

MARCH 2022

**IN
HIS
FOOTSTEPS**

**A DAILY DEVOTIONAL
FOR A CLOSER WALK
WITH GOD.**

**KINGDOM SUPPORT INITIATIVES(KSI)
PUBLICATION.**

Daily Devotional – “In His Footstep”

March 2022

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Foreword

Welcome to the month of March in 2022. We hope the devotional studies will impact your life positively as you seek to know God more.

There are four ways to access KSi daily devotional: You can download a pdf version of the monthly devotional on our website. This will help readers to have full upfront access to monthly devotional. You can download KSi mobile app on Google Playstore to access the devotional daily. In addition, you can subscribe to receive the devotional daily in your email, and you can read the devotional on our website, social media channels. Please note that the devotional is free of charge and we encourage its usage at homes, in bible study groups, discipleship classes, churches, office and any other places.

We continue to seek volunteers who are interested in writing the devotional or sharing across different platforms. For volunteer writers, we will be happy to work with you and train you on how to write effectively and for anyone interested in sharing, you can access the devotional on our website.

Finally, we'd like to draw your attention to three new resources on our website: A Motherhood Prayer Guide, Discipleship Manual, and Prayer and Fasting Manual. We truly trust God that the devotional and these resources will continue to bless you, your families and your friends.

Now we commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified (Acts 20:32)

Yours in God's vineyard,

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God's Command (I)

Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swear unto their fathers to give them. Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. Joshua 1:6-7 [KJV]

Bible Reading: Joshua 1

After the death of Moses, the baton of leadership was passed on to Joshua. Joshua worked closely with Moses so he would have seen what it means to lead the children of Israel. For instance, Joshua would have witnessed first-hand the rebellion, grumbling, and complaints of the Israelites. Perhaps, he would have seen how they abused Moses and conspired against him when he went to Mount Sinai to get the Ten Commandments. The people's unbelief made them conclude that Moses was dead and forced Aaron to make a golden image for them. Joshua also witnessed the reports of the remaining ten spies when they went to the land of Canaan. It was indeed a generation of unbelievers that provoked God many times but were saved by Moses' intercession. Joshua would have overheard Moses' conversation with God in Exodus 33-34 when he asked for God's presence to be with them on the journey. In short, Joshua would have experienced everything at this point and he was given the divine responsibility to lead the children of Israel into the promised land. With all these evidences, Joshua was really afraid to lead a stiff-necked people. Truthfully speaking, I would be afraid too.

Thank God for His presence and His word that guides and comforts. Our Bible reading today came at the point of Joshua's despair and fear. God spoke because God is a loving Father who cares deeply and sincerely about His children. He sees and knows every of our thought. God's instruction to Joshua was simple: "Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swear unto their fathers to give them. Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest". Joshua 1:6-7 (KJV).

Joshua must have been really afraid because God repeated Himself in the verses above. Like Joshua, you may have encountered nothing but negative experiences in your life and you are finding it hard to believe God's word for your life. Dear friends, here's God's word for you: "be strong and be courageous!"

Daily Confession: I have the Spirit of God in me and fear is not permitted in Jesus' name.

Intercessory prayer: Lord have mercy upon the world and heal our land.

Hymn: Trust and obey
For there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus
But to trust and obey.

March 2nd

God's Command (II)

Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swear unto their fathers to give them. Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. Joshua 1:6-7 [KJV]

Bible Reading: Joshua 1

Yesterday, we turned to the story of Joshua for encouragement. God's instruction to Joshua was simple, "be strong and be of good courage". Joshua must have been afraid and fearful to lead the people of Israel alone. Moses his master was no longer alive and Joshua needed help, divine help. That's a good place to be, don't you think? Acknowledging your inability to help yourself. A place of absolute surrender to and reliance on Jesus Christ knowing that you can do all things through Christ that strengthens you (Philippians 4:13). A place to be led by the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:14). Like Joshua, you may be scared of the journey ahead because of your past experiences. The fear of the past may make you dread the future. Here's God's word to you: "be strong and of good courage". It is a command, not an advice.

Thank God for His mercy. I'm amazed God reached out to Joshua because He knew his thought. God knew Joshua needed encouragement and God is always on time. God encouraged him. Dear friends, you cannot afford to rely on your strength. Rather, you have to seek God's face and constantly remind yourself that with Him you are everything He wants you to be and without Him, you are nothing. You have to admit that you are weak and you need His strength and confidence to thrive in life and in destiny. God knows all things, so why hide your feelings and fears from Him?

Daily Confession: I have the Spirit of God in me and fear is not permitted in my life in Jesus' name.

Intercessory prayer: Lord let your peace reign in countries experiencing war and crises.

Hymn: Trust and obey
For there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus
But to trust and obey.

God's Command (III)

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. Joshua 1:6-7 [KJV]

Bible Reading: Psalm 119

Rest is a beautiful thing. Apart from its health value to our physical body, it can nourish our mind. In a spiritual sense, living in God's rest refers to having faith in Jesus Christ. Trusting Him every day and every step of the way. That's something we need to learn daily. In God's words to Joshua, God assured Joshua of His presence (Joshua 1:5). When God is present in your life, you have nothing to fear or worry about because His presence is all you need. With God all things are possible and no storm is insurmountable (Luke 1:37). God did not promise us a stress-free life, rather He promised us His presence even amidst storm and chaos of this world (Isaiah 43).

In God's words to Joshua, God offers the key to finding rest in Him, "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" (Joshua 1:8). There's something divine about the word of God (both logos and rhema). David understood the efficacy of God's word and he sort after it daily. For instance, David notes: "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word" (Psalm 119:9); "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee" (Psalm 119:11). God reveals Himself to us through His word. He guides, directs, instructs, and transforms us by the vehicle of His word. When we read, meditate on, and live by the word of God, we find rest. Our faith is rekindled and alive because faith comes by hearing the word of God (Romans 10:17). Through his word, we can boldly approach whatever it is that is ahead of us because we know that greater is He that is in us than he that is in the world (1 John 4:4). Dear friends, you cannot survive without the word of God. In fact, your devotion to God's word will determine how far you will go in life and what you can accomplish in God. At KSi, we encourage you to give priority to God's word every day and in every way.

Daily Confession: Lord Jesus rekindle the love for your word in me. Open my eyes to see you as I open the Bible to read and study.

Intercessory prayer: Lord have mercy upon the world and heal our land.

Hymn: Trust and obey
For there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus
But to trust and obey.

March 4th

God's Command (IV)

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Ephesians 6:10 [KJV]

Bible Reading: Ephesians 6:10-24

Be strong in the Lord. Take rest in His amazing grace and draw strength from His love because you can do all things through Christ that strengthens you. Dear friends, the journey of life requires strength and only those with strength from the Lord will finish strong. Joshua, the Bible character that inspired this series trusted God and he received strength from the Lord. No wonder he did exploits for God. He led the Israelites to the Promise Land. There were other amazing and dramatic events that took place during his time such as the fall of the walls of Jericho.

To wrap up this series and to move into a new one, here's our encouragement: you need God's strength because by the arms of flesh shall no man can prevail (1 Samuel 2:9b). Get connected to God like never before through his word, prayer and evangelism, seek first His kingdom, love God and walk to please Him alone in righteousness and holiness. He is your strength, so don't get disconnected but be in tune with Him. May your strength never be small in Jesus' name. God bless you.

Daily Confession: I sustain the spiritual intelligence and the willingness of heart to receive and obey God's specific instruction for my life in Jesus' name.

Intercessory prayer: Lord make us instruments of your peace across different nations.

Hymn: Trust and obey
For there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus
But to trust and obey

The Whole Armour of God (I)

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Ephesians 6:10 [KJV]

Bible Reading: Ephesians 6:10-24

By the arms of flesh shall no man prevail (1 Samuel 2:9b). Apostle Paul's admonition clearly states the reason why we need to be filled with the power of God and put on the whole armour of God. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places". (Ephesians 6:12). The metaphor of an armour invokes the image of a soldier. In fact, we have been likened to a soldier on a battlefield (2 Timothy 2:3-4). To fight and win this battle, we have to be well-equipped. What is the whole armour of God? They are spiritual essentials for our Christian race.

Paul outlines the whole armour: "stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints" (Ephesians 6;14-18). We will look into the components of the armour one after the other in the days ahead. Notice it is called "the whole armour of God". This means that we cannot afford to put on half of the armour and leave the remaining behind.

Dear friends, we are in battle with the enemies of our soul, the devil and the flesh. Thank God we have victory in Christ Jesus. All that you need is available in Christ Jesus. At KSi, we invite you to give attention to Paul's admonition, "put on the whole armour of God so that you can stand firm against the wiles of the devil".

Daily Confession: Thank you God for making provision for all I need to stand strong. Help me to submit to the discipline of putting on the armour of God daily in Jesus' name.

Intercessory prayer: May God's peace reign in countries and regions experiencing challenging political transitions.

Hymn: Onward, Christian soldiers!
Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus,
Going on before.

March 6th

The Whole Armour of God (II)

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Ephesians 6:10 [KJV]

Bible Reading: Ephesians 6:14-18

Apostle Paul listed the armour: truth, breastplate of righteousness, gospel of peace, shield of faith, helmet of salvation, sword of the Spirit (the word of God). These essentials form the weapon of our spiritual warfare. Each feature performs a unique responsibility. Have you seen a soldier going to battlefield without a breastplate, a shield, a helmet, and a sword? Such a soldier will not come back alive. These weapons are used for both defence and offence because to wage and to win a war requires effective strategies, adequate preparation and effective weapons. In the context of our Christian race, our spiritual weapons are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds (2 Corinthians 10:4). So when we study God's words, pray, evangelize, exercise our faith, and walk in righteousness and holiness, we are engaging our spiritual weapon and we are guaranteed to win because we are appropriating the victory we have in Christ Jesus.

Dear friends, as children of God, we have to build up our most holy faith (Jude 1:20). There is a necessity to discipline and train ourselves so that we can truly guard our loins about with truth and have on the breastplate of righteousness. The shield of field helps us quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. We have to constantly take with us the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit. May God help us as we submit ourselves to the required training and discipline to possess the whole armour of God.

Daily Confession: I receive the grace to submit myself to the discipline of putting on the armour of God every day in Jesus' name.

Intercessory prayer: Let's pray for God's peace in countries and regions experiencing unrest.

Hymn: Onward, Christian soldiers!
Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus,
Going on before.

March 7th

The Whole Armour of God (III)

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Ephesians 6:10 [KJV]

Bible Reading: Ephesians 6:14-18

For the past few days, we have been reflecting on two series that dovetail into another “God’s command and the whole armour of God”. We started with the story of Joshua whom God commanded to be strong and courageous as the new leader of the Children of Israel. God instructed Joshua on what he needed to accomplish and secure good success, “this Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall read [and meditate on] it day and night, so that you may be careful to do [everything] in accordance with all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will be successful” (Joshua 1:8, AMP).

In another instance, Apostle Paul admonished the Ephesians to be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might knowing that, “the weapons of our warfare are not physical [weapons of flesh and blood]. Our weapons are divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. We are destroying sophisticated arguments and every exalted and proud thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought and purpose captive to the obedience of Christ, being ready to punish every act of disobedience, when your own obedience is complete” (2 Corinthians 10:4-6).

Dear friends, God does not give an instruction without the necessary guidance on how to get it done. He does not give a task without the strength and resources to get it done. In both examples that we have studied, we are guided on how to be courageous and strong in the Lord. Find your root in Jesus Christ, get familiar with His word, build up your most holy faith, pray without ceasing, cultivate the Presence of God, and live for Him daily. Finally, if you observe, the composition of the armour does not make provision for back covering. This is because as a soldier fighting a battle, there is no room to turn back. Turning back will expose such a soldier to attack from the enemy. Also, putting on the whole armour takes discipline and we have to be disciplined as soldiers of Christ Jesus. May we continue to look unto Jesus the author and the finisher of our faith.

Daily Confession: Lord help me to obey your instructions daily in Jesus’ name.

Intercessory prayer: May our nations experience the peace of God.

Hymn: Onward, Christian soldiers!
Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus,
Going on before.

March 8th

A Grateful Heart (I)

It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the LORD, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the LORD. 2 Chronicles 5:13 (KJV)

Bible Reading: 2 Chronicles 5: 11-14

Praise is an act of appreciation, giving thanks or showing gratitude unto another for an act of kindness. It is also involves making joyful sounds and lifting up our voices to God. According to today's Bible reading, what should we be grateful to God for? Firstly, we must be grateful to God for life, Psalm 150:6 says 'Let everything that has breathe praise the Lord'. This is a command not a suggestion. It is a great privilege to be alive and to witness this moment, hence, we must be thankful to God.

Secondly, we must praise God for His mercies, Lamentations 3:22 'It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassion fail not'. Take a moment to think about this. This means that life's circumstances would have destroyed us if it was not for the mercies of God. To be consumed means to be swallowed, devoured, depleted, wasted or eaten up. But God's mercy has preserved us from any evil. We must be grateful to God for His mercies.

Thirdly, we must praise God for His mighty acts, Psalm 148:3 'Praise Him for His mighty acts, praise Him according to His excellent greatness'. God's acts are uncountable, all of creation tells of His mightiness, the sun, moon and stars declare His wonders. Even your personal testimonies and miracles are proofs of God's mighty acts. Dear friends, I encourage you to be intentional in your gratitude unto God.

Action Point: Let thanksgiving be a lifestyle for you.

Intercessory prayer: Thank God for His intervention in the affairs of the world.

Hymn: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear; now to his temple draw near,
Join me in glad adoration.

March 9th

A Grateful Hearts (II)

In every situation [no matter what the circumstances] be thankful and continually give thanks to God; for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 [AMP]

Bible Reading: 2 Samuel 23:16

To continue from where we started yesterday, the intentionality of our gratitude means having the right attitude when showing appreciation. It also means living a grateful lifestyle. King David is an example of an individual who understood what it means to live in and show gratitude. His appreciation of God was extravagant, truthful and at all time (in both good and bad times). David was extravagant in his worship. He was always in awe of God. He never approached God out of familiarity. He was humble and he diligently sought the Lord. In fact, he made a decision that he would not give unto God something that cost him nothing (2 Samuel 24:24).

From our reading today, David's mighty men risked their lives to get him water to drink. The process was life threatening and when they returned, David offered the drink as a sacrifice unto the Lord. He would even dance unreserved and unapologetically before his subjects (the people of Israel) in praise of God. In another instance, David danced all night until his clothes fell off, "and David danced before the Lord with all his might; and David was girded with a linen ephod" (2 Samuel 6:14). This particular action was unheard of for a king. In fact, his wife Michah rebuked him for it but he never listened. He lived a thoughtful and appreciative life. No wonder he was a man after God's heart.

O God help me to cultivate a grateful attitude in my life. Rid me of any arrogance so that I can praise you abundantly. I think we need to take the time to reflect on the life of David in this regard. He was a man given to showing gratitude even when it hurts. My friend, what has your gratitude unto God cost you?

Action Point: Let thanksgiving be a lifestyle for you.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for those trusting God for a job that God will hear their cry.

Hymn: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!

All ye who hear; now to his temple draw near,

Join me in glad adoration

March 10th

Joy of a New Beginning

She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more. John 8:11

Bible Reading: John 8:1-11

The joy of a new beginning is beyond measure. I remember the joy that filled our hearts as a family few years ago when we cried to God for mercy concerning one of our friends and God spoke that He has opened a new chapter and a new page for him. The same is similar to the encounter of the woman in our Bible reading today who was taken to Jesus after being caught in an act of adultery. Her accusers were ready to stone her to death because they had legal backings according to the Law of Moses. But when they brought the case to Jesus, the story changed. The woman was saved and given a new beginning because Jesus Christ revealed to them His unfailing love and grace that gives us life in Him. I pray that for a reader of this devotional today in need of mercy, the Lord will have mercy upon you in Jesus' name.

In times like this, God is giving you another opportunity to start afresh. Change your old ways so that you can fully walk in the reality of His plans for your life. He desires that you have genuine salvation through Jesus Christ; pursue Him earnestly and be faithful to what He has committed into your hands. Maximize this newness in Christ by renewing your mind because this is your reasonable act of worship (Romans 12:1-2). The question is 'will you go and sin no more'?

Action Point: Identify the areas you need to start afresh.

Daily Confession: Dear Jesus Christ, I embrace Your mercy, I receive Your newness and I walk in Your truth daily. Amen

Intercessory prayer: Pray for the salvation of people in your life who are yet to embrace the redemptive work of Jesus at the Cross of Calvary.

Hymn: Once again a new beginning,
Yesterday I put behind,
To You Lord I come in seeking,
For Your Words, bring them to mind.
Oh Lord, grant me Your rich speaking,
Cause my spirit filled to be,
Lord, my heart and thoughts transforming,
That my life I live by Thee.

March 11th

God of Wonders

For from Him [all things originate] and through Him [all things live and exist] and to Him are all things [directed]. To Him be glory and honor forever! Amen. Romans 11:36 (AMP)

Bible Reading: Romans 11:33-36

God is a wonder working God. His creativity transcends human understanding and remains unfathomable despite human curiosity. He is an indescribable God because no number of names can describe Him. Thousands of names have evolved from different people and tribes out of their experience to describe God's awesome wonder. Interestingly, God's wonders are prominent every second even when are oblivious or refuse to acknowledge it. There are many signs and wonders that show God's creative wonder. For instance, if you have experienced childbirth, you are left wondering how great our God is. No wonder it is called *signs and wonders*, "a signal and emblem that God is present; that His workings is beyond man's power and leaves everyone wondering and glorifying Him".

God's love, faithfulness, grace, mercy, presence, power, and name among others are evident in God's creation. After reading several accounts or theories of creation, I can only submit that God remains God and until we choose to acknowledge how limitless we are, and embrace God through Christ Jesus, the only begotten Son of God, then we won't see or appreciate the wonder working power of God. I encourage you to cultivate the habit of seeing His miracle in all things. It is a kingdom principle that we must learn especially when the world teaches otherwise. For as long as our attention is on Christ Jesus, we are guaranteed of seeing Him, our allegiance is pledged to Him, and His wonders become continually real in our lives.

Self-Reflection: How has God showed that He is a wonder working God in your life?

Action Point: Thank Him for His unending wonder in your life and concerning your expectations.

Intercession prayer: Pray that God's wonders will be manifest over Covid-19 pandemic.

Song: God of wonders beyond our galaxy

You are Holy, Holy

The universe declares your Majesty

And You are Holy, Holy

Lord of Heaven and Earth

Lord of Heaven and Earth

March 12th

The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. 2 Corinthians 13:14 (NIV)

Bible Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

Our memory verse is one of the most recited verses in the Bible because most Christians and denominations recite it at the end of their gathering or fellowship. I'd love us to exhort ourselves from this verse for the next few days.

First, it was Apostle Paul's final greetings after writing two epistles to the church in Corinth. Apostle Paul's writing style ends with greetings to summarize, encourage, and empower the faith of his readers. However, this last greeting is peculiar because it outlined three essentials in our Christian race: "the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit". These essentials are the foundation upon which the Christian faith and fellowship stands.

'The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ' speaks of the new dispensation established upon the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Thus, it reminds us of our salvation, redemption, righteousness and the new life that we now have in Christ Jesus which is not by our power or might. (2 Corinthians 5:17-18; Ephesians 2:8-10). We are reminded that there's an open invitation to come to Jesus Christ, trust in Him and rely not on our works, but surrender all at the cross to encounter newness through the cleansing blood of Jesus. We are also steered in the right direction that our journey starts and ends in grace. In fact, we are nothing but products of God's grace.

However, grace is not a call unto lustful passion or a license to continue in sin; but God's grace teaches us to abstain from worldly passion (Titus 2:11-12). In essence, Apostle Paul passed across a deep understanding of what our response should be to God's commitment unto us. We are to seek Him wholeheartedly, diligently and in faith. His abiding presence can only reside in holiness and through his grace, God's people are preserved and sustained regardless of the circumstance, the environment and the world system.

Self-Reflection: In what ways do you take God's grace for granted?

Daily Confession: Lord, your grace is always sufficient for me in every situation. Help me to maximize Your grace in Jesus name.

Intercessory prayer: Pray that the grace of our Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be evident in the church globally.

Hymn: Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch; like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

March 13th

The Love of God

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. 2 Corinthians 13:14 (NIV)

Bible Reading: John 3:16

“The love of God” encapsulates the reason behind and the essence of redemption. The love of God is the genesis of and the purpose for all things. Love is the nature of God because God is love. God’s love orchestrated and preserved the redemption plan in order to restore man after the fall in the Garden of Eden. God graciously chose different persons at different dispensations, periods and generations to contribute to the grand plan of salvation for mankind. Now we have the opportunity to have an unending fellowship and communion with God, eternal life and eternity in Christ Jesus.

Furthermore, the love of God reveals God’s intention and purpose to make man live in the reality of who he is “created in the image and likeness of God” (Genesis 1:26-27). It also shows that God’s kingdom is characterized by nothing but love which focuses on making, giving and having eternal life in God. It reminds us that we have to share this love unto nations to come and experience the new life that is in Christ Jesus. No wonder Paul declared: “For I am not ashamed of the gospel: for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone that believes; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek” (Romans 1:16, ESV).

May the eyes of our understanding be opened to the depth of God’s love for us. This is because God’s love is capable to conform us to the image of His son Jesus Christ (Ephesians 3:17:19). Finally, this understanding will help us to love God in turn and obedience him because obedience is the true test of love.

Action Point: Share God’s love to somebody today!

Daily Confession: I pray that Christ may dwell in my heart through faith “that I, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that I may be filled with all the fullness of God. (Ephesians 3:17-19)

Intercessory prayer: Pray that your unsaved friends and families will experience the love of God.

Hymn: God is love, Who sent His beloved Son.
Man is fallen with corruption,
But You sent Your dear Son.
God commends His kindness and love toward us,
In that while we were yet sinners
Christ died for us.

March 14th

The Fellowship of the Holy Spirit

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. 2 Corinthians 13:14 (NIV)

Bible Reading: John 14:16-18

Like Jesus Christ told his disciples, the Comforter, the Holy Spirit is with us. In fact, the name Emmanuel speaks of God's ever abiding Presence - God with us (Matthew 1:23). It is amazing that the Holy Spirit seeks that we fellowship with Him every second because He is the Spirit/breath of God; He is our Teacher, Counsellor, Advocate, Energizer, and Helper. He is a person and not some feelings. This truth should help us in defining and understanding our relationship and connection to Him.

Apostle Paul completed his epistles with the foundational truth which our faith lies upon; that is: the grace made available by the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God that made Him give His only begotten Son and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit which will continually abide with us in the right atmosphere of righteousness and holiness forever. Anytime I read this, I tremble because there is so much about being a Christian that seem oblivious to many. A Christian should be a carrier of God's Presence; a custodian of God's words because he has become the temple of God. No wonder Apostle Paul says that we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us (2 Corinthians 4:7). Thus, we are to continually present our bodies holy unto the Lord, be committed to renewing our minds via the word of God (Romans 12:1-3) and be devoted worship Him in spirit and in truth (John 4:24; 1 Thessalonians 5:23).

At KSi, we encourage you to examine these words beyond the ritual of benediction but as the truth, and foundation that summarizes the Christian faith and allow these words take you deeper in God. Therefore, may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Action Point: As from today, say these words with understanding.

Daily Confession: Lord thank You for the riches that I have in You in Jesus name. Help me to cultivate the right atmosphere for the Holy Spirit so that I can enjoy the fullness of God's provision in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Intercessory prayer: May our church experience genuine revival and return unto God in our nations

Hymn: The love of God and the grace of Christ
And fellowship of the Holy Spirit
Be with you, be with you all,
Be with you all, be with you all.

March 15th

Right Response to Paul's Prayer

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God- this is your spiritual act of worship. Romans 12:1 (NIV)

Bible Reading: Romans 12:1-3

In the past three days, we identified Paul's doxology as crucial to the Christian faith. "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ; the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit" are the pillars of the faith in Christ Jesus. It also reveals the synergy and union of the Trinity. Accepting God's grace is not a call unto lawlessness or lustfulness but an awakening to continually walk in the way and purpose of God. God's love is unfathomable and we need to acknowledge, embrace and share this love. Finally, the fellowship of the Holy Spirit keeps us to be connected to our heavenly Father who love us and seeks fellowship, relationship and communion by His Spirit.

To end this study, I'd like us to examine one of Paul's admonitions in order to continually be connected to the truth on grace, love, and ever refreshing fellowship of the Holy Spirit. In today's reading, Apostle Paul's strategy is delivered into our hands which is holiness, righteousness and meditation on God's word. Presenting our bodies as a living sacrifice is important because God hates sin. His standard is sealed: depart from iniquity (2 Timothy 2:19). Paul understood what it means to be a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God.

Secondly, Paul emphasized the power of renewing our mind through the word of God. When we meditate on God's word and allow the Holy Spirit to brood over the living word in our lives, we will never be the same. Dear friends, are you fully surrendered unto God? Are you continually transformed in Him by renewing your mind from the word of God? God's grace, love, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit has been released unto us as children of God, however, we are to remain committed by following Paul's simple injunction.

Action Point: Examine your life in accordance to God's word.

Daily Confession: Lord, I receive your help in all things to live as You truly desire in Jesus name. Amen

Intercessory prayer: Lord heal your church so that it can show forth your glory.

Hymn: Are you washed in the blood?
In the soul-cleansing blood of the Lamb?
Are your garments spotless?
Are they white as snow?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?

March 16th

The Power of Simple Conversation

The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned. Isaiah 50:4 (KJV)

Bible Reading: John 4

Some years ago, I discussed the power of conversation with my students. I reminded them on how simple exchange of words between or among people can be transformational if it is constructive. We explored from our past experiences how interaction through what we said or what others said to us had affected us positively or otherwise. That's the power of words!

Ask Eve about the conversation she entertained with the serpent and the impact of that moment today. Or inquire from the Samaritan woman who encountered Christ Jesus at the well in a conversation and she will tell you the power inherent in words. God has conversations with His children too on a daily basis. According to John 1:1, He is the Word. Words are powerful and the impact words have on God's creation is incredible. Today's reading gives us insight into what a simple conversation can do and how we can present Christ Jesus to men through our conversations. Always remember that we have a choice to use our words to transform, establish relationships and even give hope. Jesus our ultimate example in his conversation with the woman at the well started from the known themes to the unknown. He harnessed the prophetic power of the Holy Spirit and He ministered effectively to the woman. His action reminds us to speak God's word both in season and out of season because we have the tongue of the learned. Let us continually learn to rely on the Holy Spirit even as we do the work of an evangelist!

Self-Reflection: The power of life and death is in your tongue.

Action Point: Take a bold step to speak and encourage someone today, preaching the gospel of Christ Jesus.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for any missionary that you know

Daily Confession: Lord, I receive grace to speak your word boldly in Jesus' name.

Hymn: Go tell it on the mountains,
Over the hills and everywhere,
Go tell it on the mountains
That Jesus Christ is Lord!

March 17th

Standing on the Promises of God (I)

Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief". Mark 9:24 (NIV)

Bible Reading: Mark 24:14-28

Jesus is the same forever (Heb. 11:3); He never changes because He is neither a man that should lie, nor son of man that should repent (Numbers 23:19). When God speaks, He expects us to cooperate with Him so that His word will be fulfilled at the right time. However, it is painful that many times, through our actions, we refuse to cooperate with Him. And at times we lose faith and refuse to hold firmly to that which God has said.

In our reading today, we are challenged by the prayer of a man that knew he was missing Jesus' perspective. He understood the miracle that could happen in that second but his faith was not bold or strong enough to overcome his unbelief. He cried out to God for help. We have to learn to admit our weaknesses and cry to God for help because He is the great High priest who knows our infirmities (Hebrews 4:14-16).

Also, as we call unto God for help, we have to know His promises concerning His children and the situation. This is why it is important to study the word of God so that we can know his mind. It is written in the word of God and God can not contradict His word. Dear friends, you need to study the word of God and locate His promise concerning your situation.

Self-Reflection: Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Romans 10:17

Daily Confession/Prayer: Lord deliver me from the spirit of unbelief.

Intercessory prayer: Lord deliver your church from the spirit of unbelief

Hymn: Standing on the promises of Christ my King,
Thro' eternal ages let His praises ring;
Glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,
Standing on the promises of God

March 18th

Standing on the Promises of God (II)

We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised. Hebrew 6:12

Bible Reading: Mark 24:14-28

God is faithful, kind, and His mercy endures forever. He wants His children to enjoy the best of Him -- his life, goodness, favour, peace, and blessings etc in abundance. He has great and mighty things for His children; words to comfort, guidance and assurance of His plan and purpose. However, many children of God are living below God's expectations because they do not know God's promises for them. They cannot stand and fight with the word and by the power of the Holy Spirit because of ignorance (Jeremiah 29:11; Hosea 4:6).

Standing on the promise of God means confessing God's promises as contained in His word. It means constant prayer and unwavering faith in God's ability to do according to what He has said. This reminds me of the story once told of a boy whose father promised to buy a gift and the father refused to buy it. The boy kept reminding his father. Any time he sees anything that relates to the gift, he told everyone that his father would buy him a gift even though he was yet to buy it. He confessed and believed that his father would buy it and finally his father bought it. When we constantly confess God's word, we are calling forces to conform; we are reminding Him of His word, and we are exercising our faith.

Take right step at the Lord's command by faith and never allow doubt or fear hold you back. Continually fix your gaze on Jesus. Also, sin can either delay or abort the fulfilment of God's word in the life of a man. Do not allow sin rob you of God's promises. And if you have gone astray, Jesus is calling you to experience his love and mercy again. Finally, do not be weary but stand on God's promise, patiently wait for its fulfilment, and continually rejoice in Him.

Self-Reflection: God's word contains His promises for us and when we study His word, we unlock divine mysteries.

Action Point: Thank God for fulfilling His word over your life and family.

Intercessory Prayer: Lord strength those passing through one situation or another

Song: Forever, oh Lord, thy word is settled in heaven
It is settled

March 19th

The Joy of the Lord is my strength

The LORD is my strength and my shield; My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart exults, And with my song I shall thank Him. Psalm 28:7 (NKJV)

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 8:10

Have you ever experienced a situation where you lacked strength to carry out the tasks in front of you? Or you see the amount of work ahead of you and you are debilitated because you know your strength cannot see you through? Not even an ounce! What do you do at that moment?

I have been in that situation many times. Particularly, when I was writing my doctoral dissertation. At some point, I was overwhelmed with must-do responsibilities that seems beyond my human strength. I discovered that God's word contains all that I need, no matter the situation. I'd love to share a recipe for such situation that I found from reading today's bible passage.

In times like this, I simply make the Lord happy by praising Him and declaring His word. I refuse to entertain fear, worry, anxiety, burden and weight of the workload in front of me. I remember that the Lord is my strength. He is my Source and I can do all things through Christ that strengthens me. Before I know it, the Holy Spirit starts encouraging me and ideas on how to handle the work start coming. God's joy fills my hearts and suddenly, I receive God's strength to carry through and enjoy His grace.

With the wisdom of setting right priority, and shunning procrastination, I diligently tackled all that I need to do relying on God's grace to help me through. The truth is this: He always does, and He has never failed me. So, any time you find yourself in this situation, choose to rejoice in the Lord. Sing songs unto the Lord. Dance before him. Apply these principles and you will be surprised how fruitful you will be.

Action Point: List the items you have to attend to, organize them and start working on each one trusting God to help you.

Daily Confession: Lord I thank You because Your joy is my strength. I receive Your strength for the tasks ahead of me in Jesus' name. Amen.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for healing in the lives of your friends and colleagues.

Hymn: Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,
Just to take Him at His word,
Just to lean upon His promise
And to know "Thus says the Lord"

March 20th

The Strength from Within

May He grant you out of the riches of His glory, to be strengthened and spiritually energized with power through His Spirit in your inner self, [indwelling your innermost being and personality], so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through your faith. Ephesians 3:16 (AMP)

Bible Reading: Ephesians 3:14-19

Today's reading is one of Apostle Paul's prayers which I encourage you to pray often into your life. It is a prayer that directs us to our source. It opens our eyes to the truth about who we are in Christ Jesus, what we need to preserve us in Him, and ultimately the virtues freely given to us in Him.

An essential ingredient needed for life and purpose is strength. It seems everything is measured in terms of strength. For instance, what someone can do, and the extent someone can get something done are all matter of strength. Also, in our walk with God, the issue of strength is cardinal. When you have power, then you have strength to carry on or do something. Apostle Paul prayed that we may be strengthened; a spiritual energy that comes from the Spirit of God. This strength is impacted upon the spirit man. When strength and power come, we are able to do extra ordinary things for God. We walk in grace, we become hands, and legs of Jesus going around doing good (Acts 10:38). We have strength to stand against worldly lust; we are able to evangelize, live in righteousness, and even perform miracles as the Lord gives the grace etc. As you fellowship with God through prayer, God's word, living the life of His word, you are empowered for the task ahead.

Self-Reflection: Man's strength is limited but through the Holy Ghost we have access to divine empowerment. Acts 1:8

Action Point: Take time to pray Paul's prayer into your life.

Daily Confession: I am empowered and helped in the Lord.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for pastors and church leaders that they will be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit for God's work.

Hymn: O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.

March 21st

God's Foundation

Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity. 2Timothy 2:19 (KJV)

Bible Reading: 2 Timothy 2:19-21

Foundations are very important to any building. Without a solid foundation, the most attractive building will collapse in no time. This is why God is particularly concerned about our foundation as His children. He wants us to get things right. In the passage above, God was talking about His foundation which stands sure; secured, immovable, unshakable and indestructible. Any house built by God will last forever, and we are God's building. Will you be patient enough to allow God build you? Will you give Him the chance to work in you so that He can work through you?

Only those who have been helped by God have what it takes to help others. This is because you cannot give what you do not have. Allow God to build you so that you can become a vessel unto honour, suitable for His use. Let patience have her perfect work in you so that you can be perfect and entire, wanting nothing (James 1:4). Then can you stand on the sure foundation of righteousness and holiness without which no one can see the Lord.

Self-Reflection: You have a choice to make to be either a vessel unto honour or a vessel unto dishonour.

Daily Confession/Prayer: Father God, I believe you have a purpose for my life. I pray that you help me to cooperate with You in Jesus name.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for youths to live a purpose-driven life according to God's plan for their lives.

Hymn: Thou my everlasting Portion,
More than friend or life to me,
All along my pilgrim's journey,
Saviour, let me walk with Thee.

March 22nd

Watch and Pray

Keep actively watching and praying that you may not come into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the body is weak. Matthew 26:41(AMP)

Bible Reading: James 1:13-15

Being watchful is beyond the physical act; it is a continuous spiritual exercise that helps us to be sensitive to spiritual things. Watchfulness is important for alertness and seeing things from God's perspective. It is an attitude, lifestyle that we have to develop. Jesus while speaking to His disciples commanded them to diligently watch even as they pray.

The incidence that led to Jesus' command on being watchful was as a result of Jesus' disciples sleeping while they were meant to be praying. However, Jesus reveals man's vulnerability – 'the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak' (Matthew 26:40-43). Relating Jesus' comments to today's reading, we discover that many fall into temptation because of the weakness, passion and lust of the flesh. The desire for worldly pleasure, the pride of life and the lust of the eyes make many prayers ineffective because they were rendered in ungodliness and unrighteousness. As children of God, prayer is important, but we have to be watchful by walking circumspectly (Ephesians 5:15-20). As you pray, continue to walk and live by the spirit and live (Galatians 5:25). Do not allow the works of flesh to take over your heart and your mind. And do not lose your portion due to carelessness. Be spiritually alert and awake!

Self-Reflection: Be watchful even as you pray! It is a command.

Action Point: Prayerfully scan your life through the word of God for anything that may cause an hinderance to your prayer.

Daily Confession: Lord, I ask that You help me to be watchful, and prayerful in Jesus' name. Take carelessness away from me and help me to diligently be alert and be sensitive in you. Amen

Intercessory prayer: Pray for orphans for God's provision and protection.

Hymn: Christian! Seek not yet repose,
Hear thy guardian angel say;
Thou art in the midst of foes;
Watch and pray.

March 23rd

Identity is Important

Then the princes of the Philistines said "What are these Hebrews doing here? 1 Samuel 29:3a (NKJV)

Bible Reading: 1 Samuel 29

Our identity is important to our life, relationship and destiny. When I gave my life to Jesus Christ, I was counseled to let people know about my new identity in Christ Jesus. "It is important that people know what you stand for" because it helps you to rely on God to live the life you have professed. In our reading today, it was David's identity that saved him. He wanted to fight for the Philistines (who were God's enemy) against the Children of God. David was in a terrible situation -- King Saul was after David's life due to envy, rivalry and hatred and David in his instinct for survival aligned with the enemies of God. In the process, David lost all he had including the property of those that stayed with him. Be careful that you don't align with God's enemies because it is deadly.

However, David had a saving grace, his identity. The Philistines knew David's identity, hence, they denied him the opportunity to fight for them because they knew he was against them totally. When we make people know our identity as Christians, it saves us from many troubles. For instance, when your colleagues who don't know Christ want to cheat, or misappropriate fund in that office, they won't call you because they know your identity and what you stand for. It can save us from committing errors and evil against God and His people. Let people know what you stand for through your lifestyle, utterance, appearance and actions. When they see Jesus in you, they will know your identity and who you represent. It's only when you know that you are the light that you can truly lighten up your world. Dear friends, know your identity in Christ today so that you won't be limited or lost in the world.

Self-Reflection: Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Action Point: Examine yourself to know if your present identity fits what you are meant to be in Christ Jesus.

Daily Confession: I repent of wrong identity, embrace my right identity and align myself to live rightly and fully for God.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for homeless population in your city for God's intervention and for just policies to make people's life better.

Hymn: Stand up, stand up for Jesus!

Ye soldiers of the cross;
Lift high His royal banner,
It must not suffer loss

March 24th

More on Identity

Let your so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glory your Father which is in heaven. Matthew 5:16 (NKJV)

Bible Reading: Matthew 5:13-16

In today's reading, Christians are directly called salt and light. These identities are strong, definite and essential to life. Light for instance is important for life, no wonder God began creation by creating Light. Christians are a product of the Light; Christ Jesus and we are to shine forth the life of Christ for the world to see and glorify our Father in heaven.

Our identity defines our purpose. What we define ourselves to be eventually affects what, why and how we do anything. As the light of the world, you are meant to be a light bearer, shining forth the light of Christ Jesus, His truth and His gospel in order to bring others to the gospel of light which is in Christ Jesus. As salt of the earth, you have been called to season lives around you. Let your words, actions, thought and pursuit point others to Christ and add value to people's destinies.

Dear friend, you cannot afford to lose your saltiness, essence and nature that you carry; your light cannot be hidden due to environmental influence or dictates of the world. Don't be like a chameleon that has no identity but blends into everything- as the environment dictates or demands. You are a child of God, hence, shine your light for the glory of the risen King Christ Jesus.

Self-Reflection: Let your light shine!

Daily Confession: Lord, thank You for who I am in You and help me to stand for You and live for Your glory in all things in Jesus' name.

Intercessory prayer: Commit your family members into God's hands to fulfil their purpose.

Song: This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine 3x

March 25th

God's Love

See what an incredible quality of love the Father has shown to us, that we would [be permitted to] be named and called and counted the children of God! And so we are! For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. I John 3:1 (AMP)

Bible Reading: 1 John 3:1-5

God's love is profound and beyond our comprehension. We are blessed that we are His children. Continually, God displays His unending grace that gives us courage, strength and whatever we may need in every circumstance. Also, we find comfort and assurance in God's word especially when we hear testimonies from other people about God's faithfulness. Indeed, we cannot live without God's love.

Our reading today tells us who we are in Christ. We are "His children and who we are going to be which is unknown to us and even the world and we know that we shall be like Him when He appears". Isn't that lovely? Each time I meditate on this, I leap for joy because I will be like Him!

The only obstacle is sin. That's why the hope of who we are going to be when He appears should continually set us to cleanse ourselves from sin. Today, I invite you to take some minutes to meditate on God's love that make you a joint heir with Christ and the privilege of being like Him when He appears. The thought of this should sober us even in our joy and drive us to get it right with Him.

Self-Reflection: And everyone who has this hope [confidently placed] in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure (holy, undefiled, guiltless). I John 3:3

Action Point: Appreciate God for His love that never fails.

Daily Confession: Lord, I thank You for Your love and embrace it every day of my life. Amen

Intercessory prayer: May the world see God's love that is evident around us.

Song: Behold, what manner of the Father has bestowed unto us 2x
That we should be called the sons of God 2x

March 26th

The Only Wise God

To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen. Jude 25

Bible Reading: James 3:17-18

Wisdom is defined as the discretionary use of knowledge for the greatest good. It is also the ability to apply relevant knowledge in an insightful way to different situations. Wisdom is a good quality which everyone who desires an impactful life requires. Without it, success in life is a mirage! A mere thinking that will never come true. Many people, both great and small have fallen due to failure to apply wisdom in appropriate situations. For instance, when God spoke to Samuel concerning His judgment on the house of Eli, Eli's response was 'it is the Lord: let him do what seemeth him good (1 Samuel 3:18). Eli forgot that it is a fearful thing to fall into the hand of the living God (Hebrew 10:31). However, in the case of David, when Nathan the Priest brought him God's verdict about his execution of Uriah and taking his wife, he acknowledged his sin unto God and he repented (2 Samuel 13:11-16).

The opposite of wisdom is foolishness, the Bible speaks of these two attributes in Matthew 17:24-27. The good news is this, God is the originator of wisdom according to today's memory verse and in Colossians 2:3 the Bible says in Christ is hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Hence, to gain more wisdom, all we need to do is simply ask God for it.

Action Point: If any man lacks wisdom, let him ask God. Ask for divine wisdom today. God bless you!

Daily Confession: Father, I declare that me and my household will never fall under Your judgment, but we shall continually please You and find favour with You.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for wisdom for our leaders and a heart for people.

Hymn: Immortal, Invisible, Wise only God
In light, inaccessible, hid from our eyes
Most blessed, most glorious, The Ancient of days
Almighty, Victorious, Thy great name we praise.

March 27th

God's Lesson on Humility

He mocks proud mockers but gives grace to the humble. Proverbs 3:20

Bible Reading: Proverbs 6:6-11

Learning starts at the cradle and ends in the grave. It is an essential part of our lives. We learn through various ways in life such as experiences, trials, and success among others. God teaches us through His Word, people, experiences and situations etc. God taught me some lessons on arrogance some years ago that I would like to share with you.

God graciously took me through a review of my past. He reminded me of where I started; how He picked me up and how He is working in and on me continually. He took me through my emails of many years, journals of the past and showed me how He helped me. He reminded me of how He sponsored me through school despite my background. Like a movie in the cinema, my life was played before me to remind me that His divine power saw me through. At the end, I burst into tears because I saw my folly; I realized that my confession of any godly character must become a reality. I learnt that the more we reflect on God's faithfulness, we can see God's hands at work in our lives and realize that we are nothing without God. Also, God's idea of success is different from ours. While we focus on the outward – social status, material possessions etc., God looks inward. He is interested in our spirit, our character and our ways. This should humble us to depend on Him absolutely every day. May God open the eyes of our heart to God's truth in Jesus name.

Self-Reflection: God uses circumstances to teach us; refine us and make us better people.

Action Point: Pick an area of your life and ask God to teach you the truth you need to know

Daily Confession: Lord reveal to me the truth about my life.

Intercessory prayer: Let spirit of humility rest upon my home.

Hymn: Be glad in the Lord and rejoice,
All ye that are upright in heart;
And ye that have made Him your choice

March 28th

What God Looks for in His Vessels

*That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour. I
Thessalonians 4:4*

Bible Reading: 2 Tim. 2:20-21

It is good that we desire God to use us. However, most importantly, we must understand what God looks for in His vessels. Although commitment, dedication and faithfulness are essential ingredients, there are fundamental prerequisites. God's selection is beyond outward look, rather, He searches into the deepest parts of our heart. Though he desires all of His children to be His vessels, God continually and meticulously seeks for vessels that He will use for His glory.

A vessel is an instrument that is used to accomplish a given task at a particular time. In choosing vessels, sanctification is a major prerequisite to God. It is necessary in order to be fit for the master's use. Sanctification means living a holy and acceptable life unto God. For God to use anyone, their life must constantly be void of iniquity. As God's choice instrument, we must live a purified life; our ultimate purpose should be to satisfy God's pleasure. God preserves and blesses his children, and He desires that His children live a sanctified, purified and acceptable life. Sanctification goes beyond physical activities; it involves our thought. Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

Although God's selection is by grace, holiness is essential. Let's continually pursue righteousness; check our lives for any spiritual stains and go to God for purging. Subject the flesh daily to the workings of the Holy Spirit and continually renew our hearts through meditation on God's word.

Action Point: Prayerfully present yourself to God today for purging

Daily Confession: Lord, make me a vessel fit for an unending use in your hand full of impact and grace.

Intercessory prayer: Change our hearts to focus on you.

Hymn: Lord Jesus, I long to be perfectly whole,
I want Thee forever to live in my soul;
Break down every idol, cast out every foe
Now wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

March 29th

What Kind of Vessel Are You?

In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. 2 Timothy 2:20 (NIV)

Bible Reading: 2 Timothy 2:20-21

Are you empty or already filled? If you are occupied, what content are you filled with? How free and open are you to the Spirit of God? God is interested in purging and filling us to overflowing for His purpose as we surrender ourselves to Him.

Today's word reminds me of an exercise we had in church some years ago about the state of our hearts in relationship to the Holy Spirit. We had different sizes of vessels across the hall from which we are to pick. After the exhortation, each person picked a container that described either our present state or the state we would love to be. Upon picking the vessel, we filled it with water symbolizing our thirst to be filled by the Holy Spirit afresh.

Continually we have to ask: What's the size of my container? How free am I in allowing the Holy Spirit to work in my life? What state am I? We have to go to God in prayer to relieve us of every struggle and anything holding us back or that's not enabling us to plug into Him.

Self-Reflection: How do I deny the workings of the Holy Spirit in my life?

Action Point: Ensure you answer the questions above!

Daily Confession: Lord, I desire that you have full access in my life, I give myself away!

Intercessory prayer: Change our hearts to focus on you.

Hymn: Fill my cup Lord, I lift it up Lord
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul
Bread of heaven, fill me till I want no more
Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole

March 30th

I Give Myself Away

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. (Philippians 1:21)

Bible Reading: Daniel 3

The title of our reflection today reminds of William McDowell's song of the same title. It also reminds me something one of my fathers in the Lord some years ago. "Marriage is established on this truth: 'I give myself away'. This is because in marriage, the two individuals become one and each one has right on the other (1 Corinthians 7:4). This is analogous of the Christian journey because it involves that we empty ourselves; sinful nature, repent and put on God. It is about sacrificing self for the ultimate glory in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Apostle Paul's bold declaration reveals someone who has gotten to the point where they are not afraid to undertake anything for God regardless of the cost. Just like the three Hebrew boys in the book of Daniel, who would rather roast in the fiery furnace than bow down to the graven image, we are reminded that the race is about totally releasing ourselves to God for His purpose. Christ Jesus gave away Himself because of love, hence, the reason for giving ourselves should be love for God. Finally, William McDowell's lyric reads: "My life is not my own, to You I belong, I give myself, I give myself to You". The question would be: Have you fully given yourself away unto God?

Action Point: Pick an area in your life that you are not fully yielded to God and prayerfully decide to give it unto God.

Daily Confession: Thank you Father for reminding me again about self-denial, love and ultimate purpose of the King. Help me Lord to die to self so that I can fully gain Christ.

Intercessory prayer: Thank God for answering our prayers.

Hymn: All to Jesus I surrender,
All to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him,
In His presence daily live

March 31st

Prayer is the key

pray without ceasing. I Thessalonians 5:16

Bible Reading: James 5:13-18

We will be starting a 7-day fasting and prayer tomorrow in preparation for the second quarter of the year. As God permits, we will be observing this kind of fasting and prayer at the beginning of every quarter. We have prepared a daily prayer guide which can be downloaded on my website or you can access it on KSi mobile app. Please note that you can break your fast at your convenience. We also plan to have corporate prayer meetings daily. More details about the prayer meeting will be available on our website.

We encourage you to join us in this spiritual exercise because prayer is important. As we reiterated in one of our daily devotional studies (February 8th, 2022), your life depends on prayer. God wants you to pray for His kingdom to come and His will to be done in your life in this new quarter. When we pray, we are engaging an essential spiritual weapon and communicating with our heavenly Father. We added fasting because among other things, fasting is a sign of self-denial and it quiets our flesh so that we can be well-positioned to receive from God. In fact, the time for food can be used to pray, read and meditate on God's word.

Jesus is our perfect example (Hebrews 5:7). Jesus prayed many times (Matthew 14:17; Mark 6:46; Luke 6:12) and His disciples in Acts of the Apostles also prayed (Acts 4:23-37). Dear friends, prayer is indeed the key. We encourage you to keep praying and ever stop because '... the effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much (James 5:16).

Action Point: Be determined to participate in the 7-day fasting and prayer.

Intercessory prayer: God revive your people so that we can pray.

Hymn: Oh, how praying rests the weary!

Prayer will change the night to day;

So in sorrow and in gladness

Don't forget to pray.