



Today
in *His*

P R E *S* E N C E

chris & stephanie oarhe

experience the joy of Salvation



Make this confession aloud:

Dear Jesus, I believe you died for my sins.
I believe in my heart and confess with
my mouth that you are my Lord and
personal Saviour.
Write my name in the book of life.

The versions of the Bible used in this devotional study are:

KJV	-	King James Version
NKJV	-	New King James Version
ASV	-	American Standard Version
AMP	-	Amplified Version
NIV	-	New International Version
CEV	-	Contemporary English Version
NASB	-	New American Standard Version
NLT	-	New Living Translation
TLB	-	The Living Bible

Today In His Presence

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In this prophetic year of ROCK OF AGES, everything God planned for you will come to pass in this season that God promised to provide for us, protect us and project us. The agenda of divine support from the rock of ages holds great promises for the believer in this year.

At the root of every mighty outpouring amongst men, there always exists a fervent and consistent flow of affection towards God. The proof of such God directed affection is in fellowship with Him. Yes, unrelenting daily devotion that keeps drawing you back to God for renewal, refreshing and refilling through affectionate prayer, worship and bible study.

To launch you into daily empowerment in this quarter, the Lord has guided us to present daily power packs. When you feed on these with unwavering commitment, you will definitely be thoroughly furnished for 2017 and beyond.

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3rd Service: 10.50am (Celebration Service)
Wednesday, 6.00pm (Leadership Service)

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INTRODUCTION

Devotion to God attracts promotion from God. Time spent alone with God should be a crucial part of the daily life of the believer. Jesus often withdrew from men to have time alone with God. Those who are celebrated among men are the ones that withdraw frequently from men to meet with God in private devotion. Abraham was a man of deep devotion to God and that was the secret to his unparalleled greatness. Job, the richest man of the east, was also a man who sought God daily. This was the secret of his unsurpassed success.

This devotional contains relevant daily bible readings for all-day meditation to build up your faith, and everyday confession (FAITH BYTE) to release your faith for daily victories. Many testimonies abound from the daily use of Today in His Presence and it is our firm belief that you would also be blessed as you use and put into action the instructions and revelations you receive.

Your life of faith will be jacked up as you study this quarter's devotional. As you use your "Today in His Presence" daily, you will be infused with inspiration, motivation, and wisdom for your spiritual growth and successful living.

Be blessed in His Presence.

Rev. Chris & Stephanie Oarhe

INSIDE TODAY IN HIS PRESENCE

To encourage a deep, powerful and productive Christian walk, we have included practical spiritual exercises that will give you a robust exercise with God such as:

- Ø Daily Bible reading.
- Ø Short Daily Bible texts.
- Ø Everyday confessions to build and release your faith.
Confession results in concentration.
Concentration results in penetration which produces speedy sharp results.
- Ø Wednesday fasting and prayer (Matthew 6:17) either 6:00am to 12:00noon or 6:00am to 4:00pm.
- Ø Weekly memory verses to help you remember God's word.
1st Corinthians 15:2
- Ø A one year Bible reading plan.
- Ø A short prayer guide to focus your praying.
Nothing hinders prayer like a lack of focus.

HOW TO USE TODAY IN HIS PRESENCE

- Ø Find a quiet place where you can be alone and free from distractions and interruptions.
- Ø Have this devotional and a Bible in a version that is in English that you understand. For example the New King James version. If you understand the King James Version, which we use ourselves. Please use it.
- Ø Commit your time and yourself to God in prayers asking Him to speak to you and bless you.
- Ø Meditatively read the scripture reading and text and put down your thoughts in your devotional notebook. (you should have one)
- Ø Pray the prayer that follows and confess the Faith Byte to your own hearing at least thrice.
- Ø Pray for other issues that may come to your mind as God often gives His children a burden to pray for others.

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE OCTOBER

DATE	BIBLE CHAPTER
OCTOBER 1st	Matthew 4 1
OCTOBER 2nd	Matthew 6 5
OCTOBER 3rd	Matthew 9 7
OCTOBER 4th	Matthew 11 10
OCTOBER 5th	Matthew 12
OCTOBER 6th	Matthew 14 3
OCTOBER 7th	Matthew 11 75
OCTOBER 8th	Matthew 21 8
OCTOBER 9th	Matthew 22 1
OCTOBER 10th	Matthew 22 43
OCTOBER 11th	Matthew 22 65
OCTOBER 12th	Matthew 22 87
OCTOBER 13th	Mark 3 1
OCTOBER 14th	Mark 5 1
OCTOBER 15th	Mark 6
OCTOBER 16th	Mark 9 8
OCTOBER 17th	Mark 11 101
OCTOBER 18th	Mark 11 23
OCTOBER 19th	Mark 11 46
OCTOBER 20th	Luke 1
OCTOBER 21st	Luke 2 1
OCTOBER 22nd	Luke 4 1
OCTOBER 23rd	Luke 6 1
OCTOBER 24th	Luke 8 1
OCTOBER 25th	Luke 11 101
OCTOBER 26th	Luke 11 23
OCTOBER 27th	Luke 11 46
OCTOBER 28th	Luke 11 78
OCTOBER 29th	Luke 12 90
OCTOBER 30th	Luke 22 12
OCTOBER 31st	Luke 22 34



expand your

Horizon

Watch

New Experience

with Pastor Chris
on these tv stations

RSTV: Sunday - 1:00pm, **CMTV:** Saturday - 7:30pm and Sundays - 7:30am,
NTA Yenagoa: Tuesdays - 5:30pm, **STV:** - 8:00pm

LEAD BY GOD'S COUNSEL

Scripture: Exodus 14:8-27

SUN.
1ST OCT.
2017



*"So David inquired of the Lord, saying
"Shall I pursue this troop?..."
1 Samuel 30:8a (NKJV)*

One major attribute of biblical leadership is absolute dependence on God's instructions and guidance. David is a classic example of a leader whose success would not have been possible without their relationship with (faith in and dependence on) God.

When the Israelites were about to be destroyed by the approaching Egyptian troop, they cried and confronted Moses. Rather than being discouraged, Moses made his boast in the Lord and encouraged them to stand and see the salvation of the Lord. He further exhibited his faith in God by declaring what God was capable of doing and God came through for them. He gave Moses the instruction that brought them a miraculous deliverance (Exodus. 14:21).

As a leader, do not fret and murmur when confronted with challenges because the people you lead will follow your example. Rather, turn to God for counsel and direction at all times. Strive to build up the faith of those you lead to depend on God no matter the size of the mountain they have to scale. Like Moses and David, encourage the people God has entrusted into your care and he will always come through because the One who has called you to his task is faithful to the end.

PRAYER



Lord, I repent of all the times I failed to seek your counsel. Help me to rely on you at all times in Jesus name.

I seek God's counsel always.
I lead as he leads me.

FAITH BYTE



MON.
2ND OCT.
2017

WATCH YOUR WORDS

Scripture: 1 Peter 1:13-21

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ"

1 Peter 3:16 (KJV)



Some people choose to only see the negatives in the lives of others. They complain and point out all the things that are not right ignoring to appreciate the good. These people tear others down with their words. Today's passage warns believers against this kind of attitude.

Believers must keep from yielding their tongue to the enemy to use as a weapon against others and the church. Our words should build others up rather than break them down. The consequences of the words we speak about others even in jesting can have far reaching effects both to the speaker and the victim. Miriam paid a stiff price when she spoke ill of Moses and his wife (Num. 12:1-2). She was struck with leprosy for days (Num. 12:10). Even when we speak evil about others in secret, God hears and judges our intention.

We must be careful what we say for every idle word will be accounted for. Our words must be pure and upright. Our words must edify. We should talk about the church, ministers and believers in positive light. Take whatever it is you believe is not right in the church to God in prayers for divine intervention. Let the word of God saturate your life so that it will reflect in your conversation and words.

PRAYER



Lord, help me to promote the body of Christ positively in all I say and do in Jesus name.

I am a seed of righteousness, therefore, my words are pure and upright.

FAITH BYTE



BE EXPECTANT

Scripture: Matthew 21:18-22

**TUES.
3RD OCT.
2017**

*"But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering.
For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven
with the wind and tossed."
James 1:6 (KJV)*

Our belief and expectation are fundamental parts of the Christian race. When a woman becomes pregnant, she expects to have a baby. In her expectation, she prepares for the baby's arrival believing it will be a success. God wants us expectant and holding on to his word knowing that he will perform it (Jer. 1:12).

Jesus said that whatever we ask for we shall receive if we believe (v22). This means that when we have made our prayers to God we should expect answers. This expectation will show in our conduct. If a student asks God for his tuition fees to be paid, he should make plans to attend classes believing his fees have been paid. If someone asks for a job, he should envisage himself working and then go about his daily task with the mindset he already has a job. No farmer plants a crop and then waits for harvest time before planning what to do with the crop. Instead, he plans ahead on what to do with it. In some instances, he even sells the crop way before the harvest.

Jesus had expectations like we do (Matt. 11:13-14). Your expectation demonstrates your belief. Your expectation is the key to receiving from God. Do you really expect answers when you pray to God? As you believe in God today for good things in life, God assures that your expectations will not be cut short (Prov. 23:18).

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: Leadership/Communion Service tomorrow, 5:30PM

PRAYER

Lord, thank you because
I know my expectations
will not be cut short
in Jesus name.

Whenever I pray,
I expect to receive. As
I pray, my answers come.

**FAITH
BYTE**

WED.
4TH OCT.
2017

INCREASE YOUR CAPACITY

Scripture: Matthew 25:14-18

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"To one he gave five...and to another one bag,
each according to his ability"*
Matthew 25:15 (NIV)



The human capacity for any type of assignment is determined by the degree of knowledge, skill and experience. Therefore, your capacity determines how much you can do and accomplish.

God has a purpose for everyone to accomplish something greater than their present capacity can handle. However, the journey of destiny is broken into incremental bits of assignments or 'good works' (Eph. 2:10). The aim is to build us up gradually till we accomplish or fulfill our purpose (Phil. 3:12). It is our responsibility to develop our capacity to fulfill our purpose. Judgment awaits those who do not prepare themselves and do not accomplish their purpose (Lk. 12:47).

As you grow in capacity, God will continue to commit more to you. This will result in more prosperity for you and God's kingdom. God has given you all that pertains to life and godliness, your place is to work it out (2 Pet. 1:3). Have a plan for getting from point A to B in life because your greatness in life depends on you. Commit time to gaining knowledge and experience. Take advantage of opportunities to use your talents and volunteer your services where possible so you can improve yourself. In the long term, you will reap the rewards of your conscious effort to grow the little seeds that you are planting now.

PRAYER



Lord, give me an understanding of the abilities you have given me and the grace to improve on them in Jesus name.

I improve on my abilities every day to the glory of God.

FAITH BYTE



DISCERN EVERY SPIRIT

Scripture: 1 John 4:1-6

THURS.
5TH OCT.,
2017

"This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God". 1 John 4:2-3 (NIV)

A certain minister perceived during a ministration that someone in the audience had a demonic spirit. He went to the lady and asked if she was born again. She responded by speaking in what sounded like tongues. The minister stopped her and repeated the question but she spoke in the same strange tongues again.

The minister decided to subject her to a test. He asked her to repeat the words, "Jesus Christ is the son of God and has come in the flesh." She refused and replied "he is not the son of God and has not come in the flesh" and then spoke in the strange tongues. When the minister insisted she should declare Jesus as the son of God, she started weeping and confessed she could not do so. He laid his hands on her and rebuked the evil spirit out of her. She was then led to Christ and she received the genuine baptism of the Holy Spirit.

As believers, we must be discerning. The word of God encourages us to test every spirit because even the devil can pretend to be an angel of light (1 Jn. 4:1). Remember, the Egyptian magicians could turn their staff into snakes just like Moses. Do not be deceived or get carried away by the strange manifestations in the world today. Any spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus as the son of God and Lord of all is not of God.

PRAYER



Lord, I shall not be a
victim of any strange spirit.
Help me to stay
sensitive in Jesus name.

The Spirit of God
works in me and
I shall not be deceived.

FAITH
BYTE

FRI.
6TH OCT.
2017

JESUS, OUR MODEL

Scripture: 1 Peter 2:21- 25

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps."

1 Peter 2:21 (NKJV)



The most outstanding picture of power we have in existence is Jesus. The most outstanding picture of righteousness is Jesus. The most outstanding picture of prosperity is Jesus. The most outstanding picture of holiness is Jesus. The most outstanding picture of success is Jesus. Whatever you call perfection, Jesus is the portrait of it.

When Jesus said "follow me and I will make you" he wants us to become his mirror image (Matt. 4:19). He wants us to command the same results and make the same impact he made on earth. If God's kingdom of righteousness, peace and joy is to come on earth, we cannot afford to do any less than Jesus did on earth. Our lives must portray and manifest the actions of Christ who has called us. Wherever Jesus went, he did good and in no time society noticed. Love was the hallmark of his ministry.

What fruits are evident in your life? What does it manifest? You can only be like the master if you learn at his feet. Jesus ran a ministry and lived a life that focused on others rather than himself. He was quick to provide a meal for those who needed it; he was open to commune with people who others looked down on or criticized and he was quick to forgive. His actions broke down barriers in the hearts of those he encountered and opened their hearts to receive God's word and accept him as Lord. Is your life a model of Christ?

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: MAP Meeting (Home Fellowship) tomorrow.

PRAYER



Lord, give me the grace to live a life that models yours in Jesus name.

I imitate Christ in all I do; I am a mirror-image of Jesus in my relations with others.

FAITH BYTE



WHOSE REPORT?

Scripture: Esther 3:1-13

SAT.
7TH OCT.
2017

"And Hezekiah received the letter of the hand of the messengers, and read it: and Hezekiah went up into the house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD"
2 Kings 19:14 (KJV)

Feedback: Consider your attitude towards studying the word daily.

What we do when we receive an unfavourable report is very crucial to what our experience will eventually be. The final outcome of any report depend on what you do with it. One of the strategies of the enemy is to send us negative reports so we can lose heart and give in to his schemes.

This was the mission of the letter signed by the king, to the Jews for their destruction but thank God they responded in a manner expected of believers. They took their issue to God in prayer. Similarly, when King Hezekiah received a death threat from the enemy, he took the letter and laid it before God (Is. 37:14-15). What do you do when you are faced with challenges? Have you received a negative medical report? Have you received a termination letter? Take it to the Lord in prayer.

God can turn every situation around. He is not limited by the laws of nature. He can work through the natural and the supernatural. For the Jews, he used Queen Esther and for King Hezekiah, he sent an angel. Whatever way he chooses, he will come through for you if you faint not.

Reflection: Do I always take my challenges to God first?

PRAYER

Lord, I present every negative and evil report before you today for a turnaround in Jesus name.

I believe the report of the Lord and only his report concerning my case will stand.

**FAITH
BYTE****This Week Walk of Faith:**

Give at least 2hrs of your daily schedule to the studying of God's word.

SUN.
8TH OCT.
2017

THE GIFT OF PEACE

Scripture: Romans 5:1-6

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful"
Colossians 3:15 (KJV)



Pace is a state of harmony and restfulness. Before Christ came, men lacked peace with God because of Adam's sin which was passed down to the rest of humanity (Rom. 5:10). However, Christ has given us perfect peace with God by shedding his blood on the cross and by our acceptance of his lordship over our lives (Rom. 3:22-25a).

Jesus' sacrifice was to reconcile us back to the father so we may have peace with him. Peace becomes our rightful inheritance immediately we accept Jesus as Lord and Saviour and it still is available to us today. When we are at peace with God, we are free from every finger of accusation and every form of condemnation (Rom. 8:1) because our righteousness is in Christ. Our battles become his to fight. Our pain becomes his to bear. We need no longer fret or be afraid because the mighty man of war has become our strong tower of protection.

God made peace with us through his Son because he loves us and so that we can find solace in every area of life (Col. 1:19-22). Let us accept and enjoy God's loving gift of peace. We must let worry and anxiety go and trust in his ever abiding presence. Allow his peace flood your soul so you can always bask in the rest (Col. 3:15).

PRAYER



Lord, let your peace saturate my soul and wipe away every worry and disturbance from my life now in Jesus name.

Thank you, Lord, for giving me peace and rest on every side

FAITH BYTE



HELP ON THE INSIDE

Scripture: John 14:16-17, 26

MON.
9TH OCT.
2017

*"For it is God who works in you to will and to act
in order to fulfil his good purpose."*
Philippians 2:13 (NIV)

Is it not exciting to know that we can have sail smoothly through life in spite of the numerous challenges that come with it? It is even more exciting to know that we do not need to depend on anyone to make this possible because we already have the Holy Spirit on our inside to provide the help we will ever need. Sadly, many Christians, ignorant of the worth and power of the Holy Spirit, go in search of help in the wrong places.

Many Christians find it difficult to tap into the power they carry on their inside because they do not know how to, or are unaware of its existence. Some also think that the Holy Spirit does not know them, or cannot be of help to them in times of trouble. They do not realise that the Holy Spirit knows all things, and has the solutions to all problems (Jn. 14:26).

The Holy Spirit is God's gift to all believers. He does not only give hope that keeps us from shame but also fill us with God's love (Rom 5:5). We receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon us (Acts 1:8). We receive him not just by desiring but by believing the God's word (Gal. 3:2). Activate the power of the Holy Spirit today. Commune and partner with him by yielding totally to his leading. You will be amazed how much the help on your inside can make you achieve on the outside.

PRAYER



Lord, I surrender to your
leading because I know
you are my ever present
help in times of need, in
Jesus name.

I have all the help I
need because I have the
Holy Spirit on my inside.

FAITH
BYTE

TUES.
10TH OCT.
2017

EMPOWERED TO ADVANCE

Scripture: Matthew 24:9-14

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you
and you will be my witness in Jerusalem, and in all
Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."
Acts 1:8 (KJV)*



The early church at various times went through severe persecution. Despite the harsh environment, the early believers went far and beyond themselves to advance the gospel. Today, we have a more conducive environment to preach the gospel and win souls for the kingdom of God. So what is stopping us from spreading God's word?

Apostle Paul laboured a great deal and ended up writing two-third of the New Testament (1 Cor. 15:10). The church in Macedonia also did more than expected in her service to God. She gave far beyond her means that the gospel might be preached (2 Cor. 8:1-5). There is no reason why every soul on earth should not hear the gospel; we must stretch ourselves beyond our comfort zones if we are to do more in propagating the gospel.

Though we may face persecution for the sake of the gospel, Jesus commands that we carry the word to the ends of the earth (Mk. 16:15-16). The world is our mission field and it behooves us to till and plant on this field that the harvest may be plentiful. God has empowered us with his Spirit (Acts 1:8). This is all we need to take over the world with his word. Are you ready to take up your mantle to do more for God?

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: Leadership/Communion Service tomorrow, 5:30PM

PRAYER



Lord, help me to go
beyond my comfort zone
to preach the gospel
in Jesus name.

I will go the extra mile
for the gospel,
my service to God
will be exemplary.

FAITH BYTE



WILLING AND READY

Scripture: Acts 21:1-14

WED.
11TH OCT.
2017

"Then Paul answered, What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? for I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus."
Acts 21:13 (KJV)

The apostles took after Jesus in their willingness to die for the sake of the gospel. Many of them paid the ultimate price and that is why we have the gospel preached to us today. Their attitude towards death was that of "to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Phil 1:21).

This was the attitude displayed by Paul when he was asked not to go to Jerusalem. The prophecy of Agabus about the problems ahead if he went to Jerusalem was not enough to deter him. He was willing to suffer and even die to make the gospel heard in Jerusalem. Do we have the same attitude today? Peter was put in prison to be killed the next day, but rather than panic and scream for help, he went to sleep. He was not afraid to die. He knew if God still wanted to use him, then God will rescue him from death, else it was time for him to go home.

The fear of death has held many captive today. For fear of their lives, they refuse to openly profess their faith as Christians. Is fear preventing you from declaring Jesus as Lord? Are you afraid of financial, social or political ruin? Step out in faith. Death is not the ultimate end. Remember Jesus is the resurrection and the life; whosoever dies for his sake, he is able to give back life.

PRAYER



Lord, help me to obey
you till the end of
my days on earth
in Jesus name.

I am obedient to God's
words even to death and
I reap benefits thereof.

FAITH
BYTE

THURS.
12TH OCT.
2017

NO MORE EXCUSES

Scripture: Luke 9:57-62

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"...I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision"
Acts 26:19 (KJV)



Obedience to God's will ultimately will affect every other area of your life and relationship with other people. However, obedience does not always come on a platter of gold. Sometimes, you may not feel like obeying or it may just not seem convenient to obey. You may even have to pay a huge price for it but obedience results in a lasting reward.

Paul had several unpleasant experiences and encounters. He was brought to defend himself before King Agrippa after two years of imprisonment. He suffered great persecutions on several occasions for the truth and the Jews sought to kill him. He could have used any of these as an excuse to disobey God or walk away from the mission God had assigned to him. Despite his plight and unfavourable circumstances, Paul did not quit. He chose to move forward with God's work and eventually, he was able to encourage others by boldly declaring "I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision" (Acts 26:19).

Satan will always put up a fight to stop you in life because he knows the end will result in untold blessing for you. Do not stop because of pressure, criticism or pain. Finish your assignment. If God has called you, he is able to provide the support and help you need. Remember, he is a present help in time of need. You only need faith in God, patience and persistence in order to obey and follow through God's will for you.

PRAYER



Lord, help me to walk
in obedience, faithfully
serving you till the
end in Jesus name.

I will finish my assignment.
I do not quit because
I know God is my
ever present help.

FAITH BYTE



TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

STAND IN THE GAP

Scripture: Isaiah 62:6-7

FRI.
13TH OCT.
2017



*"I looked for someone among them who would...stand
before me in the gap on behalf of the land..."*
Ezekiel 22:30 (NIV)

God will through human agents execute divine intervention on the earth. God sought for a man in the time of Ezekiel that would stand between him and the people and found none (Ez. 22:30). Today, God is still looking for those that will stand on behalf of others so he can bless them. Will you be that person?

Would you be found by God when you are needed to stand in the gap for your family, city, business or church? Can God depend on you to stand in the gap in prayer and fasting or will you be disqualified through disobedience, laziness or sin? God does not use just anybody; he uses people who are ready to say "here I am". Get ready to answer calls. Prepare for God's call in the place of prayer, study, meditation and spiritual discipline. You are God's watchman and he can call you at any time (Is. 62: 6).

When God did not find anybody, he destroyed the land (Ez. 22:31). You are responsible for the situation in your environment. If you stand in the gap in prayer, then God will release his blessing to change the situation (Is. 62:7). We are the light of the world, therefore it is a duty we have been called to and which we must take seriously. It is only when Christians go to sleep that the devil is able to overrun the land. Commit to standing in the gap today.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: MAP Meeting (Home Fellowship) tomorrow.

PRAYER



Lord, make me qualified
to stand in the gap when
you require a man or
woman in Jesus name.

I prepare myself daily
in the place of prayer,
study and meditation.
I am available when
God calls.

FAITH BYTE



SAT.
14TH OCT.
2017

GOD SEEKS A MAN

Scripture: Psalm 53:1-6

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"But now the kingdom will not endure; the Lord has sought out a man after His own heart and appointed him leader of His people, because you have not kept the Lord's command."
1 Samuel 13:14 (NIV)



Feedback: How does it feel giving God some hours on your daily schedule?

When earth requires serious intervention, God looks for a man, particularly a "male" man. When you capture a man, you capture an entire family. When you capture a family, you can capture a city, and when you capture a city, you can capture a nation.

The male man is very fundamental in God's creation (Gen. 2:19). For this reason, Satan is always after men. When compared to women, a higher percentage of men are involved in crime, drugs, wanton living and several other vices. The reason the devil is after men is because they are the head of God's creation. When God made the male man, he instructed him to take care of creation, and then he created the "female" man to assist him.

Every man must endeavour to live above sin and live for God. The scriptures lists several works of the flesh and those who display these traits leave the door of their family open to the enemy's manipulation (Gal. 5:16-22). Saul's family lost the kingship right to Israel because of his actions while David's family received an everlasting right to the throne because of David's action. You must move for God today and secure the future for your posterity. Be that man that God will use today (Ps 53:2).

Reflection: Is there anything stopping me from saying, 'use me, Lord'.

PRAYER



Lord, equip me so I can perform as you originally intended in Jesus name.

I am a person after God's heart. He finds me ready to lead.

FAITH BYTE



This Week Walk of Faith:

Let it be your week of spiritual emphasis, pray at least 1 hour daily this week.

UNMANAGED
AFFECTION

Scripture: Genesis 3:2-6

SUN.
15TH OCT.
2017

"And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat."
Genesis 3:12 (KJV)

When man needed assistance, God made the woman for him. She became such a critical part of his life that the devil used her as a weapon against her husband. The devil enticed her and she expressly disobeyed God's instruction and inevitably convinced Adam to do likewise. It was when Adam ate the forbidden fruit that mankind fell. This highlights how important the male is in God's plan.

The role of Adam was to head the woman and not the other way round. However, his affection for Eve led to his disobedience to God's instruction. Even today, people allow their emotions define their actions. People can become consumed with their feelings and affections for people and things that they lose control and fail in the role God has assigned to them. Adam did not manage his affection for his wife and it doomed the rest of mankind.

The scriptures encourages men to love their wives as Christ loved the church and gave his life for her (Eph. 5:25) but they must not allow the enemy to corrupt and misdirect that affection. Your love for people or things should not cloud your judgment or take the place of God in your life. God must be a constant first in your life (Matt. 6:33). You have a responsibility to be led and ruled by the Spirit of God and not by the fleeting pleasures of the flesh.

PRAYER



Lord, my love for my family, church or career will not cloud my judgment in Jesus name.

I am spirit being. My emotions and affections are ruled by the word of God.

FAITH
BYTE

MON.
16TH OCT.
2017

A LIVING EXAMPLE

Scripture: Genesis 18:17-19

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord."

Ephesians 6:4 (NLT)



The type of parent you are determines, to a great extent, the lifestyle of your children even in adulthood. One day, they will leave home and they will live their lives based on the principles you taught, the values you passed on and the examples you shown. Their training will determine how they react to God and men. Will they be hardworking or sloppy? Will your sons be good fathers or wife beaters? Will your daughters be virtuous women or nagging wives?

Abraham was a man God used to change the course of history for mankind. As important as Abraham's mission was, God boasted about his ability to teach his children and entire household. In fact, God selected him for the singular purpose that he could direct his children in the right path (v18). Parents must nurture their children in line with God's word if they are live to glorify God (Prov. 22:6). Do not confuse your children by living based on double standards. Be the gold standard for them. Set the right tone for how they live and who they become.

Being a parent is a blessed opportunity to mold, shape and be responsible for a soul. Whether you are a biological or spiritual parent, your children will watch you closely and copy your actions. Ensure that your actions are in line with scriptures and your actions match the words they have heard you speak. This is the key to leaving a lasting impression on their minds as they become independent and responsible adults.

PRAYER



Lord, make me an example to my children. Let them learn of me so they can bring glory to your name in Jesus name.

I have godly children; they are signs and wonders.

FAITH BYTE



TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

DIVINE REPROGRAMMING

Scripture: Genesis 21:9-21

TUES.
17TH OCT.
2017



*"You will arise and have mercy on Zion, for the time
to favour her. Yea, the set time is come."
Psalm 102:13 (NKJV)*

There was once a teenage girl who got pregnant and was set to abort the pregnancy. Soon after, she accepted Jesus as her Lord and Saviour and therefore, refused to abort the pregnancy. Because of her decision, her parents disowned her and she was left to cater for the child on her own. Rather than despair, she turned to God and handed over the baby to him. That child is Israel Houghton, who, today, is a world renowned gospel musician.

This teenage girl should not have been pregnant outside of marriage but because she surrendered her life and mistake to God, he reprogrammed her life and her child's for good. Abraham should never have been intimate with Hagar but he did. Rejected by Sarah and cast out by Abraham, she was confronted with the imminent death of her son in the desert. But when she turned to God, he heard the cry of the child, they survived and her son Ishmael became a mighty nation. Ishmael was not the child of promise but God reprogrammed his life for greatness.

This is the mystery of divine reprogramming. God rearranges the situation in our lives from a hopeless one to a blessed one. He changes the emptiness in our lives to fullness. This is only possible when we turn over all to him. It does not matter what people have said about you or what you think of yourself, God is able to make all things work for your good.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: Leadership/Communion Service tomorrow, 5:30PM

PRAYER



Lord, I hand over every aspect of my life to you. You know what is happening and you are able to cause a change in Jesus name.

As I turn to God through Christ, I fulfil my mandate for existence.

FAITH BYTE



WED.
18TH OCT.
2017

DIVINE REARRANGEMENT

Scripture: Joshua 2:1-17

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"And Joshua saved Rahab the harlot alive, and her father's household, and all that she had; and she dwelleth in Israel [even] unto this day; because she hid the messengers, which Joshua sent to spy out Jericho." Joshua 6:25 (KJV)



Rahab the prostitute lived in Jericho, a city that God had ordered to be destroyed with all those in it. The only future that Rahab had to look forward to was that of destruction and death. But because she hid the two Jewish spies in reverence to God, God changed her destiny and that of her family. After her mighty deliverance from Jericho, she later became the wife of Salmon and gave birth to Boaz the husband of Ruth. Because she feared God, God changed her destiny and placed her into the lineage of Jesus (Matt. 1:5).

One of the factors that led to her divine arrangement was her attitude. She saw an opportunity to serve God and she took it. The entire city of Jericho had heard about God's mighty deeds towards the Israelites in the desert but she was the only one who chose to align with God. She took a leap of faith and it worked for her.

In what area are you partnering with God today? If you want to experience accelerated change in your life, you must be in league with God. Across the age, God has changed the destiny of many from hopelessness to fruitfulness; your testimony is the next. Take a leap of faith and see what God can and will do for you.

PRAYER



Lord, I activate the anointing in me, to become an unusual problem solver to those in need in Jesus name.

I walk into my divinely arranged destiny because I am sensitive to instruction.

FAITH BYTE



DIVINE POSITIONING

Scripture: Esther 2:15-18

THURS.
19TH OCT.
2017

*"And the king loved Esther above all the women,
...so that he set the royal crown upon her head,
and made her queen instead of Vashti"*
Esther 2:17 (KJV)

The story of Esther's rise from an insignificant Jewish girl to becoming the queen of a mighty empire illustrates how God uses events and people to fulfil his promises to his chosen people. Esther, an orphan, lived in a place where, naturally, she would not have been noticed but God arranged events to position her in the palace.

Esther might have felt hopeless after the loss of her parents, but God had a higher purpose for her. When Queen Vashti was dethroned and King Ahasuerus needed a new queen, God caused Esther to find favour at every turn. The king's eunuch, Hegai, who was in charge of the maidens preferred her and went out of his way to prepare her for the king. He may have personally schooled her or revealed secrets to her on ways to please the king for when the king met her, he crowned her as his new queen oblivious of her nationality and parentage. God quietly positioned Esther for her purpose and breakthrough.

God can arrange circumstances in your favour. He positioned Joseph in Egypt and then used a famine to elevate him. He positioned Daniel in Babylon and sent a nightmare to Nebuchadnezzar that announced Daniel. God can displace nature to bring about your change. Stand firm in your faith and God will cause you to receive favour even in seemingly dead situations.

PRAYER



Lord, I receive the grace
to be divinely positioned
to fulfil your purpose for
my life, in Jesus name.

I am a child of destiny.
I am fulfilling God's
purpose for my life.

FAITH
BYTE

FRI.
20TH OCT.
2017

GOD AT WORK

Scripture: Esther 4:1-16

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; ...and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this" Esther 4:14 (KJV)



God did not promote Esther to the throne for the fun of it. He had a plan to deliver his people from trouble through her. God, who is omniscient, knew the issue ahead of time and worked behind the scenes to prepare a way of escape for his children. In the same way, God prepares ways of escape for us today long before the challenges arise.

You are in your current position not for yourself but to bring solutions. When Esther was informed of Haman's plot to commit genocide against the Jews, she could have hid herself and refused to get involved. But God, through Mordecai, reminded her that she was not there for herself, but that God had put her in the palace to prepare for this event. Esther's decision to put her trust in God brought great redemption for her people. Through her, God delivered his people from the jaws of death and judged their enemies harshly.

God has placed you where you are. He is preparing you to be the solution to a challenge which will eventually result in your promotion. If you refuse to act, God will provide a replacement to do his will. If you trust God and take action, your reward will be limitless.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: MAP Meeting (Home Fellowship) tomorrow.

PRAYER



Lord, cause me to be sensitive to your purpose for my life in whatever position I am so I can deliver your perfect will in Jesus name.

I am where I am by God's divine plan. I will maximize the opportunity to God's glory.

FAITH BYTE



TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

OPPORTUNITY IN ADVERSITY

Scripture: 1 Samuel 17:41-50

SAT.
21ST OCT.
2017



*"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous:
Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged, for the LORD
your God will be with you wherever you go."
Joshua 1:9 (NIV)*

Feedback: Share the impact of 1hour daily prayers in your life.

People give up easily when they encounter opposition to a task, plan or vision. Do not become discouraged when you are faced with opposition, it only means you are doing or about to do something that scares the enemy. See every adverse moment as an opportunity to rise to a higher level.

When David faced Goliath, he only saw the possibilities. He had the courage and strength to confront Goliath because he knew that God was on his side and would deliver the uncircumcised Philistine into his hands. David saw an opportunity in his adversary and he took it. With God's help, he killed Goliath and his fame grew.

God allows adversity as a means to train, mature and bless his children. Joseph, Jacob, David and Nehemiah experienced adversity that strengthened their faith and opened doors of blessings unto them. Whatever you are going through, rather than complain about your situation, ask God for courage to confront the problem and wisdom to navigate the situation and your promotion will come. Trust God in all situation, it is your turn for triumph.

Reflection: What can I do to see as God sees; possibilities in all things?

PRAYER



Lord, I ask for courage and strength to confront the adversaries in my life in Jesus name

I see opportunity in every adversity that comes my way in life; I triumph in victory always.

FAITH BYTE



This Week Walk of Faith:

Locate at least 3 in-Christ scriptures and study them daily, this week.

SUN.
22ND OCT.
2017

RIGHT MINDSET

Scripture: Numbers 13:26-33

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"Do not conform to the pattern of this world,
but be transformed by the renewing of your mind..."*
Romans 12:2b (NIV)



After the Israelites left Egypt and approached the land of promise, they decided to send twelve men to spy out the land. All twelve of them reported that the land was as God had promised; flowing with milk and honey but only two of them were convinced that they could possess the land. The other ten succeeded in discouraging the entire congregation of Israel and eventually, only the two spies who delivered a good report inherited the Promise Land.

All twelve spies saw the same thing. They saw the same opposition but only Joshua and Caleb were able to see an opportunity in the opposition. This was because they had a different mindset from the others. Their mind was set on what God could do rather than on what they could do. Their mind was set on God's power and ability and not on their ability and present circumstance.

Anytime we allow the situation around us determine whether we can or cannot take action, then we have the mindset of the ten spies. Whenever we judge by what we see or hear rather than what God has told us, we have the mindset of the Israelites who did not inherit the Promise Land. As a child of God, look to God as the source of your strength, provision, authority and ability to perform. When you focus on the word, your mind gets renewed and the thought and fear of the enemy pales in comparison.

PRAYER



Lord, I cast every
mindset of smallness
and inadequacy out of
my life, in Jesus name.

My mind is
renewed daily by the
word of God. I have
the mind of Christ.

FAITH BYTE



LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

Scripture: Roman 8:1-9

MON.
23RD OCT.
2017

*"...but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."
Roman 8:6b (KJV)*

There are two ways of living in this world. You can either live according to the flesh which leads to death or according to the Spirit which leads to life. There is no third alternative. Today's text reminds us that these two forms of living are opposed to each other. The flesh and spirit cannot operate as one.

The more we give ourselves to the things of the Spirit, the more alive we become. Jesus declared "I am come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly" (Jn. 10:10b). Jesus does not only want to give us life but also a continuous relationship overflowing with grace. As you walk in the spirit, set your mind on things of the spirit and put to death the flesh; let God fill you with his wisdom and power and you will experience life beyond the limitation of your human ability and strength.

Little wonder the Psalmist declared expressly "Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them" (Ps. 119:165). As a regenerated believer, your desire should be to become consumed by the glorious life of God in you. When you live according to the Spirit, God leads you into a supernatural atmosphere that constantly reminds you that no matter what happens, everything will work for your good and that in every situation, God is in total control. Life in the spirit should be the desire of every believer.

PRAYER



Lord, I give myself to the
guidance and direction
of the Holy Spirit
in Jesus name

I am spiritually minded.
I overcome in all
situations

FAITH
BYTE

**TUES.
24TH OCT.
2017**

POWER OF THE ANOINTING

Scripture: Acts 10:38-43

**TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE**

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

Acts 10:38 (KJV)



The anointing is the overflowing life of Jesus which enables us perform supernaturally in a natural world. It is an active force and has the capacity to do the supernatural in the life of man. Jesus did not fully begin his ministry until he was anointed of the Spirit of God.

How does a believer gain access to the power of the anointing? The secret of operating in the anointing of God is complete obedience to his will. Jesus says: "And he who sent me is with me." (Jn. 8:29). He always manifested the anointing and power of God because he only did the things that pleased his father. When you do God's will, you please him. You cannot operate in the power of the anointing when you do not please God. Jesus walked in complete obedience to God's will and the anointing released upon his life because of his obedience generated tremendous results.

The power of the anointing is released unto every believer who is willing and obedient to follow Christ. It is released upon every area of your life. With the anointing of God on your life, you can experience the unusual and break the yoke of sin and darkness on the lives of people (Is. 37:35), so they can experience the grace of God available to them. By the power of the anointing you will experience freedom from bondage today.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: Leadership/Communion Service tomorrow, 5:30PM

PRAYER



Lord, let a fresh
anointing rest on me
in Jesus name

I receive the anointing
to do exploits in every
area of my life

FAITH BYTE



DOUBT IS A PARASITE

Scripture: Judges 4:6-9

WED.
25TH OCT.
2017

"The centurion answered and said. "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed."
Matthew 8:8 (NKJV)

Doubt has the ability to decrease the potency of the power available to you for exploits. It is a leech that can drain the anointing over your life. Balak believed the words of Deborah and had every intention of obeying but doubted that he could do it alone. He wanted a symbol of God's presence to go with him and he asked that Deborah go with him. He did not understand that God and his word are one and the same, and that when God has spoken, it is as good as God being there with you. His action sold the glory he ought to have received to a woman (v9).

When God gives us an assignment it usually appears to be more than what we can ever hope to achieve on our own. God would not give you what you can do on your own lest you take the glory for yourself. When such an assignment comes, all you need is the word of God to accompany you. When you doubt God's word to you, you undermine his power and limit his ability to turn around situations in your life. Keep in mind that if God has said it, he will do it. Do not let doubt cheat you of the glory that should be yours.

Doubt caused Peter to sink when he walked on water (Matt. 14:28-31). Doubt prevented a king's servant from partaking in a breakthrough (2 Kgs. 7:18-20) and doubt made Zachariah go dumb for nine months (Lk. 1:18-20). A word from God is enough to achieve your purpose in life.

PRAYER



Lord, give me the grace
to act upon your word
without fear or doubt
in Jesus name

I live by the word of God.
I live by faith and
not by sight

FAITH
BYTE

THURS.
26TH OCT.
2017

OVERCOME YOUR ENEMY

Scripture: Judges 4:21-24

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"She stretched her hand to the tent peg, her right hand to the workmen's hammer; she pounded Sisera, she pierced his head, she split and struck through his temple."

Judges 5:26 (NKJV)



God prophesied through Deborah, that the glory of the battle with the Canaanites would be to a woman. Due to Jael's hospitality, she had the honour of being that woman. When you are right with God, he will use you to accomplish the seemingly impossible. Faced with a man who was superior to her in physical strength, Jael used her wits and courage. Today, she has a place of honour in the history of Israel.

Jael did what she did without fear for her life. She knew Sisera was the enemy of the Lord's people and his time was up. She obeyed God and knowing she was doing his will, acted without fear of the consequences for her life. In the same way, you must obey every instruction God gives you without considering the limitations of your environment. Your environment is just what God needs to do the miraculous. Your focus should be on the big picture of what God can use you to accomplish. Do not limit your ability by limiting God's power in your life. If he says you should do it then it means you can. When faced with the enemy, take the hammer of God's word and nail it into his head (v26).

This is exactly what David did when he faced Goliath. He took the weapon of God's word and flung it at Goliath. It was the word of faith that directed the stone to the very spot where the giant will fall (1 Sam. 17:37). Take your stand against the enemy, gird yourself with the word of God and live in victory.

PRAYER



Lord, I obey every instruction that you give me without fear in Jesus name

I use God's words, the word of faith, to overcome the enemy in every area of life.

FAITH BYTE



THE ENEMY'S
STRATEGY

Scripture: Judges 6:1-6

FRI.
27TH OCT.
2017

"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have [it] more abundantly."
John 10:10 (KJV)

The Bible warns against giving room to the enemy because he will take full advantage of the opportunity (Eccl. 10:8). This warning is to protect you from the devil whose aim is not just to trouble but to destroy you. He steals what you have, kills your potential and leaves you hopeless. This is why it is imperative that we give no room to the devil (Eph. 4:27)

When the Israelites turned against God, they opened the door to be delivered into the hands of the Midianites. The Midianites were not out to merely oppress them but to destroy them. They didn't just steal their crops, they destroyed all that was left so that Israel had nothing. They also came in with the Amalekites, who were enemies of Israel, to devastate the land. The Israelites were forced to live in caves like animals. If you let the enemy in, he will show no mercy. He will come with sickness, poverty, heartbreak, and disasters more than you can bear. His aim is to lead you down the path of destruction.

Be watchful (1 Pet. 5:8). Do not give an inch to the devil. Live a life that safeguards you from the onslaught of the enemy. One way to do this is to live above sin. If you have opened the door to the enemy in any way, repent now and turn back to God. Jesus promises you life in abundance if you turn to him and obey his commandments (Jn. 10:10). This promise is still available to you today.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: MAP Meeting (Home Fellowship) tomorrow.

PRAYER



Lord, I refuse to give room to the devil, help me live above sin in Jesus name

The Lord is my security, I live in abundance

FAITH
BYTE

SAT.
28TH OCT.
2017

HE IS ALWAYS THERE

Scripture: Job 23:1-12

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath
tried me, I shall come forth as gold."
Job 23:10 (KJV)*



Feedback: Share the impact of the 3 scriptures you studied this week.

When life hits us with pain, lack, heartache or loss, we, sometimes, wonder if God is with us. Just like Job, we may have looked for God everywhere in our time of trouble and it seems He is no where to be found(v8). Even Jesus asked "Lord, why have you forsaken me" (Matt. 27:46). The truth is that no matter what we go through, He will always be there. The scriptures call Him "a present help in time of need" (Ps. 46:1).

One of the reasons why God seems not to act at such time is to test us. God wants to reveal and refine our character and our personality. He is working in us to transform us to His image. Job acknowledged that God was watching and when his trial was over, he would come out as gold. This was why he resolved to keep God's commandments no matter what (v10-12).

Our time of trial is not the time to compromise or cut corners but a time to hold fast to your faith and confessions (Heb. 10:23). Do not cheat on your tithe and offering because you are facing financial difficulties. Do not look for help in strange places because you believe your breakthrough is long overdue and do not reduce or neglect the time you spend with and working for God. God has never failed and He will not start with you.

Reflection: What can I do to always see God as my 'present help'?

PRAYER



Lord, nothing will separate
me from my love for you
in Jesus name

God is always with me,
I do not compromise
my faith in any situation

FAITH BYTE



This Week Walk of Faith:

Locate at least 2 scriptures about God's love, study and share with others.

TEAR IT DOWN

Scripture: Judges 6:25-32

SUN.
29TH OCT.
2017

*"Now it came to pass the same night that the LORD said to him,
"... tear down the altar of Baal that your father has,
and cut down the wooden image that is beside it;
Judges 6:25 (NKJV)*

Many Christians today have altars in their life that are not of God. These altars continue to speak against them and hinder progress in their lives. Some of these altars were built by parents or ancestors. Some were built due to past experiences, mistakes, or ignorance. These covenants made to demonic oracles and every demonic belief system and traditions need to be pulled down, else, progress may be difficult.

The first thing God told Gideon to do was to pull down the altar of Baal in his father's house. The strong man had to be dealt with before God could deliver Israel. Every altar and stronghold of the devil had to be pulled down before God could bring deliverance to Israel.

Altars speak for or against people. Which altar is speaking in your life or family? Is it an altar of shame, poverty, death or sickness? Is it an ancestral shrine or occultic union you have made in the past? You have to repent and tear it down by the power of the Holy Spirit. Do not be afraid to confront any demonic altar in your life. Declare a battle against it today. You can also seek the help and confidence of other believers who would support and uphold you in prayers. Shine the light of God on every altar of darkness in your life so that you can break free from the clutches of the enemy and live an abundant life (Jn. 1:5).

PRAYER



Lord, by your power,
I pull down every
false altar in my life
in Jesus name.

Only the altar of God
stands in my life and
it brings me fruitfulness.

FAITH
BYTE

MON.
30TH OCT.
2017

BUILD GOD AN ALTAR

Scripture: Judges 6:25-32

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"And Elijah said unto all the people, Come near unto me. And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD that was broken down."

1 Kings 18:30 (KJV)



After Gideon tore down the altar of Baal, he built an altar to God and then made a sacrifice. It is not enough to tear down the demonic altar, you must also build an altar to God. This action renounces your allegiance to the devil and declares your allegiance to God. The altar of God standing in the place the altar of Baal used to be was a direct confrontation between God and the devil. When you build an altar to God, he confronts the enemy on your behalf.

We can build different types of altars to God. We have personal altars, family altars, congregational altars and national altars. These altars are not built with stones and wood as in the Old Testaments, but they are built when we come into God's presence. Every time we come into God's presence or gather to worship, we raise our altars unto God.

When Gideon built the altar, he activated it with a sacrifice because an altar without a sacrifice is devoid of power. The Bible says our bodies are the temple of God. Therefore, in this dispensation of grace, we do not have to offer bulls to activate God's power in our life. When we live a continuous life of obedience and purity to God even in tough times (Ps. 51:16-17) it pleases him and it goes up to him as a sacrifice that speaks on our behalf (Heb. 13:15). Let the fruits of our life build altars unto God.

PRAYER



Lord, I build an altar
unto you in every area of
my life in Jesus name.

My life is an
altar unto God.
I present myself as
a living sacrifice.

FAITH BYTE



**MANY CALLED,
FEW CHOSEN**

Scripture: Judges 7:1-8

TUES.
31ST OCT.
2017

*"For many are called, but few are chosen."
Matthew 22:14 (NKJV)*

A lot of people answer the call of God but only a few meet the criteria of whom God will choose. It is not enough to merely answer the call of God, we must show ourselves approved for the assignment at hand. God will not send someone who has not been tried and proven to war with the enemy. This is why the place of preparation is just as important as the assignment we are called to fulfill.

Of the 32,000 men who heeded the call of God, 22,000 were immediately disqualified for not meeting the criteria. These disqualified men were people who were afraid of the battle ahead. They had not been tested or proven, so God could not use them. God led the Israelites out of Egypt through a delayed route because they needed to be trained for war else they would have returned back to Egypt in fear. Abraham used servants born and trained in his house to deliver Lot. You must be prepared in the place of training so God can use you effectively.

The 22,000 failed in the test of boldness because they were afraid. The 10,000 remained because they were bold. The bible says that the righteous shall be as bold as a lion. The fearful will not enter the kingdom of God (Rev. 21:8). Fear is the opposite of faith and God cannot choose people who do not have faith and confidence in him. Build and develop your faith through God's word so you will be prepared and ready anytime God calls you for an assignment.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: Leadership/Communion Service tomorrow, 5:30PM

PRAYER

Lord, give me the
courage to prepare so
I will be ready when you
call me, in Jesus name.

I prepare to do exploits
for God and he finds me
ready when he needs me.

**FAITH
BYTE**

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE NOVEMBER

DATE	BIBLE CHAPTERS
NOVEMBER 1s	John-3
NOVEMBER 2n	John-4
NOVEMBER 3r	John-8
NOVEMBER 4t	John-90
NOVEMBER 5t	John 112
NOVEMBER 6t	John 136
NOVEMBER 7t	John 178
NOVEMBER 8t	John 1291
NOVEMBER 9t	Acts-3
NOVEMBER 10	Acts-6
NOVEMBER 11	Acts-8
NOVEMBER 12	Acts-90
NOVEMBER 13	Acts 113
NOVEMBER 14	Acts 146
NOVEMBER 15	Acts 179
NOVEMBER 16	Acts 222
NOVEMBER 17	Acts 235
NOVEMBER 18	Acts 268
NOVEMBER 19	Romans31
NOVEMBER 20	Romans74
NOVEMBER 21	Romans18
NOVEMBER 22	Romans-13
NOVEMBER 23	Romans-14
NOVEMBER 24	1 Corinthians4s 1
NOVEMBER 25	1 Corinthians9s 5
NOVEMBER 26	1 Corinthians1310
NOVEMBER 27	1 Corinthians1614
NOVEMBER 28	2 Corinthians4s 1
NOVEMBER 29	2 Corinthians8s 5
NOVEMBER 30	2 Corinthians139



**Have real experience
with real people, as you watch**

Heart



Heart

With Dr. Stephanie

on

RSTV: Tuesday - 6:00pm
SilverBird: Saturday - 8:30am
ABN: Thurs. & Fri., - 7:00pm



**BE STRONG AND
COURAGEOUS**

Scripture: Judges 7:9-15

WED.
1ST NOV.
2017

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."
Joshua 1:9 (NKJV)

God cannot work with people who are afraid to move. That is why when God commissioned Joshua he told him three times to be courageous (Jos. 1). Fear is a doorway the devil exploits to prevent us from obeying God.

Gideon had reasons to be afraid. In those days, wars were won by numbers. The more soldiers you had compared to your enemy, the better your chances of winning. The glory of a king was measured by the size of his army. For Gideon, he had an army size of 300 men to face a horde of soldiers too many to be numbered. He was afraid and God acted to dispel his fear before he called him to action. Fear is infectious and once the leader is fearful, the entire army will be fearful. But a courageous leader imbibes confidence into his followers.

The Midianites were afraid of Gideon and acknowledged that his sword would defeat them. In the same way God's word reveals to us that the victory is already ours. The devil has been defeated and he knows he is living on borrowed time. We have no reason to be afraid when we have been sent by God because the enemy we are contending with has been stripped of his power. Refuse to live in fear. Stand in the victory that Christ has won for you and live victoriously over the enemy at all times.

PRAYER

Lord, I remain strong
and courageous as
I fulfill my purpose
in life in Jesus name.

I do not have the spirit
of fear, but of boldness,
love and a sound mind.

**FAITH
BYTE**

THURS.
2ND NOV.
2017

THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S

Scripture: Judges 7:16-22

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"...Thus says the LORD to you: 'Do not be afraid
nor dismayed because of this great multitude,
for the battle is not yours, but God's.'
2 Chronicles 20:15 (NKJV)*



Gideon and his 300 men defeated the enemy despite the odds against them. They defeated them not because of their power, wisdom or skill but simply because God was with them. It was God who set the Midianites against themselves until they were totally destroyed. The battle is the Lord's, the victory is ours.

Whenever you face a situation that seems impossible, remember that your victory is not based on your ability, skill, personality or resources. Your victory is based on the power of God. If God is with you, then you are assured of victory. The Bible says when the enemy comes in one way, they will flee in seven ways, this is because God will set them against themselves. You will not have to fight in the battle. All you need to do is stand in faith and believe God that the battle is won.

Your victory comes by doing things God's way rather than yours. Be sensitive to God's leading and instruction on the matter. For Gideon, he was to light torches, smash pitchers and give a shout. For Joshua, it was to walk round a city and then give a shout (Jos. 6:20). What God will tell you to do may not seem relevant to the task at hand but what he requires is your obedience. Your obedience is the basis on which God will act because the battle is his and he will fight for you.

PRAYER



Lord, I hand over all the battles in my life to you, I am still to hear what you will ask me to do and I will do it in Jesus name.

I am more than a
conqueror in all things
because God loves me.

FAITH BYTE



OPPOSITIONS WILL ARISE

Scripture: Judges 8:1-17

FRI.
3RD NOV.
2017



*"For a great and effective door has opened to me,
and there are many adversaries."*
1 Corinthians 16:9 (NKJV)

Many Christians believe that because God has called them to do something, then everything should work out smoothly and without hitches, but this is far from the truth. In reality, when God calls you and you step out in faith, oppositions will arise from every corner. Opposition will arise from both within and without.

For Gideon, it was from the tribe of Ephraim whom he had just fought to deliver from the Midianites. Their grievance was that he had not given them the chief position in the battle (v1). But for the words of wisdom from Gideon, the defeat of the Midianites would not have been complete, as he would have been prevented from going after the escaped rulers of Midian. This is the same way many in the church oppose the work of God while jostling for positions. The work of God continues to suffer because the workers of God are fighting for due and undue recognition.

Gideon still had to contend with the men of Succoth and Peniel, fellow Israelites across the Jordan, but he didn't let anything distract him until he had routed out the enemies of Israel. The Midianites were never able to subdue the Israelites again (Jdg. 8:28). This should be our response to oppositions. We should choose to stay focused on God's work and not stop until it is done. Trust God for wisdom to handle the oppositions and press on.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: MAP Meeting (Home Fellowship) tomorrow.

PRAYER



Lord, as I fulfill your will,
help me to stay focused
when oppositions arise
in Jesus name.

My face is set on fulfilling
the purpose of God for
my life. I will not be
discouraged by men
or situations.

FAITH BYTE



SAT.
4TH NOV.
2017

PRESS ON

Scripture: Judges 8:4-13

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs,
but only one person gets the prize? So run to win!"*
1 Corinthians 9:24 (NLT)



Feedback: Share how those you shared the love scriptures with made you feel.

It is not the person that starts a race that is crowned as champion but the first among those who finishes the race successfully. As Christians, we ought to keep pressing on until our task is done. Until then, we have to keep on striving to improve and to move from one level unto the next.

Gideon and his men were tired and exhausted but they pressed on (Judges 8:4). Two of the kings of Midian had escaped and had to be captured for the war to be over. Even when they sought relief and assistance from the people of Succoth and Peniel and were denied, they pressed on. They did not complain or cry that there was no one to help them. They did not consider that the victory they sought was to the advantage of all including those who refused to help when they needed it. They pressed on until they completed the task given to them by God.

Keep pressing on. When you feel weak, tired and depressed, renew your strength in the Lord and press on. Even if no one will join you, help you or believe in your dream, keep pressing on. God has given you all you need to succeed, look to Him as your only source and He will provide for you. You can do all things through Christ that strengthens you. Christ is your strength and nothing shall be impossible to you. Never give up.

Reflection: What would I need to do to renew my strength daily?

PRAYER



Lord, help me to keep
pressing on till the very
end in Jesus name.

I refuse to give up
or be discouraged in
my work for Christ.

FAITH BYTE



This Week Walk of Faith:

Set aside at least one day this week to wait on the Lord; pray for strength.

WHO IS YOUR KING?

Scripture: Judges 8:22-28

SUN.
5TH NOV.
2017

"But Gideon said to them, 'I will not rule over you, nor shall my son rule over you; the LORD shall rule over you.'"
Judges 8:23 (NKJV)

For the first time in the scriptures, Israel desired a king. They chose Gideon because he had just led them to a mighty victory over the Midianites. They felt indebted to him and wanted to reward him with the kingship of the land. But Gideon quickly pointed them to God as the source of deliverance and that God alone was their king.

People who have been helped by others tend to feel indebted and seek for ways to reward their helpers. By this, many have been led to do things they should not have done. Many have also taken the privilege of being able to assist others to demand for ungodly form of repayment. We must always remember that God is our only source of help, he may use people to achieve it but he is the source. If we bear this in mind, we will not offer to do anything contrary to his word to show appreciation neither would we demand for repayment for any assistance rendered. It is good to show appreciation but it must be in line with God's word.

Gideon refused the offer that could have put him and his children on the throne of Israel forever. He saw that it was not from God and immediately pointed them to God. We should not give any man or anything the place of God in our life. Many have set their Pastors, bosses or spouse as the king of their life. Their word is law even if it is contrary to the will of God. This will eventually lead to destruction as the devil will take advantage. We must always have God as our king.

PRAYER



Lord, help me to always recognize that all I receive comes from you in Jesus name.

I use my resources to help others, my reward is from God.

FAITH
BYTE

MON.
6TH NOV.
2017

WEALTH TRAP

Scripture: Proverbs 11:4, 28

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment." 1 Timothy 6:17(NIV)



The desire to have wealth is not a bad one but wealth should not be the driving force of your life. Today, money seems to be all that man aspires to possess because he believes that with money, all problems will be solved but what can money do for your soul? Money does not guarantee a place in heaven, it might provide comfort and earthly cares but the most important thing, which is the security of your soul, cannot be guaranteed by wealth.

Do not put your trust in money instead of Christ because your riches can go away the next second but God will always be there. It is only your trust in God and living in accordance with his statutes that can guarantee you eternal life. Do not compromise your salvation in a bid to get rich. This does not mean that you must not work hard while on earth but also be aware that you brought nothing into this world and you will take nothing out of it.

While you strive to get wealth and riches, do not get consumed by that desire. Don't fall into the trap meant for those who allow wealth to be their driving force. Secure your soul and your place in heaven by investing in the Kingdom of God and walking according to His will. Do not put your trust in riches but in God because He alone can give you everlasting life.

PRAYER



Lord, please help me to trust only in you and not in riches, in Jesus name.

I put my trust in God only;
I will not be controlled
by riches or the desire
to get rich.

FAITH BYTE



TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

SHARPEN YOUR TALENT

Scripture: Judges 11:4-6

TUES.
7TH NOV.
2017



*"I have bestowed strength on a warrior;
I have exalted a young man from among the people.
Psalms 89:19 (NIV)*

God has given to everyone a measure of natural ability; a unique skill or ability that will enable you stand out in your world. Jephthah, despite being the son of a prostitute, was a mighty warrior. God had bestowed in him "strength". This special ability attracted people to him. With his ability, he turned a group of people who were described as worthless to a disciplined army. He enlisted, trained, captained and influenced these men until their exploits were heard and known all over the nation of Israel.

Jephthah's leadership skills finally attracted the attention of the kingmakers of his day and they made him a judge over Israel. This was because he did not despise his gift but used and sharpened it. He did so first over his band of men and finally over a nation.

Talents are given but skill is acquired. You need to sharpen your talent until it becomes a skill unique to you. There is something in you which you are yet to discover or have not improved on. Whatever your talent is, do not despise or make light of it and do not give room to naysayers who would try to dissuade or ridicule you. Do what it takes to grow that talent into a life-changing tool. Keep using and improving your unique ability it will attract attention soon and become a blessing to many.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: Leadership/Communion Service tomorrow, 5:30PM

PRAYER



Lord, help me appreciate
and develop your gifts
in my life in Jesus name.

I sharpen my talent
and skill and they
make room for me.

FAITH BYTE



WED.
8TH NOV.
2017

ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR SOURCE

Scripture: Judges 11:9-11

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth."
Psalms 124:8 (KJV)*



Jephthah acknowledged God as his source of victory. He knew that his victory over the Ammonites would not have been possible if he had relied on his human power and strength rather than on the power of God. He was confident of what God could use his leadership to achieve for Israel. He trusted in God to give his enemies over to him. When he let God work through him, he did not struggle to defeat the Ammonites, God did the fighting and gave the enemies over to him.

Just like for Jephthah, the path to victory in any endeavour can be fraught with many battles. At such times, we can call on the Lord for help. We can ask him to fight our battles. We can declare that the battle is the Lord's. Indeed, we cannot fight our arch enemy, the devil, by our own strength. It may seem logical and sensible to depend on our strength and that of those we can see but without God, we can truly do nothing. Through every battle, God is the one that brings our triumph (2 Cor. 2:1).

We should always remember to acknowledge God as the source of our success, strength, business, income, miracles and happiness because it is in him that we move and have our being. We must continually bless him for all we are and have and he in turn will greatly bless and enrich our lives. We must never take the glory due to him no matter what.

PRAYER



Lord, take glory for
all that has taken place in
my life in Jesus name.

Jesus is the source of
my life and he makes
me prosper in all things.

FAITH BYTE





*He who pursues righteousness and love finds life,
prosperity and honor.”*
Proverbs 21:21 (NIV)

For 18 years, the sons of Israel were greatly distressed and afflicted in Gilead. The solution to their freedom, peace and comfort was in the hands of the son of a prostitute and a fugitive – Jephthah. In the same way, the solution to our challenge could be with someone we consider inconsequential. The way you treat this person can determine if you will ever receive the help you need.

The bible gives an account of a little city with few men living within it. When a great king came against it, besieged it and built great bulwarks against it, it was a poor man who by great wisdom delivered the city (Eccl. 9:14-15). What would have been the fate of that city if they had ignored and despised the poor man's wisdom? What would have become of Namaan if he or his wife had despised and ignored the advice of the slave girl who lived with him? David may not have rescued his family if he had ignored the Egyptian slave he met on the way.

Everyone is valuable to God and he can use anyone to bring comfort and deliverance to you. But if you despise or ignore them, you may never get the breakthrough you seek. Jesus came humbly and unattractively to the world, yet he is the saviour of the world. Make a decision to treat everyone you meet cordially and with respect. Your promotion is here and you will not miss it in Jesus Name.

PRAYER



Lord, I choose to treat
all your creation with love
and respect in Jesus name.

I connect to the
person who will
lead me to my rest.

FAITH
BYTE

FRI.
10TH NOV.
2017

SELF GLORIFICATION

Scripture: Judges 12:1-3

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne,
and lay [them] on men's shoulders; but they (themselves)
will not move them with one of their fingers."*

Matthew 23:4 (KJV)



The displeasure of the men of Ephraim against Jephthah was motivated by pride. They wanted to be recognized and given the place of glory as conquerors. But where were they when the people were being oppressed by the Ammonites? They were not willing to lift a finger to fight the enemy but they wanted to be recognized as deliverers.

This was the same attitude of the Pharisees in the days of Jesus. They wanted seats of honour and sought the praises of men but they were not willing to lift a finger to make the people's burden lighter (Lk. 11:43-46). Yet when Jesus went about easing the burden of the people, they had the temerity to castigate him and called him the son of Belzebug (Matt. 12:24).

This spirit of self-glorification as seen in the lives of the Ephraimites and Pharisees is still prevalent today among believers. They go about touting their abilities with total disregard for others. They belittle the work and effort of others yet they will not step in to help or serve when called upon. Are you one of such people? Repent and have a change of heart and God will have mercy on you.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: MAP Meeting (Home Fellowship) tomorrow.

PRAYER



Lord, pride and self-glorification will never be my motive for serving you in Jesus name.

I have the spirit of God, therefore, pride does not distract me from my service.

FAITH BYTE



SPEAK LIFE, ALWAYS

Scripture: Judges 12:4-7

SAT.
11TH NOV.
2017

*"And after a while came unto him they that stood by,
and said to Peter, Surely thou also art one of them;
for thy speech betrayeth thee".
Matthew 26:73 (KJV)*

Feedback: Share how waiting on the Lord renewed your strength.

The people of Ephraim had their own regional pronunciation for the word 'Shibboleth' which means flowing stream or floods. They pronounced it as Sibboleth and it cost them 42,000 lives.

In the same way, there is a manner of speaking that is meant for a Christian. Believers are admonished not to let filthiness, foolish talking or vulgar jokes become part of our vocabulary (Eph. 5:4). The language of the believer must be words that heal, uplift and encourage. When you engage in filthy and foolish talk, you put yourself in danger and leave the door open for the enemy to strike. People must be able to tell your identity by the words you speak.

The Bible records that people went up to Peter to confirm if he was one of Jesus' followers because his accent gave him away (Matt. 26:73). Peter spoke like a disciple of Jesus and people soon recognized him to be one. Can people tell you are a Christian simply by listening to you? Do you speak words of faith and encouragement at all times or do you join the multitude to complain and grumble? Do you comfort others in time of sorrow or are you a miserable comforter like Job's friends? Sibboleth takes lives but Shibboleth gives lives. May your accent, words, character and actions always speak Shibboleth and not Sibboleth.

Reflection: How can I guide my lips against filthy language?

PRAYER



Lord, let every word
out of my lips honour
you in Jesus name.

My words are full
of salt and are
seasoned with grace.

FAITH
BYTE**This Week Walk of Faith:**

Speak life, find at least 2 people you can encourage in the Lord this week.

SUN.
12TH NOV.
2017

BOLD STEP TO BREAKTHROUGH

Scripture: Ruth 1:6-18

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"Only be thou strong and very courageous...that
thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest"*
Joshua 1:7 (KJV)



Boldness is an attribute of the Holy Spirit. It does not depend on how much you have or who you are, but on who you are in Christ Jesus. When Ruth left Moab with her mother-in-law, she had no clue what the future held for her. She had already decided that she will serve the God of Naomi and will accept whatever he did to her. Ruth took a bold step in leaving the city of her birth and going with Naomi to a life of uncertainty with people she had never known. She took a risk of faith and God came through for her.

Many Christians today are fearful in taking bold steps in their Christian life especially when situations around are unpleasant. They are quick to give up because things are not working in their favour. It would have been very easy for Ruth to join her sister-in law and return to Moab, rather, she embraced God. You will require boldness to obtain what God has prepared for you. The devil and the world system will oppose you but when you stand firm, you will succeed.

Just as God repeatedly told Joshua to be strong and bold, he is telling you to be bold (Jos. 1:7). God has given you the spirit of boldness that you may live and act with courage (2 Tim. 1:7). The bible further reminds believers to come boldly to the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need (Heb. 4:16). His grace is sufficient to change things around in our favour. We only need to be bold and step out with courage.

PRAYER



Lord, help me to be
bold and courageous
in following divine
direction in Jesus name.

I received boldness from
the Holy Spirit and
I take bold steps to
my breakthrough.

FAITH BYTE



LEVEL OF FAITH
Scripture: Judges 1:16-20MON.
13TH NOV.
2017

"Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, be taken up and be put into the sea; and has no doubt in his heart, but has faith that what he says will come about, he will have his desire."
Mark 11:23 (BBE)

Certain phases or experiences in life can be very puzzling and unsettling but no matter the heat, faith in God will bring you out. No matter the situation in which we find ourselves, our faith in God will always attract the grace of God upon us and on everything we do.

Though the Canaanites had iron chariots (v19), Israel had God on their side and the promise that he would drive the heathens out of their midst. But when they failed to completely drive out the heathens as God had instructed them, these heathens became and remain a thorn in their flesh to this day. The Israelites failed to realize that the iron chariots were no match for God. All they needed was an unwavering and confident faith in God, the only one who can save and deliver.

Real faith does not only dissolve the mountains and iron chariots of our lives but also reminds God of our dependence and trust in him. God's power at work in us can only be as potent as we believe it to be. If you are ill and believe God for healing, you will be healed. If you believe him for a successful surgery, you will have it. If you trust him to cure you while taking medications, he will work with you. God operates with us at our level of faith even while he desires that we grow in our faith. Are you growing in your faith?

PRAYER

Lord, I refuse to allow unbelief hinder me from receiving all you have freely given me, in Jesus name.

I believe and take possession of your entire precious promises heavenly father.

**FAITH
BYTE**

**TUES.
14TH NOV.
2017**

UNDERSTANDING THE TIMES

Scripture: Matthew 17:9-13

**TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE**

*"So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools,
but like those who are wise."
Ephesians 5:15 (NLT)*



In our quest to meet our daily needs and desires in life, we can become insensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit. The thoughts and pursuit of a better and more satisfying life engulf our minds at the expense of our spiritual growth and well-being. As Christians, we ought to spend some quality time with the Holy Spirit in order to understand God's plan and purpose for our life at every point in time.

Jesus' response to the question his disciples asked him about the return of Elijah reveal that it's possible to be preoccupied with your daily activities and not notice when something significant happens. The disciple's question showed they were unaware that the person they were expecting as a sign to the coming of the Messiah, had already come. It took a close relationship with Jesus to make them see that the expected sign was John the Baptist (v13). Many Christians today are in similar situation, totally unaware of spiritual events and have become susceptible to the devices of the devil.

It is dangerous to go through life unaware of the spiritual import of happenings and events. As Christians, we must stay sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit. He is our gateway to revelation and understanding. Build an intimacy with God by developing the habit of spending quality time in study and meditation and God, through the Holy Spirit, will guide you into all truth and show you things to come.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: Leadership/Communion Service tomorrow, 5:30PM

PRAYER



Lord, give me the grace
to be sensitive to the
leading of your Spirit
in Jesus name.

I have an understanding of
the times and I know what
to do because I am led by
the spirit of God.

FAITH BYTE



WHOSE APPROVAL?

Scripture: Judges 2:6-14

WED.
15TH NOV.
2017

"Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ"
Galatians 1:10 (NIV)

Many people appear active and hardworking in service or their jobs whenever their leaders or bosses hover over them. They act diligently with the hope of winning the appreciation or applause of men. The moment people turn their backs, they become complacent and passive. The bible frowns upon this kind of pretentious lifestyle (Eph. 6:6).

The generation after Joshua backslide into sin. They forsook the God of their fathers who brought them out of Egypt because their fathers were no longer present. When there was no one to chaperone their lifestyle, they slipped into a life of sin. They only conformed to the dictates of their leaders, they were not transformed by the word they heard and knew. They were people pleasers rather than God pleasers and they paid the price for their sin (v14)

Faithfulness is not an option for any believer. When our service is genuine we do not require anyone to police us to do our job. It becomes a joy to give of ourselves. God sees and knows our intentions even when we deceive others. Follow the lifestyle of Jesus who did the work of his father diligently on earth even when it was tough (Jn. 9:4; Matt. 26:39) because he knew his ultimate reward with God (Phil. 2:9).

PRAYER



Lord, keep me focused on pleasing you through my service in Jesus name.

I am not men-pleaser, I seek the pleasure of God in all that I do.

FAITH
BYTE

THURS.
16TH NOV.
2017

BEWARE OF TIME WASTERS

Scripture: Judges 19:1-9

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days"
Ephesians 5:16 (NLT)



Time is a natural phenomenon that God has apportioned to everyone in equal proportion. The old, the young, the poor, and the rich all have 24hrs in a day. But what makes the difference is the ability to manage this time well. Time is a resource that needs to be wisely and rightly invested. To achieve appropriate time management and investment, we need to beware of those people and things that can, and do distract us.

The Levite in our text had the goal of bringing back his concubine, which could have taken him two or three days, but he fell into the hands of a time waster. A time waster who happened to be a relative - his father in-law and ended up staying there for about five days.

Time wasters can occupy your time with just about anything and distract you from your destiny. In the case of this Levite, food and drinks were used to keep him comfortable and distracted. Time wasters can be things around you which may seem interesting to you but are actually distractions, thereby wasting your time and delaying your destiny. You need to be sensitive to know those things and people that the devil uses to take our time. You must value time and deploy it effectively as time lost cannot be regained.

PRAYER



Lord, I ask that my eyes be opened to see those people and things around me that distract me in Jesus name.

I have a destiny to fulfill, and I cannot be distracted.

FAITH BYTE



TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

SOW IN THE RIGHT FIELD

Scripture: Galatians 6:1-10

FRI.
17TH NOV.
2017



*"My experience shows that those who plant trouble
and cultivate evil will harvest the same"*
Job 4:8 (NLT)

Reaping what you sow is great news for people who sow good deeds but a scary one for those engaged in evil deeds. Some people sow in the flesh while some sow in the spirit. You sow in flesh when you indulge and feed your fantasies like giving in to your anger, bitterness, and lust (Gal 5:19-21). However, when you feed your spirit man, you are sowing in the spirit.

Where you are presently and the life you live today is a result of the field in which you chose to sow in the past. The choices and decisions you make today are the seeds you are sowing to make a harvest tomorrow and by extension, your harvest will directly prove if you sowed in the right field. Do not complain or get frustrated when you reap a harvest of corruption and evil because you have constantly sown in the flesh. Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of his fury will fail (Prov. 22:8)

Start sowing right today. Sow in the field of the spirit by doing good to people (Gal 6:9), thinking godly and positive thoughts and speaking only edifying words. Keep in mind that every detail counts - your time, decisions, actions, inactions, thoughts or words. They create your future. Invest in the fruits of the spirit and let them be as a guide in your life. Remember that everything you do in life, even the least important, will yield a harvest in the future.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: MAP Meeting (Home Fellowship) tomorrow.

PRAYER



Lord, help me to invest
and sow in the field of the
spirit so that I will reap
only good harvests
in Jesus name.

I sow in the spirit all
day long and my harvest
gives me joy.

FAITH BYTE



SAT.
18TH NOV.
2017

MAKING GODLY CHOICES

Scripture: Genesis 13:5-12

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"But if you refuse to serve the LORD, then choose today whom you will serve...but as for me and my family, we will serve the LORD"

Joshua 24:15 (NLT)



Feedback: Share how you encouraged someone this week.

The word of God helps us make godly choices in our lives. Abraham and Lot made different decisions in a conflict situation and they experienced different outcomes based on their decisions. Lot did not see the spiritual danger he was putting himself and his household by choosing the fertile but corrupt area of Sodom.

The life God presents to us today is a new life – a life of authority, abundance and supernatural grace. If we must attain God's peak and desire for our lives, we must depend totally on him even when logic makes it seem like it is not the smartest choice. When we depend on God for direction, he directs us through his word to make choices that will preserve and sustain us beyond the daily intricacies of life.

A choice without God is one with an unfavorable and disastrous outcome. When you make godly choices, you are sure of results that are glorious and peaceful. Seek God for direction and guidance each time you stand at the threshold of a decision. Dig deep into his word for insight and knowledge to back up your decisions. The path he leads you will guarantee peace.

Reflection: How do I ensure that I make godly choices in all that I do?

PRAYER



Lord, I open my heart to you today; lead me in the pathway that you made for me, in Jesus name.

I choose to make godly decisions today.
I choose to serve God.

FAITH BYTE



This Week Walk of Faith:

Seek God this week; ensure you study at least a chapter of the Bible daily.

OUR CHOICES HAVE
CONSEQUENCES

Scripture: Deuteronomy 30:11-20

SUN.
19TH NOV.
2017

"Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh, that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live" Deuteronomy 30:19 (NLT)

God created us in his own image and likeness but he also gave us a will and the freedom of choice. His desire, however, is that we choose the part that leads to life (Jn. 3:16). Every choice we make today ultimately adds up to make or mar our future.

People make choices that seem easy, attractive and comfortable ignoring the fact that shortcuts often lead to prolonged misery (Prov. 4:12). We should always avoid decisions that will distract us from putting God and his righteousness first in our life. When we rebel against God and choose our way, we choose a path that can lead to avoidable pain. Shortcuts may seem the smart and best strategy temporarily but the consequence may outlive their short-lived benefit..

God is always willing to guide and direct you. You should depend on him to lead you through the right path. You have the liberty of making your own choices but the final verdict comes from God when you commit your decisions through prayers to him.

PRAYER



Lord, I open my heart to you today, help me to make decisions that will benefit and bless me, in Jesus name.

I choose the new and living way today.
I choose to serve God.

FAITH
BYTE

MON.
20TH NOV.
2017

OVERLOOK THE CIRCUMSTANCES

Scripture: Isaiah 45:1-4;
1 Kings 17:2-6

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth;
shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness,
and rivers in the desert"*
Isaiah 43:19 (KJV)



God is sovereign, all knowing, all powerful and everywhere at the same time. No circumstance escapes his notice or gets out of his control. Nothing happens by chance because no detail of our lives eludes him. As our creator, he knows just what is right for us and can help us make choices that are best for us if we let him.

As humans, we tend to limit ourselves to our circumstances and base our decisions on them. When we do this, we hinder ourselves from accessing the help of God available to us and the implication of this is that we will become held down by our self-imposed limitation. Allowing circumstances influence our choices and decisions robs us of God's blessings. What may appear like a closed door may actually be a door waiting to be knocked on and opened (Matt. 7:8). We must not let the danger signals our mind project hold us back from going forward.

The truth is that God always makes a way where there seems to be no way because nothing is impossible with him. His thoughts and ways are higher than ours. No circumstance is beyond him. God has the ability to change situations and circumstances in your favor. Simply acknowledge his awesome power and submit to his direction. If you trust him, he will take absolute control of your situation and change things in your favour.

PRAYER



Lord, help me to make decisions that are in line with your word and never to depend on situations around me, in Jesus name.

I can see everything turning around for my good.

FAITH BYTE





*"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 29:11 (KJV)*

Today, there are so many advanced technologies to give you directions when you need to get anywhere. They can give directions but cannot guarantee safety. God does not only give us directions to follow, he also guarantees our safety. When the brook that sustained Elijah dried up, God directed him to a widow in Zarephath who cared for him. God had divinely prepared a place for Elijah even before the brook dried up.

God has a road map for his children. He knows exactly where to take you. He knows the minute details of your life and he has the blueprint for your whole life. You do not have to ask him to put a new plan for your life; all you need to do is to fit into his plan for your life. God knows the end from the beginning and he lives in eternity, so, he has already walked the path you will go and knows the bumps on the way and wants to help you navigate them.

God has wonderful plans for you today, just like he had for Israel. Although he may not expressly lay out to you every detail of the journey, you can trust him to take you to your destination. Your land flowing with milk and honey is just right ahead if you will trust God's instructions, follow his lead and travel with him one step at a time. When God becomes your divine director, his instructions become life to you (Prov. 4:22).

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: Leadership/Communion Service tomorrow, 5:30PM

PRAYER



Lord, give me the grace to follow your directions and walk in the light of your word in Jesus name.

I acknowledge God as my divine director and with him, I take one step at a time to my glorious destiny.

FAITH
BYTE

WED.
22ND NOV.
2017

REFUSE TO WORRY

Scripture: Matthew 6:25-34

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"Take therefore no thought for the morrow;
for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself."*
Matthew 6:34 (KJV)



There are many things in life that may cause us to worry. Decisions to be made on various crucial issues, bills to be paid, plans to be achieved and many others. The pressure to keep it all together can lead to worry, depression and ill health. The bible counsels us against overburdening our minds with these issues (Ps. 55:2).

There is a saying that worry is like a rocking chair that takes us nowhere. Anxiety and brooding never brought any change to issues (v7). Worry is destructive in many ways. It becomes a mental burden that can weigh a person down (Prov. 12:25). The bible says with God all things are possible. When we understand how great God is, we will learn to cast our burdens upon him and let him take control. With God, there is no mountain too high to climb.

We truly cannot add a hair to our head even if we tried. We can instead leave our desires and needs at the feet of the one who understands us totally. We can entrust our decisions and goals in his hands because he has room enough to oversee that they come to pass. Let gratitude and praise take the place of our worry. If he can feed the birds of the air and adorn the flowers in the field with fine raiment, we can count on him to bring the best plans to come to pass in our lives. We can find rest in his assurance to care for us (Ps. 55:2).

PRAYER



Lord, I ask that you take away every worry from my life. Give me your peace that passes all understanding in Jesus name.

I cast all my cares and worries upon the Lord for I know He cares for me.

FAITH BYTE



LISTEN AND FOLLOW

Scripture: John 10:22-28

THURS.
23RD NOV.
2017

*"My sheep hear my voice,
and I know them, and they follow me:"*
John 10:27 (KJV)

The sheep is considered a very humble animal. It symbolizes meekness and that is why Jesus refers to his followers as sheep (v27). As his disciples, he expects that we follow his lead but many still find it difficult to do this.

When the sheep does not follow, it goes astray and things do not turn out well for it. To avoid this plight, the sheep has to learn its master's voice so it knows what direction to go whenever he calls. If we are to avoid the danger of falling away from the path that God wants for us, we must own up to the truth that we cannot live without him. Our very existence and success in life depends on our ability to know the way he wants us to go.

Do you know the Master's voice? Can you distinguish his voice in the midst of the noise and distraction of this world? You cannot follow Jesus if you do not recognize his voice. His voice is his word. Therefore, your starting point has to be the word of God. There is no shortcut to recognizing when he speaks to you but the word. When you are filled with the word, you avoid confusion. The word of God must saturate your soul to the point where you can differentiate when the pretentious voice of the enemy speaks and when Jesus says "follow me".

PRAYER



Lord, help me to listen
and understand when
you speak to me
in Jesus name.

My ears are tuned to
hear and receive
instructions from God.

FAITH
BYTE

FRI.
24TH NOV.
2017

A SURE FOUNDATION

Scripture: 2 Timothy 2:14-19

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal;
The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that
nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity."*

2 Timothy 2:19 (KJV)



The kind of structure or building we plan to put in place will determine the type of foundation to use. This is because the foundation itself will determine the strength, stability and longevity of the structure. Therefore, if we desire a building to stand the test of time and withstand the ravages of nature, we will ensure to choose the right foundation to build on.

As spiritual beings, we must also assess the foundation on which our lives are based for it also affects the rest of our lives. If we desire to build a secure and meaningful life, we must build and hide our lives in Christ. The passage, today, reminds us that the foundation of God is sure. It is sure because his principles, precepts and laws are unchanging. From generation to generation, they remain in operation. He does not lower or change his standards to suit his mood or any individual. He remains faithful so we can count on him not to fail us.

On what do you build your business, career or family? Do you hope that your strength, intellect, beauty, wit or charisma will sail you through the dangerous waters of life? This is far from the truth. A life that depends on the whim, ingenuity and strength of man is a life destined for misery and pain. Build your life on God's foundation of love, truth and godliness. This is the foundation that secures you a life of peace and prosperity.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: MAP Meeting (Home Fellowship) tomorrow.

PRAYER



Lord, help me build on
an everlasting foundation
that will withstand the test
of time in Jesus name.

I build on the solid rock
which is Jesus Christ
that can never be shaken.

FAITH BYTE



TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

NO OTHER FOUNDATION

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 3:1-11

SAT.
25TH NOV.
2017



*"For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ."
1 Corinthians 3:11(KJV)*

Feedback: Share how studying a chapter of the Bible daily empowered you.

Many people build on a foundation that is not Christ. Some build on the foundation of money; they will do nothing except it brings monetary gain to them. Some build on the foundation of their relationships or network; they bank and act on the words of individuals they trust even if they go against the word of God. Others build on a foundation of lies; they lie and cheat their way through life to maintain their status. The bible warns against building on the wrong foundation.

Paul attempted to direct the attention of the church from physical, baseless arguments and quarrels concerning God's servants and doctrines. He points out that the Christian's focus should be on God, not the vessels He has chosen to serve Him. There is only one sure foundation to build on and that is Christ. Anything aside this is false and can lead to ruin.

It does not matter what you do or who you are, your foundation should be built on Christ. A believer's standard for living must be based on the principles and truth of God's word. God's servants are only channels to guide believers to the truth of the word. When your foundation is built on the word of God, your actions will become consistent no matter where you are or who you deal with. The right foundation built in Christ is the most important recipe for success in every area of life.

Reflection: Am I building on a fleshy foundation or on the word of God?

PRAYER



Lord, grant me the grace to consistently build on the sure foundation of your word in Jesus name.

I am standing on the sure foundation, which is Christ Jesus.

FAITH
BYTE



This Week Walk of Faith:

Study 1st Corinthians 3 thoroughly and share with at least 2 people, this week.

SUN.
26TH NOV.
2017

THE SEED OF PRIDE

Scripture: Esther 1:10-17

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"Pride goes before destruction,
a haughty spirit before a fall."
Proverbs 16:18 (NIV)*



The name Vashti means goodness and beauty. A combination of these two qualities would suggest a concerned, thoughtful and humble nature. But Vashti is famously remembered for her pride and how this caused the loss of her place as queen and her position in the Persian kingdom.

Pride relies on self-sufficiency rather than God's sufficiency. It is an over-bloated assessment of self that blinds us from seeing the good in anyone but ourselves. We fail to see the beauty God has placed around us. Queen Vashti's proud nature did not allow her name to define her character, rather it extinguished her. A proud heart operates in stubbornness and inflexibility. It does not recognize the folly of its actions. We must resist every urge to be proud in our day to day lives. The devil knows he can steal your joy, prosperity and blessings by sowing the seed of pride in you.

To overcome the spirit of pride, you must truly become humble. Humility accepts that we can fail and learn from it because we do not know it all. Humility requires that we rely on God's sufficient wisdom and grace in everything we say and do. Remember, God's blessings upon your life is for the purpose of glorifying him not to grow you into a conceited person.

PRAYER



Lord, I choose to be humble rather than being proud in Jesus name.

Humility defines every area of my life and relationships.

FAITH BYTE





"Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives."
Galatians 5:25 (NLT)

Sometimes, the intensity of our daily activities can distract us from noticing how much time we spend dwelling on spiritual matters. Some people go days without engaging with God in prayer or study. When we profess faith in Christ, we must act based on his demands of us.

True religion is a matter of consciousness. It is a voluntary state of genuine commitment to God. It requires that we come to the point where we are determined to obey and please God on a day to day basis despite what the environment and circumstances tell us. It demands that we live beyond tradition, doctrines and prescriptions of men and instead seek to develop a working and ongoing relationship with God.

We cannot let the issues of life overshadow the most important aspect of who we are. We are first spirits; spirits energized and refueled in the place of fellowship with God (Jn. 15:5). Rather than fix our spiritual life around our schedule, we should incorporate God into our daily lives and activities. Our interaction with God should be geared towards having a working relationship with him rather than as an afterthought. This cannot be achieved on a weekly routine basis but should be based on a practical and daily involvement of the Holy Spirit in all we do. When we do this, we discard the trappings of religion and truly have a relationship with God.

PRAYER



Lord, let my everyday reflect my relationship with you in Jesus name.

I do not act based on the doctrines and traditions of men but develop a genuine relationship with God.

FAITH
BYTE

TUES.
28TH NOV.
2017

MAKE ROOM FOR INCREASE

Scripture: Esther 2:1-9, 17

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"If you are willing and obedient,
you will eat the best from the land."*
Isaiah 1:19 (NIV)



Before we see increase on the outside, we need to make room for it on the inside. If you have a small vision, you will limit your life. God's supply is unlimited, his blessings and promises of good are for all believers but there are conditions to be met in order to tap into this abundance.

The king's order to remove Vashti as queen created an opening. That opening was to be filled by someone better than her. That means the replacement must have made herself ready to occupy such a position and have qualities and character worthy of such honor. Esther's life in this story is characterized by one significant truth. She lived a life of obedience (Es. 2:20). The spirit of obedience will make room in your life that will allow you to eat the best of the land.

How much room do you make daily through your obedience to God's word? Obedience demands actions today that will position us for increase tomorrow. When Elisha told the widow to borrow jars, close her door and pour the oil, she acted without hesitation and her obedience brought increase in her life (2 Kgs 4:1-7). Obedience to God may make us seem foolish sometimes, but when we move in obedience to his word, he blesses us beyond our expectation.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: Leadership/Communion Service tomorrow, 5:30PM

PRAYER



Lord, help me live a
life of obedience to
every instruction you
have for me.

By my obedience,
I make room for
increase in every area
of my life.

FAITH BYTE





*"But now, O LORD, thou art our father; we are the clay,
and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand."
Isaiah 64:8 (KJV)*

Names in the Bible often tell us something about the bearers. Two meanings of the name 'Hegai' are "meditation and separation". With an understanding of these words, we could say Hegai was given to detail and focused. Hegai ran a beauty finishing school that in one year could turn mere virgins into queens. The man had an ability of taking what seemed insignificant and transforming it into something of significance.

A parallel could be drawn to God, our heavenly father, here. However, God goes beyond what Hegai does. Unlike Hegai who focused more on outward beauty, God has the ability to transform us from the inside. He does this by His word. God's word is like a mirror that does not show what we are presently but what we ought to be. It is a reflection and a picture of how He expects us to be. With God's word, we can move from ordinary to extraordinary.

God's molding ensures that every area of our life is touched. And if we would yield to his hand to mold us, we are assured that our lives will be transformed from our inner man and we will become nothing but masterpieces. Sometimes, our molding will come with discomfort and pain but when we persevere through his hands, he turns us into fine vessels for his use and glory.

PRAYER



Lord, mold me and make
me into the person
you desire me to be
in Jesus name.

By your word and your
hand Lord, I work to
reach my full potential.

FAITH
BYTE

THURS.
30TH NOV.
2017

BE SENSITIVE TO OPPORTUNITIES

Scripture: Esther 2:1-8

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"...and make the most of every opportunity."
Col 4:5 (NLT)*



Sometimes, we fail to recognize and utilize opportunities around us. Some may recognize the opportunity but refuse to take advantage of it because they are afraid of failure. Some wait for too long hoping for confirmation that the opportunity passes them by.

When Esther heard of the opening for the position of a queen, she quickly made use of that opportunity. She was not discouraged by the fact that she was a stranger in the land, but she joined other young girls to contest. She also did not look down on herself or think herself unfit to rule. She stepped up to the challenge of becoming queen. What she did was prepare herself to ensure she had a chance like any of the other girls. Sometimes, we fret and ponder about the outcome rather than focusing on preparing ourselves to take the task head-on. Esther did not do so. As soon as she got word from Mordecai about the contest, she ran with it.

Be sensitive and bold to seize the opportunities that God brings opportunities our way daily. He answers prayers in diverse ways, and he must have presented that opportunity as a result of your prayers. So while you pray, be sensitive and explore opportunities He has brought before you. (Col 4:2). Rely on the strength of the one that has brought the opportunity your way. Put away every form of fear, timidity, hesitation and procrastination for God is able to equip you for success.

PRAYER



Lord, open up my eyes to see opportunities and utilize them as they come my way in Jesus name.

My blessings will not elude me because I am sensitive to the move of God in my life.

FAITH BYTE



READ THROUGH THE BIBLE DECEMBER

DATE	BIBLE CHAPTER
DECEMBER 1st	Galatian 3 1
DECEMBER 2nd	Galatian 6 4
DECEMBER 3rd	Ephesian 3 1
DECEMBER 4th	Ephesian 6 4
DECEMBER 5th	Philippian 4 1
DECEMBER 6th	Colossian 4 1
DECEMBER 7th	Thessalonian 5 s 1
DECEMBER 8th	2 Thessalonian 3 s
DECEMBER 9th	1 Timothy 6 1
DECEMBER 10th	2 Timothy 4 1
DECEMBER 11th	Titus 3 ; Philemon
DECEMBER 12th	Hebrew 4 1
DECEMBER 13th	Hebrew 7 5
DECEMBER 14th	Hebrew 1 8
DECEMBER 15th	Hebrew s 11 131
DECEMBER 16th	James 5 1
DECEMBER 17th	1 Peter 2 1
DECEMBER 18th	1 Peter 5 3
DECEMBER 19th	2 Peter 3 1
DECEMBER 20th	1 John 3 1
DECEMBER 21st	1 John 5 4
DECEMBER 22nd	2 & 3 John, Jude
DECEMBER 23rd	Revelation 2 1
DECEMBER 24th	Revelation 5 3
DECEMBER 25th	Revelation 8 6
DECEMBER 26th	Revelation 1 19
DECEMBER 27th	Revelation 1 32
DECEMBER 28th	Revelation 1 64
DECEMBER 29th	Revelation 1 87
DECEMBER 30th	Revelation 2 09
DECEMBER 31st	Revelation 2 21

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FRI,
1ST DEC.
2017

THE SECRETS OF GOD

Scripture: Esther 2:8-12

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"The secret things belong to the LORD our God,
but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our
children forever, that we may do all the words of the law."*
Deuteronomy 29:29 (NKJV)



Not everything is revealed to us immediately. Sometimes God hides things from us to protect us and other times he hides them to preserve them for us. Proverb 25:2 says "It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, and it is the honour of a king to find it out." We should not be discouraged when we don't know all about God's plan, but rather we should trust him and take it one step at a time.

Esther concealed her identity at the prompting of Mordecai. She kept secret her family background and nationality just as Mordecai had told her to do, for she continued to follow Mordecai's instructions as she had done when he was bringing her up. Had she revealed it earlier, Haman would have included her in his plot. Had she revealed it later, the Israelites would have been destroyed. God had her keep her nationality secret and revealed it at the right moment.

God will reveal to you what you need to excel at the right time. He will never be late for you. Don't try to understand and analyze everything before you take action, trust that God is in control. God revealed the impending famine to Pharaoh at the right time to promote Joseph. God hid Nebuchadnezzar's dream from him to promote Daniel. God will use his secrets to promote you at the appropriate time.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: MAP Meeting (Home Fellowship) tomorrow.

PRAYER



Lord, reveal to me the
hidden things in your time
in Jesus name.

I live by faith;
I understand the times
and the seasons.

FAITH BYTE



TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

FAVOUR MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

Scripture: Esther 2:12-17

SAT.
2ND DEC.
2017



*"So shall thou find favour and good understanding
in the sight of God and man."*
Proverbs 3:4 (KJV)

Feedback: How does it feel sharing the word of God with others?

What is it that makes people select you even when you aren't the most qualified? It is favour. Though you might have all the connections in the world, it is favour that helps you dig out the treasure that exists in such relationships. Even if you don't have an adequate connection, favour makes you stand out and causes people to notice you. Favour is God's signature in the life of a man.

Esther was probably the least qualified contestant. First, she was an orphan with little influence and contacts. She was a stranger and a slave in Persia. She was a Jew who were the most vilified people at the time. But favour kept announcing her everywhere she went. She found favour with Hegai and he speedily gave her things for purification and also gave her and her maidens the best apartment (v9). Esther also obtained favour in the sight of the king above every other virgin. Esther was the only girl that caught the king's admiration so much so that he couldn't help but place the crown on her head as queen.

You may think you have all it takes to be the "selected", but you'll be surprised to know that it's not by what you think you have or know, rather, it is by the favour of God in your life. God's favour will elevate you and put you in palaces.

Reflection: Am I conscious of the favour of God over my life?

PRAYER



Lord, let your grace
saturate me that I will
find favour anywhere I go,
in Jesus name.

I cease to struggle
anymore because my
time of favour is here.

FAITH BYTE



This Week Walk of Faith:

Locate at least 2 favour scriptures and declare them over your life, this week.

SUN.
3RD DEC.
2017

YIELD TO THE SPIRIT

Scripture: Esther 2:8-15

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"...and going about to establish their own righteousness,
have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God."*

Romans 10:3 (KJV)



In the passage above, when it was the turn of a virgin to go before the king, she was given whatever she wanted and it was hers to keep. All the virgins asked for as much as they could have but Esther's case was different. She asked for nothing other than what Hegai had recommended (v15). She understood that Hegai had been working with the king and would know the heart of the king. She submitted to his guidance and desired to please the king and not what will benefit her. She yielded to Hegai and God favoured her before the king.

This is the work of the Holy Spirit in our life. He reveals the heart of the Father to us and if we yield to His leading, He will guide us to a prosperous Christian experience. If we desire to please God, we must yield to the leading of the Spirit in all things and be ready to obey his instructions.

The bible says when the Spirit of truth is come, he will guide you into all truth (Jn. 16:13). For proper guidance to take place, there must be a willingness on the part of the ward to follow the instructions of the guardian. He is to teach us all things. Let us not live for our own self-will and desires; let us live to please God. Let us yield to the Holy Spirit in all things.

PRAYER



Lord, help me to remain
yielded to your will your
ways in Jesus name.

I live a victorious
Christian life because
I am led by the
spirit of God.

FAITH BYTE



SEEK TO PLEASE
THE KING

Scripture: Esther 2:15-17

MON.
4TH DEC.
2017

"Carefully determine what pleases the Lord."
Ephesians 5:10 (NLT)

Hegai knew exactly what the king wanted. While the other women were after what they could get, Esther went after what the king wanted. Esther asked for nothing more than what Hegai suggested (v15). This is the role the Holy Spirit plays in our life today.

Esther was able to recognize opportunities. She understood that Hegai should know what the king wanted as his position gave him access to the king. We, as Christians, have the same advantage, but the question is do we make the best out of it? The bible says God has given us free and total access to the Holy Spirit to teach and bring all things to our remembrance (Jn.14:26). Have we asked the Holy Spirit what exactly moves God? Have we allowed him to pray through us instead of coming to God with our list? Do we let the Holy Spirit decide what is best for us. Have we spent enough time knowing God, like Hegai knew the king in order to know what excites and pleases Him?

The Holy Spirit reveals the father and the son to us daily. Rely on him to bring the truth of God's word into your heart and life, and do not seek for more than he gives. He will help you to do always and only those things that are pleasant in the sight of God. He will always give you all you need to succeed.

PRAYER



Lord, help me as I spend time with the Holy Spirit to know more of you in Jesus name.

I recognize and utilize every opportunity that will help me move the hand of God in my favor.

FAITH
BYTE

TUES.
5TH DEC.
2017

A BEAUTIFUL ENDING

Scripture: Psalms 139:14-16

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

Philippians 1:6 (NIV)



Have you ever seen one of those movies where the main character goes through series of painful ordeals and at the end of the film, all the challenges and struggles result in a happy ending? Everyone goes through seasons of disappointments and hardships. We all have unexpected setbacks. Maybe you are going through a rough path and you seem not to understand it. The good news is God never ends in the negative. If you will keep doing good works with your life, God promises that he will give you a beautiful ending.

God is a specialist in turning seemingly adverse conditions around. Therefore, lift up the hand that hang down and the feeble knees and make straight paths for your feet (Heb. 12:12-13). Do not give in or give up. Do not isolate yourself in sorrow.

Rejoice instead and continue in faith and patience. Begin to act based on your faith and be thankful for what God is doing and yet to do. Your story can have a beautiful ending and can end in praise if you let Him (Jer. 29:11).

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: Leadership/Communion Service tomorrow, 5:30PM

PRAYER



Lord, my life will not end half way but will be full and complete in Jesus name.

I thank you Father, for you are working out everything for my good. You make my life truly beautiful.

FAITH BYTE



**DO NOT COMPROMISE
YOUR IDENTITY**

Scripture: Esther 3:1-6

WED.
6TH DEC.
2017

"Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care."
Psalms 95:6-7(NIV)

Mordecai refused to bow down and pay homage to Haman. This is similar to the case of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego who refused to bow to the golden image the king had set up (Dan. 3:1-6). To the Jews, bowing down is a duty owed to God and a form of worship. Therefore, it is a big deal for them to prostrate before any other god or man. Being a Jew, Mordecai held on to this tradition even though he was no longer in the land of Israel. Even though he knew he was disobeying the king's orders at the risk of his life, he refused to compromise. He let those who tried to persuade him to do otherwise know that he was a Jew and therefore, could not bow to Haman.

A lot of Christians today would not want friends and neighbours to know that they are Christian. They compromise at the slightest sign of trouble so as not to stand out of the crowd. Jesus said if you are ashamed of me before people, I will also be ashamed of you before my father who is in heaven. We must be fully persuaded about our identity in Christ and be willing to stand for it at every time.

Do not compromise your identity as a believer because of pressure. Do not be involved in ungodly act in order to conform. Your actions should be guided by God's word. Mordecai made it clear to his colleagues he was a Jew. Are you a believer? Let your lifestyle and actions say so.

PRAYER

Lord, help me not to compromise my faith so that I have no reason to hide my identity in Jesus name.

I honour God before men, and Jesus honours me before the father.

**FAITH
BYTE**

THURS.
7TH DEC.
2017

DO NOT HIDE THE PROBLEM

Scripture: Esther 4:1-4

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"Rebuke a wise man and he will love thee."
Proverbs 9:8b (KJV)



Every human being desires to be accepted, loved and respected in their environment. This need for acceptance, most times, drives us into presenting what we believe to be 'acceptable' behaviour or attitude. In a bid to display our 'good' side, we tend to hide what we consider our 'bad' side.

Esther naturally tried to cover up the 'unacceptable' appearance of Mordecai by sending him some fresh clothes to replace the sackcloth he had put on which Esther may have perceived as unacceptable (v4). Mordecai, however, rejected the clothes. He wanted to deal with the issue. He did not want to cover it up and when he refused to do so, he got the change he sought.

Whatever you believe to be your bad side or a weakness needs to be dealt with. When you expose it, you find grace for help (Ps 19:12). Do not wallow in shame, silence or fear because you feel other people would laugh, ridicule or turn you into a topic for discussion. Channel the energy you exert trying to cover up to dealing with the issue. Give the Holy Spirit a chance in your life to transform the bad to good. He alone can strengthen your weakness and make you the best you can be but he can only do so when you recognize the need for a change and ask for his help.

PRAYER



Lord, do a work that only you can do in me that I may become a better person in Jesus name.

The Holy Spirit lives in me and he transforms me for good.

FAITH BYTE



TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

POWER OF FASTING AND PRAYER

Scripture: Esther 4:10-16

FRI.
8TH DEC.
2017



"Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish." Esther 4:16 (NIV)

Fasting with prayers is a spiritual exercise believers undertake that helps to physically tune the spirit above the flesh. Fasting and prayers engages and empowers the spirit.

Esther risked her life when she came before king Xerxes in his inner court to plead for the lives of Mordecai and the entire Jewish nation. She took the step of faith with fasting and prayer. She fasted because she needed an urgent intervention from God for her people's deliverance. When fasting is done without prayers, it is merely starvation. In the Old Testament, fasting was usually accompanied with prayers as we see in the lives of Moses, Elijah, Ezra and Daniel, Jesus and his disciples (Mk. 9:28-29; Act 13:3). When believers fast and pray, they submit their frailties to the all-powerful God to take preeminence.

As believers, we are encouraged to fast with prayer for great results. Avail yourself the opportunity for unimaginable supernatural outcome through fasting. Even Jesus acknowledged to his disciples the importance of this spiritual exercise when he let his disciples know that "this (situation) will not change without a fast.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: MAP Meeting (Home Fellowship) tomorrow.

PRAYER



Lord, help me to take advantage of the power of fasting with prayers in Jesus name.

I enter my next level because fasting with prayer avails much for me.

FAITH BYTE



SAT.
9TH DEC.
2017

BE INFORMED

Scripture: Esther 4:5-14

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom:
and with all thy getting get understanding".*
Proverbs 4:7 (KJV)



Feedback: Share how favour declarations have impacted your life.

The need for information is very crucial in everything we do in life. Information is the building block for knowledge. With knowledge and understanding comes wisdom which is the principal thing (Prov. 4:7). God rejects those who reject knowledge (Hos. 4:6). With quality information, the knowledge to adapt during critical decision making is never far-fetched.

When Esther noticed that Mordecai rejected the clothes she sent to him, she sent one of the king's chamberlains to Mordecai to know what the problem was. She did not sit down to assume things, but she made inquiries to get proper information regarding Mordecai's state so that she will be better informed to handle it and proffer solution to the problem.

Many people have ended up creating problems and enmity for themselves and their family because they acted on wrong assumptions without taking time to seek further information. Whether it's a project, profession or a business line you want to venture into, make inquiries to know the financial, time, energy and health implications so you can make right decisions. With proper information, you can never be deform. God's wisdom will announce you to the world in the name of Jesus.

Reflection: Do I have enough of God's word in me to guide my choices?

PRAYER



Lord, put in me the
hunger to go after relevant
knowledge, in Jesus name.

My life is a success
because I operate with
the right information.

FAITH BYTE



This Week Walk of Faith:

Take time to study at least 2 chapters of the Bible daily, this week.

THE GRAND PURIM

Scripture: Esther 9:20-32

SUN.
10TH DEC.
2017

*"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed,
do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks
to God the Father through him."
Colossians 3:16-17 (NIV)*

Purim is a Hebrew word meaning to cast lots. It signifies the day Haman had chosen based on the lots to wipe out the Jews. His plans were aborted by God after the Jews had sought the face of God. Their evil plan against God's children became their personal experience. Till today, the Jews celebrate Purim as the day when destruction of the Jews was turned to victory.

God has made a grand Purim for all men on the cross of Calvary. On that day, he turned the destruction of mankind into victory for all those who will believe. God is constantly turning the wicked plans of the devil concerning us to victories, creating a daily Purim for us.

As a Christian, you should acknowledge everyday as your Purim and celebrate. You have to show gratitude to God daily for his mercies, love and victories over secret battles plotted by our enemies. Each day marks a new chapter of successes against failures, disappointment, depression and satanic plot. Count your blessing and name them one by one and you will see and be surprised at what the Lord has done. Rejoice in the doings of the Lord because the enemy and his cohort have failed.

PRAYER



Lord, help me rejoice for
the daily victories you
wrought on my behalf
in Jesus name.

I celebrate my victory
for the enemy has
been defeated.

FAITH
BYTE

MON.
11TH DEC.
2017

GOD'S RESTORATION POWER

Scripture: Esther 9:1-14

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"For Mordecai was great in the king's house, and his fame went out throughout all the provinces: for this man Mordecai waxed greater and greater."

Esther 9:4 (KJV)



The events around which our lives are woven are subject to God's control. God sometimes permits pain, but he is able to transform the pain into joy as we rely fully on Him.

Mordecai endured the loss of relatives and homeland. He had to adopt his cousin Esther and brought her up as his own daughter. He raised her up and she eventually became queen in the land of Persia. He endured the ignominy of remaining at the king's gate, was hated for being a Jew and his life was threatened. He ended up in sack clothes weeping at the palace gate. Eventually, everything turned around for him. He was honoured by the king, given authority to make decrees using the king's seal and became the symbol of hope to his people.

Whatever you are going through today is only a light affliction compared to the glory that awaits you. God will turn the situation around to favour you if you do not give up. The Most High is your dwelling place and your refuge - no harm will befall you. He has given his angels charge over you and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. As he restored Mordecai and countless others, he will also do the same for you.

PRAYER



Lord, help me to endure trials and hard times to your glory in Jesus name.

By the grace of God I endure persecution and the glory of God is revealed in my life daily.

FAITH BYTE



TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

LET YOUR GIFTS BENEFIT OTHERS

Scripture: Judges 14:19-20

TUES.
12TH DEC.
2017



"And He gave...for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ"
Ephesians 4:11-12 (KJV)

The Holy Spirit has deposited in every Christian talents and gifts. These gifts only make meaning when they are used to impact others positively. It is crucial to use our good gifts to build and grow the church of Christ.

God, in his infinite wisdom, has distributed varying gifts to us as he sees fit so that together we can bring his kingdom to bear on earth (1 Cor. 12:1). Samson impulsively used the special gift God had given him for selfish purposes. God gave him his gift so he could protect and deliver his people but Samson used it at will and without regard to the effect it had on other people. When Samson endangered the lives of others, he abused God's gift in him. The purpose for our gifts is not to tear down and destroy but to equip and build up (Eph. 4:12).

Have you given thought to how you use the talents that you have been blessed with? When God gave them to you he knew you had the capacity to handle his gifts. Are you going to use your gift to bring the kingdom of God on earth? Your gift should bring light into the lives of others. It should strengthen, encourage and bless. The world is waiting for the manifestation of your unique gifts and talents. Be a good and faithful steward of the gift of God in you. Let your gifts bless others.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: Leadership/Communion Service tomorrow, 5:30PM

PRAYER



Lord, help me to use my gift for the benefit of the church of Christ in Jesus name.

I am involved in building the church of Christ. I deploy my gift for the benefit of others.

FAITH BYTE



WED.
13TH DEC.
2017

CONSEQUENCE OF DISOBEDIENCE

Scripture: Judges 2:1-5

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"Therefore I also said, 'I will not drive them out before you,
but they shall be thorns on your side, and their God
shall be a snare unto you'"*
Judges 2:3 (NKJV)



The Bible says "he who is often reproved but refuses to listen will be destroyed suddenly, without any remedy. (Prov. 29:1). This is the consequence of refusing to obey God. This is because God will not often strive with man and may let go when we refuse to submit to his will. We will then have to live with the consequences of our disobedience.

The people of Israel failed to follow God's instruction to drive out the inhabitants of Canaan before occupying the Promised Land. Even when God had given them the ability to defeat their enemy. They chose to spare them, going against God's direct instruction to them (Judges 1). Even after they repented, they had to live the rest of their lives with the consequence of their failure to walk in God's command (v4). The people they were destined to drive out became a snare and thorn to them (v3)

The Christian walk demands a life of obedience. It requires a sensitivity to understand God's will for our lives and then a commitment to follow his will. The bible reminds us that the fear of the Lord is beginning of wisdom. Our reverence for God should push us to seek and walk in obedience to his instruction. God demands our complete obedience to the path he chooses for us. The path he chooses for us is always the one that leads to life. We cannot go wrong when we obey him. It is better to obey than seek repentance.

PRAYER



Lord, help me to live a
life of absolute obedience
to you in Jesus name.

I am a child of God,
therefore, I obey his
instruction to me.

FAITH BYTE



STAND AGAINST EVIL

Scripture: Judges 20:1-14

THURS.
14TH DEC.
2017

"Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them"
Romans 1:32 (KJV)

Iniquity abounds in the world today. People publicly and blatantly display evil yet many choose to support or stay silent about it. Some give the excuse that they do not wish to judge others and, therefore, fail to expose ungodly actions. As believers, we must not condone evil but raise our voices against it. If God hates evil, then we must do the same and rebuke wrongdoing in love.

The sin of the men of Gibeah was that of rape and murder and their action was worthy of death (v5). The sin of the tribe of Benjamin was that they protected these men and did nothing about the crime the men of Gibeah had committed. Their failure to act against such wrong could have encouraged and emboldened others to perpetrate the same crime believing they would also go scot free.

We cannot choose to be silent in the face of evil. Our silence will be interpreted as tacit agreement. We must speak out against evil and condemn every action that is contrary to the word of God. We should not choose to be politically correct while being disobedient to God. When Peter and John were asked to be silent they said it was better to obey God than man (Acts 4:18-20). The same must be our testimony.

PRAYER



Lord, make me an impossible equation that the devil cannot solve, in Jesus name.

I stand firm against all the wiles of the devil. I am victorious in all I do.

FAITH
BYTE

FRI.
15TH DEC.
2017

GOD'S ASSURANCE OF VICTORY

Scripture: Judges 20:18-28

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"...And the LORD said, Go up; for tomorrow
I will deliver them into thine hand."
Judges 20:28 (KJV)*



The children of Israel went out to war against the tribe of Benjamin because of their atrocity. Even though they sought God's face before going into battle, they lost twice to the tribe of Benjamin. They, however, refused to become discouraged and they did not relent because they knew they were doing God's will.

In the same way, you must not give up in spite of the challenges you are going through. After seeking God and receiving God's word concerning the situation you are facing, you need to hold unto it no matter how long it takes until it is fulfilled (Ps. 30:5). Even when it seems things are only getting worse, hold on. When it looks as if your heart's desire is delayed, hold on. Go back to seek God's counsel on the matter consistently. Stay encouraged and keep banking on God's word and God will ensure your victory.

The devil does not want you to succeed (Jn. 10:10) and will attempt to make things worse or present them to be worse than they really are. He puts fear in your heart knowing fear is the only way he can hold you bound; but God has given you courage. This should give you confidence because it means your victory is near. God has never failed and he will not start with you. He will watch over his word to fulfill it. God has given you the assurance of victory in his word. So, hold on in faith.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: MAP Meeting (Home Fellowship) tomorrow.

PRAYER



Lord, fight my battles
for me as I seek your
counsel today and always
in Jesus name.

I am assured of God's
victory in my life
because I put my
trust in God.

FAITH BYTE



THE SEED OF SACRIFICE

Scripture: Judges 20:26-37

SAT.
16TH DEC.
2017



"They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."
Psalm 126: 5-6 (KJV)

Feedback: Share how studying the word of God daily makes you feel.

After the children of Israel were defeated twice by the tribe of Benjamin, they turned to the Lord for the third time. But this time they went to the Lord with fasting and sacrifices and when they did, they received God's promise of victory (v28) and the strategy to deploy to defeat the Benjamites (v29, 36-37)

We cannot fold our hands and wait for God's instructions and promises to happen. We have a part to play. Moses had to lift his hands for the Israelites to defeat the Amalekites. Solomon made a sacrifice to be confirmed on his father's throne and the Israelites had to make a sacrifice in order to defeat the Benjamites.

Today, we can also activate God's word and promises to us through sacrifice. It could be a sacrifice of our time to a cause that impacts the lives of others positively. We can offer a sacrifice of praise and prayer. The purpose is to express our willingness to obey and move God to act on our behalf. Remember that although God planned to continue the human race through Noah, the smell of Noah's sacrifice moved God to make a covenant of life with him. We need to plant sacrificial seeds that will cause our breakthrough to manifest. It is your turn to witness the might move of God.

Reflection: Is there anything in my life that I cannot sacrifice for the Lord?

PRAYER



Lord, I receive the grace to take extraordinary sacrificial steps into my breakthrough in Jesus name.

As I wait on the Lord, I take a step of faith by offering unto him a seed of sacrifice.

FAITH BYTE



This Week Walk of Faith:

Give the Lord a sacrifice of heart-felt praise at least 4 nights of this week.

SUN.
17TH DEC.
2017

COLLABORATORS IN CHRIST

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 3:5-15

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"For we are co-workers in God's service..."
1 Corinthians 3:9 (NIV)



Paul told the Corinthian church that he had done his part by planting and Apollos had also done his part by watering the seeds he had planted, but it is God who ultimately gives the increase (1 Cor. 3:6). This implies that we have to do God's work before he can give the increase. Every believer, therefore, has a role to play in order to activate God's plan and purpose here on earth.

No part is more important than the other. In the sight of God, every input is as important as the other. Bickering over whose work is more important gives the enemy room to sow tares of discord in our midst. Every service counts. We must find ways to support and encourage one another to ensure there is no hindrance to propagating the gospel.

Anytime you have the opportunity to do anything for God, it is a rare privilege that should not be taken lightly. Therefore, in whatever capacity we render service to God, we must do so with the consciousness that God's work is waiting for our part to be done so God's kingdom can move forward. It is with this consciousness that the blessings come. Remember, we are collaborating with God to see his kingdom come on earth.

PRAYER



Lord, I pray for the grace not to fail you as I do my part in the advancement of your kingdom in Jesus name.

I do great exploits for the kingdom, and I see God's kingdom manifest here on earth.

FAITH BYTE



THE JOY OF HOPE

Scripture: Romans 5:1-5

MON.
18TH DEC.
2017

*"Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace
in believing, that ye may abound in hope,
through the power of the Holy Ghost."
Romans 15:13 (KJV)*

Humans are limited by time, space, the senses and knowledge. These limits make us oblivious to other things happening beyond our perception. Therefore, we need to believe and depend on the unlimited God to help us and then hope that things are working for our good (Jer. 29:11).

Hope is the patient anticipation of a favourable outcome. The bible calls this outcome Joy (Prov. 10:28). That means our hope will bring us joy and this is true because if you had a miracle right now, you would rejoice. Hoping would be easier if we could avoid grumbling, complaining and sulking. Complaining displeases God (Num. 11:1) because it is faithless and without faith it is impossible to please God. The kind of hope God expects of us infuses strength in our bones to hold on no matter what because we know in whom we have put our trust (Neh. 8:10b).

Do not think you can be joyful in difficult situations by your own will or discipline, Joy is a fruit of the spirit. In order to have the joy of hope, you need to spend time in God's presence where there is fullness of Joy (Ps 16:11). This is where the Holy Spirit can reveal to you the glory God has planned for you. It will leave you with unspeakable joy (1 Cor. 2:9-10).

PRAYER



Lord, fill me up with
unspeakable joy, by the
Holy Spirit in Jesus name.

I believe God and hope
joyfully to receive the
answers to my prayers.

FAITH
BYTE

TUES.
19TH DEC.
2017

SERVE WITH YOUR TREASURE

Scripture: Mark 10:17-23

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."
Matthew 6:21 (KJV)



Serving God with your money and possessions is an indication of a growing or mature Christian. This is important because God wants you to depend on him not on our money and possessions.

The story of the rich man gives a clear indication of what God expects we do with our treasures. Although, the rich man observed all the laws, Jesus pointed out to him that he was lacking in his service because he kept his treasures to himself. Today, many Christians fall short in this area. They find it hard to share the wealth they believe they have worked hard to earn with others. Material possessions are not bad in themselves, but they can become traps when we love them more than we love God. On the other hand, when we love and serve God with our possessions, we are storing up inheritance for eternity (Phil. 4:18).

Possessions are transient and can be obsolete? But when you serve God and humanity with your blessings, especially those in the household of faith, you store up an inheritance for yourself in heaven; an inheritance safe from decay, theft and evils. Be wise. Bless others with your wealth.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: Leadership/Communion Service tomorrow, 5:30PM

PRAYER



Lord, I ask for grace to
serve you with my treasures
in Jesus name.

I keep my heart on
heavenly treasures even
as I serve God with my
money and possessions
here on earth.

FAITH BYTE



ACTION SPEAKS
Scripture: 1 John 3:18-21WED.
20TH DEC.
2017

*"Dear Children, let's not merely say that we love each other;
let us show the truth by our actions"*
1 John 3:18 (NLT)

“Practice what you preach” is a common phrase used by many to mean speak and act in unison. When you live contrary to what you preach, your words will have no effect. You may be unaware but there are people watching and observing your lifestyle.

Your complaint or anger at people's behavior may not change their actions but if your lifestyle is pure, reverent and godly, you can turn them over for good. This boils down to the truth that actions are more practical and can overtake words to a great extent. Be conscious of the fact that as a Christian, you often times find yourself surrounded by people who may be friends, colleagues, acquaintances that consciously watch and study your life style to see if what you preach equates to how you act.

Christianity does not end with having a vast knowledge of the word of God but is hinged on your practice of the principles of the word of God that you know. Let your actions and way of life be true to the word of God. Let them speak for you when words fail. Your godly life can attract many to the kingdom of God, it can calm situations in unpleasant circumstances. Clothe yourself with godliness, purity and reverence so that you can win many over and draw them to the kingdom of God.

PRAYER

Lord, guide my actions;
help me to live a pure and
godly life to draw multitudes
to your kingdom
in Jesus name.

My ways and actions
are true to the word of God,
I practice what I preach.

**FAITH
BYTE**

THURS.
21ST DEC.
2017

PRINCIPLE OF SOWING

Scripture: Hosea 10:12-13

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit from the Spirit will reap eternal life."
Galatians 6:8 (NLT)



Biblically, sowing means more than just an agricultural principle. It is a principle of give and take (Gal. 6:7). Those who sow in sin should expect to receive what sin naturally produces which is death. Whoever sows righteousness will reap what righteousness offers which is life.

Sowing is God's principle. You need to realise that your action is the conduit through which you sow and the measure with which you sow will deliver to you the same harvest. How this principle of sowing works is a mystery to some people. Many wonder how they will reap what they have sown. When you sow a good seed, what you will receive in return is only known to God. Sometimes it may be eternal reward; at other times, he may use people to bless you. He can put ideas into your business that can take you to the next level in life. He can also put away that ugly incident that is about to happen unknown to you.

Your focus should not be on figuring out how God chooses to reward you when you sow. Rather, give focus to planting good seeds backed up with the word of God and then expect a miracle. Put your faith to work today and see what God will do. When you plant, simply thank God for the seed and believe him to do the rest. He never fails to come through with the harvest.

PRAYER



Lord, teach me to sow right, with a joyful and thankful heart in Jesus name.

As I sow good,
God brings my miracle.

FAITH BYTE



TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

LAW OF TIME

Scripture: Ecclesiastics 3:1-9

FRI.
22ND DEC.
2017



"And the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do."
1 Chronicles 12:32a (KJV)

We live in a time bound earth, hence, we are time bound. Time is governed by certain laws. You must understand and master these laws if you must maximise your time. Time is universal for everybody. 24 hours is same in length and quality in Port Harcourt, Nigeria, as it is in Kiev, Ukraine. Time cannot be reversed or paused. Time comes in seasons, each of which has its own opportunities and challenges. How much of these laws have you mastered and applied in your use of time?

We cannot afford to lead a careless life. God created each one of us with a purpose in mind, which is to fulfil our roles in advancing his Kingdom. Unfortunately, many of us spend our lifetime chasing shadows, thereby missing out on God's purpose and plans for us, and ultimately jeopardizing eternity. There is no better time to accomplish our plans and carry out our tasks than now because opportunity will not wait for those who fail to act on them. Time is a gift that we must grab with both hands.

God demands that we become wise and make the best use of the time that we have because the days are evil (Eph. 5:15-16). If we must redeem the time, we must act swiftly and act now. How best can you use your time? Use it in service to God. Give quality time in fellowship with God. Serve in the house of God. Win souls. Become like the sons of Issachar who became leaders over many because they understood the times. Redeem the time and enjoy a fulfilled life.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: MAP Meeting (Home Fellowship) tomorrow.

PRAYER



Lord, enable me to make the best use of my time and opportunities in service to you and others in Jesus name.

I live a life of purpose because I make good use of my time

FAITH BYTE



SAT.
23RD DEC.
2017

JUSTIFIED BY GRACE

Scripture: Romans 5:15-21

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"And if by grace, then it is no longer of works; otherwise grace is no longer grace. But if it is of works, it is no longer grace; otherwise work is no longer work."

Romans 11:6 (NKJV)



Feedback: Share how it feels to earnestly praise God all by yourself.

A lot of times, we are tempted to think that our righteousness is a function of our ability and perceived holiness. Our righteousness, however, is like a filthy rag before God. We are who we are by the grace of God who loved us and gave himself for us.

Paul reminded the Romans of the depth of God's grace and the free gift of righteousness by contrasting the work of Adam and that of Jesus. In Adam, we saw a life of disobedience that led to sin, condemnation, separation and eventual death. But God through Christ brought grace. The death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ happened to give mankind access to the grace of God. His sacrifice brings us justification from the "nature of sin" implanted in every man by Adam's disobedience. Through Jesus' obedience, we have access to grace (v19).

Are you a believer, yet carrying around a huge sense of guilt and condemnation? Do you feel unqualified and believe you have not done enough to be justified? Your justification is not of works but by extension of grace. God justifies those He calls. And He has called you because He counted you worthy of the sacrifice He made to bring you justification. Accept His call and come boldly unto His throne of grace that you may obtain mercy and find grace whenever you need it (Heb. 4:16).

Reflection: Have I in any way neglected God's grace over my life?

PRAYER



Lord, thank you for your dear son Jesus Christ, whose birth, death and resurrection has given me a new life in Jesus name.

My life is a product of God's grace; I manifest God's glory in my life always.

FAITH BYTE



This Week Walk of Faith:

Extend divine grace to others, share God's word with at least 2 people this week.

**PREACH
FEARLESSLY**

Scripture: Matthew 10:24-28

**SUN.
24TH DEC.
2017**

*"Pray also for me, that whenever I speak,
words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make
known the mystery of the gospel..."*
Ephesians 6:19 (NIV)

With the overwhelming advancement in modern communication technology, Christians today can easily reach out and preach to hundreds and thousands of souls but many believers fail to do so. Many are afraid that speaking up for Christ may have negative effects on their lives. There are far more reaching consequences for the souls we fail to share Christ with and that is why the bible urges us not to be afraid.

The fear of being persecuted today is as real as it were in bible times hence believers do not want to be ostracized or called names. Some do not want to lose their coveted social status or the wealth they have gained hence they shy away from preaching the gospel. They reckon that it is easier to uphold earthly possessions at the expense of heavenly possessions so they deny Jesus who alone can give eternal life (Matt. 10:28).

As a believer, it is a reality that you will pass through persecution while preaching the gospel. Remember Jesus Christ passed through them too. A true believer knows that the word of God requires a high level of commitment and faith through the leading of Holy Spirit. Always consult the Comforter through prayers in your quest to continually and fearlessly reach the unreached today.

PRAYER

Lord, grant me power to overcome every form of modern day persecution as I carry out your purpose in my life in Jesus name.

I model Christ, therefore I live fearless to make his word known all over the earth.

**FAITH
BYTE**

MON.
25TH DEC.
2017

A KING IS BORN

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-23

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son,
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life"*
John 3:16 (NIV)

In the little town of Bethlehem a King was born that would change the course of the world. Under very unique circumstances God introduced his Son to the world to save mankind from peril. A virgin gave birth to a baby who would later be the savior of the world.

God loves man so much that he sacrificed his son for us, He sent his son to earth to assure us that he will always be with us and will never forsake us. What a glorious day when the savior was born! Let us be grateful because God came to dwell in our midst therefore we are assured that he understands all we go through. He saw the world through the eyes of man so he can relate to our troubles.

Give yourself totally to God today and never place yourself or anything else above him. Christmas is not just a time to wine and dine, it is also a time to reflect on the love God has for us and how much he has sacrificed for us. It is a time to rededicate our lives to him and thank him for letting his Son come down to this world and live among us. It is a time to show love to the next person thereby glorifying God.

PRAYER



Lord, don't let me miss the real message of Christmas, help me to realize how important you are to me in Jesus name.

I am grateful for the birth of Jesus and I surrender my life completely to Him.

FAITH BYTE



A HUMBLE BIRTH

Scripture: Luke 2:1-7

TUES.
26TH DEC.
2017



"Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited."
Romans 12:16 (NIV)

The birth of a king should be one filled with a lot of pomp and pageantry but the circumstances surrounding the birth of the King of all kings depicts humility at its best. God could have sent his son Jesus into a royal family where he could have been surrounded by all the riches and comfort he would ever need but the most important King to ever walk the earth was born in a manger to a carpenter!

Your social status does not guarantee you a place in God's heart. Do not be deceived by the cares of this world because that is not what really counts in the sight of God. If God could send the Messiah to the family of a carpenter and to be born in a manger where animals are kept then that should give us an insight into how He thinks.

Being humble doesn't make you any less; instead it elevates you. Don't feel too big to serve and surrender to God, don't feel too big to go to the house of worship because you feel the people there are not of the same status with you. Jesus was born in a manger but is God himself! God humbled himself for your sake, you are not more important than he is. Don't let the circumstances surrounding you determine who you are; a little carpenter's son saved the world and is still saving the world till today.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: Leadership/Communion Service tomorrow, 5:30PM

PRAYER



Lord, help me to be humble
in all my affairs with you
and with the brethren
in Jesus name.

I will not be moved by the
circumstances around me
I can do everything
in Christ Jesus.

FAITH BYTE



WED.
27TH DEC.
2017

GREAT FAITH

Scripture: Matthew 8:5-13

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

"When Jesus heard this, he was amazed and said to those following him, 'Truly I tell you, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith.'"
Matthew 8:10 (NIV)



Many believers understand the reality of faith but lack the courage to walk by it. It is impossible to receive anything from God without faith. No wonder Jesus Christ was quick to attribute some of the miracles he performed to the measure of faith demonstrated by the receivers. That today, many believers still lead miserable, powerless and problem-plagued lives in spite of Christ's finished work on the cross is traceable to their lack of faith in God.

The centurion's firm and total confidence that Jesus' spoken words could heal his servant is a practical demonstration of great faith. This level of faith does not only guarantee speedy results but also gives us total access to God and his blessings. Abraham's great faith in God was even counted for him as righteousness.

You too, just like the centurion, can demonstrate great faith. To do this, purge your mind of fear and doubt by feeding daily on scriptures concerning God's promises to you. Ignore the voice of logic or the philosophies of men. Faith does not always agree with popular opinion. Rather, listen to life-changing messages on faith continually. Remember, faith comes by hearing, and hearing the word of God (Rom. 10:17). Take practical steps today and put your faith to use. The results will be life transforming.

PRAYER



Lord, thank you for the grace for great faith in you in Jesus name.

I have great faith in God, therefore, I live a fulfilled life.

FAITH BYTE



FOCUS ON
CHRIST'S MISSION

Scripture: Matthew 9:9-13

THURS.
28TH DEC.
2017

*"...For I am not come to call the righteous
but sinners to repentance."
Matthew 9:13b (KJV)*

Jesus' mission on earth was to save the lost and he acted strategically to accomplish it. He spoke to anyone even those widely considered unrighteous and unclean. His strategy yielded good results as many tax collectors and sinners came to Jesus and his disciples and accepted him as Lord over their lives. One of these sinners was Matthew who would later become one of his disciples.

When we focus on negatives, we, sometimes, allow what should be an advantage to us become a distraction or a disadvantage. Jesus did nothing wrong when he sat with and ate in the midst of people who others considered unworthy. After all, they were the reason he came to earth. How would he reach out and influence them if he did not relate with and engage them in conversation? In fact his life was such a light in the darkness, it attracted these 'undeserving' people to him.

How can you reach out to the unsaved if you are critical of them? We must refuse to become judgmental of unbelievers like the hypocritical Pharisees were. Believers must become spiritual physicians and act like Jesus. He went about spreading the love of God to others so he can win many over to the saving grace of God. We must act strategically to grow God's kingdom. Rather than complain about sinners, create a platform to reach them. Lend a shoulder they can cry on. Focus on attracting them so you can shine brightly the light of Jesus upon their lives and bring change.

PRAYER



Lord, I ask for grace to remain focused on the mission to save the lost in Jesus name.

I am a spiritual physician.
I strategically grow
God's kingdom with love.

FAITH
BYTE

FRI.
29TH DEC.
2017

DEALING WITH PROVOCATION

Scripture: Matthew 18:15-17

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"Be kind and compassionate to one another,
forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."*
Ephesians 4:32 (NIV)



As humans, we constantly interact with one another with the view of achieving some predetermined objective which may result in unavoidable conflict or provocation. How we deal with such provocation is of utmost importance to the sustenance of relationships and the attainment of divine objectives even as a church.

Sometimes, when we offend others, we let our ego get in the way and it becomes difficult to apologize. When we casually or reluctantly admit our fault and apologize we often expect the other party to forgive immediately and if they refuse to, we are quick to criticize them and sever the relationship. But Jesus gives us a guide to help deal with such misunderstandings. Jesus says we must engage the individual in order to deal with the issue (v15); involve others if need be (v16) or get a higher authority such as the church to intervene and assist in resolving the issue (v17). It is only when we have diligently followed through these steps that we can let them be if they still refuse to forgive (v17).

It may seem easier to play the blame game or try to justify our actions or inactions during disagreements. Maintaining a good relationship is more important than trying to justify our position and prove how right our actions or reactions are. Regardless of the justification you employ as your defence, it is important to carefully seek resolution like Jesus advises. Do not let your ego stand in the way of your relationships.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND: MAP Meeting (Home Fellowship) tomorrow.

PRAYER



Lord, give me the grace
and humility of heart to
follow peace with
all men in Jesus name.

I am God's agent of peace,
therefore, I seek to
maintain peaceful
relationships always.

FAITH BYTE



TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

STAND BY YOUR DECISION

Scripture: Genesis 11:1-9

SAT.
30TH DEC.
2017



"... and this is only the beginning of what they will do. Nothing that they have in mind to do will be impossible for them!" **Genesis 11:6 (ISV)**

Feedback: Share your experience after sharing God's word with another.

At the beginning of each year, people make new-year resolutions. Some people decide to pursue a more serious relationship with God, pursue a career or work on a project. Some people even take it a step further by writing their decisions down, but the issue has always been the ability to stick to those decisions and make sure they happen.

The people in Genesis 11 made a decision of building a tower whose top would reach the heavens. They didn't just make this decision; they started out, and were determined to push it through. It was the determination God saw in them that made Him to come down because He knew that if He does not intercept, they will actually complete their task. If you want miracles in your life, you have to make a decision and also stick to that decision.

When you make a decision, follow through on it. Do not quit irrespective of what is rising up against you. And at the same time, you should not be scared of making decisions because you don't want to commit yourself. Indecision is a satanic weapon and it has robbed many men and women of great opportunities to turn their misery into miracles. Make a decision that will not only benefit you, but your generations unborn, and follow through on it. As you step into a new year and start making destiny-turning decisions, the Lord will empower you to see them through. You will succeed in Jesus Name.

Reflection: Is indecision or inability to follow through, robbing me of my miracles?

PRAYER



Help me Lord, to make quality decisions and be able to stick to them in Jesus' name.

I am not a quitter, I am a winner because I make quality decisions and stand by them unto the end.

FAITH
BYTE



This Week Walk of Faith:

Write down your goals for next year and pray earnestly for divine actualization.

SUN.
31ST DEC.
2017

FOLLOW GOD

Scripture: Matthew 10:32-39

TODAY
IN HIS
PRESENCE

*"...No man, having put his hand to the plough,
and looking back is fit for the kingdom of God."*

Luke 9:62 (KJV)



Sometimes, we get so busy with the issues and cares of this world that we lose sight of our purpose on earth. We are caught up with our daily activities and relationships that we relegate what is most important to the background. As a Christian, your first priority should be to follow God.

Following God comes with focus and dedication. Sometimes, it may not be convenient for many because it could mean forsaking one or more things that are dear to the heart like family and friends. It could also mean going against your loved ones. However, this is what God expects from every believer (v35, 37). He does not expect you to trade your fellowship with him for the peace and love of your loved ones. Once you have set your mind on following God, there is no room for turning back else you are not fit for the kingdom. (Lk. 9:62)

Your life may not always be pleasing to the next person because you have decided to choose God above other things. What matters, however, is that God is pleased with you. When you have a clear understanding of where to place your focus, everything else in your life will be guided by this singular goal (Matt. 6:33). If you are always careful not to lose friends, family or opportunities over God, then you are not worthy of him (v38). Decide today to put aside every sentiment and put God first. Take up your cross and follow him for your life will be fulfilling destiny when you make the decision to lose it for Christ's sake (v39).

PRAYER



Lord, help me to follow you whole heartedly without looking back so that I can be worthy to be called your child in Jesus name.

My mind is set on following God. I will not trade him for anything.

FAITH BYTE



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