

THE REFINERY DEVOTIONAL



A monthly DEVOTIONAL
of the REFINERY CHURCH

July, 2016.

Finally, we have been able to birth this devotional; the dream had been in us from the beginning. Thank you for receiving its birth.

This devotional was written by the workforce of the Refinery church, compiled and edited by me.

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You are free to make your contributions and praise reports via my inbox on facebook @ Harrison Ayintete.

Blessings.

Pastor Harry

DAY 1.

TOPIC: NO MORE CONFUSIONS.

Written by: Akinpetide Busayo

TEXT: Isaiah 11:2

And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.

I have seen believers in confusions at different points in life and I also have experienced this in one situation or the other; being confused as regards making various choices and decisions .this could include making decision as regards career, relationships, marriages, business, etc we have been made to know that we are not to live in a seemingly confused state, the word of God reveals this. We are believers and we should never be lost in these situations.

The Spirit a believer now has is one full of wisdom, counsel, knowledge, might...

Don't be intimidated by the seeming overwhelming negative situations. Never confess the negative even when situation looks as if its turned upside down, **SPEAK UNTO YOUR VICTORY!**. Look into your spirit, it's where you get counsel, direction... you have the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

We have the inspiration already; we are not going to have it. So look into your recreated spirit, you have counsel, you have wisdom therein is understanding.

And guess what?! Now are we the sons of God! 1John 3.2

We must be aware that we are being led constantly by God; His wisdom is constantly being revealed and demonstrated within us. We must shift our attentions from the confusions on the outside to the wisdom on our inside; we stir up this wisdom by acknowledging it and speaking of it.

Rom 8:14

2cor 4:13

Awesome, Glory to God!

We are refined unto God's goodness!

DAY 2

TOPIC: LOOKING UNTO JESUS!

Written by Tofunmi Aloba

Bible text: Matthew 6:25-34, Hebrews 12:2

Memory verse: Hebrews 12:2

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

The Holy Spirit is always at work, helping us to turn our eyes away from self to Jesus; but Satan's work is just the opposite of this, for he is constantly trying to make us regard ourselves instead of Christ. He insinuates, "Your sins are too great for pardon; you have no faith; you do not repent enough; you will never be able to continue to the end; you have not the joy of His children; you have such a wavering hold of Jesus." All these are thoughts about self, and we shall never find comfort or assurance by looking at our frail self. In contrast, the Holy Spirit turns our eyes entirely away from self. He tells us that in spite of our 'nothingness', Christ is all in all. Remember, therefore, it is not *thy hold* of Christ that saves thee, it is Christ's hold on thee; it is not *thy joy* in Christ that saves thee, it is Christ's joy; it is not even your personal faith, for it is Christ's faith that saves, all we do is to receive and acknowledge the word of his faith. Faith in Christ, it is not our works that merit, it is Christ's blood that merits; therefore, look not so much to thy hand with which might be failing; look not to thy hope which maybe be fading, but to Jesus, the source of thy hope; look not to thy faith, but to Jesus, the author and finisher of thy faith. We shall never find joy by looking at our failing selves, our doings, or our feelings; it is what *Jesus* is, not what we are, that gives rest to the soul. If we would at once overcome Satan and have peace with God, it must be by "looking unto Jesus." Keep thine eye simply on Him; let His death, His sufferings, His merits, His glories, His intercession, be fresh upon thy mind; when thou wakest in the morning, look to Him; when thou liest down at night look to Him. Oh! let not thy hopes or fears come between thee and Jesus; follow hard after Him, and He will never fail thee.

ACTION POINT: On Jesus is the best you can fix your gaze.

AWESOME! WE ARE RENEWED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS.

DAY 3

TOPIC: LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE.

Written by: Ibitayo Ademola

TEXT: Matthew 5:14-16.

“ Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candle stick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

We are believers and we are the light of the world. Jesus said this when he taught in Matt. 5:14 and this we learn of the more in 1Pet.2:9 that reveals to us that God has called us into His marvellous light.

However it does not just stop there. Jesus said “Let your light so shine before men...” 1Pet.2:9 also says “...that ye should show forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light.”

Therefore we decide whether to shine as a light or not. Choose this day and beyond to shine for this is God’s will for us. Eph.5:8-9 says “For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: (For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth ;)” KJV

We have been made a light, choose to express this light. Let your shine. Let the consciousness of who you have been made dominate your mind such that at work everything about you is different and everyone so much respect your view; with this consciousness you can approach issues that come your way and give solutions; you make clear what seem to confuse people and so much more which people we see and be attracted to you. Moreover lives can be impacted positively and changed completely.

Thus, when you choose to shine as a light by keeping the consciousness that you have been made a light you live a productive Christian life evident in all aspect of life.

1Peter. 2:9

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO GOD’S GOODNESS.

DAY 4

TOPIC: LOVING THE LORD

TEXT: 1 John 4:10

Written by: Kolawole Samuel Adebayo

1 John 4:10

KJV: "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

Often times, we hear people admonishing others to love the Lord. Some other times, it's a question some folks ask out of the sincerity of their hearts. They really want to love God. As good as such admonishments and questions may sound, they often fail in achieving their goal of loving the Lord. Today, we'll establish by scriptures how to love the Lord.

In John 3:16, we see that God was the one who first loved and gave. The world didn't love God first before he gave his only begotten Son to die for the sins of the whole world.

God showed his love toward us by giving us Christ to die for us while we were yet sinners (Romans 5:8). This is very profound! This means that God doesn't require a man to first love him in the equation of love. God is the one who first loves and gives His all. Christ is the "all" of God. He's the fullness of God (Colossians 2:9). He is all God has to give. As a matter of fact, when He gives, it's with only one desire; that you receive all that he has freely given. God loves us not really because He wants us to love Him back. It is so that we will know His love. It is only when we truly know His love that we're able to reciprocate.

If we keenly consider 1 John 4:10, we will realise that God's love is seen in Christ's sacrifice for sins. It is not that we loved God but that He loved us! In fact, no human being has the capability to produce love for God by his or her own self.

God's love has been poured out in our hearts by or through the Holy Ghost who has been given to us (Romans 5:5). This means that a man cannot produce the love of God by himself. The love with which a man loves God is God's love in that man's heart. Glory to God!

We love him, because He first loved us (1 John 4:19). Loving the Lord is a response to the love of God. It says right there in 1 John 4:19 that "we love Him BECAUSE..." This means our love from the Lord stems from a source; the Lord Himself. We do not love Him because we are afraid He might do something to us if we don't. While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8). Therefore, whether a man loves the Lord or not, the Lord still loves Him. The issue with such a man is that he has not yet known the love of God.

So, how does a man love the Lord? He must know that the Lord first loved him. He must understand the love of God for him. Because, only when he understands it will he react or respond appropriately to God's love for Him. So, the admonishment to give is not "brother or sister, please love the Lord." It should rather be "brother or sister, know the Lord's love for you." Only when a man truly knows this will he love God.

Awesome! Glory to God!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL GOODNESS!

Confession: Thank you Lord for your love for me. I walk in the consciousness of your love everyday and I respond to it. Amen.

Study: 1 John 4:10; Romans 5:8; Romans 5:5; 1 John 4:19.

DAY 5

TOPIC: THE SEAT OF POWER

Written by: Akinpetide Busayo

TEXT: Ephesians 2:6

And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus

Romans 11:29

29 For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

I was once in an art gallery where an artist built a woody seat called the SEAT OF POWER, it was made like the shape of a hand and with a table that a top made with leather and the rest of the body made with wood and carved out different in animals' skin. The artist then made an engraftment so bold on it; NO POSITION IS PERMANENT!

While this may be true for physical realm; the earth in which we live. It's not true for our kingdom. For we are ETERNALLY SEATED WITH CHRIST!

Hebrews 1.3 and 13.

Ephesians 2.6

Romans 8.17

Revelations 5.9 to 13.

We are seated at the right hand of God.

Note that it did not say that the right hand side, but right hand which is a place of authority and power. And guess what it?!

This is not temporary, it is forever!.

Thus, as Christ is seated forever in this place of authority, same reality holds for us!

Awesome! Glory to God!

We are refined unto God's goodness!

DAY 6

TOPIC: The Comforter

Text:Joh14:14-18

By: Alade Oluwasegun

In our text, our Lord Jesus Christ made a promise to the disciples that after his ascension to the father, he would send unto them another comforter. The Comforter is the Holy Spirit. 'But the Comforter which is the Holy Ghost, whom the father will send in my name. John 14:26.

This promise is not just to the disciples, it is also to those who have believed the death and resurrection of Jesus. The scriptures affirm that when a man hears and receives the gospel, he is sealed with the Holy Spirit. The bible calls the Holy Ghost another comforter in the place of Jesus (as Jesus will not be with the disciples physically henceforth). The personality of the Holy Spirit is that of a comforter. The Amplified version of the bible explains further by calling him the Helper, Comforter, Advocate, Intercessor, Counsellor, Strengtheners, Standby. Glory to God we have all these in the Holy Spirit. It is very important to note that the Holy Spirit witnesses of Jesus, as the personality of the two are not in any way different. He is the life of God living inside of us. He is the gift of God to us and the bible assures that he is in us forever.

Most believers often give room for depression in their mind as they face challenges in the world. Brethren, depression is not from God. It contradicts the personality of God. God is our Comforter. He has assured us that he would never leave us nor forsake us. Although situations in the world may seem difficult and frustrating but as you step out today, let this mind be in you that you have the Comforter living inside of you. He is for you and not against you. This assurance enables you to live above the struggles that might want to bring depression into your hearts. Glory to God you have comfort. There is tribulation out there but be of good cheer for he that has overcome the world for you is living inside of you and he is your comforter forever!

Scriptures: John15:25-26

Rom. 8:14-16

Ephesians1:11-14

AWESOME! WE ARE RENEWED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS.

DAY 7

TOPIC: PREACH THE GOSPEL

TEXT: Mark 16:15

Written by Kolawole Samuel Adebayo

Mark 16:15

KJV: "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

As believers, we have a responsibility here on Earth to preach the gospel. That's the primary reason why we are here. Now, of course, as we preach the gospel, signs and wonders are wrought by us unto God's glory. This responsibility of ours is clearly spelt out in the Bible. However, many do not understand what the gospel is. So, what is the gospel?

The word rendered as gospel is the Greek word "euaggelion." It refers to a good message; good news. Therefore, the gospel is good news. This means that the preaching of the gospel must elicit or evoke joy in the heart of its hearers. Someone who hears a gospel which brings grief, sadness and gloom to him or her hasn't heard the true gospel but another one which seeks to pervert the true gospel. The true gospel brings joy!

Let us see from a number of scriptures what the gospel is.

In Acts 20:24, Paul calls the gospel the good news of the grace of God.

Furthermore, in Romans 1:16 and 2 Cor 4:4, we see that it is the gospel of Christ.

The gospel is the good news of Christ. It is the good news about the grace of God as demonstrated in Christ's death on the cross. It is the good news about what Christ has done for the whole world. The news is good. It cannot bring sadness.

Also, in Romans 10:15, we see clearly that what the person who hears the gospel hears are glad tidings of good things.

In 1 John 2:2, John helps us to know that Christ is the propitiation for the sins of the whole world. Glory to God! This is the gospel!

Furthermore, in 2 Corinthians 5:18-21, we see clearly what people must be told when the gospel is preached to them; that God does not impute their sins unto them. Hallelujah! This is the gospel! God doesn't impute the sins of men unto them! Glory to God!

So, preach the gospel today! You have glad tidings in your mouth! Take it to people! In the preaching of the gospel, salvation is made manifest. When the gospel is preached, people get

saved. The gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every one who believes. Preach the gospel today!

Awesome! Glory to God!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO GOD'S GOODNESS!

Confession: Thank you Lord because I have glad tidings of good things in my mouth and have been empowered to preach the gospel. I preach the gospel today and men yield to it. Amen!

Study: 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Romans 1:16; Acts 20:24; 1 John 2:2

DAY 8

TOPIC; GROW IN GRACE.

Written by: May Ayintete

2 Peter 3:8a “...*But grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ*”.

Peter encourages us to grow in our knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. Desire to know more about all you have been freely given in Christ Jesus and that you may enjoy it all and also walk in authority here on earth.

Apostle Paul said in Philippians 3:10, that he desires to know the Lord Jesus more and the power of his resurrection. He said he counts every other thing as dung, but knowing the Lord is his utmost desire.

Beloved, our longing daily should be to know more of the Lord and grow daily in our walk with him. In studying the scriptures be diligent (2nd Timothy 2:15), always praying fervently (luke 18:1), add virtues daily, employ charity to your fellow brothers and walk in humility before God.

Awesome! Glory to God!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO GOD’S GOODNESS

Look up: 1st Peter 2:2

DAY 9

TOPIC: YOU ARE OVERCOMERS!

Written by May Ayintete

1 John 5:4 “ *For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith*”.

The above scripture tells us that whatsoever is born of God overcomes the world. The moment you receive Jesus into your life, his Spirit starts to live on the inside of you, thereby making you an overcomer.

Jesus also said in John 16:33 that we should be of good cheer because he has overcome the world already, so all we have to do is to take charge with the authority he’s given us.

If you are faced with some seemingly difficult situations, you need to hold onto the victory which you have in Christ Jesus and stand firm upon God’s word and proclaim it over those situations and watch things turn out for your good.

Awesome! Glory to God!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO GOD’S GOODNESS

Look up: Luke 10:19

DAY 10

TOPIC: BE CAREFUL FOR NOTHING

Written by Towoju Aloba

TEXT: Luke 12:22-28

Luk 12:22-29 And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on. 23 The life is more than meat, and the body [is more] than raiment. 24 Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls? 25 And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit? 26 If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest? 27 Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 28 If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and tomorrow is cast into the oven; how much more [will he clothe] you, O ye of little faith?.

Jesus admonished his disciples in the above passage, emphasizing the need for them not to worry or be burdened about the things of this world. As necessary as these things are, Jesus clearly stated why he was passing such encouragement; being burdened about their needs will not provide such needs. Jesus sited examples of the seemingly unimportant creatures; ravens, fowls, lilies and grass, they do nothing, yet they have their needs met without the slightest care for such things. Moreover, God already knows that they have need of them and hence He is able, willing and faithful to provide for his own.

Paul admonished the Philippian church the same way, his words were absolute; be careful for nothing! Rather than worry, they are encouraged to simply ask God for their needs. Obviously our physical needs abound as long as we are on earth, however we must realize that such needs are only temporal and the use to which such needs can offer fade away with time. It will therefore do a believer lot of goods if he can set his eyes on the things that are eternal and simultaneously trust God as He provides the things that are temporal. Dear believer, if God so much care for birds, ravens, lilies and so on, be sure that you are worth more than them and so he cares for you.

Further bible reading: Phil 4:4-7, 2 Cor 4:17-18, Matt. 6:25-33.

Awesome! Glory to God!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO GOD'S GOODNESS.

DAY 11

Topic: CHANGE BY BEHOLDING CHRIST

Written by: Towoju Aloba

Text: 2 Cor 3:13-18

“2Co 3:13-18 And not as Moses, [which] put a veil over his face, that the children of Israel could not steadfastly look to the end of that which is abolished: 14 But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same veil untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which [veil] is done away in Christ. 15 But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the veil is upon their heart. 16 Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the veil shall be taken away. 17 Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord [is], there [is] liberty. 18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, [even] as by the Spirit of the Lord.”

The word “changed” is used in many contexts about the man in Christ. For example, at salvation a believer is neither refurbished nor repaired, he is made a brand new! He is entirely changed. It is noteworthy that this refers to his spirit. Again in 1 Cor 15: 51 & 52, Paul speaks about the promise for all believers to be changed, and be caught up in the air at Christ’s coming for the church. This speaks of the change that will happen to believers’ mortal bodies. However in the context of the text above and particularly the last verse, it speaks of the effortless transformation of a believer’s lifestyle into that which he has already been made at regeneration.

This is God’s way of changing believers rather than the wisdom and strategies of men that has evolved overtime. As a believer begins to see Christ; His sacrifice and his present day ministry, he becomes more like who he sees. True transformation which is the same as growth is from inside out and it is based on the revelation of the abilities that a believer already has in Christ. This is the reason why a believer is supposed to align his soul to the reality of his spirit and hence experience transformation. Today, be committed to fixing your gaze on Christ and renewing your mind accordingly!

Further bible reading: Rom 12:1-2, Col 3:1-15.

Awesome! Glory to God!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO GOD’S GOODNESS.

DAY 12

TOPIC: I AM A CHILD OF GOD

Written by: Adedoyin Bolatito

Text: John 1:12

But as many as received him, to them gave He power to become sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.

It is high time we stopped thinking less of ourselves, let see ourselves the way he sees us. From the passage above, it says as many as received him to them he gave the power to become sons of God. We are his son based on believing in Jesus's Christ death, burial and resurrection. The moment we receive the free gift "salvation" we are welcomed into his family. He sees us as son, the same blood runs through us, we share the same identity with him and nothing can separate us from his family because we aren't his son based on works of the flesh or any man power. , He values his word more than anything and He will not by any means in respective of what you do disown you. What an awesome God we have.... Glory

As you go out today see yourself as sons of God, exercise your authority as sons, don't be slave to fear, you can heal the sick, raise the dead. Speak good tidings to your family, Business, as one who has the authority in Christ.

Romans 8:14

Romans 8:15

Galatians 4:6

1 John 3:1, 3:2

WE ARE REFINED UNTO GOD'S GOODNESS.

DAY 13

TOPIC: The constancy of God

Written by: Segun Alade.

Bible Text: Romans 3:3-5

Memory verse:

Rom 3:3-4

3 For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?

4 God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar...”

Oftentimes, circumstances around us cloud our minds such that we are tempted to let go of God's word and bury our heads in the pains and fears of our circumstances but this doesn't disprove the constancy of God. Our text passage reveals to us that the faithfulness of God is independent of ours. Although, this passage addresses salvation but we can apply this towards our circumstances. Our circumstances should not reveal to us who we are or better still who God is because who God is, is revealed to us in His word. We got to stick to The Word and not to our circumstances. For in the Word we see things that have been written for our learning when troubles arise. There are various scriptures that admonish us of who we are despite circumstances (John16:33,Romans 8:39 etc)

ACTION POINT: Our circumstances do not and should not convince us of our reality in Christ rather we should make our circumstances know who we are in Christ as we pray in tongues today and hold fast to the word in rejoicing!

AWESOME! WE ARE RENEWNED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS.

DAY 14

TOPIC: FELLOWSHIP (1)

TEXT: 1 Corinthians 1:9

Written by Kolawole Samuel Adebayo

1 Corinthians 1:9

KJV: "God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord."

Today, there are Christians, believers in the Lord Jesus, who have been made to believe that fellowship with the Father is something that has to be sought through various means before it can be found by them. These various means include; prayer, fasting, studying, meditation etc. Some even go on to say a believer can lose his or her fellowship with the Father. However, as we have learnt hitherto, the written word of God must be the source of our convictions. The written word of God must be the foundation upon which our belief systems and thought patterns are built. Having said this, let us go into the written word to see the truth.

We see in 1 Corinthians 1:9 that fellowship is a call. What a man does in the equation of having fellowship with the Father is to respond to the call of God. God is the one who initiates while man is only a recipient of this initiation. A man will not have to do something of his own power to create fellowship with the father, all he will have to do is receive what God freely gives. The Apostle Paul says "God is faithful," in the opening words of this verse. In other words, the sustenance of fellowship does not rest on man but on God's faithfulness.

Observe closely and carefully that Paul uses the word "were." He said "...by whom ye were called..." In other words, this call wasn't just made. It had happened in the past. We had established over and over again in past devotionals that Jesus Christ is God. Therefore, having responded to the call of God, they had fellowship with God.

Furthermore, in 2 Corinthians 13:14, we see that the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ has a connection with the love of God and the communion (fellowship) of the Holy Ghost. The

grace of the Lord Jesus is clearly and very explicitly seen in salvation. We are saved by grace (Ephesians 2:5-8). Salvation in its entirety is founded on the grace of God. It is at the moment that salvation is received that the Holy Ghost is received by the one who has received salvation. Salvation is the call of God to humanity. Salvation is God reaching out to men. To receive salvation is to respond to God's call. It is in receiving salvation that the Holy Ghost is received.

In our text verse, we see that God did the calling. He called us and we responded by believing. 2 Peter 2:9 and Jude 1:1 also help us to see that we were called by God. In other words, we received God's call to mankind. As many as respond to this call are the "called of God."

The word rendered as "fellowship" is from the Greek word "koinōnia." It refers to a partnership, or participation, or a companionship or a communion. Therefore, as believers, companionship with the Holy Ghost (who is the very Spirit of God) is something we received at salvation. Hallelujah! We have fellowship with the Father!

Awesome! Glory to God!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL GOODNESS!

Confession: Thank you Father for I have fellowship with you, and it is not sustained by me but by your faithfulness. I live in this consciousness every day of my life. Amen.

Study: 1 Corinthians 1:9; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 2 Peter 2:9; Ephesians 2:5-8.

DAY 15

Topic: God's Love

Written by: Segun Alade

Bible Text: 1John4:7-11, John 3:15-17

Memory verse:

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Many people in the Christendom get stocked up with trying to love God more everyday of their lives...some few even make it their watch word for every year, forgetting that our love for God cannot even exist in the first place without His love for us (1John4:19). It is therefore expedient for us to know what this God's love is all about.

God's love has got nothing to do with emotions, Its purely a divine reality, birthing an event that took place over two thousand years ago; the great exchange; the sinless was made sin so that the sinners can be made righteous. God's love was demonstrated through only this means (John3:16). He died, He rose, He's seated and now we are seated with Him!

God's love is demonstrated in the man Jesus and what we do is not to try to merit it because it's a gift, we just receive and learn more of the things we've received!

ACTION POINT: Proclaim with your family and if by yourself that 'I am loved of God! He paid the ultimate price for me! It is not based on some emotions; He will not change His mind! He has demonstrated it once for all time! All i do is to receive and enjoy the benefits, now and FOREVER MORE!

AWESOME! WE ARE RENEWNED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS.

DAY 16

Topic: GIVING

Written by Segun Alade

Bible Text: 2Corinthians 9:5-7

Memory verse:

2 Cor 9:7

Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

Giving has become a major issue in the Christendom lately, because of the sentiments on the heart of many.

It is good to note that our givings are not taken by some angels to Heaven although the impact gets to Heaven. Our monies don't get to heaven, neither do the substances we give; cloths, cars etc ever get to heaven, for those substances are earthly, nothing spiritual or heavenly. That settled, we therefore knowing the instruction our dear Brother Paul gave us according to the text passage... 'Not grudgingly but cheerfully'... cheerfully! Freely! No compulsion of any kind. The scripture is very clear about this. A believer is not to be bullied or coerced with terror in a bid to make him give but the right attitude is to educate him of his new nature in Christ received at the new birth and therefore giving is His attitude...It is his 'thing'!

ACTION POINT: We give to God not to be blessed but because we are blessed!

CHOOSE TO GIVE TODAY, FOR IT IS WHO YOU ARE, A GIVER, A CHEERFUL ONE, ITS NATURAL WITH YOU, ITS NORMAL WITH YOU!

AWESOME! WE ARE RENEWED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS

DAY 17

TITLE: RESIST DISCOURAGEMENT

Written by; Ibitayo Ademola.

TEXT: 2 CORINTHIANS 4

Discouragement is a very common experience in this world that we live in. It so common that there is no man who does not have one time or the other to deal with it in the course of life. Discouragement is a disease, it blinds us from the glory of doing God's will, the lives that will be touched, the goodness that will come of it.

However as believers, we are not to give room for discouragement but resist it for all that needs to be in place for us to live above this world and this discouragement that the world produces is in us already.

We learn from the writing Paul in 2Cor. 4; 8-18 which educates us on the kind of mind set and life we ought to have expressed. **2Cor.4:18** says **“While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal”**.

Believers are not meant to lose focus of the reality within them to become overwhelmed by the inconsistent happenings of life which most times lead to more of complains and housing of bitterness that will only in a while start finding expression if care is not taken. Your focus as you go out this day and beyond even in all that comes your way should be in the reality of what has been done already for you in Christ; that is the gift of God already given to you which is constant, unchanging and eternal glory to God.

We speak the word into our lives and all that concerns us by the spirit; discouragement is dealt with and we experience greater manifestation of God's power and wisdom to the glory of God. The word of God is our weapon and we use it as we confess it. It does not matter what the circumstances at work, home or around you may look like keep your focus on the truth of God's word and confess it. Refuse to keep silent to corrupt communication; that is any information that does not edify you or glorify Christ. Speak the word and see all things working together for your good by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Glory to God for we have all things that pertains to life and godliness supplied to us in Christ.

2Pet.1:3.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO GOD'S GOODNESS.

DAY 18

TOPIC: Just allow it!

Bible text: Isaiah 60:1-3, Matthew 5:14-16, Philippians 4:13

Memory verse: Matthew 5:16

“LET your light so shine before all men that they may see your good works and glorify your father which is in Heaven”

The challenge many believers face is that they want to make things of themselves, try to create a spiritual substance for themselves, try to create a substitute of that which God has made available in Christ and this is pride. Paul was pained by this as he wrote in Romans 10 about the Israelites being proud; leaving aside what God has done – the righteousness of God by faith through Christ and hereby going about to establish theirs. And this is just one of the many examples.

The Scriptures doesn't admonish us to create our righteousness, light, Holiness... No! A thousand times No!! It says instead that the flow has been created, just allow it, give it your consent to flow through you, to manifest in you because of course God doesn't bypass our wills.

I wonder why many attempt creating things of their own even when all we have to do is to allow the things worked (or at work) within and in us and just “let” it flow out.

ACTION POINT: YOUR BODIES HAVE BEEN MADE HOLY AND ACCEPTABLE TO GOD, PRESENT IT IN SERVICE TO THE SAINTS AND THE WORLD, ALLOW GOD'S LIGHT SHINE THROUGH YOU.

AWESOME! WE ARE RENEWED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS.

DAY 19.

TOPIC: FREELY RECEIVE!

WRITTEN BY; TOFUNMI ALOBA

BIBLE TEXT: ROMANS 5:17-19

*"Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."
— Revelation 22:17*

Jesus says, "take freely." He wants no payment or preparation. He seeks no recommendation from our virtuous emotions. If you have no good feelings, if you be but willing, you are invited; therefore come! You have no belief and no repentance,—come to Him, and He will give them to you. Come just as you are, and take "Freely," without money and without price. He gives Himself to needy ones. The drinking fountains at the corners of our streets are valuable institutions; and we can hardly imagine any one so foolish as to feel for his purse, when he stands before one of them, and to cry, "I cannot drink because I have not five pounds in my pocket." However poor the man is, there is the fountain, and just as he is he may drink of it. Thirsty passengers, as they go by, whether they are dressed in fustian or in broadcloth, do not look for any warrant for drinking; its being there is their warrant for taking its water freely. The liberality of some good friends has put the refreshing crystal there and we take it, and ask no questions. Perhaps the only persons who need go thirsty through the street where there is a drinking fountain, are the fine ladies and gentlemen who are in their carriages. They are very thirsty, but cannot think of being so vulgar as to get out to drink. It would demean them, they think, to drink at a common drinking fountain: so they ride by with parched lips. Oh, how many there are who are rich in their own good works and cannot therefore come to Christ! "I will not be saved," they say, "in the same way as the harlot or the swearer." What! Go to heaven in the same way as a chimney sweep. Is there no pathway to glory but the path which led the thief there? I will not be saved that way. Such proud boasters must remain without the living water; but, "WHOSOEVER WILL, LET HIM TAKE THE WATER OF LIFE FREELY"

ACTION POINT: Many a time we show the attitude of hating or fear free things, we doubt the reality; we fear it may all be false. We even go to the end to make a hasty generalization that all free things are counterfeit, because we are too used to paying for things but here is a different board game, good news also! Christ is free!!

AWESOME! WE ARE RENEWED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS.

DAY 20

TOPIC: BE TRANSFORMED

Written by: Ibitayo Ademola

TEXT: Romans 12: 2

“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

A believer has been made a new creature (2 Cor. 5:17). We are believers who have received a new life which is of God and this new life is one with so many wonderful attributes. These attributes are such that should be expressed from within you, that is from your recreated human spirit to become visible to all.

We have believers who are of the mindset that the expression of our new life is a big struggle which would continue until the end and as a result they experience inconsistency regularly which most times lead to discouragement and even some quit. However Jesus makes known in Matt.11: 28-30 that all who come to Him in other words all who receive and believe Him have rest given to them and as they learn of Christ they have more manifestations of this rest and He says “For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. Glory to God we just by believing Jesus have entered into rest and not a life of struggle.

How do we express these wonderful attributes? The text Rom.12 :2 says “And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good , and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.” KJV

We renew our minds via the use of the word. We see who we are, what we have and what we can do in it. We study, meditate, confess it. As we believe and follow the word we also become transformed into who we are by the power of the Holy Spirit.

2 Cor.3:18 says “But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.” KJV

Glory to God for as we see we become and so it no longer becomes a struggle to express the new life on the outside for with our minds centred on Christ Jesus we reflect the life of Christ in us in the family, in business and all endeavours.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO GOD’S GOODNESS.

DAY 21

TOPIC: God is good!

"Forget not all His benefits." — *Psalms 103:2*

It is a delightful and profitable occupation to mark the hand of God in the lives of ancient saints, and to observe His goodness in delivering them, His mercy in pardoning them, and His faithfulness in keeping His covenant with them. But would it not be even more interesting and profitable for us to remark the hand of God in our own lives? Ought we not to look upon our own history as being at least as full of God, as full of His goodness and of His truth, as much a proof of His faithfulness and veracity, as the lives of any of the saints who have gone before? We do our Lord an injustice when we suppose that He wrought all His mighty acts, and showed Himself strong for those in the early time, but doth not perform wonders or lay bare His arm for the saints who are now upon the earth.

Let us review our own lives. Surely in these we may discover some happy incidents, refreshing to ourselves and glorifying to our God. Have you had no *deliverances*? Have you passed through no rivers, supported by the divine presence? Have you walked through no fires unharmed? Have you had no *manifestations*? Have you had no choice *favours*? The God who gave Solomon the desire of his heart, hath He never listened to you and answered your requests? That God of lavish bounty of whom David sang, "Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things," hath He never satiated *you* with fatness? Have you never been made to lie down in green pastures? Have you never been led by the still waters? Surely the goodness of God has been the same to us as to the saints of old. Let us, then, weave His mercies into a song. Let us take the pure gold of thankfulness and the jewels of praise and make them into another crown for the head of Jesus. Let our souls give forth music as sweet and as exhilarating as came from David's harp, while we praise the Lord whose mercy endureth for ever.

AWESOME! WE ARE RENEWED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS.

DAY 22

TITLE: YOU ARE NOW OF THE KINGDOM.

Written by: Ibitayo Ademola

TEXT: EPHESIANS 2

Glory to God for the life received at the point of salvation. For we were dead in sins but have received the life of God at salvation. Halleluyah!

God through the sacrifice of His Son Jesus did the work of reconciliation for all men back to the kingdom (2Cor.5:19). In other words, in Jesus Christ the reconciliation of all men back to the kingdom of God was perfected and all that was required was just for men to believe and receive the perfected work.

For all that has received, Paul's writing says in **Eph.2:19** **“Now therefore you are no more strangers and foreigners but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God.**

Therefore we as believers are now of the kingdom and so by implication we live by the reality of God's kingdom establishing it in all that concerns us to have the Kingdom of God expressed or revealed. Glory to God!

It is important to know what the kingdom of God entails. **Rom.14:17** says **“For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost”**. Thus since we have received the Holy Ghost which is also the life of God at salvation and the kingdom of God is in the Holy Ghost then it becomes simple enough to say that the kingdom of God is within us believers.

Therefore with this consciousness that you have the kingdom of God within you with all that it consists of that is righteousness, peace and joy then you let it out; you establish the kingdom's reality even into your day, work, family and all that concerns you.

This consciousness is not maintained by just knowing alone you must use your mouth and speak into your mind and all that concerns you these kingdom realities and by the power of the Holy Spirit you will have kingdom life experienced and even evident for all to see.

Glory to God we are the righteousness of God (2Cor.5:21), peace is ours; joy is ours because we are of the kingdom.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO GOD'S GOODNESS.

DAY 23

TITLE: NOW ARE YOU JUSTIFIED.

Written by: Ibitayo Ademola

TEXT: Rom.5:1.

“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:”

All who have believed and received Christ Jesus have been justified through faith produced by the gospel of Christ Jesus. In other words, we have been made just, right or righteous.

This was done through Christ Jesus by the Spirit of God. It is not about feelings because it is natural for feelings to fade off with time, this is a spiritual reality. This is about educating oneself to regard this truth until it dominates the consciousness of your being, even the sub-conscious and all that makes the human intelligence.

Therefore it is important that you enact this spiritual reality in your mind and see yourself live right by the Spirit with the peace of God constantly in your heart; have this justification expressed. For we animate according to the information we have rooted in our minds.

Therefore since we have been justified by faith and now have peace with God we are not held back from awesome testimonies of the kingdom life and so as you step out this day and beyond you just have to see yourself accomplish great things in life to the glory of God; see yourself doing exploits; reaching lives and by the power of the Holy Spirit transforming lives totally for Christ for there are no limits to the measure of the kingdom life expressed for as much as you desire and see you express by the power of God which is at work within you.

1Cor.6:11; Rom.3:24-26; Rom.4:1-25; Rom.5:1, 8-9;

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO GOD’S GOODNESS.

DAY 24

Topic: What manner of love is this? (1)

Written by Akinpetide Busayo

1 John 3:1

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

Today, we learn of the love of God, love is God personified, it is inherent in him, it is his nature, we live in a world that gives a false definition of this subject and therefore many people can't just relate with. Men are so clouded with selfishness, pride, self righteousness etc that has to do with self, and people just translate that to God and make it look as if that's the way God is.

John 3:16 for God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life. Christ offered up himself as a sacrifice.

This love is for the whole world and you must understand this that he offered himself he had to give it all up because of you. 1 Corinthians 13:4 describes his kind of love.

It suffers long, it is kind, envies not, vaunts not itself, is not puffed up, does not behave itself unseemly, you see that the love of God does not seem cruel to us. That god who was good to us yesterday due to our goodness, but repays evil with evil today, is not our God.

The love of God is not selfish, cannot be provoked, thinks no evil (not to talk of doing), it rejoices in the truth, it bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Take your time to meditate on all the characteristics of God's love towards you and you will understand God more.

Awesome, Glory to God

We are refined unto God's goodness!

DAY 25

TOPIC: GOD IS NOT KEEPING RECORDS OF SINS.

TEXT: 2Cor5:18-21

By: Alade Oluwasegun

There is a popular fable that God has a very big camera in heaven that captures everybody's bad conducts and actions and that these would be displayed on the judgment day. This is not the gospel. It is only an imagination of an unrenewed mind. The truth is that God is not keeping an account of sins. He is not imputing sins into any man's account. The reason for this is that Jesus is the propitiation for the sins of the whole world (1 John 2:2) and whoever that accepts the sacrifice of Jesus has received the forgiveness of sins (Ephesians. 1:7) Halleluyah! By the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ we have been forgiven of all our sins. The only book in God's possession is the book of life not book of sins.

The conscience of a man is responsible for keeping the record of a man's wrong conducts and the devil uses this to accuse a believer when he commits sin. However, that God is the one accusing us of our sins is a lie. God is the one forgiving men of sins and in Christ we have the forgiveness of sins forever more. Have you noticed that even when Jesus was being crucified on the cross he was still forgiving the sins of the people that crucified him. Also, when a particular woman was caught in the very act of adultery, Jesus did not accuse nor condemn her rather He forgave her sins. That is God, He forgives and never condemns.

An understanding of this truth propels us to forgive anyone that wrongs us. Some people even find it difficult to forgive themselves when they sin. They suffer shame, guilt and condemnation from the devil due to their unforgiveness. Beloved, as it is not the nature of God to keep the record of sins, it is also not our nature to hold on to grudge. As you meditate on how God loved and forgave your sins even while you were still a sinner, you will also find it effortless to forgive others.

Scripture: 1 Peter 4:8.

DAY 26

Topic: FLEE LAZINESS

Written by: Towoju Aloba

Text: proverbs 6:6-11

Pro 6:6-11 Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: 7 Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, 8 Provideth her meat in the summer, [and] gathereth her food in the harvest. 9 How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? 10 [Yet] a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: 11 So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.

It is amazing to know that God inspired King Solomon, admonishing men to go and learn from animals and particularly ants despite their small size; so small that anyone will hardly remember that ants do exist because they seldom matter to our lives. This simply tells us that wisdom can be acquired by close observation of even the simplest things of life.

A lazy man is encouraged to learn quite a number of things from an ant. Firstly, there is no ruler over them, no one to motivate or stir them up to work, yet they are self-motivating and do see a need to work always, without being disorderly. Furthermore, they gather food always. This instruction is apt and should be followed in that we should work with our hands so that we may provide for ourselves and to meet the needs of people around us when such occasions arise.

Many may say that this is only peculiar to those who lived under the Old Testament; hence they suggest that believers need to just live in the miraculous without being diligent. While it is true that God meets our needs miraculously, believers are also instructed by the Apostles to be diligent in the New Testament. In fact, the Apostles practiced the same as they taught by being diligent in their daily works. Therefore, as you go out today, be more committed to being diligent in your work, trusting God's blessings and miracles.

Further bible reading: Eph 4:28, 2Th 3:10-12, Prov. 20:4.

Awesome! Glory to God!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO GOD'S GOODNESS

DAY 27

Topic; BE COMPASSIONATE

Written by May Ayintete

Colossians 3: 12 – 13: *Put on therefore , as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.*

Paul instructed the Colossians in Christian living. By the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we have received a new life in which we grow more and more like him, a life characterized by compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness, peace, thanksgiving, joy and above all, love.

We are admonished as people whom God's chosen and loves, to clothe ourselves with tenderhearted mercy, to be compassionate, kind, humble, etc. Also, we should make allowance for people's faults, bear patiently with the shortcomings of others (friends, spouse, children, etc) and forgive anyone who offends us, because our heavenly Father did forgive us our sins through Jesus Christ's finished work on the cross.

We should not be selfish, and have no desire to impress anyone. As we look out for our interests, we should also look out for the interests of others too.

God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love to the saints (Hebrews 6:10) and as such, scriptures admonishes us not to be weary in well doing for you shall reap in due season if we faint not (Galatians 6: 9-10)

Awesome! Glory to God!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO GOD'S GOODNESS.

DAY 28

Topic: THE LAW IS NOT FOR THE RIGHTEOUS

Written by; Towoju Aloba.

Text: 1 Titus 1:9

1Ti 1:9 Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers,

The Old Testament ordinances and laws were not written to believers, let alone given so we can obey them. They were rather given so that men may come to the end of themselves and see a need for a saviour. It is worthy of note that many things in the law were to serve as types explaining Christ and God's ultimate plan for the redemption of man. In fact, he affirmed to the multitude that he will not destroy the law or the prophets but to fulfill them and hence end them.

You see, a believer is righteous by faith in Christ alone; he needs no Old Testament law to complement being righteous. In fact, a believer is not just declared righteous; he is now the righteousness of God. This is because he is now in Christ whom the Law and the Prophets spoke about.

Christ is the essence of the law, little wonder Jesus stood tall on the mount of transfiguration and God declared, "Hear ye him". It is not about competition with Moses (Law) and Elijah (Prophet), it is about ESSENCE! For the reason why they lived was because of Christ. I dare to say without any iota of doubt that no believer is obligated to keep the Old Testament laws for the essence now lives in them and they are in Him.

Now that you know you know that you are not mandated to keep the Old Testament laws to be righteous before God, but rather the righteousness of God, you are supposed to be responsive to the workings on the Holy Spirit from within you and hence bear fruits of righteousness.

Further bible reading: Rom 3:19-31, 2 Cor 3:1-18, Gal 2:16-21.

Awesome! Glory to God!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO GOD'S GOODNESS.

DAY 29

TOPIC: GOD SEES YOU AS RIGHTEOUS.

Written by May Ayintete

Colossians 1:21-22: *“And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled...In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreprouable in his sight”.*

The scriptures tell us that we were once dead in our trespasses and sins; we fulfilled the desires of our flesh and mind. But through God’s abundant mercy that he gave to us through his dear son, Jesus Christ, we have become reconciled back to God.

Through Jesus’ blood, we were made holy, without blame and accepted in the beloved, i.e before the Father. We stand before God without a single fault. The records of charges that were against us were blotted out by Jesus’ sacrifice (Col. 2:14).

Jesus presented us to God as a glorious church, not having spot, wrinkle nor blemish (Eph 5:27). And as such God sees us as his righteousness in Christ Jesus.

So as you go about your day walk with the consciousness that you are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus and you are seated with Him in heavenly places.

Awesome! Glory to God!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO GOD’S GOODNESS

DAY 30.

TOPIC: JOY IN THE HOLY GHOST

TEXT: Romans 14:17

Written by Kolawole Samuel Adebayo

KJV: "For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost."

The phrase "meat and drink" as used here is descriptive of physical things. This means that the kingdom of God is not known in physical things. Also, the word rendered as "kingdom" is the Greek word "basileia." It doesn't speak of a place but a realm. The kingdom of God is the realm of God. It is a spiritual realm which is characterized by righteousness, peace, and joy.

The believer in Christ is now in the basileia of God. He or She dwells in the realm of God. The believer received the Holy Ghost at salvation. Thus, he has righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost is eternal. He is the eternal Spirit of God (Hebrews 9:14). Therefore, the joy that the believer has is eternal. It is not subject to happenings. The believer in Christ doesn't have joy after he gets a car or buys a house. No. The joy is in the Holy Ghost. It is ever-present in the believer. In the presence or absence of such material possessions, the believer has joy in the Holy Ghost. The joy is not in cars or houses or other such physical possessions. It is in the Holy Ghost! Glory to God!

In the realm of God, there is an abundance of joy. The word rendered as "joy" is the word "chara." It refers to a calm delight; cheerfulness; exceeding joyfulness. Glory to God! In the realm of God, where the believer now abides, there is exceeding joyfulness.

Psalms 2:1-4 shows to us that God is seated on his throne laughing. Our God is not a sad God. He laughs! He is full of joy. We, believers, have been made to sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. (Ephesians 2:5-6)

In Colossians 3:1-3, we further see that we are risen with Christ. God sits on His throne laughing. Therefore, we who also have been made to sit in heavenly places in Christ have laughter in our mouths. Setting one's affection on things above as spoken of in Colossians

3:1-3 refers to placing our focus on gloriously eternal things. Things such as joy in the Holy Ghost. Hallelujah! Go on today living with laughter in your mouth. Express the joy within you, and let your environment be immersed in that joy.

Awesome! Glory to God!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL GOODNESS!

Confession: Thank you Lord for the joy that is ever-present within me. I live today, and beyond, with a consciousness of this joy. Amen.

Study: Romans 14:17; Psalms 2:1-4; Ephesians 2:5-6

DAY 31

TOPIC: GIVING

Written by; Adedoyin Bolatito

Text: John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Giving means love, will give out of love. As a believer giving should be part of us, because everything God gave to us is freely given not based on our measure of work, it is unmerited. Holy Spirit is given to us to know what is freely given to us of God. We have been given things freely because God is a giver.

As a believer will should give in response to love, we should exhibit the identity of sons of God. Everything will have in Christ is freely given. We should give in response to that to the church, gospel, poor.

As you go out

John3:35, 3:16

Galatians 2:20

Ephesians 5:2, 5:25

Awesome! Glory to God!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO GOD'S GOODNESS