IN THE WORD OF GOD

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

Christianity is an exciting life; a life of victory through the Word. Religious Christianity teaches that you have to struggle to please God, and to walk with Him. But in true Christianity, you don't need to struggle to please God because the Holy Spirit helps you live the faith life that pleases Him. All you have to do is pay attention to Him through the Word.

Those who live according to the Word of God don't need to keep worrying whether or not they're pleasing God. It takes faith to please Him: "But without faith it is impossible to please him..." (Hebrews 11:6); and faith is having the Word dwell in you richly and living by it. God's Word in you will regulate your thoughts and actions, and guide you in the paths of righteousness.

No wonder Colossians 3:16 says, "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." If you store up the Word in your heart's treasury, you'll of necessity speak the Word, because the Lord Jesus said in Matthew 12:34, "...out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." Moreover, if you keep talking the Word in faith, the Word will propel you to action.

To live the glorious life God has ordained for you in Christ is neither a mystery nor unattainable; all you have to do is live in, and by, the Word. Keep the Word in you and let the Word dominate you! You must live out the Word daily, such that when you speak, it'll be the Word talking through you.

CONFESSION

I have the Word of God dwelling in me richly, in all wisdom and spiritual understanding. My life today is the expression and manifestation of God's Word, which has taken centre-stage in my life! I'm led forth in victory and triumph today as the Word of God gains the mastery in my life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

Acts 20:32; Proverbs 4:20-23

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 Peter 1-3

 $\frac{\text{SUNDAY}}{20}$



TURN IT OVER TO THE LORD

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

When Christians find themselves beset with a myriad of problems, maybe in their finances, at work, in the family or even with relatives, the natural recourse, for most, at such times would be to pray! But how do you pray about such nagging and seemingly intractable issues; especially when they're trying to rob you of your peace and joy, and make life a frustrating experience?

Actually, if you were to pray about all the challenges and problems you face on a daily basis, you'll probably spend eternity on your knees. Knowing this, God gave us the Holy Spirit to help us pray with understanding; to teach us how to pray, and what to pray about: "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit Himself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered" (Romans 8:26).

If you carry the burden of all the problems and the challenges that life throws at you, your life will become full of worries. God doesn't want your life to go that way; He wants you free of worries and anxieties. That's why He says, 'cast all your cares upon me' (1 Peter 5:7); He's saying to you, "Turn your problems and challenges to me; leave them alone and focus on me!" When you focus on the Lord and allow the Spirit take control of your situation, He'll inspire you to pray all the more effectively about your circumstances.

Refuse to worry about whatever predicament you may be facing right now; turn it over to the Lord, and ask the Holy Spirit to take charge for you and pray through you. He'll inspire you to utter in prayer, words that He Himself has formed within your spirit! That's when you can really pray about a nagging situation without limitations, and prevail. It's through the Holy Spirit; He puts the right words in your mouth with which to articulately express your desire to the Father.

PRAYER

Precious Lord, what a blessing to know that you love and care for me affectionately! I embrace the life of peace, rest and victory you've brought me into, enjoying the glorious partnership and participation of the Holy Spirit, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

Matthew 11:28-30; 1 Peter 5:6-7

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 John 1-3

 $\frac{\frac{\text{MONDAY}}{21}}{2}$



YOUR CHANGE IS NOW

Mark 11:24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

Observe the words of the Lord Jesus above; He said whatsoever you desire, when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you shall have them. In other words, at the time of prayer is when you should believe, receive, and have what you asked for. That means if you desire a change or a miracle in any area of your life today, that change or miracle can take place right now; it's actually up to you.

Some people believe God chooses when to help or bless as He wills, but that's not true. He's already done all that's necessary for you to live a great and prosperous life, having granted you all things that pertain unto life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3). What you're supposed to do now is use the Word to build your life and shape your future.

Let's observe another of such secrets of change by

the Word. On a certain occasion, the Lord Jesus told a parable, and His disciples asked Him why He spoke to the people in parables. The Master replied, "...this people's heart is waxed gross...lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them" (Matthew 13:15). I want you to note the words "any time." What this means is that whenever you see the Word with the eyes of your spirit, hear and understand it with your heart, you or your situation will be converted. In other words, there'll be a change.

How does this change occur? The Bible says, "The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul..." (Psalm 19:7). God's Word is a converter; if you would meditate on the Word nothing can stop the change you desire from taking place! The Word will make a poor person prosperous, produce healing and health for the sick, and stir joy in the heart of the downcast. Stick to the Word, and it will change your situation.

CONFESSION

My life is full of rest because the Word of God upholds me and has provided me with everything I require for life and godliness! I change hopeless situations today through the power of God's Word, in the Name of Jesus. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

Hebrews 4:12; 2 Corinthians 3:18

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 John 4-5

 $\frac{\text{TUESDAY}}{22}$



THE JOY OF THE LORD

John 15:11 These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

n life, people naturally seek to be joyfully fulfilled. Some try to find it in their jobs, family, possessions or friends. Some others live in servitude to the judgments or opinion of others about them. When others say or do something nice to them or for them, they're happy; but at the slightest feeling of rejection they become bitter, resentful and frustrated. Never live your life that way. Your joy should be independent of circumstances and the opinions of others about you.

James 1:2 says, "...count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations." The Apostles, and even the Lord Jesus endured serious persecution and rejection, yet they remained undaunted in their resolve to fulfil God's dream. Even after the Apostles were openly ridiculed and beaten for preaching the Gospel, the Bible says they were filled with joy to be counted worthy to suffer shame for His Name (Acts 5:40-41). That wasn't ordinary joy;

it was the joy of the Lord in their spirits. If you ever feel discouraged, downcast, or rejected, all you have to do is to consciously activate the joy of the Lord from within and you'll be strengthened. You don't have to wait for anything or anyone to make you joyful; evoke joy from within.

Never be dissatisfied or unhappy because of the challenging circumstances you might be facing or the ill treatment you get from others! You're more than a conqueror; therefore no adversity can overwhelm you. When trouble comes, laugh; and then say like Paul, "None of these things move me..." (Acts 20:24), because you know you're a victor. God has given you joy that isn't dependent on the situations around you; joy that flows from your spirit as gushers of living water. So live joyfully every day and be excited about life.

PRAYER

The joy of the Lord is my strength, and I rejoice in Him today, for He has filled my life with His goodness. I refuse to be perturbed about anything because I've cast all my cares upon the Lord, who is my caretaker and provider! Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

Psalm 16:11; John 14:27

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

2 John -Jude 1

 $\frac{\text{WEDNESDAY}}{23}$



TODAY'S TRUTH - CHRIST IN YOU

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

The revelation of God's character you have will primarily determine how much of His truth and glory you'll function in. In the Old Testament, God revealed His character progressively to the children of Israel. To Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, He revealed Himself as "El-Shaddai," meaning, God Almighty. They thus functioned within the ambit of that revelation. Later on, when He met Moses, He said, "...I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty (El-Shaddai), but by my name JEHOVAH was I not known to them" (Exodus 6:3).

Moses had a higher revelation of God, different from that of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. At different times, as he and the children of Israel journeyed through the wilderness, God revealed Himself as "Jehovah Rapha"; the Lord your Healer (Exodus 15:26), "Jehovah Nissi"; the Lord our banner (Exodus 17:15) etc. The Lord took

them through these progressions of revelations so they could be further enlightened and enabled to function in His greater glory.

Then came Jesus. In Matthew 1:23, when Jesus was born, God revealed Himself to Israel as "Emmanuel"; meaning "God with us!" In Christ, God came as a man and dwelt among them, and they saw His glory (John 1:14). However, as beautiful as these revelations are of the character of God, they only project a limited view of who He is to the Church—the body of Christ. Through the Holy Spirit, God now dwells in you. He's no longer "Emmanuel" (God with us); but "God in us."

That's what we read in our opening verse: "Christ in you, the hope of glory." This is today's truth. If you've received the Holy Spirit, God now dwells in you; you're His operational headquarters! Through you, He now administers life, grace and salvation to a dying and hurting world!

PRAYER

Dear Father, I thank you for your presence in my life, making me your living temple! I carry your ever abiding presence within me everywhere to affect my world; and through me, you make evident the fragrance of your knowledge in every place, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

Galatians 2:20; 2 Corinthians 5:17

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Revelation 1-2

 $\frac{1}{24}$



WE HAVE RECEIVED OF HIS FULNESS

John 3:34 For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him.

2 Kings 2 tells the story of the great prophet, Elijah, and how he was transported via a chariot of fire to heaven. But before that time, Elisha, one of the prophets that served him entreated "...I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me" (2 Kings 2:9). Today, there're Christians who take a cue from Elisha and pray that the Lord would grant them "a double portion" of the anointing. That's a wrong prayer. The new creation doesn't require any double portion of the anointing because He's got all of it! When you were born again and the Holy Spirit came into your life, He didn't come in bits and fragments; He came to dwell in you in His fullness.

What Elisha meant by "double portion" is understood from Moses' instruction to the Israelites about the rights of the firstborn in Deuteronomy 21:17: "...he shall acknowledge the son of the hated for the firstborn, by giving him a double portion of all that he hath: for he is the beginning of his strength; the right of the firstborn is his." What this means

is that, if for example, a man had six sons, he'd have to divide his entire inheritance into seven places, such that the firstborn gets a double share, as the right of the firstborn, while the remaining five sons get one each.

This was what Elisha requested for; the right of the firstborn. He wanted to assume the position of leadership amongst the other prophets in Israel, who at that time were under the tutelage of the prophet Elijah. And because of his spiritual perception, he got it and became the leading prophet over them (Read 2 Kings 2:1-25 for details). It's a misapprehension to say that Elisha wanted twice what Elijah had; there's no way that could have happened because it would mean Elisha asking Elijah for what he (Elijah) didn't have.

You don't have to ask God for a double portion of the Spirit, because the Bible says "And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace" (John 1:16). Just as the Lord Jesus had the Spirit without measure, because He was sent of the Father, you also have the Spirit without measure (John 3:34) because Jesus said, "...as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you" (John 20:21). So, all you need do is to continually get yourself filled with the Spirit to overflowing as the Apostle Paul admonished in Ephesians 5:18-19.

PRAYER

Dear Father, I thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit whom I've received in His fullness. I declare today that He is fully operational in me; and as I stir up the anointing in me, I'm enabled to change circumstances and impact the lives of those around me with the power of the Spirit, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

John 20:21; Ephesians 5:18-20

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Revelation 3-5

 $\frac{\frac{\text{FRIDAY}}{25}}$



RECEIVE FORGIVENESS AND MOVE

Romans 6:14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

Someone once asked, "I'm born-again, but I'm always drawn to sin. Does that mean I'm really not born again?" That you did something wrong, having given your life to Christ doesn't mean you're no longer a Christian. 1 John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Something very important you need to realize from this verse is that it's not referring to non-Christians but Christians. Also read 1 John 2:1-2: "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins...."

This lets you know it's possible to err or fall into sin, but the emphasis the Holy Spirit communicates is that, you can receive forgiveness and live in the consciousness that sin can't rule over you. That you did something wrong doesn't mean you've lost your salvation; receive forgiveness and live for the Lord. Ephesians 2:8 says, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." You were born again by faith when you believed in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, and confessed with your mouth that He is the Lord of your life. It had nothing to do with your feelings. 2 Corinthians 5:7 says "For we walk by faith, not by sight." This means you're not to walk by your sensory perception but by the Word of God.

Hebrews 4:16 says, "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." This is what you need to do as a Christian, if you do something wrong; don't condemn yourself; boldly and humbly commune with the Father, confess your wrong and ask His forgiveness. Once you've done that, receive forgiveness and move on in your walk of faith.

PRAYER

Dear Father, I thank you for your grace, love, kindness, and mercy towards me. I'm strengthened in my faith-walk today, knowing that nothing can separate me from your great love as I exercise myself in righteousness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 5:13-14

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Revelation 6-8

 $\frac{\sqrt{26}}{26}$



THE VALUE OF YOUR EXISTENCE

Mark 8:36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

The most important thing in life is to discover God's purpose for your life and fulfill it. Life isn't about material gains. If you were to be the sole owner of everything in the world, that'll still be nothing compared to the value of your soul. Jesus said, "...A man's life doesn't consist in the abundance of his possessions" (Luke 12:15). Your primary reason for being isn't to amass wealth or become famous. You might then want to ask, "Why am I living?"

There're two primary reasons you're living today. The first is that God wants you to learn His Word and understand how His Kingdom functions so you'd function effectively in the world to come. He wants you to be a master over circumstances in this life so you'd be a giant and a champion in the world to come, ruling over nations: "And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations"

(Revelations 2:26).

Secondly, He wants you to bear witness of the reality of the Kingdom and be a testimony of His salvation. Jesus gave us a charge to go "...into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). You've got to witness to the fact that Christ has brought salvation to the whole world. There're people who may never hear the Gospel except through you; those in your sphere of contact, and the regions beyond.

2 Corinthians 3:6 says: "Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament...." The Lord has called you, and made you an able minister; you've been chosen and sent to preach the Gospel. These are the primary reasons for your life; therefore, channel all your energies and zeal on a daily basis in these directions, and be sure to fulfil God's purpose for your life.

PRAYER

Dear Father, you've made my life beautiful, glorious and exciting; and for this I worship you! Thank you for making me an able minister of the Gospel, and the wisdom you've granted me to teach those around me the Kingdom-life! I'm growing in grace and in the knowledge of your Word, being thoroughly positioned to live the transcendent life here on earth, and to see that the Gospel goes to the regions beyond, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

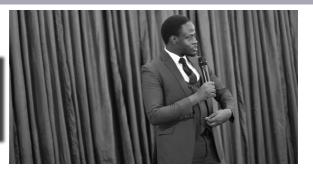
FURTHER STUDY

Hebrews 6:5; 1 Peter 4:13

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Revelation 9-11

 $\frac{\text{SUNDAY}}{27}$



REFUSE TO DOUBT THE WORD OF GOD

Romans 4:19-21 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

Time tests faith. You can easily tell whether someone is walking in faith or in unbelief when he's pressed for time. When pressure builds after an expected process is yet to yield the desired result and you begin to vacillate, wondering whether or not you heard God right, that's unbelief, not faith.

Many people unknowingly walk in unbelief every day, because they don't fully understand what it means to be unbelieving. To be unbelieving is to doubt the veracity and integrity of God's Word. Faith, on the other hand, doesn't doubt, no matter the circumstances; it's fully persuaded that what God has said is the absolute reality.

Where unbelief starts fretting because of some delay, faith remains unshaken; being confident that what God has said will surely come to pass. The Lord Jesus in **Mark**

11:23 said, "For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall NOT DOUBT in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith." Praise the Lord Jesus Christ!

It's not for you to wonder how the mountain will move into the sea after you've commanded it to move. Yours is to focus on the result and refuse to vacillate; be fully persuaded that your confessions of faith will produce the desired results: "...and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith" (1 John 5:4).

PRAYER

Dear Father, I thank you for the infallibility of your Word and its prevailing power in my life! My confidence and trust is in the ability of your Word to build me up and make me all that you've destined me to be, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

James 1:6; Hebrews 3:12; Romans 11:20

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Revelation 12-13

 $\frac{\frac{\text{MONDAY}}{28}$



SICKNESS ISN'T AN ACT OF GOD

Acts 10:38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

Alady gave birth to a child that was blind and started crying, "Oh God, what has this innocent child done to be born blind? Oh God, why did you do this?" She held God responsible for such a misfortune out of her ignorance. Many people ignorantly attribute every mishap to an act of God; this is wrong! God is not the author of the pain, sickness and misery in the lives of many. Rather, He's the healer, restorer, and mender of broken hearts, broken lives, and broken relationships.

Our opening scripture reveals God's character and nature of love, kindness, and compassion, while revealing Satan as the one who oppresses people with sickness, hardship, pain and misery. It tells us that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed of the devil, for God was with Him. Notice, it wasn't God who made the people sick; but it was God who sent Jesus to heal them.

The case of blind Bartimaeus readily buttresses this. The Bible says he was born blind; not satisfied with his condition, he

cried out to Jesus for help, and the Lord restored his sight (Mark 10:51-52). In this case, the man was born blind, and then Jesus healed him, proof-positive it wasn't God who made him blind. A similar case was when Jesus and His disciples met another man who was born blind. His disciples asked Him, "Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?" (John 9:2).

The Lord responded, "...Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him, I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work." The devil's work was manifested in the man's life, which was the blindness, but the Lord Jesus went on to say, "...but that the works of God should be made manifest in him, I must work the works of Him that sent me," (John 9:3-4) and healed the man.

Evidently, God is the healer while the devil is the oppressor responsible for all the sickness, disease and misery that people suffer from! Nevertheless, thanks be unto God; He's given us power to heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead and cast out devils (Matthew 10:8). Like Jesus, you ought to go about doing good, healing those who are oppressed of the devil, for God is with you.

PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father, blessed be your Name forever for your light that shines brightly in this dark world, bringing healing, deliverance, preservation, and strength to the oppressed and afflicted, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

1John 3:8

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Revelation 14-16

 $\frac{\text{TUESDAY}}{29}$



YOUR TRUE COMMITMENT

Luke 21:1-4 And he looked up, and saw the rich men casting their gifts into the treasury. And he saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites. And he said, Of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all: For all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had.

Money amplifies your character, and is a measure of what you're truly committed to. Nothing reveals the inner thoughts of a man's heart or character as much as money; what you do with money shows the things that are truly important to you.

As a Christian, "seeding the Gospel," that is, committing your money to world evangelism, should be your topmost priority. You should become outstanding in this endeavour. As you faithfully give what you have, the Lord will multiply your finances and increase your capacity to give more. Luke 6:38 says, "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."

When you give consistently in the House of God, the

angels will network you with men and women all around the world to give to you. He does this so that your capacity to give towards the furtherance of the Gospel will continually be on the increase: "...Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:7-8).

Always give financially towards the spread of the Gospel; seek opportunities to do this. This is a demonstration of your true commitment to the Lord, and reveals the true character of your heart. Remember, your number one expression of love for the Master is to care for what He cares about; the souls of men. So, let your financial participation in the furtherance and propagation of the Gospel be very clear, and take it to the next level.

PRAYER

Dear Father, I thank you for the awesome privilege of being a conveyor of the great Gospel of Christ to everyone in my world! I rejoice and praise you for counting me faithful, enlisting me as an able minister and financier of the Gospel. I commit myself humbly and wholly to this glorious ministry of reconciliation, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

2 Corinthians 9:6; 1 Corinthians 9:17

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Revelation 17-18

wednesday 30



DON'T BE CASUAL WITH GOD'S WORD

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

Vielding or giving yourself to the Word of God is not a partial endeavour, but something you do with all of your being. The Word of God requires rapt, undivided attention. Proverbs 4:20 says, "My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings." This means, give yourself wholly to the Word and channel your passions towards the Word, knowing that it's the food for your spirit.

This, for example, is the reason you can't listen to the Word as you would an academic lecture; or leaf through the Bible as you would your history lecture notes. Hosea 6:3 says, "Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord...," then 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." This is talking about going after the Word with a ravenous appetite; craving it more than physical food, which is what the Lord reiterates in Mathew 4:4 "...Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

This emphatically means you can live by God's Word. Every time you receive the Word, your spirit is nourished; you receive up-to-date information from God's throne room. In addition, you're strengthened, cleansed, purified and you receive wisdom and lasting inspiration that sets you apart and makes you a wonder.

Never have a casual relationship with the Word of God! When it's time to go to church, know that it's serious business because the Church is where you receive lessons for life through the Word. No one who listens to the Word of God consistently ends up a failure or in defeat; it's not possible! You might say, "Well, listening to the Word isn't really what matters, doing what it says is all that counts!" Yes, that's true; but anyone who'll listen long enough to the Word will certainly end up a doer of the Word.

If you keep listening to the Word, it will become the abundance of your heart, which will, in turn, dominate your thinking, and come forth out of your mouth: "...for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" (Mathew 12:34). The Word in your heart will come forth from your mouth, and necessarily take possession of your daily walk!

CONFESSION

I experience victory, success, health, and abundance today and always because I live in the Word, by the Word, and through the Word! The Word has gained the mastery over my spirit, soul and mind, giving me a formidable mindset—the mind-set of the just!

FURTHER STUDY

1 Peter 1:23; Acts 20:32

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Revelation 19-20

 $\overline{31}$



TAKE POSSESSION NOW

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

Agentleman once wanted to know what level of faith he needed to attain in order to receive healing from a chronic ailment. In his words, "I have faith; and I even fast! But it seems none of these is working. However, I believe that God will set me free someday!" From his comments, the real probelm is obvious; he didn't understand the difference between faith and hope. The language: "God will set me free someday" is an expression of hope, not faith.

Faith works now; it takes possession now. You can't say you have faith and at the same time be hoping on God for a miracle. This is one mistake some Christians make, and they wonder why their faith seems ineffective. Faith always works! As long as you're functioning in the arena of hope, you can't effect the desired changes. I'll explain this by distinguishing between faith and hope. Hope is to put your expectation into the future. **Romans**

5:5 says hope makes not ashamed; it doesn't disappoint us because it's the first element required; but when faith comes, it takes possession.

Faith is now! It takes possession now by calling real and done that which you've hoped for. Hebrews 11:1 says, "Now faith is..." Your hope must translate to faith for it to work. Teaching on faith in Mark 11:24, Jesus said, "Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." At the point of asking in prayer, you're to believe that you've received what you've asked for; that's faith! But if you're hoping that God will answer your prayer someday, that won't work; even though you believe it.

So take possession now; declare that the healing, blessing or miracle you desire is yours now!

PRAYER

Dear Father, I thank you for your Word which has bolstered faith in my spirit today. My Faith is the victory that overcomes the world! I walk in divine health, prosperity, progress and victory now, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY

Hebrews 11:1(AMP); Romans 4:17(AMP)

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Revelation 21-22

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

zionrealities@thewordnation.org

God bless you!

For more information about the ministry and materials by Pastor Beloved Isaac, please contact:

THE WORD NATION

a.k.a Zion Embassy

Kasana, Luwero; Uganda.

Tel: +256-777359371

+256-700732649

Email: info@thewordnation.org

 $Website: \underline{www.thewordnation.org}$