



# The Refinery DEVOTIONAL

OCTOBER  
2017

*Start your day with Christ consciousness  
and be refined unto all of  
God's goodness*

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**You are FREE to make your contributions and praise reports via my inbox on Facebook @ Harrison Ayintete.  
Blessings.**

## **DAY 1**

**TOPIC: JESUS MAKES A MAN WHOLE**

**TEXT: ACTS 9:32-33**

**Written by: ALADE OLUWASEGUN**

*“32 And it came to pass, as Peter passed throughout all quarters, he came down also to the saints which dwelt at Lydda. 33 And there he found a certain man named Aeneas, which had kept his bed eight years, and was sick of the palsy. 34 And Peter said unto him, Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed. And he arose immediately”.*

Apostle Peter encountered a man who had been paralyzed for eight years and said affirmatively that Jesus Christ makes him whole.

The word used as whole in this text is the word “*iaomai*” in the original Greek manuscript, which means “*to cure or heal*”. Hence, Apostle Peter declared to that man that his healing has been perfected by Jesus Christ.

We are to declare to the sick that Jesus makes them whole. The healing power and ability is in the message that Christ makes whole. We are not to heal the sick based on our sense of worthiness or holiness but we are to declare what Christ has done, and does.

Hence, Jesus instructed us to heal the sick because he makes whole. We only have the duty to declare (pronounce boldly) what Christ can (and will) do as regards the sickness.

Today, choose to declare to the sick that Christ makes them whole and you will see the sick receive healing in their body. The word of the Lord is true. Declare the word!

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

**WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!**

## **DAY 2**

### **TOPIC: THE MANIFESTATION OF THE SONS OF GOD**

**TEXT: Romans 8:19**

**Written by: ALOBA TOWOJU**

*“For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.”*

Amid several popular bible verses in the Christian community is this portion of scripture taken as our text today. More popular is the several misinterpretations that this simple text has suffered in the hands of many Christians, especially among preachers. It's however very painful that most Christians do not know that many of these popular interpretations are not scriptural.

One of such interpretations is people thinking that the phrase “manifestation of the sons of God” means the excellent display of Christians in every, or any ramification of life where they find themselves. By this they mean that certain sons of God (believers) are manifesting in politics, education, business, health sector, etc. It is not difficult to see several other confusions portrayed as interpretation to this text.

To read the whole chapter contextually makes this verse very simple to understand. Paul was simply saying that the whole world; everything that was created, is awaiting the fulfillment of resurrection that every believer has as a hope. By this, he means that when mortality will be swallowed up in victory by immortality and death will no longer exist in the universe, then the whole earth will come into their glory (the glory of the sons of God) which God had always intended for them (the sons of God).

What an awesome thing to know that the glorification of the whole earth which is groaning at present is solely tied to our resurrection. We must never allow any man rob us of this glorious assurance of the hope of our resurrected bodies.

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

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### **DAY 3**

**TOPIC: HE CAUSES US ALWAYS TO TRIUMPH!**

**TEXT: 2 Corinthians 2:14**

**Written by: ADEBAYO KOLAWOLE SAMUEL**

*“Now thanks [be] unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savor of his knowledge by us in every place.”*

The text above shows a very profound reality about the disposition of God towards us: He causes us always to triumph. This means there is never a time God is orchestrating defeat or downfall or loss or evil or tyranny for us. The verse above educates us about what God always does for us. We see, as opposed to the knowledge many have been grown with, that God is not a tyrant.

Moreover, observe that this triumph is in Christ. The word “triumph” was translated from the Greek word “thriambeuo”, which means “to conquer” or “to make an acclamatory procession”. It’s used when there’s a procession filled with loud shouts and noises after a resounding victory. There is a victory procession that we are a part of in Christ. It is noteworthy that the victory we have in Christ has something to do with the savor (fragrance) of the knowledge of God. Our triumph in Christ is the fragrance of the knowledge of God. Thus, in our triumph in Christ is the fragrance of the knowledge of God made evident.

Hence, we are to go forth as ones who have the triumph in Christ; we are to act in this manner; our songs must be patterned after this triumph; and so must our preaching be. The victory is always ours. We must not get out of the victory procession in Christ; we must stay in line; we must bask in it. This is how we make the fragrance of His knowledge manifest in every place!

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

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## **DAY 4**

**TOPIC: YOU HAVE NO CAUSE TO FEAR**

**TEXT: Romans 8:15**

**Written by: OLUMIDE ADEDOTUN**

*“For ye have not received the Spirit of bondage again to fear, but ye have received the Spirit of adoption whereby we cry abba father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are children of God.”*

Believers have no cause to fear anymore; this is because we have received the Spirit of adoption and we are therefore children of God. This verse makes it clear that the premise on which we do not fear anymore is because we are God’s sons. The verse above asserts that God’s children shouldn’t fear because we have received the Spirit of adoption who affirms to us that we are God’s children.

Believers are not supposed to be fearful of everything: fearful of the rapture, fearful of God, fearful of eternity, fearful of exercising themselves unto the things of the Spirit or even fear of serving in the gathering of saints. This fearful life is contrary to the reality that exists in our spirit. Believers should rather be bold, assured of their salvation, their citizenship, the constancy in the personality of the Father, their service as members of the body of Christ, demonstrations of spiritual gifts, among others. We have not received the spirit of fear; we have received the Spirit of God who affirms to us that we are sons.

Beloved of God; respond to the reality that exists in your spirit; dwell in the consciousness of this reality all the time and give no reason for fear anymore! We have received conviction in our spirit; what we have received has nothing to do with fear, it has got everything to do with boldness!

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

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## **DAY 5**

### **TOPIC: WHO IS JESUS?**

**TEXT: Matthew 16:13-16**

**Written by: ALADE OLUWASEGUN**

*“When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, whom do men say that I the Son of man am? And they said, some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.”*

Who is Jesus? Whenever this question is asked, there is the tendency of people having different opinions. In the bible, it is evident that people had different perspectives of the identity of Jesus when He walked on the face of the earth. As seen in our text, Jesus asked His disciples; “Who do people say that the son of man is?” (AMP)

In response to this, the disciples gave the diverse opinions of people about Him (Jesus). Interestingly, some even called Him John the Baptist. As a matter of fact, the Jews had contentions over time about the true identity of Jesus. This same Jesus was said to be of the devil (John 10:19-21). But, from our text, Peter revealed by the inspiration of the Holy Ghost that Jesus is the Son of God and therefore the Christ (saviour).

The believer has the understanding of Christ. And it is pertinent to always be reminded of who Jesus is. This will magnify the personality and works of Jesus the more in our hearts. The man Christ Jesus, was God made manifest in flesh; the very incarnate of God. He is the visible image of God. He is the ransom and atonement for the sins of the world. Much more, for believers, Jesus is our righteousness; our peace; our wisdom; our sanctification. He is the one that made eternal life available for us through His death and resurrection.

Beloved, we have the knowledge of Christ. We are not bewildered about the identity of Christ.

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

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## **DAY 6**

### **TOPIC: ASK IN FAITH 1**

**TEXT: James 1:5-7**

**Written by: ALOBA TOWOJU**

*“5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all [men] liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. 7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.”*

It is very important to emphasize again and again that no believer lacks faith. This is because at salvation, he has received faith by believing in the gospel (Romans 10:17). Moreover, faith is listed amidst the fruit of the spirit which every believer equally has. However, just as the believer is taught by the scriptures how to demonstrate love, longsuffering, self control and every other fruit of the spirit, the believer in Christ also needs to be taught how to use faith in receiving from God.

In the bible text above, although James was talking in the regards of wisdom in particular, he however states without ambiguity that God liberally gives whatever He gives. By this, he means that God gives out of His benevolence and without finding fault. Again, this affirms that once a believer asks God whatever is in God's capacity to give, God doesn't have the slightest of reservation about giving.

James went ahead to explain how a man ought to ask. He needs to ask in faith! He further explained what it means to not ask in faith. To ask for something with one's mouth when his heart is in disagreement with the mouth's request is what it means to not ask in faith. James later referred to such man as a double-minded man. James didn't say that God will not give him what he requests for, he simply said that let him not think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. As you go about asking from God in prayer, only let your mouth request what your heart agrees to.

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

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## **DAY 7**

**TOPIC: NEITHER JEW NOR GREEK!**

**TEXT: Galatians 3:27-28**

**Written by: ALADE OLUWASEGUN**

*“For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.”*

It is often said that; “life is not fair”. The happenings on the face of the earth tend to put human beings in unequal positions. Sometimes, human beings naturally tend to attribute their successes and failures in life to their social statuses, classes, economic groups and nationality. It is without doubt that some people are affluent because they were born into wealthy homes. Also, the economies of some countries are far better than some owing to several factors. This is to further emphasize the inequality of the state of living in the earth realm since the fall of man. The prejudice and discrimination in the world today is many times due to this obvious state of inequality.

This “unfairness” only exists on earth; it does not exist in God. It is only in Christ that there is true equality and unity. When a man receives Christ, he does not get to enjoy all the rights available in Christ because of his earthly nationality or status. Neither black nor white avails anything in Christ. Our inheritance in Christ is without discrimination. This is made possible by the love of God to the world which is without bias.

It is amazing to know that the same Holy Spirit lives in every believer all over the world. The tribe does not matter, neither does the pigmentation of the skin. Believers belong to a single race. We all speak in tongues because we have a unified language of the Spirit. With these given facts about who we are in Christ, we can thus walk in love and enjoy all the benefits available in Christ irrespective of our societal differences and stratification.

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

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## **DAY 8**

### **TOPIC: ASK IN FAITH 2**

**TEXT: James 1:5-7**

**Written by: ALOBA TOWOJU**

*“5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all [men] liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. 7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.”*

In the first part of this study, we have looked at how it is very essential for our mouths to say exactly the same thing that our hearts agree to concerning a matter or situation as any disagreement between the two is tantamount to being unstable. We shall go a step higher today.

It is important to note that in asking in faith, the heart of a man is very important. In fact, the words of his mouth in the place of prayer ought to be the outpour from the abundance of what he has believed rightly concerning what he is requesting. For example, if a believer is requesting for material provision from God, such a request ought to be an expression of the content of his heart. If otherwise, it is called doubt. This simply means that the request of from the mouth is different from the conviction of the heart about such matter.

Interestingly, the heart cannot build a conviction on a situation apart from the information that it has received. It should be noted that such information ought to be solely built on God's word. A popular minister of the Gospel once said that “faith begins where the will of God is known”. That is entirely true! You have to allow your heart to be wholly immersed in God's word concerning a situation such that your requests and confessions and the outpouring of the convictions of your heart. This is how to ask in faith. It is not just confessing delusional statements that your heart doesn't believe. You will be more effective in prayer this way.

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## **DAY 9**

### **TOPIC: THE BELIEVER'S STANDPOINT**

**TEXT: Romans 8:37**

**Written by: MAY AYINTETE**

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

We have a duty as believers here on earth to enforce the victory that Christ won for us after His death and resurrection. We are not to live as people who are defeated. As our text has rightly said, we have been made more than conquerors. Take note that it did not say we are to fight to be made more than conquerors rather we are already made **more than** conquerors through Him (Christ) that loved us. Hallelujah!

Beloved, you're already a victor because you have been blessed with all spiritual blessings in Christ (Ephesians 1:3). The devil knows this. So when he attacks your mind by making you consider the tons of bills you have to pay, declare from a standpoint of victory; “My God shall supply all of my needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus!” Or when he tries to bamboozle your mind with the doctor's report and you begin to experience the symptoms of the disease, you don't sit down and fold your arms; you decree healing to your body, not minding the symptoms you feel.

We have an adversary, the devil. And he is the father of lies. All he speaks are lies, and as such we are not to give him a place to feel good in our lives. When faced with dire situations as regards our academics, jobs and family, we are not to act or behave as people who are losers. We have the victory through Christ. We triumph by Him. Things work for our advantage. We speak from a standpoint of victory; we have all authority to withstand the enemy.

The believer is not to be moved by the situations or circumstances that surround him; rather, he's to stand upon the truth of God's word, declare it over every situation, and act accordingly. He is to operate from a place of victory.

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

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## **DAY 10**

### **TOPIC: WHO IS AN ANTICHRIST?**

**TEXT: 2 John 1:7**

**Written by: ADEBAYO KOLAWOLE SAMUEL**

*“For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.”*

Many have thought that the antichrist is a certain man who occupies the seat of the presidency at the White House. Some have even said this man will be the one to start “Armageddon” which will culminate into the end of the world. Such shambolic thoughts as these are products of deep-seated ignorance about what the Bible says about “the antichrist”. A close observation of the text above lets us know that the antichrist is a deceiver. The word “deceiver” as used here means “to cause to go astray from the truth”. Also, the words “many deceivers” and “an antichrist” were used; this would mean that the antichrist is in fact not one person but many people. Earlier in 1 John 2:18, the Apostle John had made us know this by telling us that there are many antichrists in the world already.

So, who is an antichrist? The word “antichrist” in the original Greek manuscript is the word “antichristos”, which means “an opponent of Christ”. Hence, they are called antichrists because they oppose Christ. How do they oppose Christ? They say that Jesus didn’t come in the flesh; the import of this being that Jesus did not die for sins. This is so because Jesus Christ came in the flesh for the sole purpose of taking away sins through the sacrifice of Himself for sins (1 John 3:5). Thus, an antichrist is one who opposes the work of Christ which is His sacrifice for sins. Any man who says that “we have to pay for sins by ourselves” acts like an antichrist, for he opposes Christ’s work. Any man who stands against the finished work of Christ and its attendant benefits accrued to the believer in Christ is an antichrist. He is a deceiver, causing people to stray from the truth about what Jesus has done. Thus, we will detect an antichrist by what he says about Jesus’ finished work. Hence, we are not in the dark about who an antichrist is. We have unmasked the antichrists; they are those who oppose our Lord and savior Jesus Christ, and His perfect work of salvation.

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## **DAY 11**

**TOPIC: SIMPLY BELIEVE**

**TEXT: John 6:28-29**

**Written by: MAY AYINTETE**

*“Then said they unto him, what shall we do; that we might work the works of God? Jesus answered and said unto them, this is the work of God, that you believe on him whom he hath sent.”*

Jesus was asked a question by the multitude who had been awed by his miracles: “what shall we do, that we may work the works of God?” Jesus answered them: “this is the work of God, that you believe on him whom he hath sent.”

More often than not, “working the works of God” has been misinterpreted as praying and fasting more than others, giving to the less privileged and going on pilgrimages to a holy land. But Jesus made it clear to us that simply believing, which is to receive Him whom God sent to die for the sins of the whole world, is all we have to do to work the works of God.

The believer believes that Jesus paid for his sins and that of the world once for all. He accepts that he is the righteousness of God in Christ by simply believing that Jesus’ finished work has given him right standing with the Father. He believes that if Jesus could feed the 4,000 and 5,000 men, women and children, then Jesus could also make provisions available for him anytime and anyplace. The believer also believes that the same Jesus who healed the sick and all that were oppressed of the devil is able also to heal him of any ailment.

Beloved, God has given us, all that pertains to life and godliness, all we need do is to simply believe that we have all that God says we have and act accordingly.

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## **DAY 12**

### **TOPIC: FERVENT IN THE SPIRIT**

**TEXT: Act 18:24-25**

**Written by: ALADE OLUWASEGUN**

*“And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus. This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John.”*

We can learn something very vital from Apollos here. He was a man fervent in the spirit. Just like many of his clique, he was instructed (taught) the things of God but he chose to be fervent with what he had received.

To be fervent is to be passionate and enthusiastic. It involves passion, vigour, strength, emotions and persistence. When one is said to be fervent in spirit, this does not mean that one's spirit is passionate or persistent rather it means that such a person is zealous and enthusiastic about the activities of the Spirit.

Despite Apollos' limited knowledge of the gospel, he was loud and zealous in preaching what he knew. Very many persons in the body of Christ today have been taught the word of God and shown the example of how to demonstrate the things of the Spirit but they have shown no zeal or readiness to practice what they have been taught. The epistles instruct us to be fervent in spirit; serving the Lord (Romans 12:11).

The believer does not have such character to be passive about the things of God. We have the ability of God which is actively at work in us. All that is left is to put our minds and energy into doing what is required of us by the grace of God. In studying, worship, preaching, praying etc., we are to act with much fervency.

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## **DAY 13**

### **TOPIC: ONLY IN THE LORD**

**TEXT: 1 Corinthians 7:39**

**Written by: ADEBAYO KOLAWOLE SAMUEL**

*“The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord.”*

In the context of the text above, the Apostle Paul was admonishing saints about marriage. He had written from previous verses how it is good that a man has his own wife, and a woman her own husband. The phrases “let every man have his own...” and “let every woman have his own” here would imply that the choice of a man and woman is very important in the decision of whom to marry.

In our text-verse, Paul makes it more explicit. The phrase “...whom she will” means that marriage is a play out of people’s will. It means that people’s choices are very important when it comes to marrying. However, Paul gives a clear-cut instruction to the believer who is about making the choice of marriage. He/She is to marry only in the Lord. This means that the right of a believer to exercise his or her will concerning who to marry has a jurisdiction. The believer can only exercise such a choice only in the Lord. He/She can only get married to a believer, and not an unbeliever.

Therefore, we aren’t to get overly emotional when it comes to marriage and say we are marrying unbelievers. That mustn’t be heard! It is against apostolic instructions. We are believers, lights in the Lord. We must walk as children of light! We are to marry from amongst our midst. We are to choose from among believers. This way, we are able to foster the progress of God’s plan of salvation on the earth. We are also able to have beautiful and godly marriages when we heed this instruction.

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

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## **DAY 14**

### **TOPIC: GIVE YOURSELF TO MEDITATION**

**TEXT: Mark 4:24**

**Written by: ALOBA TOWOJU**

*“And He said to them, Be careful what you are hearing. The measure [of thought and study] you give [to the truth you hear] will be the measure [of virtue and knowledge] that comes back to you--and more [besides] will be given to you who hear.” (AMP)*

Most high school graduates cannot but remember some of the characteristics of ruminant animals which they were taught in basic biology. One of such attributes is the fact that they have four stomachs which makes them regurgitate the food they have once eaten in a rush. They quietly find a calm place where they can vomit what they have once eaten and begin to chew such foods all over and swallow them again. By this act, they are able to explore and utilize more of the nutrients present in that food.

In our bible text above, Jesus instructed that men ought to pay attention to what passes through their ears as it is a major entrance into their heart. He went further to establish that the measure of virtue and knowledge that comes back to a man is dependent on how much thought, that is meditation, that he gives to the word which he has heard. This He said shortly before He spoke a parable that explains the various degrees or levels of profit that men can make with God's word that comes to them. This indeed is very instructive!

To meditate is to act like the ruminant animal; that is to ruminate or reflect on God's word that one has heard; to think deeply about the word. This will mean that you will need to critically examine the statements made, the manner in which words were said etc., with an intention to be more intimate with such words. This is the way to enjoy God's word to the maximum. I challenge you to pick up that your “old” sermon or study note and meditate on such words that you have once heard. It will surely be a wonderful experience.

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## **DAY 15**

### **TOPIC: WHAT YOU SHOULD PREACH**

**TEXT: Luke 24:47**

**Written by: OLUMIDE ADEDOTUN**

*“And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”*

Jesus Christ made it very clear what should be the subject of our preaching when He resurrected. He stated that it is repentance and remission of sins. The word “preach” means to announce, herald or proclaim therefore what we are to do in Christ is to proclaim repentance and remission of sins in His name.

Now, this message is not subject to nations such that it should be changed in any location. No! This message is the same everywhere; it is to be preached among all nations. Hence, whatever nation we are in, the message is the same and it is that there is repentance and remission of sins in Jesus Christ. You are not to go out and preach otherwise; that will be acting in disobedience. You are not to preach confessions and judgment for sins, money, politics and personal opinions. What you should preach in Christ is repentance and remission of sins.

The phrase “remission of sins” is the same as “forgiveness of sins”; therefore, all believers are to herald that sins are forgiven in Jesus Christ. Unbelievers are not going to earn that forgiveness by confessing sins rather forgiveness of sins is made available to them in spite of their works; this is the reason they are to repent. The word “repentance” means to “change your mind”. Unbelievers are to change their minds about thinking that they are to pay for sins; instead, they are to acknowledge that sins have been paid for on their behalf by Jesus Christ and in Him they are forgiven of all sins.

Believers should be obedient to this mandate. We herald that sins are forgiven in Christ Jesus; we are not to compromise this message for anything; we are to preach same in every nation we find ourselves in, and we must stay faithful to this course.

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## **DAY 16**

### **TOPIC: GOD KEEPS WATCH OVER YOU**

**TEXT: Psalm 91:11-12**

**Written by: MAY AYINTETE**

*“For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.”*

God wants you to know that he watches over you all the time. He has taken it as His responsibility to ensure that in all you do and wherever you go, His angels watch over you. Our Father doesn't want us to be afraid of the evils that happen every day around us; hence, these words of comfort from Him as shown in our text.

Child of God, he that keeps watch over you neither sleeps nor slumbers (Psalm 121:3-4). That's figurative of a God who's protecting you round-the-clock, for God is a Spirit and he doesn't sleep nor does he need to be awake. So you need not worry for a minute that any evil will come your way. Be rest assured that God's got your back at every time of the day.

Hebrews 1:14 tells us that angels have been sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation. Glory to God! Whosoever believes in the Lord has nothing to fear because angels have been sent for them. The believer has an innumerable company of angels that surround him. They minister to his needs, and that includes protecting him in all his ways.

Beloved, knowing that God's constantly watching over you should erupt boldness within you such that whenever fear of any evil creeps into your mind or something bad is about to happen, you know it couldn't be God and what you need to do is rebuke the devil and stand strong in the truth that angels have been given charge over you.

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## **DAY 17**

### **TOPIC: WHAT ABOUT MY CAREER?**

**TEXT: Ephesians 4:28**

**Written by: ALADE OLUWASEGUN**

*“Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.”*

It is pertinent for the believer to engage in secular career or business in order to have a source of income to meet his or her physical needs like food, shelter, clothing etc. Aside from meeting physical needs, money is required to meet other people’s needs and most especially to finance the gospel. The kind of career to take up has become a bone of contention for many believers. Some even ignorantly believe that there is a specific career God has ordained for them to do.

It is clear from our text that the believer is to work. Specifically, he is to do that which is good. This in anyway does not denote that there is a specific career that God has assigned for everyone. We are encouraged to do that which is beneficial; a business, work or career that is beneficial in helping us to fulfil the aforementioned responsibilities.

Apostle Paul, Aquila and Priscilla were all of the same craft. They were engaged in the same profession which was basically “tent making” (Acts 18:3). While these people worked with their hands to craft and make tents, Luke on the other hand was a physician (Colossians 4:14). In the earth realm, while some people would have to go through tedious educational training to be qualified for some career, it might take just some basic training and information to start up a business.

What can you do with your hands? Be encouraged to start something today. Do not despise the creative ability in you. Do whatever is good that your hands can do and your work is blessed.

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## **DAY 18**

**TOPIC: JESUS; THE PROFILE OF GOD**

**TEXT: Colossians 1:15**

**Written by: ADEBAYO KOLAWOLE SAMUEL**

*“Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:”*

The word “image” as used in the text was translated from a very interesting word in the Greek originals. It’s the word “eikon”, which means “profile”. In other words, Apostle Paul is saying here that Jesus is the profile of the invisible God! This means if God were to attend an interview and a request is made of His profile, He would just point to Christ. Paul is telling us here that God cannot be known outside Christ. In other words, it is Christ who gives us the knowledge of God. He is the education about God. He is the school wherein God is known. Thus, it will be wrong to go out of this school in the quest to know God, as that can only lead to nothing else but error.

What did we see of Christ when He walked the earth bodily? In Acts 10:38, all that Jesus did was summarized as “good”. Thus, in Christ we know that God is good. Jesus killed no man, but raised dead men to life; hence, we know God kills no man but gives life to the dead. Jesus oppressed no man, but delivered many from the oppression of the devil; hence, we know what God does is to deliver from oppression and not to oppress. We have seen the résumé of God. We have seen Christ who is His profile! Thus, we are assured about who the God we serve is. We are not in the dark about Him. We know He is our Father. We know He is goodness personified. We know no evil comes from Him. We are sure of this! Thus, because we know this, we rebel fiercely against anything that contradicts His goodness; we stand against it, and we prevail by His ability in us.

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

**WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD’S GOODNESS!**

**DAY 19**

**TOPIC: GOD SEES YOU AS PERFECT**

**TEXT: Hebrews 10:14**

**Written by: MAY AYINTETE**

*“For by one offering he hath perfected forever them that are sanctified.”*

Beloved, to see yourself as imperfect before God is not humility but pride, because in doing so you have failed to understand the finished work of Christ at the cross.

Jesus' sacrifice for sins was offered once for all. It did not only make us sanctified i.e. holy, it also made us perfect before God. It is absolute humility to receive what Jesus did for us on the cross. Today, Jesus sits at the right hand of God making intercession for all saints because his work of purging our sins was perfectly completed.

Child of God, you are both holy and perfect in the eyes of God. When he looks at you, He sees the perfect sacrifice of Jesus that purchased you. He sees you without spots or wrinkles (Ephesians 5:27).

As you go about your day, instead of being conscious of your past and present sins, just thank the Lord for his wonderful work at the cross that has cleansed all your sins completely.

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

**WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!**

## **DAY 20**

**TOPIC: CONDEMNATION IS OF THE DEVIL**

**TEXT: 1 Timothy 3:6**

**Written by: ADEBAYO KOLAWOLE SAMUEL**

*“Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.”*

Apostle Paul was giving descriptions to the office of a bishop and the people to occupy that office in the text above. In fact, this whole chapter was all about these descriptions. Nonetheless, in that same chapter, he gave us a very vital information on condemnation and where it comes from. He tells us very clearly that condemnation is of the devil. This is very profound! Many have thought today that God is the one condemning them. However, Paul lets us know that condemnation is not of God but of the devil. To say condemnation comes from God is to slander God's personality. It is to tell a lie against God.

Throughout the entire Bible, there's a consistent term used in describing the devil; it's the term "accuser of the brethren". Never will you see those words used in describing God. Rather, what you would find in the description of God is "God our savior". The devil is the one who condemns people via their unrenewed minds. God never condemns!

In John 3:17, Jesus, who is the express image of God, tells us that the Son of man did not come into the world to condemn the world but that the world through him might be saved. Thus, you will not locate God in condemnation but in salvation. God is not active in condemnation. He is rather active in salvation. In Romans 8:1-4, we see very clearly that there is no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus. The word "no" as used in the Greek originals is an absolute negative. In other words, the issue of condemnation from God to a believer is totally impossible! Beloved, you are not condemned. You have passed from death to life. You have been justified of the Father! You are His beloved child, in whom He is well pleased! There is therefore now no condemnation to you, because you are in Christ Jesus.

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

**WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GODS GOODNESS**

**Further Study: Romans 8**

**DAY 21**

**TOPIC: DON'T LOOK FOR CONVENIENCE**

**TEXT: Ecclesiastes 11:4**

**Written by: OLUMIDE ADEDOTUN**

*“He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap.”*

If there is anything to take from the above verse, it is the aftermath of a man who waits for all conditions to be favourable before he takes progressive steps; he does nothing and earns nothing.

The writer makes it clear that any man who waits for convenience before he sets his mind to do anything will always have an excuse never to do anything eventually. This is because in the earth realm, there is really no convenient or perfect time, there are times when things would appear unfavorable; hence, everyone who desires to move forward must take action regardless of seemingly impossible circumstances.

This calls for hard work at all times; labouring even when circumstances appear unfavorable. This infers focusing not on the prevailing circumstances but on our expectations for which we take action. This keeps us going; this keeps us making efforts, paying no attention to the winds or clouds but on our expectations of those actions.

Do not stay complacent beloved, neither relax. Get back to work or keep working; pay no attention to unfavourable circumstances and keep focus on your goal(s).

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

**WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!**

## **DAY 22**

### **TOPIC: RESIST THE DEVIL**

**TEXT: 1 Peter 5:8-9**

**Written by: ALADE OLUWASEGUN**

*“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9- Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.”*

Many people dread the devil in their minds. They nurture great fear for his personality. Some even say that “the devil is powerful but he cannot save”.

It is gross ignorance that makes a believer in Christ to hold on to this belief or opinion. The bible is clear and it gives us answers to all questions and hidden subjects. The bible calls the devil a liar, a sinner from the beginning (John 8:44). All that the devil has is tricks and wiles (Ephesians 6:11).

The bible never attributed any power to the devil. However, the bible states in more than one instance that all power in heaven and on earth belongs to God. This same power has been given to the believer.

The only response the believer gives to the devil is resistance. The word “resist” is quite a very strong word of opposition, rebuke or restrain.

We are not to beg the devil neither are we to negotiate with him. We are to resist him and his works. Walk in this knowledge and you will experience victory in all aspects of life.

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

**WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!**

## **DAY 23**

**TOPIC: WE ARE SERVANTS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS!**

**TEXT: Romans 6:13**

**Written by: MAY AYINTETE**

*“Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.”*

The believer in Christ is to walk in the consciousness of what God has done for him via Christ’s sacrifice. He is no longer dead in his sins but he’s alive unto God through Jesus Christ. He has been made free from sin.

In our text, Apostle Paul admonishes the believer to yield his members (body) as instruments of righteousness unto God. The word translated “yield” is from the Greek words “paristemi paristano”, which means “to present” or “to exhibit”. That is to say the believer is to present his body as an instrument of righteousness to God. This is so because his body is indeed an instrument of righteousness. He is to do this with the consciousness that he is alive from the dead and is risen with Christ. He is not to live according to the lusts of the flesh but to walk in the newness of life. His conduct should be derived from his identity with Christ.

The believer in Christ has the ability inherent in him to yield his body as an instrument of righteousness unto God by the Spirit of God that dwells in him. He has been bought at a price; hence, he is not to live unto himself but unto God. Beloved, to whom we yield our bodies to obey, his servants we are (Romans 6:16). But Glory to God; we are servants of righteousness because we have been made free from the bondage of sin!

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

**WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GODS GOODNESS!**

**Further Study: Romans 6:1-18**

**DAY 24**

**TOPIC: KNOW YE NOT?**

**TEXT: 1 Corinthians 6:19**

**Written by: OLUMIDE ADEDOTUN**

*“What! Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God and ye are not your own?”*

The above text affirms that believers are the temple of the Holy Ghost; this is because the Holy Ghost indwells the man in Christ. It further acknowledges that what we have is of God; hence, we are God's. Although, this verse widely quoted by many believers, it is largely not understood by many. You often hear believers say in some circles that the Holy Ghost takes leave of believers when they sin.

Statements such as this are not true. In the text above, Apostle Paul wrote to believers in Corinth who indulged habitually in certain sins, it was reported that sin was common among them yet the Apostle Paul affirms that they are the temple of the Holy Spirit. He did not say this because he was ignorant that they committed sins often; he was aware. Neither did he say this because he condoned their sins; no! Not at all! It is obvious he did not condone their sins because he rebuked them for their sins in his letter. This is what he did; he revealed that regardless of a believer's sins, the Holy Spirit is forever a resident in the man in Christ; hence, the Holy Spirit never responds to the wrong actions of believers by leaving. Sins cannot give the Holy Ghost a quit notice and drive Him out of His temple who is the believer). The Holy Ghost rather brings to the remembrance of the believer that his or her sins have been paid for by Jesus.

Now, the above reality is not an approval for believers to live anyhow; rather, it is an information for believers to exercise their dominion over sinful actions. Hence, with this understanding, believers can exercise victory over sin. Quit living your life as though you are a slave to sin and its demands; no you are not! You have the Holy Spirit, you are of God and you have been made beyond what sin is about, you are to exercise that authority, acts of sin are subject to you.

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

**WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!**

**DAY 25**

**TOPIC: GROW IN GRACE**

**TEXT: 2 Peter 3:18**

**Written by: ALADE OLUWASEGUN**

***“But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.”***

Growth is an important characteristic of living. It is the process of development, enlargement and expansion. To say something is growing depicts that such a thing is increasing in size, number, value or strength. There is an undoubtable joy in the heart of a progenitor when his offspring grows and develop. When a baby utters his first word and also makes a successful attempt to walk around, the mother grins as the baby’s action is a proof of growth.

The believer in Christ must be desirous of growth. This is aptly put by Apostle Peter thus; ***“as new born babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:”*** (1 Peter 2:2) In other words, the believer must be eager to grow.

As written in our text, Peter further instructed that the believer is to grow in grace. It is worthy of note that the instruction is not to grow in the works of the law. This cannot even be the case as we are not under the law in the first place; we are under (in) grace.

Knowing that grace is the personality of Christ (John 1:14 & 16), to grow in grace would thus simply mean to develop in the enjoyment and usage of all that grace has given to us. In other words, we are to seek eagerly to maximise all that is available for us in Christ.

This growth can only be achieved by knowing all that Christ has provided through His death, resurrection and glorification. Little wonder the Apostle Peter proceeded to say: ***“and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ”***.

Spiritual growth is achieved by the acknowledgement of everything that Christ has done for us and all that He is doing through us. It is all about focusing on Jesus and having the knowledge of Him.

**Say this:** “I grow in grace. I acknowledge all that Christ has done for me and all that He is doing through me. I maximise all that is available for me in Christ.”

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

**WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!**

## **DAY 26**

### **TOPIC: LESSONS FROM PENTECOST 1**

**TEXT: Acts 2:1-4**

**Written by: OLUMIDE ADEDOTUN**

*“And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”*

The above is an account of how the baptism of the Spirit came into manifestation on the day of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit which had long been promised will be received by believers when Christ is glorified had now been given, and believers received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. However, they did not just receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit, there were also manifestations of His presence such that believers spoke in tongues and also prophesied. We can therefore say, owing to what happened above, that the indwelling of the Spirit is evidenced by speaking in tongues as well as prophesying. This means all believers in Christ ought to speak in tongues and prophesy because we all have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

The things of the Spirit are not restricted to certain believers; it is for all believers to demonstrate. This informs us of what is pivotal to the body of Christ; they are the things of the Spirit. We must be eager to speak in tongues; we must all be eager to prophesy. This is because this is how our identity is made manifest. This is how we show that we are born of the Spirit; it is of our identity to demonstrate these things.

Do not stay caught up with religion, the law as well as its practices that you neglect what is a necessity as a member of the body of Christ. Do not be the religious man who has been baptized with water (which actually does nothing other than cleansing your flesh) and is never seen speaking in tongues; our identity is not evidenced that way, Do not be that believer that doesn't prophesy because you think it is for some selected few; you are a son of God and you should.

**DAY 27**

**TOPIC: WE SHALL ALL BE CHANGED!**

**TEXT: 1 Corinthians 15:51-52**

**Written by: ALOBA TOWOJU**

*“51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.”*

In the epistles of Paul to the Corinthians is a clue to how the Corinthians lived their lives. Paul was very clear in the use of his words to describe how seemingly ungodly these receivers of his letters were. They had obvious issues with strife, sedition, fornication, drunkenness and even incest among them such that Paul couldn't help but let them know they acted as unto “babes” and “carnal”.

In fact, Paul was so bothered that he used about the first eleven chapters of his first epistle to the Corinthians trying to correct these different issues prevalent in the church at Corinth. It is noteworthy that not until the twelfth chapter which he introduced with “Now concerning spirituals”, he couldn't communicate solely spiritual things with this particular church. This indeed shows how “carnal” they really were! Paul also did a great job in correcting such absurdity amidst them with all boldness and authority.

However, when Paul would later discuss the reality of the resurrection of the mortal body of believers with them, Paul clearly said “we shall all be changed”. Wow! Such a profound statement! One would have thought that Paul ought not to say this since there were still lots of sinful habits amidst the Corinthian church, but he didn't. He was clear enough in his expression by making them assured that both he and they also will be changed. His approach was to correct them in righteousness but he didn't tamper with their hope of resurrection because of their inconsistencies. In this same way, you as a believer ought to have a 100% assurance of the hope of resurrection in Christ.

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

**WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!**

## **DAY 28**

**TOPIC: DO NOT BID HIM GOD SPEED!**

**TEXT: 2 John 1:10-11**

**Written by: ADEBAYO KOLAWOLE SAMUEL**

*“10 If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: 11 For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.”*

If we read the whole chapter wherein our text is located, we will easily discover that the doctrine the Apostle John was referring to as the doctrine to be brought (taught) is the doctrine of Christ. He explained the doctrine of Christ as “Christ’s coming in the flesh”. In a previous devotional, we explained that Christ’s coming in the flesh was solely for the purpose of taking away sins through the sacrifice of Himself (1 John 3:5). Thus, the doctrine of Christ is all about the work of Christ, that is what He came to do; His sacrifice for sins. Hence, the doctrine of Christ is all about the finished work of Christ and nothing else.

Apostle John lets us know in a very firm manner that we are not to bid God speed a “preacher” who disesteems the work of Christ and brings another doctrine apart from the doctrine of Christ. He sounds this loud for us to hear. To bid a person God speed is to bid him farewell, to treat him as one who is honorable, to send him forth with honor. John describes teaching another doctrine besides the doctrine of Christ as evil. He lets us know bidding one who opposes the finished work of Christ farewell makes us partakers with his evil deeds. We are not to be found in gatherings of these kinds of persons. If, perhaps, we find ourselves in such gatherings, we are not to give offerings there. We are not to “support” their “ministries” as may seem suitable to fickle emotions and sentiments. To do that would be to be in support of evil. Don’t bid them God speed! Don’t be numbered in their company! You cannot be found in their meetings! They are deceivers whose deeds are evil, proclaiming words such as “connect to the grace of God via your seed”! This is not the doctrine of Christ! Flee from them! Depart from them! Bid them not God speed! Doing this is acting obedient to the written word, for God wills that we be no partakers of such evil deeds.

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

**WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD’S GOODNESS!**

## DAY 29

### TOPIC: LESSONS FROM PENTECOST 2

TEXT: Acts 2:1-4

Written by: OLUMIDE ADEDOTUN

*“And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”*

The reason why a lot of believers do not manifest in the things of the Spirit is because they think or have been told that they are incapable. Again, we will take another lesson from what happened at Pentecost.

Look at what the report did not say in the verses above; there was nothing like they spoke in their abilities when they received the Holy Ghost, neither did it say some of them tried to speak in tongues when they received the Spirit or some could not just speak even though they were filled with the Holy Spirit. No! Nothing like all those things was said at all! Rather it was that **they were all filled with the Spirit and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.**

All of them spoke in tongues. They spoke in tongues as the Spirit of God gave them utterance, which means they did not have to pray or work for utterance; utterance was the Holy Spirit's to give, they only responded to the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues. Speaking in tongues as well as other things of the Spirit such as prophecies, words of knowledge, miracles are demonstrated in the ability of the Holy Spirit which we all have received. What we only have do is to respond to the ability of the Holy Spirit indwelling in us. The Holy Spirit is not inadequate; He is not incapable. So, since we are to speak by the ability of the Holy Spirit, who has given us all utterance, it means that we are not lacking in the ability to speak and demonstrate the things of the Spirit. Having known this brethren beloved, let us go on to demonstrate the things of the Spirit which are all ours to enjoy, with nothing hold holding us back!

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!

## **DAY 30**

### **TOPIC: RESIST THE DEVIL**

**TEXT: 1 Peter 5:8-9**

**Written by: ALADE OLUWASEGUN**

*“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9- Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.”*

Many people dread the devil in their minds. They nurture great fear for his personality. Some even say that “the devil is powerful but he cannot save”.

It is gross ignorance that makes a believer in Christ to hold on to this belief or opinion. The bible is clear and it gives us answers to all questions and hidden subjects. The bible calls the devil a liar, a sinner from the beginning (John 8:44). All that the devil has is tricks and wiles (Ephesians 6:11).

The bible never attributed any power to the devil. However, the bible states in more than one instance that all power in heaven and on earth belongs to God. This same power has been given to the believer.

The only response the believer gives to the devil is resistance. The word “resist” is quite a very strong word of opposition, rebuke or restrain.

We are not to beg the devil neither are we to negotiate with him. We are to resist him and his works. Walk in this knowledge and you will experience victory in all aspects of life.

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

**WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!**

## **DAY 31**

### **TOPIC: GLORY IN THE LORD ALONE**

**TEXT: 1 Corinthians 1:29-31**

**Written by: ALOBA TOWOJU**

*“29 That no flesh should glory in his presence 30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: 31 That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.”*

It is amazing how different things give human beings confidence and joy. For some, the source of their glorying is their houses, while for others, it is their academic achievements, career excellence, respectful children, material gains etc. While these things are good, they must never become the source of our glorying. This is because the best of them can only span some decades and will soon fade away.

The text above opens our eyes to the fact that our source of glorying is not in “what” but in “who”. Things can only give us instantaneous glory that doesn’t last. It is only a person that ought to be our source of glorying; that is our Lord. What causes us to glory are the things we have in Him; who we have been made in Him and who He has been made for us. In all, He is our glory, hence, we glory only in the Lord!

We therefore are to glory in these realities in Christ for they are unending and unfading. They are realities that abide forever; hence, our glory in the Lord abides forever. As a believer, never should you boast in what an unbeliever equally has and even has more in abundance. We are to glory in who Christ has made us. He is our wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption. Halleluiah!

**AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!**

**WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD’S GOODNESS!**