



APRIL 2022

**IN
HIS
FOOTSTEPS**

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

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

Daily Devotional
"In His Footstep"
April 2022

Foreword

Prayer is the key! It is not a coincidence that Jesus started with prayer and ended his ministry with prayer.

We hope you can join us in prayer. Starting from April 1st 2022. Moving forward, we will be fasting and praying for the first 7 days at the beginning of each quarter. The prayer bulletin has been integrated into devotional and it is available on KSi Mobile App and KSi website. We want to spend time to pray this year's theme into our lives, "Press On". We will have prayer meetings daily which can be accessed on KSi mobile app.

In the year 2022, we will press deeper into the things of God. We will press on to higher heights in Him and in destiny. We will press forward in our love for Jesus and to be more like Him. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we will walk closer with God in holiness, righteousness and power; and if Jesus returns, we will press on into eternity to reign with Him (Philippians 3:13-14).

This prayer bulletin will serve as a guide for our prayer. We encourage you to fast according to your capacity. Break your fast at your own pace. For any prayer request, feel free to send it to us via email and we will pray with you. In addition, we are launching the Keep Praying Network — a monthly virtual prayer meeting. It will hold the 3rd Saturday of every month. The time will be communicated across our social media platform.

Dear friends, we know God answers prayers when we call on Him in faith. We would like to hear your testimonies. You can contact us through email and via KSi App.

Yours in God's Vineyard,
Bro. Taiwo and Sister Damilola Afolabi
Kingdom Support Initiatives (KSi)
<https://kingdomsupportinitiatives.org/>

Fasting and Prayer (Day 1)

April 1st

Adoration & Thanksgiving (Psalm 136)

1. Appreciate God for who He is. Sing songs of worship and adoration unto God because He is worthy of our praise.
2. Thank God for what He has done in your life, what He is doing and what He will yet do in your family, home, church, city, and country.
3. Appreciate God for the past three months and the remaining nine months for God's protection, provision and amazing plan for your life.
4. Thank God for strength for this period of prayer and fasting.

Fasting and Prayer (Day 2)

April 2nd

Prayer of Forgiveness (Psalm 19:13-14; 139:23-24)

1. Confess your sins before God
2. Ask God to purify your heart, sanctify you and make you a vessel fit for His use.
3. Ask the Lord to purify your heart with His word
4. Ask God to give you a pure heart and a clean hand.

Fasting and Prayer (Day 3)

April 3rd

Prayer for increased spiritual capacity, growth, insight, and character (Isaiah 40:39)

1. Pray for fresh hunger for God, His divine presence, fresh insight into His word, and the infilling of the Holy Spirit (Psalm 42)
2. Ask for increased strength, growth in Him, and spiritual capacity (Isaiah 40:39).
3. Pray for a deeper knowledge of Jesus so that you can become like Him in words and in deeds (2 Peters 1:3-9).
4. Pray that you will grow in stature, in favour with God and with man (Luke 2:52).

Fasting and Prayer (Day 4)

April 4th

Prayer for Divine Blessings (3 John 2)

1. Pray for God's blessings upon your life (Ephesians 1:3).
2. Rebuke every activity of darkness over your life.
3. Prophesy to the new quarter for God's provision, protection, etc.
4. Commit your ways into the hands of God for His favour and grace for the rest of the year (Psalm 37:5; Proverbs 16:3).

Fasting and Prayer (Day 5)

April 5th

Intercessory prayers (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

1. Pray for God's mercy over the church of God (2 Thessalonians 3:1-5).
2. Pray for your leaders and those in positions of authority (1 Timothy 2:1-2).
3. Pray for frontline workers, patients at the hospitals, your colleagues etc.
4. Pray for the peace of God to permeate our world.
5. Pray for missionaries and for the advancement of God's kingdom.
6. Pray for Kingdom Support Initiatives (KSi) for God's fresh presence, provision of resources to make the vision He is putting in our hearts come to pass.

Fasting and Prayer (Day 6)

April 6th

Prayer for Specific Personal Needs (Matthew 7:7-8)

1. Present your personal needs to God for His intervention.
2. Pray for the healing of the broken-hearted, provision for the needy, and others.

Fasting and Prayer (Day 7)

April 7th

Thanksgiving (*Psalm 91:15 & Isaiah 65:24*)

1. Appreciate God for answered prayers.
2. Appreciate God for the strength to wait on Him.

April 8th

Meet the Man Called Nehemiah

The words of Nehemiah son of Hacaliah, Nehemiah 1:1a

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 1

By God's grace, we will explore the life of Nehemiah for the remaining part of this month. Nehemiah, a visionary, prayerful, humble, and determined man was committed to God and His people. He loved God and his people. He surrendered his life to serve God and uphold righteousness and kingdom principles. Nehemiah feared God and his sympathy and love for Jerusalem made him dedicate his life to rebuilding its wall and eventually leading God's people.

The book of Nehemiah has thirteen chapters and describes the life of Nehemiah, king Artaxerxes' cupbearer who was later appointed the governor of Judah. The life of Nehemiah challenges us to first find God, love Him and be fully committed unto Him. How committed are you to God and that which concerns Him? Are you patriotic to the kingdom of God as an ambassador of Christ whose home is in heaven?

The book teaches us to rely on God's help for change and recovery from the damage and ruins of the past. Repentance is important to revival and God looks for persons who will surrender themselves to become His instrument to wrought mighty things in our generation. He also teaches us that we are missionaries on a journey regardless of the country or society we find ourselves in. Therefore, let the world see Jesus in you and glorify your Father in heaven, among other lessons. I encourage you to study along as we examine the life of Nehemiah in relationship to our walk with God, life and destiny because we have been called unto commitment.

Self-Reflection: How committed are you to God and that which concerns Him? Are you patriotic to the kingdom of God as an ambassador of Christ whose home is in heaven?

Action Point: Study the book of Nehemiah.

Daily Confession: Lord, open my eyes to know the truth of Your word.

Intercession prayer: Pray for God's peace in Ukraine and other parts of the world where there is turbulence.

Hymn: I am Thine O Lord,
I have heard Thy voice
And it told Thy love to me
But I long to rise in the arms of faith
And be closer drawn to Thee

April 9th

Persistent Prayer Makes a Huge Difference

As soon as I heard these words, I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven". Nehemiah 1:4 (ESV)

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 1

It is said that attitude determines our attitude in life. Let's examine Nehemiah's life and attitude. Nehemiah displayed an attitude I strongly believe we should desire every day. As soon as he heard about the fall of Jerusalem, the loss grieved and saddened him to the extent that he interceded for his people. His passionate and consistent prayer was answered. Nehemiah understood Jerusalem as the city of God; an important place for the Jews to worship God.

As Christians, we should understand the present times; and continually intercede for others. Many have been lost in the pleasures of this world. They just simply don't want to seek God and indeed they have fallen. Our hearts should be burdened for the yet unsaved. However far too often, many don't feel burdened like Nehemiah to the extent of seriously devoting time to praying for the unsaved until they are saved. As we forge ahead this year and proceed with the mission of reconciling men to God, we really need such grace as Nehemiah had to pray until something happens. For our families, friends, colleagues, and nations that currently do not believe in Christ, let's allow love and compassion to move us to intercede and take active steps by sharing the gospel of Christ Jesus with them. Like God answered Nehemiah's prayers, I am confident that God will answer our prayers as we persevere and remain committed to God's purpose.

Action Point: Pray for at least one person that you desire the salvation of their souls.

Daily Confession/Prayer: Lord, cause me to be full of love and compassion for the lost and draw them to Yourself in Jesus name (John 6:44).

Intercessory prayer: Pray for God's revival upon the church and the church you attend.

Hymn: Pass me not O gentle Saviour,
Hear my humble cry
While on others Thou art calling
Do not pass me by

April 10th

A Sorrowful Heart

In the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was brought for him, I took the wine and gave it to the king. I had not been sad in his presence before; so the king asked me, "Why does your face look so sad when you are not ill? This can be nothing but sadness of heart. Nehemiah. 2:1-2

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 2

Nehemiah's grief was real that it became evident in his countenance. The king even observed this sporadic change. His outward countenance reflected his inward state; a genuine and truthful countenance I must say. Here's his response: "why should my face not look sad when the city where my fathers are buried lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?" (Neh. 2:3b) Similarly, our outward appearance must resonate with our inner beliefs. You cannot confess to being a Christian and still embrace unrighteousness.

Nehemiah must be a man full of joy and happiness at every point in time to the extent that the king noticed his unhappiness because he had never had such countenance before. No wonder he told us his secret: "the joy of the Lord is my strength" (Nehemiah 8:10). There are many Christians that complain about life, rather than seeing from God's word, prayerfully present their case unto God and patiently wait for Him until answers come while joyfully looking unto Jesus

Finally, Nehemiah's sorrowful countenance as against his joyful countenance made the king noticed that something was wrong with him. Can people see you and know that you are in relationship with God? Is there any difference between when you were in the world and now that you have given your life to Christ? We should learn from Nehemiah the importance of being joyful, confessing and professing Christ and living right for Him.

Self-Reflection: Is there any difference between when you were in the world and now that you are in Christ?

Action Point: Be joyful in the Lord and let your countenance and appearance reflect that you belong to Christ.

Daily Confession: Lord help me to live rightly with You and for You.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for greater anointing upon your church leaders

Hymn: What a friend we have in Jesus
All our sins and friends to bear
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer

April 11th

The Wisdom of Asking

If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favour in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my fathers are buried so that I can rebuild it. Nehemiah 2:5

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 2

After Nehemiah prayed, he had the wisdom to tender his request before the king. Previously, we understood Nehemiah as a man of compassion, prayer and purpose. His passion and zeal for God are wrapped in the right knowledge which characterized his strategies throughout the book.

In today's reading, we see Nehemiah after being given an open cheque by king Artaxerxes, filled it with the necessary and right content. Obviously, he has been praying for days and God answered him by laying it upon the heart of the king to ask Nehemiah the desire of his heart. Nehemiah's prayer request was clear, "give your servant success today by granting him favour in the presence of this man" (Neh. 1:11b)

Dear friends, it is important we know the difference between our needs and our wants. Wisdom is profitable to direct and Nehemiah displayed that wisdom here when the king attended to him. It is important we understand God's mind, desire and plan in every situation so that we can ask aright. The question is this: if God gives you attention today, what will you ask Him?

Self-Reflection: If God asks you today, "what do you want?" What will be your request?

Action Point: Ask according to God's promises today!

Daily Confession: Lord I desire Your wisdom in asking; help me to know Your plan, and purpose for my life so that I can ask aright.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for the needs of those around you that you can identify.

Hymn: Pray, always pray;
The Holy Spirit pleads
Within all thy daily, hourly needs

April 12th

Obedience After Praying

But when Samballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite servant heard this, it displeased them greatly that someone had come to seek the welfare of the people of Israel... Then I arose in the night, I and a few men with me. And I told no one what my God had put into my heart to do for Jerusalem. There was no animal with me but the one on which I rode. Nehemiah 2:10-12 (ESV)

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 2

There is a wall to rebuild. The wall of people's hearts in our generation that has been disconnected from God has to be rebuilt so that people can be fully connected and reconciled back to God through Christ Jesus. We live in a world where God's factor has been deliberately neglected or forgotten in the quest for a peaceful and prosperous world. As much as policies are good, any society that does not consistently and fundamentally stay true to the ideals of God eventually falls and fails. Despite the good education, super-speed technology, committed government, and secured future the world strives for, without accepting the governance of God through Christ Jesus, and a desperate heart to know and seek God, our generation will fall short of these expectations. Our generation can produce the likes of Moses, Joshua, Nehemiah, Deborah, Paul etc. that will capture the world for God, humbly surrender ourselves to His will and prepare the way for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The road will be steep like it was for Nehemiah. But we can respond strategically as Nehemiah did. Nehemiah rose up in the night to inspect. As we will later see, this strategic step led to the successful completion of rebuilding the wall. From time to time, I am confident that the Lord will reveal strategies to help in this ministry of reconciliation. Our job is not to worry if it will work or not. Let's simply obey and see God work.

Self-Reflection: Strategic positioning is important in the ministry of reconciliation and God's Spirit gives the inspiration to access these strategies.

Action Point: Please be obedient to the Holy Spirit today as He leads you (John 15:5)

Intercessory prayer: Ask that God will fill our children and youths with a burning desire for holiness and righteousness.

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

April 13th

Teamwork in Rebuilding the Wall

*So we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached half its height, for the people worked with their hearts.
Nehemiah 4:6*

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 3

Many organizations strive to recruit workers that have teamwork orientation because they understand that teamwork brings productivity, unity, understanding, humility, and love. In rebuilding the wall of Jerusalem, citizens worked as a team in love, unity and readiness to pay the price collectively. Although Nehemiah was the leader, the visionary who God gave the idea and plan of rebuilding the temple, he called others to himself, hence, God used the whole team to bring his purpose to fulfilment.

Nehemiah encouraged the people; he clearly instructed them on the plan, and devised strategies for collective building, and inspecting. Responsibilities were shared as some people built while others served as watchmen. The entire team worked towards a common purpose, and each person was responsible for building his own wall.

Teamwork requires submission, dedication, sacrifice and diligence for a unified course among others. So how effective are you as a leader in building a formidable team? Do you lord it over your followers? As followers, how humble are you in working with your other team members? This truth must be learnt as Christians today even as we pursue the work that God has committed to us.

Self-Reflection: Every team member is important to a team, only learn to cooperate with others to make things work.

Daily Confession: May the eyes of our hearts be opened to the truth about unity so that the church may harness the power of love and unity to advance the kingdom of God.

Intercessory prayer: Pray that the spirit of humility and unity will be released upon the church today.

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

April 14th

Who Does God Use? (I)

*So we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached half its height, for the people worked with their hearts.
Nehemiah. 4:6*

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 4

The life of Nehemiah and his team teaches us the ingredients essential for God's purpose to be fulfilled in a man's life. They prepared and positioned themselves for God's use and obviously, God used them for His glory. They presented themselves holy unto the Lord, no wonder they prayed and God answered. Anyone who hopes in God must embrace righteousness and shun all forms of filthiness because God's standard remains unchanged. (2 Tim. 2:19)

Also, these workers were ardent God-seekers and believers in unity (V. 6); the power of unity was in action (Psalm 133). They worked for the same goal and achieved it. If we want to successfully complete the mission God has set before us, we have to continually pursue unity in God's kingdom. Unity of spirit, purpose, of the church and ultimately, unity with the King of kings on the last day. With unity in action, no amount of attack can withstand us because we stand together just like Nehemiah and his brethren (Ephesians 4:1-6).

Self-Reflection: How can you continually be a unity seeker in the body of Christ?

Daily Confession: Lord help Your church to seek oneness in You; that love may reign among us and we can stand with and for You alone. Unite Your church oh Lord, amen.

Intercessory prayer: Pray that grace to continually pant after God will be released upon this generation.

Hymn: Take my life and let it be
Consecrated Lord to Thee
Take my moments and my days
Let them flow in ceaseless praise

April 15th

Who Does God Uses? (II)

*So we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached half its height, for the people worked with their heart.
Neh. 4:6*

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 4

Yesterday, we noted the fact that God desires to use His creation for His glory. However, God is interested in those who seek Him wholeheartedly in holiness (2 Timothy 2:19) and those who pursue the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace (Ephesians 4:3). Such people have an understanding of unity in the kingdom and work according to God's principles (Ephesians 4:4-6).

Furthermore, persevering vessels who are hardworking like the apostles are useful for the kingdom. Watchmen that can tarry for long and forebear in the face of adversity. In the case of Nehemiah, it got to a point that they held swords with one hand and built with the other hand. I imagined how extremely difficult that must have been both physically and psychologically. It would have been very easy to be exhausted but they never stopped. They kept on doing what the Lord called them to do.

Despite Sanballat and Tobias' opposition, Nehemiah and his people trusted the Almighty God. They understood the purpose of what they were doing. They knew it was for God. In that case, God would surely help them. Really, they could not have done that without total reliance on God. They even boldly claimed: "Our God will fight for us" (V.20).

Eventually, God's grace empowered them to fulfil their purpose. God saw their willingness and obedience and released the grace needed for the task unto His people. In the mission God has called us to, By God's grace, I hope we can continually be holy unto God, seek the unity of the brethren, persevere in hard work and place all our trust in God, knowing that He who called us is always faithful to bring to pass His words.

Action Point: Pray that you would be strengthened with might by God's spirit in your inner man.
Eph. 3:16

Intercessory prayer: Pray for fellow brothers and sisters in Christ today.

Hymn: Take my life and let it be
Consecrated Lord to Thee
Take my moments and my days
Let them flow in ceaseless praise

April 16th

Confidence to Speak the Truth

And I was very angry when I heard their cry and these words. Then I consulted with myself, and I rebuked the nobles, and the rulers, and said unto them, Ye exact usury, every one of his brother. And I set a great assembly against them. Nehemiah 5:6-7

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 5

Nehemiah's life presents us with many lessons to learn such as the confidence to speak the truth. After the people complained to Nehemiah about the inhumane experiences being melted against them by their brethren, Nehemiah confidently rebuked the nobles and the rulers. As Christians, how often do we confidently speak the truth regardless of who is involved? Nehemiah spoke the truth in wisdom. He presented his case to reveal God's mind and injunctions. There is a need to speak the truth boldly according to God's leading, seasoned with grace and love, and in the wisdom of God everywhere we find ourselves. God's Spirit empowers us to confidently speak God's mind just like the disciples on and after the Pentecost.

Also, Nehemiah's confidence was based on the kind of life he lived. He didn't live contrary to his message. You cannot offer what you don't have. For Nehemiah, he rebuked the nobles, the rulers and the people at large because he lived in accordance with God's word. Check your life because you have to first cast out the beam out of your own eye, and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote of thy brother's eye (Matthew 7:5).

Self-Reflection: Does your life resonate with God's word and the message you have?

Daily Confession: Lord help me to represent You well so that as You instruct me to speak and spread the gospel of Christ Jesus, I can speak in confidence, without guilt but with power that comes from the Spirit of God in Jesus name. Amen

Intercessory prayer: Pray that the church would be rooted and grounded in love.

Hymn: Let others see Jesus in you
Let others see Jesus in you
Keep telling the story, be faithful and true
Let others see Jesus in you

April 17th

The Joy of Fearing God (I)

Even their servants lorded it over the people. But I did not do so, because of THE FEAR OF THE LORD. Nehemiah 5:15b (ESV)

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 5

Nehemiah's reforms included correcting wrongdoings such as overtax, usury, slavery, and other inhumane actions melted against brethren which were against God's law. Nehemiah called the people of Israel to order including the king and the noble; he helped the poor, gave without tasking or lording it over the people. The reason for Nehemiah's different approach is captioned in today's memory verse: "because of the fear of the Lord".

It is interesting to see how the fear of God, love for God and obedience to God can help us live a life that is pleasing unto Him. This is because love for God enables us to reverence Him and do all things to glorify Him. Hence, we obey Him, walk in His ways and live for Him.

If our nations can fear God by living right; if leaders and followers can fear God alike, then, I believe that the world will be a better place. Nehemiah's decision to reduce the burden placed on the people ultimately contributed to the timely completion of the wall. This was instrumental to getting support from the people, a peaceful reign and God's provision. At KSi, we encourage you to take a decision to know God through Christ Jesus and live absolutely for Him.

Self-Reflection: And unto man he said, behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding. Job 2:28 (NKJV)

Daily Confession: Lord I choose to fear You with the whole of my heart, walk in Your way and trust You in and for all things in Jesus name.

Intercessory prayer: Pray that those who are yet to be saved around you would come to know the love of Christ which surpasses human understanding.

Hymn: Come, children, learn to fear the Lord
And that your days be long,
Let not a false or spiteful word
Be found upon your tongue.

April 18th

The Joy of Fearing God (II)

How great is Your goodness, Which You have stored up for those who fear You, Which You have wrought for those who take refuge in You, Before the sons of men! Psalm 31:19

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 6

It is indeed beneficial to fear the Lord, obey Him, and delight in His law. In the preceding chapter, Nehemiah explicitly stated that he set himself apart because he feared the Lord. Nehemiah was full of wisdom, no wonder he was able to discreetly overcome the continuous deception and opposition of Samballat and Gershem. He defeated all his enemies. Although Nehemiah's enemies employed a priest to lure him, God's wisdom to discern was at work in him. Nehemiah was favoured and was finally made the governor of the land.

Anyone that fears the Lord is blessed (Deut. 6:24; Psalm 112:1; Psalm 115:13); has a long life (Proverb 10:27) enjoys God's safety and protection (Proverb 19:23); and has joy and happiness (psalm 148:1-4) and many others. By the end of this chapter, the wall was completed and God took absolute glory and honour because Nehemiah and his people chose to cooperate with God.

Daily Confession: Lord, help me to fear You with the whole of my heart.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for greater impact and farther reach for the church of God today.

Hymn: Come, children, learn to fear the Lord
And that your days be long,
Let not a false or spiteful word
Be found upon your tongue.

April 19th

Deeper Relationship with God

Then my God put it into my heart to assemble the nobles and the officials and the people to be enrolled by genealogy. And I found the book of the genealogy of those who came up first at the first, and I found written in it" Nehemiah 7:5

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 7

Even though the wall was completed, clearly, Nehemiah's relationship with God continued. He never abandoned God like many of his forefathers did. After Israel got to the land of Canaan, even though they had seen God's miraculous and powerful works among them, by the time they settled down in the land of Canaan; the land flowing with milk and honey, many of them abandoned God. Just like the Israelites, many people cultivate a closer relationship with God during difficult times and immediately God answers them, they turn away from Him.

Nehemiah's honest desire for a deeper and closer relationship with God became a national quest. There was a national revival. God used Ezra and Nehemiah to restore the children of Israel to Himself. As we will later see, the idea God placed in Nehemiah's heart eventually helped in drawing the people closer to God (Nehemiah 7:5). Indeed, the word of the Lord is true. Psalm 16:11: You make known to me the path of life; in your presence, there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

God is ready to instruct us only if we listen and walk by His instructions.

Self-Reflection: Let your relationship with God not be defined by good or difficult times; rather remain in Him at all time

Action Point: Meditate on a verse from the Bible today

Daily Confession: As the deer pants for water, so my soul pants after You Lord, fill me oh Lord.

Song: Take me deeper
Deeper in love with You
Jesus hold me close to Your embrace
Take me deeper
Deeper than I've ever been before
I just want to love You more and more
How I long to be deeper in love

April 20th

God's Word for Revival

All the people assembled as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Era the scribe to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded for Israel. Nehemiah 8:1

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 8

Immediately the wall was rebuilt, the need for a national revival was obvious. The people desired to obey the law of the Lord, and their zeal for God was restored. They listened to the word of the Lord from "early morning to noonday"; heads of houses learnt the law of the Lord from Ezra, and they celebrated the feast of booths joyfully as in the time of Joshua. Importantly, our zeal and passion for the Lord can only continually be on fire when we seek God and dwell in the secret place of the Most High (Psalm 91).

Dear friends, meditate on God's word because it can revive a soul. No wonder the Lord asked Joshua to meditate on the law of the Lord day and night (Joshua 1:8). If Joshua did not, he would have been disconnected from His source (God). He would have been terrified and unable to complete the mission of leading the children of Israel to the Promised Land.

Action Point: start investing your time in the daily study of God's word.

Daily Confession: Lord thank You for Thy word that is my source. I am revived by Your word and I remain steadfast in You in Jesus name.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for God's mercy upon our world today and that righteousness will be exalted in all corners of the earth.

Hymn: O Word of God incarnate,
O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging,
O Light of our dark sky,
We praise Thee for the radiance
That from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps,
Shines on from age to age.

April 21st

God's Word for Genuine Repentance

Godly sorrow brings repentance leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death. 2 Corinthians 7:10 (NIV)

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 9

The word of the Lord is important to cultivate a steadfast walk with God (Nehemiah 8). As the people started reading God's word, the zeal to serve God was revived. In Chapter 9, the people realized how far they had moved away from God; they saw themselves in their sins and God's love that continually sustained them. This understanding of God's faithfulness and abounding love humbled them and drew them closer to God. Like the time of the children of Israel, we need to continually dwell in the word of God because God's word is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart (Hebrew 4:12). Indeed, no book is as powerful as the word of God. For instance, repentance cannot take place until we are broken and accept more of God's grace. Praise be to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for giving us the word of God.

Action Point: Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. (Colossians 3:16).

Intercessory prayer: Pray for your country for the peace of God.

Hymn: O Word of God incarnate,
O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging,
O Light of our dark sky,
We praise Thee for the radiance
That from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps,
Shines on from age to age.

April 22nd

Active Prayer for Our Leaders

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone for kings and all those in authority that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. 1 Timothy 2:1-2

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 10

The children of Israel collectively appreciated and blessed their leaders. These leaders who would have lived in their hometowns willingly offered to live in Jerusalem to lead the people. I imagine the newly-selected leaders facing the challenge of relocating from one place to another. Perhaps these leaders would have been encouraged spiritually, physically and emotionally knowing that the people they serve acknowledge them. The people's response perhaps might boost the leader's sense of responsibility and accountability among others.

In the same vein, let us learn to acknowledge, pray and encourage our God-given leaders. We should also appreciate people's sacrifices to ensure that we become who God wants us to be. The list is not limited to our parents, guardians, spiritual leaders, political leaders, siblings, and friends. Always remember that they are human beings too who need God's wisdom, grace, and strength to guide and support us on the right path.

Self-Reflection: Praying for God's leaders is God's will. Pursue it.

Action Point: Pray for your leaders today and bless them by giving.

Hymn: Oh, how praying rests the weary!
Prayer will change the night to day.
So, when life gets dark and dreary,
Don't forget to pray.

April 23rd

Rejoice and Be Thankful

And on that day they offered great sacrifices, rejoicing because God had given them great joy. The women and children also rejoiced. The sound of rejoicing in Jerusalem could be heard far away. Nehemiah 12:43 (ESV)

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 12

No matter the circumstance we are facing, we can be thankful that God's mercy endures forever and God's faithfulness prevails in every situation. For instance, apart from His provision, protection, direction, intervention, favour and mercy etc, God always positions the right people to help rebuild even broken walls in our hearts. No wonder God satisfies us with good so that our youth is renewed like the eagles. What a special privilege this is!

Let us sing of His praises because He is our deliverer. It is important we testify of God's faithfulness that endures forever. There is no one like Him in heaven and on earth. He who looks upon us with grace, mercy and love. Let's exalt His holy name. Let everything within us praise the Lord. Let's tell of His goodness as long as His breath lives within us.

I am confident that by His grace, He who began this good work in our lives will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Yes, we will face trials and challenges in our walk with Him, but just like Nehemiah, let us depend on God's grace to see us through. I am glad that He is our Father and He loves us. Let us love God and walk in His ways in total obedience. Again, I say rejoice in the Lord and praise the name of the Lord for His mercy endures forever.

Self-Reflection: Think of ways God has shown His faithfulness unto You.

Daily Confession: Lord Jesus, we thank You for Your unending love, and amazing grace.

Intercessory prayer: Pray that God will pour out His spirit upon all flesh in these last days.

Song: Bless the Lord o my soul

O my soul x2

Worship His holy name

Sing like never before

O my soul

I'll worship Your holy name

April 24th

Echoes from the Past: 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 the strength to carry out the responsibilities in front of you? Or do you see the load of work ahead of you and you are crippled 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; overwhelmed by my must-do list. I have discovered that God's word contains all that I need and I'd love to share a recipe for such a situation which I learned from our Bible reading today.

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, and I can do all things through Christ that strengthens me, thus, He is my source. Before I know it, the Holy Spirit starts giving me ideas on how to handle the tasks one after the other. His joy fills my heart and suddenly, I receive God's strength to carry through and I bask in His unending grace.

With the wisdom of setting the right priority, and shunning procrastination and distractions, I diligently tackle all that I need to do. I rely on God's grace to help me through. The truth is this: He always does, and He has never failed me. So next time you find yourself in this situation, choose to rejoice in the Lord, apply these principles and you will be surprised how fruitful you will be.

Self-Reflection: The joy of the Lord is my strength.

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 to be led by God's spirit at all times in words, thoughts and deeds.

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"

April 25th

The Lord My Strength

I can do all things through Christ that strengthens me. Philippians 4:13

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 13

By God's grace, Nehemiah, Ezra, other leaders and the people completed all the reforms necessary for the land of Israel. Nehemiah's walk with God reveals among other things that God truly gives strength to those who choose to genuinely walk in his ways. The life of Nehemiah symbolizes the fulfillment of the promise of God in 2 Chronicles 16:9 "For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give STRONG support to those whose heart is blameless toward him". Indeed, we are reminded that as long as we choose to walk in the ways of the Lord, God's presence strengthens and gives us the confidence to live for him. And when the journey gets tough, remember the life of Nehemiah and be encouraged. Imagine the difficulties and challenges he faced and the success He recorded through God's strength. He was ultimately victorious.

Also, wherever you live, know that you are on a mission to live for God and reconcile people to Christ. I pray that God's strength will see you through just like we see in the life of Nehemiah and His people.

Self-Reflection: By the arm of flesh shall no man prevail.

Action Point: Summarize the main points you have learned so far from the book of Nehemiah

Daily Confession: I thank You Lord for strength. I receive Your strength to prevail and fulfil Your purpose in all that I do in Jesus name.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for your colleagues to experience the saving grace of Jesus.

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

April 26th

Lord Remember Me

*Remember me for this also, O my God, and show mercy to me according to your great love.
Nehemiah 13:22b*

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 13:14, 22, 29-31

Nehemiah prayed a prayer of remembrance unto the Lord. It is a request for God to consider his wonderful deeds and have mercy upon him. The entire book holds testimonies, and gives accounts of Nehemiah's exploits. I think it is important we challenge ourselves on two things as we bring the study to an end.

Firstly, what will you be remembered for? There are many people who will not be remembered for anything good when they leave a place or a position they once occupied. As a self-memoir, Nehemiah confidently recounted his deeds. His deeds prove Jesus' words that "let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 5:16). Nehemiah led the people to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, he established policies and addressed longstanding issues that have caused the children of Israel to derail from God. Through Nehemiah and his team, the Israelites were reconciled to God.

Finally, we should learn to make God the centre of our focus in our words and deeds. Nehemiah recognized God as the centre of his accomplishment and he confidently presented his case to his heavenly Father in humility. For instance, Nehemiah acknowledged the source of his strength, God. Remember, God will never share His glory with anyone. Do you ascribe glory to God or yourself?

Self-Reflection: What will you be remembered for? Do you ascribe glory to God or self?

Action Point: Summarize the main points you have learned so far from the book of Nehemiah

Daily Confession: Lord I thank You for Your Word that is active, life and spirit. These words will profit me in Jesus name.

Intercessory prayer: Pray that Christ will be magnified in all corners of the earth.

Hymn: Only remembered by what we have done;
Thus would we pass from the earth and its toiling,
Only remembered by what we have done

April 27th

Help Us Bear Fruits Oh God

“So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come” Psalm 71:18 (ESV)

Bible Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:18-19

God’s word continually reminds us of our responsibility as disciples of Jesus Christ: spread the gospel of Christ Jesus to the uttermost part of the earth (Matthew 28:19-20). The lives of Jesus Christ and the disciples clearly show how supporting others to become followers and disciples of Jesus Christ is key to the ministry of reconciliation. We are called to seek first the kingdom of God and its righteousness (Matthew 6:33)

Bearing fruit is important. Jesus puts it this way, “every branch in me [Jesus Christ] that beareth no fruit he [God] taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he [God] purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit” (John 15:2). According to God’s standard, our success is not measured based on people’s accolades, awards or accomplishments. Rather, our success is measured by how we are able to fulfil the ministry of reconciliation entrusted unto us. This means our success is based on our obedience, commitment, and devotion to God and to His plan and purpose for our lives. I truly desire we can make our ultimate goal to follow Christ’s injunction, “make disciples of all nations”. Remember, as we abide in Christ Jesus, we are bound to bear fruits of righteousness (John 15:5).

Action Point: Share the gospel of Christ Jesus to somebody today!

Daily Confession/Prayer: Lord, I utilize the power and grace that has been given to me in You to proclaim Thy kingdom in Jesus name. Amen

Intercessory prayer: Pray for provision for the needs of individuals and their families in your circle of influence.

Hymn: My faith looks up to Thee
Thou Lamb of Calvary
Saviour divine;
Now hear me while I pray
Take all my guilty away
O let me from this day
Be wholly Thine.

April 28th

God Qualifies the Called

Be strong and of good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them. Joshua 1:6 (KJV)

Bible Reading: Joshua 1

Today's word is an encouragement to someone God is calling for a specific purpose in His kingdom but you are reluctant and refusing to yield to God's call because you feel you are unqualified for the task. The truth is this: You are right! You are really unqualified and no one is qualified for God's assignment but God qualifies whoever He calls. God's work cannot be carried out by human strength, that's why God empowers us by the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8).

In our Bible reading today, God transferred the baton of leadership to Joshua after the death of Moses. Joshua was terrified because he knew what Moses passed through when he led the children of Israel. For example, he was there when the people grumbled, murmured, and blamed Moses for everything. He was present when Moses went to Mount Sinai for forty days and upon his arrival met the children of Israel worshipping graven image among others. Joshua saw the task ahead and his inability to handle it. However, God's word comforted him the same way God is speaking to you this morning, "be strong and be courageous; wait upon the Lord for a renewal of strength; trust Him and allow His Spirit to help you carry out His assigned task to you".

There are some assignments that need training and you have to learn by giving yourself to learning so that you can be effective. At KSi, we encourage you to answer God's call upon your life. Rely on Him to fulfil your divine assignment in your office, at home, at church, at school, among your colleagues and in every area of endeavour. God bless you.

Action Point: Pray to God to help you fulfil His assignment.

Daily Confession: Lord I thank You for You qualify whoever you call and You have called me, I have answer, please help me and lead the way and I choose to follow in Jesus name.

Intercessory prayer: We pray for clarity, boldness and faith to as many who have been called by God for specific assignments.

Hymn: Lead us heavenly Father lead us
Ov'r the world tempestuous sea
Guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us
For we have no help but Thee.

April 29th

Noisy World (I)

Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening". 1 Samuel 3:10

Bible Reading: I Samuel 3

A while ago, I read an article on the extinction of some animal species. There are many reasons for this extinction including noise pollution. We have turned the earth into a noisy place! Our busy life, activities, and unsettled spirit continue to keep us from hearing God. Our inability to listen and to communicate effectively amplifies the noise. This type of lifestyle has been replicated in our relationship with God. God speaks continually but noise cuts us away from hearing God.

Just like Samuel, we run helter-skelter but the only thing we need is to acknowledge God when He speaks and give Him permission to speak to us. For instance, when you read God's word or pray, be quiet enough to allow Him to speak to you. Do not be in a hurry to leave His Presence. Samuel's experience reminds us that: God still speaks; however, we have to be still to hear Him. Dear friends, when we listen to God diligently, we can understand what He is communicating to us and this will be evident even in every aspect of our lives.

Self-Reflection: Although the world is noisy, how conducive is your own world to receiving from God?

Action Point: Do not be in a hurry to leave God's presence when you are doing your devotion!

Daily Confession: Lord help me to maximize the potential of being still in your Presence.

Intercessory prayer: **Pray for God's help and leading for our children and youths as they grow in life.**

Hymn: Jesus keep me near the cross
Just beyond the river
Free to all a healing stream
Flows from Calvary's mountain

April 30th

Noisy World (II)

The Lord said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord for the Lord is about to pass by" 1 Kings 19:11 (NIV)

Bible Reading: 1 Kings 19

God strengthened Elijah; provided him with food and instructed him to stand in his rightful position -- on the mountain where he could hear God. God had to direct Elijah to a quiet place away from the noise so that Elijah could hear Him. Despite the noise of industries; distractions, life situations, business and busy schedules among others, we have to cultivate the habit of listening to God. We have to learn to continually wait on God; call on Him as we stand on the mountain. When we stand on the mountain, in God's Presence, we see from His perspective. Our position is not a function of our location but the state of our heart. We are to learn to wait on God so that we can patiently know and access His mind for our lives and the world at large.

A caterer once spoke about fellowshiping with God despite the demands of work: "I stay in constant fellowship with God as I sing, hum psalms, speak in other tongues, meditate on God's word, and pray in my heart. Before I know it, I have overcome that day".

Self-Reflection: How often do you stay in constant fellowship with God?

Action Point: Amidst your activities today, pick a specific act to fellowship with God.

Daily Confession: I receive the grace to sustain my walk with God despite my busy schedule daily.

Intercessory prayer: Prophecy about the month of May 2022.

Song: I'm coming back to the heart of worship

And it's all about You,
It's all about You, Jesus.