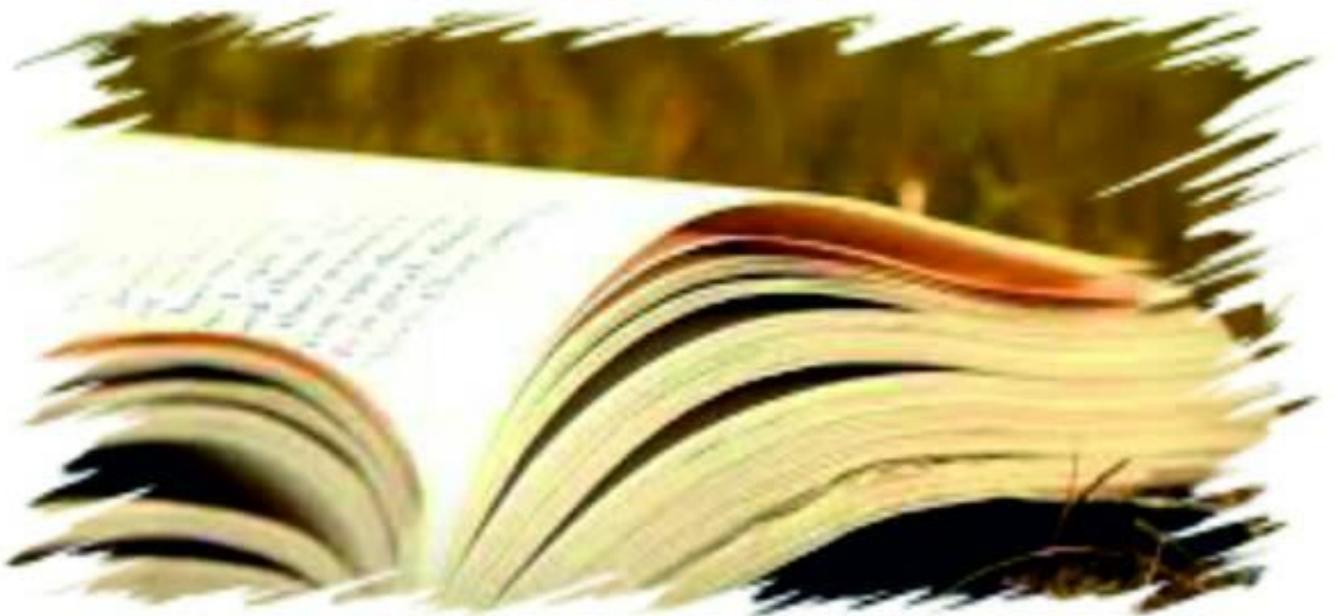




The Refinery Devotional

JANUARY 2018



**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: DON'T STOP PRAYING

TEXT: 1 Thessalonians 5:16

Written by: OLUMIDE ADEDOTUN

"Pray without ceasing."

The above text is a very definite instruction; we are to pray ceaselessly. The word "cease" means "to stop or to halt". Therefore the Apostle Paul's instruction is that we don't stop to pray.

Many times, in our personal lives we, don't always feel like praying. This may be due to seemingly non-ending situations or complacency, but the Apostle Paul tells us that the believers response in any circumstance is to keep praying.

This mean that irrespective of whatever circumstances we find ourselves, our attitude as believers should be to always pray. This means we are not subject to situations, good or bad, such that our circumstances affect how consistent we pray such that we give up when it appears situations don't change nor are we nonchalant about prayers when things are fine.

The Apostle Paul's instruction shows clearly that praying is every believer's responsibility—every believer ought to pray; believers should not wait for God or heaven to pray for them or run after men of God to pray for them or waiting for spooky miracles, believers should pray at all times. It is not God's or heaven's responsibility neither is it peculiar to some select few; it is for all believers to do.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED TO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!

DAY 2

TOPIC: LABOURING LIKE EPAPHRAS

TEXT: Colossians 4:12

Written by: ADEBAYO KOLAWOLE SAMUEL

“12 Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.”

In the text above, the Apostle Paul mentioned certain persons who were instrumental to His ministry. Among those persons was Epaphras. Paul gives us a very vital piece of information about Epaphras: he was always labouring fervently for the saints in prayers. This is a very good example to follow. Labouring in prayers for the saints must be something we all desire to express/exhibit as believers. Paul reiterates this same fact in his epistle to the church in Ephesus.

“18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;”

We are to have the concern of all saints in our hearts and pray for them. Paul earlier on had shown an example of this in chapters 1 and 3 of the book of Ephesians by praying for the church in Ephesus to be filled with knowledge. This is an example for us to follow. We, like Epaphras, should labour fervently in prayers for the saints. Praying for the saints is one of the ways we demonstrate our love for them. We labour fervently in prayers for the saints that they may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God, filled with the knowledge of His will so that they may walk worthy of the Lord!

Brethren beloved, take some time out to labour fervently in prayers for the saints, like our brother, Epaphras. It will cause many to stand perfect and complete in all the will of God!

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!

DAY 3

TOPIC: THE SPIRIT IS READY

TEXT: Matthew 26:41

Written by: ALADE OLUWASEGUN

"Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

"Pray, that you enter not into temptation..." Our Lord Jesus said this to His disciples in the garden of Gethsemane. Prior to making this statement, He had come earlier to check on them and found them asleep; of course, it was not appropriate for them to sleep at that time because they had an instruction to pray. Just like the disciples, it is not so uncommon to find believers feel tired and lazy to pray. The reason for this was briefly mentioned by Jesus in the latter part of our text thus; "...but the flesh is weak".

Today's devotional is not intended to expound or awake our consciousness to the level of the weakness of the flesh. Rather, it is to awaken our minds to the willingness of our spirits to pray. It is such a good news that although the flesh is weak, the spirit is willing.

Apostle Paul, in his epistle to the Galatians, elucidated that the Spirit and the flesh are warring against each other in the sense that their desires are not the same. He enjoined the saints to walk in the Spirit in other not to gratify the desires of the flesh. (Galatians 5:16-17)

From the foregoing, it is evident that the weakness of the flesh is an impediment to engaging ourselves in the act of prayer. But, we are to stay conscious of the fact that the spirit is willing. Another word for "willing", as used in this context, is "readiness". Hence, the spirit is ready at all times. We are to walk in this reality as we pray.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

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DAY 4

TOPIC: YOU HAVE POWER FOR A REASON

TEXT: Acts 1:8

Written by: ALOBA TOWOJU

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

Jesus Christ stayed for days with His disciples after His resurrection. The bible records that He was teaching them things concerning God's kingdom. Among such teachings was His instruction for them to reach out to the ends of the world with the message of the gospel. He however told them not to step out for the work until they had been endued with the power of the Holy Spirit (Luke 24:49).

From our text-verse, it is clear that the power of God is for a purpose; it is for the sake of the gospel. The power of God is not one of such assets to boast or pride about just for boasting's sake or just to make us feel good in our heads. It is to make things happen as we bear witness to the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Just as Jesus and other Apostles stayed conscious of God's power in their ministries, you also must be conscious of power. As you preach to sinners, always put it to mind that you have been fully enabled by God's power. Dare to heal the sick; dare to use the gift of the Spirit!

We may not see God's power manifest in our respective ministries until we dare to use it. Also, we will not dare to use it until we stay conscious of the fact that we have been fully enabled and much more, that the power is always resident in us. Be resolute about seeing God's power manifest through you this year and subsequent years more than ever before. All of God's power has been put in our care, and it's time to use it!

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!

DAY 5

TOPIC: DO IT CONTINUOUSLY

TEXT: 1 Peter 5:7

Written by: MAY AYINTETE

“Casting all your care upon him; for he cares for you.”

Our heavenly Father cares for us so much such that He desires that we cast all our cares upon Him. The word “casting” in our text is a term that denotes something to be done continuously. That is to say we are to cast our cares upon the Lord – as they come. There should never be a time where we allow any care weigh us down. There should never be a time where we should feel that we are disturbing the Father with too much of our cares. The reason He asks us to casts our cares upon Him is because He cares for us.

Beloved, when going through a difficult patch in your life, know that you are not alone. God cares for you, He has promised to neither leave you nor forsake you (Hebrews 13:8). Do not live in despair like one with no helper. You are the object of His care. When you cast your care upon Him, either big or small, be conscious of the fact that it is upon the one who gave Himself for you that you are casting your care.

Child of God, you can keep yourself in the consciousness of the Father's love for you by praying always in the Spirit. This exercise keeps you in the consciousness that God cares for you.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

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DAY 6

TOPIC: OUR MINDSET IN PRAYERS

TEXT: 1 John 5:14-15

WRITTEN BY: OLUMIDE ADEDOTUN

“And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.”

In the above passage, the Apostle John makes a profound statement; it is that God hears us when we pray. The word “hears” is a present continuous tense. This means that God does not stop to hear us at any time.

Apostle John is very certain in his writings above; he says this is the confidence we have in Him that He hears us; this is awesome. This means we do not need to doubt if God hears us at anytime because He will never stop listening to us.

Many times, we have been told God stops to listen to us when we commit sins; this isn't true at all. God is the same in spite of us! Thus, while we pray we should not think that God will stop to listen to us because of anything we do, rather we should remain conscious of the fact that He never stops listening.

Apostle John also makes known to us another certainty in God; that assuredness is that He gives us what we ask of Him. Therefore, at any time we pray, we must pray in assuredness that God hears us and gives us whatsoever we ask of Him.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

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DAY 7

TOPIC: THERE IS A POWER AT WORK IN US

TEXT: Ephesians 3:20

Written by: ADEBAYO KOLAWOLE SAMUEL

“Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,”

The Apostle Paul, by revelation, gives us a clear information in the text above: there's a power that works in us. The word rendered as “power” in the text above is the Greek word “dunamis”. It refers to a miraculous power. Much more, it speaks of something that's a miracle itself. The word rendered as “worketh” is the Greek word “energeo”. It refers to something that's efficient, active, and operative. In other words, this power never goes to sleep. It's an ever-constant, ever-working, and ever-producing power.

Paul opens up the book of Ephesians by letting us know the capability of this power.

Ephesians 1:19

“And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, 20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,”

This power at work in the believer is the same one which raised Christ from the dead. It is exceedingly great, and mighty. That's the power at work in us! So, the believer never has a scarcity of power. For there is a miraculous power that is efficient, active, and operative within him.

Oh, what confidence and assurance we have when we know there's a mighty power at work in us! We are not ordinary men; we are power houses! We are assured of this ever-constant, never-failing, ever-producing power within us, and we go forth dispensing this power with great miracles following.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

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DAY 8

TOPIC: CONFIDENCE IN PRAYER

TEXT: 1 John 5:14

Written by: ALADE OLUWASEGUN

" And this is the confidence that we have in him that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us"

One of the challenges often faced by many when they pray is their uncertainty as to whether God hears prayers. The thought in some people's minds when they pray is expressed thus; "if it is God's will, He will hear me, and if it isn't, He won't". Lack of assurance in the ability of God to answer prayers often makes some people feel reluctant to pray or to pray with doubt and fears. To pray in doubt is to limit ourselves from receiving from God. (James 1:6-8)

Apostle John expressed an attitude to prayer. This is having an assurance that God hears prayers. This assurance gives us boldness to pray always. Some have misconstrued our text-verse to mean "when I pray, if I get my answer, it is God's will. If I don't get my answer, then it isn't God's will". As said earlier, this is mere misconception. The truth here is that it is the will of God that we ask, for this is in accordance with His Word. Therefore, when we pray, we must believe that He hears us.

Dearly beloved, God answers prayers. There would never be a time when God would ignore our prayers. And if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we ask of Him.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

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DAY 9

TOPIC: THE NAME OF JESUS IS OUR POSSESSION

TEXT: Philippians 2:9-11

Written by: ALOBA TOWOJU

"9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of [things] in heaven, and [things] in earth, and [things] under the earth; 11 And [that] every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ [is] Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

The texts above reveal that Jesus Christ was given a name upon His resurrection. This, in the real sense, does not imply that God gave Him a name that was different from the name "Jesus" which he had always borne, just as there were many people named Jesus as at that time and there are still many named so today.

What these texts teach is that because of Jesus' submission and humility to the point of death, God raised him up and set him at an exalted place; that is, His right hand. This was so done such that He was given an authority that is above every other authority in heaven and on earth. Much more, whoever believes in Him has a right to operate with that same authority. Simply put, the name He was given is the highest authority in the whole universe to which all things are subject.

Since every believer has the right to the name of Jesus, which speaks of His authority, it is therefore our responsibility to use the name of Jesus. We, however, must not forget that the only confidence we have for using the name of Jesus is because Jesus is forever exalted, hence His authority is forever. While the bible teaches that we maintain a lifestyle of devotion and consecration to God, we must never be lured to imagine that Jesus' name will work at any time because of such devotions. Our confidence must always be on the fact that Jesus conquered hell and He is forever exalted! Always!

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

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DAY 10

TOPIC: YOU CAN PRAY GOD'S MIND

TEXT: 1 John 5:14-15

Written by: MAY AYINTETE

“And this is the confidence that we have in him that if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hears us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have of him.”

Praying according to the will of God has been made easy for the believer via praying in tongues. Most times, questions arise as to why we should pray in the Spirit for every situation. Romans 8:26 lets us know that we do not know what we should pray as we ought: but the Spirit makes intercession for us according to the will of God. That is the Spirit of God knows the mind of God for every situation.

Since we know that the Spirit knows the mind of God, which is easier or better to do; to pray in the Spirit or to pray in understanding? The former is of much effect because the will of God for every situation should take precedence.

Having established the truth that when we pray in the Spirit, we pray the mind of the Father, it should be a thing of joy to pray in the Spirit at all times. The Father hears us when we pray in the Spirit and the above text in verse 15 says "*and because he hears us, we have the petitions we ask of him*".

Beloved, there's no limit to what God can do when we pray in the Spirit.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

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DAY 11

TOPIC: MAKING A SUPPLY OF THE SPIRIT

TEXT: Philippians 1:19-20

WRITTEN BY: OLUMIDE ADEDOTUN

“For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death.”

Great things happen whenever we pray; this is because we are making the supply of the Spirit while praying.

In the above text, the Apostle Paul was very sure that through the prayer of the Church, he would be saved from prison and he would never be ashamed. Just like Apostle Paul was sure, we can also be certain that when we pray, things are made to happen on our behalf.

Now, that verse above does not mean that when believers do not pray, the Spirit is lacking, this is because the Spirit is always in us for He dwells in us forever.

The word “supply” is the word “pleroo” in the Greek and it means “to accomplish, execute or finish”. Therefore, what happens when we pray is that there is an accomplishment of what we pray for by the Spirit.

We thus pray in the consciousness of God’s ability, that as we pray, there is an execution of that which we pray for. Hallelujah!

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

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DAY 12

TOPIC: WHAT PRAYER CAN DO

TEXT: Acts 12:5-7

Written by: ADEBAYO KOLAWOLE SAMUEL

“5 Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him. 6 And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison. 7 And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands.”

The verse above is from a quite very popular chapter in the book of Acts where Herod the king had killed James, and sought to do the same to Peter. In this text, we see what prayer can do. In verse 5, Peter was in prison, guarded by four quaternions of soldiers; a number equivalent to sixteen soldiers. He was bound in chains, and had two soldiers as his "bed partners". However, in that same verse, we see the reaction of the church to this seemingly unpalatable situation: prayer was made without ceasing for him. The church didn't stop praying.

And, just two verses after, we see a mighty deliverance for Peter. An angel of the Lord came to set him free. This was the result of the church's unceasing prayer. As a matter of fact, when Peter came to meet them where they were gathered praying in subsequent verses, and a young girl named Rhoda came to tell them Peter was at the door, they didn't believe. They said she was mad. It was an unprecedented miracle. It was astonishing and mind-blowing.

By prayer, we can orchestrate deliverance. By prayer, we can make an erstwhile impossible thing happen. Pray on believer! It may not look like it's working. But, there are always activities in the realm of the Spirit. Things are happening. And soon, there will be a visible manifestation of the answers you already have. For God always hears us. Yea, even speedily, he hears us.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

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DAY 13

TOPIC: HE WENT ABOUT

TEXT: Acts 10:38

Written by: ALADE OLUWASEGUN

"How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him".

The anointing of the Holy Ghost and power in a man causes a physical reaction. Our Lord Jesus Christ being anointed with the Holy Ghost and power did not sit only in the temple to teach; He went about healing those who were sick and oppressed of the devil.

The believer is God's workmanship, saved unto good works (Ephesians 2:10). There are more than enough scriptures that affirm that the power of God is dwelling in us. We have the anointing of the Holy Ghost. Our response to this is not to be complacent but to be active in doing good works.

No one lights a candle and puts it under the table. The intention for the light is to illuminate. The believer is the light of the world. He cannot afford to be hidden.

One thing that is very profound in our text is that Jesus went about doing good works. What birthed His move was the consciousness or the awareness of the anointing on Him.

Doing good works requires us going about. We must be deliberate and intentional about it. One cannot afford to sit and just watch people being oppressed with sicknesses or diseases. We must know that anything that is not of God is an oppression (sickness, diseases, unbelief, depression etc). Hence, as believers, being conscious of the power of God in us, we must seek to put an end to the works of the devil on earth. Jesus delivered people that were oppressed of the devil. This is our mandate also.

Confession: The power of God is at work in me. So, I go about doing good works. I am deliberate about it. By the power of the Holy Ghost in me, I bring deliverance to men.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

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DAY 14

TOPIC: GOD CARES FOR COMMON SPARROWS

TEXT: Luke 12:6-7

Written by: ALOBA TOWOJU

"6 Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? 7 But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows."

While Jesus was admonishing his followers on the fact that they should have zero fears for the people that may seek to harm them, but rather be concerned about how much God will preserve them from dangers, He introduced sparrows as examples.

In Matthew 10:29-31, Jesus clearly stated the worth of sparrows. He mentioned that two sparrows are sold for a farthing. In the text above, He mentions that five sparrows are sold for two farthings. He seems to suggest that once you buy four sparrows for two farthings, you will get one more sparrow for free. Now, farthings in Israel as at this time was either two times a widow's mite or half a penny. Sparrows must have been some kind of very cheap birds in Israel at that time, yet Jesus expressly teaches that God cares so much for them that He keeps them. You can imagine how much care God must have for you if He pays so much attention as to number your hairs.

While it is true that we must never act stupidly and expose ourselves to danger, we must be fully assured that God will securely preserve our bodies from every form of danger that the devil may bring our way. We must assure our hearts that His mighty power is for our physical protection, preservation and deliverance, knowing how well He keeps the seemingly worthless sparrows!

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

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DAY 15

TOPIC: PERSEVERE IN PRAYERS

TEXT: Daniel 9:3

Written by: MAY AYINTETE

“And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes.”

Daniel, in the text above, was not a new creature; but there's something worthy of note to learn from him. He prayed for a certain need from the God, but it took a while for the manifestation of the thing to come. Because in verse 12 of the above text, we are told that God answered him immediately he prayed. There were some delays while the answer to his prayer was about to manifest.

Daniel did something that was very profound; he persevered in prayers and fasting until he got what he prayed for. The delay in the answers to Daniel's prayers did not deter him from praying, rather he kept at it until he got the manifestation of his petitions.

Beloved, most times, we get worried when there's a sort of delay in answers to our prayers. Questions arise in our hearts as to when or how God will answer our prayers and when we will see what we are asking of Him materialize. We are admonished in Luke 11:9 to ask and we shall be given, seek and we shall find, knock and it shall be opened to us. This admonition can be translated literally as, ask and keep asking, seek and keep seeking, knock and keep knocking. We are never to give up in the place of prayer, nor are we to be discouraged and lose hope; rather we are to persevere until we see the changes that we desire.

Friend, if God did not spare his son, Jesus but gave Him up for us, how shall he not with Him freely give us all things? (Romans 8:32)

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

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DAY 16

TOPIC: PRAYER GETS US EDIFIED

TEXT: 1 Corinthians 14:4

WRITTEN BY: OLUMIDE ADEDOTUN

“He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.”

Speaking in tongues is very important to the man in Christ. It is so paramount that the first evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit in the book of Acts, chapter 2, was the demonstration of the gift of divers kind of tongues. In the verse above, the Apostle Paul makes known to us the definite thing that happens when we pray in tongues: it is that we get edified. The word edified is the word “oikodome” in Greek and this means to build up. Thus, it is very certain that we get built up when we pray in tongues.

When we pray in the tongues, we become conscious spiritually and thus, more sensitive to manifesting the things of the Spirit. Just like it happened in the early church when the Holy Spirit was given and they spoke in tongues, they were spurred up by the Holy Spirit not just to pray but to interpret the tongues by the same Spirit. The same happened in Acts 4 when believers prayed; it was reported that afterwards they were full of boldness to preach the gospel. The same way it happens when we pray in tongues, we become spurred up to spiritual things; we can prophesy, give a word of knowledge, get deliberate in healing the sick, rejoicing, among many other spiritual things.

Beloved, we enjoy the manifestation of the Spirit in our midst when we pray in tongues and it is beyond measure.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED TO ALL OF GOD’S GOODNESS!

DAY 17

TOPIC: A MIRACULOUS GOD

TEXT: Romans 15:4

Written by: ADEBAYO KOLAWOLE SAMUEL

“For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.”

The scriptures (Old Testament writings) were written for our learning to the end that we might have hope. One of the important things to learn from the scriptures is that God is miraculous. In the scriptures, we see God miraculously provide food for people. He filled the camp of the Israelites with bread (manna) and meat (quails). He used ravens to feed the Prophet Elijah. He provided water from a rock for the Israelites. He even provided water for Hagar, who was an Egyptian.

A thorough look throughout the entire scriptures should convince anyone about a God who is miraculous. By God, men walked through fire and came out unhurt. By God, men made walls crumble with the voice of a shout. By God, men had their dead raised back to life. By God, men had their waning health restored back to normal. By God, very other numerous miracles were done!

This same God is our Father. Is there anything too big for Him to do? No! We have a firm assurance in Him, that in spite of the several problems that pervade this fallen earth, we have the victory in, and through Him. We know no defeat. We don't look at troubles and turmoil. Our eyes are fastened on the victory that is in God. We have a miraculous God. Therefore, victory is always certain for us!

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!

DAY 18

TOPIC: YOU SHALL RAISE THE DEAD

TEXT: 1 Kings 17:17-24

Written by: ALADE OLUWASEGUN

“And it came to pass after these things, that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick; and his sickness was so sore, that there was no breath left in him. 18-And she said unto Elijah, What have I to do with thee, O thou man of God? art thou come unto me to call my sin to remembrance, and to slay my son? 19-And he said unto her, Give me thy son. And he took him out of her bosom, and carried him up into a loft, where he abode, and laid him upon his own bed. 20-And he cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my God, hast thou also brought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son? 21 -And he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my God, I pray thee, let this child's soul come into him again. 22 -And the LORD heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived.23 And Elijah took the child, and brought him down out of the chamber into the house, and delivered him unto his mother: and Elijah said, See, thy son liveth.”

The will of God is that man should enjoy life in good health. There is no death in God. The bible records that death came into the world through sin. Hence, death was never in the plan of God. The believer is empowered by the Spirit of God to raise the dead. In the passage we read, Prophet Elijah revived the life of the widow’s son. The sickness was so sore that he had no breath in him. But, the child was restored by the power of God.

It is worthy of note that the servant of God that performed this miracle did it not by his own natural strength but by the power of God. Now; if this can be done by a prophet of the Old Testament, how much, more the believer in Christ? Jesus declared in Mark 16:15-16 that as many who believe in Him shall lay their hands on the sick and they shall recover. Note that Jesus did not use the word “may” but “shall”. The word “shall’ is a very strong affirmative word. The word of God is true. You can raise the dead. Believe and act accordingly.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS.

Further Study: Mark 16: 15-17

DAY 19

TOPIC: GOD'S POWER FLOWS THROUGH YOU

TEXT: Luke 8:43-44

Written by: ALOBA TOWOJU

“And a woman having an issue of blood twelve years, which had spent all her living upon physicians, neither could be healed of any, 44 Came behind him, and touched the border of his garment: and immediately her issue of blood stanchèd.”

The story of the woman with the issue of blood is one of the very popular stories of Jesus' healing power in the bible. It is shocking how a woman bled continuously for 12 years and all her material possessions could not cure her. She got tired of the situation and all that cured her was a determination in her heart to touch the hem of Jesus' garment.

Many times, believers are quick to forget that God's power is not just active towards us; it is also active through us. The believer is a carrier of God's power; hence, whatever he touches comes in contact with power! This is proven from the way the apostles lived. For example, Paul's handkerchiefs or aprons were used in casting out devils and healing the sick (Acts 19:12). Notice that the materials taken from him are in the plural form. This means that such miracles happened several times. Peter's shadows also healed the sick such that people kept bringing their sick folks so as to be healed by God's power (Acts 5:15-16). Our focus, however, should not be in these mediums but in the fact that the power of God could only be transferred through such mediums because believers are carriers of God's power.

The day a man accepts Jesus, he becomes an embodiment of power. He must however always seek for avenues to use the power and mature in its use. Human sicknesses and challenges may vary, but God's power is constant! It works anytime, any day. God's power is always available, dare to use it today. Cure some sick and cast out some devils!

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!

Further Study: Luke 8:43-48

DAY 20

TOPIC: NEVER STAY OFF GUARD

TEXT: 1 Peter 5: 8-9

Written by: MAY AYINTETE

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

Some believers are of the school of thought that the devil no longer exists in "the dispensation of grace" or under the new covenant. That ideology is completely preposterous and incorrect. We have an adversary, the devil, who goes about seeking whom he may devour, so says the bible.

Jesus was manifested to destroy the works of the enemy and by his death and resurrection we have all authority over the devil. But we are instructed to be vigilant, i.e to be watchful, fully on guard for we have an enemy. Take note we are not to be vigilant because we fear what the enemy can do; rather we are to be vigilant because we got all authority over him.

Believers are to pray and not faint (Luke 18:1) because in doing that, we keep ourselves in the consciousness of who we are and what we have received in Christ. We are also admonished to resist the devil steadfastly in the faith. This is done in the place of prayers. The believer is not to just sit, fold his arms and watch the enemy take over his business and household. He is to resist the workings of the enemy when and before he rears his ugly head.

As you go about your day, whatever does not conform to God's will for your life and family, resist it vehemently; for it is of the devil! Go on the offensive and declare the will of God over all that's yours and around you.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

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DAY 21

TOPIC: MAKE YOUR REQUESTS

TEXT: Philippians 4:6-7

Written by: OLUMIDE ADEDOTUN

“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

It is not wrong to make requests unto God; as a matter of fact, the Apostle Paul admonishes us to do so. In the text above, the Apostle Paul implores the church to make request to God rather than be anxious for things. This therefore means that one of the best responses a believer has to worry is to make prayers to God concerning it.

Beloved, rather than be worrisome about situations, it is best we pray about them. We can make prayers for our ministry, our spouse, children, career, for the nation, for provisions, for everything rather than be fearful of them. Fear brings solution to no problem, but we are certain that with God, we find solutions to everything.

Commit your desires to God today and in the future, He hears them all and brings everything to an accomplishment.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED TO ALL OF GOD’S GOODNESS!

DAY 22

TOPIC: PRAYER MUST BE ALWAYS

TEXT: Luke 18:1

Written by: ADEBAYO KOLAWOLE SAMUEL

“And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;”

Jesus taught that men should pray always. The word “ought” here is the Greek word “dei”. It refers to something that is necessary; something that is binding; something that must be done. So, prayer is always necessary. It is a must.

In the epistles, we find this same thing clearly taught. As a matter of fact, a great number of the verses that speak of prayer in the epistles show us that it must be done always. Let's look at a few of them.

1 Thessalonians 5:17

“Pray without ceasing.”

The phrase “without ceasing” refers to “uninterruptedly”. It is to do something continually.

Ephesians 6:18

“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;”

Again we see, we must pray always. This must be done in the Spirit. We must give ourselves to praying in the spirit (which is praying in tongues). It is necessary. It is a must. It isn't an advice, but an instruction.

As we do this, we are edified, and are able to edify others by the stirrings of the Spirit within us.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!

DAY 23

TOPIC: YOU ARE NEVER ALONE

TEXT: 2 KINGS 6:15-16

Written by: ALADE OLUWASEGUN

“And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do? 16- And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.”

There is a lot to learn from the Old Testament Prophets. It is not a lie to say that they were conscious of the power of God and they manifested same.

Prophet Elisha, in our text today, made a remarkable statement as he was faced with a host of enemies on chariots and horses who gathered round about him to harm him. He said to his servant *“Fear not for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.”*

This is awesome. Jesus makes us understand this more as He reveals to us that greater is He that is in us than he that is in the world.

The believer should never be held bound in fear of the enemy. He has an innumerable company of angels working for him. He has an ability that is greater, and tremendously exceeds the impending difficulty.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!

DAY 24

TOPIC: HER DEBT WAS MIRACULOUSLY PAID!

TEXT: 2 Kings 4:6

Written by: ALOBA TOWOJU

"6 And it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said unto her son, Bring me yet a vessel. And he said unto her, [There is] not a vessel more. And the oil stayed. 7 Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, Go, sell the oil, and pay thy debt, and live thou and thy children of the rest."

The first verse of our text-chapter introduces us to the story of a widow who had incurred a lot of debts and as such had been burdened about the debt. Moreover, her two sons were going to be taken as slaves by her creditor.

Elisha supernaturally instructed her to borrow pots and vessels and pour the little oil she had at home inside them. The oil miraculously increased and filled the vessels, and afterwards, she was able to sell the oil, paid off her creditors and had the rest to herself. You can imagine the joy and the relief from the burdens of debt that this woman must have felt. A closer look at this story shows that God's power was available to keep increasing the oil, only for the limited number of vessels. In this story lies the reality that God's supply is always based on His abundant nature, however, men receive from Him in their respective capacities.

You see, you must allow your mindset to align with this truth that God always supply our needs according to the riches of His glory. This will help you enlarge your capacity of reception from Him. God wants to settle that debt, sponsor that education, provide for that need, etc., according to the riches of His glory. You must believe that He will supernaturally provide for your material needs.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!

DAY 25

TOPIC: DON'T SWEAT IT!

TEXT: Philippians 4:6

Written by: MAY AYINTETE

“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.”

As the world systems plunge into recession, there is the fear of how to survive. People often worry about their finances, their health, their children, businesses, spouses and the likes. But we are instructed from our text to be careful for nothing. In other words, whatsoever thing it is that's troubling you or weighing heavily on your heart – don't sweat it! Whatever it is, we are to make them known to God. We are to pray about everything as often as there is opportunity and the need requires. Whatever our needs are, we are to pray about them.

We need to be conscious of one fact here, that Apostle Paul isn't encouraging a careless, carefree and irresponsible attitude towards problems, in that we are not to turn a blind eye to issues when they arise; hence, the instruction to take everything that matters to us to God with a faith that's rooted in Him. Faith in what he can do irrespective of the situation.

Prayer is not so much for God's sake as for ours. It shows our total dependence on God Himself. Hence, we are instructed to make our requests known unto God via praying, for therein lies our provision, strength for each day and victorious living. We are to pray with all kinds of prayers and supplications in the Spirit, and be thankful of what He alone can do.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!

DAY 26

TOPIC: THERE ARE MORE REASONS TO PRAY

TEXT: Acts 4:29-31

Written by: OLUMIDE ADEDOTUN

“29 And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, 30 By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus. 31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.”

Believers are spiritual beings. We are born of the Spirit and we have our citizenship in heaven. It is for this reason that we do not place so much focus on earthly things like unbelievers. We have an eternal course in our stay in this world and we place more focus on this. Whilst it is not wrong to seek material things, our attention must be placed on eternal things while on earth.

While we are on earth, we are to preach the gospel with signs and wonders following. It is for this reason that we pray more earnestly. In the passage above, the early church was faced with persecutions for preaching the gospel, but they prayed earnestly for boldness to speak the word and demonstrate same with signs and wonders in the name of Jesus. The aftermath of their prayers was that they were filled the Holy Spirit and spake the word of God with boldness.

As we remain in this world preaching the gospel and facing divers persecutions, we must never stop to pray that we communicate the gospel with boldness and demonstrating same with signs and wonders. Note that they did not pray that their persecutors be dead or maimed, rather they pray to communicate the gospel with more boldness and signs and wonders. This therefore shows that we do not respond to our persecutors in anger but in demonstration of God's goodness. Hallelujah!

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED TO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!

DAY 27

TOPIC: JUST LIKE JESUS

TEXT: Acts 10:38

Written by: ADEBAYO KOLAWOLE SAMUEL

“How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.”

The result of Jesus' anointing with the Holy Ghost and power was a disarming of the works of the devil. Jesus went about doing this. To go about doing this reflects that there was an aggression Jesus had against the works of the devil while he was on earth bodily.

We, who are believers in Christ Jesus, have also been anointed with the Holy Ghost and power (Acts 1:8). We, just like Jesus, must go about doing good; preaching the gospel, healing the sick, raising the dead, casting out devils, and working wondrous miracles; for God is with us.

In Mark 16, Jesus educates us about this.

"17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues. 18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."

In verse 20, the disciples began to go about preaching the gospel, and great signs followed them just as Jesus had said.

We should go about just like Jesus. We have got the Holy Ghost on the inside of us. We have got the power of God inside of us. Just like Jesus, let's go about and do good. Just like Jesus, let's destroy every work of the devil around us.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS.

DAY 28

TOPIC: THE PLACE OF HONOUR IN RECEIVING

TEXT: Mark 6:4-6

Written by: ALOBA TOWOJU

"4 But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house. 5 And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed [them]. 6 And he marvelled because of their unbelief. And he went round about the villages, teaching."

In the chapter before our text-chapter is the record of how Jesus had just risen a dead damsel. Moreover, the synoptic gospels are full of lots of records of the many healings and miracles that happened in Jesus' ministry. Despite the obvious manifestation of God's power and goodness in Jesus' ministry, His country people could hardly receive from Him. Obviously, the problem wasn't about Jesus, it was about them.

Jesus explained that their problem was lack of honour for Him. Hence, their unbelief in Him which consequently hindered them from getting blessed. It is therefore clear that why Jesus couldn't do as many miracles as He did in other places was as a result of their lack of honour for Him.

The truth is that there is little to what you can receive from God through a man of God if you do not honour Him. I encourage you to honour the man of God over you as the bible teaches. This will help you enjoy God's power flowing through Him in administering God's blessing to any ramification of your life.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!

DAY 29

TOPIC: A SELF-PROPELLING POWER

TEXT: MARK 4:37-39

Written by: ALADE OLUWASEGUN

“And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. 38- And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? 39 -And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.”

Today, we are considering our Lord Jesus Christ as He demonstrated power by calming the storm by the words of His mouth. It is worthy of note that this miracle is beyond the natural ability or power of man. Even the people were astonished at what He did.

Another thing that must be noted is that the power by which Jesus calmed this raging wind is at work in the believer. The Apostle Paul used the word “working” to qualify the power at work in the believer in his epistle to the church in Ephesus. The word translated as “working” in Greek is the word “*energeo*” which means “*active or self-propelling*.” This means that the power of God in us is not passive. It does not need to be charged like a rechargeable battery; it is self-propelling.

Even though Jesus was asleep in the boat, the power in him was active. Jesus’ consciousness of the power at work in Him brought about this astounding miracle.

Beloved, stay conscious of God’s power at work in you, the power is self-propelling.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!

Further Study: Ephesians 1:16-19

DAY 30

TOPIC: WATCH AND PRAY

TEXT: Matthew 26:41

Written by: MAY AYINTETE

“Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak.”

The believer is born of God. He carries the Spirit of God on his inside. He and God's Spirit are one and cannot be separated by any means. The DNA of the Father is implanted in his born-again spirit and as such, all that God is, is resident in the believer, in his born-again spirit. With all that the believer has in his Spirit, he's instructed to walk in the consciousness of the Spirit which he carries.

The believer is not to walk in the flesh i.e allowing the desires of the flesh get the best of him for any reason because that's not who he is. His body is dead to sin but his spirit is life because of righteousness. (Romans 8:10).

Our text says we are to watch and pray that we enter not into temptation. Temptation of what? Temptation of fulfilling the lust (i.e desires) of the flesh. The reason being that prayer helps us stay conscious of who we carry on the inside. It helps us stay spiritually minded at all times; hence, putting under subjection the flesh and the desires thereof. The Spirit we carry on the inside is always at willing, always stirring us to express who we are in Christ Jesus but the flesh always desires contrariwise. Praying in the Spirit helps us align our minds to the consciousness of who we are in Christ.

Beloved, as you go about your day, deepen your consciousness of who you are in Christ by praying in the Holy Ghost!

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

WE ARE REFINED UNTO ALL OF GOD'S GOODNESS!

DAY 31

TOPIC: SPEAK PEACE TO THAT STORM

TEXT: Mark 4:38-41

Written by: ALOBA TOWOJU

“And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? 39 And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. 40 And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? 41 And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

One of the amazing things about the story above is the fact that Jesus was fast asleep in the midst of the terrible storm. It almost looked as though he was not concerned or bothered. Hence the disciple alerted Jesus; “aren’t you concerned if we perish?” Suffice it to know that Jesus’ disposition here is the exact disposition that God expects every believer to have in the midst of stormy and turbulent situations. This is not a complacent heart; rather it’s a heart at rest.

You see, one of the fruit of the spirit is peace. It does not always indicate the absence of tribulations and storms; it rather speaks of a full rest that emanates from the assurance that a believer has already overcome the world by Jesus’ victory (John 16: 33).

Jesus gave what he had! A believer has peace; hence he can give out peace. You give out peace by declaring God’s word irrespective of how stormy the situation may be. Everything in heaven and earth responds to God’s word, and storms are not an exception.

As a believer, the peace of God is within you! You’re wrapped up in the miraculous already. Learn to channel what you already have effectively and see storms obey you.

AWESOME! GLORY TO GOD!

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