

- APRIL 2023 -

# COMPASS

DAILY DEVOTIONAL



NOT FOR  
SALE!

Temiloluwa Ola

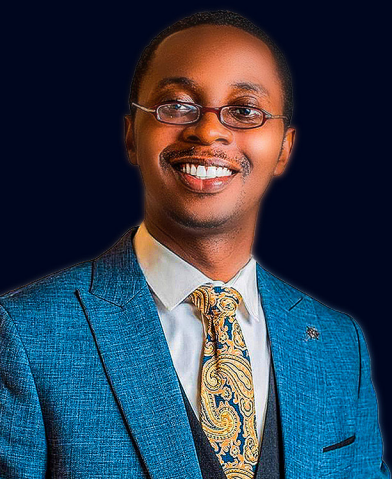
*Practical thoughts for a productive day*

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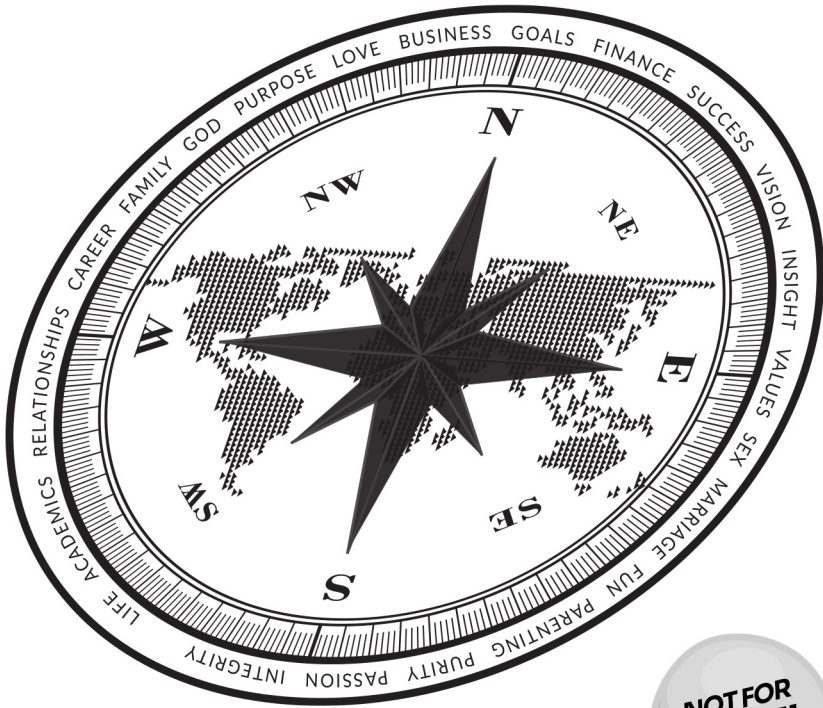
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# COMPASS

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Temiloluwa Ola

*Practical thoughts for a productive day*

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+2348077467754*

# Introduction

Every day has a lesson hidden in it. We can only draw it out if we are patient enough to look closely! Our pains can become a point of thanksgiving. Our smiles can become another's push for another mile.

What do you gain reading this devotional? There should at least be a practical thought that can make your day productive.

The story should lift your spirit. The letters should come to life. You can spot where you are in the middle of a simple story. But more, you can spot who you will be at the end of a thought.

I simply want to be a part of your story-  
See you smile when you would normally frown;  
See you grow instead of standing on a spot;

See you choose what is right without a fear of what might go wrong;  
See you pursue life with a cause just like Christ who died on the Cross;

See you read up God's love letter to you as you beam with smiles each day;  
See you love your dear ones and dare your limitations and obstacles;

See you run this race to end while taking each day with grace;  
See you when time ceases to count and give you a high five that we finished the race with Joy!

I write because I love God and I love you.

Do not forget! The Compass Devotional is not a substitute to your Bible Study. It is only a complement of it.

The Lord bless you and multiply you all around.



# Feedback

After my morning prayers, this devotional is my next activity and I always share the image version of it on my WhatsApp status and it has been blessing lives.

One of the days, I just felt like not sharing it, after some hours that morning, some persons on my contact list messaged me asking for the devotional of the day. In their words, it has been blessing them too. I felt so fulfilled that day and I also shared the group link to some of them.

Most times the devotional speaks directly to what I am going through personally and as a family with my wife. Sometimes I and my wife always end up our morning conversations with the message of the day from ATOM devotional.

May God continue to bless and enrich you and your wife and also grant you all your heart desires for the family and your ministry in Jesus' Name, Amen.

**- JEREMIAH UGWULEBO, PORTHARCOURT**

Your messages have blessed me in no small way sir, I'm someone that has battled with unforgiveness/anger for a long time, although the Holy Spirit to a good extent, has curbed me and cut out the excesses over time. I read a particular devotional where you addressed unforgiveness, saying the devil always come around those who have his package. I made a resolution from that instant, and it has become my favorite daily quote - ( offences will always come, but I choose not to be offended, I don't keep the package of the devil). Since then, I let go of hurt easily.

Not just the forgiveness aspect, I have gotten encouragement countless times from the devotional, that sometimes I just keep scrolling through to re-read them. I also post on my WhatsApp status some times, and I get amazing replies from my viewers.

Thank you so much sir. You're a blessing!

**- REBECCA OSEYI, EDO STATE**

I am Marie Laurel from cameroon. I love and appreciate the way God used you to speak especially to me everyday. It has been doing much good to me at all times and making my crooked really straight. More grace to you sir.

**- MARIE LAUREL, CAMEROON**

This devotional has really been a blessing. After my quiet time, the next thing I check out for on my phone, is the devotional. I have also been sharing and my sisters and a lot of my contact list are part of the devotional community.

Every devotional always comes with power and as though they are written to address every season in my walk with the Lord.

Thank you Pastor and Mummy for this impact. The Lord keep you and may His anointing over your life keep increasing. Amen!

**- NANCY GABRIEL, NASARAWA**

The content from the devotional goes beyond here, I share and post on my status as a way of spreading the gospel. I enjoy the relatable stories and it is very relevant to present days as well as historical and biblical, honestly holistic.

Thank you so much Sir

**- OPE POPOOLA, UNITED KINGDOM**

Thank you for the wonderful devotionals that you do send to us every morning. Sincerely speaking, each devotional relates to my life in one way, and I am happy because I get answers from the devotionals and also directions. I thank God for bringing you my way. And I pray that God will continue to anoint you and your oil shall never run dry. God bless you and the ministry tremendously, sir. Thank you very much.

**- OLUWABUSOLAMI, LAGOS**

Pastor Temiloluwa and everyone working with you, thank you for your consistency in delivering the word through this devotional. I came across your tweets and everytime I read, I would be encouraged. I am encouraged to also start sharing the image version of the devotionals with my contacts.

**- DUDLEY CHIDZIVA, ZIMBABWE**

This devotional has been a great blessing to me and those around me. It is like my daily manna. Thank you for yielding to God, thank you, sir; for sharing your life experiences and how you react to them by the help of the holy Spirit to instruct us. More of God's insight and grace.

**- PATRICIA, ABUJA**



# How We Got People to Our Wedding

Text: Psalms 119:9-10 MSG

*"How can a young person live a clean life? By carefully reading the map of your Word. I'm single-minded in pursuit of you; don't let me miss the road signs you've posted."*

We got married before Google Maps (or Global Positioning System) became a thing in Nigeria. I knew most people would travel through the lonely Ijebu-Ode, Epe to Ajah route for our wedding. Back then, it was difficult to describe that route. Some have testimonies of missing their way there.

With the help of my childhood friend, Ayodele, we made a road trip about two weeks to the wedding on that same route. We noted every landmark and every turn. We then composed a text message describing the way to everyone travelling that route. Anyone who called and asked for a description simply got a text from either of us and others we had shared with.

We received compliments after the wedding. Statements like, "Wow! the description was so detailed. We did not miss a turn till we got here". What a joy it was for us. Much more, we had rest from incessant phone calls.

Beloved, there are guides for you on the journey of life that you must not take for granted. It is your GPS to get you safely into God's ordained plans for you.

First, the Word of the Lord. Do not joke with studying and meditating on the Word. Do not shove your Bible aside and fall under the spell of "Let's face reality".

"How can a young person live a clean life? By carefully reading the map of your Word. I'm single-minded in pursuit of you; don't let me miss the road signs you've posted."  
(Psalms 119:9-10 MSG)

Second, the Spirit of the Lord. Do not take the Coach, the Teacher, and the Guide for granted. You will struggle and stumble without Him. He will lead you into prepared places and preserve you with instructions from the plot and scheme of the evil one.

He will comfort you. There are times he will convict you. You cannot do without Him. "God's Spirit beckons. There are things to do and places to go!" (Romans 8:12-14 MSG)

Third, do you have teachers and mentors? This year, do not joke with discipleship. Do not let stubbornness and arrogance with a spice of ignorance keep you in a cycle. If the year is new, then you should also be renewed. Listen to teachers. Learn from godly models.

You must have heard this prophecy again: "Though your beginning was small, yet your latter end would increase abundantly."  
(Job 8:7 NKJV)

And you must have said a loud Amen! Great. If you would not build a castle in the wind, let me show you what to add to your "Amen": "Just ask the previous generation. Pay attention to the experience of our ancestors. For we were born but yesterday and know nothing. Our days on earth are as fleeting as a shadow. But those who came before us will teach you. They will teach you the wisdom of old." (Job 8:8-10 NLT)

Go to teachers. Go and ask. May this indeed be a new season for you and not just a repetition of the old you. May the new wine this new season not be a waste because the old skin refused to become new.

## CONFESSION

*I am open to receiving divine guidance in my life. I have faith in the wisdom and guidance of the Holy Spirit.*

## DAY 02

# What I Told a Police Officer!

Text: Isaiah 52:11 NKJV

*"Depart! Depart! Go out from there, touch no unclean thing; Go out from the midst of her, be clean, you who bear the vessels of the Lord."*

In the early days of ministry, I was driving into town and I was already late for our evening service. I was stopped at a police checkpoint. When the policeman asked me to introduce myself and asked about what I do, I reasoned I would not be delayed if I said I am a lawyer. I introduced myself as a lawyer. The police officer was impressed definitely and asked me to go. A few seconds after, the Holy Spirit asked me the same question again, "What do you do?" I knew I had messed up. I said, "I am a Pastor". He asked, "Why did you introduce yourself as a lawyer?" I repented but not without a silent conviction by the Holy Spirit telling me that "The call of God on my life was honourable"

Moses, a wanted man, who committed a capital offence and went into exile returned to Egypt, and the laws, and the gods of the land could not place a finger on him. He kept walking in and out of the presence of Pharaoh and spoke as an advocate for others in the same courtroom that should be asking for his head.

Did it ever cross Pharaoh's mind to pick him up, try him and sentence him? He did not even need all that process. Pharaoh was the law of the land.

Moses went back as a man on assignment who had met with the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The calling was his defence. If he had returned as a military man with swords and all, he would have been eaten alive.

Beloved, never joke with the honour and preservation of being loved, chosen, and called by God. It is backed by dignity and not shame. It is backed by grace.

Do you know that Aaron the High Priest did not die until the priestly robe was removed from him?

"And Moses stripped Aaron of his [priestly] garments and put them on Eleazar his son. And Aaron died there on the mountain top." (Numbers 20:28 AMPC)

This year, do not joke with priesthood! You are a

priest of the Most High God. Do you know what priesthood entails?

You must not joke with your God. Fear God. Priests do not joke with the one who called and appointed them. Do not take God for granted. Eli did. The consequence is better imagined.

You must not joke with the Altar. Fellowship must be consistent. It is a continuous affair. The altar must never be abandoned. The altar of a priest is never taken with levity.

You must not be found in profane things. To be saved, it was faith you needed. To remain usable and sendable as a priest, you need purity. Whoever calls on God will be saved but when it comes to vessels to use, God has a choice. He chooses.

"Depart! Depart! Go out from there, touch no unclean thing; Go out from the midst of her, be clean, you who bear the vessels of the Lord." (Isaiah 52:11 NKJV)

As a priest, there are things that you must never be caught doing. They are forbidden for you.

Priests do not wear nonsense. God prescribed priestly garments for dignity and honour (Exodus 28:2). You cannot be splashing private parts in people's faces and keep shouting "To God be all the glory". Choose whose side you are on.

Priests are not the ones to spit vulgar words. Your words must be graceful. You do not have to sound profane to be relevant. Choose your words wisely.

From now, take the compass of your life from your calling. It is dignifying. It has the covenant of protection therein. You are the redeemed of the Lord. Do not just say so. Act so. Talk so. Walk so. Dress so. Represent Jesus well!

## CONFESSION

*I have been redeemed and set free from the power of sin and death. I acknowledge that my salvation is a gift from God, and I am grateful for His mercy and grace in my life.*





# “I Want to Become a Doctor”

Text: Proverbs 22:6 NKJV

*“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.”*

**I**n my younger days, if anyone asked about what I wanted to become, I had no hesitation in saying, “I wanted to become a Medical Doctor”. I grew up seeing our neighbour practise medicine in an inspiring way. His son, myself, and another childhood friend started observing medical procedures at very young ages- we were less than ten years.

I progressed into the sciences until my third term in Senior School Two when I ported to the Arts. The Doctor never said a word but his presence, drive, and results inspired a young boy. Today, I am not a Medical Doctor but his work ethic and visionary living are still an inspiration.

Let's begin with parents – Be careful who and what you expose your children to. There are devices to capture the heart of children (the next generation) heavily deployed right now. You must be very sensitive.

It had been like that from the days of Jesus:

Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. So He asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood.” (Mark 9:20-21 NKJV)

You can not keep watching and listening to things that do not edify while you tell them, “This is for adults”. If it is not healthy for your children, do not watch it at all. ‘Fast’ some movies for the sake of their sanity.

Before you choose an event to attend, ask yourself if it will be healthy for your children. Before you choose a restaurant to eat at,

confirm if it will be a healthy space for the next generation. You are a trustee. Do not misbehave. Do not be in a hurry to turn them to adults.

Well! You need to remember that you are also a child of God. Most likely if it is not good or healthy for a child, it is not healthy for a child of God.

Friends, there is nothing that you are exposed to that is neutral. You are being influenced actively daily. You only have a choice to choose who and what gets access to your life.

Solomon warned us to guard our hearts with all diligence because it is the spring of the issues of life.

Amnon gave his ears to Jonadab and lost his mind. He raped his sister and was murdered by his brother. What a mess.

Who has your ears?

Do not partner with strange forces to raise your seed like a Christmas chicken for slaughter. Do not feed them with things that prepare them to become ready tools for depravity. Feed them for preservation, posterity, and godly purposes.

## CONFESS I O N

*I declare that I am a responsible parent, I nurture, love, and guide my children in the ways of the Lord.*



# If a Man Does'nt Disappoint...

Text: Psalm 15:4 GNT

*"They always do what they promise, no matter how much it may cost."*

When my colleague during the National Youth Service Corps got to know towards the end of our stay in Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria; that the Lord would have me focus on ministry full-time, he made a very profound statement that keeps ringing in my mind- "Pastor Temi, please do not call me when there are small needs in the ministry. Please, notify me when there is a huge need. That is what I want to be a part of". Every time he sees a need to date (an amazing twelve years down the line), he is always eager to be a part of it.

First, are you always true to your words? Do you have the integrity of words? Some people simply go around saying things to make people feel good but when reality hits, their words vanish like vapour and they are nowhere to be found. Be careful when you make vows and commitments. There is a description that the Bible gives for the man who will ascend the hill of the Lord: "They always do what they promise, no matter how much it may cost." (Psalm 15:4 GNT)

It is better if you keep quiet especially when you know it will be difficult for you to keep your word. Many have made promises that they cannot keep:

"Think before you speak, and don't make any rash promises to God. He is in heaven and you are on earth, so don't say any more than you have to. So when you make a promise to God, keep it as quickly as possible. He has no use for a fool. Do what you promise to do. Better not to promise at all than to make a promise and not keep it." (Ecclesiastes 5:2, 4-5 GNT)

Do not make "political statements". Be a man of your word. Let people know that you have the integrity of words. It is a good testimony.

Second, if a man can keep his word no matter how hard it is, how much more is the Lord God Himself? God honours His Word more than even his

name. For the word of God will never fail. (Luke 1:37 NLT). The Word of the Lord does not return to Him void:

"For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater, So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it." (Isaiah 55:10-11 NKJV)

Do not forget the powerful lines of this song:

*You are Good, you are kind  
You are more than these  
I'm lost for words trying to describe you  
Elohim, El-elyon, Aleselewi  
Your Greatness is all I see  
There is nothing you cannot do  
There's no mountain you cannot move  
If you have said it  
Then you will do it  
Cause You have a Track record  
Of keeping Words  
And you're not about  
To stop doing it now...*

God has a track record of keeping His word. Go and verify!

## CONFESSION

*I am truthful and honest in my interactions with others. There is no deceit in my actions and in my words; no matter how difficult or uncomfortable it may be.*

## DAY 05

# Broken People Do Not Have Broken Homes

Text: 2 Corinthians 10:5 NIV

*"We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ."*

**I**t was a Sunday morning and Irewamiri and I had a bit of a disagreement. In a bit to both drive home our points passionately, we seem not to be getting one another. Since I knew that I had to get early to church, I went in to prepare.

After some minutes, I told her I was heading to church and that I had left the car behind for her to use while I strolled till I get a commercial bike.

About a hundred metres away from the house, the Holy Spirit said to me, "Go back and hug her. Tell her you are sorry and that you love her".

I returned home immediately. I met her at the dining area fixing breakfast for the children. I hugged her. I apologized. I told her that I love her.

If your ego is more important than the prompts of the Holy Spirit, you will destroy many things with your stubbornness. At times, that would include your marriage. Whatever two believers refer to as an irreconcilable difference is simply saying, "Our ego is more important than forgiveness" or at least one party is resisting the nudge of the spirit. Either way, ego is somewhere in the equation.

A broken husband and a broken wife can never have a broken home. When a home breaks, there is always an unbroken spouse. The sacrifice of God is a broken heart and not a broken marriage.

What does it mean to be a broken believer? It means to be fully yielded to the Word of the Lord and the instructions of the Holy Spirit even when you have your right to fight for. Obeying God is more important than your personal preference.

There are many homes that the Lord would have helped but self and its twin, selfishness has kicked out selflessness.

Self is promoted when personal altars of devotion and fellowship are neglected. If you no longer study the word and pray, self will be getting fat. Your heart will be getting hardened. Little by little, the fence you are constructing to shut out the Holy Spirit and divine counsel will be completed. You should stop that construction work now. Abandon the site and demolish every imagination and thought that has exalted itself above the knowledge of God.

"We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ." (2 Corinthians 10:5 NIV)

A broken man knows that it is about obeying Christ. A broken woman knows that it is first about holiness and not happiness. Whatever makes you holy has the joy of the Lord in it.

Are you a broken husband?

Are you a broken wife?

Your answer determines a lot- Will it be a broken home?

Someone has to stand up and do the same thing I did. Go and hug your spouse. Apologize. Confess your love. Kick out ego. Begin afresh.

## CONFESSION

*I declare that the Holy Spirit will have full reign in my home and in my life.*

*Therefore, I am sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit in my marriage.*



# Spiced Vegetables and Strong Friends

Text: 1 Kings 4:5 AMPC

*"Zabud son of Nathan was a priest and the king's friend and private advisor"*

**A**sides from plantain, I love good vegetables. I mean the one spiced with assorted meat and fish. Wow! But the combination of the two (plantain and vegetable is magical).

On a visit, my wife and I were served this awesome plate of vegetable just as described above. Once my wife tasted it, she gave me a warning smile and said, "Darling! Do not eat a lot of the vegetable. It has quite some pepper".

She knew that too much pepper is a "ticket to the toilet" where the input and output have the same effect- peppering all through!

I disregarded it. I cannot miss the meal for anything. You knew how the story ended when we returned to base!

One of the things you must trust God for are people who warn you when you begin to compromise. It is unbelievable that Solomon had friends and advisers and he still drifted from God's plans and precepts.

When he married the daughter of Pharaoh or was thinking of her as a trophy for sealing great deals, did anyone warn him? From one slip, he ended up with an array of women. He followed his lust till he was lost in the worship of strange gods.

"Zabud son of Nathan was a priest and the king's friend and private advisor" (1 Kings 4:5 AMPC)

David had a Nathan who did not keep quiet but Solomon had a Zabud that did not hold him accountable when he was slipping into sin.

If you are doing wrong and your friends keep quiet about it, change your company. You have only surrounded yourself with grave diggers. They are not friends. They are mere fans. Friends confront in love. Fans admire you even in your mistakes.

A loving friend will warn you when you begin to consume what looks sweet but has grievous ends. Sin can taste sweet but its wages remain constant – death!

This season, have you gotten any friend who has challenged you to growth? Are they even close enough to notice that you no longer study and pray? Do they allow you to indulge or break that pattern with a friendly charge?

Have they noticed that you are now comfortable with the attention you get from the opposite sex that is not your spouse? Have they noticed that you are no longer aflame for God?

It is easy to fall when you are surrounded by men who hail you while you fail. Strong friendships are scarce. When you have one of such, be grateful!

## CONFESSION

*I am blessed with God-ordained friendships that challenge me to growth.*

## DAY 07

# I Struggled in Another Man's House

Text: 1 Corinthians 6:19 NLT

*"Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself"*

I was visiting with my sister and her family. At one point, there was a cut in the power supply. Some moments later, we had the sound that signified power had been restored. Interestingly, there was no supply in the house. We saw there was power in the neighbourhood but there was none in the house. She requested that I help change the lines but I did not succeed. We tried all we could but to no avail.

Eventually, we called my brother-in-law and he gave directions on what to do and stayed on the phone till it was done. In a few minutes, power had been restored because we spoke to the one who knew what to do.

Beloved, know this now, you have a house that you also live in. The Word of God refers to it as a tent or a tabernacle. It is your body. "For we know that when this tent we live in—our body here on earth—is torn down, God will have a house in heaven for us to live in, a home He Himself has made, which will last forever." (2 Corinthians 5:1 GNT)  
"I think it right, as long as I am in this tabernacle (tent, body), to stir you up by way of remembrance" (2 Peter 1:13 AMPC)

Second, you must be clear that even though you live in that tent or tabernacle, once you give your life, that house has a new owner. It ceases to be yours. You stop doing whatever you like with your body. Why? The management has changed.

"Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself" (1 Corinthians 6:19 NLT)  
Anything you try to do without the owner of the house will be frustrating and very difficult. You will keep struggling with what can be

easier. Hear the words of Jeremiah to you as a believer: "I know, Lord, that our lives are not our own. We are not able to plan our own course." (Jeremiah 10:23 NLT)

You must first ask the one who owns you about His plans for you. Why? Your life is not your own. If you try to manage it yourself, you can be frustrated.

The Psalmist knew this quite well also: If you do what the Lord wants, he will make certain each step you take is sure. The Lord will hold your hand, and if you stumble, you still won't fall." (Psalms 37:23-24 CEV)

The whole house was without power until we called the owner of the house. Your life will not be empowered until you call on the Lord. Since there was no power, we lacked light also. Without the Holy Spirit, a man's life will be in perpetual darkness. You will see the Word of God as a storybook without power. But when you have the Holy Spirit, you are not just empowered, you are enlightened. Grace begins to flow to all areas of your life.

If you try to manage this house yourself, it will crash. You will get into the wrong things. You will find reasons for sinning and you will keep saying the reason is "body no be wood". You will justify things. Tell your body that it is under new management. It cannot just do whatever it wants!

## CONFESSION

*The word of God is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. I do not walk in darkness in any aspect of my life.*

# Go Back Home and Get Drunk

Text: Matthew 26:39 KJV

*"And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt."*

Many years ago, my dad worked as a bank teller. At the close of the day, he had a huge deficit that he could not trace. Despite all he tried, he could not resolve it. He went home worried. He had a bottle of alcohol in his fridge. He was just a casual drinker. He would normally take sips. But that day was different. He took more than a sip. He went to the bathroom and slept off there. I love my Dad. He has taught me a vital spiritual lesson- When it gets tough, a sip is not enough. Get drunk in the Holy Spirit. Pray up your spirit till rest comes in an unusual circumstance.

You will see that principle in the scriptures also. Let us examine some:

"When the Philistines heard that David had been made king of Israel. They came to attack the nation. David did not hurry out to fight. He went first into the stronghold. Friend, when it gets tough, get into your stronghold and seek the face of God. Come back with a spiritual strategy and confront the challenge." (2 Samuel 5:17-25)

"But when the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over Israel, all the Philistines came up to seek David; and David heard of it, and went down to the hold. 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." (2 Samuel 5:17, 19 KJV)

The problem we have most time is our laziness in prayer and our over-reliance on carnal solutions.

Second, when Jesus got to the point where he said he was sorrowful unto death. There was something he did- "he went a little further" and fell to the ground and prayed. "And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt." (Matthew 26:39 KJV)

After praying, he returned ready to confront his betrayal, trial, and crucifixion. The problem we have is our incapacity to press in more amid tough times. We cave into the pressure rather

than lean upon His grace. You need more than a sip to face the cross. You get drunk in the Spirit.

Third, when the Apostles were persecuted for preaching the gospel. They threw them in prison and an angel came to open the prison door. He asked them to go to the same place and preach the gospel again. The religious council (the same as the one that condemned Jesus most likely) sent for them and concluded that they should be flogged. They left rejoicing. Can you imagine?

But the secret was simple. When the persecution came to a peak and they asked them never to preach in the name of Jesus, they took more than a sip. They returned to their drinking corners with their drinking buddies. They prayed till the place they were was shaking. They left with the boldness to do more (Acts 4,5).

When my dad woke up from his drunken stupor, his problem was still there. But those who get drunk in the Spirit of God return in the power of the Spirit. Mountains melt before them. Challenges bow to them.

When last did you press in more than a sip? You need more than your "plus Jesus" prayers. You need more than a sip. You need more than family devotion. You need more than a sip. Pray in the Spirit on the wheel, in the kitchen. Sleep off and wake up with a fired-up spirit.

We are in the season of sons. Let the sons arise. Let the Daniels press in for answers where others dare dread. Return with answers for the kings of this world. Come back with solutions that only the spirit can supply. You are not flesh. You are Spirit. Let the deep call to the deep.

## CONFESSION

*I humble myself under the mighty hand of God, casting my care over on Him. Therefore, I refuse to worry; Instead, I will pray, I will use my faith and believe.*





# “Pastor Temi, What are You Doing on This Day?”

Text: 1 Samuel 16:11 NKJV

*And Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all the young men here?” Then he said, “There remains yet the youngest, and there he is, keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him. For we will not sit down till he comes here.”*

**M**y trainer called me a couple of years back and asked me, “Pastor Temi, what are you doing on so and so day?” I was wise enough not to reel out my schedule. I simply asked, “Sir, what do you want me to do for you on that day sir”. He eventually sent me to a meeting that treated me like a king and opened my eyes to many things I would never have known.

Friend, you will not learn if you are not humble. You will not grow if you are not teachable. You can stay in the same spot for long simply because you are legitimately busy with things. It is not busyness that makes you great, it is the blessing that comes from serving that changes everything.

It is great to be busy but you must be sensitive to those you must never tell you are busy. A Minister of God shared how his spiritual father called him. He asked him to go on a trip with him but he responded that he was busy. It took him two years to wake up from his slumber. He realised he was not smart enough. Today, his story has changed.

David was busy taking care of the sheep when his father called him. It is great to be productive. It is great to be busy. But David did not say, “Daddy, I am busy taking care of the sheep”. The three times he was called off the sheep by his Dad were significant moments of change in his story. The first time was when Prophet Samuel stormed their family home. Jesse sent for David. If David had told his father that he was busy with the sheep, he would have missed the anointing for kingship.

And Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all the young men here?” Then he said, “There remains yet the youngest, and there he is, keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him. For we will not sit down till he comes here.” So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. And the Lord said, “Arise, anoint him; for this is

the one!” (1 Samuel 16:11 – 12 NKJV)

The second time that Jesse sent for David was the time King Saul needed someone to serve him in the palace. If David had said he was busy, he would have missed his opportunity to see how kings live and understand the protocol of the palace.

Therefore Saul sent messengers to Jesse, and said, “Send me your son David, who is with the sheep.” And Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread, a skin of wine, and a young goat, and sent them by his son David to Saul. (1 Samuel 16:19 – 20 NKJV)

The third time Jesse sent for David and told him to take some food to his brothers on the battlefield. David did not hesitate. That was the time he became a national hero. He killed Goliath.

Then Jesse said to his son David, “Take now for your brothers an ephah of this dried grain and these ten loaves and run to your brothers at the camp. And carry these ten cheeses to the captain of their thousand, and see how your brothers fare and bring back news of them.” (1 Samuel 17:17 – 18 NKJV)

Friend, learning to heed the call of a father is a major key in life. Fathers are not frivolous. They do not just call arbitrarily. They know what season you are in. They know the opportunities and exposures that you need. Do not take the call of a trainer for granted.

The first call of David was a call to the anointing. The second call was a call to the palace. He stepped into where he was anointed for. He served the throne that he would soon sit on. The third call was to prominence. There are no casual calls.

## CONFESSION

*I am sensitive in the spirit. I maintain a posture of honour with my trainers and teachers.*

## DAY 10

# Handling Emotions on the Journey to Destiny

Text: Matthew 16:23 NIV

*Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."*

**M**y Grandfather in the faith shared a powerful lesson with us once: A dear friend of his visited him regularly in his city. Anytime he comes, they would jointly visit a senior minister of the gospel. After a while, they both noticed that when they visit this minister, they always return discouraged. They never discussed it. One day, as they drove to his place, he had a prompt that they should go back. He shook it off because he did not know how to tell his friend. Suddenly, his friend parked and said he was not going to visit the man.

He wanted to persuade his friend that it would seem somehow. His friend leaned to the passenger's side of the car, opened the door and told him, "If you still want to go, No problem. As for me, I turn back here". At that moment, he knew his friend was serious. They both returned to base. They are both great voices in the land today.

He told us that day, "When it comes to matters of destiny, be brutal".

Sentiments will hold you down in life and destiny. You need to wake up from the slumber of making choices that add no value to your God-approved journey.

Jesus was really hard on Peter when he suggested that the divine assignment he came to fulfil was not going to happen.

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to

you!" Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

(Matthew 16:21 – 23 NIV)

Jesus told Peter he was a stumbling block and did not have the things of God in mind. Right after, Jesus gave a brief lecture to the disciples on the kind of commitment that following God's plan would need.

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. (Matthew 16:24 – 25)

Those are some tough words. Very tough! Jesus ended up saying that whatever you gain that makes you lose your soul is not worth it- friendship, attention, public approval, money, status!

You cannot be sent if you will be sentimental. Following God takes guts, grit and some gusto.

## CONFESS I O N

*I manifest the total worth and significance of my destiny to my world in Jesus' name!  
Therefore, my decisions and choices in life are in alignment with the program of God for my life.*



# “Don’t Bring That Sickness in Here”

Text: 2 Timothy 1:5 NKJV

*“...when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also”*

**A**s kids, anytime we got sick in school and our parents were beckoned on. As soon as we get home, Mum would say to the sick- “Temi, you know sickness is not permitted in this house. So, before you come inside, rebuke that sickness”. You need to see me saying, “In Jesus’ name, I am not sick”. She would definitely take great care of us and take us for medical treatment. I hated injections! There was a time Mum returned from a conference and all three of us were sick. She came into the children’s room that evening and I heard her say, “Devil, you have no space here. I rebuke you spirit of infirmity. Get out!” Our health was restored that night.

Today, we do not just pray for our children but we also now pray for our parents. We now remind them of that strong faith in their ageing years.

There is something about seeing a great example of faith. It gives you a headstart in life and destiny. Timothy had such a headstart. He saw faith as a young child and faith was seen in him also.

*“...when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also”*  
(II Timothy 1:5 NKJV)

Generational examples build you up for generational impact. It is easier to replicate what you have seen. But if it has not been seen, it is hard to replicate.

Unfortunately, the examples some saw were terrible and that is what they are also replicating. At times in the Chronicle of Kings, you will see words like this:

“He did evil in the sight of the Lord and walked in the way of Jeroboam, and in his sin by which he had made Israel sin.”  
(I Kings 15:34 NKJV)

“And he did evil in the sight of the Lord and followed the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who had made Israel sin. He did not depart from them.”  
(II Kings 13:2 NKJV)

But we had the chronicles of those who followed great examples also:

“And he did what was right in the sight of the Lord, yet not like his father David; he did everything as his father Joash had done.”  
(II Kings 14:3 NKJV)

Examples are powerful.  
Be a great example.  
Follow great examples.

## CONFESSION

*Faith is the way I live, it is my way of life.  
Therefore, I boldly declare that I speak the Word in faith and I get great results always.*



# “I am Sorry, That Day Can’t Work”

Text: Deuteronomy 6:6-7 NLT

*“And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up.”*

**W**e all sat at the table and I told Irewamiri that I would still need to step out that Sunday evening. She looked at me and said, “I don’t know about that dear. Sunday evenings are for us as a family”.

I called the person I had an appointment with and requested that we talk on the phone briefly. Many times I have to say to people, “I am sorry, that day cannot work”.

No matter how busy you are, do not joke with the time created for your family. If you have none, create one. Your days must not be filled with all work and no moment for your spouse and children. Soon enough, you will realise that they are actually all you have got. They are the motivation for most of what you do. Do not take them for granted.

I read an amazing story about Jonathan Edwards. The preacher of the classic, “Sinners in the Hand of an Angry God”. Despite his work as a preacher, he had a strong family moment. He spends his evening with his wife and eleven children. He lays hands on each of them and prays for them daily.

Almost two hundred years after, A.E. Winship, an American Author researched his lineage. His discovery was amazing.

In His published study, Juke-Edwards: A study in Education and Heredity, Winship revealed that the one marriage of Edwards produced an amazing lineage, including Two Hundred and Eighty-Five College Graduates on the Edwards family tree. The Edwards lineage produced:

1. Three Hundred Preachers
2. Thirteen notable Authors
3. Thirteen college Presidents
4. Sixty-five college Professors
5. One hundred Lawyers and a Dean of a law school
6. Thirty Judges
7. Fifty-six physicians (doctors) and a Dean of medical school
8. Eighty holders of public office
9. Three United States senators
10. One Vice President of the United States
11. One Comptroller of the United States Treasury.

*(Culled from Purging Your House, Pruning Your Family Tree by Perry Stone)*

What was it that Jonathan Edwards planted? He gave his home attention. He did not joke with his family. He planted the seed of love, faith and hope. What a lineage.

When last did you lay hands on your children to pray for them? What takes your family time? Is it just TV shows? What lasting kingdom impact are you leaving on your seeds? What adjustment will you make?

What day will you say to others, “I am sorry, that day cannot work, I will be with my family?”

## CONFESSION

*I commit myself and my family to living a Christ-centered life. I will teach my children the ways of the Lord and I will prioritize family time, setting aside regular times to gather together and study the Bible, pray, and worship.*

## DAY 13

# How Not to Kill Yourself

Text: 2 Corinthians 2:17 NLT

*"You see, we are not like the many hucksters who preach for personal profit. We preach the word of God with sincerity and with Christ's authority, knowing that God is watching us."*

I followed my pastor to a church for a Stewards' Vigil at another church some years ago. My Pastor preached like fire. Till now some of the statements he made still ring out loud in my head:

"God is not in the business of maintenance. He keeps making things better. If you cannot make it better. Quit". He was challenging us to better kingdom stewardship.

"You do not know how much of a sinner you can be until you have money. You need money to finance adultery. Money will easily help you hide a sinful life". He was challenging us to a life of purity and faithfulness.

"There is no happy husband of a sad wife. There is no happy wife of a sad husband". He was challenging us on marital stewardship.

But as we got into the vehicle that night to go home. My Pastor began to laugh in the car. We all wondered why he was laughing. He said, "They all look at me look like a superstar but I did not even touch their topic".

He then added, "I tried all I could to follow their topic. I even had a book on it but it did not open up. I followed what the Lord has graced me with".

Friend, the reason why you are frustrated is that you are struggling to fight giants in the armour of Saul while you disregard the sling and stone you have been graced with.

One of the most effective assassins of joy is trying all you can to please others without regard to the will of God, the grace of God and the gifts of God in your life.

Any minister of the gospel will know this: There are times you will struggle hard with a topic for hours. You have plenty of notes but you do not have a message. You have to put aside your note and ask for the hand of God upon you.

There is nothing you are given to steward that you cannot access through an area that the Lord has graced you with. Your sling and stone will find a spot on the forehead of Goliath.

When next pressure is rising, calm down. Take a walk along the streams of meditation. Pick up your smooth stones. Carry your shepherd's pouch. Remember that the Lord who was with you has not abandoned you. Stop looking for a formula. Look for the grip of His hand on your Spirit and steward the gift He has blessed you with in confidence.

Some can sing it but you can write it. Do not try to sing it. Some can teach it but you can prophesy it. Do not try to teach it. Some can lead it while you can identify those who can lead it. Do not try to lead it. Use that gift of identifying leaders well.

Do you know what Paul said:

"You see, we are not like the many hucksters who preach for personal profit. We preach the word of God with sincerity and with Christ's authority, knowing that God is watching us." (2 Corinthians 2:17 NLT)

Do it with sincerity. Do it with the authority of Christ. Do not become a spiritual hustler! Do you get it?

## CONFESSIO

*I take full advantage of the grace of God that has been made available to me.*

*Therefore, I declare that God's grace is at work in me to bless and lift others!*



# Are you a Great Steward of Resources?

Text: 1 Corinthians 4:2 AMPC

*"Moreover, it is [essentially] required of stewards that a man should be found faithful [proving himself worthy of trust]."*

**W**e had a few days to go; yet there was still a lot to be done on the project site. The next phase needed quite some funds. We had to purchase things for electrical and plumbing accessories.

We all prayed and gave thanks before we left the site that night. By the time we returned in the morning, we had almost all the funds needed. As I strolled on-site still giving thanks, we received the exact amount needed to take care of the balance. Our joy was palpable. God showed up. Yes, He did.

But here is the amazing part: I sent a message to the person who sent the seed and the response still rings in my heart to date: "You are an amazing steward of God's resources". It challenged me heavily.

Beloved, God looks at your stewardship before He increases the resources around you. If you are not faithful to one man, you will not be faithful with a hundred men. If you are not faithful with one dollar, you cannot be faithful with one thousand dollars.

If you are a minister of the gospel (this will help a businessman or woman also), please, separate the resources of the ministry from your resources. Do not mix it up. Let there be accountability over the resources of God's people. Please, even if the offering is two hundred and sixty-five naira and you knew you gave two hundred naira as a pastor, do not complain. Do not grumble. It is not your money. Treat it with honour. It belongs to God.

Apostle Paul made it clear that one of the requirements of a Kingdom Steward is faithfulness. You must be faithful!

"Moreover, it is [essentially] required of stewards that a man should be found faithful [proving himself worthy of trust]."  
(1 Corinthians 4:2 AMPC)

There was a time that Apostle Paul had to administer the resources of God's people, he did not take things for granted. He ensured that a team of efficient and faithful men handled the funds and he gave his reasons:

"And we are sending along with him the brother who is praised by all the churches for his service to the gospel. What is more, he was chosen by the churches to accompany us as we carry the offering, which we administer to honor the Lord himself and to show our eagerness to help. We want to avoid any criticism of the way we administer this liberal gift. For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of man."

(2 Corinthians 8:18-21 NIV)

They did not handle God's money like their personal money. They did this for two reasons:

- To avoid criticism about how the funds were managed,
- To ensure that they do what is right before God and man.

There is a tendency to mismanage divine resources when you are not deliberate about stewardship and faithfulness. Please, be deliberate.

## CONFESSIO N

*I declare that resources gather unto me in torrents for the accomplishment of my God-given purpose, and I receive the grace to steward them effectively.*



# You Did Not Waste Your Time

DAY  
15

Text: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NLT

*"Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus."*

**W**e were in a camp meeting and I sat in between two Pastor friends. My friends were moved to the front row while I was left in the same spot. They were given words of knowledge while I got nothing.

Thoughts began to come to me: "You are not that important", "You wasted your time to come", "When you will stay in a place like Eruwa. You should have started in the city. Maybe you would have been known". I rejected all the strange thoughts.

After the meeting, the guest minister spotted me and said to me, "Do you know you are a great man? Focus on the work the Lord has given you". He also said some really specific and accurate words.

First, in the season when you are taking stock, remember that it is not a competition and you are not in a game of comparison. Focus on what the Lord has done in your life and be grateful for it. It must be a season of thanksgiving and not that of complaining. Second, make sure you stay focused on the assignment of your life and destiny. While looking at the future, do not change lanes because of what you see others do. Stay in your lane. Stay where you were assigned. Men may applaud you for making a smart move while heaven looks down and calls your move a foolish one.

Men were leaving Saul. Samuel was delaying. Anyone who looked at it would say Saul did what was right by making the sacrifice. It was more than just making a sacrifice- he made his way out of the throne. He lost it all.

King Uzziah also thought that in greatness,

he could decide to do things as he wished. He got served leprosy in the process. It was not his bit. It was not his assignment. It was not his role.

Do not rush! Do not jump around under pressure. Do not become sad because it is not moving. Be calm. What are you grateful for? Are you at least making progress?

Do not murmur. Do not be ungrateful. Rather than saying, "So this is how I entered the new month without me having a new job...", focus on the privilege of even thinking that you need a new one. Thank God your mind is in place.

This is what Paul said:

"Do everything without complaining and arguing" (Philippians 2:14 NLT)

And He said again:

"Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:16 – 18 NLT)

And do not compare. Rather, give thanks:

"But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise."

(II Corinthians 10:12 NKJV)

## CONFESS I O N

*I declare that I am in God's rest; therefore, I enjoy a life of Joy. Depression is far from me, for I carry an atmosphere of joy with me everywhere I go.*

DAY  
16

# Be Free From The Trap of “Strange Men”

Text: 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5 NLT

*“God’s will is for you to be holy, so stay away from all sexual sin. Then each of you will control his own body and live in holiness and honor—not in lustful passion like the pagans who do not know God and his ways.”*

A “prophet” told Irewamiri that she was going to get pregnant before marriage. If it happens, she should not be afraid. Irewamiri had a good moment laughing in her heart. She knew that could never happen. Why? We knew we were never going to drop the standard.

First, the standard of God has not changed. You can change the name of fornication to premarital sex, hook-up, or whatever fancy name the world gives it, you cannot change the standard of God.

“God’s will is for you to be holy, so stay away from all sexual sin. Then each of you will control his own body and live in holiness and honor—not in lustful passion like the pagans who do not know God and his ways.”  
(1 Thessalonians 4:3-5 NLT)

Second, you need to understand this: Doctrine regulates character. If you listen to “teachers” who excuse sin, you can never live above sin. You will excuse sin.

“Nevertheless, I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.”  
(Revelation 2:20 NKJV)

Men are seduced by teachings. Once seduced, they begin to commit immorality. Any teaching or prophecy that has no foundation in the fear of the Lord will lead your soul astray.

Third, one major way that the devil has entered into the life of a man is through character failure. Character failure operates like the proverbial man whose enemies seek

to roast him alive yet he keeps rubbing petrol on his body. He has made their work easier.

If you will be free from strange prophets and their prophecies:

Be rooted in the Word of the Lord. You cannot afford to be ignorant of the Word of the Lord. Can the prophecy be backed up by scriptures? Is there a witness in your spirit man by the Holy Spirit living in you? Does the prophecy promote the Lordship of Jesus or it is just a salutation and exaltation of the flesh?

Also, build a solid character. If a “prophet” tells you that you need a second wife to secure your wealth, you would never do it when you know the Word of God, have the fear of the Lord and have no desire in the flesh already for wild flames. If you are seeking convenient options, the devil will offer you cheaper alternatives in destiny that have expensive repercussions. The price of compromise is always the soul of a man. Your soul is the highest commodity on the earth.

Finally, be rooted in a Bible-believing and practicing church where the word of God and prayer are foundational. If you jump from church to church and from mountain to mountain, you will end up opening your life, marriage, and family to “strange men”, “sharp practices, and seducing spirits.

Beware!

## CONFESS I O N

*I declare that I am of God, and I have overcome the world, for greater is the Holy Spirit that is in me, than the devil that is out there in the world.*



# Anything it Takes for The Gospel

Text: 1 Corinthians 9:23 NLT

*"I do everything to spread the Good News and share in its blessings."*

**B**ack in the days, while I was still an undergraduate, I would invite friends to join me in meetings in the land of Eruwa. At times, I was the host. At times, it was in my parent's church.

On one such occasion, I had the honour of hosting a friend. When we got to town, he had a necklace around his neck. Just before we stepped into the church, I spotted it. I pulled him aside and said, "My brother, I have nothing against your necklace but if you desire indeed to minister to this congregation, would you be kind enough to remove it so there is no restraint in their heart and the atmosphere as they observe you".

His response stuck with me. He said, "My brother sir, I am removing it right away. I will do anything for the gospel". He ministered powerfully and there was a free course for the Spirit of the Lord. (This is not an argument for wearing or not wearing trousers, using jewellery, or any other matter like it. Our mindset when we were growing up was that attachment was made from the pit of hell. If a lady wears a pair of trousers, she is a prostitute trying to seduce men. Do you get the context now?)

There are times you would have to sacrifice personal preference for the sake of the gospel. There are times when it is pure wisdom to know the culture of the community you are ministering to and make adjustments (as long as they are not sinful adjustments). You are doing it for Jesus!

One of the greatest hindrances to the move of the spirit is the reign of the flesh. The flesh will always argue because of its tradition. Peter argued because he would never go near a gentile. God had to first work on his mindset before he could send him to Cornelius. I am sure Peter was concerned about his image as a high-ranking Apostle, but his love for Christ was bigger than the sentiments of his culture.

I have missionary friends who share experiences that take guts to go through for the Lord. If it is

about self, the gospel of Christ will be trapped in our holy huddles. Is it the water they drink or they bathe with? Is it the places they lay their heads? Yet God shows himself faithful. They return with a huge harvest of souls for the kingdom.

I have ministered in churches where there are certain rules and regulations – we remove our shoes before we get in, and some have both genders seated separately. We do not argue. We simply comply. May I not become the hindrance to the gospel of Christ.

It is not wise to say, "That is who I am. I cannot change for any reason. If they cannot accept me as I am, then I am not interested". Why would you let "self" hinder you from kingdom exploits? Do not let it happen.

Apostle Paul said: "Even though I am a free man with no master, I have become a slave to all people to bring many to Christ. When I was with the Jews, I lived like a Jew to bring the Jews to Christ. When I was with those who follow the Jewish law, I too lived under that law. Even though I am not subject to the law, I did this so I could bring to Christ those who are under the law. When I am with the Gentiles who do not follow the Jewish law, I too live apart from that law so I can bring them to Christ. But I do not ignore the law of God; I obey the law of Christ. When I am with those who are weak, I share their weakness, for I want to bring the weak to Christ. Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some. I do everything to spread the Good News and share in its blessings." (1 Corinthians 9:19-23 NLT)

Do not become a sinner to save sinners. Find a common ground. Make sacrifices. Do it for Christ.

## CONFESSION

*The Lord is with me like a terrible mighty warrior and I am not afraid to preach the gospel.*



# Say Thank You Like You are The Only One

Text: Luke 17:15-16 KJV

*"And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan."*

I had the privilege of visiting a dear father in the faith who dedicated a day of the month to teach ministers and impact them prayerfully. The meetings were very impactful. I knelt by his side and said, "Grandpa, thank you for the monthly training. They have been a whole blessing". His response has stuck with me for years. He said, "You are the one who appreciates it." There was a day someone reached out to me and said, "Pastor, I know a lot of people say thank you and appreciate you. I want to just add my voice to that also. I want to say thank you". I told the person, "You are one of the very few who show appreciation". There was a year that I told a dear sister I was grateful for her consistency in equipping us with teachings on purity. She said to me, "I was almost thinking I should stop but your appreciation has energized me".

Beloved, from the days of Jesus Christ, the flow of appreciation has witnessed scarcity, and only a few returns to express it. Many people assume that "many people" are showing appreciation and their own is irrelevant or inconsequential. It is not true. Jesus met ten lepers. He told them to go show themselves to the High Priest. They discovered they were healed on the way. Only one of them returned to show gratitude. "And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan." (Luke 17:15-16 KJV) Give Glory to God. Yes! God deserves the glory always. You must give all the glory to God. He is the one who does mighty things. He is the source of inspiration. But it does not end there. Give him thanks. Show

appreciation to the vessel or channel God is using or has used to bless you also. Let your Pastor know that his teachings are a blessing to you. Share testimonies of how impactful it has been.

With a Loud Voice. Do not be quiet about it. Do not try to be "humble". Let it be loud. Fight every spirit that tells you that your appreciation is excessive. Share the testimonies. Send that message. Say thank you.

Even our Lord Jesus had to ask and then also add a statement:

"And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger." (Luke 17:17-18 KJV)

Where are the nine? They are not found. Where are those who say they have been blessed? They are not found. Where are those who tell their pastors how much their lives have been impacted? They are not found.

Go and say thank you to your pastor today. It will strengthen his heart. Do it. Never forget- Appreciation that is not expressed is no appreciation at all. Will you be the one? Or are you part of the nine?

## CONFESSION

*I give thanks always. I am not ungrateful!*



# What My Grandpa Told His Friend

Text: Isaiah 40:1 KJV

*"Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God."*

**M**y Dad told us a story: While they were still young and their Dad was doing all he could to get them educated. A concerned friend walked up to his father saying, "Why are you not using your money to build a house instead of using the money to pay for education?" My grandpa's response was simple- he mentioned the name of all his children and said, "Those are the houses that I am building now".

There is the spirit of fatherhood. It is not every man that is doing things in the spirit of fatherhood. A father thinks and acts generationally. A father weighs his words, actions, and decisions from a generational point of view. For a father, it is never just about them. It is about their children and their children's children. The spirit in the latter years of Hezekiah the King is a strange spirit that must be resisted. Some Fathers build for generations and some fathers waste what a generation laid and built up.

"Then said Isaiah to Hezekiah, Hear the word of the LORD of hosts: Behold, the days come, that all that is in thine house, and that which thy fathers have laid up in store until this day, shall be carried to Babylon: nothing shall be left, saith the LORD." (Isaiah 39:5-6 KJV)

A strange father is not bothered about his sons. As long as things are fine in their own time. As long as they are fine, they do not care. It is a strange spirit.

"And of thy sons that shall issue from

thee, which thou shalt beget, shall they take away; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon. Then said Hezekiah to Isaiah, Good is the word of the LORD which thou hast spoken. He said moreover, For there shall be peace and truth in my days." (Isaiah 39:7-8 KJV)

Do you know the next prophecy to the nation about those strange words and actions by King Hezekiah?

"Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God." (Isaiah 40:1 KJV)

Today, I speak the comfort of God to everyone who has not enjoyed a generationally thinking fatherhood. I speak comfort to everyone who had the wrong picture of fatherhood. I speak comfort to ladies abused by their fathers. I speak comfort to hearts that were hurt by the decisions of fathers. I speak comfort to our nation, Nigeria!

Finally, you are either a Father or a potential Father. Make sure you do it right in your time. Make sure you make decisions thinking about generations. Do not just think of yourself.

## CONFESSION

*I declare that I am shaping the world and creating generational legacies.*

*Therefore, I make decisions that impact generations to come positively.*



# The Metal Pole and The Rain Marks

Text: Joel 2:28 NLT

*"Then, after doing all those things, I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your old men will dream dreams, and your young men will see visions"*

I slept off while praying and I had a short dream that woke me up. I saw a metal pole with some rusty elements on it. Then it began to rain. After the rain, they came to carry off the pole. On the spot where the pole stood, there was a brown mark on the floor made by the interaction of the water and the metal.

The Lord said to me as I woke up, "You cannot leave a mark of what you have not carried". In the same way, just like the rain, it takes an outpouring of the Spirit of the Lord upon us for us to leave a generational impact here on earth.

We are in a prophetic season. You must be willing to make a mark in your time. There is no one that is redeemed that is not appointed for impact. By the prophecy of Joel:

"Then, after doing all those things, I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your old men will dream dreams, and your young men will see visions" (Joel 2:28 NLT)

There is nowhere that rain falls that is left the same way. When rain falls, dry things come alive. When rain falls, seeds buried underground begin to sprout. It reveals what we never knew was there. When rain falls, there is a refreshing.

We are in the season of the rain. Dry prayer lives are sprouting with a new passion. Potentials that had laid fallow and dormant are coming alive. Men who did not know what they carry are entering a realm of revelation. All of these will be refreshing to the carrier and to the body of Christ.

Therefore, your goal must be to stay continually yielded to the Spirit of the Lord. A yielded man is a great vessel in the hands of the Lord. Train yourself early to be yielded to Him.

At all costs, resist anything and everything that makes it difficult for you to yield to divine leading. Fight it hard. When your life becomes so encumbered for God to lead, you become stranded and confused and it will seem as though things got complicated. God makes our life simple.

No matter how much you want to carry on a journey, it would be unwise to put the load on the driver's seat. No matter how hectic your life is now, leave the driver's seat to the Lord. The load will not count much when you have handed it all over to Him. Do not make it hard for God to lead you.

If it is hard for God to lead you, it will be hard for God to use you. If it is hard for God to use you, it will be impossible for you to leave a divine mark here on earth. Your life must produce kingdom impact.

Look at Jesus: He was so delighted with "His father's business" from age 12. How old are you now? Do divine things excite you? Are you postured constantly for the rain of the Spirit? When it pours, would you be a part of the manifestation?

## CONFESSIO

*I am strategically positioned to make tremendous and undeniable impact across nations.*



# Be Grateful For a Wife That Asks Questions

DAY  
21

Text: Ephesians 5:21 NLT

*“And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.”*

That evening, Irewamiri asked me, “I wanted to confirm from you, why did you tell \_\_\_\_ that story while speaking to so and so?” I quietly explained.

There are times that I would buy things (even for her) and after she has appreciated it, “She will ask me, ” My husband, where did you get the money for this?” Especially when the gifts seem to be more than our cash flow at that season.

Initially, I used to feel like the questions were a bother. But one day, I was driving and about to get on the major road when she said, “Darling, there is a bike coming”. I applied the brakes. I did not see the bike. It was already in my blind spot. She saw it. I understood that day the privilege of having someone who sees what you do not see.

A dear father in the faith said one of his greatest lessons in ministry is never to take the counsel of his wife for granted. There was a time my mother in the faith also told my dear father that a particular lady in their ministry seem to have a mission. He felt she was being oversensitive until the day the lady in question walked into his office flashing him her breasts.

Dear man, the closest person to you who would see what you do not see is your wife. If you shut her up rather than reflect and answer her questions, you would have lost a major defence and likely get into trouble pretty soon.

Your spouse is not a mere decoration in your life. She is an accountability partner. If you are not ready to answer questions, it is better to remain single. You must be willing to share where you got the extra money. You must be willing to share your schedule and routine. You must be willing to share your temptations and struggles. You must be willing to be naked before the only one who can get

intimate with you.

When Achan brought in the accursed and hid it in the tent, there was a conspiracy of silence. On the day of judgement, ignorance or innocence was not an excuse. The whole family bore the consequence. They all paid for it with their lives.

When Gehazi ran after Naaman and brought home “things they did not have yesterday”, the consequence was not personal, it was generational leprosy.

Listen, financial transparency is very essential in marriage. You cannot claim to be faithful when you cannot be financially transparent.

Do you remember the day you bought ice cream for that lady in your office and you kept it away from your wife? You bought for your wife also as an afterthought to cover up your “guilty spending”. She said “Thank you darling” and asked “Why did you buy me ice cream today?” You could not say, “I gave Jennifer a ride and she requested for ice-cream so I bought it for you too”. You dodged and pretended. When the devil sows a seed in your heart, he will return for his harvest. You are already slipping off the path of faithfulness.

Dear husband, do not get angry when you are held accountable.

Dear wife, ask with patience. Raise the concerns with honour. Approach issues with wisdom. Talk to the king in your man.

Work together as a team. Let nothing come in between both of you.

## CONFESSION

*I declare that I possess the God-dimension of wisdom in relating with my spouse, capacity for peace and grace to be accountable.*



# Get Set For Miracles You Did Not Seek

Text: Ephesians 3:20 NKJV

*"Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us."*

Some months ago, we were having an appraisal meeting about our weekend service. There was a time during the service when the generator went off. It was not the first time it was happening. No one spoke about it because we knew we had a lot on our table.

The head of the technical team just said, "Pastor, we would need a new generator". We all smiled. I said to him, "you already know our scale of priorities for projects. Kindly ensure the generator is repaired". We ended the matter there.

The following day, someone reached out to me. After exchanging pleasantries, the question he asked shook me to praises and awe of God- "Pastor, I know you have been on a building project. We thank God for it. Does the church need a new generator and what is the cost?" He said, "I just perceive to ask". The next day, we had the funds for a new generator.

Friends, never underrate what the Lord can do. The Lord that can answer you when you call is also the same Lord who can answer you before you call. God can do things you did not ask for.

"When You did awesome things for which we did not look, You came down, The mountains shook at Your presence."  
(Isaiah 64:3 NKJV)

Paul introduced God to us in a very amazing way. He said He is the God who

can do far more than we can think. True!

"Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us."  
(Ephesians 3:20 NKJV)

If you have gotten to a point where your calculation cannot provide the answers, you are in a great spot for God to show His area of specialty- Impossibilities.

"Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for Me?"  
(Jeremiah 32:27 NKJV)

Do not shut down. Faith does not put a limitation on God. God will never put a limitation on faith. He does miracles.

Read this again:

"When You did awesome things for which we did not look, You came down, the mountains shook at Your presence."  
(Isaiah 64:3 NKJV)

God will do mighty things that you did not look for today. Amen!

## CONFESSION

*I declare that the miracle-working power of God is working mightily in me to bring forth blessings and miracles today.*

## DAY 23

# A General Lie to Save Face

Text: Titus 2:11-12 NLT

*"For the grace of God has been revealed, bringing salvation to all people. And we are instructed to turn from godless living and sinful pleasures. We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God,"*

Some years ago, I kept looking for the key to the car. I searched everywhere I could. I did not find the key. Then I decided to check the car itself. I discovered I had locked the key in the car. Fortunately, Dad had a spare. He gave it to me so I could retrieve the key but not without a warning to be more careful next time.

However, some days later I was looking for the key again. As Dad headed to work, I mentioned that I was looking for my key and I was sure I would find it. Well! I discovered I had locked it again in the car. Now, I knew where the spare key was. I picked up the spare key and returned it after retrieving the missing key.

Then my test came- the next morning, Dad asked, "Temi, where did you find your key yesterday". My answer was evasive. "Dad, it was just lying somewhere". He did not say a word but went on to work.

Then I lost my peace. As I settled at my desk in the ministry office. The Holy Spirit convicted me of lying because of the fear of being scolded. I picked up my phone and composed a text to Dad apologising for lying to him and telling him exactly what happened. My peace was restored.

Spiritual growth will happen as you pass your tests. Every time you evade your tests, you will remain weak in character. If you do not repent, it will become easier to make sinful decisions. The strength of your character will get weakened by the day.

At the initial stage, your conscience will ring like an alarm clock but if you do not respond and repent, your conscience will snooze out on you while you carry on wrong-doing. You

can do the wrong thing so often that it begins to seem right.

The Christian walk is a journey of "Fruitfulness". You must produce godly fruits. It is proof of maturity in the faith. If all we see are strange fruits, we will have to doubt if indeed you are a believer.

If you are loaded with gifts but lack fruits, you will be gifted but lack godly character. We need a revival of fruits now. When the grace of God unto salvation appeared to all men, it began a training curriculum for men saved by grace to learn to say "No" to unrighteousness. If you claim to be saved but cannot say "No" to sin, you certainly have been missing in the class taught by grace (Titus 2:11,12)

I grew up seeing an art piece in our living room that says, "If you are accused of being a Christian, will there be enough evidence to prove it?" That statement stuck with me.

Can my colleagues testify that I am a Christian? What testimonies do my neighbours have? If my phone (my gallery, and my playlist) is called on to testify about my Christian virtue and character, what will their testimony be?

I know we are all work in progress. Kindly let us see the progress! Where is the proof?

## CONFESS I O N

*I boldly declare that my life is for God's glory, and His righteousness is expressed in, and through me. Therefore, sin and all its rudiments have no power over me.*

DAY  
24

# Does Pastor See Your Status?

Text: Exodus 28:2 KJV

*“And thou shalt make holy garments for Aaron thy brother for glory and for beauty.”*

A member of the church was asking another member some years ago- Does the pastor see your status? Because if he sees this your status, I am sure by now you would have gotten a message from him!

What was the issue? She was indecently dressed with her cleavage out and she paraded it on her status.

Christianity and indecency are parallel lines- they will never meet. No matter how much you try to justify the fashion that exposes your body part, there is no scriptural backing for it. It is not Christ-like in any way!

You must begin to decide who defines your boundaries- fashion icons, secular music videos or the framework of righteousness as specified in the Word of God and by the Holy Spirit.

Is God interested in how you appear? Certainly. Right from the Old Testament, He prescribed what the Priests would wear. He gave two things that must be checked every time you dress up:

*“And thou shalt make holy garments for Aaron thy brother for glory and for beauty.”*  
(Exodus 28:2 KJV)

The first question is “Does it glorify God and all that He represents in my life?” After you have settled that, you then

must ask “Is it beautiful?” If it is beautiful to you but fails the first test of glorifying God, discard it!

Is Christianity promoting mediocre appearance? Not at all. Jesus told the story of a man who was kicked out of a wedding feast because he was not properly dressed:

“But when the king came in to meet the guests, he noticed a man who wasn’t wearing the proper clothes for a wedding. ‘Friend,’ he asked, ‘how is it that you are here without wedding clothes?’ But the man had no reply.  
(Matthew 22:11 – 12 NLT)

Once you are a child of God, you cannot appear just anyhow. Let your dressing glorify God!

## CONFESS I O N

*I declare that I am deliberate and intentional about the life I live as a Child of God. The relationships I keep and the ones I create, my speech, dressing and every of my actions glorifies God!*

## DAY 25

# “It Was My Tailor That Made it That Way”

Text: 1 Peter 2:9 KJV

*“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.”*

When I spotted what this daughter of Zion wore to the wedding ceremony, I asked her what happened that she wore such a revealing dress. Her answer was to blame her tailor. “Pastor sir, it is my tailor that made it that way. I did not see it until today”. However, it was not too long afterward, that I realized that it was not the tailor, it was a pattern that she was gradually settling into.

First, every child of God must live in the consciousness of royal priesthood. A believer is both a priest and a king. When you gave your life to Christ, your identity changed.

“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.” (1 Peter 2:9 KJV)

Let's take a cue from the priesthood of Aaron. Aaron and His sons were set apart as priests in Israel. It was an office they were to occupy. Do you know the first thing God mentioned after they were set apart as priests? It was their clothing: “And thou shalt make holy garments for Aaron thy brother for glory and for beauty.” (Exodus 28:2 KJV)

God set the purpose for dressing right there: First, it must be for glory. Second, it must be for beauty.

But it did not stop there. Do you know that God literally prescribed the kind of “tailors” and “fashion designers” that can sew for the priest? Yes He did:

“And thou shalt speak unto all that are wise hearted, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron's garments to consecrate him, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.” (Exodus 28:3 KJV)

“Tell all who are expert, whom I have endowed with skill and good judgment, that they shall make Aaron's garments to sanctify him for My priesthood.” (Exodus 28:3 AMPC)

Those who make cloths for priests must be wise-hearted. They must be full of the spirit of wisdom.

Dear believer, if you claim that your tailor is the problem, well! God prescribed the type of a tailor a priest should use:

The tailor must be skillful. They must know their onions. They must be very good on their job.

But there is another requirement: The tailor must have good judgment. Next time get a tailor that knows that your breasts are not for display. Get someone that will not be saying, ‘Except your breasts show a bit, the work will not show’. So you eventually got a wedding gown that does not look like your priesthood.

God had to emphasize it again and he gave his reasons for this: Their nakedness must be covered.

“And for Aaron's sons thou shalt make coats, and thou shalt make for them girdles, and bonnets shalt thou make for them, for glory and for beauty. And thou shalt make them linen breeches to cover their nakedness; from the loins even unto the thighs they shall reach” (Exodus 28:40, 42 KJV)

God gave three simple conditions for the appearance of a priest:

For Glory. For Beauty. For covering of nakedness.

You are now a priest. Does your dressing represent you well? Or are you still blaming your tailor? Then change the tailor! Or change your heart. Repent!

## CONFESSION

*I am a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar person.*

DAY  
26

# “Ma, This is Not The Amount I Requested”

Text: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NLT

*“Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.”*

**M**y friend shared a story of how a random woman showed up at their door and asked his Mum that she wanted to see a Doctor. Well, she mentioned that she needed some financial assistance for her boy in school. He did not know her but went in to envelop an amount to support her.

A few minutes later, the woman returned and said to his mum, “Ma, where is that Daddy?”. The mum asked if all was well. She replied, “Ma, he did not give me the amount I asked for. The money is not complete”. The mum was in shock.

One of the things to kill is a sense of entitlement. Do not live your life like people owe you. There is a level when persistence begins to look like foolishness. No one owes you anything.

People who give you when you ask and when you did not ask are certainly doing their best. There are times they are giving you their last dime. You don’t know the season that people are in. Your perception may be wrong. Even if it is right, they do not owe you.

Gratitude is a virtue. Someone reached out to me once and asked to send a token. He sent me airtime of 200 naira. My God! I was so grateful for it. I did not thank him less than the person who gave me ten thousand naira airtime. I was massively grateful when I realised he was a missionary in a small village. It touched me more.

If you know the story that surrounds people’s gifts to you, you will be humble. There was a day I was sitting beside my daughter in the hospital and helping out someone with a knotty police issue at the same time yet someone else was still getting angry that I am

ignoring her request for help. I only smiled. Do not become entitled.

Entitlement is a trap that gets you into trouble. Adonijah had an entitlement mentality. Hear him:

Then he said, “You know that the kingdom was mine, and all Israel had set their expectations on me, that I should reign. However, the kingdom has been turned over and has become my brother’s; for it was his from the Lord. Now I ask one petition of you; do not deny me.” And she said to him, “Say it.” Then he said, “Please speak to King Solomon, for he will not refuse you, that he may give me Abishag the Shunammite as wife.” (1 Kings 2:15 – 17 NKJV)

He had a sense of entitlement to the throne. He did not get it. He now wanted Abishag. Solomon read between the lines. He gave him no room to ask for any other thing. That was his last request.

Adonijah should be grateful that after an act of treason, he was still alive. He crossed the line with a sense of entitlement. He paid with his life.

Dear Sir/Ma, deal with entitlement mentality. Do not let it wreck you. God bless you!

## CONFESSION

*In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I set my heart to be excellent in all things, giving gratitude always.*





# Don't Allow Offence to Thrive

Text: Luke 17:1 NKJV

*Then He said to the disciples, "It is impossible that no offences should come, but woe to him through whom they do come!"*

A dear father in the faith gave me an appointment to see him. I honoured the day but I sent messages to get further details. I got no reply. I had to travel back to base without seeing him. I sent some follow-up messages.

Some weeks later, I needed to send him another message when I realised that he sent me a message that I did not see. I was so shocked. I had to apologise. I told myself, "Thank God I did not walk the path of offence. I would have acted foolishly"

Certainly, offence will surely come. You must be the one that will refuse to be offended. Ensure you are also not the trigger of an offence.

Then He said to the disciples, "It is impossible that no offences should come, but woe to him through whom they do come!" (Luke 17:1 NKJV)

As long as men relate, one issue or the other will come up but you must not just walk in forgiveness, you must walk in advanced forgiveness.

Much more than forgiveness, you must learn that "Love bears all things". Give space in your heart that deals with the challenges that come with relating with people.

"Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." (I Corinthians 13:4, 7 NKJV)

Offences arise most times when you are quick to jump to conclusions. If you have not seen the full picture, do not form an opinion. Be patient. It may not be the way you think it is.

There are times as children when our parents flogged us, shouted at us and disciplined us without knowing the full story. They listened to an outsider and reached conclusions about our character and behaviour. Some of you still have that pain in your heart till now. Let it go!

But the big question is- Who are you treating the same way? Do you have the full picture of what your spouse actually did or it was what you were told? Have you given that friend the benefit of doubt? How about your business partner? Be patient. It may not be what you think.

## CONFESSION

*I declare that the love of God has been shed abroad in my heart by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, love is my nature, walking in love for me is not a struggle.*

## DAY 28

# “You Will Outgrow Him”

Text: Ephesians 4:13 NLT

*“This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God’s Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.”*

I was speaking to a dear Sister some years back. I noticed her spiritual growth as her Pastor and I was excited about it. Every Pastor loves a growing sheep! I told her the truth about her courtship. She had been talking about the man in some previous conversations. I told her, “Can I tell you this? The pace at which you are growing, if your man refuses to grow, you will outgrow him. There will then be problems because you will not be talking about the same values or have the same understanding”. It happened exactly like that. She fought for it but it dawned on her that their values were not the same even in something as simple as consistent church attendance.

Friends, two things must play strong roles in your decisions in life: First is Growth. The second is Value. Some of the troubles you will have will come from holding on desperately to people and places you have outgrown. Can you imagine at 25, you are trying to wear a shirt you loved wearing at age 10? No matter how much you try; it cannot fit.

Most “couple affairs” that began on campus (even fellowships) hit the rocks when one of the parties begins to outgrow the other or they realise that they were hasty in making a choice that will not fit the demand of their destiny. You just realise that you love each other but your direction is no longer the same.

A second challenge will be your values. For instance, you did not know the importance of a local church on your life’s journey but now you are fiercely committed to learning, growing and serving in your local church but your immediate company are still full of “sleepers on service days” not to talk of commitment to serving.

You now realise that your destiny will not be built in a party but the place of prayer. The

party has reduced. You now realise that you must be accountable to be responsible but you are in a company that laughs every time you say you want to visit your mentor or pastor. You now realise that sex before marriage is a breach of the covenant but you are in a company that feels “What is the big deal with having a little fun, at least we are adults or we are getting married?”

You have chosen the high road of purity but you are in the company of those who sit down to watch and discuss the latest in sitcoms, songs and styles that promote nudity and perversion. You all go to church but you see your taste is different.

Growth and Values will always be the demarcating lines in the long run. You will love them genuinely but you know that there are lines you will not cross.

You know the demands of your destiny and nothing will make you settle for less. You know you are on a national assignment with international impact, and you cannot afford a day’s rest in the bosom of a “burning beautiful housewife”. Your destiny will not allow it!

Let your values and growth be tied to the demands of your destiny.

Remember, when it comes to your destiny, be brutal. No sentiments!

May your head not find rest where your destiny’s demand will not be fulfilled.

### CONFESSION

*I declare that I daily enjoy progressive growth and luxuriant productiveness by the Word of God.*

## DAY 29

# “I Can Never Forgive Him”

Text: Luke 17:1 NKJV

*“And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses.”*

**Y**ears back before ministry started, I walked out of my room after some moments of prayer and I had a word from the Lord for the first person I saw. I said to her: “The Lord said to say to you, “Your Life is just about to begin but there is someone you are refusing to forgive”.

She said to me, “I say yes to the fact that my life is about to begin but forgive that person, I can never forgive him”. I asked her to speak to me and she poured out her heart.

She dated a young man with who she ended up doing all sorts and for quite unimaginable things. After the worst happened, the boyfriend dumped her and called her a rag. Just a few days before I saw her, he called to tell her he was getting married. She felt used. She cursed him, his marriage and his unborn children.

One of the things that will give the devil a perpetual grip on your life is an unforgiving spirit. If you realise that you keep struggling as a believer and you stay in the cycle of your past, you need to check if you are not keeping the property of the devil.

An unforgiving spirit is a fertile ground for sickness to thrive. A bitter spirit cannot produce the fruit of the spirit. If the devil succeeds in leaving the seed of an unforgiving attitude, he will return to check for the fruit that it will bear- bitterness and if not careful, diseases can sprout also.

The devil will always return to check if he has a stake in your life. Jesus said so:

“I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me.”

(John 14:30 NKJV)

The devil will always hang around anyone who has his package. Make sure that he has nothing in your life.

One of the major hindrances to answered prayers is an unforgiving spirit.

“And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses.”

(Mark 11:25 – 26 NKJV)

Make sure you discard the devil's baggage. An unforgiving attitude is not a load the human spirit can carry, it is too heavy- you will break down eventually. There is a lot of wisdom in these three words- Let it Go!

### CONFESSION

*Father, I thank you because you have flooded my heart with the warmth of your love. Therefore, my heart is refreshed and I hold no charge against anyone.*

# Can God Rely on You?

Text: Isaiah 5:26 AMP

*"And will whistle for them from the ends of the earth; And indeed, they will come with great speed swiftly."*

A friend was narrating to her that she had an emergency some days back and sent a text message to some of her friends to kindly stand in the gap for her around 1 am. She then asked her friend, "Why did you not text me also?" The friend told her, "It is difficult to reach you on a normal day let alone the day of an emergency. Everyone, I reached that late hour responded in a frame of two hours" Beloved, Prophet Isaiah was talking about a nation that the Lord beckoned on and he said about that nation they responded swiftly and speedily.

"And will whistle for them from the ends of the earth; And indeed, they will come with great speed swiftly." (Isaiah 5:26 AMP)

Prophet Isaiah has other things to say about them:

"No one among them is weary or stumbles, Nor one slumbers or sleeps; Nor is the belt at their waist undone [as if unprepared for action], Nor is the strap of their sandal broken. Their arrows are sharp and all their bows are strung and bent; Their horses' hoofs seem like flint and their chariot wheels like a whirlwind. Their roaring is like a lioness, they roar like young lions; They growl and seize their prey And carry it off and there is no one to save it." (Isaiah 5:27 – 29 AMP)

They are not people sold out to weariness. They do not slumber or sleep when the Lord beckons. When He signals to you at 2 am, do you respond? They are always prepared for action. How about their arrows? It is sharp. They are sharpshooters. They get answers in prayers. They have a voice. They roar. They pray until something happens.

The question is "Can God depend on you?" Can the Spirit of the Most High place a burden for intercession on you or does heaven have to look for someone else?

Anna the Prophetess and Simeon were trusted with the intercession for the birth of Jesus Christ.

Can God place such a task in your heart and you come through with it?

God said through Prophet Ezekiel that He sought for a man to stand in the gap but He did not find any. When Heaven asks, "Who shall I send?" Would you be able to answer, "Here I am. Send me".

The church is in critical seasons. We need men who will be stable in prayers. We must stop losing women because of birth complications. We must stop losing lives to terminal diseases.

The Apostles gave themselves to the ministry of the Word and Prayer. They had men who served and also people who gave. Today, both the priest and the flock are hustlers. The shepherd returns from work as tired as the sheep. The prayer cover is torn.

Mammon has driven us very far from high callings. We even subtly abuse "full-time" ministry. We teach entrepreneurship to men with high callings. We make them settle for somewhere in-between. They must survive. Elisha now holds on to his agric business and follows Elijah once in a while. Peter can no longer abandon fishing. While on the field, he is looking at the time and worried about the boats.

Can God rely on you at such a time as this? Can you be the Esther of this century? Can you be the Mordecai of this hour? Can you wait on the Lord so that sentences of evil will be reversed? We need men with the heart of a warrior and the boldness of a lion. Can you be God's man? Will you get His text message? Or are you too busy?

## CONFESSION

*I declare that I function at my best potential. I am effective, productive and readily available for the Master's use.*





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The background of the entire page is a photograph of a person walking away from the viewer on a wooden pier that extends into the ocean. The sun is setting or rising, creating a warm, golden glow on the horizon and reflecting on the water. The sky is a mix of blue and orange. At the top of the image, there are several vertical bars of various colors (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, pink, etc.) of different heights, resembling a barcode or a stylized header.

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