A U G U S T 2 O 2 3

FRESH START Devotionals

PRAYER HOUR







ear friend, "Fresh start" devotional is a transformative resource designed to provide readers with daily inspiration and guidance as they start or continue in their walk with God. The devotional is specifically crafted to help individuals establish a personal connection with the Holy Spirit by providing fresh insights into well-known biblical passages. By actively engaging the devotional, readers will discover renewed hope and a revitalized perspective on their relationship with God.

The "Fresh Start" Bible Devotional focuses on fostering personal growth, maturity, and transformation in readers' life journey. It offers foundational teachings, character formation, personal and transformation growth. It encourages growth, and provides tools for goal setting and progress tracking. It also recommends additional resources for further study. Through this, readers will embark on a purposeful and intentional path of life development, equipping them to grow in their faith, live out biblical principles, and become transformed individuals who reflect the love and grace of God in their daily lives.

Get ready for an awesome moment of refreshing.

HOW TO ENJOY CONSTANT ANSWERS TO PRAYERS



"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways."

(James 1:5 - 8)

Praying according to the Word gets the Father's attention because He only responds to the language of His Word. It is your guarantee to getting results. You can count on it! We need to grow in our understanding of the ways of God and learn to recognize the voice of God when He is speaking to us. This can be through His written Word, through His voice speaking into our spirit, or even through dreams and visions which was Daniel's experience.

Oftentimes, an unanswered prayer is not about God's unwillingness to respond, but with requests made from wrong motives or limited perspectives. When praying, let us keep three things in mind: First, we must make wise requests. When we ask according to God's will, we have confidence that He will answer our requests (1 John 5:14-15).

Second, we should examine our motives. (James 4:3).

Third, we should always trust God's perspective. Man sees glimpses only of the immediate future, but God can see everything at once. He's not slow about answering our petitions, because His timing is perfect (2 Peter 3:8-9)

Never give up on prayer, God is able to do much more than we can ever think or imagine. The secret of enjoying over 1000days of answered prayer on the altar of PPH is because we pray with the scriptures.

Prayer

Father, I thank you because you always hear me when I call. (John 11 vs 42)

Father, I receive manifestation of all I ask for according to your word, in Jesus Name. (Psalm 91:15)

Confession

I decree and declare that I am connected to Christ, because I abide in You and Your Word abides in me. (John 15:4)

I see manifestation of answered prayers. When I declare Your Word it goes forth and fulfils all that it is sent to dp. Hallelujah... Isaiah 55:11



FORGET AND REACH FORTH



¹³ Brethren, I do not count myself to have ^[a] apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, ¹⁴ I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

(Philippians 3:13-14)

Change is the law of life, and those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future. Your future speaks of your potential and possibilities. It speaks of what you have left; untouched, unused, untapped and undiscovered, not what you have lost. This speaks of how far you can still go, but haven't left yet. It also speaks of how much you can accomplish, but haven't accomplished yet. (Isaiah 43:18-19)

Have you experienced some losses, struggles, failures and moral crises in the past? If you want to maximize your potential and move on to the next dimension in life, you must deliberately choose to release the past and press on fully into your pre-ordained purpose, potentials and possibilities in God. One other thing you must also learn to forget is people's opinion about you because their opinions are based on personal observation, prejudice, mindset, orientation and doctrines hence, such may not be a perfect definition or judgment about you. (Jeremiah 29:11)

Only God has a perfect, impartial, and unbiased revelation about you. Never allow what friends, family members, leaders, teachers, or even fellow believers call you to disturb or define you. It may be true that what some people are calling you right now is what you actually did but, that is not who you are designed or destined to become. Refuse to see yourself as other people see you. Begin to see yourself as God sees you. WALK BY DIVINE REVELATION AND NOT BY HUMAN OPINION! (1 Samuel 16:7)

Praver:

Thank you, Lord God, for giving me another opportunity to forget the past and to make me see brighter future full of glory in Jesus name. Amen! Isaiah (43:18-19)

Father, I release the past and embrace the new thing You are doing in my life. Guide my steps as You promise in (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Confession:

My faith is in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior, and I surrender my life to His will, seeking His guidance and strength in every step I take. (Romans 12:1-2)

Daily Bible Reading: Matt. 2



Join Us Online On MONDAYS - FRIDAYS 5:50am W.A.T

⊕ Rev Sam Oye

DEALING WITH SPIRITUAL BARRIERS



For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.

(Mark 11 vs 23)

A barrier is anything built or serving as an obstacle/ limitation, to prevent movement or access. Something like a gate at a car park, a roadblock, fence, blockade, bar, or barricade. In our day to day lives, a barrier could also be a circumstance, challenge, complication or difficulty that restrains or obstructs progress.

God's constant intention is for us to grow. (Proverbs 4:18) and move forward. When Moses asked the children of Israel to stand still, God's instruction was 'Let the people move forward' (Exodus 13:14-15). What a beautiful plan our master has for us. HALLELUJAH! However, it's a different experience for some people. No matter how they try, there is little or no progress. They find themselves stuck in a vicious cycle, moving from one problem to another; one failure to another or just going round the same mountain (Deuteronomy 2:2)

To make reasonable progress, we must overcome the barriers that oppose us "Ephesians 6:12" gives us a clear description of the opposition/adversary. While 2 Corinthians 10:3-4, states the kind of weapons available in our arsenal. In order to prevail, we must be fit, trained and well equipped. Jesus made emphasis on the importance of spiritual food, when he was tempted by Satan: "Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4) Beloved! Barriers can be pushed, jumped over, run through or carried (moved out of the way). Only the word can give you the required fitness to do that. Another way to deal with spiritual barriers can be found in the example of Jericho in front of the children of Israel, as they matched into their inheritance. "Now Jericho was securely shut up because of the children of Israel; none went out, and none came in." (Joshua 6:1). God gave an instruction, they obeyed the letter, the walls fell and they gained access into the city (Joshua 6:20). One major thing to note here when dealing with spiritual barriers is 'Complete obedience to God's instruction' whether it makes sense or not.

Another example is apostle Peter's prison break. "Peter was therefore kept in prison, but CONSTANT prayer was offered to God for him by the church." (Acts 12:5). The outcome was that an angel went to rescue him. When the church prayed, the gates were opened. **Note that prayer was** made consistently. It does not matter the types of barriers we face in our lives, our faith in God can tear down any obstacle.

Father, grant me the strength to stand, on the day of opposition, Isaiah 40:31

My Father, may the obstacle I face make me a better person as I go through the process of victory. 1st Peter 1:7

I declare that I'm seated with Jesus, far above all principalities and power, therefore no power can stand against me. Ephesians 1:20 – 21

I declare that nothing works against me but for me. 2nd Corinthians 13:8

Daily Bible Reading: Matt. 3



Join Us Online On **MONDAYS - FRIDAYS** 5:50am W.A.T

⊕ Rev Sam Oye

I declare, that with God I scale over any obstacle and I run through any opposition in my life. Psalm 18:29



The soul of the sluggard craves and gets nothing, while the soul of the diligent is richly supplied.

(Proverb 13:4)

Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work. God was the first person to record a major breakthrough on earth. He stepped out of the starry ways of the skies, with dreams, visions and great ideas to carry out on the earth. He worked on them for six straight days only to rest for a day. Anyone that truly commits to being a limit breaker should regard this example from God as the "Law of Precedence'. By that we understand that our God is a working God. (Colossians 3:23-24)

Christianity and laziness are two incompatible variables. Let me also declare with every sense of responsibility that Ministry and Christianity is not an escape route from work. Rather, it is the place of ultimate work and there is no room for lazy people in God's vineyard. God rested only when He finished the work, He set out to do. Our God is a working God! Therefore, He could not have given birth to lazy kids. Laziness is a strange spirit from the pit of hell. Everyone who desires greatness in life must put action to his or her desires. (2 Thessalonians 3:10b)

(Proverbs 26:15-16) The lazy man buries his hand in the bowl; It wearies him to bring it back to his mouth. The lazy man is wiser in his own eyes than seven men who can answer sensibly.

- * Buries his hand in the bowl.* The lazy person is likened to a person who sits at a table to eat. Before him is a bowl of food. He puts out his hand to eat the food and keeps their hand buried in the food. This refers to a person who is presented with an opportunity. They take the first step towards the opportunity and get stuck at that first step. Some people report what they have done at a certain point in time. After a year, they would still be where they were a year ago. Year after year, they stay in the same place. Their hands are buried in the bowl.
- * Wearies him to bring it to his mouth. * The passage explains why the lazy person keeps his hand buried in the bowl. The task of bringing the food from the bowl to his or her mouth is too tiresome for the lazy person. This is about people who do not follow through with their work, with the mental rigour and physical action needed to make progress. They want someone else to dig their hands out and place the food in their mouths. When you give them an assignment, they expect you to also perform the
- * Wiser in his own eyes. * The sad thing about the lazy person is that he doesn't recognize that he is lazy. By their own logic, they are hardworking and committed to their work. The passage says 'seven men who can answer sensibly' cannot convince the lazy man that he is lazy. This is the reason why some people stay where they are and never make any progress. They blame everyone else but themselves for their failures.

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, grant me the strength and determination to work diligently and faithfully in all areas of my life, knowing that my efforts are a reflection of my commitment to serving You and fulfilling Your purposes for my life. (Colossians 3:23-24)

Lord, ignite a passion for excellence in all I do, resisting laziness and complacency, and may my actions bring glory to Your name and inspire others to pursue greatness. (Proverbs 13:4)

Confession

I choose to be steadfast in my commitment to excellence, knowing that the desires of the diligent are fully satisfied (Proverbs 13:4)

Daily Bible Reading: Matt. 4



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⊕ Rev Sam Oye





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REDEFINING YOUR SELF IMAGE



By the grace of God I am what I am (1 Corinthians 15:10)

The past is not simply the past, but a prism through which the subject filters his own changing self-image. The fall of man destroyed our self-image and brought into our lives what is now called "identity crises and negative self-image". As the moon draws its light from the sun, even so our positive self-image is drawn from the image of God in us. The fall of man in the Garden of Eden did not just affect our destiny and fellowship with God but also robbed us of His image in us. The unconscious desire to regain this self-image is the reason why the unregenerated man will stop at nothing to get power, money, popularity, or position. (Ephesians 4:22-24)

One of the manifestations of negative self-image is self-rejection – a sense of feeling unworthy and unwanted. This results in rejecting God's love and His purpose for your life, because of the feeling of being undeserving. How do you see yourself? Do you look at yourself through the microscope of your past experiences, pains, or problems? No, if you must look at yourself, use the microscope of God's eternal word (The bible), it is "God's revelation for every situation of yours". If you feel "unworthy" like the prodigal son, don't feel "unwanted", the father's hands are open wide to "remake" you. He is the potter you cannot be shattered beyond His ability to make you new. Decide today to get out of self-rejection.

The answer to self–rejection is self-discovery. (Genesis 1:26-27), You must spend time with God by reading His word to get reintroduced back to yourself. You must be like the moon that draws its light from the sun, draw your confidence from the power of the resurrected Christ who now lives in you by His spirit. With Christ as the basis for your confidence, you now belong to a conquering and winning team. You can now walk tall and bold in the jungle of witches and wizards and fear no harm. You can sleep during the storms of life and walk through the shadow and the valley of death fearing no evil because the great "I AM" is with you.

(Psalm 23:4)

Prayer

Lord, help me see myself through Your eternal Word, not my past and empower me to embrace the positive self-image drawn from being made in Your image (Ephesians 4:22-24).

"Heavenly Father, I reject self-rejection and unworthiness, knowing that in Christ, I am a new creation. I draw confidence from the resurrected Christ, fearlessly walking through life's challenges, for You are with me (Psalm 23:4).

Confession

"I declare that my self-image is drawn from the image of God in me. I reject feelings of unworthiness and embrace the truth that in Christ, I am fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14).



HOW TO STAY ON THE CUTTING EDGE

I am a sprouting vine, and the farmer who tends the vine is my father. He cares for the branches connected to me by lifting and propping up the fruitless branches and pruning every fruitful branch to yield a greater harvest. (TPT John 15:1 -2)

Phil Knight, the founder of the Sports Apparel and Athletic Footwear Company, Nike, wrote a memoir titled "Shoe Dog". In his book, he wrote about the unjust treatment he faced from his initial shoe factory partner that resulted in a legal case that Nike won. The journey to win was tumultuous. Phil was close to depression, trying to juggle his business, being a good father and husband. This was tough yet he didn't relent. He kept growing, seeking new avenues to grow the business, and reading bedtime stories to his son; holding everything together as much as possible. Eventually, the case got dismissed, Nike began adjusting to the new normal and subsequently sales improved.If you read this memoir, you would realize that Phil had enough reasons and the ability to quit Nike, yet still lived a fairly decent life. He didn't stop because he had a groundbreaking reason for building the brand, a reason that extended beyond himself; a desire to create impact.

The Bible passage above admonishes us to strive for excellence and be resilient. To have a spirit that is not easily broken, but is patient and fruitful. The fruit here does not imply ginormous feats or record-breaking achievements; it doesn't have to be amazing on the first try. It only needs to be visible, consistent, healthy and amplifying.

To stay on the cutting edge, you need to understand that growth requires pain and during moments of temporal stagnation, at some point, everyone would feel 'stuck', why? The human mind desires to progress and increase, therefore the absence of imagined progress, results in feelings of delay, stagnation and sometimes, resignation on a path we were initially enthusiastic about. While these feelings are valid, it's a recipe for mediocrity. God has given everyone, including you, the ability to be on the cutting-edge, utilizing this ability which requires capacity. This capacity is built through resilience; a process that involves building depth and patiently navigating slow and stagnant periods, by learning and recognising them as opportunities for positive growth. God wants you to grow and growth happens in consistent small changes rather than the mighty ones. These small changes can be painful yet they produce tremendous results. Do a reflect champ, how is that pain you are experiencing building your capacity to handle greater outcomes?

Prayers

Father, help me to learn to trust you wholeheartedly and understand the lessons you are teaching me at every stage in my life. (Jer. 29:11)

Father, give me the willpower to go through the process of expanding my capacity for the amazing things you have in store for me. (Isa 55:8 -9)

Confessions

I walk in accordance with God's design in my conversations, relationships and life. I am constantly improving and striving for excellence in every season of my life.

Daily Bible Reading: Matt. 6



Join Us Online On **MONDAYS - FRIDAYS** 5:50am W.A.T

⊕ Rev Sam Oye

What is wrong with my faith and prayer?

For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as preached unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it. For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. (Hebrews 4:2-3)

Do you feel that God does not love you? Do you feel like you are doing all that you should, but your prayer seems not to be answered by God? Do you feel like you are God's less favorite or God doesn't like you? If you have any of these thoughts you need to stop because you are stopping good things from happening to you. Put your hand on your chest and say "my God is good and kind to me"! Don't use your physical circumstances to interpret God's love, you will always be on the wrong side of life. As you grow, you will understand the wisdom of God. God is constant, he doesn't do bad today and then good tomorrow. (James 1:17). You have enough faith to get all that your heart desires and move to the next level. Faith is a perfect gift from God. (Ephesians 2:8). You have the same faith as Jesus Christ who raised Lazarus from the dead. (Galatians 2:20)

Faith always works! (1 John 5:4). Your faith overcomes infertility, your faith overcomes delay, your faith overcomes poverty, and limitation. Your faith is the God kind of faith. There's nothing wrong with your faith, and there's nothing wrong with God, but how about your prayers? Wrong belief can affect the way you pray, it will bring wrong thinking and wrong thinking will bring wrong prayers. (James 4:3). If your beliefs are negative, your prayer will also be negative because everything rests on your belief. All things are possible to all who believe. Your belief is a container of how much God can do in your life. Mark 9:23

What you believe determines what happens to you, not what you desire. The Bible says that the expectation of the righteous shall not be cut short. Your believe system is very powerful because your daily life acts out what you believe in. And as you go through your stages in life, you will begin to drop what you don't believe bit by bit. No matter what you desire, your belief drags you anywhere. What your belief does is that you begin to work in your current state but, as though the future is a reality - this is faith.

God can change the way you see things and cause you to believe the way he did for Abraham. That is why we write letter of congratulations; as you are writing and reading it, something will be happening to your belief system. This is why we always confess positively saying "I have" or "I am" When you keep doing this, your belief capacity begins to enlarge.

Father, thank you for Faith to move mountains and change unfavourable situations in my life. (Mark 11:22 – 23)

Father, I thank you for the overcoming faith. Nothing I face will overcome me. (1st John 5:4)

Confessions

I activate the grace of uncertain riches and abundance. All things are at my disposal for my benefit. (1st Timothy 6:17)

Join Us Online On **MONDAYS - FRIDAYS**

Daily Bible Reading: Matt. 7

5:50am W.A.T **⊕** Rev Sam Oye

I declare that my strength will not faint in the days of adversity. (Ephesians 3:1)

HOW TO CHANGE YOUR OUTCOME BY FAITH PRAYER HOUR

For verily I say unto you, that whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

(Mark 11:23)

The entire Christian life is a Faith-based life from the very beginning of it, spanning every and any stage you find yourself in.

You need faith to accept Jesus Christ into your life as the Son of God and that He died and resurrected from death for the remission of our sins. This singular beginner's faith journey assures your victory over the world as we get to see in 1 John 5:4 for example. This step alone translates one from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light-outcomes changed immediately.

From the paragraph above, we can posit that every outcome in our lives can be altered for the better through faith. A key pain point for the modernday Christian is the puzzling reality of how, despite the claims and confessions of faith made, they continue to wallow in the crippling situation they find themselves. Fundamentally, there is a disconnection between what is being believed and what is being confessed, hence the dissonance.

In the kingdom we belong, Faith is our neverfailing currency to purchase our entry into our desired promises at any stage of our lives. **In Hebrews 11:1**, faith literally was denoted as a "title deed" which means evidence that you have already paid for something yet to arrive in the sense realm. The way to change unfavourable situations is to first search out what God's word says in that situation, meditate on it until light comes, then begin to confess the word and superimpose on the negative situation, what you want to see. Believe that you have received it in thanksgiving, and you will turn that situation around in Jesus' name. Philippians 4:6 assures us of this. In verse 7 of Philippians 4, we clearly see that we need to come to the place of prayer without fear and anxiety. Satan will throw negative evidence in the physical realm at you to test your faith but remember that God also spoke light to come out right amid darkness in the beginning. Act like God and obtain your reward. Notice that God did not dwell on the darkness but spoke what He wanted during the chaos.

In conclusion, some situations will require prayers and fasting and faith to change them as you see in **Mark 9:29.** Build your faith through the infallible Word of God, pray, fast, and declare what you want and that negative issue in business, health, career, politics, education e.t.c will be turned to the outcome you desire to see today.

Praver

My Father, I receive all that you have for me by unyielding faith in your Word. 2nd Peter 1:3

My Father, none of your promises will go unfulfilled in my life, because of my faith in your Word. **2nd Corinthians 1:20**

Confession

I receive my divine inheritance through faith in God's Word. Acts 20:32

I declare that every obstacle standing in the way of my desires I conquer through faith in God. Romans 8:37

Daily Bible Reading: Matt. 8



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SWITCH FROM INTENTIONS TO ACTIONS





...whatever he doeth shall prosper (Psalm 1:3)

Quit observing the wind, start adjusting the sail. Nobody celebrates your intentions. Intentions are what you know and hope to do. But everyone stands in honor to celebrate the outcome of your actions.

Actions are the steps you carry out, aimed at actualizing your intentions. No man steps beyond the limits by just wishing but by action. "Whatever he doeth shall prosper" God promised to bless "the work of our hands", not just the talk of our lips. Therefore, it is what you do with what you know that God blesses, not just what you know.

Prolonged idleness can destroy your potentials and paralyse your initiatives. Your impact is not measured by what you believe about yourself or about your future, it is measured by what you have done or what you are doing to affect people's lives positively. Imagination without action leads to frustration, planning without action leads to stagnation. A Lazy man will always use the "wind" as an excuse for not going to work whereas a diligent man will use going to work as an excuse to defy the "wind". Turn your challenges into useful opportunities.

Intentions are great when they inspire and motivate you to take positive actions to better yourself, or the condition of your team, family, etc. But when it comes to realizing those intentions, the brief moments of motivation aren't always enough to spur any real action and change.

Prayer

Father, help me to switch from intentions to actions, knowing that whatever I do with what I know shall prosper. Guide me to be diligent and turn challenges into opportunities, understanding that my impact is measured by my actions to positively affect lives (Proverbs 14:23).

Lord, grant me the courage to adjust my sails and take action, not just relying on intentions but earnestly working to fulfill your good purpose (Psalm 90:17).

Help me to be diligent and proactive, understanding that it is the work of my hands t hat You bless and bring prosperity (Psalm 1:3).

Confession

I confess that I will no longer be content with intentions alone but will take purposeful actions to fulfill God's plans for my life. As I diligently work with His guidance, I trust in His promise that 'whatever I do shall prosper' (Psalm 1:3).



OVERCOMING LIMITING BELIEFS & MINDSETS



Jesus said, take away the stones. Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto him, Lord, by this time he stinketh: for he has been dead for four days.

(John 11:39)

Limiting beliefs are thoughts, convictions, or opinions that we believe to be absolute truths that hold us back in some shape or form. As a result, they prevent us from growing, achieving our goals, taking risks or new opportunities, or becoming the people we want to be or that God wants us to be. In (**John 11v39**), the story there shows how the people couldn't see the miraculous because of the "stone", the stone here being the limiting mindset. The stone had to be moved for the power of God to manifest. Our mindset can either be a conductor of God's power or an insulator of God's power. The bible in the book of chronicles, tells the story of people who had beliefs and mindsets that stopped them from seeing the miraculous. When our mindset aligns with God, great things happen!

The first step to overcoming limiting beliefs is to identify what those beliefs are and deliberately as well as consciously working towards changing it. The beliefs can be cultural in nature; some can be based on your past experiences in life; others can be unhealthy thoughts picked up on social media, or even inspired by the people around you.

Once they have been identified, you need to then start confessing what God's word says about you and those situations. For example, if you find yourself constantly thinking that you are limited because of your life experiences or background, you can start confessing that "you are the head and not the tail" (Job 22:29) and that the favor of God encompasses you like a shield (Psalms 5:12), therefore you are preferred by all.

The Bible speaks of the renewal of our mind and that's the way we begin to replace limiting beliefs and mindset with that of God's word. Our thoughts get elevated, align with that of God's and the action steps that would bring about the miracle we want is downloaded into our spirit and ultimately there is a performance.

Pravei

Father, help me take away every form of limiting belief that has hindered me from seeing your glory. (Mark 9:24)

Father, I receive grace to stand strong in all circumstances and not to wavier. (Jude 1:20)

Confessions

I declare that that I am getting stronger in faith every single day. (Romans 4:20)

PRAYER HOUR

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Daily Bible Reading: Matt. 10

⊕ Rev Sam Oye

Work IT!!



For the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was no man to till the ground;
(Genesis 2:5)

Never allow a person tell you no, who doesn't have the power to say yes. It is indeed true that this simple word "WORK" is capable of turning a mediocre mind into an excellent one and an excellent mind into a brilliant mind. It will also turn a brilliant person into a steadfast person. It can open doors for you and cause men to roll out the red carpet for you. It does not only give you, but makes you a success. (Colossians 3:23)

Reflect upon these words, "On the sands of hesitation, lay the bones of countless millions, who at the dawn of victory sat down to wait, and in waiting died!" Procrastination is one of the greatest obstacles to a productive life. Even after you have achieved so much and succeeded in life, you must never stop working on new ideas, fresh dreams and new visions. But if you think there's nothing more to work on, why not work on dying well?

You'll never have the second opportunity to appear here on planet Earth to fulfill your present life's assignment or opportunity. Therefore, determine to die empty by living a maximized life. Determine to squeeze out the last potential out of you while you still live. Comfort is the greatest enemy to progress! (Ecclesiastes 9:10)

Prayer

Heavenly Father, grant me the determination and strength to work diligently on the tasks You have set before me, knowing that my efforts will bear fruit with Your blessings (Genesis 2:5)."

"Lord, help me overcome procrastination and the fear of rejection, and empower me to work tirelessly towards excellence and fulfilling Your purpose for my life (Genesis 2:5).

Confession

I confess that I will diligently and passionately work on fulfilling my life's assignments and maximizing my potential, remembering that comfort is the enemy of progress (Ecclesiastes 9:10). I will embrace the opportunities before me, leaving no potential untapped, and trusting in God's guidance and blessings as I pursue excellence in all I do.







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(WEB) For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: "If anyone will not work, don't let him eat."
(2 Thessalonians 3:10)

When Christians have financial troubles, they tend to take the anger out on God because they have not learnt to take responsibility. Today's devotional will show you from the bible, practical steps to taking responsibility for your finances.

Money is the reward for value. According to our text today, the Bible teaches that an entitlement mindset that looks for money without work is a sinful lifestyle. Christians tend to stand on one leg as regards their finances. Finance has the spiritual leg and the natural leg. The spiritual leg consists of your prayers, confessions, tithing and giving. This is however not the full picture. Remember in the bible, God promises to give power (ability) to get wealth not to give wealth (**Duet 8:18**). This power comes in the form of ideas, concepts, wisdom, and relationships. The second leg is the natural leg. It involves putting this enablement of God into action. God is glorified when we apply our gifts and talents in the marketplace.

From **2 Kings 4**, we can diagnose the reason Christians struggle in their finances. In the first verse, we see that the widow felt that by the virtue of her husband being a man of God, they should not be poor. This widow was entitled.

In verse 2, we see that she had no clarity about what she wanted. She did not give an answer to the prophet's question asking what she wanted. Lack of financial goals or plans put Christians into lack. She lacked vision (Prov 29:18). Visions not made plain are only wishes (Hab 2:2). The second thing we see from verse 2 is that she had a scarcity mentality. Scarcity mentality focuses on what is not available, how the environment is not conducive, or how people are unwilling to help. As people focus on scarcity, they attract scarcity. This focus transforms into confession and they begin to manifest. This scarcity mentality also limited her from seeing the value of the relationships (neighbours) around her. It took the prophet to point it out to her.

To increase income, you need to recognise problems and solve them. Widen your scope, add tentacles of solutions to the industry you are currently serving. Don't just flip properties as is. Take it further, furnish them, it will increase the value thereby making more profit.

Explore the relationships you have within the body of Christ. Yes, you have heard it being said that Christians are the hardest people to do business with. You can change the narrative by changing the focus and confession.

Join a small group where you can develop professional relationships, be open, expect to get ideas and inspirations. Your prophet is pointing out here a vital relationship in your life to take advantage of for financial increase.

Praver

My finances overflow with increase and abundance in Jesus name. I am favored by men. My labor is financially fruitful. This week, I receive amazing financial rewards for my labor in Jesus' name. Money is attracted to me and comes to me from all sides.

The Favor of God is on me, men are bringing blessings to me. I decree that financial doors of increase and abundance open to me in Jesus' name (Isa 45:1)

Confessions

I receive ideas and inspiration for riches in the name of Jesus. I receive the power to make wealth. I receive insights needed for wealth creation. (Deut. 8:18). I have financial intelligence to manage my finances well in Jesus' name.





And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and feet with grave clothes: and his face was bound about with napkin. Jesus said unto them, LOOSE him AND LET him GO.

(John 11:44)

Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is a gift of God, which is why we call it the present. I find this interesting. Although Lazarus was restored to life, the grave clothes and napkins which were used to bind him would not let him enjoy his new life. Jesus had to loose him and let him go.

Friend, this book in your hand is aimed at turning you loose from all of the grave clothes and napkins that will not want to let you enjoy the great and beautiful life that God has pre-ordained for you. Do you still feel bound by the grave clothes and napkins of your past mistakes, experiences or defeats? Then, this is for you I am glad to let you know that God has seen your personal struggles and inner battles and will use this book to remove such grave clothes and napkins so that you can experience a fulfilling and peaceful future.

Salvation is not a magical approach to solving all of life's problems. However, it is a sure foundation for a progressive and fulfilling life. It guarantees you a glorious future. The grave clothes and napkins that were used to bind Lazarus did not disappear immediately after he was restored to life; they were loosed and removed from him afterwards. He was not just delivered, he was also made free. You see, like Lazarus, you need to recognize that salvation brings you back to life. But, the grave clothes and napkins that bind you and came with you from the past must be removed by your conscious and continuous commitment to the word of God . "Grave cloths and napkins" are symbolic of those pictures, memories and images that obstruct or keep you from seeing the opportunities and possibilities that God creates around you.

Prayer

Dear Lord, just as You loosed Lazarus from his grave clothes and set him free, I pray that You would release me from the bonds of my past mistakes and experiences, so I can fully embrace the beautiful life You have pre-ordained for me (John 11:44).

Heavenly Father, I commit to Your Word and seek to remove the grave clothes and napkins of my past that hinder me from seeing the opportunities and possibilities You create around me. Help me walk in the freedom and fulfilment that salvation brings (Isaiah 43:18-19)

Confession

By God's grace and Word, I am free from my past mistakes, experiences, and defeats. I embrace the beautiful life God has planned for me, walking in freedom and fulfilment, seeing His opportunities and possibilities. (Psalm 32:8)



EFFECTIVE PRAYER



Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him. Fear the Lord, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing. The lions may grow weak and hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

(Psalm 34:8-10)

There is a lot to learn about this topic and a lot to unlearn, and one of the basic assumptions is that all prayers get results.

Many people prayed throughout the Bible, yet many of them did not have their prayers answered. The reasons could be wide because there are principles that guide prayers.

What is Prayer?

Prayer is word-based, you read the word to establish what God has done it. There are also moments when intense doubt prevents your prayers from being answered.

Why doesn't prayer work?

Thought pattern: Most people have mastered the religious acts of prayer i.e., praying to feel good or expressing your pain and it's not an active release of power. The heart is disconnected from the prayer. (Mathew 15:8)

You need to know what the will of God is: Every time you approach God and if you are not sure or certain if He'll do it or not you'll not receive. The problem with your prayer is that, you are not convinced God will do it for you. (Hebrews 11:6)

How to know God is willing:

Go to His word and allow His word speak to you on a personal level. Break up the fallow ground – your heart i.e. the thoughts, the mentality that is dry. (Hosea 10:12) See also: Psalm 51:17; Job 11:13

How to make your prayer powerful: You need to put in the work before you pray. Before you pray, you need to know what the will of God is. That God is willing to do this for me. (Psalm 34:8-10) Go to the word and find these scriptures. Put your heart in God's word by confessing it, and thinking about it, i.e., see yourself in your testimony.

One of the major hindrances to prayer is praying from a place of no confidence. (1st John 5:14). The posture of answered prayer is the posture of confidence in God's word.

Prayer

Father, help me to pray from a place of confidence knowing that You're willing and able to do that which you have promised. Hebrews 11:6

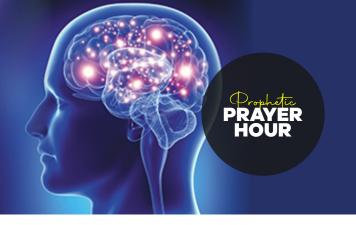
My Father, My Father, I am so grateful that you hear me and you delight in granting me speedy response to my prayers according to your word. Isaiah 65:24

Confessions

Father, I thank you because you are willing. You are able to do exceedingly, and abundantly and have made provisions for my goals. Ephesians 3:20



ENGAGE YOUR MIND



Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

(1 Peter 1:13)ESV

Anyone who engages the mind in productive thinking will not only be on top but over the top. The greatest offence you can ever commit against your own destiny and future generations is the refusal to engage your mind in productive thoughts.

The use of that Power-house within you (your mind) determines your ultimate worth in life. Your mind must not be a "cemetery" of ideas but a "delivery room". Look around you; there is a problem you can solve or a service you can render. This is the key to personal greatness. You have within you what it takes to stand out and flourish anywhere in the world. You should stop looking abroad for help when you can actually draw from within you, limitless breakthrough ideas.

More gems can be mined from the minds of men than from the depths of the earth. If only you would look within you to **discover**, **develop and deploy** the untapped potentials within your mind. Your mind can work wonders! All you need is just one sound idea and you can rise to the next dimension in life. God has done his part; you must do yours!

Prayer

Dear Lord, help me to engage my mind in productive thinking and set my hope fully on Your grace and revelation in my life (1 Peter 1:13).

Guide me to use the Power-house within me(my mind), to solve problems, serve others, and achieve personal greatness. Heavenly Father, I pray for the wisdom to discover, develop, and deploy the untapped potentials within my mind. May I be receptive to the sound ideas You inspire within me, rising to new dimensions in life (James 1:5)

Confession

I will prepare my mind for action and set my hope fully on God's grace and revelation. My mind is a powerhouse capable of generating limitless breakthrough ideas, and I will engage in productive thinking to achieve personal greatness (Philippians 4:13)."







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Wise people are builders — they build families, businesses, communities. And through intelligence and insight their enterprises are established and endure. Because of their skilled leadership, the hearts of people are filled with the treasures of wisdom and the pleasures of spiritual wealth.

(Proverbs 24:3-4 TPT)

A growth plan is a blueprint or a strategy about the goals you have set for yourself and how you aim to achieve them. As a believer, you cannot succeed without God in your plan and without a plan, you are going nowhere.

As God's people we ought to expect growth as a normal part of the Christian life, we see this in the book of **Acts 6:**).

This growth should not be accidental but intentional and will take prayer, work and time.

In Genesis as God was working on creation, when it was time to make man, He said "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth" **Genesis 1:26.** This sentence depicts planning, a strategy on what He expects man to look like and what man oughts to achieve. Jesus speaking said, "for which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost" **Luke 14:28**. This verse shows that developing a growth plan is important to every believer, we know and believe God to be a God of process. A plan is all about following processes and steps that have been mapped out.

John 15:2 tells us how much God is invested in our growth, so much so that He grooms and prunes us regularly. He does not want you to be the same person you have always been for years. You have to make spiritual progress and advance each day of your life. You need to live an ever increasing and improving life. Determine that from today, you will develop a growth plan and follow it through.

There are three cardinal principles we must remember in developing a plan:

- 1. Do it right: this involves setting goals, adopting strategies and evaluating progress.
- 2. Targeting the individual need.
- 3. Paying the price: Submission, service and sacrifice

Prayer

My Father My Father, help me identify wise counsel and shun foolish counsel, in Jesus name. (Proverbs 15:22)

My Father My Father, as I develop my plans, establish them by your mercy in Jesus name. (Proverbs 16:9)

Confessions

As I grow, I move from one brighter level of glory to another. (2 Cor 3:18)

Daily Bible Reading: Matt. 16



Join Us Online On MONDAYS - FRIDAYS 5:50am W.A.T

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No matter the circumstance, I do not give up, I press on to achieve my set goals. (Phil 3:14)

CRAFTING A VISION STATEMENT 1



Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he. (Proverbs 29 vs 18)

Many professionals use personal vision statements to support their career plans. Personal vision statements can keep you focused on long-term goals and help you set realistic short-term goals. They are also useful when pursuing job opportunities and leadership roles.

Today, we will discuss what a personal vision statement is, explain how to write an effective vision statement and review examples to guide you in creating your own.

What is a personal vision statement?

A personal vision statement is a brief summary of your ultimate career goal and key attributes. You may also see such statements referred to as "career mission statements" or "career vision statements."

The vision statement typically communicates your goal in 30 to 40 words. That goal could be anything from becoming a top engineer to becoming the first female CEO of a particular company. Developing a clear career statement can help establish a path toward a final goal that helps you navigate career challenges, changes in the job market and professional success.

Components of a personal vision statement

- Short- and long-term goals: One of the key components of a personal vision statement is your short and long-term goals. Long-term goals relate to your overall professional development, while your short-term goals can serve as steps that help you get there.
- · Values: Knowing your personal values and principles may help you determine how to achieve your goal. Values might include honesty, creativity, loyalty, open-mindedness or community.
- · **Interests**: Adding your interests or passions to your personal statement can help remind you about the reasons behind your goals. For example, your passion for helping others might inspire you to set a long-term goal of becoming a firefighter or nonprofit director.
- **Skills**: Include your skills in your personal vision statement to help evaluate what your strengths are and what abilities you might want to work on.
- **Difference you hope to make**: Consider ultimately the value that you want to bring to your client, community or even the world. Share this in your personal statement to help convey to others what motivates you to pursue your goals.

Prayer

Dear Lord, grant me clarity of vision for my career and life goals, aligning them with Your purpose for me as I set both short and long-term objectives (Proverbs 29:18)."

Heavenly Father, as I craft my personal vision statement, fill me with Your wisdom to create a clear and impactful statement that motivates and guides me toward my ultimate career goal (Proverbs 29:18, James 1:5)

Declaratio

I am guided by a clear vision for my career and life, reflecting my values, interests, skills, and the impact I aim to make in the world (Proverbs 29:18). With God's guidance, I set achievable short-term goals leading me towards my long-term objectives, bringing joy and fulfillment in my journey (Philippians 4:13)."



HOW TO WRITE A PERSONAL VISION STATEMENT



And the LORD answered me: "Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it" (Habakuk 2:2)

These steps can guide you through the process of writing a personal vision statement:

1. Identify your strengths (1 Peter 4:10)

Knowing your strengths and how to apply them make you a more desirable job candidate. Perhaps your math skills have always stood out, enabling you to work out complex calculations in a matter of seconds. It could be you're extremely organized, whether in managing other people or planning a major

Here are some steps to help you identify your strengths:

·List your skills: Write down the things you're good at, whether it's a school subject, practical activity or soft skill, like teamwork. You can also choose skills that represent your passions and the activities you enjoy to determine options you may not have considered before.

·Identify your marketable skills: Narrow down your strengths to the ones most important to the job market and the field you are interested in. Come up with three to five strengths, some of which may complement each other.

·Make positive declarations of your abilities: View your skills as ways to make improvements in your future role. When it comes to using your statement to advance your career, approach the job market with positivity and confidence in order to convince potential employers that you're the best candidate for the job.

2. Reflect on your values (Colossians 3:23-24)

Your values are linked to your attitude and professional approach. Determining your core values is a key step in developing your career vision statement. Working toward a long-term goal is easier if you really believe in its purpose.

Another key stage in developing your vision statement is to decide how your personal abilities and beliefs can solve problems. Identify what potential issues you may encounter in your career and determine how your skills and attributes make a positive impact..

The following questions can guide you as you try to identify your core values:

- Is it important that your work gives back to society?
- Do you prioritize work-life balance?
- Are you motivated by inspiring others?
- Do you believe in taking responsibility for your own actions?

3. **Get a different point of view (Proverbs 15:22)**To gain a wider perspective of your values, consider the following:
-Ask those who know you best: Close friends or family members can identify what they think your values are. Since you interact with them on a regular basis, they can tell what they believe matters to you, what drives you and what makes you happy. Take an online values test: These tests provide you with information about your personality and beliefs, both of which can help determine your values. Answer the questions as honestly as you can, and the results can show you what it is you truly value.

If your values counter your established goals, consider altering your goal to one that is related to, but still maintains, your core values. Once you're clear about your own values, you may be in a better position to decide on an appropriate career goal. 4. Evaluate your skills (Habakkuk

Take some time to think about your answers to these questions:

What issues are you passionate about?

Are there issues that your personal strengths are particularly well-suited to tackling? Are there certain issues, like human rights or financial regulation, that fit well with your core values?

By answering these questions, you can develop a shortlist of potential areas of work that interest you. In the next stage, you can work on narrowing them down to decide on a specific career.

decide on a specific career.

5. **Select your desired position (Proverbs 16:3)**After determining how your skills impact real-world problems, find a career path that aligns with your goals. Follow these steps to help you narrow down your options:

·Choose your field. Select the field you want to work in, such as medicine, finance or law. At this stage, try to simply narrow your focus to a broad field of jobs. ·Pick the role. Decide on the job you ideally want to have in the field, such as a doctor, bank manager or lawyer. Select a job you can realistically achieve within the medium-term, such as the next four to six years, so you can have a goal with a greater motivational impact on your day-to-day work.

Set role-specific goals. Write down some of the things you hope to accomplish in the role. This step may be asking yourself the question, "why do I want this particular job?

You most likely will not do this in one sitting or get them perfect the first time. Revising your goals and personal vision statement is natural, but it's best to start one so you can see what's working and what's not. Once you've got this information together, write your career vision statement and put it into action.

6. Write your vision statement (Isaiah 30:21)

Aim to keep the statement concise while giving enough detail to make it unique. The statement can be written in two sentences, which helps keep it brief and to the point. Here's a sentence-by-sentence breakdown to make the most of this short, concise statement:

·First sentence: Simply state the field you want to work in or the specific job you want to have. For instance, you may write that you want to be an insurance broker for a large insurance company or a mechanical engineer at a top company.

·Second sentence: Explain your reason for setting the career goal in your first sentence. Perhaps you want to make improvements to how insurance policies are sold to young people or develop new technology for the oil sector.

When you're finished, review your completed statement. Ideally, your personal vision statement can now clearly point to your career goal and say why you want to get there. If it needs more specificity or clarity, revise it until the two sentences clearly explain what you want to achieve in your career and why.

Heavenly Father, reveal and strengthen my unique strengths and skills, showing me how to apply them to serve others and glorify Your name (1 Peter 4:10).

Give me confidence in my abilities as I approach the job market, knowing that I make a positive impact in my future role." $\,$

Lord, help me identify and align my core values with Your purpose for my life and career (Colossians 3:23-24).

Guide me in working towards long-term goals that reflect my values, and grant me the motivation and determination to achieve them."

Confession: I confess that God has given me unique strengths and skills to serve others as a faithful steward of His grace (1 Peter 4:10).

As I work diligently, I do so with all my heart, knowing I serve the Lord Christ and can make a positive impact in my career (Colossians 3:23–24)."







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THE CHRISTIAN AND THE WORD OF GOD



Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needed not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

(2 Timothy 2:15) (KJV).

Be intentional about studying the bible, and your spiritual life will take off. If there is anything you should not leave to chance for the sake of your spiritual well-being, it is the quantity and quality of time spent digging the scriptures. In a world where everything seems to be fast and rising, many Christians have left the studying of their bible to chance, to Sunday or weekly service. Christians like that would only end up becoming spiritually malnourished. To study your bible effectively is to obey a biblical commandment, and to do otherwise because of whatsoever excuse is to disobey that command. Just as you need physical food on a daily basis to sustain the flesh, a Christian needs enough of the word of God to sustain the spirit daily.

Do you know that no matter how busy a man gets during the day, he still finds time to eat? Why? Because the body needs the food to continue. Such is the place of studying God's word daily to keep our spirit man alert and to hear from God. Thy words were found, and I did eat them (Jer. 15:16a). You must realize that it takes a hunger for God's word, not just sermons, for a man to be able to come to a place of studying the bible effectively. You must desire to know the mind of God directly. What is God's perspective on issues of life? The bible offers every detail of it. The hunger for God's word will make studying the word not a boring and ritualistic exercise as a Christian, but an avenue to hear God speak to you directly. If you are finding it hard to settle and find time for your bible, pray to God to increase your hunger for His word. This is only for those that sincerely want to improve in their bible study life. The psalmist says a broken and a contrite heart the Lord will not despise (Psalm 51:17). 119:11).

And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind; that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God (Romans 12:2).

When you study your bible, your mind gets renewed which breeds transformation into more of Christ's stature. Be encouraged to set out a time daily on God's word, preferably during the early hours of the day or at night, please don't confuse this with morning devotion. It can be incorporated into morning devotion, but it must involve the whole of your heart, with the bible like a student to his books. You can get a journal and a pen to note down bible scriptures. Write out striking scriptures, lessons and directions received from studying the bible. You can assist your study with bible study outlines or guides from church. Remember it is bible study, not bible reading. Studying will involve comparing scriptures, memorizing scriptures, understanding scriptures and resolving to apply the lessons learnt to one's life which is the major essence of studying. The word of God is quick and sharper than any two-edged sword, it reveals itself to you like a man beholds a mirror. It is your sword against the devil. Remember how Jesus defeated the temptation from Satan? He didn't negotiate, he gave the devil scriptures and that was all (Matt. 4:1-11). Don't be without a Word when you face temptation from the devil. But how will you offer what you haven't filled yourself with? Your word have I hid in my heart that I shall not sin against thee (Psalm 119:11).

Prayer

Father, help me to overcome laziness and procrastination that keeps me away from studying my bible in Jesus name. Amen. Eph 3:16

Father, Increase my hunger and desire for your Word in my life in Jesus name. Jer 29:13

Confessions

I am empowered to daily spend time with God's word. Isaiah 40:31 I declare that the word of God is sweeter to my taste. Psalms 119:103



HUNGER FOR THE WORLD VALUE AND A SECURITY AND A SE

But Jesus told him, No! For the Scriptures tell us that bread won't feed men's souls: obedience to every word of God is what we need.

(Matthew 4:4 TLB)

Have you ever woken up at night and felt hungry, not for food, because after a bite or two you realize you were not really hungry? This experience is proof that "bread won't feed men's souls: obedience to every word of God is what we need" (Matthew 4:4 TLB). This scripture highlights the importance of studying our bibles. The Word is the true sustainer of life. The word of God is food for your spirit, which is who you really are, your true self. Just as we get hungry for food, we should be hungry for the word of God.

One of the key things to realize is that hunger is a proof of life. A person who is sick loses appetite, but one who is hale and hearty feeds for strength. In the same vein, one of the ways we can get spiritually strengthened is eating the word. Just as no one can develop without eating, you also cannot grow spiritually without eating the bread of God's word.

In the passage above, Jesus was tempted three times and, in all cases, He overcame with the word He knew. This tells us it is not enough to read the bible without committing the Word to heart. Having the word of God helps us overcome the devil and his plans (sin or challenges) (Psalm 119:11), and it also opens us up to the spiritual nutrients that is needed for our overall growth. We can only have the word in us if we are hungry for it, study it and allow the word become flesh in us.

Further Reading: Matthew 1:1-11

Prayer points:

Father, help me be disciplined to study your word and let your word dwell richly in me. Colossians 3:16

Father, teach me your word and open my eyes to see the depth of your love towards me. Psalms 119:18

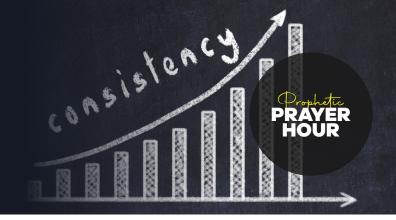
Confessions:

I study and obey the word of God daily. Joshua 1:8

The word of God is my reality. Hebrews 11:3



THE POWER OF CONSISTENCY



Ask and keep on asking and it will be given to you; seek and keep on seeking and you will find; knock and keep on knocking and the door will be opened to you.

For everyone who keeps on asking receives, and he who keeps on seeking finds, and to him who keeps on knocking, it will be opened."

(Matthew 7:7-8)

Sometimes, the difference between failure and success is very small. Just a little consistency at what works could erase a failure and bring it into success. You must know that 'almost' is still failure. There are students who studied for an exam for an hour and the only chapter of book they didn't read is where the exam questions came from. It's the result that makes your work justifiable. When you work and the result is still failure, then you played but when the result is success, then you actually worked. If you're going to grow, you have to be consistent, so no resting until you see result. Galatians 6:9

The Bible says when we keep on asking, we would receive. Matthew 7:8

Persistence and consistence produce results and increase the frequency of answers. In order to constantly see results, we must be willing to pay the price through prayers. Some people pray for two minutes then give up on God. We must learn to patiently wait on God's manifestation without giving Him any deadline. **Colossians 4:2**

Expectation and confession must be in alignment in the place of prayers and that is why we must continuously declare what we want. I persistently prayed to God years ago about having a daughter. My testimony is that I now have my daughter but after she was born, I did not keep asking God for a child anymore because I didn't want more children. If I was consistent with my request, perhaps I would've had more children. Consistency is persistent determination. It is the ability to keep talking to God until you get your desired result. The reason people face the issue of unanswered prayers is because they do not hold on for a long time, they give up too soon. Mark 11:2)

The persistent, fervent prayer of a righteous man/woman is powerful. **James 5:16** Wait in the presence of the Lord until your change comes.

Job 14:1) says, "If a man dies, shall he live again? All the days of my hard service I will wait, till my change comes."

Prayer points

Dear Lord, grant me the perseverance and determination to remain consistent in seeking Your will and trusting in Your timing. Galatians 6:9

Heavenly Father, help me align my expectations and confessions with unwavering faith in prayer. Mark 11:24

Confession

I will persistently seek God's guidance and stay consistent in prayer, trusting that His plans for my life are good and that He will answer my prayers according to His will. I believe that as I align my desires with His Word, I will experience His faithfulness and see His blessings unfold. Psalm 37:4-5

Daily Bible Reading: Matt. 21



Join Us Online On MONDAYS - FRIDAYS 5:50am W.A.T

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POSSIBILITIES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them.

(Acts 5:15)

Most Christians are yet to unravel the limitless possibilities that we have access to as a result of the Holy Spirit living inside of us. The Holy Spirit is the very Spirit of God and He has access to all God has access to; He can do all God can do, and He chooses to dwell within us with all the riches of God's glory.

The challenge is that most times our finiteness and limitations can serve as a barrier to the whole expression of the Holy Spirit inside of us. I once read an inscription that says "It is inconceivable to think that the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead dwells in us only to heal headaches".

The truth is, most times, our limitations and immediate environment, circumstances and needs make us reduce His expression in our lives to healing us of headaches and other mundane things; think of it this way. In a building, the same electricity that flows into a house to power air conditioners and a microwave oven, is the same that can be channeled to boil water with an electric cooker or power a decoder. Also the same electricity from the distribution company is the one that goes on to power a stadium; meaning there's no limit to the power generated and expressed, rather, the limiting factor can be the channel (or the vessel).

In the same vein, the same power of God that is present to cure cancer, is the same that is available to cure a headache, or rest on a business man to make deals worth millions of dollars and even take the whole world for Jesus! The possibilities of the Holy Spirit are limitless; but it's expression can be limited by us – the carriers and the channels.

The Spirit manifests in different ways in order to achieve His purpose on the earth. One of the functions of the Spirit is to confirm the Word of God with signs and wonders.

As you yield to the way of the Spirit in your life, there's no telling how mightily He will use you. Beyond inspiring and blessing you, He can use you to accomplish mighty feats of power in the Spirit. Right in your closet, as you pray in the Holy Ghost, you can touch lives and change things thousands of miles away Hallelujah!

Prayer

Father, thank you for the privilege and blessing it is to enjoy deep, heartfelt, passionate, and intense fellowship with you through the Holy Ghost. John 17:23

Father, give me the grace to constantly yield myself to the leading of the Holy Spirit. Romans $8{:}14$

Confessions

Through this fellowship, I'm divinely transported to higher realms of influence, glory a nd blessings. 1st Corinthians 14:1

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Daily Bible Reading: Matt. 22

I touch lives, transform nations and impact the world with the Gospel, In Jesus' Name. Amen. Isaiah 60:3

"Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, while he himself went on a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die."

(1 Kings 19:3-4)

Life will happen. Situations and circumstances draining our last hope and faith in God can pop up without prior notice. But what do you do during those times? Do you choose to trust God and let Him take full control or you opt tostay down?

Depression is a state/a place you find yourself. There's a sense of helplessness, and it tends to limit your potential, just like Elijah, a powerful prophet who called down fire, at a point isolated himself and called for death because of a threat from Jezebel.

When you're depressed, it's difficult to believe things can get better because it has a way of magnifying what's wrong and leaving no space to see what's right. It changes you, you become irritable and a shadow of yourself.

Some of the signs that you might be in a depressed state are fear, anxiety, helplessness and low self-esteem. You find it difficult to try again. Taking steps to raise funds for business becomes difficult because you've experienced too many rejections. Some other signs are not wanting to apply for jobs any longer because of all the failure experienced thus far. Some run from love and isolate themselves because of past heartbreaks. That's what depression can do. (Job 19:2).

If you're in that state, the first step is to admit it because whatever you cannot admit, you can't change. The same way your physical body can be sick, so also, the soul can be sick, it's called and it should be treated likewise. The same way you get help when you're sick in the body, you should get help, to get healing when you're depressed and not try to conceal it.

Find a community of people who you can talk to, join a small group and share whatever it is you're going through. Do not isolate. Isolation is one of the biggest causes of depression. You cannot be connected to relationships and feel depressed, because the relationships will help pull you up when you're down.

In those low moments, stay grounded. As long as your roots are in the ground, you will bud again. When things happen, they knock you out completely because you don't have roots. To stay grounded, put roots in the word of God. There's something about God's word that soothes the weary and depressed soul. Let the water of God's word fill every dry aspect of your life.

"Even a tree has more hope! If it is cut down, it will sprout again and grow new branches. Though its roots have grown old in the earth and its stump decays, at the scent of water it will bud and sprout again like a new seedling." **Job 14:7-9.**

Prave

O Lord, bring me out of every depression and let your light shine in every darkness in my life. (Psalm 18:28)

Dear Lord, take away every weariness from me and help me stay grounded in your word. (Psalm 40:1-3, Isaiah 41:10)

Confessions

Depression has no hold over my life. (John 8:12 NIV)

The joy of the Lord is my strength (Nehemiah 8:10 NIV)



DEALING WITH DISCOURAGEMENT



And David said to Solomon his son, be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the LORD God, even my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.

(1 Chronicles 28:20) (KJV)

In John 16:33, Jesus tells us, "...In the world, you shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." This is a call to the fact that we'll always go through trials and temptations, it's the nature of this world. But we are assured that we'll overcome and not need to be discouraged because Jesus has overcome.

Many times, we find ourselves stuck and not able to move forward because we've had encounters that left us overwhelmed or didn't meet our expectations. From not getting the job to making a loss in business or not getting the funding, life throws different darts at us.

It's normal to feel down when things don't go well. But can you take a different perspective when you're in that place?

Ask yourselves these 2 key questions:

·What am I learning? You can learn something from what you're going through that's causing discouragement. It is possible to turn a pain experience to a lesson. For example, if you made a loss in your business or had a heartbreak, what did you learn from the experience? Lessons make the pain bearable.

Some people learn the most valuable life lessons from a place of pain. Like David in the bible, most of the powerful revelations he had, came from his downtimes. During these types of periods, your spirit is more sensitive to hearing from God.

Am I judging too soon? Sometimes, you get discouraged about something that eventually changed for your good or did not even matter in the end. You might be discouraged about being single because your friends are married, but you just might be judging too soon. Or your friends got jobs before you, and you get discouraged. You might be judging too soon.

In Genesis 1, there was darkness before God called forth light - it gets worse before it gets better. You started your business a few months ago and you're already discouraged because the growth doesn't meet what you've set. That's judging too soon, as every business needs time to grow and will not grow at the same pace with other business.

You might have challenges in your marriage, finances, business or career and you find yourself judging the future based on what does not exist, you're judging too soon. Judging too soon might cause you to make decisions that you'll regret in future. For example, your friends might be getting married and you're beginning to feel discouraged because you think you're running out of time, then you find yourself jumping into the wrong relationship or marriage which will eventually come crashing down the road.

Make a decision to trust God, learn the lesson and keep your head up during downtimes. Though it tarries; wait for it, it will surely come to pass.

Prayer

Dear Lord, strengthen me, help me and uphold me with thy righteous right hand when I feel discouraged. (James 41:10)

Confessions

Because Jesus has overcome the world, I have overcome. I will not be discouraged. (John 16:33)

I am strong and of good courage, I will not fear or be dismayed because God is with me and he will not fail me. (1 Chronicles 28:20)

Daily Bible Reading: Matt. 24



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TAP THE CAGE

And behold, the dove returned to him in the evening with a freshly plucked olive leaf in her beak. So, Noah knew that the waters had receded from the earth. (*Genesis* 8:11)

Wayre Cordeiro in his book "The Dream releaser", has an amazing story of how he decided to buy a cage containing a little bird in Japan for about 100 Yen. But just while he was about to go, the vendor called him back and made one of the most profound statements I will never forget he said in a Japanese dialect "SUMIMASEN" which implies "Don't forget: bring back the cage when finished!" in confusion Wayne Cordeiro said, "bring back the cage? I am not planning to eat it. It's going to be my new pet. Without a cage, how do you expect me to get it home?" "Oh", replied the vendor, "you no understand. Bird not to take home. You take the bird to the edge and release. So can fly free", reluctantly and out of fear, he took the cage to the nearby valley and "tapped the cage" until the little bird was able to find the exit point and flew out into the skies where it belongs.

Jesus has paid the "vendor" (Satan) the full price for the release of mankind but will require you and I to go around tapping their cages and enforcing their release. Many have their potentials, talents, gifting and calling locked up in the cages of ignorance, deception, tradition and even their profession hence require you and I to help them tap the "cage" until their destinies begin to find expression on the earth. (Proverbs 24:11-12)

Some of these caged abilities are locked up in human beings waiting - your relatives, business partners, professional colleagues and fellow believers in the church. Today, God has brought you in contact with this devotional that you may begin a "cage tapping mission" until that which God has pre-ordained, prepurposed, and pre-fixed them for, begins to find its way out. (Isaiah 42:7)

Heavenly Father, use me to break the cages of ignorance and deception, setting people free to fulfill their destinies (Proverbs 24:11-12).

Lord, grant me wisdom to recognize untapped potential in others and empower them to walk in their God-given purpose (Isaiah 42:7)

Confession

I am an instrument of freedom, breaking the chains of ignorance and deception,

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Daily Bible Reading: Matt. 25

and empowering others to fulfill their destinies (Proverbs 24:11-12).











OVERCOMING THE FEAR OF FAILURE SUCCESS PRAYER HOUR

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

(1 Corinthians 2:9) (KJV)

Our inheritance is fully prepared, paid for by the finished works of Christ and delivered to us. (2 Peter 1:3) One of God's greatest blessings is putting these prepared things in our hearts by the Holy Spirit. God puts these inheritances (ideas) as flash thoughts.

Fear casts shadow over our lives and prevents us from living the full abundant life God intends for us. It limits potential (Judges 6:13); incapacitates and causes bondage (Romans 8:15); fear involves torment (1 John 4:18). Some of the causes of fear are, not believing God is as good as He says He is, not relying on God's wisdom, and trying to understand these God-given ideas before we step out.

How to Overcome Fear

The good news is that God knows about our nature of fear and He, in His grace and mercy, made a way for us.

Seek God (Psalm 34:4) – set your mind and heart on God and His nature. Realize God is with you. He never leaves you nor forsakes you.

Feed faith (Rom 10:17) – Feeding faith starves fear. Faith is fed by hearing the word according to the context of this scripture (Rom 10:14-17). Listen to the proclamation of the word of God to build faith.

Fear the Lord (Proverbs 1:7) – Wisdom is gained through the reverence of the Lord and provides a channel into the mind of Christ. We see God's perspective and can obey quickly.

God's love (1 John 4:18) – The perfect love is the love of God and it casts out ALL fears. Be filled with the love of God. The love of God is shed in our hearts by the Holy Spirit (Rom 5:5).

To overcome fear, we must develop an intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit. We are the sheep of His pasture and His sheep knows His voice, the voice of the stranger it will not heed (John 10:5). Believe this and exercise the righteousness of faith which speaks.

Prayer

Father, I thank you for your continuous presence in my life. Isaiah 41:10

Daily Bible Reading: Matt. 26

Father, every spirit of fear is rendered powerless in my life today and forever. I receive boldness to act on your word. 2 Timothy 1:7

Confessions

The Lord is my Shepherd. I shall not fear for He will defend me. Because the Lord is my shield and exceeding great reward, the spirit of fear is far from me. Gen 15:1



YOU ARE TOP CLASS



Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. (James 1:18)

Observe the beginning of the construction in the opening verse; it says, "Of his own will begat He us...." That means the Lord gave birth to us on His own volition. It was His choice to give birth to us with the Word of truth that we should be a kind or a type of first fruit of His creatures! What's the meaning of first fruits? First fruit means the first and the best of anything; it implies top class. You're top class, excellent all the way, because you're born of God. Halleluiah!

The same truth is reiterated by the apostle Peter in (1 Peter 1:23): "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever." John also referenced the fact that this happened by God's own design; it was His will: "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God" (John 1:12-13). It was His will to make you top-class.

So, live your best and be your best for Him. Keep your mind on the image of you that God has given you in His Word. You're His peculiar treasure, His reproduction, His excellent handiwork, a bundle of success, an achiever, and a victor in Christ Jesus. He made you for glory and beauty. See how He describes you in (Ephesians 2:10 AMPC): "For we are God's [own] handiwork (His workmanship), recreated in Christ Jesus, [born anew] that we may do those good works which God predestined (planned beforehand) for us [following paths which He prepared ahead of time], that we should walk in them [living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live]."

Let this put a spring in your steps. It makes no difference who condemns you; refuse to be distracted by what others might be saying about you. What counts is who you are in Christ: you're top-class; perfected in righteousness, holy, unblameable and unreproveable in God's sight (Colossians 1:22). Glory to His Name forever!

My Father, help me always live in the consciousness of my identity as your excellent handiwork. (James 1:18).

I refuse to be distracted by the opinions of others and stand confidently in my position as your child. (Ephesians 2:10) In Jesus mighty name.

Confession

I confess that I am born of God's own will, a kind of firstfruits of His creatures, and I walk in the fullness of my identity as His top-class, excellent handiwork (James 1:18, Ephesians 2:10).

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Daily Bible Reading: Matt. 27

⊕ Rev Sam Oye

In Christ, I am perfected, holy, unblameable, and unreproveable, bringing glory to His name forever (Colossians 1:22).

RECEIVING SOLUTIONS, CLARITY & DIRECTION THROUGH PRAYERS



"Show me the right path, O Lord; point out the road for me to follow. Lead me by your truth and teach me, for you are the God who saves me. All day long I put my hope in you." (*Proverb* 25:4 - 5)(*NLT*)

Can I begin today by asking you a sincere question?

Who/what do you put your hope in as you navigate through this journey called Life? Who are your board of trustees in every aspect of your life? One thing I know for sure is that we put our hope in what/who we trust. There is no establishment without a board of trustees. A board of trustees is an appointed or elected group of individuals that has overall responsibility for the management of an organization. Did you know that your life is an organization/institution set apart for a specific purpose on earth? Let the Trinity (God the Father, Jesus the Son and the Holy Spirit be the Board of Trustees over your life.

It's safe to seek for clarity or direction from someone who is very familiar with the path to your destination. Everyone on earth has a path they follow and a tour guide is needed to help navigate through this life that has never been lived before. Who else will do a better job of a life tour guide than the person who created you from your mother's womb and has already mapped out the best plans for your life (Jeremiah 1:5), (Psalms 139:13), the Creator of the Universe which is God Almighty?

You can receive solution, clarity and direction from God in these 3 simple ways:

- [a.] Simply ask him-The bible says in James 1:5-6 we should ask for wisdom in prayers. It's that simple, just ask in faith. Open your mouth and ask him for anything and everything, it doesn't matter how wise or foolish it may sound JUST ASK IN FAITH.
- [b.] Listen to what God is saying- Prayer is a 2-way communication not a one-way traffic. God always has something to say but are we positioned to listen or expect answers from him? (Habakkuk 2:1-Easy To Read Version says "I will wait and learn how he answers my questions") God is not a man and there is a "how" to the way he answers our questions.
- [c.] **Do what he says you should do-** I think this is the part that most of us struggle with the most. This is because we don't have a definite outcome using the human mind or senses. Sometimes what God may ask you to do doesn't make sense thinking about it. The bible says in 2 Cor 5:7 "For we walk by faith not by sight". God will never lead you amiss and he will also never leave you stranded (Psalms 23).

Let me end on this note, Trust and Obey for there is no other way to be happy in Jesus but to trust and Obey, this song is valid till eternity. **Jer. 29:11- Voice Translation** "For I know the plans I have for you says the Eternal, plans for peace, not evil, to give you a future and a hope – never forget that".

Praver

Lord, plant me in the center of your will for my life. Jeremiah 1:13

Lord, show me great and mighty things in my life which I know not. Jeremiah 33:3

Confessions

I align my life to the direction of God's will for my life. Deuteronomy 30 vs 10

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I make daily decisions that will move my destiny forward. Psalm 37 vs 23













Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, and before you were born, I set you apart and appointed you as a prophet to the nations.

(Jeremiah 1:5)

You are here to do great things. You are God's sent arrow of purpose into this generation! You were sent here; you did not just appear by human orchestration or atmospheric accident. You are uniquely designed and purposed to effect a change, affect lives, influence a move and support a noble assignment. You are uniquely packaged to carry out a unique assignment in this age! (Ephesians 2:10)

Until you align your thinking and actions with God's original purpose and plans concerning your life, it might just be characterized by boredom, dissatisfaction, confusion and frustrations.

Who are You? You are not what your parents or peers call you. You are not that description on your graduation paper. My dear, you are far more than that! In fact, you are neither what the series of life's event or experiences call you, nor are you what you call yourself based on your past mistakes and failures.

You are a voice in this generation. Your presence speaks of something remarkable. You need time with yourself and your God to discover yourself. See yourself as God sees you! You have been sent here on an impact mission; you will not fail heaven!

Prayer

Heavenly Father, reveal my unique purpose and assignment in this generation (Jeremiah 1:5).

Lord, align my thinking and actions with Your plans to avoid frustration and find fulfillment (Jeremiah 1:5).

Confession

I am God's sent arrow of purpose, uniquely designed to effect change and support noble assignments in this generation (Jeremiah 1:5). I am not defined by human opinions or past mistakes; I see myself as God sees me, on an impactful mission that will not fail heaven.



WHAT DO YOU SEE



Jeremiah, what seeth thou? (Jeremiah 1:11)

The eye through which I see God is the same eye through which God sees me; my eye and God's eye are one eye, one seeing, one knowing, one love."

What you see matters in life. If you start anything by seeing it wrongly, it is very probable that you won't finish right or correctly. Clarity of vision is the foundation of every solid achievement. Without a clear vision, you can't overcome the limits before you or survive the obstacles confronting you.

What do you see concerning yourself? Do you just see your inadequacies, inabilities and disabilities or are you overwhelmed and clouded with the picture of hopelessness, frustration, and disappointment? What do you see? (1 Corinthians 2:14)

You cannot carry a defective sight that beholds life in a wrong way and expect to be heading in the right direction. If you begin to see and believe in what God is saying concerning you through his word, everything will begin to change in your life. (**Proverbs 29:18**)

You must keep your eyes on God's plans and purpose for your life, not on the problems or limitations that surround you. Just like Jesus we also ought to despise the shame of the moment in view of the joy that is set ahead of us.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, open my eyes to see myself and my circumstances as You see them, aligning my vision with Your divine perspective (2 Kings 6:17).

Lord, help me focus on Your plans and purpose for my life, finding strength a nd joy in the hope that lies ahead, even in challenging times (Hebrews 12:2).

Confession

I declare that my eyes are fixed on God's truth and promises, seeing through His divine perspective in all situations (2 Kings 6:17).

With unwavering faith, I press forward, despising momentary challenges and embracing the joy set before me in Christ (Hebrews 12:2).













THE GREATEST GIFT OF ALL



"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."

(Jeremiah 29:1)

A lot of us are generous. We give gifts to people we love. The size of the giftwe give and the gift itself is dependent on how weighty the recipient is. Gifts can be a measure of the value we place on an individual. For instance, if we are to give gifts to the president of any organization we may belong to, we would certainly not hand him a small denomination in the local currency.

Christmas is symbolically for gift-giving. It started because someone chose to give a gift. The gift of Jesus for the salvation, redemption, and reinstatement of man to where he was meant to be originally. It has led to this culture of gift giving. Think about the things that are of great value to you (son, daughter, car, houses, phone). Consider parting with them as a measure of your love to someone else, and this person not needing to do anything to earn it. That's what God did! God took what He considered most precious, and gave it as a gift; and that gift remains the single most important gift anyone could ever give or receive.

The gift of Jesus is an endless gift. It guarantees access to endless blessings. You access salvation through Jesus. Salvation can be likened to a premium subscription which gives you all the features of a software. Unhindered access to such means everything you could ever need in this world has been taken care of - children, finance, healing, prosperity in your soul, a life partner, etc.

In salvation, you experience freedom from sin (**Rom 8:1**). A lot of Christians lack conviction about the gift of Jesus they have received, and it's a pointer that their gift is still unwrapped. We can't accept a gift and abandon it never truly knowing what is inside. You have to enter a relationship with Jesus that would allow you to know Him, not just about Him! Knowing Jesus is about paying attention to Him (which means spending time with Him), and experiencing Him. Do you know Jesus? If you know Jesus only as a carpenter, all you will get would be furniture! Wrong teachings is another reason that people don't know Jesus.

How do we access God's gift?

- 1. By being born again (believe what Jesus did for you. Receive Jesus).
- 2. Knowledge (aim to know Him personally, and what He did for you on the cross).
- 3. Faith (God says the Just shall live by faith in this world. For instance, only the people that believe God answers prayers see God answer prayers). Unwrap your gift!

Prayer

Father, help me to unwrap the gift of Jesus. Phil 3:20 Help me walk in the newness of life that I have received. 2Cor 5:1

Confessions

I have the gift of God. I enjoy everything that salvation made possible. Everything that does not align with the newness of life is broken. John 3:16

Christ in me. I begin to see new possibilities in my earthly walk. Jeremiah 29:1

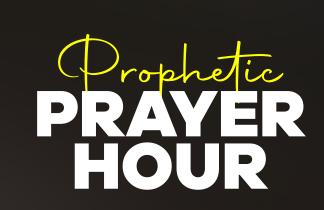
Daily Bible Reading: Mark 3



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