

# Rhapsody of Realities

... A DAILY DEVOTIONAL

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*Chris Oyakhilome*



Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the *King James Version* of the Bible.

**A KEY FOR OTHER BIBLE VERSIONS USED:**

NKJV -New King James Version  
AMP -The Amplified Bible  
AMPC -The Amplified Classic Bible  
TANT -The Amplified New Translation  
TLB -The Living Bible  
CEV -Contemporary English Version  
NASB -New American Standard Bible  
ISV -International Standard Version  
NIV -New International Version  
MSG -The Message Translation  
WEB -The World English Bible  
TNLT -The New Living Translation  
ASV -American Standard Version  
TEV -Today's English Version  
RSV -Revised Standard Version  
GNB -Good News Bible  
WNT -Weymouth New Testament  
NRSV -New Revised Standard Version  
MOFFAT -Moffatt New Translation  
WESNT -Wesley New Testament  
EBR -Rotherham's Emphasized Bible  
DRB -Douay-Rheims Bible  
TPT -The Passion Translation  
CJB -Complete Jewish Bible

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## Introduction

This month's edition of your favourite daily devotional, *Rhapsody of Realities*, has been packaged to enhance your spiritual growth and development and position you for resounding success in all your endeavours.

The life-changing truths in this edition will refresh, transform and prepare you for a very fulfilling, fruitful and rewarding experience with God's Word.

### - HOW TO USE THIS DEVOTIONAL FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT -

- Read and carefully meditate on each article. Saying the prayers and confessions aloud to yourself daily will ensure the results of God's Word that you're speaking come to pass in your life.
- Go through the entire Bible in one year with the one-year reading plan or in two years with the two-year reading plan.
- You can also split the daily Bible reading portions into two parts—morning and evening reading.
- Use the devotional to prayerfully write out your goals for each month, and measure your success as you accomplish one goal after another.

Enjoy God's glorious presence and victory as you take a daily dose of His Word! God bless you!

*-Pastor Chris Oyakhilome*

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**GOALS FOR THE MONTH:** \_\_\_\_\_

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SATURDAY 1

## THE INFLUENCE OF HIS KINGDOM



***Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence (John 18:36).***

One of the charges for which Jesus was condemned was that He declared Himself to be a king. When Pilate asked Him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" Jesus replied, "***...My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence***" (John 18:36).

Pilate, intrigued by Jesus' response, sought further clarification regarding His kingship. He asked again, "Are you a king then?" Jesus elaborated, saying, "***...To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice***" (John 18:37).

The Lord Jesus stating that He was a king meant He was the ruler of a kingdom. But where was His kingdom? He clarified that His kingdom was not of this world, meaning it was foreign to this earthly realm. The rulers of the time couldn't understand His kingdom because they couldn't see it; they were perplexed by it.

The next important point is that Jesus had a mission to extend the influence and power of His heavenly kingdom to this world. He came to bring the blessings, the goodness,

and the power of His kingdom to a world full of pain, darkness and struggles. This world, filled with destruction and suffering, needed change, and Jesus came with His kingdom to effect that change. Hallelujah!

Through salvation, He extended the goodness of His kingdom to humanity. Now that you're born again, you've become a citizen of Christ's glorious Kingdom: ***“Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son”*** (Colossians 1:12-13).

Therefore, walk in the consciousness of the full blessings of the Kingdom, and spread the influence of His reign everywhere. You represent the Kingdom; you carry it everywhere you go, for it is within you: Luke 17:21, ***“Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.”*** You're the extension of His Kingdom and its influence, for the Bible says, ***“...he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand”*** (Isaiah 53:10).

## **PRAYER**

Dear Lord Jesus, I thank you for your heavenly Kingdom and its blessings, impact and influence in the earth and in the hearts of men. I live the life of the Kingdom, and I walk in the fullness of its blessings, spreading the influence of your reign everywhere. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Luke 4:43; Matthew 6:33; Luke 17:20-21

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 22:15-46 & Exodus 22-23

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 11:21-30 & Genesis 32



SUNDAY 2

## YOUR OFFERING MAKES A DIFFERENCE



***And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place: a thousand burnt offerings did Solomon offer upon that altar (1 Kings 3:4).***

In 1 Kings 3, when Solomon became king of Israel, he was deeply troubled. He knew he was not the firstborn son, and his mother, Bathsheba, was not the first wife of his father, David. Solomon understood that his position as king would bring challenges because he had older brothers who despised both him and his mother.

For example, when you study the accounts in 1 Kings 2, Solomon's older brother Adonijah attempted to usurp the throne, and Solomon later ordered the execution of Adonijah, Joab, and Shimei to secure his reign. These show the violent and unstable environment in which Solomon ascended the throne. So, despite being king, he faced several threats to his life and position. He knew he had to do something beyond the ordinary to secure his reign and separate himself from the danger around him.

What did Solomon do? He offered an extraordinary

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sacrifice to God. 1 Kings 3:4 says, ***"And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place: a thousand burnt offerings did Solomon offer upon that altar."*** Solomon was determined to put everything on the line in his worship to God. Today, we can learn from what Solomon did. It's one of the ways to move forward and establish yourself where God has placed you.

## **PRAYER**

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Dear Father, thank you for the opportunity to give into your Kingdom. I refuse to be subject to the limitations of this world, for Christ is my riddance as well as my advantage. I align myself with your divine principles, ensuring progress and prosperity in every area of my life. Thank you for separating me from the forces of poverty and wickedness, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

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2 Corinthians 9:6-10; Luke 6:38; 1 Kings 3:5-13

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 23 & Exodus 24-25

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 12:1-9 & Genesis 33



MONDAY 3

## DELIVERANCE, COMPLETENESS AND PRESERVATION



*For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation (Romans 10:10).*

The word “salvation” is a unique word that’s often only used by those who believe in Jesus Christ. While many may have a general idea of what it means, only a few have explored the Scriptures to grasp its true meaning and implications. Salvation, simply, means to deliver, to make whole, and to preserve.

That’s what Jesus brought to us. He “saved” us, and the term 'saved' originates from the Greek word “sozo,” which embodies the full scope of what Jesus Christ's death, burial and resurrection achieved for mankind. So when we say that Jesus brought salvation, it means He brought deliverance, completeness and preservation.

Thus, when you say you’re saved by Jesus Christ, it means He delivered you, made you complete, and preserved you. You’ve been delivered from the power of darkness, from sin, from fear, from death and Satan’s dominion, into God's perfect will. Colossians 1:12-14 says, ***“Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of***

***his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins.”***

Having been delivered, He brings you into that state of completeness, protecting you, and stopping anything or anyone from affecting the wholeness He has given you. Now that you're born again, you're whole, sound and exactly as He intended in His perfect will. Nothing is left out in your life. You're perfected in Him. Hallelujah!

This is why the understanding of the full message of salvation is important. Paul explained in his letter to the Roman Church, ***“But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation”*** (Romans 10:8-10). This is what we preach; that in Christ Jesus, you've been delivered, made whole and preserved. Blessed be God!

## **PRAYER**

**Dear Father, I thank you for the gift of salvation that I have received in Christ Jesus. I'm delivered, complete in Christ, and preserved in the state of wholeness and victory. My life is a testimony of your saving power, and I walk in your perfect will, and in the full blessings of the Gospel of Christ, in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Colossians 1:12-13; John 10:28; Colossians 2:10;  
Psalm 91:5-7

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 24:1-35 & Exodus 26-27

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 12:10-21 & Genesis 34



TUESDAY 4

## SALVATION GAVE YOU POWER OVER SIN



*To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins (Luke 1:77).*

In Luke 1:76-77, we see a powerful revelation about salvation. It says, ***“And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins.”*** The first thing about salvation is remission or the removal of sin. This is so important because without this understanding, many live a life that doesn't reflect the true change salvation brings.

In Acts 3:25-26, the Apostle Peter addressed the Jewish congregation, reminding them of God's promise to their ancestors. He declared that they were the children of the prophets and of the covenant made with their forefathers. Peter explained, ***“Unto you first God, having raised up His Son Jesus, sent Him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities”*** (Acts 3:26).

This verse reveals another crucial aspect of salvation: the blessing to be turned away from sin. God blessed us by sending Jesus to turn us away from our iniquities. You couldn't do it by yourself. You might have struggled with sin, but when you received salvation, you received power over sin.

In Luke 24:46-47, Jesus made it clear that repentance and the remission of sins should be preached in His Name among all nations, starting from Jerusalem: ***“...Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”*** Now you can understand why Paul cried out in Acts 13:38-39, ***“Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.”***

This is a truth that many people need to understand. Sin is no longer a factor; its power to lord it over you has been removed. In Christ, you’ve been made sin-free. It helps you further understand why the Bible says in Romans 6:14, ***“For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.”*** Hallelujah!

## **PRAYER**

**Dear Father, I walk in the liberty of your grace, knowing that sin has no dominion over me. Through the sacrifice of Jesus, I have been made righteous, justified, and sanctified. I live in the consciousness of this victory, free from guilt, walking in the fullness of the blessings of salvation, in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Colossians 1:13-14; Romans 3:21-25; Romans 6:6-7

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 24:36-51 & Exodus 28

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 12:22-30 & Genesis 35



WEDNESDAY 5

## OUT OF THE JURISDICTION OF DARKNESS



*Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son (Colossians 1:13).*

**A**nother vital blessing of our salvation in Christ Jesus is deliverance from the jurisdiction of darkness. Recall what we said salvation is in one of our previous studies: deliverance, wholeness, and preservation. The first step was the removal of sin. Jesus took away your sins and delivered you from the dominion of darkness. You're now separated from the influence and control of darkness.

Ephesians 1:21 says you're seated with Christ in heavenly places, ***“Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come.”*** Can you see why, having received salvation, you don't need another deliverance from Satan? You're superior to Satan.

Jesus told us to cast out demons. Mark 16:17 says, “And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name

shall they cast out demons; they shall speak with new tongues.” In Luke 10:19, He said, **“Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.”** He’s given you control, authority and dominion to tread on serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy. Hallelujah!

Never be afraid of demons; they’re under your feet. The Bible says God has raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 2:6). You live in the Kingdom of His Love-Son where life and immortality reigns; and it’s a Kingdom of light. Praise God!

## **PRAYER**

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**Dear Father, I thank you for translating me into the Kingdom of your dear Son, Jesus Christ. Satan has no authority over me, for I live in the glorious Kingdom of light. I walk in victory, free from the control of darkness, and I reign in life through Christ. Amen.**

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

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2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 5:8; 1 Peter 2:9

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 25:1-30 & Exodus 29-30

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 12:31-38 & Genesis 36



THURSDAY 6

## INTIMACY WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT



***The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen (2 Corinthians 13:14).***

**T**he foundational principles of developing a personal and intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit is through the Word of God and prayer. It's important to yield to Him through the Word and deepen your relationship with Him through prayer. Every relationship without communication dies, irrespective of what that relationship is, whether it's the relationship between parents and their children, spouses, co-workers, etc.

On the other hand, good communication nourishes and enhances relationships. If you're going to have a richer fellowship with the Holy Spirit, you need to commune effectively with Him in prayer. He's a person, and you've got to relate to Him as a person. Read our opening scripture again; it indicates the kind of relationship we're supposed to have with the Lord.

The Father is in heaven, and Jesus has gone to heaven; only the Holy Spirit is here with us. The God we



know and relate to today is the Holy Spirit. He makes the presence of the Father and the presence of Jesus real to you. So, learn to talk to Him. That's why speaking in tongues is also vital. Speak in tongues often.

The Apostle Paul serves as a great example of a successful Christian and minister, and one of his secrets was fellowship with the Holy Spirit through prayer. He said, ***“I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all”*** (1 Corinthians 14:18). If Paul realized it was necessary for him to speak in tongues so much that he could say he spoke with tongues more than the whole Corinthian church, then you must recognize its importance. Speak in tongues every day and every so often, and build a sturdy relationship with the Holy Spirit.

## **PRAYER**

**Dear Father, I thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit; I recognize His presence in my life and yield fully to His leading. As I fellowship with Him, my spirit is built strong, and I'm empowered to live victoriously, every day, in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 Corinthians 14:2; Romans 8:26; John 14:16-17

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 25:31-46 & Exodus 31

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 12:39-50 & Genesis 37



FRIDAY 7

## GOD'S ONE AND ONLY



*No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him (John 1:18).*

What we just read provides one of the most extraordinary expressions of the Son of God. It emphasizes that no one has seen God face to face, which is a significant point. Then it refers to Jesus as the “only begotten Son.” The Greek term used for begotten is “Monogenēs,” which means the one and only or one of a kind, unique, with no other like Him. Jesus is described here as the only born Son of the Father.

But then we see something extraordinary about His mission, what He was born to do, in our theme verse: He came to make the Father known: ***“No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.”*** The word declared is from the Greek “exēgeomai” which means that Jesus, God’s born-Son, came to rehearse God to men. He came to show us what God is like in human form. He came to declare and act out the nature of God.

Now, think about this: the life that He had is what He’s given you (1 John 5:11-12). And the Bible says as He is, so are we in this world (1 John 4:17). So, today, He’s

called the “...*first begotten of the dead...*” (Revelation 1:5). This is because He heads up a new species, a new class of “Monogenēs”—people who have now been born of God as a result of the resurrection of Jesus Christ—by virtue of the New Birth (1 Peter 1:3).

Recall what the Bible says in 1 John 3:1, “***Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God....***” We’re born-sons of God: “***But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God***” (John 1:12-13). James 1:18 says, “***Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.***” We’re the first and the best; the one and only or one of a kind; unique. (Also read 1 Peter 2:9 AMPC). Hallelujah!

## PRAYER

Dear Father, thank you for the blessing of eternal life for everyone who hears and receives the message of the Gospel. Today, many will hear and understand the depth of your love and the invitation to be born again and receive the divine life as the Gospel is preached around the world, in Jesus’ Name. Amen.

## FURTHER STUDY:

1 John 5:11-13; 2 Corinthians 5:17; 1 John 4:17

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 26:1-30 & Exodus 32-33

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 13:1-9 & Genesis 38

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SATURDAY 8

## THE SUPPLANTING OF YOUR HUMAN LIFE



*And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son (1 John 5:11).*

One of the fundamental truths that must shape your perception of who you are in Christ and what actually transpired when you were born again is the fact that the human life with which you were born by your biological parents has been supplanted by the life of God. That human life, which was marked by sin and frailty, fraught with darkness and limitations, is supplanted by the divine essence of Christ Himself. This is one of the greatest revelations of Christianity.

Think about the fact that the divine nature of God has been transferred into a human being! This divine life is referred to as eternal life. John 3:16 (NIV), says, ***“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”***

That’s the life you have now that Christ lives in you: ***“And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal***

***life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life*** (1 John 5:11-12 ESV).

It's this divine nature that sets Christianity apart from the religions of the world. 2 Peter 1:4 says we're partakers of the divine nature; associates of the God-kind. This is the heart of the Gospel: the exchange of your frail human life for the glorious, indestructible life of God. Hallelujah!

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## **PRAYER**

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**Dear Father, I thank you for the life of Christ in me; sickness, diseases and infirmities can't thrive in my body because I have eternal life. The divine life in me has gained ascendancy over my spirit, soul and body, and I walk in absolute dominion over Satan and the elements of this world, in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

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## **FURTHER STUDY:**

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2 Peter 1:4; John 10:10; 1 John 5:11-13

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 26:31-56 & Exodus 34-35

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 13:10-23 & Genesis 39



SUNDAY 9

## USING HIS NAME WITH AUTHORITY



*And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it (John 14:13-14).*

When you study the words of the Master in the scripture above, you'll realize that He was referring to using His Name with authority; doing great works in His Name. He was emphasizing the power and authority vested in His Name, making it clear to us that this authority is effective in bringing about any desired result. Hallelujah!

Let's examine those words a bit more: first, He said, *"If you shall ask anything in my name..."* To ask here means to demand something. The Lord Jesus was referring to situations where you demand that something should happen in His Name. At such moments, He says, "I will cause it to happen." What an assurance! This is a demonstration of the authority we have in His Name.

An example of this can be found in Acts chapter 3, where Peter and John encountered a man who had been crippled from birth. Peter simply used the Name of Jesus with the understanding of the authority that it wields. He understood what Jesus meant when He said, ***"And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do..."*** (John 14:13).

As a result, Peter demanded healing for the man who

was crippled from birth. The Bible says, **“And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God”** (Acts 3:7-8). This is precisely what Jesus was talking about—using His Name with authority.

Recall what He said in John 10:25, **“...I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me.”** He commissioned us to do the same in His Name. We have the authority to speak to anything in His Name and have a miracle. You can speak to broken bones, blind eyes, and every challenging situation in His Name, and there'll be a change. Glory to God!

When you speak in His Name, He's present with divine power to ensure that your words come to pass. He guarantees the results. This is the authority we've been given; it's power beyond this world; power to change circumstances in His Name. Hallelujah!

## **PRAYER**

**Dear Father, thank you for the authority in the Name of Jesus. As I speak and act in His Name, every situation aligns with your will. Sickness, disease, poverty and every contrary condition bow to the Name of Jesus. I walk in this authority, manifesting your power in every area of my life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Acts 3:6-8 NKJV; Philippians 2:9-10;  
John 14:13-14 AMPC

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 26:57-75 & Exodus 36-37

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 13:24-33 & Genesis 40



MONDAY 10

## POWER TO EFFECT CHANGES



*Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases (Luke 9:1).*

**O**bserve what the Bible says in the opening verse. It tells us the Lord Jesus gave His disciples both power and authority. We often speak about authority, but let's focus on power for a moment. Power is the dynamic, inherent ability to cause changes. It's the kind of power that reproduces itself, a power that shows through tangible results. When Jesus spoke of this power, He was referring to the ability to create real change in situations.

He told us that He has given us power and authority over all devils and the ability to cure diseases. I wish that everyone who is sick, diseased or afflicted would grasp this. If they only understood that the divine ability is right there in their spirits to effect a change in their conditions.

The Lord Jesus said in Acts 1:8, ***“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you....”*** Power here means the dynamic ability to effect changes,



power that works like a dynamo, power with which you can create or recreate anything. Put this power to work today. It's not something that will flow into you from heaven; it's already within you, and it has the ability to cause cancer to dematerialize!

I remember once laying hands on a man who had a large growth on his back, about the size of an egg. As I placed my hand on the growth, I could feel it move beneath my palm. It was the power of God working right there, causing the growth to move in and out as I spoke the Word. The power was effecting changes. I then commanded the growth to go, and it did! This dynamic, life-changing power is available to all who believe; put it to work today.

## **PRAYER**

**Dear Father, I thank you for enduing me with the dynamic power to effect changes and make a difference in the lives of others. As I minister your Word, your power works in me mightily, bringing healing, restoration and deliverance to many. I'm full of faith, and I walk in this authority to transform lives for your glory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Acts 1:8 AMPC; Mark 16:17-18; Luke 10:19;  
James 5:16 AMPC

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 27:1-26 & Exodus 38-39

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 13:34-43 & Genesis 41



TUESDAY 11

## EXERCISE YOUR AUTHORITY IN CHRIST



*Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you (Luke 10:19).*

The Lord Jesus gave us power and authority, and you don't need any special faith to exercise that authority. You don't need to 'work up' faith to exercise your dominion in Christ. Therefore, simply take your place in Christ and “...**Resist the devil, and he will flee...**” (James 4:7).

Perhaps there have been recurrent cases of sickness or other kinds of challenges with members of your family; exercise your authority! Declare, “Satan, I command you to stop your manoeuvres and operations in my home and amongst my family members, in the Name of Jesus!” Every demon will bow and leave.

Sometimes, in some homes, there could be so much anger—everyone seems to be on edge—tension fills the air and no one knows why. You that are born again in that home should exercise authority over the demon of anger. Find a quiet place to pray, and then say, “You spirit of anger, get out of this home.” You don't need to shout or jump around; just speak with authority and command the

devil to leave.

In Mark 16:17, the Lord Jesus said, ***“And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils....”*** In Matthew 10:8 He said, ***“Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils....”*** Once you perceive or encounter situations that are caused or influenced by devils, don’t negotiate; exercise the authority that Christ has given you.

Take for example you were in a place where a child suddenly started convulsing or experiencing a bout of seizures; cast the devil out and command it to return no more. Then, declare wholeness and perfection for that child. Jesus gave us absolute dominion over demons and the powers of darkness; therefore, cast them out in the Name of Jesus. Amen.

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## **PRAYER**

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**Dear Father, I thank you for the authority you have given me in Christ Jesus. I declare that I walk in dominion, subduing every work of the enemy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, I exercise authority over every negative circumstance and demonic influence in my life, my home, and my environment. I thank you for the victory that is mine through Christ Jesus, and I live every day in the boldness of this authority, in Jesus’ Name. Amen.**

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## **FURTHER STUDY:**

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Mark 16:17-18; Matthew 28:18-19; James 4:7

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 27:27-44 & Exodus 40

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 13:44-52 & Genesis 42



WEDNESDAY 12

## RECEIVING THE GIFT OF ETERNAL LIFE



*For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord (Romans 6:23).*

In preaching the Gospel, we must let the world know that God already made eternal life available as a gift to all men. A gift is something given voluntarily, without payment in return, usually to show favour, honour, appreciation or express love toward someone. The essence of a gift is that it's not something you work or labour to earn; it's free.

We read in our opening scripture that the gift of God is eternal life. God offered it freely in Jesus Christ. Isn't that wonderful? He knew that no matter how hard we tried; our hard and good works wouldn't qualify us to receive eternal life. Therefore, He made it available as a gift.

Recall the words of the Lord Jesus in 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."*** Also, in John 5:24, He said, ***"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life...."*** So, if you believe that Jesus Christ is

the Son of God (God in human flesh), and that He died on account of your sins, and was raised back to life for your justification, eternal life is imparted to your spirit.

At that moment, everything changes; you have eternal life with the blessings and grace that flow from Him. 1 John 5:11-12 says, ***"And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life."*** If you haven't declared His lordship over your life, do so right away. The Word declares that if you confess with your mouth "Jesus is Lord" and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved (Romans 10:9).

Turn to the **Prayer of Salvation** page at the back of this devotional, say the words therein and mean them from the bottom of your heart. This will bring you into salvation in Christ right away. God bless you.

## PRAYER

**Dear Father, I thank you for the wonderful gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ. For everyone who receives salvation today, the Name of Jesus is named upon them. They have received life from you, and Satan has no claim over them anymore; they belong to Jesus and are members of the body of Christ. Amen.**

## FURTHER STUDY:

Ephesians 2:8-9; John 3:16; 1 John 5:11-13 NIV

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 27:45-66 & Leviticus 1-3

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 13:53-58 & Genesis 43



THURSDAY 13

## LOVE AND RIGHTEOUSNESS



*For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ (Romans 5:17).*

In our previous study, we talked about the gift of eternal life that's imparted to be born again. Now, that wonderful gift of eternal life comes with two associate virtues: love and righteousness. You can't get them anywhere else. Upon receiving eternal life, the love of God is automatically shed abroad in your heart by the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5).

Christ in you means the nature of God is in you, and God's nature is love. The Bible says, "...**God is love...**" (1 John 4:16). That love resides in your spirit; your responsibility is to let that love flow through you. 2 Corinthians 5:19 says, "**To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.**" Having reached out to us in love through Christ, He has given us the ministry of reconciliation, to win others and bring them into His love.

The second thing is righteousness; Christ has made

you righteous. Ephesians 4:24 says you were created in righteousness and true holiness. Romans 5:18-19 says, ***“Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.”*** Think about that!

With all the sins you've ever committed, with all the evil you may have done, Jesus Christ, the Righteous One, gives you His righteousness. Now you can stand in the presence of God just like He does. You have become as pure as He is—washed, sanctified, justified in the Name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of God. And having received this divine nature of righteousness, you reign in life through Jesus Christ. Hallelujah!

## **PRAYER**

**Dear Father, I thank you for your liquid love that's shed abroad in my heart, and the gift of righteousness by which I reign in life through Jesus Christ. I live in the power of your love and righteousness. Thank you for making me holy and blameless; I walk in the consciousness of this truth, in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 5:5; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Isaiah 61:10

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 28 & Leviticus 4-5

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 14:1-10 & Genesis 44



FRIDAY 14

## USE YOUR RESOURCES FOR THE GOSPEL



***Now it came to pass, afterward, that He went through every city and village, preaching and bringing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with Him, and certain women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities... provided for Him from their substance (Luke 8:1-3 NKJV).***

**W**hat we just read is quite remarkable! Certain women who had been delivered from evil spirits and infirmities, like Mary Magdalene and many others whose names weren't mentioned, ministered to the Lord Jesus of their substance. Their names might not all be written, but God remembers their acts of service, and one day, we will see the full list.

These women travelled with Jesus and paid the bills for His evangelistic journeys. They supported the mission financially. That's partnership. I can relate to this; there're people who sponsor different aspects of our evangelical work. They go above and beyond financially to ensure the success of our missionary work around the world. These are partners who fund the Gospel with their resources.

The key here is understanding the principle of giving into God's work. It's a grace, the grace of giving (2 Corinthians 8:4-6), and you can choose to function in that grace. When you focus on fulfilling God's dream, you won't



need to struggle for anything. The Bible says, “...**seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you**” (Matthew 6:33).

Many think that success is about acquiring material possessions, but true success comes from doing God’s work and establishing His will in the earth. Everything the Lord has blessed you with is for the furtherance of the Gospel; always remember that. So, like the women the Bible talks about in Luke 8, use your resources for the Gospel. It’s one of the ways to get yourself plugged into limitless and unending supply.

The Lord Himself guarantees your prosperity because He sees that you operate with a Kingdom mindset, walking in the light of His Word. Therefore, He’ll make “...**all grace (every favour and earthly blessing) come to you in abundance, so that you may always and under all circumstances and whatever the need be self-sufficient [possessing enough to require no aid or support and furnished in abundance for every good work and charitable donation]**” (2 Corinthians 9:8 AMPC).

## CONFESSION

I function with a Kingdom mindset, walking in the light of God’s Word; I use my resources for the expansion of the Kingdom and therefore live in the overflow of God’s blessings and provisions. Thank you, Lord, for multiplying my seeds sown and enriching me in every way, in Jesus’ Name. Amen.

### FURTHER STUDY:

2 Corinthians 9:7-8 AMPC; Luke 6:38;  
2 Corinthians 8:4-6

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 1:1-20 & Leviticus 6-7

#### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 14:11-21 & Genesis 45



SATURDAY 15

## YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLES



*According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue (2 Peter 1:3).*

Our lives today are made better because of the discoveries made by those who came before us—those who learned about electricity, magnetism, heat, radiation, etc. These discoveries gave us an advantage, making life easier, better and faster than it was in previous generations.

In the same way, in the spiritual realm, some of us are constantly researching the Word of God, exploring the realities of the Kingdom, and discovering how to live the transcendent life in Christ. Through these spiritual discoveries, we help others see how to succeed in life and please God.

Just as natural laws benefit us, spiritual laws are even more beneficial and vital. The principles of success as taught in the world are nothing compared to the spiritual principles in God's Word. For example, while in the world many chase after material things, but the Bible teaches us to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness; consequently, everything you need in life will come to you naturally (Matthew 6:33). That beats logic or human

reasoning; but it's in sync with the principle of faith. Faith is the law by which we live in the Kingdom: **"...as it is written, The just shall live by faith"** (Romans 1:17).

Then in Romans 3:27, we read about the law of faith: **"Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith."** You must learn to operate by the law of faith; it's consistent and much more reliable than natural laws. Take the law of gravity for example; have you ever woken up one day to find that the law of gravity had failed, with everything suddenly floating in the air? No! The law of gravity works all the time.

But even so, spiritual laws and principles are more immutable. Therefore, understand and apply them diligently. Research the deeper truths of God through the study of the Word and fellowship with the Holy Spirit. Know how to function in God's Kingdom, through your knowledge of Him and of His spiritual principles, and you'll live in the fullness of His blessings and of your inheritance in Him. Hallelujah!

## **PRAYER**

**Dear Father, I thank you for revealing the spiritual laws of success to me through your Word. I walk according to the principles of the Kingdom, in victory and divine prosperity. My life is governed by your Word, and I live in the fullness of your blessings and of my inheritance in Christ. Thank you for the Holy Spirit who guides me into all truth, in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Joshua 1:8 AMPC; Matthew 6:33; 2 Peter 1:2-3

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Mark 1:21-45 & Leviticus 8

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 14:22-33 & Genesis 46



SUNDAY 16

## FAITH AND HOW IT WORKS



*Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen (Hebrews 11:1).*

A lot of people have some confusion about faith and how it works. They often say, "I prayed, I believed, but I didn't get what I prayed about." That's the first indication that they don't understand what faith is and how it works. Faith is the substance of things hoped for; the evidence of things not seen.

That means faith calls real what you hope for; what you've hoped for is now present. That means when you say you have it, it's not so you can "get" it; rather, you know in your heart that you already have it because faith is the evidence of unseen realities. For instance, if you ask God for a job or anything; don't say, "I'm expecting it; I believe it will come." Rather, say, "I have it already."

If you don't have that inner evidence, then what you have isn't faith. True faith never staggers; it doesn't "try" to get something from God. Faith is the evidence; it doesn't recognize or accept impossibilities. Faith doesn't ask "Why didn't I get it?" Because faith already got it! The Lord Jesus

said, ***“...for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you”*** (Matthew 17:20).

For example, having declared that you’ve received healing in the Name of Jesus, don’t keep checking to see if the symptoms are still there. Faith is proof. You can’t hold proof and still say, "I didn’t get it." Faith doesn’t ask, “What if...?” “How is it going to happen?” Or “How am I going to get it?” Faith knows that it has already happened, and therefore speaks and acts accordingly. Hallelujah!

We have an important book, **"How To Make Your Faith Work."** It’s a classic on how to use your faith and reign over circumstances, winning every day in life. Order a copy from the store on the Rhapsody App.

## **PRAYER**

**Dear Father, I walk in the reality of your Word. I give no place to doubt. I hold fast to my confessions of faith without wavering, being fully persuaded by the Word for my health, prosperity, success and progress. Thank you for the life of faith that you’ve called me to live, in Jesus’ Name. Amen.**

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

2 Corinthians 4:13; Hebrews 10:23; Romans 10:17;  
Mark 11:22-23

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Mark 2:1-22 & Leviticus 9-10

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 14:34-15:1-9 & Genesis 47



MONDAY 17

## THE WORD IN YOU



*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly... (Colossians 3:16).*

There's something so important and beautiful that Jesus said in John 15:7, and it explains why you need to have the Word of God abundantly in you. He said, ***"If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you."*** You have to abide in Him and have His Word abide in you. That's what fortifies you against the troubles and adversities of life.

It brings to mind what He said in John 8:31, ***"...If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed."*** It's about abiding or continuing in His Word, doing the Word, never giving up. But if you don't know His words, how can they abide in you? You've got to hear them, learn them, study them, and keep them in you.

And here's the beautiful result of having the Word abide in you: ***"...ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you"*** (John 15:7). The word translated "ask" here is 'aiteo,' which means "to call or require." So, it means to call up or call forth what you desire. The phrase "be done" comes from the Greek word "ginomai," meaning

to come into being.

The Lord Jesus is saying, “If my words abide in you, you shall call whatever you think about, whatever you require, and it will come into being.” That’s powerful! It makes spiritual sense because if God’s Word is abundant in you, why should you beg for anything? God’s Word is the creator of all things.

The Bible says, ***“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made”*** (John 1:1-3). If all things were made by the Word, and that Word is in you, why not release the Word instead of begging? Call forth what you desire, and it will manifest; it will leap into reality! So, heap up the Word in you and it’ll cause you to triumph in life.

## PRAYER

**Dear Father, thank you for the power of your Word at work in me. Your Word is in my heart and on my lips. Even now, I call forth my desires; your Word on my lips creates realities. All things work together for my good, and I live a victorious, fulfilled life because I walk in the light of your Word, in Jesus’ Name. Amen.**

## FURTHER STUDY:

Hebrews 4:12 AMPC; Isaiah 55:11; John 1:1-3

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 2:23-3:1-12 & Leviticus 11-12

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 15:10-20 & Genesis 48



TUESDAY 18

## THE LIVING AND ACTIVE WORD



*For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart (Hebrews 4:12).*

I love the James Moffatt's rendering of the verse above. It says, ***“For the Logos of God is a living thing, active and more cutting than any sword with double edge, penetrating to the very division of soul and spirit, joints and marrow — scrutinizing the very thoughts and conceptions of the heart.”*** That's the Word; it's a living thing.

The Amplified version says, “It's living and active”: ***“For the word of God is living and active and full of power [making it operative, energizing, and effective]. It is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating as far as the division of the soul and spirit [the completeness of a person], and of both joints and marrow [the deepest parts of our nature], exposing and judging the very thoughts and intentions of the heart.”***

Imagine inundating your spirit with the Word; it'll have a great impact on your soul and body! When the pressures



of life come, when you're squeezed by life's challenges, it's the Word that'll come forth. And God's Word is God's creative material; it'll produce what it talks about.

1 Timothy 4:15 says, ***“Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.”*** Also, Joshua 1:8 says, ***“This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.”***

Instead of worrying about your health and trying to figure out every little sensation in your body; meditate on the Word. The Word will keep you in health and safety. When you face difficulties, respond with the Word. God's Word holds the power to change circumstances and bring life to every situation.

## **PRAYER**

**Dear Father, thank you for the power of your living Word that abides in me. Your Word is full of power, energizing and effective, and I declare that it produces results in my life. I refuse to fear or be anxious about anything. Instead, I release your Word over every situation and circumstance, knowing it will accomplish what it talks about and bring glory to your Name. Amen.**

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Isaiah 55:11; 1 Peter 1:23; Proverbs 4:20-22

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Mark 3:13-35 & Leviticus 13-14

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 15:21-28 & Genesis 49



WEDNESDAY 19

## CHRIST—“THE GOD-MAN”



*And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name (John 20:30-31).*

From our theme scripture, we see the purpose for which the Holy Scriptures were written: it's so we might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. This is one of the most amazing truths revealed to us in the entire Word of God. But then, what does the expression “Jesus is the Christ” really mean? What's the meaning of Christ?

First, understand that Christ is the English translation of the Greek word “Christos,” which is itself the translation of the Hebrew word “Messiah.” But beyond that, the real meaning of Christ is “the God-man,” that is, God in human flesh. It's the reason Christ is also called the Son of God.

When we say Jesus is the Son of God, it doesn't mean God gave birth to Jesus in the same way human fathers give birth to sons, like Mr. Scott giving birth to a son, called Scott Jr. No! “Son of God” in Scripture means God in human form. That's why when Jesus declared that He was the Son of God, the religious leaders accused Him

of blasphemy. They believed that Jesus declared Himself to be equal with God.

Similarly, in John 10:30, Jesus stated, ***“I and my Father are one,”*** which prompted the Jewish leaders to pick up stones to stone Him. They argued that He, being a man, made Himself God. Due to their ignorance of God’s Word and of who Jesus really is, they couldn’t accept His divine identity and the implications of His claims.

But Jesus wasn’t making Himself equal with God; He is Himself God—God in human flesh. This is the knowledge that God wants you to have, and He tells us what will happen when you believe this: you’ll have life through his Name. What life? The God-life! Through Jesus Christ, you have the divine nature; this eternal life supplants the human life with which you were born of your parents. You’re now an associate of the God-kind—a God-man—for as He (Jesus) is, so are you in this world (1 John 4:17). Glory to God!

## **PRAYER**

**Dear Father, thank you for the blessing of eternal life through Jesus Christ. I believe He is the Christ, the Son of God, through whom I have and live the God-life. I’m victorious, complete and preserved in Him. My life is a manifestation of the organic and existential attributes of deity, and I manifest your glory, wisdom, righteousness and grace, in Jesus’ Name. Amen.**

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

John 1:12-13; 1 John 5:11-12; 1 Timothy 3:16

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Mark 4:1-20 & Leviticus 15

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 15:29-39 & Genesis 50



THURSDAY 20

## WE RELATE TO GOD FROM OUR SPIRITS



*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 (Galatians 3:28).*

There's a misconception that some people have about how men and women connect with God in worship. They assume that men tend to focus on songs about power, while women, being more passionate, prefer singing love songs to the Lord. But such thinking is carnal and misses the deeper spiritual truth. When it comes to our relationship with God, we relate to Him from our spirits, not on the basis of physical gender.

Paul made this clear when he said, ***“For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son...”*** (Romans 1:9). We are spirit beings, created in the image of God, and when we serve God, we do so from our spirits. In Christ, our identity transcends gender. Our true identity is in our spirits, and in that realm, there is no distinction. Therefore, in worship, your connection with God is about your spirit reaching out to His Spirit in fellowship. The Lord Jesus said, ***“But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship***

***the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth"*** (John 4:23-24).

The outward gender is part of the earthly body, but we're new creations, living and serving God from our spirits, where gender distinctions have no place: Galatians 3:26-28, ***"For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 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."*** Also, the Bible says that ***"...the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed"*** (1 Corinthians 15:52). At the resurrection, we will be transformed and no longer be bound by physical distinctions like gender. Hallelujah!

## **PRAYER**

**Dear Father, thank you for the revelation of who I am in Christ. I know that in my spirit, I'm a new creation, made in your image. I serve you with all my heart, with passion, power and love, knowing that my worship transcends the physical. Thank you for making me inextricably one with you, in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

John 4:23-24 NIV; Romans 1:9;  
Galatians 3:26-28 AMPC

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Mark 4:21-41 & Leviticus 16-18

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 16:1-12 & Exodus 1



FRIDAY 21

## A ONCE-AND-FOR-ALL SACRIFICE



*And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many... (Hebrews 9:27-28).*

Our underlined portion in the verses above, as rendered in the King James version, seems to suggest that once upon a time, Christ was offered to take away the sins of many. But that's not what it's saying; the actual rendering is that Christ was offered once and for all for the sins of humanity. Some other translations render it correctly, for example, the ESV. It says, ***“And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many...”*** (Hebrews 9:27-28).

This means there isn't any other sacrifice for sin; it will never be necessary again. Jesus has already been sacrificed, and with that one sacrifice, it was all done. Hallelujah! It was a once-and-for-all-time sacrifice. The preceding verse 26 says, ***“...he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.”*** He was the sacrifice. He sacrificed Himself, not something else, not someone else. Hebrews 10:12-14 says, ***“But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God...For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.”*** He has perfected you forever through that one sacrifice.

Before Jesus came, the Jews offered sacrifices year

after year for the whole nation; so many lambs were slain. But Jesus came as the sinless Lamb of God—the perfect sacrifice—to perfect those who would come to Him. John the Baptist, upon seeing Him, cried out, “...**Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world**” (John 1:29).

Today, no need for anyone to try to punish themselves or go through any form of penance for their sins. Christ has been sacrificed for us. Hebrews 10:4-10 tells us something remarkably insightful. It says, “**For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me... Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God... By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.**” Your own sacrifice will never be enough. Therefore, the best thing to do is to accept the sacrifice of Jesus on your behalf. With that one sacrifice, He perfected you forever. Blessed be God! (Read Acts 13:38-39).

## PRAYER

Dear Father, I thank you for the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, the perfect and eternal sacrifice that has sanctified me forever. I rejoice knowing that through His once-and-for-all-time offering, I am perfected, justified, and made righteous. I live in the fullness of His righteousness and in the victory He has won for me. Amen.

## FURTHER STUDY:

Hebrews 10:12-14 AMPC; Hebrews 9:27-28;  
1 John 4:10

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 5:1-20 & Leviticus 19-21

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 16:13-20 & Exodus 2



SATURDAY 22

## TAKE YOUR PLACE IN CHRIST



*Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses (Acts 13:38-39).*

What we just read brings to mind what the Bible says in Romans 3:24, that we've been justified freely by grace through the redemption that's in Jesus Christ. Through Jesus Christ we've received remission of sins, the complete removal of sins, and by Him we've been justified from all things, from which we couldn't be justified by the Law of Moses.

That means we've been declared acquitted, free from all charges and accusations. Blessed be God! Jesus made it so. He took your place so that you might take His place. Taking your place in Christ is what Christianity is about. Take what He gave up for you; take the place He has given you—your new place in Him. 2 Corinthians 5:21 says, ***“For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God***

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*in him.”*

Take your place of righteousness and express the will and nature of the Father. 2 Corinthians 8:9 says, **“For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.”** This is your new place—the place of wealth and abundance.

Also, read Ephesians 2:4-5 and see your place: **“But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved).”** You’ve been raised up together and made to sit together in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus. This signifies a place of authority; you’re recognized in the heavenly realm as a man or woman of dominion. Blessed be God!

## PRAYER

**Dear Father, I thank you for the place you’ve given me in Christ—a place of glory, dominion, wealth, abundance and power. I walk in the consciousness of this reality, expressing your will, nature and purpose as I reign and rule in life, exercising authority over circumstances, in Jesus’ Name. Amen.**

## FURTHER STUDY:

2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 5:17; Ephesians 2:6 NIV

### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Mark 5:21-43 & Leviticus 22-23

### 2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Matthew 16:21-28 & Exodus 3



SUNDAY 23

## STAY IN THE WORD



*Then came the word of the LORD unto Samuel, saying, It repenteth me that I have set up Saul to be king: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments... (1 Samuel 15:10-11).*

Anyone can be suddenly transformed by the Spirit of God, and we've seen this happen many times, even in Bible days. But you have to stay rooted in the Word, established and founded in faith, as that's the only way to sustain such transformation.

In 1 Samuel 10, for example, we read the account of Saul, the son of Kish, who was gloriously transformed by the Spirit of God and began to prophesy. The Bible says Saul was turned into another man. Read the words of the Prophet Samuel to him in 1 Samuel 10:6, ***"And the Spirit of the LORD will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man."***

When Saul turned to leave Samuel, God gave him another heart, and he began to prophesy among the prophets. This marked the beginning of Saul's reign as king of Israel. Can you imagine a man receiving another heart instantly by the power of the Holy Spirit? However,

in 1 Samuel 15, just five chapters later, God spoke to Samuel and said, ***“It repenteth me that I have set up Saul to be king: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the LORD all night”*** (1 Samuel 15:11).

In 1 Chronicles 10:13-14, we learn that Saul died for his transgressions, particularly for not keeping the word of the Lord and for consulting a familiar spirit instead of seeking God. Even though Saul had such a great, miraculous transformation in his life, he didn’t sustain it because he didn’t keep the Word of the Lord.

So, be wise; sustain the work, the transformations that the Holy Spirit brings to your life, by staying focused on the Word. Be a doer of the Word. James 1:22 says, ***“But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.”*** Whatever God does in your life is meant to stay and grow into greater glories, but that will only happen if you stay in the Word of God.

## **PRAYER**

**Dear Father, I thank you for the transformative power of your Word and the Spirit in my life. I commit to following you in, through, and by the Word. I stay rooted in your Word, established and founded in faith, steadfast, resolute, unshakeable, and unmoveable, in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

James 1:22-25; Colossians 3:16; Psalm 119:11

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Mark 6:1-29 & Leviticus 24

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 17:1-13 & Exodus 4



MONDAY 24

## RULE YOUR WORLD



*Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us (Romans 8:37).*

Think about what we just read in our opening scripture! It means your victory over the adversary is already settled. It's the result of what Jesus accomplished for us through His death, burial and resurrection. Today, your responsibility is to maintain that victory; rule your world. Take charge. God has given you the dominion and the authority to alter the course of events in the earth, using the Name of Jesus.

Revelation 1:6 tells us something remarkable; it says God has “...***made us kings and priests...***” Kings rule. Kings exercise dominion and exert authority. Romans 5:17 tells us something equally beautiful; it says, “... ***they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.***” That's your calling: to reign in life through Jesus Christ.

The Bible tells us that God set Jesus Christ in the high place of glory, put all things under His feet, and legally

declared Him to be the head over all things for the benefit of the Church: ***“And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all”*** (Ephesians 1:22-23).

The Church is His body; therefore, if all things have been placed beneath His feet, and you’re part of His body, it means all things have been placed under your feet. Satan, failure, sickness, poverty and death are all under your feet. Glory be to God! You’re seated at the right hand of God in Christ Jesus; that means you’re in the place of divine authority and power. Therefore, reign in life, and rule over circumstances. Hallelujah!

## **PRAYER**

**Dear Father, with the authority you have given me, I take charge of my world with confidence and boldness. I enforce your will and purpose in my city and nation as I side with you in bringing your Word to pass in this world. I declare that your Word prevails in the lives of men, for amplified activities of righteousness, in Jesus’ Name. Amen.**

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Ephesians 2:6 NIV; Matthew 28:18; Luke 10:19

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Mark 6:30-56 & Leviticus 25

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 17:14-21 & Exodus 5



TUESDAY 25

## AN IMPORTANT AWARENESS



*These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God (1 John 5:13).*

This verse of scripture was written by the Apostle John towards the closing part of his ministry, and he considered it essential to remind God's children of something very fundamental. He was addressing those who already believe in Jesus Christ, reiterating that they “know” they have eternal life. The word “know” is the Greek “eido,” which means to observe and become aware.

He wants you to observe and become aware that you have the organic and existential attributes of deity. This awareness is important because your consciousness of your identity in Christ influences the way you live and the decisions you make. It shapes your reactions and determines the outcomes in your life. Also notice the latter part that says, “...**and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God**” (1 John 5:13).

There're two striking things John points attention to: one, observe and become aware that you have the God-life, the God-nature. Secondly, believe on the Name of

the Son of God. Why would John write to folks who are already Christians to believe on the Name of the Son of God? It's because he wants their faith to remain strong and steadfast, unshaken by the circumstances around them.

God knew they would face challenges, so He encourages them to keep trusting and remain confident in God's Word, no matter what happens. Remember what He said in 1 John 4:4, ***“Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.”*** You've already overcome, because the One who lives in you is greater than anything or anyone in the world.

Therefore, keep the Word in your heart. Let your faith remain steadfast. Observe and become aware that you have eternal life; that life is greater than any circumstance or challenge. Trust in it, and live in the consciousness of the victorious life that Christ has given you.

## **PRAYER**

**Dear Father, thank you for the eternal life I have in Christ. I live with the consciousness of this life today, knowing that I am more than a conqueror. I stand firm, unshaken by circumstances, because greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world. Amen.**

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

1 John 4:4 AMPC; John 10:27-28; 1 John 5:11-13 NIV

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Mark 7:1-23 & Leviticus 26-27

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 17:22-27 & Exodus 6



WEDNESDAY 26

## IT'S ABOUT FOLLOWING HIS WORD



***Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come (John 16:13).***

In yielding to the Holy Spirit, you must yield to His Word. To yield isn't merely a physical act, like dropping your shoulders or curling up in submission. It goes beyond outward behaviour. Even if you physically appear submissive, it's possible to still be rebellious on the inside. Yielding comes from the heart.

Therefore, yielding to the Lord means to give yourself to what He tells you to do. It's about following His Word. You aren't truly yielded to Him if you don't follow His Word, because He's one with the Word. If you truly desire to understand and walk in God's perfect will consistently, as well as grasp His judgments and perspectives on all matters of life, it's essential to study and meditate on the Scriptures and follow everything the Word of God says.

Allow the Word of God to live through you and gain



mastery over your thinking. The more you allow the Word of God to dominate your mind, your decisions, your perspectives, and the way you see things, the more the Holy Spirit controls your life. He leads you through His Word. There're so many voices in the world, but the Lord Jesus said, ***“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me”*** (John 10:27).

Also, Isaiah 30:21 says, ***“And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it...”*** How can you judge the voice that you hear? Only through your knowledge of God's Word can you discern and follow His leading. So, immerse yourself in the Word and allow it to shape every area of your life.

## **PRAYER**

**Dear Father, your Word dominates my thoughts, decisions, actions, and shapes my life in alignment with your divine will. My heart is continually opened to your Word, to instruct and guide me in the path of your perfect will, guiding me into all truth, in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

Romans 8:14; James 1:22-25; Psalm 119:105

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Mark 7:24-8:1-13 & Numbers 1-2

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 18:1-11 & Exodus 7



THURSDAY 27

## PERPETUAL PEACE WITH GOD



*Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 5:1).*

**T**he Amplified Classic renders our opening verse beautifully. It says, ***“THEREFORE, SINCE we are justified (acquitted, declared righteous, and given a right standing with God) through faith, let us [grasp the fact that we] have [the peace of reconciliation to hold and to enjoy] peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).”*** Imagine a life of perpetual peace with God! That’s exactly what Jesus made possible for us.

Through salvation, we’re in oneness with God, in perfect harmony and in sync with Him. He reconciled us to Himself, giving us peace that no religion can offer. This peace is the result of our being justified—acquitted by faith. No enmity between you and God; no hostilities!

Ephesians 2:14-17 says, ***“For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us...so making peace; And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and***

**to them that were nigh.”**

2 Corinthians 5:18-19 says, **“And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.”**

Observe that it was God working in Christ Jesus, reconciling the world back to Himself, not counting their sins against them. Instead of condemnation, He gave us reconciliation and oneness. Hallelujah!

Now we have access by one Spirit unto the Father (Ephesians 2:18). You're no longer separated from God. Isn't that wonderful? Now we live in constant fellowship and peace with Him. Colossians 1:20 says, **“And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself....”** Hallelujah!

## **PRAYER**

Dear Father, I thank you for justifying me by faith and giving me peace with you through our Lord Jesus Christ. I live in constant fellowship and oneness with you, free from condemnation, censure, blame, or disapproval. I enjoy the fullness of your peace every day, walking in your love and enjoying fellowship with you, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

John 14:27; Ephesians 2:14 AMPC;  
Colossians 1:20 AMPC

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Mark 8:14-26 & Numbers 3-4

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 18:12-20 & Exodus 8

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FRIDAY 28

## HE LIVED AS A MAN



*Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men (Philippians 2:5-7).*

**E**ven though Jesus was the Son of God, He didn't live on earth in His heavenly glory. He lived as a man. It's the reason He could be our substitute and also our example. The Bible calls Him "the man, Christ Jesus" (1 Timothy 2:5); He was made in the likeness of men; that's part of what we read in our opening verse.

It's the reason He could be tempted (read Matthew 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-13, Luke 4:1-13). Being a man, it was possible for Him to yield to temptation; otherwise, it wouldn't have been a bona fide temptation. Hebrews 4:15 says, ***"For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."***

Remember, when He prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, He said, ***"...O my Father, if it be possible,***

***let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt"*** (Matthew 26:39). So, He felt pain. He was hungry like the rest of us (Matthew 4:2), and He ate food like any man would (Luke 24:42-43). He slept when He felt tired (Mark 4:38). He fasted (Matthew 4:2); He kept the flesh under subjection because He wanted to obey God.

The first Adam fell because he disobeyed God. The second Adam, Jesus Christ, made up His mind to obey God. The Bible says in Philippians 2:8, ***“And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.”*** He wanted us to know how to live and please God. He was our example; He rehearsed the God-life to us. Now we can live as He did—in righteousness, dominion over circumstances and absolute submission to the will of the Father. Glory to God!

## **PRAYER**

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**Dear Father, thank you for making it possible for me to live in dominion over circumstances, and to walk in alignment with your purpose at all times. By the power of the Holy Spirit, I live as Jesus did, in righteousness, pleasing you in all things, in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

## **FURTHER STUDY:**

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Philippians 2:8 AMPC; Matthew 4:1-2;  
Philippians 2:5-8 NIV

### **1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Mark 8:27-38-9:1-13 & Numbers 5-6

### **2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN**

Matthew 18:21-35 & Exodus 9















# PRAYER OF SALVATION

**W**e trust you have been blessed by this devotional. We invite you to make Jesus Christ the Lord of your life by praying thus:

“O Lord God, I believe with all my heart in Jesus Christ, Son of the living God. I believe He died for me and God raised Him from the dead. I believe He’s alive today. I confess with my mouth that Jesus Christ is the Lord of my life from this day. Through Him and in His Name, I have eternal life; I’m born again. Thank you Lord for saving my soul! I’m now a child of God. Hallelujah!”

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# 7 REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD GO TO CHURCH

As a Christian, it's important for you to identify with a local assembly, a church you can call your HOME and participate fully in the activities. Here are some of the reasons you must go to church:

## **1. God Said So**

God desires His children to attend church meetings. The admonition is clear in Hebrews 10:25 for us not to forsake the assembly of the brethren.

## **2. Jesus Did, Showing Us A Pattern To Follow**

Jesus had a culture of going to "church." It was part of His personal discipline and devotion (Luke 4:16).

## **3. It's The Vehicle By Which You Function In The Body Of Christ**

The local assembly is a microcosm of the spiritual body of Christ. You function in that Body by functioning in the local assembly.

## **4. The Church Is The Pillar And Ground Of Truth (1 Timothy 3:15)**

The Church is the pillar and ground of Truth where you're taught the Word of God. The teaching of God's Word is crucial for victorious living.

## **5. The Church Is A Place Of Fellowship With Other Christians**

Fellowship with other Christians is essential to the growth of a believer. We sharpen ourselves as we fellowship together in church.

## **6. The Church Is A Place Where Christian Growth And Character Are Enhanced**

God ordained certain offices in the Church for the benefit of the Christian; for growth and to sharpen his spiritual development (Ephesians 4:11-16).

## **7. The Church Is A Place Of Training**

The Church is a place where discipline is imparted. God sets instructors who are able to instruct you in the truth and help you culture your life.

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# PRAISE Reports

P r a i s e R e p o r t s

## “Healed Of Brain Aneurysm”

I was diagnosed with a brain aneurysm, a condition where the weakened walls of a blood vessel in the brain bulge dangerously. The doctor made it clear that I would never be able to live a normal life again. At first, fear overwhelmed me as I imagined the difficulties ahead. Then, the Holy Spirit reminded me of Rhapsody of Realities. I immediately began declaring the confessions aloud, using them to suppress every fear and doubt and boldly proclaim my perfect health in Christ. Within that same year of the diagnosis, the same doctor declared that I was free from aneurysm. Hallelujah!

-J.D England

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## “My Confession Prevailed”

Among the companies bidding for a government contract, mine was the newest and least experienced. By natural standards, the odds seemed stacked against us. However, I had already learned from Rhapsody of Realities that I have dominion over all circumstances. Every day, I envisioned the success of the contract, boldly declaring the confessions from Rhapsody over the contract. Then the long-anticipated moment arrived when I received an official email from the government announcing that my company had been awarded the contract. What seemed impossible by human standards, Rhapsody made possible. Glory!

-S.O Canada

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## “Rhapsody Transformed My Life”

I was once unlearned, a refugee with my children, and without a clear plan for the future. It was during this challenging time that I encountered Rhapsody of Realities. The teachings contained in Rhapsody completely shifted my perspective and ignited a new beginning for me and my children. Today, I stand as a university graduate, and my children and I are living a life filled with purpose and beauty. Glory to God!

-A.E Norwich

# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**P**astor Chris Oyakhilome, the President of LoveWorld Inc., a dynamic, multifaceted, global ministry, is the author of Rhapsody of Realities, the world's #1 daily devotional, and more than 30 other books. He's a dedicated minister of God's Word whose message has brought the reality of the divine life to the hearts of many.

Billions have been affected by his television broadcasts such as "Atmosphere For Miracles," "Your LoveWorld Specials," and the "Healing Streams Live Healing Services." The scope of his television ministry extends throughout the world with LoveWorld satellite television networks, delivering qualitative Christian programming to a global audience.

At the world-renowned Healing School, he manifests the healing works of Jesus Christ and has helped many receive healing through the operation of the gifts of the Spirit.

Pastor Chris has a passion to reach the peoples of the world with God's presence—a divine commission he's fulfilled for over 40 years through various outreaches, crusades, as well as several other platforms that have helped billions experience a victorious and purposeful life in God's Word.



