

January 2023 Edition

FAITH HOUSE

RISE DEVOTIONAL

Teaching you to live a beautiful life

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January 1

Always talk to God 1

2 Samuel 5:19 AMPC

“David inquired of the Lord, saying, Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will You deliver them into my hand? And the Lord said to David, Go up, for I will surely deliver [them] into your hand.”

When we see victories again and again, our confidence for more victory tends to rise greatly. This is because our faith is strengthened. Victory begets more victory and failure doesn't. But the downside of consistent victory is the temptation to start trusting in ourselves. David was a renowned warrior. He had never lost a battle before and stood every chance of winning again when confronted with battle by the Philistines. He went straight to God and consulted God. With the record David had, you would expect him to go on head straight to crush this battle.

David was not fighting these men for the first time. In fact he's used to defeating them every time. But despite the undefeated record, he still went on to talk to God. We must learn to always talk to God. He asked specific questions.

"Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will You deliver them into my hand?"

"Should I start the project, will it not bring much stress to me?" These are simple questions you must always ask from God before starting anything. If God is asking you to start, ask Him for how to proceed. Never rush into things because God is saying start it. When God told the men to leave Egypt, He gave them directions and how to proceed.

Exodus 13:17-18 KJV

"And it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God led them not through the way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, Lest peradventure the people repent when they see war, and they return to Egypt: But God led the people about, through the way of the wilderness of the Red sea: and the children of Israel went up harnessed out of the land of Egypt".

This is God's way of doing things. He's always precise about His moves. Allow Him to show you. He's got better reasons for the instructions He will give you as revealed here about the Israelites. David understood this principle and He never for once broke it. He maintained a record of never been defeated in battle. When God leads the way, victory is always guaranteed.

2 Samuel 5:20 AMPC

"And David came to Baal-perazim, and he smote them there, and said, The Lord has broken through my enemies before me, like the bursting out of great waters. So he called the name of that place Baal-perazim [Lord of breaking through]."

God didn't just show Him what to do, it worked and yielded results. Year 2023 is a year of results for us. We shall see mighty results but the key is to always talk to God about everything. Don't assume you will get results because you've been getting results before rather be assured of results because you've talked to God and He has given you tips on how to proceed. Even when things don't look like what you anticipated, you can easily ask God because He set you on that path...and we know He doesn't set us on a path of defeat.

Proverbs 3:5-6 NLT

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take."

Meditate on this!

Confession:

Thank you for a great year ahead. I start to commit my ways into your hands more deliberately than before. I don't rely on my wits but on your means. 2023 is a year of massive testimonies and results in Jesus name.

January 2

Always talk to God 2

2 Samuel 5:23 NLT

"And again David asked the Lord what to do. "Do not attack them straight on," the Lord replied. "Instead, circle around behind and attack them near the poplar trees."

It can be frustrating to a man who doesn't know the ways of Satan when certain troubles return to hunt him. Satan doesn't relent. He's always roaming around looking for opportunities to return. Don't allow him to frustrate you in the year 2023. That's his style and he only recycles the same approach. He comes back through careless men and wicked men. Someone somewhere is always available for the devil to use. You are the one who must not allow him a place around you. Even the Lord Jesus, Satan only left him for a while, he came back again.

Luke 4:13 KJV

"And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season."

David thought it was over with the Philistines after he had soundly defeated them but they regrouped and came back again to exactly the same spot where they encamped the first time. Sometimes things that are over, try to start all over again. Don't fear, don't panic. Talk to God again and you will have answers. He will give you the approach that will work. If he led you into victory before, He will do it again. What you need to repeat is the approach not the process. The approach will lead to the approach. For David, the approach was to talk to God first on what to do. The process was to now do as instructed. Many would have made the mistake of repeating the former process without using the former approach all because the matter is exactly the same. Don't walk into that trap.

"And again David asked the Lord what to do."

This is the approach and it must be a constant. Always talk to God. Don't assume you know what to do based on how you did it last time. Same enemies, same battle ground, same tactics, yet God gave David another strategy (process) to crush them

2 Samuel 5:23-24 NLT

“Do not attack them straight on,” the Lord replied. “Instead, circle around behind and attack them near the poplar trees. When you hear a sound like marching feet in the tops of the poplar trees, be on the alert! That will be the signal that the Lord is moving ahead of you to strike down the Philistine army.”

The poplar tree is a mulberry tree that covers the ground. So God gave him the strategy to hide inside the trees and circle the enemies from behind. It worked like magic and they won again.

2 Samuel 5:25 NLT

"So David did what the Lord commanded, and he struck down the Philistines all the way from Gibeon to Gezer."

Think for a moment that God has to give a mighty warrior like David the tactics to deploy his soldiers on the battle field. If David had told a stranger he's waiting on God to give him tactics to deploy soldiers, many would think he's mad. But that's his secret to consistent success. He kept winning and never lost a battle. The goal of Satan is to rush you and get you to make mistakes but never let him. Before you rush back to the hospital thinking your faith has failed you, pause and ask God what's going and what to do. You may be amazed to hear Him tell you to rebuke the cancer again. You may be amazed to hear him tell you another way to get same clients to make more purchases.

It doesn't matter what it is, if a mighty warrior like David had to wait on God to show him battle tactics, do the same. Jesus said I do only what I see what the Father do.

Confession:

I do not trust in myself, I follow God and yield to Him to lead the way. I will never fall to the pressure of Satan. I do what I see my father do and come out with more testimonies in Jesus name.

January 3

Perfect law of liberty 1

James 1:25 KJV

“But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.”

When you look at a mirror, you see a reflection of yourself, either good or not. What you see determines how you conduct yourself and the confidence with which you approach life. The word of God is our mirror and it shows the reflection of our true life. The more you look, the more you see your true self and the better the outcome of your life will be. This is because what you see is what you manifest. It is called the perfect law of liberty.

It is not just a word, it is a law. A law is firm, and above all things. You can't break a law, it will break you, you only have to comply with it. Now, this is not just a law, but law that gives liberty. Liberty from every bondage. This law gives liberty from sickness, poverty and lack, depression, failure and lots more.

What you find out in God's word about your life is a law. Your life must follow it. What has it said about your wealth, health and more.

When you look into the perfect law that gives freedom, you're about to experience real freedom. But the key is to continue in it as stated in the opening verse. You have to continue to look into it. Real and complete transformation happens when you refuse to take your gaze away from this law. Be assured that many things will try to distract you but don't be distracted. Keep gazing at it. It's a matter of time, you will have complete turn around. It's a perfect law that guarantees absolutely perfect freedom. You will look for the afflictions and won't find them again.

James 1:25 KJV

"But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."

You must continue and be a doer of what you see. Act in that light and talk in that light. Then, you shall be blessed in that deed (that thing you're releasing the word over). This could be your marriage, finance, ministry and any other thing. This explains why some men are strong in health and week in finance. Whatever you choose to release the word into is what will be blessed. So start doing this for all things in your life consistently. This is why *"the doer of the word"* is also referred to as the *"doer of the work"*. It takes discipline to maintain this. It's a real work. But it yields unrelenting blessings. This new year, focus on doing just this.

Confession:

I thank you for gifting me the perfect law of liberty. I walk by it and do what it says. I will not look right or left nor be distracted. I'm blessed daily.

January 4

Perfect law of liberty 2

James 1:25 KJV

“But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.”

Consistency in application makes a revelation effective. You don't apply it when you feel like, you apply God's word because it is the right thing to do always. There will be full manifestation but you have got to work with the principle of seeing results. This principle states that; *"you must continue therein...a doer of the work..."* Then you shall be blessed in your deed (that thing you're releasing the word over). This is the way of the Kingdom. Jesus told us about this principle.

Matthew 13:8 KJV

"But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold"

These are not seed of words on any place but the perfect good ground. This means a heart that is very ready and receptive to the word of God - the law of liberty. Yet they may not yield hundred fold results instantly but thirty, sixty then hundredfold. The most important is that they're yielding results. What has yielded a result will yield much more if you're consistent in the application of the word. Do the word again and again. If it says give, then don't give once and walk complaining there's no result. Keep giving and keep laying hold on the promises that follows giving. You will have full testimony and will be established thoroughly in that revelation.

In this Kingdom, perseverance is a fruit of the Spirit and a character of the believer. To your faith, add perseverance and patience. Not just towards other things but even the word of liberty you're beholding. As you continue, do what it says, and your blessing in that direction will increase. Be a master of what the

law that's able to set you free has said about that matter. Keep releasing it, things will start changing and then completely turn around. The bonus is that you would have generated a massive atmosphere of that same thing and can start releasing it with ease for others. Keep staring at what that law of liberty has said about debt freedom and do it. Then watch it set you free from debt and watch yourself become a grace carrier in setting men free from same.

This is why some believers today are strong in healing and miracles, because they were once sick and had nothing but God's word to hold unto for deliverance. By the time they saw full deliverance and freedom, they've been so engraved in that revelation, they are now a threat to Satan everywhere in this direction.

As you journey through 2023, keep looking at the word of liberty and you shall experience liberty in all areas. Liberty from renting houses to owning several, liberty from health issues to perfect health, liberty from debt to surplus, liberty from failure to massive success. Take it as a work and do it as routine. Your testimonies are inevitable.

Confession:

Dear Father, thank you for freedom through your word. I choose to focus on this word and I win every day as I behold more and more and I will not be distracted from it. Amen.

January 5

Effortless Change

2 Corinthians 3:18 KJV

“My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations.”

Effortless change occurs when there's a transforms that doesn't bring stress. It's a product of repeating same process or principles regularly. This is the kind of principle that gets babies to grow into full child. They keep feeding regularly and take their supplements. In a short time, that little human being who couldn't help himself has been become a giant carrying others.

Our Christian growth in the Kingdom is expected to mirror this same approach. You are expected to grow and become a giant in the Lord effortlessly. How will this be achieved? It is by practising certain principles every day and watching the transformation that will follow. The glory of God is expressed to us through His word. Our job according to the opening verse is to behold this word always and there will be a transformation, a metamorphosis into whatever is in that word for us. Many are busy praying daily for more Glory. But the Bible didn't ask us to pray for glory to manifest. The Bible gave us a principle to follow. Prayer won't replace principles because even God is bound by them. This is why His word is ever reliable. Focus on meditating on God's word daily. Whatever you find there, as you keep meditating, there will be an external transformation of your life in that direction.

All believers can heal the sick but not all are doing it. Because many don't yet understand this as they ought to, from the word of God. You don't need to beg God to give you power to heal the sick, become successful etc. Sit with the word and discover for yourself that you can do it and much more, then watch faith overtake your heart in that direction. Your daily meditation on God's word in certain direction creates an effortless change. This is because as you do this, the Spirit of God in you automatically takes over and begins to effect a transformation of your mind in that direction. The state of your mind is always

the state of your life. You can't be better than your state of mind.

2 Corinthians 3:18 KJV

"But we...are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord."

Yours is to behold, His own is to change you based on what you saw. The transformation that follows is what we call effortless change.

Confession:

I receive your help to focus on what really matters - your word. I receive transformation of the Spirit as I focus on this word. My life moves from glory to glory in Jesus name. Amen

January 6

Growth is by discipline

Mark 1:35 BBE

“And in the morning, a long time before daylight, he got up and went out to a quiet place, and there he gave himself up to prayer.”

Always, believers are burdened with the pain of not been able to grow as they would love to. Many are loaded up with tasks all around and they rarely have time for their personal life and family. Invariably, they lose focus on their spiritual trajectory and derail with time. This is why many are always looking for a fresh fire. Seriously, why can't the fire be set up once and be sustained over time? When you should be lighting up others, we shouldn't be looking for how to keep your fire from dying. Many are sincere that they want to be more full of the Spirit but they don't have the time to give God the right attention. Though this is a sincere statement from many, they're sincerely wrong. Let's learn from Jesus.

Mark 1:35 BBE

"And in the morning, a long time before daylight, he got up and went out to a quiet place, and there he gave himself up to prayer."

There is a pattern in the life of Jesus.

Matthew 14:22 KJV

"And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away. And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone"

This pattern is a disciplined approach to His spiritual growth. Jesus didn't have all the time in world like some of us had imagined. He didn't have all the privacy many of us are craving and using as excuse for poor spiritual

performance. He was a very busy man in the midst of people always. He maintained His spiritual balance by always creating a setting that allowed Him to be alone to fellowship. Even when it means He had to wake up early or excuse Himself from His closest allies. People are around you because you have something to offer. You must know how you're generating those contents.

There's no special code to consistent fellowship outside self discipline. If it means something to you, create the time for it. As we grow in life, we will always get more busy. Yet we must never relent in our walk with God. Failure to strike this balance keeps one at the level of "good child of God", the extraordinary life will be missing. Sit down, pray for wisdom and create a system that allows you to withdraw from the distractions to pray and study every day. If you miss the set period, quickly readjust your operations same day to ensure you make up same day. Never sleep over it.

Thirty minutes daily prayer is better than three hours once a week.

Thirty minutes daily study is better than three hours once a week. It's like eating five square meal once a week compared to eating daily even if it's twice a day. One will grow, the other will never grow but be sick.

Mark 6:46-48 KJV

"And when he had sent them away, he departed into a mountain to pray"

Jesus Christ laid the example for us when it comes to spiritual growth, we must follow it. You will never be less busy than last year, you will keep getting busier. You must bring in strong discipline like He did. There's no other way. As you go about your daily business, learn to listen to God's word that's been recorded also. This is a blessing we have now that men ahead of us didn't have. This coupled with your disciplined fellowship life will give you a strong, balanced growth.

Every lasting growth involves deliberate steps. Take yours now!

Confession:

Dear father, thank you for showing the need to disciplined now to be. I remain focused and I stay disciplined. I am able to create time the time for my focus. Amen.

January 7

Miracle working sons

Mark 1:31 KJV

“And he came and took her by the hand, and lifted her up; and immediately the fever left her, and she ministered unto them.”

Miracle is whatever result that is produced by the power and influence of the Holy Ghost. Converting a soul is a miracle because it's by the Holy Ghost. Getting men's mindset to change by the preaching of the word is a miracle because the conviction they got came by the Holy Ghost who made the word come alive in them. This means that what many of us don't consider as miracles are really miracles.

Jesus laid examples of the lives sons of God are supposed to live and we are blessed to have the same precedent to follow today. The life of sons of God. What works for the Father and in the Father, works for the sons and in the sons. Jesus was the perfect prototype and gave us a glimpse of how we must live.

Romans 8:29 KJV

"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren."

When He saw the sick, He healed them, when He saw those that lacked food, He met it, when He saw the confused, He gave them directions by His word and teachings. All these were by the Holy Ghost and the impart was lasting. Miracles are supposed to be a part of our daily living because sons of God are supposed to be getting all their results by the Holy Ghost. God is a miracle working God, His sons are miracle working sons.

How to achieve this is to follow the dictate of the Father always.

John 5:19 NLT

"So Jesus explained, "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does."

This makes the life very easy. Jesus showed us how He achieved everything. He simply followed the Father's leading. That's all we have to do also. Follow His leading and don't look back. Before you step into the day, release words that allow Him to influence the day for you and you will see goodness all day long that only God could have powered. That's a miracle. That favour that came by God's influence is a miracle. That special consideration that came as a result of God's influence when you spoke words of revelation is a miracle. Each day, each moment could be a miracle upon miracle for you if you just follow the Father's leading and way of doing things.

He has spelt this for us majorly in His word. When you follow what's written in His word, you are following the Father and miracle will always follow you. You are a miracle working son.

Confession:

I follow my Father by your word. I live a life of daily miracles. I don't struggle, I find things easy always because my Father is ever helping me out and I'm receiving His help each time.

January 8

Blessings and channels

Genesis 1:14-15 KJV

“And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.”

Blessings come from God to man. Blessings of God are meant to cause easiness for the course of man on Earth because they guarantee the release of grace. Grace amplifies your efforts and you see more results than you ought to by natural means. The blessings of God crown our natural effort with a supernatural bliss. The closest description is a fertilizer that boosts yields for farmers. However every blessing flows through channels and there are certain things man may never see in his life without proper channels. God himself followed this same principle of channels.

On day one, God said let there be light and the Bible recorded there was light. But on day four, we saw clearly how light came through. God has to create channels for the light to flow through into the earth.

Genesis 1:14-16 KJV

"And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so. And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also."

It means that for three good days, there was no light anywhere even though God had already made and release light. There was no channel for them to come through. Every light flows through a channel. God didn't fold His arms and

walk away concluding He has done His part. No, He completed it by creating channels for the lights to flow through. Then light showed for real. Even though it is as a done deal in His mind, it took a while to show. A process had to be completed.

Psalm 1:3 KJV

"And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, That bringeth forth his fruit in his season; His leaf also shall not wither; And whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

Prosperity comes upon your life by God's word but they will manifest through the channels of prosperity you have.

"And whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

You need to have things you're laying your hands on. Then those things start yielding more than they ought to because there's a blessing upon your life.

Genesis 26:12 KJV

"Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the LORD blessed him."

The Lord blesses him, but how? Through the things He did. It was supposed to be a bad year for him but it became his greatest year. It was so remarkable that we are still making reference to it today thousands of years after. God has released blessings over your life. You can also speak more and more blessings over your life but create channels for them to come through. This is a major principle for prosperity. Your channels could be your job, or business ventures or investments and lots more. Don't look down on it, receive the Lord's blessings on it and watch real prosperity come through. If you don't have a channel, God can create for you. When He's opening doors for you, don't resist nor look down on it. It may look less promising but it will be worthwhile at the end of the day. Little is much when God is in it.

Proverbs 10:22 KJV

"The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it."

Confession:

I thank you for giving me this wisdom that I need channels. Father, I receive stronger channels for the manifestation of my prosperity. The ones I already have, I pronounce that they are blessed and yielding more and more for me in Jesus name. Amen

January 9

Pause and reflect

1 Samuel 17:11-12 KJV

“And the men of Israel went out of Mizpeh, and pursued the Philistines, and smote them, until they came under Bethcar. Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, Hitherto hath the LORD helped us.”

Many are discouraged because they feel God is not responding to their needs as they expected. They feel weak and exhausted. But all these could be avoided if men learn to pause and reflect. God is a good God and He will never leave you. He's been there all along doing good. Take a break and you shall see how far He has brought you.

The Israelites were in a great battle against the Philistines. They kept chasing their enemies without realizing how far they've covered ground, how much they've recovered and how well they've crushed their enemies. They felt there's still need to keep fighting and chasing as long as some of the attackers are still standing. But Samuel called them to order by making them pause and reflect. That was when they realized how much God has done for them. Hence the statement *"Hitherto hath the LORD helped us."*

If you don't take a break, you can't count your blessings. If you don't count your blessings, you will never know God is doing much for you and has done much for you.

Look at your life in retrospect and see the wonders of God in your life. There will always be more battles to win, there will always be more hundredfold results been expected. But take a break to see how much you've achieved by faith. You will realize there's nothing wrong with your faith. These men couldn't enjoy their victory as long as they kept chasing thinking less about what God did. Some can't enjoy their new job because they are so busy worrying about who else will try to attack them there. Give it a break and

celebrate God for the wonder He's given you. He who gave you the blessing will protect your turf.

Psalms 16:5 NLT

"Lord, you alone are my inheritance, my cup of blessing. You guard all that is mine."

That's a promise from God. He will protect your turf. So take your time to enjoy the provision

Psalms 23:5 KJV

"Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over."

You will never see the table and enjoy the food as long as you're focused on the enemies. There will always be enemies, there will always be more needs to be met, there will always be more prayer points. Take a break and look at the answers you've seen so far and give glory to God for them. Your faith will be strengthened, energy will be infused into you and you will be full of joy as they climb more mountains and break through more barricades unto higher ground.

Right now, what are the things you are grateful to God for? It's time to express gratitude.

Confession:

Thank you dear Lord for ever been there. I pause and see your goodness so far. Thank you so much because all along you've been faithful, honoring my faith by your grace. Amen.

January 10

The word is active

Isaiah 55:11 KJV

"So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

Whatever that is active has the power to cause changes and effect transformations that are noticeable. The word of God has this characteristics in full perfection. It creates massive changes in things and nothing will stay wrong where the word is involved.

"so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void"

It means it won't come back as a failure. Imagine the word comes back to say, I'm sorry God, I couldn't help the matter. It will never happen! God said His word will not return void. If it's so powerful it won't return void, all we need to do is take advantage of His words and set it on course that it should go. It shall accomplish what you please.

"it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

Send the word on errands. The word is meant to be sent forth. Don't just know the word, deploy it to certain things; things that matter to you. When you release the word to anything, it doesn't matter what it is, that thing will never remain the same. Don't relent, each time you set that word on course, it's like a hammer hitting a substance. Each attempt weakens the substance. Each time you speak the word to that health condition, there's a change happening. Don't relent, keep speaking it. The word works and your life will never remain the same.

Men that complain about everything will never see anything work for them.

You've been given a powerful weapon. Speak the word without relenting. It's a seed, sow the seed into the future and you shall come back with mighty testimonies. This is the way of the Lord. Every spoken word will never return void nor fail to succeed in its course.

Everything made by the word respond to the word. There's nothing made outside the word. What makes a thing has absolute control over it. Your body was made by the word of God. Configure that body by speaking to it daily. That health situation has not deteriorated beyond the word. Start now! Stop counting how many days you have failed to speak forth the word. Start now and even if it looks like nothing is changing, keep speaking. Every words released by revelation is creating a positive effect and you shall see it shortly. Amen

Confession:

Thank you Lord for your word, I believe it is powerful and can change anything. I refuse to be moved by circumstances, I begin to respond to your word now as I speak it to always to my life. My life is transformed by this word and my testimonies shake nations. Amen.

January 11

Avoid worry, rather pray 1

Philippians 4:6-7 NLT

“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.”

Worry is a situation where ones heart is perplexed, disturbed about a problem or a potential problem. Circumstances do happen often that wants to cause us to worry. I am not sure there is any man on the surface of the earth who would not experience situations that will want to cause him or her to worry. Hence it's normal with earth life.

However for us who are in Christ, The bible is clear about the mind of God on such occasion --Do not worry.

Meaning we must refuse to allow our heart to be troubled..God is using this devotional to fortify out hearts against this happenstance.

The next time a situation that wants to make you worry happen, remind yourself these scriptures and refuse to worry... Tell the situation to its face.. "I know you want me to be perplexed, but I refuse to worry".

This is how to fight a good fight with this enemy of darkness called worry. And overwhelming victory is sure for us in Christ. No more worries..

Amen

Confession:

Father, thank you because in this New Year, I am gaining mastery over many things I gave in cheaply last year including worry in Jesus name. Amen

January 12

Avoid worry, rather pray 2

Philippians 4:6-7 NLT

“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.”

Yesterday, we saw that it's inevitable for circumstances that will cause us to be destabilized to happen. But how that by the power of the Spirit, we can choose to not give in to worry and anxiety.

Today we are looking at what we need to do when we feel worried..

Our opening text says, *"Don't worry about anything, instead pray about everything"*

Meaning every time you feel like worrying, the bible is saying you have an alternative.. and the alternative is to pray..

Hence you can't be worrying and be praying, same with the reverse.. often times we do forget to pray when challenges face us.. we use all our head to figure out what we can do.. but God's word is explicit enough to instruct us to speak to God in prayer about that challenge.

Why speak to God?

1 Peter 5:7 NLT

“Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you.”

Because the bible says He cares about us..

He is interested in solving that trouble.. so in prayer we hand over the issues to our God.. we throw the issues to the Almighty knowing He can do wonders to resolve them.

This is our God.. this is our sure hope against worry, to throw the problem to God in prayer.

Hallelujah

Confession:

This year, I refuse to allow the devil to engage me in any unfruitful works of darkness of worrying rather, I pray about every of such issues. I cast all my worries to God. I do not handle them by my little strength again. So God help me. Amen

January 13

No Limits

Ecclesiastes 3:11 NIV

“He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men...”

One of your major determinations this year should be to achieve all that God has set in your heart to achieve, leaving nothing out. He has set eternity in your heart, meaning that there’s no limit to the extent of your faith; that is, how far your faith can go and how much you can accomplish.

The Lord said to Abraham in Genesis 13:14-15 *“... Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.”*

How was Abraham supposed to view the entire expanse of land and seas from where he stood? Was he to stand up, march around the whole world to take possession of it?” No! Abraham was the father of faith; he understood the faith principle of seeing with the eyes of the spirit. Hence, he projected himself in faith; with his spirit, he saw the whole world. According to the Scriptures, God gave the world to Abraham by promise.

There’re no limits to what your faith can accomplish. The question is, *“What can you see?”* In 2 Kings 2, when Elisha said to Elijah

2nd King 2:10

“...let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me.”

Notice Elijah’s response: *“Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so”.*

We see, we speak, and we receive. As far as the other prophets were concerned,

Elijah simply vanished. However, Elisha, by the eyes of the spirit, saw a chariot of fire pick up Elijah into heaven. That was how he was promoted and became the head amongst the prophets.

You have an extraordinary capacity to contemplate, think, envision and see endless possibilities. There're things you might have desired and prayed about; take a hold of them with your spirit and they'll be yours!

Confession:

Dear Father, I thank you for setting eternity in my heart, such that there's no limit to what I can envision. Thank you for lavishly granting me the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of you; the eyes of my understanding being enlightened, to know the hope of your calling and the glory of your inheritance in the saints, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

January 14

Improve your word-bank

Proverb 4:20-22 KJV

“My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh”

Your greatest desire should be to know God more, through His Word, for that's where the glory is. With God's Word, you can be anything and everything you want to be, have anything you desire to have, and be able to do anything you set your heart to achieve. Be passionate about the Word; constantly inundate your spirit with the knowledge of God's Word. When the Word dwells richly in your spirit, it'll be evident in your life; you'll speak the Word and not fear, lack, weakness, sickness or failure. Your profiting through the Word, will be evident to all

1 Timothy 4:15 ISV

“Think on these things. Devote your life to them so that everyone can see your progress.”

God's Word is what you need to build your life, to teach, reprove, correct, and instruct you in the God-life. Get the right materials that'll help you grow spiritually. Digest them into your spirit. Constant meditation on the Word will cause faith to rise in your spirit and give you the mindset of a victor.

Sometimes, as you speak forth God's Word, you may literally feel success, victory, and dominion welling up in your spirit. That's because they are inherent in your spirit. As you speak forth God's Word, you ascend to the realm of glory; the realm of endless possibilities. Suddenly, you discover that truly, you've overcome all things; the whole world becomes small to you.

Keep talking the Word, and the glory of God will keep rising in your spirit, because the glory is in the Word. You can only live to your best potentials through your knowledge and application of the Word of God. You will record successes and victories, and have absolute mastery in life if you consciously take the time to improve your Word-bank by studying and meditating on the Word and make it your anchor in every situation of life. Amen

Confession:

The Word of God is my life, and I'm experiencing increased glory as I speak the Word over my life today! I declare that I'm growing in the knowledge of God's Word, and the revelation of His love, and my life is the testimony of His grace and goodness always in Jesus name. Amen

January 15

God gives good gifts

James 1:17 NLT

“Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father, who created all the lights in the heavens. He never changes or casts a shifting shadow.”

This is crystal clear, God is your father and He is a specialist in giving good gifts to His children. The question is, are you His child? You are entitled to receive only good gifts.

The misconception about God bringing bad things your way just to teach you a lesson or take away your child's life because you didn't follow His instruction should not be allowed to build a tent in your heart. Remember you are what you think.

What good gift can think of or mention, you can have them all because your own father is in charge of giving such good gifts. You don't need to bother yourself of how those things will come, just believe these things and you will see them manifest.

Before you think of emptying your savings to get a car worth 18m have you thought getting it free of charge or at a giveaway price?

Ephesians 3:20 TPT

“Never doubt God’s mighty power to work in you and accomplish all this. He will achieve infinitely more than your greatest request, your most unbelievable dream, and exceed your wildest imagination! He will outdo them all, for his miraculous power constantly energizes you.”

This is the extent to which your Father gives His children good gifts. You can get all the good things you desire, houses, cars, contracts, children and many more. Don't limit yourself.

What do you do when what you are seeing is contrary to "good gifts"? Simply super impose the truth of God's word over the fact. You say in the name of Jesus, God is my father and He gives good gift, now I enjoy my health, marriage. The house that I need manifest forth for me, I refuse to live in lack. I have all good things! Hallelujah

Confession:

Thank you Lord for always giving good gifts, I enjoy them all. I reject whatever that isn't good that the devil is trying to bring my way in Jesus name. Amen

January 16

Write the vision

Habakkuk 2:2 KJV

“And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.”

Vision is the revelation of God's will and purpose for you. Our opening scripture tells us to write the vision and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that reads it. Evidently, if the vision is not documented or written down and made plain, it cannot be read. You can only run with a vision that is been written down.

An unwritten vision is a lost one, that's why it is important to write down your God given ideas. You must never take for granted the blessing of your eyes that see and of ears that hear. It is a huge blessing from God to have a heart that discerns the will of God.

There's something about writing things down that helps to keep your memory in tune with your ideas and experiences. When you write down you thought, ideas, dreams, and opportunities, you can always consult with them again and again and that becomes a platform of meditation and creativity for you. Your yesterday's ideas can become a stepping stones into tomorrow's breakthrough innovation for you.

When God opens your eyes to see His plans for you, don't take that for granted. Write down whatever He shows you. The entire Bible is a documentation of God's will and purposes for man revealed to different persons in history. Thank God we have the Bible at our disposal today! It has become a huge bank of rich divine thoughts about us and our destinies in God. We can be inspired by it today as we meditate in it. What a blessing we have today in the written Word of God.

When the vision is written down, it becomes a launch pad for the next generation, for it is written: "*one generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts*". Psalm 145:4

One of the reasons we need to document our thoughts is that it releases power to be able to take initiatives. When thoughts are written down, then it becomes easy to act on them.

Many of us have received awesome ideas from God but we just nodded our heads without documenting them. We need to turn a new leaf and start documenting our God given ideas and vision.

Confession:

I declare in the name of Jesus that I give diligence to writing of vision, thoughts and ideas that the Lord gives me; I am not negligent nor complacent about the things that the Lord says to me. I run with clarity in Jesus name. (AMEN).

January 17

Your words are powerful

Proverbs 18:21 ISV

“The power of the tongue is life and death— those who love to talk will eat what it produces. ”

Your mouth is a framing tool given to you by God with which you can frame your world. You must take advantage of your mouth to create what you want.

Ephesians 4:29 KJV

"Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace to the hearers".

Words are powerful, they are vessels of power. Words create realities, when you speak, you create your realities, when you speak, you create your world. God created the universe by His word.

Hebrew 11:3 tells us that we understand that through faith, the world was framed by the word of God. It shows us the framing power of faith-filled words. You can frame your time and season through faith-filled words.

It is important to give uttermost attention to the Word we speak because the spiritual realities are created in the physical world. How we hurl or catapult spiritual realities from the realm of Faith into the natural realm, we understand that in the beginning nothing was created until God spoke the Word.

The creation and manifestation therefore, comes at the instance of the spoken Word. (Genesis 1:1-3). We shall have what we say, and shall see what we say. Therefore, you must learn to give sound, verbal expression to the revelation of the Word in your heart.

Don't let the enemy hijack your mouth. Take charge of your mouth by the

power of the Holy Spirit within you. Exercise dominion over your mouth in the name of Jesus Christ.

The easy way to rule your mouth is by filling your heart with the right stuff "*The word of God*". The mouth does not have a mind of its own; it depends on the intelligence of the heart. The bible tells us that the mouth will always speak out of the abundance of the heart. Therefore, the heart rules the mouth. Whatever the heart is full of, the mouth will speak. Choose to meditate on the word of God.

Most importantly, refuse to give expression to any thought that is inconsistent with the word of God.

Confession:

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I speak only life Words with my mouth. I create what I want with my spoken Words. (Amen).

January 18

Make every day count: "The choice is yours"

Deuteronomy 30:19 NIV

“This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live.”

Each day that God gives us is definitely a gift and we have an opportunity to value it. One of the ways to do that is to use each day purposefully, not wasting time or allowing ourselves to be manipulated by circumstances that we could control. Each day can count if we learn to live it “on-purpose” rather than passively drifting through the day, allowing the wind of circumstances and distractions to make our choices for us.

God cares about every details of your life. Don’t think that God is only concerned about the “big” things. God has a plan for each and every one of us. The choice you make today will determine how far God can lead you.

Matthew 6:33 NIV

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

Our part is to be willing to do the will of God, follow instructions from Him, and God’s part is to reveal His will and give us the power to do it. When we pray for God to solve a problem for us, He very often gives us something to do, and we can be assured He will energize us to do anything He asks of us.

Our relationship with God is not based on our plan for the day or how organized we are; He loves us unconditionally. However, living life “on purpose” is the only way we are going to end up being the person we truly want to be and enjoying the best life we possibly can. You can make the right choice by getting each day started right, we are more likely to be

satisfied with the outcome of any day if we get it started right, always choose to start your day with God.

Confession:

Father, I ask that you help me to make each day of my life count. Please give me wisdom to make right choices and walk in your plan for me. Amen

January 19

Make every day count: "Stop wasting time"

Colossians 3:23 Easy English

“Whatever things you are doing, do them well. Remember that you are serving the Lord. You are not only serving people.”

If any one of us intends to seize the day and live intentionally, we cannot successfully do so unless we face the truth about how much time we waste on fruitless distractions or even things like guilt, fear, worry, anxiety, jealousy, envy, greed, resentment, hatred, bitterness, unforgiveness, self-pity. If we want to seize the day, we must be prepared to seize these negative emotions that can rob us of many days.

Avoid wasting your time by making a list of some of the things that keep you distracted. Once you identify the distractions in life, you can work towards removing them.

Galatians 6:10 NIV

“Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.”

When you have it in mind to help someone, do it without waiting for another day or time. The Holy spirit might be talking to your heart to do something or give out something important to you, don't try withholding it while you should give it out immediately otherwise you might be replaced.

Perhaps you have heard the phrase, *“The best time to do what needs to be done is now,”* and that is certainly true. Whether it is paying the bills that are due or helping a friend or picking up the little piece of paper you dropped on the floor – the best time is now! Having the ability to move oneself to immediate action

when things need to be done is a trait of a successful person.

Don't wait for the circumstances to be perfect. Don't allow procrastination to be part of your life. One of the best ways that you can stop wasting time is to accept yourself as God designed you this very moment. Don't ever fight against yourself again. Say, *"I am what I am, and I cannot do anything God has not designed me to do — but I can do everything He has purposed for me. I accept myself as God's creation. He loves me and has a purpose for my life."*

Even if you don't know what that purpose is yet, this will help you get on your way to discovering it.

Ephesians 1:4 NIV

"For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight in love."

Confession:

Father Lord, thank you for loving me endlessly, I am who you designed me to be. I do the right thing at the right time and I do not procrastinate.

January 20

Sharers of His life

1 Corinthians 10:16-17 KJV

“The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread.”

The statement in the sixteenth verse of our opening text isn't in effect a question, but Apostle Paul's peculiar style of communicating the subject, because the answer is obvious. First, it says, *“The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ?”* Emphatically yes; it's the communion of the blood of Christ. Secondly, *“The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?”* Yes it is! This means when we partake of that cup, we're partaking of His blood, and His blood represents His life. We're therefore sharers of His life.

Jesus brought us into a kingdom of life. He said in John 14:6, *“...I am the way, the truth, and the life....”* In His benevolence, He didn't just make us partakers of His life, but also the dispensers of that life: we bring others into this life through the Gospel! We live, exude and distribute the God-life, because we have it to the full (John 10:10). For us, sickness, failure, and all other forms of negativities have no place in us because we're comrades of the God-kind.

Let this thought fill your mind as you partake of the Holy Communion. Jesus said to do this in remembrance of Him; when we take the Holy Communion, we celebrate His life in us and remind ourselves of who we are in Him, and the glorious benefits and blessings of His vicarious death on our behalf. He died that we might live, and now we're alive to God and He's alive in us.

When you face challenges or difficult situations and decide to break bread, it's a bold confession of victory! You're saying, *“Everything is going to be all right, because greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world.”* Christ has given

you the dominion and the advantage in life; He has put you in the place of victory and nothing can take you out of it. Think on these things when you take the Holy Communion.

Confession:

Dear Father, I thank you for the body of Christ that was broken for me, and for His blood that was shed for my justification, health, and victory. I rejoice today in His resurrection that has brought me life. As He is, so am I in this world! Hallelujah.

January 21

Living from the strength of God

Philippians 4:13 KJV

" I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me."

We are called to live a life of absolute dependence on God. We are not supposed to live by our strength, nor are we meant to struggle for any cause or reason. We are meant to live from God's strength.

The opening verse is the confession of Apostle Paul of his absolute dependence on God, on Christ who dwells in him. He says, I can do all things through Christ Jesus that strengthens me.

2 Corinthians 3:5 BBE

"Not as if we were able by ourselves to do anything for which we might take the credit; but our power comes from God".

God is our sufficiency, Christ is the strength of our life. Psalm 27:1 tells us that the Lord is our light and salvation, and that He is the strength of our lives. Evidently, union with Christ is union with Omnipotence, it is union with Omniscience, for he who is joined to the Lord is one Spirit with Him.

In our union with Christ by faith, we are supposed to live from Christ's strength and sufficiency. Learning to live this way is learning to live triumphantly every day. It is learning to live independent of troubles, lack, needs and ugly circumstances of life.

When you learn to live from Christ in you, who is your strength, then, you have

arrived. When you got born again, God brought you into union with Christ. Now, Christ is your life and strength, and sufficiency, and wisdom, and salvation, and righteousness and everything.

Now then, how do you live from Christ within you? First, see yourself as one with Christ. Meditate on the scriptures that reveal that you're in Him.

Second, put the Word in your mouth in the confession of Faith. Third, act upon the Word for it is true.

Pray those scriptures daily as you build a strong consciousness of your oneness with Christ, your strength and sufficiency.

Refuse to be afraid of anyone or anything. You're more than a conqueror to face any challenge because greater is He that is you than he that's in the world. Praise the Lord!

Confession:

I declare in the name of Jesus that I am in union with God in Christ Jesus. The Lord is the strength of my life, I am complete in Him and in His name I can do all things.(Amen!)

January 22

Keep your faith strong

Mark 11:23 KJV

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

Doubt hinders your answer and that's what the devil is on the look out for, he is out there bringing all shades of things to distract your heart from the truth of God's word don't allow him.

Romans 10:17 KJV

“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

Faith comes alive in you each time you listen to God's word, hence your faith will remain strong if you consistently listen to God's word, constant meditation on God's word. You don't need to much to move a mountain, our text says if you can say to this mountain to be removed without that you will have whatever you say.

Remember that words comes out from the abundance of the heart and the word of God that you constantly listen to takes abode in our hearts. Hence what you will say is determined from what you have registered upon your heart.

Don't be deceived by the boisterous storm so much that you forget to feed your heart with the right information that will form your speech to move every mountain. Mountain could be anything, lack, sickness in shot whatever negates God's will for your life. Be ready to move them all with your faith filled words.

How to always get results no matter what might come your way is to be strong in faith through consistent studying and listening to God's word. As you do this you are loading yourself up for a massive explosion, you say to the lack God has given me all things and I have all things, no lack around me in Jesus name. You rebuke the devil out of your marriage, academics, business, children using the word of God you've fed your heart with

The devil is not backing out, you should also remain strong in faith because at the end of the tunnel the winner will always be you. Consistently be in faith mode.

Confession:

I take listening and studying your word seriously, I remain strong in faith always and I tell whatever I don't want to move and they move. Amen

January 23

The greatest experience

Acts 1:8 KJV

“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

The greatest experience anyone could ever have is the infilling of the Holy Spirit. Nothing in the world compares to the Holy Spirit taking up His abode in you, making your body His living tabernacle twenty four hours a day, seven days a week, fifty-two weeks of the year, three hundred and sixty-five days in a year, and three hundred and sixty-six days on leap year!

In John 14:23, Jesus said, *“...If a man loves me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.”*

This blessing is for the one who loves the Lord and keeps His Word; Jesus and the Father will set up their headquarters in him! How? It's by the Holy Spirit. That's when you experience His glorious manifestations and operations in your life.

Having received the Holy Spirit, you carry the Kingdom in you; when you arrive in a place, the Kingdom of God arrives in you! You've become the carrier, as well as a dispenser of eternal verities. What a life! Prayer, for you, isn't a religious monologue, but a time of fellowship in the communion of the God-kind. When you pray, even your body responds; currents of divine power surge through your being!

Recall what happened to the Apostles on the day of Pentecost: the Bible says *“...they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the entire house where they*

were sitting” (Acts 2:1-2). Afterwards, they became Spirit-controlled men and women, preaching the Gospel with power, miracles, signs and wonders.

Honour the Holy Spirit and appreciate His presence and ministry in your life; He’s the one who gives you the power to live for the Master. See the book of John

John 14:16; 26 KJV

“And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”

That is the greatest experience as a believer, all we need for life and Godliness have been deposited in the Holy Spirit which we received immediately we believe in Our Lord Jesus Christ. Hallelujah

Confession:

The Holy Spirit lives in me; in Him I live, move and have my being! I carry God everywhere, filled with the maximum load of God! Therefore, I’m unconquerable and indomitable, because greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world. Amen

January 24

Trustworthy men 1

2 Timothy 2:2 NLT

“You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others.”

The gospel and her truths are communicated from one generation to another through men. And these are not just ordinary men, but faithful and trustworthy men.

Who are trustworthy men?, these are category of listeners who hear the word of God, study and pray more with the word they heard, such a way that they now internalized those words and now teach new audience the same truth.

God's intention/heart has always been to see the knowledge of truth about our salvation be shared to all.

1 Timothy 2:4 NLT

“...who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth.”

However, God alone can't share these words. He always depends on trustworthy men. Who can explain His truths to others to enable them understand because we make progress in this kingdom by the revelation of the truth we know. Men who won't allow a word to stop with them, rather, they communicate same with others..

Can God depend on you that you can in your little community train people on the exact training of the Spirit you have received since you came into Christ? If yes, you are the man God is looking for.

Paul taught Timothy, Timothy understood the message very well. And again God is expecting him to look for faithful men like him who would understand the message too and also look for men who can receive it.

Only in this format, can the knowledge of the glory of God fill the earth as waters covers the sea

Habakkuk 2:14 KJV

“For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.”

Can God depend on you?

Confession:

Father, I know today, how that you want the truth of your word to continually be shared by faithful men from one generation to another generation. I surrender my heart for this noble assignment to see to it that I contribute in first being a faithful man with your word and sharing same with other faithful men too. Amen

January 25

Trustworthy men 2

Psalm 145:4 KJV

“One generation shall praise thy works to another, And shall declare thy mighty acts.”

Yesterday, we shall from Paul's admonition how that God wants His word to be communicated from one person to another.. one generation to another by faithful/trustworthy men

Our emphasis yesterday was about the Word of God. Today our emphasis will be on the works of God-the manifestation of the Spirit, the healings, the miracles, the prophecies etc

The word "declare" in our opening text is the same word for "Manifest" not just to "speak" the works of God. A lot of people do read that scripture to mean "sharing testimony". They are very right, but that's not all God wants us to know about that verse.

Spreading His word is one thing by Faithful men, spreading/Announcing His Works is another by the same faithful men. God wants both.

God is looking for men who can receive the operations of the Gifts of the Spirit in an already functioning man of God, and use these gifts to create good works/deeds to help humanity and they also must look for trustworthy men to also have those gifts.

This is the deal of the hour. Can God depend on you to communicate His works on this earth?

Confession:

Father, I refuse henceforth to be unfaithful. I am faithful in communicating your word and power to my generation and even the next generation, help me to be more trustworthy in Jesus name. Amen

January 26

Be filled with God's light

Isaiah 9:2 KJV

“The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.”

Darkness is a state when you become totally useless to yourself and to others, You can't be useful beyond the level of light that you have. Anyone in darkness will become useless to yourself and to others.

The text says that there are people that dwell in the land of the shadow of death. They live but dead in Christ because they are full of darkness. They think it is normal that they die, suffer pain and misery, and live a life of self indulgence, superstition, materialism, pride, alcohol abuse, idolatry, sensuality, and these are the cause of their darkness, misery, unhappiness, and death. The worst part is that people do not even realize they live in darkness.

But with the bad news of people living in darkness, there is also good news. It is the glorious reality of salvation in Christ. In this troubled world there are sinners who find everlasting life through the Lord Jesus Christ. The light shining on the people of Isaiah's day was the shining of the Word of God, which alone brings deliverance and salvation.

We think it is normal to live a life of pleasure and finally die. But that is abnormal. Our eyes have to be opened to this, The light of Christ in us gives direction, this light is very important in our life.

The great light of God shines in the midst of the darkness of our world and in the midst of the darkness of our hearts. But this light must enter into our hearts. It is not enough that we see this light; it is not enough that we are under this light for a while. We need to have this light within us.

Your inheritance in Christ Jesus is in the light. The inheritance of the saint is in the light. You can't take hold of it if you're in darkness. God did not leave you in darkness. God has delivered you from the power of darkness which wants to rule over you and has translated you into the kingdom of light.

Man's darkness because of sin cannot be dispelled by man's own works. Deliverance cannot be produced by human means. Man needs to receive redemption and deliverance from God. And God did give this deliverance by sending His Son into the world. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world (John 1:9).

This is the light of peace and blessedness. Instead of the darkness of death, the Lord gives the light of life. Instead of the darkness of ignorance, the Lord gives the light of knowledge. Instead of the darkness of sin, He gives the light of salvation.

Confession:

Dear lord Jesus, thank you for being the light of the world, and for giving me hope for an eternal relationship and life with you. Thank you for allowing me to represent you on earth, and giving me the Holy Spirit to help me live a life that honours you. Each day, help me to be a light in the darkness and draw others to you. Amen.

January 27

God's guidance is guaranteed

Psalms 32:8 NLT

"The Lord says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you."

There's always a means to an end. For every aspect of human life, there's a pathway to it. If you intend to become an engineer, certain things are required of you that can make you achieve that goal. Failure to comply with it will lead to nowhere. It's expedient that as we enter the New Year, we get familiarize ourselves with the God of all Knowing. He sees the end from the beginning. Our relationship with Him will give us an advantage as we journey through in life for His leadings and directions for our life.

There's a way that seems right to human but the end is destruction. This is powerful! God doesn't want us to go through life gambling rather He wants us to trust Him to guide our path. So many people have regretted their actions just because they couldn't wait on God's leading because we feel it's not common sensible. The best pathway of life is one that originates from the heavens. It comes with a package of safety and confidence. God always stays within the channel of what begins. He doesn't endorse what we want except it aligns with His Will.

Proverbs 4:13 NLT

"Hold on to instruction, do not let it go; guard it well, for it is your life."

One of the things we must not despise is instructions. Anyone who will live a victorious life must obey every instruction. Disobedience to follow instructions brought the fall of Adam and Eve. Just imagine, they followed what God had told them without listening to any side talks, it would have been a different

story now.

Remember, anytime you are instructed either through your Pastor, God's word and fellow believers just know that's the best pathway to life that God has promised, hold fast to it and you will see your life moving from one level of glory to another.

Confession:

I follow God's instructions always. I am not distracted. I am divinely led and my steps are ordered by the Lord. Amen

January 28

The Church

1 Timothy 3:15 KJV

“But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth”

In recent times, many have mistook the word *“Church”* to buildings but according to our theme text *“church”* means the gathering of believers. This means the Church isn't some sort of buildings, the Church is you and I

Therefore if the Church according to the scripture is the pillar and ground of truth, hence as the church we are meant to be standing strong with the truth of God's word, we should always dispense the truth everywhere we go since we are the vessels that carries the truth.

The gathering of the believers is where so much power resides, when we come together to agree on certain things, be assured of instant results. Why? That's because where two or three gathers together in God's name He is definitely there.

Acts 12:5 AMP

“So Peter was kept in prison, but fervent and persistent prayer for him was being made to God by the church.”

The result of their intercessory prayer for Peter was so instant and mighty that they were amazed to see Peter to the extent that they thought it was his angel. This is to open up your mind to take advantage of the church, don't try to push things alone. There are certain matters that you don't even need to stress yourself about all you need is that brother or sister close to you as you both agree on a matter and the result shows immediately.

We believers are the representatives of God on earth, we've been made in His image and we are meant to do what He can do. Hence, we wrought miracles everywhere. We have so much power inherent in us that we can't afford to not take proper advantage of it.

We are the church, the pillar and ground of truth, wherever you find yourself dispense that truth. Let the men out there see your light and run to it. Don't be the other version of who you really are.

Be wise to take advantage of the Church today and always. We have so much truth to dispense.

Confession:

Thank you Lord for making me the vessel that carries the truth of your word everywhere, I live as who I am and I take advantage of my fellow brethren.

Amen

January 29

A new creature with a superior Spirit

John 3:31 AMP

“He Who comes from above (heaven) is [far] above all [others]; he who comes from the earth belongs to the earth, and talks the language of earth [his words are from an earthly standpoint]. He Who comes from heaven is [far] above all others [far superior to all others in prominence and in excellence].”

Our opening text is the beautiful description of you as a new creation. You're from heaven, and you are far superior to all other creatures in prominence and excellence. Understand that this natural world has been subjected to the influence of satan, which is why there's sickness, disease, war, death, poverty, and all kinds of evil in the world. However, you're not of this world; you belong in another kingdom- God's kingdom; you're right now a bonafide citizen of Zion. This takes you away from the class of ordinary beings; each of us is a new creation in Christ, born with superior Spirit.

2 Corinthians 5:17 says, " *...if any man be in Christ, he is a new creation.*" God didn't make a new creation that's subject to satan, poverty, sickness, disease and death; NO! He made a new creation that's victorious over the world; a new creation that's in union with God, and is a joint-heir with Christ

1 Corinthians 6:17 ISV

“But the person who unites himself with the Lord becomes one spirit with him.”

1 Peter 2:9a KJV

“But ye are chosen generation....”

The word "generation" derives from the root-word "gene". Genes hold the information to build and maintain an organism's cells and pass genetic traits

from parent to offspring. They determine the physical, mental and other characteristics an individual inherits from his parents. Thus, when the word describes you as a chosen generation, it describes the divine genetic material by which you were made; you have God's DNA," as it were.

No wonder the Bible says we are more than conquerors

Romans 8:37 KJV

“Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.”

You were born to manifest the graces, excellences, beauties, perfections and auras of divinity. You're a carrier of blessings; therefore, everywhere you go, change lives, take away pains, and bring joy to the hearts of many. Dispense God's goodness to those around you.

Confession:

I'm a new creation in Christ Jesus, born with the life and nature of God. I manifest His glory, perfections and grace everywhere today. I'm the icon of the resurrected Christ, an associate of the God-kind. Amen

January 30

Let God lead you

2 Samuel 5:18-20 KJV

“The Philistines also came and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim.

19 And David enquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go up to the Philistines? wilt thou deliver them into mine hand? And the LORD said unto David, Go up: for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into thine hand.

20 And David came to Baalperazim, and David smote them there, and said, The LORD hath broken forth upon mine enemies before me, as the breach of waters. Therefore he called the name of that place Baalperazim.”

It has become a pattern among many believers to always get things done by thinking their way through. They would rather stress themselves and run around to achieve things forgetting the person of the Holy Spirit who is ever ready to listen and provide answers each time.

In life, challenges will keep coming you should determine to always overcome them all and you must allow God to lead you to that victory.

From our opening text, David was in the midst of troubles, yet he didn't think about his years of experience when it comes to war or think about his skill. He enquired of the Lord to know if he should go after the Philistines. David would have been in serious trouble and even put the lives of others in danger if he chose to fight against the Philistines without consulting God. God gave David victory because he allowed God to lead him and he followed.

2 Samuel 5:22-25 KJV

“And the Philistines came up yet again, and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim.

23 And when David enquired of the LORD, he said, Thou shalt not go up; but fetch a compass behind them, and come upon them over against the mulberry trees.

24 And let it be, when thou hearest the sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees, that then thou shalt bestir thyself: for then shall the LORD go out before thee, to smite the host of the Philistines.

25 And David did so, as the LORD had commanded him; and smote the Philistines from Geba until thou come to Gazer.”

In the same chapter, the same attack rose again from the Philistine and David still enquired of the Lord. Don't you think he would have just gone to war using the same approach God gave him to defeat them at first? Yes, it may be the same issue occurring again but this time around God might have a different approach entirely in solving it; the same attack, different approach in winning and that is why you must never leave out the place of God in your life.

Know what you can do and what only God can do. Don't take up the responsibility of God upon yourself, let Him do the job of leading you.

Proverbs 16:9 KJV

“A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.”

Allow God to lead you always, He has the blue print of how things should go when it comes to your life. Men that allows God to lead them and follow His leading strictly will always do exploit.

Learn to always talk to God, discuss every bit of your plans with Him, He will direct your steps into victory.

Confession:

Dear heavenly father, thank you for being available always to hear me. I'm able to always communicate with you and follow your leading always. Amen

January 31

Tell of His wondrous works

Psalms 105:1-2 KJV

“O give thanks unto the LORD; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people.

2 Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him: talk ye of all his wondrous works”

The wondrous works of Jesus documented for us in the scriptures were meant to further reinforce our heart to believe God the more. Even now mighty miracles have been happening through us and for us.

You must learn to always give thanks to God for all his wondrous works, show your gratitude. Sometimes, we tend to forget what the Lord has done for us in the past and it affects how we appreciate Him and that is why it is a wise thing to always document each testimony as it comes, doing this will help you to not forget what God has done and you will be able to give thanks appropriately.

Telling of His wondrous works will not only reinforce people's heart to believe God for their own miracle but it will also build up your own faith to believe God for much more. If God has done it before, He will do it again and much more.

Make it a duty to always give thanks to God and tell of His wondrous works wherever you get to, you can't tell who will listen to your testimony and hold unto it to get his own mighty testimony.

It's wrong to keep quiet about what God had done for you, it won't help you neither will it help others.

Psalms 103:1-2 KJV

“Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:”

Psalms 26:7

“That I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works”

This is expected of us as believers, we need to show men out there that our God isn't a magician and He is real by shouting miracles that happened through His name.

Confession:

I repent from not giving thanks enough, I bless you father for all you have done for me. I tell of your wondrous works to people far and near. Amen

ABOUT FAITH HOUSE RISE DEVOTIONAL

RISE Devotional is a compilation of Truths from God's word and as shared consistently by our dear man of God Pastor Loyce Akins, over the years, with these truths many have been liberated and made to know the true nature of God more every day.

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