

empowered daily

THE DAILY DEVOTIONAL
FOR LIVING WITH
CERTAINTY & INTENSITY

*"Have not I written to thee excellent things
in counsels and knowledge, That I might
make thee know the certainty of the words
of truth; that thou mightest answer the
words of truth to them that send unto thee?"*

- Proverbs 22:20-21

RYAN & DEBRA JACOBS

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JUL-AUG-SEP

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Unless otherwise stated, all scripture references and quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

Keys for other translations used:

TPT The Passion Translation (TPT)

YLT Young's Literal Translation

AMP The Amplified Bible

EXB The Expanded Bible

ISV International Standard Version

NKJV New King James Version

NIV New International Version

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TUESDAY, JULY 1

Enter With Vigour



A start of a new month is an entry point to something new: New possibilities, new opportunities, new encounters, new experiences etc. How you approach this month is up to you.

How are you going to approach this month? Are you going to go about it the same way you did last time i.e. last year? Or are you going to raise the level of your game? Are you ready to break negative cycles? Are you prepared to break the limitations you encountered the last time?

Then approach the month with new eyes, new vigour and new rigour. Leave nothing to chance. Seize the month. Start it, running. Push forward and begin it with a strong surge.

Run this month to win. Paul told us to run as to win. As it is written, “Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.”

Start today, by reaching forward. Enter with vigour.

SCRIPTURE READING: PHILIPPIANS 3:13

BRETHREN, I COUNT NOT MYSELF TO HAVE APPREHENDED: BUT THIS ONE THING I DO, FORGETTING THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE BEHIND, AND REACHING FORTH UNTO THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE BEFORE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2

Give Your All



Paul told Timothy to give himself fully. He wrote, “Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.” Timothy is being instructed not to commit himself partially. You cannot sustainably prosper in what you commit yourself partly to.

God knows this and therefore told His people, as referenced by our Lord Jesus in the gospel of Matthew, “Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment.”

God demands all your heart, all your soul and all your mind. The Lord Jesus said that giving God all of you is the first and great commandment. This month and season make sure that you don’t give God part of you but all. He demands 100% not 90%. Nothing less than everything will do.

So Paul tells Timothy that for God to aid him in evident prosperity, he must give himself fully to the things of God concerning him. Give your all. Will you?

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 TIMOTHY 4:15

MEDITATE UPON THESE THINGS; GIVE THYSELF WHOLLY TO THEM; THAT THY PROFITING MAY APPEAR TO ALL.



THURSDAY, JULY 3

Walk On The Wind



The scripture says that God makes the clouds His chariot and He walks upon the wings of the wind. “Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters: who maketh the clouds his chariot: who walketh upon the wings of the wind”

These are God’s preferred mode of transport. What are yours? God has good taste and He chose to travel that way.

Similarly, in the spirit, we as His children should imitate, His ways. You too can travel in the Holy Spirit using the wings of prayer, ushering your communion with Him to the very throne of God. From there your life can move beyond the limitation of human systems and connections.

You can make progress in leaps and bounds if you can learn to fuel your progress by prayer and praise. Do not crawl, run, leap and fly. In prayer, the Holy Spirit en-powers you in this higher way. It is from there that God’s energy, will enable your success and open many impossible doors before you.

It is time to walk on the wind.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 104:3

WHO LAYETH THE BEAMS OF HIS CHAMBERS IN THE WATERS: WHO MAKETH THE CLOUDS HIS CHARIOT: WHO WALKETH UPON THE WINGS OF THE WIND:

FRIDAY, JULY 4

Dependence Day



Dependence on God is everything. Your life's outcome is directly dependent on your dependence on God. The scripture tell us, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

A today lived with total dependence on God ensures a tomorrow fully directed and guarded by God. Many depend on others and other things, instead of God. As it is written, "Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the Lord our God. They are brought down and fallen: but we are risen, and stand upright." Again the scripture says, "Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord. For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited."

Today, refuse to be independent from God. May your independence day from God never come. From today, step into the blessedness. As it is written, "Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is."

Dependence on God is everything. Let this be your Dependence day.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 37:3-5

TRUST IN THE LORD, AND DO GOOD; SO SHALT THOU DWELL IN THE LAND, AND VERILY THOU SHALT BE FED. DELIGHT THYSELF ALSO IN THE LORD; AND HE SHALL GIVE THEE THE DESIRES OF THINE HEART. COMMIT THY WAY UNTO THE LORD; TRUST ALSO IN HIM; AND HE SHALL BRING IT TO PASS.

Jesus Could Not



Realising your limitations is key for effective living. One should learn to assess what you are doing and whether you are doing it successfully.

Jesus, the Son of God, assessed His potential abilities to successfully do anything on earth and concluded that He could do nothing of Himself. He needed help in everything. He realised that He is extremely needy. He said, “Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.”

Here we see that Jesus could do nothing of Himself. He needed His Father’s intimation for every area and His help in everything.

How about you? Are you able to figure it out on your own? Perhaps even do everything on your own? Jesus could not.

You too, need your Father.

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 5:19

THEN ANSWERED JESUS AND SAID UNTO THEM, VERILY, VERILY, I SAY UNTO YOU, THE SON CAN DO NOTHING OF HIMSELF, BUT WHAT HE SEETH THE FATHER DO: FOR WHAT THINGS SOEVER HE DOETH, THESE ALSO DOETH THE SON LIKEWISE.

SUNDAY, JULY 6

Be True To



Who do you represent? Who are you living to express? If you are living to express yourself then you must be true to yourself. In this way everyone who encounters you will meet the true you, live and direct.

Jesus said, “I am come in my Father’s name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.” Jesus lived to express another, His Father. He noted that man despises those who are not committed to self expression. People welcome those who are true to themselves and therefore representing themselves. If you are a self-made man or woman, people will take pride in you. And seek to emulate you, by striving to self-actualise too.

The people in Jesus’ day did not receive Him because He represented another. Who do you represent? If you represent yourself, you will seek and receive honor from others. If you represent another, you will seek honor from that one.

It is time to represent the Lord Jesus in every single thing you do.

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 5:43

I AM COME IN MY FATHER’S NAME, AND YE RECEIVE ME NOT: IF ANOTHER SHALL COME IN HIS OWN NAME, HIM YE WILL RECEIVE.



MONDAY, JULY 7

MI 7:7



The seventh day of the seventh month, symbolizes different things to different people. Some would say, “double fruitfulness or double perfection or double rest.” For some it stirs up painful memories of tragic events. For us it is a reminder and a 7:7 moment. What are we referring to?

We are reminded of Matthew 7:7 and Isaiah 7:7. Jesus in Matthew 7:7 states the rewards of asking, seeking and knocking. He said, “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:” Isaiah 7:7 on the other hand, prophesied that the negative plans that the enemies have against God’s people will not stand nor come to pass.

We urge you to use this seventh day of the seventh month as your “MI 7:7” and make the words of Matthew 7:7 and Isaiah 7:7, your confession and possession. Be bold before the throne today to ask, seek and knock. The answers will undoubtedly manifest.

Be bold in the face of your enemy. None of his threats shall stand, neither will any of his prophecies of doom come to pass. Your MI 7:7 will prevail instead.

SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 7:7
THUS SAITH THE LORD GOD, IT SHALL NOT STAND, NEITHER SHALL IT COME TO PASS.



Those Who Tremble



Isaiah wrote the following words from God, “Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest? For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to

him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.”

God was singling out the ones who grab His attention. He mentioned that He is seated in heaven but His focus is on a certain type of people: those who tremble at His word. Those were the ones who were of contrite spirit. God values those who tremble in His response to His word. Isaiah goes on to say, “Hear the word of the LORD, ye that tremble at his word; Your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name’s sake, said, Let the LORD be glorified: but he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed.”

God actually promised to show up for those who tremble at His word and to do that for their joy. Do you desire God to show up just for you? Then start exercising the kind of heart which trembles at His word.

He is the Lord unchanging. He is looking for the opportunity to show up on your behalf with an answer. Will you let Him? Will you tremble at His word?

SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 66:1-2

THUS SAITH THE LORD, THE HEAVEN IS MY THRONE, AND THE EARTH IS MY FOOTSTOOL: WHERE IS THE HOUSE THAT YE BUILD UNTO ME? AND WHERE IS THE PLACE OF MY REST? FOR ALL THOSE THINGS HATH MINE HAND MADE, AND ALL THOSE THINGS HAVE BEEN, SAITH THE LORD: BUT TO THIS MAN WILL I LOOK, EVEN TO HIM THAT IS POOR AND OF A CONTRITE SPIRIT, AND TREMBLETH AT MY WORD.



WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

Forward



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

As we related previously, we once heard a man of God relate an experience. He said that a woman came up to him and said, “Man of God, prophesy to me. I need a word.” He said that he responded to her by the Spirit and answered, “What is wrong with ‘forward’?” God’s word is already for you. It is therefore a ‘for-word.’ When you move, opposition may come but you have a ‘for-word’ to provoke you to keep moving forward. If God be for you, who can be against you?

Like Paul keep reaching forward. This year, apprehend that for which Jesus apprehended you. The year 2025 has a clear milestone: Reach for it!

When they ask you, “Where are you going?” Answer, “Forward!”

SCRIPTURE READING: PHILIPPIANS 3:12-14

NOT AS THOUGH I HAD ALREADY ATTAINED, EITHER WERE ALREADY PERFECT: BUT I FOLLOW AFTER, IF THAT I MAY APPREHEND THAT FOR WHICH ALSO I AM APPREHENDED OF CHRIST JESUS. BROTHERS, I COUNT NOT MYSELF TO HAVE APPREHENDED: BUT THIS ONE THING I DO, FORGETTING THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE BEHIND, AND REACHING FORTH UNTO THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE BEFORE, I PRESS TOWARD THE MARK FOR THE PRIZE OF THE HIGH CALLING OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS.



Communicate with God



The first man Adam walked with the voice of God in the cool of the day. He had a direct and open relationship with his Creator. He gave up that communication line, by choosing sin.

Since then man has struggled to regain that kind of communication with God.

Men who got close are far and few in between. Enoch walked with God until his very flesh got caught up into that communication line. Moses knew God face to face and spoke to Him as a man speaks to his friend. To this day Moses' body was still not found. We suspect that he went the way of Enoch.

Moses, Enoch and men like Abraham and David were rare individuals in achieving friendship with God. We exhort you to be counted amongst them. Imitate their faith. Jesus restored man's access to that kind of communication with God.

As a child of God you have His Spirit and can walk closer to Him and communicate clearer than Enoch, Moses, Abraham or David ever did.

We urge you today, to lean into God and get fully connected to the communication line in the Holy Spirit.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 JOHN 1:3

THAT WHICH WE HAVE SEEN AND HEARD DECLARE WE UNTO YOU, THAT YE ALSO MAY HAVE FELLOWSHIP WITH US: AND TRULY OUR FELLOWSHIP IS WITH THE FATHER, AND WITH HIS SON JESUS CHRIST.



FRIDAY, JULY 11

Trust His Peace



Previously, we talked about opting out of anxiety and how to do it: Firstly, rejoice. Then, be not anxious but pray instead. It is important to forcefully reject anxiety. Refuse to be anxious. The scripture says, “Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression...”(NKJV)

Do not take the path to depression. When anxiety beckons, say to yourself [and say it out loudly], “I refuse to be anxious. I will never become depleted and weighed down by this. I trust in the Lord with all my heart; and lean not unto my own understanding. In all my ways I acknowledge Him, and He shall now direct my paths. Now I pray...” After you prayed, give the Father thanks for His divine intervention and then give Him a shout of joy. The scripture tells us what follows next, “And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

God has a peace that overcomes the world and everything in it. Jesus gave it to us. The above is how you stir it. God always responds to our prayers by tangible peace. It is a peace that transcends the temporary dilemma. The weight of anxiety weighs a man down but the weight of His peace lifts you up [into the atmosphere of God’s kingdom]. And crushes the voice and power of the adverse situation.

Isaiah said, “For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace...” Today, peace is leading you out, to a joy-filled outcome.

SCRIPTURE READING: PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7

BE CAREFUL FOR NOTHING; BUT IN EVERY THING BY PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION WITH THANKSGIVING LET YOUR REQUESTS BE MADE KNOWN UNTO GOD. AND THE PEACE OF GOD, WHICH PASSETH ALL UNDERSTANDING, SHALL KEEP YOUR HEARTS AND MINDS THROUGH CHRIST JESUS.



The Boisterous



John, the apostle said, “I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.” He was telling them that they were strong. He used the Greek word, ‘ischyros’ meaning, ‘forcible, mighty, boisterous, powerful, valiant and being a strong man.’

What did Jesus tell us? He said that no man can plunder a man’s goods because the strong man guards his own. When one stronger than he comes, the stronger binds the strong man and spoils his house. The spiritual young men, which the Apostle John was addressing, was so boisterous, valiant and forceful that they overcame the wicked one. Devils were no match for them. Jesus was like that during His years on earth: He so resisted satan, that the devil had to abandon his attacks and hope to catch Jesus off guard, some time later. At the end, Jesus said, “...the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.”

The Christian life demands you to be strong. You too can be noted in the spirit as ‘valiant.’ It is a certain type of boisterousness because the word of God dwells in you. And is proven to be so because you overcome the wicked one. Many are bold on the outside but the devil knows there is no strength inside. He comes to test what is inside of you. You should be able to say, “the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.” It is what is in you. In you must be, the word of God living and abiding: That is the bread, the revelation of the word of God. So that when the devil comes for you, you will stand. Having done all, you will stand. And the devil will flee. That is how you will be truly and permanently free, from persistent satanic harassments.

You are well on your way to becoming a boisterous spiritual storm that the devil will find too volatile to handle.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 JOHN 2:14

I HAVE WRITTEN UNTO YOU, YOUNG MEN, BECAUSE YE ARE STRONG, AND THE WORD OF GOD ABIDETH IN YOU, AND YE HAVE OVERCOME THE WICKED ONE.



SUNDAY, JULY 13

His Face Was As Though



Jesus, knowing that His exit from this world was drawing nigh, steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem. As we previously mentioned, without Jerusalem He would not fulfill His purpose and destiny. Jerusalem was on the critical path to His destiny, which was the throne of Heaven.

As part of His forward and upward movement, He sent messengers ahead, who thought it good to enter a Samaritan village. The village received the messengers. Preparations for His arrival were under way. However, upon His arrival the Samaritans saw that He had Jerusalem on His face. He had so contemplated and focused on Jerusalem that His face began to emanate it. The Samaritan villagers became offended at His focus and refused to welcome Him into their village. Jesus was not offended by this because they were not His focus: Jerusalem was. His focus would not allow His heart such distractions. Neither should yours.

Your steadfast focus on your Jerusalem should be a cause for provocation. It should be impossible not to notice it, in your outlook. Have a noticeable outlook. People may become offended at that but never you at them.

Imitate Jesus in your steadfastly set face. Let it be said of you, as observed about Jesus, “And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go...”

Where are you going?

SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 9:51-53

AND IT CAME TO PASS, WHEN THE TIME WAS COME THAT HE SHOULD BE RECEIVED UP, HE STEDFASTLY SET HIS FACE TO GO TO JERUSALEM, AND SENT MESSENGERS BEFORE HIS FACE: AND THEY WENT, AND ENTERED INTO A VILLAGE OF THE SAMARITANS, TO MAKE READY FOR HIM. AND THEY DID NOT RECEIVE HIM, BECAUSE HIS FACE WAS AS THOUGH HE WOULD GO TO JERUSALEM.



Obtain Grace



The book of Hebrews 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.” Grace must be located to be of any assistance and sustenance during a season of demand.

The word ‘find’ there is the Greek word, ‘heyriskō’, meaning, ‘to come upon, get, obtain, perceive, see.’ Grace must be perceived, seen and discovered.

Like the great voyagers of times past, who boldly navigated the seas in search of land, so you need to approach God in search of the grace which your ‘kairos’ moments demand.

This kind of grace, which is well-timed to answer life’s challenges, must be sought out at the throne of God. Not only will you need to seek it out, you must do so with boldness.

Are you ready to ‘heyriskō’ grace?

SCRIPTURE READING: HEBREWS 4:16

LET US THEREFORE COME BOLDLY UNTO THE THRONE OF GRACE, THAT WE MAY OBTAIN MERCY, AND FIND GRACE TO HELP IN TIME OF NEED



TUESDAY, JULY 15

The Lord Saith



With the explosion of social media came a great phenomenon, which is the proliferation and spreading of personal opinions, publicly. It seems, no matter the topic, every one has something to say on it. Many have even ventured into saying something about the future of others. What an audacity!

Yet the scripture states, “Who is he that saith, and it cometh to pass, when the Lord commandeth it not?” There is a Lord in heaven and what He commands, comes to pass. What others say ultimately does not matter. What “the Lord saith” does. The holy bible starts the book of Genesis off with “God said” and then continues to show us the power of “thus saith the Lord”. The penultimate scripture verse in the holy bible reads, “He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.”

What the Lord Jesus saith unto you and about you matters. He has all authority in heaven and earth. Throughout the scripture holy men were carried along by the Holy Spirit and uttered a “thus saith the Lord”, about individuals, peoples, nations and times. It was not a personal opinion but “the Lord saith”.

If the holy scripture can be described as “the Lord saith”, then how about your life? Are you fixated about what others saith? Don’t be. Allow the balance of this year to be governed by “the Lord saith”. The Holy Spirit indwells every Christian, to strongly bring through “the Lord saith”. As it is written, “Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.”

As you pray today, are you ready for “the Lord saith”?

SCRIPTURE READING: LAMENTATIONS 3:37
WHO IS HE THAT SAITH, AND IT COMETH TO PASS, WHEN THE LORD COMMANDETH IT NOT?

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16

Living The Name



We previously saw that Jesus did not live for self expression. He did not strive to be true to Himself but rather be true to the One who saved Him, His Father. Jesus lived to be well pleasing to His Sender and thus lived in His Name, as His Representative. As it is written, “I

am come in my Father’s name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him will receive.”

Jesus thus lived wisely because living in your Sender’s Name means you can draw on your Sender’s resources for your mission and for your every need.

He could thus say: “But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him.” Jesus performed wonder works in His Father’s Name because He lived for that Name.

Which name do you represent? Live for Jesus Name. Then you too can say, “In The Name Of Jesus.”

It is written, “If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.”

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 14:10-14

BELIEVEST THOU NOT THAT I AM IN THE FATHER, AND THE FATHER IN ME? THE WORDS THAT I SPEAK UNTO YOU I SPEAK NOT OF MYSELF: BUT THE FATHER THAT DWELLETH IN ME, HE DOETH THE WORKS. BELIEVE ME THAT I AM IN THE FATHER, AND THE FATHER IN ME: OR ELSE BELIEVE ME FOR THE VERY WORKS' SAKE. VERILY, VERILY, I SAY UNTO YOU, HE THAT BELIEVETH ON ME, THE WORKS THAT I DO SHALL HE DO ALSO; AND GREATER WORKS THAN THESE SHALL HE DO; BECAUSE I GO UNTO MY FATHER, AND WHATSOEVER YE SHALL ASK IN MY NAME, THAT WILL I DO, THAT THE FATHER MAY BE GLORIFIED IN THE SON. IF YE SHALL ASK ANY THING IN MY NAME, I WILL DO IT.

Refuse Irksome Indolence



The Holy Spirit, by the hand of Paul wrote, “Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord...”

The Christians at Rome were commanded not to be slothful in business. The Greek word there used for slothful is, ‘oknēros’ which means tardy, indolent, irksomely, sluggish or backward. The Greek word there for business is ‘spoudē’ which means speed, eagerness, earnestness, diligence, haste, forwardness and striving after or to interest one’s self most earnestly.

What a profound yet basic exhortation by Paul! We should never be irksomely indolent in our earnestness to accomplish or strive after what God has mandated us with.

We are reminded of the proverb, released by King Solomon, “In all labour there is profit: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury.” You are mandated to profit and abundantly progress this year. Inactivity will cause you to slide backward.

So refuse irksome indolence.

SCRIPTURE READING: ROMANS 12:11

NOT SLOTHFUL IN BUSINESS; FERVENT IN SPIRIT; SERVING THE LORD;



Mind Your Presentation



The scripture 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.” Presentation has always been important to God. Think of what Paul said pertaining to how Christ is preparing His church, to look presentable to Him, “...That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.”

God had the priests wear specific garments which had to be made of certain materials and be unsoiled. When angels and even the Lord appear in scripture, their vesture is described in detail. They always had a certain heavenly style. Presentation is important to God. In Matthew 22, Jesus said that presentation will be checked on the last day.

Even in human society this holds true. Have you ever been to an interview? You knew instinctively that you had to dress up, so that you represent yourself worthy of landing that job. Although a stranger, you regarded the interviewer worthy of your best presentation. Have you ever attended your cousin or friend’s wedding? You dressed your best because you valued them and their big day. You know how to dress for encounters with important people or those that you esteem highly. As the saying goes, “Dress up, to go up.” And again, “Dress for where you are going.” Presentation is important. It is a reflection of an internal disposition.

Yet, how many Christians dress up or just gird up their internal attitude, to go up to the house of the Lord? There is nobody more important than He. It is not about the clothes but about the inclination it mirrors. Go up if God, to you, is up. Mind your presentation.

SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 22:11-14

AND WHEN THE KING CAME IN TO SEE THE GUESTS, HE SAW THERE A MAN WHICH HAD NOT ON A WEDDING GARMENT: AND HE SAITH UNTO HIM, FRIEND, HOW CAMEST THOU IN HITHER NOT HAVING A WEDDING GARMENT? AND HE WAS SPEECHLESS. THEN SAID THE KING TO THE SERVANTS, BIND HIM HAND AND FOOT, AND TAKE HIM AWAY, AND CAST HIM INTO OUTER DARKNESS: THERE SHALL BE WEeping AND GNASHING OF TEETH. FOR MANY ARE CALLED, BUT FEW ARE CHOSEN.



SATURDAY, JULY 19

Undivided



Our Lord said, “And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand.” The same is true for you. If one is divided within, consistent advancement becomes difficult.

The Apostle Paul describes such a conflict, “For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I. If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good. Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.”

Such an internal conflict can be paralyzing. Paul was finding himself unable to make progress in the direction that he intended. He was a divided man. Do not allow such a protracted conflict within yourself. By the Holy Spirit’s assistance, silence every dissenting voice and urge within. As it is written, “For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.”

It is time to live the abundant life. The abundant life springs forth from the undivided heart. Allow your spirit to be the boss. Confess this now, “In 2025, my spirit will rule my mind and body, uncontested.

SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 3:25
AND IF A HOUSE BE DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF, THAT HOUSE CANNOT STAND.



Not Without Signification



The scripture says, “There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world, and none of them is without signification. Therefore if I know not the meaning of the voice, I shall be unto him that speaketh a barbarian, and he that speaketh shall be a barbarian unto me.”

There are many voices and sounds, none without meaning and none without signification. Every voice is signifying something. Every voice seeks to communicate something. Maybe it is a tiding of joy, happiness, sadness, grief or perhaps a conveyor of direction or other information.

You need to have the ability to understand the voice coming to you. Your understanding of the sound you hear helps you to discern its place in your world and the proper response to it. Some sounds can be ignored and is not meant for you. Perhaps you hear a voice calling out to someone around you. It may not be relevant to you and can therefore be ignored.

Then there are voices emitted towards you. If it is of the devil, resist it steadfast in the faith. If it is of God open your heart and obey Him. We all need to hear the voice of God. His voice carries the most significance and meaning for our lives. We need to hear Him more in 2025 than any other year before.

At The Empowered Church we sing a prophetic tune which goes like this, “O Father speak to me. Let me hear the sound of Your voice.” Let this be your prayer today and every day.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 SAMUEL 3:7-10

NOW SAMUEL DID NOT YET KNOW THE LORD, NEITHER WAS THE WORD OF THE LORD YET REVEALED UNTO HIM. AND THE LORD CALLED SAMUEL AGAIN THE THIRD TIME. AND HE AROSE AND WENT TO ELI, AND SAID, HERE AM I; FOR THOU DIDST CALL ME. AND ELI PERCEIVED THAT THE LORD HAD CALLED THE CHILD. THEREFORE ELI SAID UNTO SAMUEL, GO, LIE DOWN; AND IT SHALL BE, IF HE CALL THEE, THAT THOU SHALT SAY, SPEAK, LORD; FOR THY SERVANT HEARETH. SO SAMUEL WENT AND LAY DOWN IN HIS PLACE. AND THE LORD CAME, AND STOOD, AND CALLED AS AT OTHER TIMES, SAMUEL, SAMUEL. THEN SAMUEL ANSWERED, SPEAK; FOR THY SERVANT HEARETH.



MONDAY, JULY 21

Teach Me



Have you ever wondered what and where you would have been if you knew nothing? What a miserable life it would have been if you could not interpret anything that your eyes and ears perceive.

Who taught you that a tree is a tree, or that the sun is the sun, or how about men and women, the animals, etc.? Somebody helped you as an infant to put a label on all these things. Who taught you to read, write and count?

We all had teachers. Whether our parents, guardians, school teachers or other members of our community. We were all taught the basics to some degree or other. The knowledge that enlightened us came through some form of teaching.

Knowledge enlightens but who carries that light to enlighten us? The Teacher. As it is written, "... he began to teach them many things." All growth starts with hunger. Think about it. It is true.

So you must have a hunger to learn. Your hunger to learn begins to pull knowledge towards you. That knowledge is carried by a teacher. You must have the humility and boldness to sincerely say to the teacher, "Teach me?"

Many are too proud and unenlightened to pull on knowledge in that way. Don't be counted among the many.

SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 6:34

AND JESUS, WHEN HE CAME OUT, SAW MUCH PEOPLE, AND WAS MOVED WITH COMPASSION TOWARD THEM, BECAUSE THEY WERE AS SHEEP NOT HAVING A SHEPHERD: AND HE BEGAN TO TEACH THEM MANY THINGS.



With Him: For Him



The first response to the call of God should be self-denial. Without self-denial, God will never accept your following nor your pursuit of Him.

Jesus said, “Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel’s, the same shall save it.” Self-denial is the prerequisite for the communication of God’s true will for your life. ‘Self’ is never the right lens to use in surveying the landscape of God’s plan for you.

We mentioned the ‘bible-truth’ before, that there are many false followers of Jesus. Many false Christians. They never denied anything about themselves for Him. They are Christians out of convenience and for self-gain. Also, many attend church for entertainment, and not sacrifice and service.

You cannot grow without sacrifice and there can be no true lasting service without sacrifice. Therefore the apostle Paul told the church, “Present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto Him. This is your reasonable service in order to be accepted.” Start every journey with Him: for Him. Start in God’s word: therein is His will, desire and way. And yes don’t start without denying yourself.

Paul said, “I die daily.” So should you. And then live by Him.

SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 8:34-35

AND WHEN HE HAD CALLED THE PEOPLE UNTO HIM WITH HIS DISCIPLES ALSO, HE SAID UNTO THEM, WHOSOEVER WILL COME AFTER ME, LET HIM DENY HIMSELF, AND TAKE UP HIS CROSS, AND FOLLOW ME. FOR WHOSOEVER WILL SAVE HIS LIFE SHALL LOSE IT; BUT WHOSOEVER SHALL LOSE HIS LIFE FOR MY SAKE AND THE GOSPEL’S, THE SAME SHALL SAVE IT:



WEDNESDAY, JULY 23

Flatter Not



Life demands courage. Friendship demands courage. Friends (true friends) are not for the faint hearted.

In life you will be tempted to flatter. Some will want you around them, so that you can flatter them.

Never be tempted, The scripture says “a flattering mouth works ruin” Why would you ruin a friend? And why would you demand of someone to ruin you? Flatter not.

The bible is clear in saying, faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful. Choose wounds over kisses. The wounded heal. The deceived may end up destroyed.

Value open rebuke. Jesus rebukes all whom He loves. Imitate Jesus, when required, rebuke your friend. A wise friend will love you for it.

The scripture rightly says “walk with the wise and you will be wise”. Foolish friends let everything slide.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 27:5-6

OPEN REBUKE IS BETTER THAN SECRET LOVE. FAITHFUL ARE THE WOUNDS OF A FRIEND; BUT THE KISSES OF AN ENEMY ARE DECEITFUL.



Ever Learning



The world is full of distractions. Everyday living can be overwhelming, especially in our busy society. A quick survey of the hustle and bustle seen over the weekend at a shopping mall or marketplace, is a reflection of how busy and noisy things can become. Freeways are overrun with vehicles going somewhere. Then there is the digital highway conveying information and don't forget the airwaves jammed packed with information. The world has become an information overload. The angel of God told Daniel, "...to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased."

Truly we are in the end time: Many are indeed running to and fro. And knowledge has increased and is increasing at a mind-boggling rate. It is no wonder that many have become distracted. The Apostle Paul said this about mankind in these days, that they are, "ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth."

This is quite profound. Knowledge is abounding and so the opportunities to learn. Yet many are never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. This is mainly due to confusion and a true aversion towards the truth. Refuse to be ever learning but never able to come to a precise and correct knowledge of the reality. The true purpose for learning is to come to a comprehensive understanding of the verity, specifically the eternal verities. Reject every aversion towards the truth.

Today determine that you will love the truth, hunger and reach out for it. Focus your learning on coming to a precise and correct knowledge of the truth. And remember, the truth is in Jesus.

SCRIPTURE READING: DANIEL 12:3-4

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. BUT THOU, O DANIEL, SHUT UP THE WORDS, AND SEAL THE BOOK, EVEN TO THE TIME OF THE END: MANY SHALL RUN TO AND FRO, AND KNOWLEDGE SHALL BE INCREASED.



FRIDAY, JULY 25

Can You Do Without Peace?



Apostle Peter saluted the church, “Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus.” Apostle John said, “Peace be to thee.” The apostles Paul and Jude did similar. Such is the importance of peace. Jesus, before His crucifixion, eluded to the necessity of peace with His words, “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”

The world gives false peace and is a generator of wars. There is always one battle or the other being fostered by mankind. There seems to be an overt effort to keep in constant anxiety and distress. There are no authentic sources of joy. Jesus is the only true source of peace. Whilst you are in this world, He gives you peace that is from out of this world. The peace that emanates from the Prince of Peace and His kingdom. The kingdom of God which is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Again so important is peace that Jesus, after His resurrection, did the following: John records, “Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.”

Can you do without peace? Off course not. The world wants to drown you in fear, unbelief and distress. Refuse to surrender your peace. Recall the words of Jesus, “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 20:21

THEN SAID JESUS TO THEM AGAIN, PEACE BE UNTO YOU: AS MY FATHER HATH SENT ME, EVEN SO SEND I YOU



Who Is Speaking?



This is one of these subjects where heart meets protocol. Fail at this one and you will be handicapped in your upward movement in life. The scripture tells us that Jesus one day was teaching His disciples the ancient prophetic utterances concerning Himself. He was teaching openly.

Suddenly one of His disciples jumped up, and removed Him from the pulpit, taking Him one side in order to school Jesus on the future movings of the Holy Spirit. He began to share with Jesus His own revelations about the same subject. The bible says that He began to rebuke Jesus!

Jesus looked at the faces of the other disciples and could see their disposition. He turned to Peter and said, “Get thee behind me, satan!” How often do we not hear of followers doing this? Rebuking their leaders. Jesus told Peter and the devil by which He spake, “Get in line. You are not the leader, I am! Simon Peter a spiritually blind man was trying to school and lead Jesus. This is a grave error. We have seen this in ministry and at times had to remove the Simon with satan because the Simon refused to be delivered from satan.

Never rebuke your leader. Only satan does.

SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 8:31-33

AND HE BEGAN TO TEACH THEM, THAT THE SON OF MAN MUST SUFFER MANY THINGS, AND BE REJECTED OF THE ELDERS, AND OF THE CHIEF PRIESTS, AND SCRIBES, AND BE KILLED, AND AFTER THREE DAYS RISE AGAIN. AND HE SPAKE THAT SAYING OPENLY. AND PETER TOOK HIM, AND BEGAN TO REBUKE HIM. BUT WHEN HE HAD TURNED ABOUT AND LOOKED ON HIS DISCIPLES, HE REBUKED PETER, SAYING, GET THEE BEHIND ME, SATAN: FOR THOU SAVOUREST NOT THE THINGS THAT BE OF GOD, BUT THE THINGS THAT BE OF MEN.



SUNDAY, JULY 27

I Have Commanded



Many years ago there was a drought in the land of Israel, for three and a half years. This drought was prophesied by Elijah. As it is written, “And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.”

What happened next is quite moving. It is written, “And the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, Get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan. And it shall be, that thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there.”

God spoke to His servant Elijah and told him where to go during the drought. Elijah was to find himself exempt from it. God had, ahead of time, commanded the ravens concerning Elijah. The ravens were commanded to feed him there in that location, Cherith. Oh God is so kind! The brook would later dry up and yet again, the Lord would once again, ahead of time, command someone else to sustain Elijah. Are you a servant of your Lord? He has no favorites. We know that God has already commanded that you be fed, no matter what crisis will come your way.

He provides before the time, by commanding someone or something concerning you. He will keep you alive during famine, drought or any other crisis that may come.

This year, stay in faith in Christ Jesus.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 KINGS 17:7-9

AND IT CAME TO PASS AFTER A WHILE, THAT THE BROOK DRIED UP, BECAUSE THERE HAD BEEN NO RAIN IN THE LAND. AND THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME UNTO HIM, SAYING, ARISE, GET THEE TO ZAREPHATH, WHICH BELONGETH TO ZIDON, AND DWELL THERE: BEHOLD, I HAVE COMMANDED A WIDOW WOMAN THERE TO SUSTAIN THEE.



Compare Not



The bible mentions many prophets: all different in expression, personality, mandate and influence. There were mentioned different apostles: Peter different from Paul and Paul from John, etc. Phillip differed from Stephen and had different destinies. Stephen became a martyr at a young age. Phillip lived long and had four daughters.

You are different from any other Christian on earth. You are unique and equally special. Your purpose and exact predestination is unique. All boasting is excluded and any comparison is foolish.

In this day of social media and the resultant access to information, it is easy to get distracted by what others are doing, lose focus and start to compare. Resist this error and actively chose to mind your own business, running your own race. Paul instructed, "...do your own business..." Jesus commanded Peter in the same vein concerning his curiosity concerning John's future, "If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me."

From today, run your own race, mind your own business and compare not.

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 21:21-22

PETER SEEING HIM SAITH TO JESUS, LORD, AND WHAT SHALL THIS MAN DO? JESUS SAITH UNTO HIM, IF I WILL THAT HE TARRY TILL I COME, WHAT IS THAT TO THEE? FOLLOW THOU ME.



TUESDAY, JULY 29

God Starts Small



The bible says, “For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven; they are the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth.” Who have despised small things? The word, ‘despised’ there is the Hebrew word, ‘bûz’ which means ‘to hold as insignificant or show despite toward.’

God was saying, “Who hold as insignificant and show despite toward small beginnings?” The Spirit of God was already rejoicing at the small beginning. Mankind tend to discount small beginnings and hold in high esteem established things. God, on the other hand, is not so. He rejoices at the little seed sowed. Farmers hold as significant, favorable conditions for sowing. The farmer knows that the sowing of the seed is the beginning of a new season and the start of a new harvest. Likewise, your parents rejoiced at your conception. It filled their heart with expectation for the new life that they were being mandated with.

Likewise, when God gives you a small beginning, don’t show despite towards it: It is the way of the kingdom of heaven. As it is written, “The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field: Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof.” God is big. God starts small. Don’t despise His small beginnings in your life.

SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 13:31-32

ANOTHER PARABLE PUT HE FORTH UNTO THEM, SAYING, THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE TO A GRAIN OF MUSTARD SEED, WHICH A MAN TOOK, AND SOWED IN HIS FIELD: WHICH INDEED IS THE LEAST OF ALL SEEDS: BUT WHEN IT IS GROWN, IT IS THE GREATEST AMONG HERBS, AND BECOMETH A TREE, SO THAT THE BIRDS OF THE AIR COME AND LODGE IN THE BRANCHES THEREOF.



Words Of The Wise



Solomon said, “The words of the wise are as goads, and as nails fastened by the masters of assemblies, which are given from one shepherd. And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh.”

What was he saying? The words of the wise are like nails firmly fixed in masterful array, by a master craftsman: nails provided by one shepherd. These words of the wise are certain in their outcome and although given at different times and in diverse sayings, are perfectly arrayed to form a single clear structure, put together by a master assembler and by the commission of a single shepherd.

In other words, Jesus, the Great Shepherd, will provide an array of wise sayings to be given to you at diverse times. These sayings, when fastened into your heart and way of life, will form a single array to support the structure of your life’s purpose and destiny. It may look random at first, but with closer inspection and most definitely in retrospect, will prove to be the work of the master assembler, the Holy Spirit. The wise will continue to coin their wise sayings but your study and pursuit of the same may weary you, but the fruits are worth every bit of it.

Importantly note that your purpose and destiny will be undergirded and secured by wise sayings. As it is written, “Every purpose is established by counsel...” Are the words of the wise finding your heart and life?

SCRIPTURE READING: ECCLESIASTES 12:11-12

THE WORDS OF THE WISE ARE AS GOADS, AND AS NAILS FASTENED BY THE MASTERS OF ASSEMBLIES, WHICH ARE GIVEN FROM ONE SHEPHERD. AND FURTHER, BY THESE, MY SON, BE ADMONISHED: OF MAKING MANY BOOKS THERE IS NO END; AND MUCH STUDY IS A WEARINESS OF THE FLESH.

Man's Duty



The preacher after all his wise sayings, said the following, “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.” Solomon was recording many observations and sayings, concerning man’s natural life here on earth. At the end he decided to sum up the sayings with the above statement. The whole duty of man is to “fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.” The world would differ but the wise know that King Solomon’s statement is not only true but very wise.

When the Lord returns, we will appear before Him to give account. Paul put it this way, “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.” A man who has this outlook and vision of the future, is a truly wise man. He thus, in every deed and saying of his, “fear God, and keep his commandments.”

Seven months of this year has passed and seemingly so quickly. A new month is dawning on us. It’s an opportunity for a new beginning and a fresh dedication to the Holy Spirit. How should the rest of the year be approached? We counsel you, using the wise words of the preacher, “Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.”

SCRIPTURE READING: ECCLESIASTES 12:13-14

LET US HEAR THE CONCLUSION OF THE WHOLE MATTER: FEAR GOD, AND KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS: FOR THIS IS THE WHOLE DUTY OF MAN. FOR GOD SHALL BRING EVERY WORK INTO JUDGMENT, WITH EVERY SECRET THING, WHETHER IT BE GOOD, OR WHETHER IT BE EVIL.

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 1

This One Thing



The apostle Paul, stated, “This one thing I do...” Often the accomplishment of many things is dependent on doing a certain thing. Many things may be demanding your attention this month. To be successful you will have to prioritize and focus.

Paul looked at the many demands that he had in his life and realized that for him to fulfill his purpose, he needed to identify the critical activity.

For Paul it was to stop reminiscing or grieving about the successes or failures in his past. He needed to set his imagination on his future goal.

What is your one thing, upon which all other things hinge? Is it completing your studies? Is it perfecting that skill? Or perhaps strengthening your prayer life? What is that one thing you must do, to enable accomplishment of eighty percent of this year’s goals?

Now search for, discover and start giving yourself to that one thing. By the end of this week, you should be able to say,

“Now this one thing I do.”

SCRIPTURE READING: PHILIPPIANS 3:13-14

BRETHREN, I COUNT NOT MYSELF TO HAVE APPREHENDED: BUT THIS ONE THING I DO, FORGETTING THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE BEHIND, AND REACHING FORTH UNTO THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE BEFORE, I PRESS TOWARD THE MARK FOR THE PRIZE OF THE HIGH CALLING OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS.



War Within



The scripture says, ““He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire.” What an amazing fact and also parable! God causes wars to cease unto the end of the earth. That means there is no war that God cannot cause to cease.

Perhaps there is no greater war than the war of the heart.

Wars happen outside because of the wars that rage inside the hearts of men. Hearts at war will make war. They look for a battle without, because there is one within. Determine to have God make an end to every war within your heart. Remember a heart divided against itself cannot stand.

The apostle James said, ““From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?” Paul the apostle also said, “This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.”

Today, ask the Holy Spirit to help you in 2025, to make all wars within, to cease.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 46:9

HE MAKETH WARS TO CEASE UNTO THE END OF THE EARTH; HE BREAKETH THE BOW, AND CUTTETH THE SPEAR IN SUNDER; HE BURNETH THE CHARIOT IN THE FIRE.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

Still Heart



Yesterday, we saw that the Lord is the One Who makes wars to cease unto the end of earth. Man is from the earth and therefore needs to claim this wonder of God for himself and ask God to make the wars within to cease.

What happens then? You become still. It is written, “Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.” The verse says to “relax and perceive that I am God.” A still heart is a superior heart, open to discern and perceive God: His voice and His workings We all need a still heart to be free from anxiety, doubts, frustrations and the like.

Today, ask for a still heart and the wisdom to walk in one. A still heart can hear the still small voice of Jesus. Elijah had such a still heart on the mountain of the Lord. It is written, “And after the earthquake a fire; but the Lord was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice. And it was so, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold, there came a voice unto him, and said, What doest thou here, Elijah?”

In 2025, your still heart shall hear His still small voice.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 46:10

BE STILL, AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD: I WILL BE EXALTED AMONG THE HEATHEN, I WILL BE EXALTED IN THE EARTH.



Atmosphere



The scripture says, “Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise:”

The aforementioned are beautiful commands. A joyful noise creates a certain atmosphere. It is an atmosphere of celebration and victory. Gladness, singing, thanksgiving, praise and blessing also stimulates a similar superior atmosphere. An atmosphere in which God abides. God loves the right atmosphere. The atmosphere which you carry when you enter His presence must be agreeable with His. You were created after His likeness. You also prefer a good atmosphere and are at your best in such a vibe.

We all enjoy the presence of the Lord. The sense of His presence is the greatest and most enjoyable atmosphere. To have His tangible presence with us, we must cultivate the kind of atmosphere that He loves. This month thank more, sing more, praise more, bless more and serve Him with gladness. Let your mouth know the joyful noise like never before.

That is God's kind of atmosphere.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 47:1
O CLAP YOUR HANDS, ALL YE PEOPLE; SHOUT UNTO GOD WITH THE VOICE OF TRIUMPH.



TUESDAY, AUGUST 5

Praise Your Way Out!



Job once said, “Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him.” Job had everything and then in a moment of extreme devastation lost everything. Yet in an example of true commitment to God, he responded, “Naked came I out of my mother’s womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.” The bible says, “In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.” Job knew how to praise God and not to charge God.

There may be moments of contradiction which you will face in this life. Don’t neglect to remember what David said, “I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.” David had many battles but the Lord delivered him each and every time. Praise was David’s key to victory. Be like David and pick up the key of praise with your mouth and bless your way out of every storm of adversity.

The psalmist encouraged his own soul with these words, “Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.” This month, praise your way out!

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 42:11

WHY ART THOU CAST DOWN, O MY SOUL? AND WHY ART THOU DISQUIETED WITHIN ME? HOPE THOU IN GOD: FOR I SHALL YET PRAISE HIM, WHO IS THE HEALTH OF MY COUNTENANCE, AND MY GOD.



You Are Spirit



You are a spirit. You were born of the Spirit. You are spirit. Jesus said, "... that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." Spirit has its own nature and ways. Jesus said, "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is

every one that is born of the Spirit."

As spirit, your movements are like the wind. To gather intelligence about you is as good as gathering intelligence on the wind. Your opponents have a near impossible task of predicting and containing you in this life.

You are spirit and what you bring forth is not the same as others. Jesus 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." You make an unerasable impact. The words you speak are spirit and life. The people around you are desperate for some life. You are placed in their atmosphere so that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

Your world unknowingly is gasping for spirit. Their souls are desperate to have it. You are that spirit. This new month, let them have it.

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 3:6-8

THAT WHICH IS BORN OF THE FLESH IS FLESH; AND THAT WHICH IS BORN OF THE SPIRIT IS SPIRIT. MARVEL NOT THAT I SAID UNTO THEE, YE MUST BE BORN AGAIN. THE WIND BLOWETH WHERE IT LISTETH, AND THOU HEAREST THE SOUND THEREOF, BUT CANST NOT TELL WHENCE IT COMETH, AND WHITHER IT GOETH: SO IS EVERY ONE THAT IS BORN OF THE SPIRIT..



THURSDAY, AUGUST 7

Encourage Yourself



The book of 1 Samuel relates the story of David and his men in Ziklag. David and his men came from an excursion and found the city destroyed. Their wives and children had been kidnapped. They wept until they had no more strength to weep. You see weeping and grief is a natural response. God allows us to weep. Even Jesus wept but it is what Jesus did afterwards that is most memorable. David, like Jesus, knew that weeping would not cause any change. In the case of David, his men were tempted during their sorrow, to do a foolish thing by killing David. Many people turn on others and even God during pain.

David, however encouraged himself in the Lord his God. There will be circumstances in life where no one will be around to encourage you. It is then that you must decide to encourage yourself. Refuse to be imprisoned by sorrow and weeping. Courage must arise from within. With that fresh courage, David asked the Lord for a way out of the troubling circumstance. The voice of the Lord comforted and directed him to “pursue, overtake and without fail recover all.”

It is always God’s will for us to move forward (‘pursue’) get ahead of the problem (‘overtake’) and to recapture (‘recover’) our joyousness. Change requires action. No matter the challenge or circumstance: always act with full confidence in Him. Today, make a start by encouraging yourself in the Lord through prayer and praise. And don’t stop moving forward until you have recovered all.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 SAMUEL 30:8

AND DAVID INQUIRED AT THE LORD, SAYING, SHALL I PURSUE AFTER THIS TROOP? SHALL I OVERTAKE THEM? AND HE ANSWERED HIM, PURSUE: FOR THOU SHALT SURELY OVERTAKE THEM, AND WITHOUT FAIL RECOVER ALL.



Focus



Focus is Everything. You will need it to be successful in life. “Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

This gives us insight into the determination of our Lord and how He applies focus, “For thus hath the LORD spoken unto me, Like as the lion and the young lion roaring on his prey, when a multitude of shepherds is called forth against him, he will not be afraid of their voice, nor abase himself for the noise of them: so shall the LORD of hosts come down to fight for mount Zion, and for the hill thereof,”

Our God applies intense focus. He won't be deterred or distracted and won't be denied.

You likewise, imitate your God and focus. Don't be deterred, nor distracted and you won't be denied.

So today, apply renewed, intense and relentless focus.

SCRIPTURE READING: HEBREWS 12:2

LOOKING UNTO JESUS THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF OUR FAITH; WHO FOR THE JOY THAT WAS SET BEFORE HIM ENDURED THE CROSS, DESPISING THE SHAME, AND IS SET DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE THRONE OF GOD.



SATURDAY, AUGUST 9

No Retreat, No Surrender



The life and march of the Christian is one that knows no retreat and no surrender. It is written, “And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned.”

It is a constant movement forward and upward. Yet this forward movement is a matter of choice: a refusal to turn back or to back down.

It is the act of resisting the contrary winds and empty opinions of men, by constant and consistent forward movement.

We are ascending the mountain, not falling from it. The eternal Spirit of God energizes our lives. There can be no failure unless we choose it but you have chosen to win every time. No retreat and no surrender.

Remember, never look back and you will never turn back. Always allow your eyes to show you what shall be: the manifestation of the promise of God.

Congratulations! Your victory is secured.

SCRIPTURE READING: HEBREWS 11:15

AND TRULY, IF THEY HAD BEEN MINDFUL OF THAT COUNTRY FROM WHENCE THEY CAME OUT, THEY MIGHT HAVE HAD OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE RETURNED.



Take Prayer Seriously, Very Seriously



Mary, Queen of Scots was reported as saying, “I fear the prayers of John Knox more than all the assembled armies of Europe.” What a statement given she was all her life surrounded by war and the violence of enemy armies! Mary’s own father, James V, died a few days after losing the war with England, due to effects of war. Mary was only six days old when her father died. She became Queen of Scotland at six days old and history testifies that she was, all her life, severely affected by wars and rumors of wars. Mary even married her husband’s murderer within days of his murder. This woman knew the power of physical weapons and apparatus to have men’s unjust will done.

Yet, she feared John Knox’s mighty spiritual weapon of prayer exceedingly more than the brutality and weaponry of enemy armies. Mary perceived that the prayers of John Knox could overrule and outrule her. It is written in James 5:16 (AMPC), “The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working].” As is the case with spiritual wisdom, the righteous man’s fervent prayer is more powerful than any weapon and physical intervention, combined. Think about that.

Your prayers can shake and shape a world: Elijah with Ahab, Moses with Pharaoh and Daniel in Babylon. What more can we say? It is time to be persuaded by your own prayers. Start today.

SCRIPTURE READING: JAMES 5:16

CONFESS YOUR FAULTS ONE TO ANOTHER, AND PRAY ONE FOR ANOTHER, THAT YE MAY BE HEALED. THE EFFECTUAL FERVENT PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN AVAILETH MUCH.



MONDAY, AUGUST 11

Your Perspective



A perspective can be defined as, ‘a particular attitude toward or way of regarding something; a point of view.’ Healthy perspectives aid happy living. When our perspective on something is muddy, our decision making becomes deficient. This creates ample opportunity for unnecessary frustrations and saps our energies. Clear and accurate perspectives are vital for energised living. We must ensure that we keep a God perspective across the three time dimensions in which our lives exist.

The Lord ministered to us that one should always hold the following perspectives in life: When you examine the past: Know always that our acts of faith unto and in the Lord is not in vain. The living Father is not unjust, blind nor encumbered. Our acts of faith and faithfulness will yet be rewarded.

When you survey the present: Stay in Faith in Christ Jesus, nothing wavering, nothing doubting. Faith is our only bridge to the ever flowing, ever increasing grace of God.

When you plan the future, remember: Dependence is Everything. Depend on His Wisdom. Depend on His Ways. Depend on His Word. Depend on His Person.

Today, make a decision to always hold the Lord central in your attitude towards everything. Always set your heart upon Jesus. He never disappoints.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 3:5-6

TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL THINE HEART; AND LEAN NOT UNTO THINE OWN UNDERSTANDING. IN ALL THY WAYS ACKNOWLEDGE HIM, AND HE SHALL DIRECT THY PATHS.



Cast Your Eyes Long



We often tell mentees, “Don’t cast longing eyes. Cast your eyes long.” The mistake of the novice is to long for immediate gratification or instant elevation. Many look at what someone else has and want to possess that over night. They fail to find out the cost that person incurred in acquiring that position or possession.

Most are not even interested. Such an attitude is the breeding ground for envy and covetousness. Covetousness never leads to a happy ending. A rich young man came to Jesus enquiring about eternal life. The bible says, “Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” He said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow Me.” The young man was unwilling to do that because he had great wealth. He left sorrowful because it was too high a price in his estimation.

We want you to see some things here:

Jesus did not lower the bar just because He loved him. The price for the young man was still the same as for others, everything. Fondness does not mean that you get a discount.

You want to possess the full realm? Pay the full price.

This young man seemingly longed to have what Jesus had. So he had longing eyes but he failed to cast his eyes long. He failed to look into the potential future. Cast your eyes long!

SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 10:18-22

AND JESUS SAID UNTO HIM, WHY CALLEST THOU ME GOOD? THERE IS NONE GOOD BUT ONE, THAT IS, GOD, THOU KNOWEST THE COMMANDMENTS, DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, DO NOT KILL, DO NOT STEAL, DO NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS, DEFRAUD NOT, HONOUR THY FATHER AND MOTHER, AND HE ANSWERED AND SAID UNTO HIM, MASTER, ALL THESE HAVE I OBSERVED FROM MY YOUTH. THEN JESUS BEHOLDING HIM LOVED HIM, AND SAID UNTO HIM, ONE THING THOU LACKEST: GO THY WAY, SELL WHATSOEVER THOU HAST, AND GIVE TO THE POOR, AND THOU SHALT HAVE TREASURE IN HEAVEN: AND COME, TAKE UP THE CROSS, AND FOLLOW ME. AND HE WAS SAD AT THAT SAYING, AND WENT AWAY GRIEVED: FOR HE HAD GREAT POSSESSIONS. AND COME, TAKE UP THE CROSS, AND FOLLOW ME AND HE WAS SAD AT THAT SAYING, AND WENT AWAY GRIEVED: FOR HE HAD GREAT POSSESSIONS.



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13

How Battles Are Won



It is written, “And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. And Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.”

Israel was battling Amalek. The battle was tight. Joshua was leading the army of God’s people although they fought a fierce fight, the tide of the battle was not determined by them.

The prophet Moses was actually the swing factor in the battle. As long as Moses held up his hands in intercession and covering, Joshua was winning.

When Moses got tired and dropped his hands, Amalek started to prevail. Israel’s leaders quickly noticed this pattern and began to make sure that they lift up Moses’ hands.

Battles are won by hands - not always yours. There are certain hands that can turn the tide of battle without drawing a sword.

May you locate God’s prophet and see that kind of hands raised on your behalf and over your battle.

SCRIPTURE READING: EXODUS 17:11-13

AND IT CAME TO PASS, WHEN MOSES HELD UP HIS HAND, THAT ISRAEL PREVAILED: AND WHEN HE LET DOWN HIS HAND, AMALEK PREVAILED. BUT MOSES HANDS WERE HEAVY; AND THEY TOOK A STONE, AND PUT IT UNDER HIM, AND HE SAT THEREON; AND AARON AND HUR STAYED UP HIS HANDS, THE ONE ON THE ONE SIDE, AND THE OTHER ON THE OTHER SIDE; AND HIS HANDS WERE STEADY UNTIL THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN. AND JOSHUA DISCOMFITED AMALEK AND HIS PEOPLE WITH THE EDGE OF THE SWORD.



Dwelling With Fire



God is a devouring fire. It is written, “Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings? He that walketh righteously, and speaketh uprightly; he that despiseth the gain of oppressions, that shaketh his hands from holding of bribes, that stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood, and shutteth his eyes from seeing evil;”

A fire breathing dragon is the bogeyman in folk tales. God on the other hand is the real deal, of the fire-breathing kind! God, a devouring fire wants us to dwell with Him. For this we need grace. What type of grace? The grace of a pure or purified heart. Purified by that very eternal fire.

That grace that manifests in us, as follows:

- Walking righteously
- Speaking uprightly
- Despising the benefit of oppression
- Refusing enticement
- Stops the ears from hearing evil
- Shutting the eyes from seeing evil

Such a person is as dangerous as the devouring fire with Whom he dwells. Devils tremble before such a one. Are you such a one? Receive the grace today.

SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 33:14-15

THE SINNERS IN ZION ARE AFRAID; FEARFULNESS HATH SURPRISED THE HYPOCRITES. WHO AMONG US SHALL DWELL WITH THE DEVOURING FIRE? WHO AMONG US SHALL DWELL WITH EVERLASTING BURNINGS? HE THAT WALKETH RIGHTEOUSLY, AND SPEAKETH UPRIGHTLY; HE THAT DESPISETH THE GAIN OF OPPRESSIONS, THAT SHAKETH HIS HANDS FROM HOLDING OF BRIBES, THAT STOPPETH HIS EARS FROM HEARING OF BLOOD, AND SHUTTETH HIS EYES FROM SEEING EVIL;



FRIDAY, AUGUST 15

Angels To Deliver



God's mighty angels of war and deliverance, dwell within a certain spiritual dimension. It is written, "But the Lord your God ye shall fear; and he shall deliver you out of the hand of all your enemies."

That spiritual dimension is called "The fear of the Lord." It is written, "The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them." Angels do not deliver Christians. Angels deliver those who fear the Lord. Therefore many Christians suffer inexplicable calamities.

The Holy Spirit therefore tells the Christian in the new testament scripture to perfect holiness in the fear of God and to serve God acceptingly with godly fear.

Angels are charged or pre-programmed (if you will), to deliver those who fear the Lord, whether Christian or not. Remember Cornelius?

God says in His word that He will deliver His people because they fear Him. Fear Him.

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 KINGS 17:39

BUT THE LORD YOUR GOD YE SHALL FEAR; AND HE SHALL DELIVER YOU OUT OF THE HAND OF ALL YOUR ENEMIES.



Delight Brings Impartation



Spiritual fathers carry endowments and inheritances within their spirits. What made them, abides in them.

These inheritances can be imparted to their spiritual sons and mentees. There is however a spiritual condition that is a prerequisite for impartation, which few know about.

The scripture says, “A wise son maketh a glad Father.” Similarly a foolish spiritual son makes a sad father. My blessing can be passed. Isaac told his son, “Go out to the field and catch something. Prepare that something for me. Bring it to me that I may eat.

Why? So that my soul may be glad, opening my spirit to release the impartation.”Glad fathers release grace to wise sons. Gehazi and Jacob deceived their fathers and got the opposite of a blessing. Elisha died with the power in his bones. His son was foolish and made him sad. A dead man had to collect it.

Don't let a dead man take your spiritual inheritance. Make glad your spiritual father.

SCRIPTURE READING: GENESIS 27:2-4

AND HE SAID, BEHOLD NOW, I AM OLD, I KNOW NOT THE DAY OF MY DEATH: NOW THEREFORE TAKE, I PRAY THEE, THY WEAPONS, THY QUIVER AND THY BOW, AND GO OUT TO THE FIELD, AND TAKE ME SOME VENISON: AND MAKE ME SAVOURY MEAT, SUCH AS I LOVE, AND BRING IT TO ME, THAT I MAY EAT; THAT MY SOUL MAY BLESS THEE BEFORE I DIE.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 17

He Drives



It is written, “And immediately the Spirit driveth him into the wilderness.” Jesus was filled with the Spirit at the river Jordan. Immediately, the Holy Spirit began to lead Jesus. Jesus followed without hesitation as though being driven by the Spirit.

The infilling of the Spirit can have that effect. The leading is the evidence of the infilling. It should be your daily experience. This is how Jesus lived, seeing and doing only the will of the Father who sent Him.

Sons of God are like that. As it is written, “They that are led of the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.” Your evidence of your sonship and infilling, is by being continually led of the Spirit.

Jesus, led of the Spirit, went into the wilderness to fast, pray and encounter the devil’s temptation. As it is written, “Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.”

Where He leads, you must follow. Can you sense His voice leading you?

So follow Him now.

SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 1:12
AND IMMEDIATELY THE SPIRIT DRIVETH HIM INTO THE WILDERNESS.



Forget...Reach...Press...



Man's ability to move forward can be hindered by his propensity to look back. Think of the athlete leading a race and heading towards the finish line but continues looking back at the other runners following hard on his heels. He runs a risk of losing momentum and focus, even stumbling.

How often have we seen professional athletes at the top of their game do this and miss the medal they sacrificed so much for?

The apostle Paul knew the risk associated with looking back and thus stated, "one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal..."

Forgetting the past is crucial for moving forward with God. The only thing worth not forgetting is the Lord and His benefits. Forget the rest and start capturing that which is beckoning you today. Don't reminisce in old victories, go for new ones.

This week, we exhort you forget, reach forward and press towards your future. So many glories await you in the Lord.

SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 43:18
REMEMBER YE NOT THE FORMER THINGS, NEITHER CONSIDER THE THINGS OF OLD.



TUESDAY, AUGUST 19

The Two Of You: Inseparable



The word of God tells us that if God be for us, who can be against us?

The reality of God's unwavering presence and disposition for us provokes a profound question: "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?"

The answer was given by Paul, "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

You are more than a conqueror through Him who loved you. It is written, "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us."

Never separated. Never forsaken. You win everyday because He has conquered.

SCRIPTURE READING: ROMANS 8:37

NAY, IN ALL THESE THINGS WE ARE MORE THAN CONQUERORS THROUGH HIM THAT LOVED US.



Except The Lord



The scripture is true in saying that in all labour there is profit. “In all labour there is profit: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury.” Do you want to achieve something? Work at it. Wisely directed, diligent labor leads to increase.

That said, only your labor in the Lord shall have eternal reward or even truly last on earth. As the scripture says, “Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.”

Learn to allow the Lord to labor through you. Let all your labor be done in rest. This is best and makes the life free from stress. It is written, “But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me”

Paul, labored in such a way: anxiety-free and more abundantly.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:10

BUT BY THE GRACE OF GOD I AM WHAT I AM: AND HIS GRACE WHICH WAS BESTOWED UPON ME WAS NOT IN VAIN; BUT I LABOURED MORE ABUNDANTLY THAN THEY ALL: YET NOT I, BUT THE GRACE OF GOD WHICH WAS WITH ME



THURSDAY, AUGUST 21

Don't Act The Judge



Jesus said, “Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.” What profound words from the Lord! Yet some people find it difficult to be convinced by His words: they feel compelled to judge other people. Never judge others for the weaknesses they have or the mistakes they make. How do you know, if given the same background and circumstances, you would not do worse?

Furthermore, the scriptures say, “Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge. There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?” And again, “Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things. But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things. And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?”

Refuse to speak evil of others and avoid discussing the faults, weaknesses and deeds of other people. Rather, as the scripture says, “...work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.” And when you are called on to counsel and assist someone who has erred, don't act the judge, instead remember the biblical exhortation, “Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.”

SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 7:1-2

JUDGE NOT, THAT YE BE NOT JUDGED. FOR WITH WHAT JUDGMENT YE JUDGE, YE SHALL BE JUDGED: AND WITH WHAT MEASURE YE METE, IT SHALL BE MEASURED TO YOU AGAIN.



Sin Proof



A mighty man of God, once said, “Sin is optional.” Did you see that? Sin is not compulsory. You don’t have to sin. Sin can be exhaled from your life. You are a partaker of the divine nature, which is the sinless nature. In fact, the New Testament says that “He that is born of God sinneth not.”

Jesus overcame sin on your behalf and you have overcome the same in Him, by being born of the incorruptible seed of the word of God. As it is written, “Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.”

The apostle John said that He wrote certain words unto the Christians that they sin not. There are certain words that can prevent you from sinning.

The psalmist wrote, “Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.” The Word in your heart makes you sin-proof.

This year, opt out of sin. You are sin-proof.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 JOHN 2:1

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:



SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

The Lord Stands With Me



The Apostle Paul, stated that in a certain place, “No man stood with me, but all forsook me.” He went on to add “Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me and strengthen me.”

Paul could boldly say, “Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.”

How is this? Jesus called the Holy Spirit “the standby.” The Holy Spirit abides in and with the Christian. Forever, He is always standing with you and because He is.

Your testimony can be like Paul’s. “For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, saying, Fear not...” Sunshine or Rain, Night or Day, alone or in the midst of a crowd, the Lord stands with you.

His name is the Holy Spirit.

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 TIMOTHY 4:17

NOTWITHSTANDING THE LORD STOOD WITH ME, AND STRENGTHENED ME; THAT BY ME THE PREACHING MIGHT BE FULLY KNOWN, AND THAT ALL THE GENTILES MIGHT HEAR: AND I WAS DELIVERED OUT OF THE MOUTH OF THE LION.



Govern It With Your Mouth



Death and life is in the power of your tongue. So is success and failure. That being so, a good work week is dependent on your own tongue and not your boss, clients or the challenges which arise. Think about that. It is all within your control.

Only you can relinquish control. It is written, “A man’s belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled. Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

How does satan tempt you to do that? Be watchful for that person who come to prophesy or pronounce a bad upcoming week. People like that would want you to unconsciously agree. Refuse to partake! There is too much at stake.

This year is going all for you. Now is not the time to start defiling it with a bad day or week. Keep your tongue and you’ll keep your week from trouble.

Govern it with your mouth. You are the boss.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 18:20-21

A MAN’S BELLY SHALL BE SATISFIED WITH THE FRUIT OF HIS MOUTH; AND WITH THE INCREASE OF HIS LIPS SHALL HE BE FILLED. DEATH AND LIFE ARE IN THE POWER OF THE TONGUE: AND THEY THAT LOVE IT SHALL EAT THE FRUIT THEREOF.



MONDAY, AUGUST 25

Think Independently



At one time, we looked at the following account, “Now the disciples had forgotten to take bread, neither had they in the ship with them more than one loaf. And he charged them, saying, Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod. And they reasoned among themselves, saying, It is because we have no bread. And when Jesus knew it, he saith unto them, Why reason ye, because ye have no bread? perceive ye not yet, neither understand? have ye your heart yet hardened? Having eyes, see ye not? and having ears, hear ye not? and do ye not remember?”

Jesus made one statement and the disciples immediately began to apply group thinking, by reasoning among themselves. Group thinking is yoke-thinking: It equalizes. All discoveries and advancement demands an independent thinker. The Lord’s disciple, Peter, was an independent thinker. When asked, “...whom say ye that I am?” He answered, “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.” He did not consult, he knew and answered. His opinion of Jesus was not formed by group thinking. He knew by revelation. He drew his own conclusion by inner knowings. How do you draw your conclusions? Consultation or revelation?

Jesus gave the very important prophecy as a result of Peter’s expressed revelation. Jesus said, “I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

Hell overcoming prophecies are not released because of group thinkers. The independent thinker is the one who will lead the prevailing. Are you the independent thinker among your peers or just a group thinker? Think independently.

SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 8-14-18

NOW THE DISCIPLES HAD FORGOTTEN TO TAKE BREAD, NEITHER HAD THEY IN THE SHIP WITH THEM MORE THAN ONE LOAF. AND HE CHARGED THEM, SAYING, TAKE HEED, BEWARE OF THE LEAVEN OF THE PHARISEES, AND OF THE LEAVEN OF HEROD. AND THEY REASONED AMONG THEMSELVES, SAYING, IT IS BECAUSE WE HAVE NO BREAD. AND WHEN JESUS KNEW IT, HE SAITH UNTO THEM, WHY REASON YE, BECAUSE YE HAVE NO BREAD? PERCEIVE YE NOT YET, NEITHER UNDERSTAND? HAVE YE YOUR HEART YET HARDENED? HAVING EYES, SEE YE NOT? AND HAVING EARS, HEAR YE NOT? AND DO YE NOT REMEMBER?

“LIVE WITH INTENT & INTENSITY”

empowered
daily



The Good Man



Our Lord Jesus told us in the gospel of Matthew about a burglar, intending to do a house break-in.

These were His words, “But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.”

He mentioned that the man of the house, if he knew what time a thief would arrive, he would be on guard and not permit the burglary to occur with any degree of success. He called such a man, “the good man of the house.” A man who watch and prevents his house to be broken in, is a good man in the eyes of the Son of God.

Are you “the good man”? Are you guarding the house of your mind, body, family etc. And preventing a spiritual break-in from happening? Jesus said the thief comes to do nothing but to steal, kill and destroy.

Don't let him. Watch and pray that you fall not into temptation.

SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 24:43

BUT KNOW THIS, THAT IF THE GOODMAN OF THE HOUSE HAD KNOWN IN WHAT WATCH THE THIEF WOULD COME, HE WOULD HAVE WATCHED, AND WOULD NOT HAVE SUFFERED HIS HOUSE TO BE BROKEN UP.



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

Heart-Talk Truth



It is baffling to realise how truth is obscured in the world. What is even more staggering is how many people deceive their own hearts, with beliefs that are unfounded. You must quality control your heart-talk. You will never expand in life beyond your heart.

The heart-life governs the extent and eternal influence of your life. As it is written, "...out of it are the issues of life."

In a world, where most are believing and peddling lies, learn to speak the truth in your heart. It is the truth you know, celebrate and walk in that makes you free. Furthermore, speaking the truth in your heart is a prerequisite for abiding in the manifest Presence of God. Your open communication with God is maintained that way. David said, "LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart." God desires truth in the inward parts and responds by revealing Himself, through wisdom in that kind of heart.

Today, transform the quality of your heart. Learn to speak the truth to yourself, in your heart and then with your mouth. Continue in it. Celebrate it and excel in it. For blessed is the man in whose spirit there is no guile.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 15:1-2

LORD, WHO SHALL ABIDE IN THY TABERNACLE? WHO SHALL DWELL IN THY HOLY HILL? HE THAT WALKETH UPRIGHTLY, AND WORKETH RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND SPEAKETH THE TRUTH IN HIS HEART.



Without Rebuke



It is written, "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." We are lights in a dark world. Jesus said, "Ye are the light of the world."

Wherever you are in the marketplace, know that you are there to be a light that illuminates that world. We wish to exhort you in the area of Christian conduct with the words of St. Paul, "Do all things without murmurings and disputings: That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world"

Don't argue and fight physically. Respond with good. This is wisdom and provokes God to step into the matter. Let God handle it.

SCRIPTURE READING: ROMANS 12:18-21

IF IT BE POSSIBLE, AS MUCH AS LIETH IN YOU, LIVE PEACEABLY WITH ALL MEN. DEARLY BELOVED, AVENGE NOT YOURSELVES, BUT RATHER GIVE PLACE UNTO WRATH: FOR IT IS WRITTEN, VENGEANCE IS MINE; I WILL REPAY, SAITH THE LORD. THEREFORE IF THINE ENEMY HUNGER, FEED HIM; IF HE THIRST, GIVE HIM DRINK: FOR IN SO DOING THOU SHALT HEAP COALS OF FIRE ON HIS HEAD. BE NOT OVERCOME OF EVIL, BUT OVERCOME EVIL WITH GOOD..



FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

The Man Within



We are dealing with the man within man's spirit. The inner man is paramount. A man who neglects his spirit sabotages his eternal destiny. Without your spirit you cannot know or communicate with God. As it is written, "God is a spirit and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth." God cannot be worshiped in the flesh nor pleased by the flesh. He is only contactable through the spirit of man. Know that. Settle that.

You therefore need your spirit man strong. Your spirit man is your spiritual residency in the realm of the Spirit. A strong spirit is required to survive, let alone thrive there.

Hence, the Apostle Paul prayed for the Christians to be made strong with power in the inner man, by God's Spirit. This strengthening produces a day by day renewing or invigorating of the inward man.

How do you allow the power to make your spirit strong? This is primarily done by praying exceedingly in an unknown tongue. This was Paul's wisdom to the Christians at Corinth.

Start today with making your inner man strong.

SCRIPTURE READING: EPHESIANS 3:1
THAT HE WOULD GRANT YOU, ACCORDING TO THE RICHES OF HIS GLORY, TO BE STRENGTHENED WITH MIGHT BY HIS SPIRIT IN THE INNER MAN.



Seek Me



David said, “When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, Lord, will I seek.” God is a rewarder of them who earnestly seek Him. The scripture says, “But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”

It is called faith: faith worthy of report. Jesus wondered if He would find this kind of faith on earth, when He returns. God spoke through the prophet Jeremiah, “And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. And I will be found of you, saith the Lord: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the Lord; and I will bring you again into the place whence I caused you to be carried away captive”

Will you seek Him with all your heart? As it is written, “Seek the Lord, and his strength: seek his face evermore.” Men should always pray and not faint - persistent and resistant.

Nothing wavering. Nothing doubting.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 105:4
SEEK THE LORD, AND HIS STRENGTH: SEEK HIS FACE EVERMORE.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

One More Time



Never be ashamed to do something, one more time. Our Lord Jesus once healed a blind man by the laying on of hands. He then asked the man, “Do you see anything?” He answered, “I see men as trees walking.” The man’s sight was fuzzy.

Jesus did not give up, “And he took the blind man by the hand, and led him out of the town; and when he had spit on his eyes, and put his hands upon him, he asked him if he saw ought. And he looked up, and said, I see men as trees, walking. After that he put his hands again upon his eyes, and made him look up: and he was restored, and saw every man clearly.”

He laid hands on the man one more time. And the man saw every man clearly. There is no shame in doing something one more time.

This time it will work.

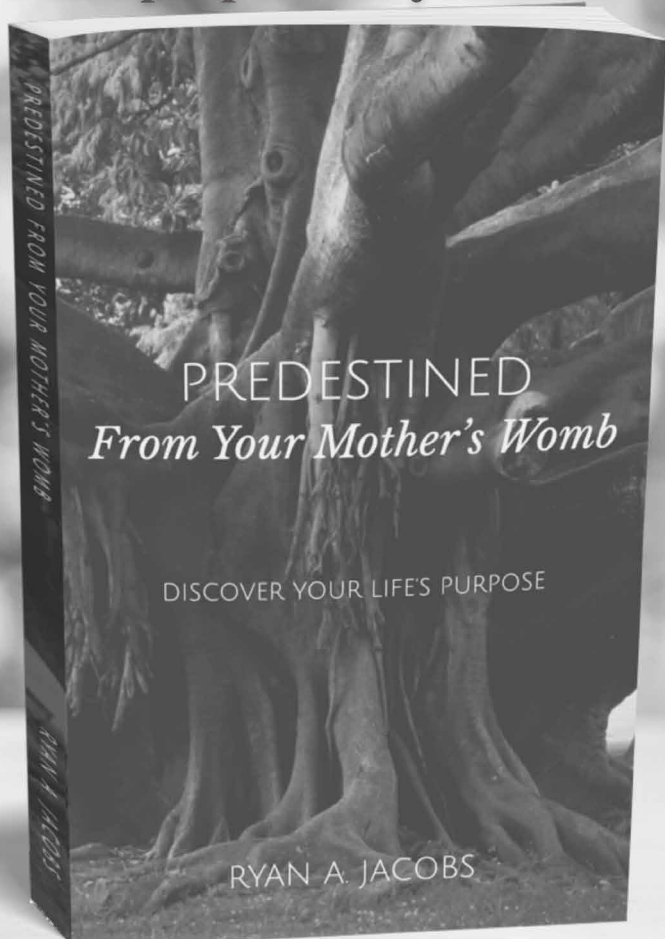
SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 8:23-25

AND HE TOOK THE BLIND MAN BY THE HAND, AND LED HIM OUT OF THE TOWN; AND WHEN HE HAD SPIT ON HIS EYES, AND PUT HIS HANDS UPON HIM, HE ASKED HIM IF HE SAW OUGHT. AND HE LOOKED UP, AND SAID, I SEE MEN AS TREES, WALKING. AFTER THAT HE PUT HIS HANDS AGAIN UPON HIS EYES, AND MADE HIM LOOK UP: AND HE WAS RESTORED, AND SAW EVERY MAN CLEARLY.

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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Create Systems



In the beginning God created a system, Heaven and Earth. God is a God of systems. He loves and institutes systems. It is written, “Also he built towers in the desert, and digged many wells: for he had much cattle, both in the low country, and in the plains: husbandmen also, and vine dressers in the mountains, and in Carmel: for he loved husbandry. And he made in Jerusalem engines, invented by cunning men, to be on the towers and upon the bulwarks, to shoot arrows and great stones withal. And his name spread far abroad; for he was marvellously helped, till he was strong.”

He blesses those who put in systems for the benefit of mankind and earth. Heaven cooperates with earth through systems (e.g. angels ascending and descending). It's not random or sporadic. It's a system and divine order. He walks upon the wings of the wind. It's a system.

The rich create the systems in which the poor operate. Do not be poor: create. Create systems that create and sustain life. Find your passion and create a system through that passion. Your passion is the conduit through which heavenly creativity will flow through you to create.

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 CHRONICLES 26:10,15

ALSO HE BUILT TOWERS IN THE DESERT, AND DIGGED MANY WELLS: FOR HE HAD MUCH CATTLE, BOTH IN THE LOW COUNTRY, AND IN THE PLAINS: HUSBANDMEN ALSO, AND VINE DRESSERS IN THE MOUNTAINS, AND IN CARMEL: FOR HE LOVED HUSBANDRY. AND HE MADE IN JERUSALEM ENGINES, INVENTED BY CUNNING MEN, TO BE ON THE TOWERS AND UPON THE BULWARKS, TO SHOOT ARROWS AND GREAT STONES WITHAL. AND HIS NAME SPREAD FAR ABROAD; FOR HE WAS MARVELLOUSLY HELPED, TILL HE WAS STRONG.



Choose To Stay Sharp



The book of Ecclesiastes tells us that if the dull axe is not sharpened much strength is required. It is written, “If the iron be blunt, and he do not whet the edge, then must he put to more strength: but wisdom is profitable to direct.”

In your spiritual walk, you should learn to stay sharp. Continuous battle or neglect can cause you to become dull. Have you ever been there?

If you are then hit with a battle or temptation you may succumb because of fatigue and a lack of alertness.

Learn to take time to sharpen yourself. Exercise your spiritual skills of prayer, scripture meditation, gifts etc. Take the time to rest and prepare for each day.

Fellowship with those stronger than you. As it is written “As iron sharpens iron, so the face of one man, sharpens the face of his friend.”

Choose your company wisely. The right person can keep you sharp.

SCRIPTURE READING: ECCLESIASTES 10:10

IF THE IRON BE BLUNT, AND HE DO NOT WHET THE EDGE, THEN MUST HE PUT TO MORE STRENGTH: BUT WISDOM IS PROFITABLE TO DIRECT.



The Garrison



The peace of God is a military guard. The peace of God can protect your mind and heart with military precision. It is written, “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

Therefore the salvation of peace in the epistles is a bestowing of protection. The bible says and there was “war in heaven and the devil and his angels fought.” Keep the devil out. He loves war. Peace is one of the three atmospheric layers of God’s king dome of protection.

This is how you maintain the military guard of peace:

- Never get anxious at anything.
- Pray about everything.
- Think about the things of God.
- Do what you have learned, received, heard and seen in your teacher.
- Rejoice in the Lord always.

SCRIPTURE READING: PHILIPPIANS 4:6-9

BE CAREFUL FOR NOTHING; BUT IN EVERY THING BY PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION WITH THANKSGIVING LET YOUR REQUESTS BE MADE KNOWN UNTO GOD. AND THE PEACE OF GOD, WHICH PASSETH ALL UNDERSTANDING, SHALL KEEP YOUR HEARTS AND MINDS THROUGH CHRIST JESUS. FINALLY, BRETHREN, WHATSOEVER THINGS ARE TRUE, WHATSOEVER THINGS ARE HONEST, WHATSOEVER THINGS ARE JUST, WHATSOEVER THINGS ARE PURE, WHATSOEVER THINGS ARE LOVELY, WHATSOEVER THINGS ARE OF GOOD REPORT; IF THERE BE ANY VIRTUE, AND IF THERE BE ANY PRAISE, THINK ON THESE THINGS THOSE THINGS, WHICH YE HAVE BOTH LEARNED, AND RECEIVED, AND HEARD, AND SEEN IN ME, DO: AND THE GOD OF PEACE SHALL BE WITH YOU.

“LIVE WITH INTENT & INTENSITY”



Carried Along



If you have lived long enough you will know that it is easy to get carried away with certain things.

Maybe your favorite team won the match or your favorite song was playing. And you found yourself being carried away in the moment. Maybe some friends have a certain idea or plans and by their persuasion or the peer pressure, you can get carried away. It happens quickly.

There is another type of carrying, that the Bible talks about though, which happens even more quickly to the spiritual person. It is called, “carried along.” The scripture says that Holy men of God spoke as they were “carried along” by the Holy Ghost.

That is a holy carrying that comes by the wind of the Spirit, from within. Holy men of God speak or utter as they are “carried along” by the Holy Spirit. This is a supernatural moving which occurs in an instant. No planning, No contemplation. No intent. Just a sudden wind of God, carrying them along. You too: don’t be carried away.

Speak as you are “carried along” by the Holy Spirit.

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 PETER 1:21

FOR THE PROPHECY CAME NOT IN OLD TIME BY THE WILL OF MAN: BUT HOLY MEN OF GOD SPAKE AS THEY WERE MOVED BY THE HOLY GHOST



He Despised The Shame



The book of Hebrews says, “looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.” The passage tells us that Jesus for the joy set before Him, despised the shame. What shame?

- He preached a message that few believed.
- His treasurer, Judas betrayed the “all knowing Jesus”. He even publicly usurped Him by questioning His attitude towards the poor and His seeming wastage of money that could have been better spent according to Judas.
- All His disciples forsook Him in His time of need.
- The Jewish leaders lied against Him and incited the same people whom He helped to cry, “Away with him! Crucify him!”
- They beat Him, plucked out His beard, spat on Him, blindfolded Him and mocked Him to prophesy.
- They marred Him until He did not look like a human being anymore.
- They put a mock crown of thorns on His head to torture and humiliate Him.
- They stripped Him naked and publicly paraded Him through the streets of Jerusalem and hung Him that way on a cross.
- Then still taunted Him, daring Him to save Himself from the cross.

His own creation shamed Him. Yet, He despised the shame so that He could see the joy in His Father’s eyes for redeeming the fallen creation. God stripped Himself of Glory to be shamed by and for man. They tried and condemned Him to death as a common criminal. Yes, He despised the shame because He thought we were worth it all! Jesus bore the shame of our sins on that cross. For this we ought to be eternally grateful.

SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 53:3-5

HE IS DESPISED AND REJECTED OF MEN; A MAN OF SORROWS, AND ACQUAINTED WITH GRIEF; AND WE HID AS IT WERE OUR FACES FROM HIM; HE WAS DESPISED, AND WE ESTEEMED HIM NOT. SURELY HE HATH BORNE OUR GRIEFS, AND CARRIED OUR SORROWS; YET WE DID ESTEEM HIM STRICKEN, SMITTEN OF GOD, AND AFFLICTED. BUT HE WAS WOUNDED FOR OUR TRANSGRESSIONS, HE WAS BRUISED FOR OUR INIQUITIES: THE CHASTISEMENT OF OUR PEACE WAS UPON HIM; AND WITH HIS STRIPES WE ARE HEALED.



Ask For Good Things



Jesus taught that your Heavenly Father will much more than your earthly parents, give good things to them that ask Him.

It is written, “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.”

So ask Him for good things, today and He will give it to you. It is that simple. The Father is the giver and source of every good and perfect gift.

As it is also written, “What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?” He will not deny you.

Go ahead and ask for good things. It belongs to you. What are you waiting for?

Just ask.

SCRIPTURE READING: JAMES 1:17

EVERY GOOD GIFT AND EVERY PERFECT GIFT IS FROM ABOVE, AND COMETH DOWN FROM THE FATHER OF LIGHTS, WITH WHOM IS NO VARIABleness, NEITHER SHADOW OF TURNING



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Why You Born Again



Jesus told Nicodemus, “If I told you of earthly things and you do not understand. What if I tell you of heavenly things?” He was forced to speak to the man in basic terms. He explained that being born from above gives us sight into the kingdom of God.

However, this is just the introductory reason for being born of the Spirit. Upon further revelation, we are told that God, “Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.”

You were begotten by the Word to be evidence of a new God-creature, to be sampled and tasted by all. They must see and know that you are a God-creature. A different kind. A one of a kind. Not like them but like God.

Then they must violently want to be like you, a God-creature. So don't be shy. Be bold.

Manifest your inner alien to this world system.

SCRIPTURE READING: JAMES 1:18

OF HIS OWN WILL BEGAT HE US WITH THE WORD OF TRUTH, THAT WE SHOULD BE A KIND OF FIRSTFRUITS OF HIS CREATURES.



The Cup of Destiny



It is recorded in the gospel of Matthew, chapter 20, that John and James' mother came to Jesus to ask of Him certain prestige positions for her sons. The Lord answered that she does not know what she is asking.

Folks many times do not know the consequence of their requests before God. Jesus revealed that those positions came with its own cup and baptism, and asked if they are able to drink from that cup and be baptized accordingly. The brothers, in their zeal cried in the affirmative.

What the mother and her sons did not realize is that the cup was martyrdom and the baptism was death for the gospel. James' mom did not realize that her brash ambition for her son would later mean a death by beheading for her son. We believe she would not have made the request had she known. History also tells us that her son John would later be boiled in hot oil and then banished to an island when he did not die of that torture. Their mother inadvertently asked for their death by asking for those prestigious positions.

Every destiny has its cup. To be Joseph it meant, betrayal, a pit, slavery, false accusation, prison and years of suffering and separation from the people he loved. Daniel had a lion's den and a never-ending stream of enemies and supplanters. Paul endured countless sufferings for the gospel. Before you ask, count the cost and consider the cup. The church remembers Jesus' cup that was His suffering for the world. What is the cup of your destiny? Have you thought about it? Do you count it all joy? Are you ready to drink of it?

SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 14:25-29

AND THERE WENT GREAT MULTITUDES WITH HIM: AND HE TURNED, AND SAID UNTO THEM, IF ANY MAN COME TO ME, AND HATE NOT HIS FATHER, AND MOTHER, AND WIFE, AND CHILDREN, AND BRETHREN, AND SISTERS, YEA, AND HIS OWN LIFE ALSO, HE CANNOT BE MY DISCIPLE. AND WHOSEVER DOETH NOT BEAR HIS CROSS, AND COME AFTER ME, CANNOT BE MY DISCIPLE. FOR WHICH OF YOU, INTENDING TO BUILD A TOWER, SITTETH NOT DOWN FIRST, AND COUNTETH THE COST, WHETHER HE HAVE SUFFICIENT TO FINISH IT? LEST HAPLY, AFTER HE HATH LAID THE FOUNDATION, AND IS NOT ABLE TO FINISH IT, ALL THAT BEHOLD IT BEGIN TO MOCK HIM



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Expect the Unexpected



A key in moving with God into the new is not to expect the same. We must train ourselves to expect the unexpected.

We all know a new month dawns. However, few know what it holds in its fullness. In other words, few know what each day of the new month will have in store for us. Hence, why expect the same ol' same ol'? Expect something fresh.

The Lord enjoys foretelling the future to create expectation for His 'suddenlies' and gives us the opportunity to prepare and "dream" with Him. However, the precise moment and way of the new thing no one but God exactly knows. As God explained via His prophet, "Long ago I told you what would happen [the former things]. I said these things and [they went out from my mouth and I] made them known; suddenly I acted, and these things happened."(AMP)

God likes to act suddenly and catch everyone by surprise. Be ready to be surprised...ready to experience the "suddenlies" of God. Expect the "unexpected."

SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 48:3

I HAVE DECLARED THE FORMER THINGS FROM THE BEGINNING; AND THEY WENT FORTH OUT OF MY MOUTH, AND I SHEWED THEM; I DID THEM SUDDENLY, AND THEY CAME TO PASS.



Every Miracle



Miracles are supernatural interventions. They are beyond nature. Nature cannot produce miracles, God is the miracle creator. Jesus is the greatest example of miracle working. From the ministry of Jesus, one can see that every miracle starts with what you have.

God uses what you already have for the miracle. Jesus, when multiplying the loaves and fishes asked, “What do you have?” In His first miracle He used the water and the water pots that was already there and turned water into wine.

Elijah and Elisha the great miracle working prophets asked the same question, “What do you have?” Every miracle starts with you and is effected by action and instruction.

You want a miracle? Look no further than what you have. Little becomes much in the hands of God.

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 KINGS 4:2

AND ELISHA SAID UNTO HER, WHAT SHALL I DO FOR THEE? TELL ME, WHAT HAST THOU IN THE HOUSE? AND SHE SAID, THINE HANDMAID HATH NOT ANY THING IN THE HOUSE, SAVE A POT OF OIL.



The Process Of Miracles



There is a common process thread in scripture for working of miracles in the bible. It is vital that you understand this, if you are to receive or work miracles.

It is written, “And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make

for thee and for thy son. For thus saith the Lord God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth. And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah: and she, and he, and her house, did eat many days.”

Simply put, the process is:

- Locate a minister of the Spirit.
- Place a demand on the ministrations of the Spirit.
- Know what you have.
- Present what you have as raw material for the miracle.
- Receive the instruction to be followed for the working of the miracle.
- Follow the instructions fully.
- Thank God for the miracle.
- Follow the post miracle instructions.

Miracles must be worked and revelation in line with the above steps will help you step into the working of miracles.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 KINGS 17:13-15

AND ELIJAH SAID UNTO HER, FEAR NOT; GO AND DO AS THOU HAST SAID: BUT MAKE ME THEREOF A LITTLE CAKE FIRST, AND BRING IT UNTO ME, AND AFTER MAKE FOR THEE AND FOR THY SON. FOR THUS SAITH THE LORD GOD OF ISRAEL, THE BARREL OF MEAL SHALL NOT WASTE, NEITHER SHALL THE CRUSE OF OIL FAIL, UNTIL THE DAY THAT THE LORD SENDETH RAIN UPON THE EARTH. AND SHE WENT AND DID ACCORDING TO THE SAYING OF ELIJAH: AND SHE, AND HE, AND HER HOUSE, DID EAT MANY DAYS.



Will You Surge?



The Apostle Paul told the Christians, “Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.” Paul loved this analogy of running a race. He pictured how he could compete against his body, push past limitations and win the prize.

He could also gain a perspective of how he could compete against the clock (“Chronos”) and capture the milestones (“Kairos”).

Furthermore, in running there is the art of the surge. It is written, “And the hand of the Lord was on Elijah; and he girded up his loins, and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.” The ability to surge at the right time can make or break a race.

You are in the race of faith. September demands that you compete at a higher level than January. The re-start is demanding more than the start.

It is time to surge. Will you surge?

Do you know how to surge?

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 KINGS 18:46
AND THE HAND OF THE LORD WAS ON ELIJAH; AND HE GIRDED UP HIS LOINS, AND RAN BEFORE AHAB TO THE ENTRANCE OF JEZREEL.



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Double Up



It is time to surge. What does surging look like in your calling? In a race it means to accelerate in pace suddenly and sustainably.

There is a scripture that says, “trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots.”

We reason thus, if a tree can be “twice dead, plucked up by the roots”, then a tree can be “twice alive, planted double deep by the roots, whose fruit never withers and ever abounds.”

Jesus, in His rebuke to the Jewish leaders, gave the key to doubling up and surging in the Spirit. His formula was simple: go far and wide.

Today, double up in your spiritual disciplines and activities.

Go further and wider. And keep doing so. It is time to surge.

Lets double up.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:10

THESE ARE SPOTS IN YOUR FEASTS OF CHARITY, WHEN THEY FEAST WITH YOU, FEEDING THEMSELVES WITHOUT FEAR: CLOUDS THEY ARE WITHOUT WATER, CARRIED ABOUT OF WINDS; TREES WHOSE FRUIT WITHERETH, WITHOUT FRUIT, TWICE DEAD, PLUCKED UP BY THE ROOTS;



The Pursuit



Lets double back to what we asked a few days ago, “Will you surge?” We hope that you have found and given the definitive answer to the realm of the spirit. The motivation to surge comes from the goal that you are pursuing.

The prize motivates the pursuit. Paul told the Corinthian church to run in a manner that will obtain the prize. They were told, “Be a winner man.”

What is the joy set before you this year? It is written, “Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God”

Is it providing enough fuel for your fire? That prize will make you put the body and the flesh under and defy all limitations imposed by external circumstances.

The prize is worth it all to us. Is it to you?

Always have a worthy pursuit.

SCRIPTURE READING: HEBREWS 12:2
LOOKING UNTO JESUS THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF OUR FAITH; WHO FOR THE JOY THAT WAS SET BEFORE HIM ENDURED THE CROSS,
DESPISING THE SHAME, AND IS SET DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE THRONE OF GOD



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Herd Mentality



Herd mentality is dangerous. Those under the influence of herd mentality can easily deceive themselves, that they are heading in the right direction. Our Lord Jesus warned us, "...wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat..."

Have you ever wondered why so many people are found on the way to destruction? Herd mentality comes about by "heard" mentality. Many get their view point from hearsay. They heard somebody say it and then they began saying and believing it too. Contrary to popular opinion, the populous are on their way to destruction. Often people are deceived by the wrong belief that if the majority is saying and doing it, then it must be good and right. Jesus, the Son of God, clearly stated otherwise. He in fact said that the road least traveled is the right one. These were His words, "...strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

It is wise to form your opinions and stance from God's word, which is His viewpoint. Have you ever found yourself happy with a certain viewpoint, then a few friends express their view and challenge yours. Suddenly you lose your joy and peace. Your rhythm and eventually your whole life becomes disrupted. What happened? You were infected with herd mentality, that killer virus. In this life, the preeminent learn to handle things by themselves. The beautiful words from the Apostle John sums it up, "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life..." Today, immunize yourself against herd mentality: handle God's realities for yourself.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 JOHN 1:1-2

THAT WHICH WAS FROM THE BEGINNING, WHICH WE HAVE HEARD, WHICH WE HAVE SEEN WITH OUR EYES, WHICH WE HAVE LOOKED UPON, AND OUR HANDS HAVE HANDLED, OF THE WORD OF LIFE; (FOR THE LIFE WAS MANIFESTED, AND WE HAVE SEEN IT, AND BEAR WITNESS, AND SHEW UNTO YOU THAT ETERNAL LIFE, WHICH WAS WITH THE FATHER, AND WAS MANIFESTED UNTO US.)



Moved By



Jesus, during the days of His earthly ministry, was noted to be moved with compassion. This compassion moved Him in both His teaching and healing ministry. He could endure the long healing lines and the multiple hours of teaching the people, even teaching for three days straight.

The apostle Paul was also known to be so moved that he taught the word of God throughout the night.

Everyone is moved, motivated or driven by something. Some by taught values or principles, others by the need for acceptance or affirmation, yet others by pride or envy. What are you moved by? It matters.

The bible says that the holy men of God were also moved. They were moved by the Holy Ghost and brought forth the prophecy of scripture. Lets imitate their faith and movement. And be moved by the Holy Spirit throughout this year.

You are rising higher in 2025. This is only possible when you are moved about by the Holy Spirit.

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 PETER 1:21

FOR THE PROPHECY CAME NOT IN OLD TIME BY THE WILL OF MAN: BUT HOLY MEN OF GOD SPAKE AS THEY WERE MOVED BY THE HOLY GHOST.



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Unlock It



The apostle Peter said, “Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, 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:” All things that you will ever need is already given you by the power of God.

You need knowledge and understanding to unlock it. Jesus called knowledge a “key” Paul’s prayer for the Ephesian Christians is a bold indicator of how we enter into the divine inheritance. We enter by knowledge and understanding.

What knowledge? What understanding? That is the question. Here the scripture answers clearly, “the knowledge of the holy is understanding.” There you have it! Knowledge of the Holy One, opens the understanding to enter and experience all the realms of God.

Desire to know the Holy. He will grant you the desires of your heart.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 9:10

THE FEAR OF THE LORD IS THE BEGINNING OF WISDOM: AND THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE HOLY IS UNDERSTANDING.



Walk Confidently



Walking decisively is vital for steady and sure progression. The athlete sets out confidently, with a clear foreknowledge of the predetermined destination or finish line. The scripture says, “The path of life is upward for the wise, that he may depart from hell beneath.” The wise is on the upward path and he can therefore walk confidently on that path. There are many walkways in this world.

Not all of these tend upward. Most actually goes down hill, towards the nether regions.

Years ago, when we came to Christ, a man said that we will never make it and scoffed at our decision to become Christians. His estimation, at the time, was that it was foolish to become a Christian, especially at such a young age. Life had too many pleasures to be enjoyed and youth was too a precious an age to spend it on the narrow path. Today it is sad to see what have become of that man. His path seemed lucrative at the time but brought him much tears, frustration and disdain. He did not know that the path of the cross was the path to God’s goodness and protection. It is written, “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.”

In the media they constantly show us adverts of young people, busy with debauchery and the like, appearing to be successful, happy and even enviable. Many, persuaded by this farce, may be scoffing and jeering at you now but you can be confident, your path is tending upward. Give it a little time. Soon your progress will be evident to all.

Walk confidently and abundantly. You are wise and your path of life is upward, that you may depart from hell beneath.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 15:24

THE PATH OF LIFE IS UPWARD FOR THE WISE, THAT HE MAY DEPART FROM HELL BENEATH.



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

The Testimonies



We looked yesterday at the importance of the conscience in protecting the true testimony. God respects the conscience and finds it a credible source. A defiled conscience is a defiled you. A pure conscience is a pure you.

The scripture says, “Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way. Thy testimonies are wonderful: therefore doth my soul keep them.” There is a spiritual “trick” that kills more than ninety percent of conscience problems. It will dramatically boost the credibility of your conscience’s testimony.

The key is to replace your conscience testimony with God’s testimonies. The bible says that God’s testimonies are miraculous. The miracle realm starts there and is there. To switch into that realm is quite simple: just make a calculated assumption that God’s testimonies are always true and therefore reject all others.

Your conscience will then always stay clear and the voice of God will become audible.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 119:128-129

THEREFORE I ESTEEM ALL THY PRECEPTS CONCERNING ALL THINGS TO BE RIGHT; AND I HATE EVERY FALSE WAY. THY TESTIMONIES ARE WONDERFUL: THEREFORE DOT MY SOUL KEEP THEM.



Except The Lord



The scripture is true in saying that in all labour there is profit. Do you want to achieve something? Work at it. Wisely directed, diligent labor leads to increase. That said, only your labor in the Lord shall have eternal reward or even truly last on earth.

As the scripture says, “Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.” Learn to allow the Lord to labor through you. “But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me”

Let all your labor be done in rest. This is best and makes the life free from stress.

Paul, labored in such a way: anxiety-free and more abundantly.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:10

BUT BY THE GRACE OF GOD I AM WHAT I AM: AND HIS GRACE WHICH WAS BESTOWED UPON ME WAS NOT IN VAIN; BUT I LABOURED MORE ABUNDANTLY THAN THEY ALL: YET NOT I, BUT THE GRACE OF GOD WHICH WAS WITH ME



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

The Couple



The book of Acts highlights, that there were two famous couples in the early church. We meet the first couple early on in the book of Acts. Their names were Ananias and Sapphira. Ananias and Sapphira was a loaded couple and were prolific in real estate.

They were ambitious and wanted to make a name for themselves. They figured that nothing would be more opportune than to boost their profile by giving a big offering, like many other sincere Christians were doing. Unfortunately, for Ananias and Sapphira they were into appearances but God is into integrity. They secretly kept back part of the proceeds from the land already bequeathed to God by them. The Holy Spirit did not like this and killed them.

Sin and glory do not mix: an explosion always follows. Never try to be ‘the couple’ in church. You might end up ‘the dead couple.’ Rather always strive to be like the true power couple, Aquila and Priscilla.

They were the ultimate power couple.

SCRIPTURE READING: ACTS 5:8-10

AND PETER ANSWERED UNTO HER, TELL ME WHETHER YE SOLD THE LAND FOR SO MUCH? AND SHE SAID, YEA, FOR SO MUCH. THEN PETER SAID UNTO HER, HOW IS IT THAT YE HAVE AGREED TOGETHER TO TEMPT THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD? BEHOLD, THE FEET OF THEM WHICH HAVE BURIED THY HUSBAND ARE AT THE DOOR, AND SHALL CARRY THEE OUT. THEN FELL SHE DOWN STRAIGHTWAY AT HIS FEET, AND YIELDED UP THE GHOST: AND THE YOUNG MEN CAME IN, AND FOUND HER DEAD, AND, CARRYING HER FORTH, BURIED HER BY HER HUSBAND.



Three Hot Meals



Hunger is a powerful force and is one of the primal forces within man. Thus, the scripture states, “Men do not despise a thief, if he steal to satisfy his soul when he is hungry.” If hunger is ignored for a protracted period of time, starvation will set in, eventually leading to death. So also in the spirit realm.

The cravings of your spirit man ignored, leads to spiritual deprivation. In other words, when the craving of the inner man is ignored, spiritual hunger will dissipate from the soul. This leads to deprivation and lethargy, which turns into spiritual apathy: the end result spiritual death. Those suffering from spiritual lethargy and apathy live as victims of the spiritual wars in this life. They are easy targets for demonic spirits.

Avoid becoming a victim, by avoiding the process of spiritual decay. Cultivate your spiritual hunger. Feed your spirit at least three hot meals a day. The prophet Daniel did this. He prayed privately three times a day, every day. And studied and searched the scriptures fervently, until he began to gain prophetic insights and provoked heaven to move towards him, in power and revelation, more and more.

It takes such a hunger to maintain your spiritual fervency, and to stay aglow and burning in the Spirit.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 107:9
FOR HE SATISFIETH THE LONGING SOUL, AND FILLETH THE HUNGRY SOUL WITH GOODNESS.



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Execute, Execute & Execute



The scripture says, “And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.”

You were given this year to execute the plan that God gave you. It is your time to Execute.

You are fighting the good fight of faith to implement that vision from God. It demands a good warfare. Your vision is clear. You are giving voice to His voice released to you. This is the sound around your life.

Defeat and failure is impossible to you. Victories are mounting up in your life as a result. The brightness of His overshadowing glory is causing you to surge and leap over barriers.

This is you in 2025. Settle for nothing less. Our faith is joined with yours. We are unstoppable!

SCRIPTURE READING: HABAKKUK 2:2-3

AND THE LORD ANSWERED ME, AND SAID, WRITE THE VISION, AND MAKE IT PLAIN UPON TABLES, THAT HE MAY RUN THAT READETH IT. FOR THE VISION IS YET FOR AN APPOINTED TIME, BUT AT THE END IT SHALL SPEAK, AND NOT LIE: THOUGH IT TARRY, WAIT FOR IT; BECAUSE IT WILL SURELY COME, IT WILL NOT TARRY.



He Gives Sleep



The bible says that God gives sleep to them whom He loves. The scripture says, “It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep”

If you cannot sleep, you should be “worried.” Those whom God loves, sleep well.

Jesus was asleep in a boat in the middle of the sea during a life threatening storm. Jesus, the Beloved, slept. In the scripture it is written, “And, behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but he was asleep.”

No need to worry. Go to sleep. He will do the watching over you and yours. As it is written, “Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.”

Today, we wish you a good night.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 127:2

IT IS VAIN FOR YOU TO RISE UP EARLY, TO SIT UP LATE, TO EAT THE BREAD OF SORROWS: FOR SO HE GIVETH HIS BELOVED SLEEP



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

It's A New Thing



God says, “Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.”

You must flow with God in this new thing. It's a way and it's rivers of life and sustenance.

To activate yourself in it, you need to:

- Forget. As God said, “Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old.”
- Look. You need to look at your immediate future and expect God to suddenly do something new.
- Perceive. You must perceive what He is doing. Perception will communicate a certain intuition to you, on how to move forward with God.
- Flow. To flow here means to yield to the current of the river and to continue in that way.

Be ready to forget, look, perceive and flow. Enjoy the rest of 2025 and the new thing God is doing with you, in it.

SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 43:18-19

REMEMBER YE NOT THE FORMER THINGS, NEITHER CONSIDER THE THINGS OF OLD. BEHOLD, I WILL DO A NEW THING; NOW IT SHALL SPRING FORTH; SHALL YE NOT KNOW IT? I WILL EVEN MAKE A WAY IN THE WILDERNESS, AND RIVERS IN THE DESERT.



Evening, Morning and Noon



The psalmist David said, “Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice. He hath delivered my soul in peace from the battle that was against me: for there were many with me.” David was facing betrayal and men who seemed at peace with him, was trying to take his life. He needed

God’s intervention, fast!

He employed the three point method of casting his burdens on the Lord, for God to sustain him. He did not want to be removed from his position in life. David began to pray three times a day: evening, morning and noon. He wanted to be delivered in peace from the battle against him. And it worked.

Daniel would later thrive in Babylon for decades in the midst of the fiercest enemies. He prayed evening, morning and noon. The Lord famously delivered Daniel from the lions den and had the men who unleashed that battle, delivered unto the same.

Who and what must you be delivered from? As it is written, “Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.”

Cast your burden on Him evening, morning and noon. The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 55:17-18

EVENING, AND MORNING, AND AT NOON, WILL I PRAY, AND CRY ALOUD: AND HE SHALL HEAR MY VOICE. HE HATH DELIVERED MY SOUL IN PEACE FROM THE BATTLE THAT WAS AGAINST ME: FOR THERE WERE MANY WITH ME.”



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Give Us Our Daily Bread



Jesus will cost you. To follow Jesus acceptably, you must enter the narrow gate and stay on the narrow way. This equals strain, constraint and restraint. Yet your experience of life will be joyous, broad and expansive. Life in God is a wonder-filled venture and adventure. Such is the foretold life. Many are unconvinced that it is so and thus strive to create their own destinies, out of their reservoir of ambitions.

Refuse to feed yourself on the fantastical folly of today's generation. Instead, make the Father's will your daily bread. It is called "the bread of mystery" and comes from above. This is true "angel's bread."

The beings from heaven feed on the Father's will. Jesus said, "My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work." And of the angels it is written, "Bless ye the Lord, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure." God feeds the angels with mystery, in other words, "manna." God attempted to sustain and satisfy the children of Israel with the same in the wilderness, as it is written, "And had rained down manna upon them to eat, and had given them of the corn of heaven. Man did eat angels' food..." Yet, they refused to be fed on revealed mysteries.

The Christ-life within is the mystery of God's will revealed. Let this life (-style) be your cry and your daily bread. Join us now as we pray, "Give Us Our Daily Bread."

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 4:31-34

IN THE MEAN WHILE HIS DISCIPLES PRAYED HIM, SAYING, MASTER, EAT. BUT HE SAID UNTO THEM, I HAVE MEAT TO EAT THAT YE KNOW NOT OF. THEREFORE SAID THE DISCIPLES ONE TO ANOTHER, HATH ANY MAN BROUGHT HIM OUGHT TO EAT? JESUS SAITH UNTO THEM, MY MEAT IS TO DO THE WILL OF HIM THAT SENT ME, AND TO FINISH HIS WORK..



The Hungry



Never lose your spiritual hunger. That spiritual hunger is power in the heavenlies. It acts as a magnet and provocation for God. The Lord Jesus said, “Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.” Such is the blessedness of spiritual hunger. That kind of hunger will move God towards you. God struggles to withstand its pull.

Are you hearing what we are saying? Never lose your hunger for God. Never allow it to wane. Keep your hunger real and alive. God is the fulfiller and satisfier. Your hunger and longings for the things that pertain to Him is what He is longing and searching for. As it is written, “The Spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy...”

Today, enflame your hunger for Him, by doing what we said previously:

- Stay away from hunger killers.
- Feed yourself on the true things of God.
- Immerse yourself in an atmosphere which is electrified with the presence and power of God.
- Outnumber yourself with those ablaze with the Holy Spirit.
- Start setting time aside to pray for your city, its leaders and those around you.

May this be your prayer today: “O Holy Spirit, may I always be found to be of your hungriest. Enflame my hunger for You now, O Lord!”

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 107:9
FOR HE SATISFIETH THE LONGING SOUL, AND FILLETH THE HUNGRY SOUL WITH GOODNESS.



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Follow Thou Me



We live in an interconnected world. It is nearly impossible to not know your “neighbours” business and to be caught up in the related drama. Modern life is full of distractions, noises and voices. One voice is saying, “Listen to this.” Another, “Look here.” Others, “This is good but this is bad.”

To be an independent thinker is a very difficult task. Yet it is what is required to be led by the Spirit of God. Jesus, before His ascension, was restoring His disciple Peter, after he had previously denied Jesus. Peter after this recommission does the following, “Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee? Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do? Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me.”

Peter turned his head and began to look for the face of his friend, John, to enquire about Jesus’ business with him. Jesus responded and admonished Peter that he should mind his own business and that His business with John, was none of Peter’s. Peter was again getting into his habit of being distracted, by his best friend’s business. He soon forgot that He must focus on Jesus for himself. He had previously depended on John’s walk with Jesus, to get information out of Jesus whenever he figured he could not. He previously ended up denying Jesus and weeping bitterly. Whilst John ended up standing at the foot of the cross, with Mary, the mother Jesus.

Our walk with Jesus is more sacred and super exceeds every other friendship and relationship that we may have in this life. Paul wrote, “... study to be quiet, and to do your own business...” Striving to refrain from meddlesomeness whilst prioritising your life’s work, is key in pursuing Jesus, to greater spiritual heights. May God grant you direct access to the grace needed to do this.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 4:11-12

AND THAT YE STUDY TO BE QUIET, AND TO DO YOUR OWN BUSINESS, AND TO WORK WITH YOUR OWN HANDS, AS WE COMMANDED YOU; THAT YE MAY WALK HONESTLY TOWARD THEM THAT ARE WITHOUT, AND THAT YE MAY HAVE LACK OF NOTHING.



Your Brand



Know the value of your brand and protect it. Satan knows it and wants to destroy it. It is written, “A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, loving favor rather than silver and gold.”

Your brand (name) is almost priceless. The devil tried to destroy Jesus name by false accusations, threats and the like. Jesus knew the brand value and maintained His integrity. Therefore God made His brand the most valuable of all time: At the very mention of that Name demons bow and so will all mankind.

Your name embodies your character: who you are. This is what makes the name of Jesus so powerful. It embodies His person. His name is full of light and resounds in the spiritual world.

Like Jesus, know and protect the value of your brand in the spiritual world. Paul, the apostle, had a brand of power and identification with Jesus. Even the demons said “Jesus I know, Paul I know...” Is your brand name as strong in darkness as was Paul’s?

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 22:1

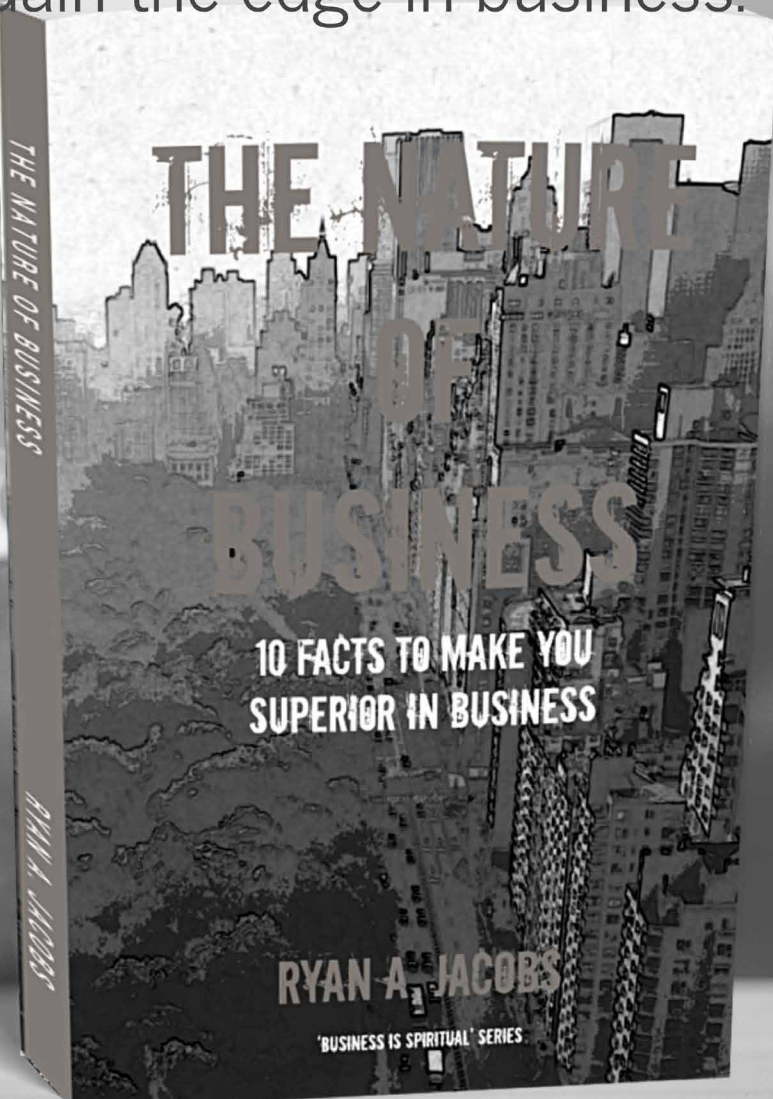
A GOOD NAME IS RATHER TO BE CHOSEN THAN GREAT RICHES, AND LOVING FAVOR RATHER THAN SILVER AND GOLD.

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TODAY



“Gain the edge in business.”



DECIDE

Prayer of Salvation

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

“O Lord God, I come to You in the Name of Jesus Christ. Your Word says, “...whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Acts 2:21).

I ask Jesus Christ, the Son of God, to come into my heart, to be the Lord of my life. I receive eternal life into my spirit. According to the bible in Romans 10:9, “That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved, “I declare that I am now saved; I am born again from above by God’s Spirit; I am a child of the Most High God! I now have Christ dwelling in me! I now walk in the consciousness of my new life in Jesus Christ. Praise the Lord!”

Congratulations! You are now a child of God. To receive more information on how you can grow as a Christian, please contact us:

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Ryan & Debra Jacobs

Ryan is a life strategist, prophetic voice, business consultant and author. He has been mentoring marketplace people in their vocations and careers for decades. Ryan has served at various national and multinational companies for +20 years. He is also known for walking in the demonstration of the power and realms of God. Ryan is the author of 'Predestined From Your Mother's Womb', 'The Nature of Business', 'The Year of Your Life' and 'Career Surge.'

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Ryan and Debra Jacobs are also the Founders and Leaders of The Empowered Church.

They are passionate about Jesus, the revelation of His Person, the manifestation of His Presence, the demonstration of His Power and the Perfection of His Church.

Their mission in life is to change the way generations see and know Jesus.

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