

The background of the entire page is a long-exposure photograph of a starry night sky. The stars have formed into numerous curved, concentric trails of light, creating a sense of rotation. At the bottom of the image, there is a dark silhouette of a landscape, possibly a mountain range or a hillside, against a soft, orange and yellow glow from a setting or rising sun.

MAY 2022

**IN
HIS
FOOTSTEPS**

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

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

In His Footstep
A Daily Devotional by Kingdom Support Initiatives (KSi)

A Kingdom Support Initiatives Publication
2022

May 1st

Is Your Heart Troubled?

I will lift mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help? Psalm 121:1 (KJV)

Bible Reading: Psalm 121

We face challenges every day. It could be at home, in the family, at school, in the church, in the office, in our relationships, and with our finances etc. Our hearts are troubled on every side and like the psalmist, we can say “I will lift mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help?”

When your heart is troubled and you need help, be reminded to “look unto Jesus”. Burdens of life can be weighty and if you are not careful, your perspective may focus on yourself instead of God. When your gaze shifts away from the Almighty God, you limit what God can do in and through you because ‘you can do all things through Christ that strengthens you’ (Philippians 4:13). Just like David, be wise and look to the Strong for strength, consult the Wise for wisdom, and run to the Shield for protection. When we look to God as we pray, and hold on to His word, we simply place our confidence in Him; accept and embrace His Lordship over us and every situation. Dear friends, “Is your heart troubled? Simply look unto Jesus Christ who is the author and the finisher of your faith!” (Hebrews 12:2).

Self-Reflection: Do not look around, look up to God.

Action Point: Pray to God on whatever issue is troubling your heart today!

Daily Confession: Lord, I choose to fix my gaze on You. I run to you and receive peace for every distress, light in place of darkness, and life instead of death in Jesus name.

Intercessory prayer: We pray for those working in the hospital/medical centres for God’s protection over them, wisdom for every situation and healing through their hands.

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

May 2nd

Jesus Appear

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; but I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. John 10:10 (NIV)

Bible Reading: John 10:7-10

After the fall of Adam in the Garden of Eden, God revealed His plan to reconcile Man to Him. At the appointed time, He sent His only begotten son, Jesus Christ to the earth. Consequently, Christ Jesus appeared to rescue us from the power of darkness. We were restored from our fallen state, which was against God's plan into a new position in Christ Jesus. We became joint heirs with Christ in the kingdom of light (Colossians 1:13); through the power of the Cross, Jesus destroyed the work of Satan (I John 3:8).

Furthermore, in place of death, Christ gave us eternal life so that whosoever believe in Him, will not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:16). Instead of death, we now have life because Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. (1 John 5:11; John 10:10). It is important that we stand in the truth of our position in Christ Jesus. Our new life in Him should reflect in our daily living. We should love others, exercise our authority in Christ, and live for Him.

Accepting Christ Jesus and abiding in Him gives us legal claims to these rights in Christ Jesus. Dear friends, I encourage you to confess Jesus Christ with your mouth, believe Him with your heart, forsake your old ways, and turn to Him totally. And if you are in Him already, arise for the salvation of others by sharing the gospel in word and in deed. God bless you.

Self-Reflection: How is the new life in Christ seen in your life?

Action Point: Accept Jesus today! Share God's word to at least one person today.

Daily Confession: Lord Jesus, thank You for dying for my sins. I accept You as my Lord and Saviour and I abide in You. For those that are yet to know you, bring Your word to them and let their hearts be receptive to Your word in Jesus' name. Amen!

Intercessory prayer: We pray for the peace of Ukraine, Russia, and other regions where there is trouble and crisis.

Hymn: There is a fountain filled with blood
Drawn from Immanuel's veins,
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
Loose all their guilty stains.

May 3rd

What's Your Reaction? (I)

I answered them by saying, "The God of heaven will give us success. We his servants will start rebuilding, but as for you, you have no share in Jerusalem or any claim or historic right to it. Nehemiah 2:20

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 2:19-20

How you react to a situation is more important than the situation itself. This is because your reaction can determine the outcome of such experience. For example, students fail and succeed. Employers sack and hire. People die and new babies are born. All these (whether good or bad) happen to people. Ultimately, your reaction to life experiences and situations can impact the result, and your reaction can be a product of your understanding and perspective.

Whatever the situation that comes our way, we have to focus on Jesus Christ. Many people prayed for jobs and were employed but the same job took them away from God. Some people experienced something negative but their response was to draw closer to God etc. In today's reading, Nehemiah faced strong opposition and contention from Sanballath the Horonite, and Tobiah the Ammonite. Although Nehemiah acted according to God's leading to rebuild the temple, yet, he was opposed. Oppositions abound even when you are acting based on God's instruction and leading. Nehemiah's reaction teaches us to be bold, courageous, and refuse to be discouraged. He walked up to these officials and declared the counsel of God because He knew God and the uncompromisingly righteous are bold as a lion. (Proverb 28:1b) At last, Nehemiah's declaration was fulfilled to God's glory. Beloved, regardless of the situation we find ourselves, let our reactions be inspired by God so that we can declare His counsel alone as we wait on God

Self-Reflection: Our reaction is a product of what we know and understand!

Action Point: Reflect on your reactions to situation in times past.

Daily Confession: Lord, open the eyes of my heart to know your will in every situation so that my response can conform with Your intention in Jesus' name, amen.

Intercessory prayer: May God intervene in the families at the verge of breaking off. We speak God's speak into every storm in such marriages.

Hymn: Blessed is he that is trusting in the Lord,
For help that he daily needs;
He shall inherit the promised reward,
If he follow where Jesus leads.

What's Your Reaction? (II)

Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house, and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he got down upon his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously. Daniel 6:10 (AMP)

Bible Reading: Daniel 6

The story of Daniel is fascinating and ever fresh. Daniel's life teaches us to be different (in a positive way), diligent, and hard working. He presents us with wisdom applicable to life endeavour. Specifically, Daniel's maturity, excellence, prophetic grace, leadership qualities, humility and scholastic virtues to mention but a few informed his reaction in every situation and experience he had. In our reading today, instead of physically trying to fight the law makers (in this case his colleagues), Daniel's only response was to pray.

Some of the lessons to learn include: how to live a purposeful life and what a righteous response should be in situations. Another example from Daniel's life. Prior to this event, the king had a dream but he forgot and he requested to be reminded but no one could so he decided to kill his advisers, wise men and sorcerer. But when Daniel heard, his response was to present the case unto God. He prayed alongside his three other Hebrew friends. God definitely answered!

Finally, Daniel cultivated the habit of talking to God on every issue. There are lots of Christians that present their cases to men more than God. Many people prefer to tell their friends, family and neighbors than informing God, their Creator. It is important we inform our loved ones about life experiences and challenges, but we are to first present our lives before God. Remember that when we pray to God on issues of life, we receive His strength and His counsel which will ultimately inform our reactions and responses to situations. Be wise!

Self-Reflection: God awaits us to present our case before Him.

Action Point: Present any situation you are passing through before God.

Daily Confession: Lord, have mercy in any area I have enthroned men's counsel over Yours. Help me to always seek you.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for our children for God's protection over them.

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

May 5th

What's Your Reaction? (III)

And this is why I am suffering as I do. Still I am not ashamed, for I know (perceive, have knowledge of, and am acquainted with) Him Whom I have believed (adhere to and trusted in and relied on), and I am [positively] persuaded that He is able to guard and keep that which has been entrusted to me and which I have committed [to Him] until that day. 2 Timothy 1:12 (AMP)

Bible Reading: Acts. 20:32

Paul's comment is an assurance of deep and personal relationship, fellowship and revelation with and in God. Paul's letter to Timothy shows Paul's conviction of his purpose in the kingdom. No wonder his reactions to trials, persecution, shipwrecks, tribulations, imprisonment and other unpalatable experiences didn't move him in anyway.

An example of Paul's bold faith was when he was about leaving Ephesus. Although he knew what was ahead of him, he didn't submit to people's counsel to stay. Rather, here is Paul's response: "why are you weeping and breaking my heart? I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus" (Acts 21:13). When the people couldn't convince him, they submitted to God's will.

God is raising end time armies that will stand unshakable in the will and purpose of God despite what the world system dictates. He is positioning His armies to different parts of the world, and in different fields of human endeavour so that they can arise for the Lord's glory. The only thing Paul did was to commend the people to God and God's word of grace that is able to inform, guide and align them to God's purpose at every point in time (Acts 20:32). As long as we stay with God and abide in His word, we are secured.

Self-Reflection: Our response is a function of how well we know God. How well do you know God?

Daily Confession: That I may know You oh Lord.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for missionaries who are on the mission field for God's power, protection and provision.

Hymn: My faith looks up to Thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine;
Now hear me while I pray

May 6th

White Lie

To his neighbor each one speaks words without use or worth or truth; with flattering lips and double heart [deceitfully] they speak. Psalm 12:2 (AMP)

Bible Reading: Psalm 12

God's standard cannot be compromised because God's foundation stands sure. However, the world's standard has packaged her system to contradict God's principles. For example, the Ten Commandments given to Moses have been compromised. For instance, idolatry, adultery, fornication, and greed etc. have packaged in an enticing way to the point that we defend it in the world system. Jesus' summation of the commandment into two is meant to direct our attention towards God and reciprocate God's love to others.

White lie is considered as a harmless or trivial lie. Although God sees lie the way it is, human beings have decided to compromise by simply creating new standards below or contrary to that of God. God never categorized sin, it is an abominable before Him and Christ Jesus died to save us from the weight and life of sin. Dear friends, do you have your own standard of what is sin and what it is not? Here's God's standard: "But the firm foundation of God stands sure and unshaken, bearing this seal (inscription): The Lord knows those who are His, and, let everyone who names [himself by] the name of the Lord give up all iniquity and stand aloof from it". (2 Timothy 2:19)

Self-Reflection: God's standard is sure, be wise to follow it.

Action Point: In what ways have you compromised God's standard?

Daily Confession: Lord, have mercy on me in ways I have compromised Your standard and turn my heart to follow Your ways.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for your city that every appetite for sin will be far removed from God's people.

Hymn: What can wash away my stain?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus!
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus!

May 7th

Are You in Agreement?

When Moses went and told the people all the Lord's words and laws, they responded with one voice, Everything the Lord has said we will do. Exodus 24:3

Bible Reading: Exodus 24:1-4

Moses heard from God for the people of Israel. He was the Lord's prophet that mediated between God and the Israelites. He heard God's instructions; spoke with God on behalf of the Israelites, and delivered God's counsel. The children of Israel will always respond positively after hearing God's counsel. They would say, "everything the Lord has said we will do". Literally, it meant total agreement and submission to God's will and dictate. If you read the accounts of the people of Israel, they did contrary to their vow.

How often are we committed to agreeing with God verbally but disagree with Him in actions? Many people tremble when they hear God's word, make resolutions on what they won't do again, and like the Children of Israel they will say that all the Lord has said they will do but later go contrary. God desires that we agree with Him beyond the words from lips. Our agreement should be seen in our daily lives. Don't promise to share God's word alone, evangelize wherever God takes you, let your agreement to God's word propel you into action in every area. God bless you.

Self-Reflection: How often are we committed to agreeing with God verbally but disagree with Him in actions?

Daily Confession: Lord, help me to agree with You in words and action.

Intercessory prayer: Pray that our educational institutions will become citadels of righteousness

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

May 8th

Eternal Life

Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. John 17:3 (NIV)

Bible Reading: John 14:5-7

We are ambassadors of Christ. This means representing Him in the exact way He wants to be represented. God's kingdom advances when we present the Person of Christ Jesus to the world. When God's kingdom progresses in our lives, we show for the love of Christ.

Continually, the world seems to be erasing the emblem that points to Person of Jesus Christ, the son of the Living God. We have to remember that first, the kingdom of God is in us. although many Christians perhaps out of desperation for solution and due to ignorance conform to a life pattern contrary to God's plan. As Christians, when we preach the gospel to our friends, family members, fellow workers etc, we are to present the Person of Jesus Christ. This is because Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life (John 14:6).

The world is afraid of the person of Christ Jesus because salvation comes only through Jesus. Just like Daniel, many people conspire against us so that we can be discouraged and stop calling the name of Jesus. The eternal life is this: that men may come to the true knowledge of Christ Jesus. There's power in the name of Jesus. Every day, make it a point of duty to present the Person of Jesus Christ in your thoughts, through your words, and in your actions. Call on that name in any situation and you will be saved (Act. 4:12).

Self-Reflection: The name of the Lord is a strong tower, the righteous runs into it and they are safe. Proverb 18:10

Action Point: Employ the power in the name of Jesus over every situation.

Daily Confession: By the power in the name of Jesus, I bring to subjection every thought, plan and purpose of nations in obedience to Christ.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for the future of your children.

Hymn: All hail the power of Jesus name
Let angels prostrate fall
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all

May 9th

There is Power in the Name of Jesus

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:10-11 (NKJV)

Bible Reading: Philippians 2:9-11

The name of Jesus Christ is all efficient, sufficient and eternal. Jesus' name has eternal value, has capacity to save, and preserve for eternity. No wonder anyone who believes in Him will have everlasting life because the purpose of Jesus Christ is to save the world from her perdition. (John 3:16, Matthew 1:22).

Also, at the mention of the name of Jesus, every knee must bow in heaven and on earth yield because He has power over them all. In the name of Jesus, the sick are healed, the blind see, the deaf hear, lame walk, and all sicknesses and diseases vanish. The Bible has faith-driven stories and show miraculous events recorded in the time past that proved that the name of Jesus is all-powerful. For instance, the miracle at creation, the parting of the red sea, the turning of water to wine, the restoration of life to the widow's son, and ultimately the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Presently, there are living testimonies that showcase the name of Jesus. In fact, my life is a living testimony of the power that is in the name of Jesus.

Today, I will like to encourage you to call upon the name of Jesus wherever you are and regardless of the situation you are passing through. Just like the blind Bartholomew who cried when he realized Jesus was passing by, call upon God today and your life will never be the same again because Jesus never fails.

Self-Reflection: "that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father". Philippians 2:10-11

Action Point: Present your situation unto God in the name of Jesus Christ.

Intercessory prayer: Pray against sickness in our communities in the name of Jesus.

Hymn: All hail the power of Jesus name
Let angels prostrate fall
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all

May 10th

Allegiance, to Who? (I)

We love Him, because He first loved us. I John 4:19

Bible Reading: Romans 8:35-39

God is a loving God. The motive behind God's fellowship, relationship, redemption plan among others is simply love. Love is about allegiance. When you love someone or something, you are simply saying that you have pledged your allegiance to that person. Hence, you do not want to hurt, annoy or do something evil to such a person. God does not only love us but He gave us the opportunity to love Him in return. God's allegiance is seen from the beginning of the Bible till the end. His preservation, relationship, discipline and correction among others.

Paul's declaration seemed like a sudden realization-- he searched, pondered and finally concluded that nothing can really separate us from God's love. He emphasized that God's allegiance to humanity is a product of His love. Since love is about making, God intentionally made man in His image/likeness and gave man dominion over all things. Even when man lost this dominion, He strategized and restored man's dominion through His son Christ Jesus. Everything points to that fact that God's allegiance to man is simply, "love that is unfathomable. Understanding this truth gives us peace and confidence in Christ Jesus.

Self-Reflection: For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten son that whosoever believes in him will not perish but have everlasting life.

Action Point: Study on God's love

Daily Confession: Jesus, I thank You for Your love; I take glory in the truth that Your banner over me is love (Songs of Solomon 2:4)

Intercessory prayer: May your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

Hymn: Wonderful story of love
Tell it to me again

May 11th

Allegiance, to Who? (II)

We love Him, because He first loved us. I John 4:19

Bible Reading: Romans 8:35-39

The Bible is a love story. It has stories written many centuries ago of people who dedicated their lives because of love. For instance, God gave His only begotten son so that whosoever believe will have everlasting life. Summarily, Hebrew 11 briefly renders accounts of men and women who performed tremendously for God's kingdom simply because they loved Him.

Love is about pledging allegiance. God desires His people to love Him and submit their allegiance to Him. Since Lucifer fell from his glory and lost dominion, it has been a fight between the kingdom of darkness and the kingdom of light. Jesus Christ came to restore dominion that was lost in the Garden of Eden when the first Adam fell. The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17) and the greatest commandment (Matthew 22:37-39) all center on Love.

In the context of marriage, when two individuals (male and female) vow that they love each other, they simply pledge their allegiance to one another. The issue is who do you pledge your allegiance to? Dear friends, when you are in one need or another and there is the temptation to steal, forge figures in the office, and embrace fame and wealth without Jesus etc., the choice you make is a reflection of who you have pledged allegiance to.

Action Point: Pledge your allegiance to God in every area of your life.

Intercessory prayer: Pray that the heart of people in your community will be opened to the love of Jesus.

Hymn: O Jesus, I have promised
To serve You till the end

May 12th

Echoes from the Past - Not Even Death

But if not, be it known unto thee O king that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou has set up. Daniel 3:18

Bible Reading: Romans 6:1-4

As I write this devotional, the hymn, "Stand up! Stand Up for Jesus!" comes to my mind. The word of this hymn was penned down by George Duffield Jnr. in 1858 as he watched his friend Rev. Dudley A. Tyng die the same year. Tyng was a dynamic preacher of the word, his stand against the evils of slavery in the American society was so evident in his sermons. At a mass meeting on Tuesday, March 30, 1858, Tyng preached a powerful sermon on Exodus 10:11, "Go ye that are men and serve the Lord". That sermon led to the salvation of over 1,000 men out of the 5,000 men in attendance for the meeting. Over a week after the sermon, this great preacher died, he whispered these final words to friends and families present at his death, "Let us all stand up for Jesus".

As a tribute to his friend, Pastor George Duffield preached a sermon on Ep. 6:14 on the Sunday following. He completed the sermon with a six-stanza poem forming the lyrics of this great hymn. Not even death shall separate us from faithfully loving our God. Ponder on this and count the cost. Is your walk with God gotten to that level that you can boldly say: "Not even Death" can separate you from the love of God?

Self-Reflection: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? What could make me depart from this path of life in Jesus Christ? (Romans 8:35)

Daily Confession: Lord I choose to follow you with the whole of my life and I seek to please you all the days of my life. For nothing shall separate me from the love of Christ; nothing can separate me from this path of life in Christ Jesus. I know that storms of life will come, but I find solace in You and like your word promises, I rejoice for you have overcome the world in Jesus' name. Amen

Intercessory prayer: Pray for the friends of your children.

Hymn: stand up, stand up for Jesus
Ye soldiers of the cross;
Lift high his royal banner
It must not suffer loss.
From vict'ry unto vict'ry
His army he shall lead
Till ev'ry foe is vanquished
And Christ is Lord indeed.

May 13th

Count the Cost

Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? Luke 14:28

Bible Reading: Luke 14:25-34

Beyond any contestation, we are at the very end of age because God's word is being fulfilled daily about the happenings of the end time. Nations are rising against nations; there are pestilences, disasters, and unending wars. As these events take place, there is heavy persecutions of Christians. The ancient landmarks that point us to God are being removed. As Christians, there is the need to deny ourselves in pursue God.

Further, except we count the cost before any situation arises, we might disown Him when terrible situation arises. Jesus Christ speaking about the importance of counting the cost of discipleship and followership, He presented a scenario of a house builder who obviously need to budget and know what the house will cost. I remember when my family built our house, we had series of conversations on the cost. We had to sacrifice as a family in order to build our house.

Dear beloved, when we count the cost of being pilgrims on a journey, we will be prepared for whatever is ahead. Will identifying with Jesus cost us our lives, loved ones, jobs, money, and relationships among others? The three Hebrew men openly declared that even if they will die, they were ready for the King of glory. How about you?

Self-Reflection: But Jesus told him, "Anyone who puts a hand to the plow and then looks back is not fit for the Kingdom of God." Luke 9:62

Action Point: What will following Jesus cost you?

Daily Confession: Lord Jesus, I receive the grace to duly follow You no matter the cost. So help me God.

Hymn: Follow, follow. I will follow Jesus
Anywhere, everywhere, I will follow Him

May 14th

Fishers of Men

They were casting a net into the lake for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me, Jesus said, and I will make you fishers of men. (Matthew 4:18b-19)

Bible Reading: Matthew 4:18-22

It was not a coincidence that some of Jesus' disciples were fishermen, namely Peter, his brother Andrew, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. The ultimate intention was that His disciples would be fishers of men. Their job description moved from catching fishes to winning souls for the kingdom of God.

Although you are not a fisherman, do you know that you are a fisher of men? We have been given the mandate to evangelize the gospel of Christ Jesus. Through us, people should come to the truth of Christ Jesus. How?

God's kingdom advances when we understand that He has called us for His purpose beyond the four walls of the church. In your office, on the bus, in the school, at the market or supermarket and in life's journey, we are to present the Person of Jesus Christ to people. Our field are our families, friends, colleagues, communities, and nations among others. Let the people come to the light of the gospel of Christ Jesus through our lives. Are you ready to be a fisher of men?

Self-Reflection: How much am I committed to evangelism?

Action Point: Preach the gospel today!

Daily Confession: Lord Jesus help me to follow Thy command in Jesus' name.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for the children of missionaries for God's sustaining grace.

Hymn: Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere,
Go tell it on the mountain
The Jesus Christ is Lord

May 15th

Organized Vanity

Yet when I surveyed all that my hands had done and what I had toiled to achieve, everything was meaningless, a chasing after the wind; nothing was gained under the sun. Eccl. 2:11 (NIV)

Bible Reading: Ecclesiastes 2

If you want to know about the vanity of life, read the book of Ecclesiastes. The book contains wisdom and insight into the life of someone without Jesus. After reading the book, I believe you will think more about the vanity of everything. The preacher, as the writer is being referred to used his life experience as the basis of book. King Solomon, known as the richest king on earth revealed all that he did throughout his entire life and realized that all is simply vanity.

If you have attended funeral services like me, the reality of vanity will stare at your face. All that we have worked for will be left behind and people we never knew will do anything they want. No wonder the psalmist says that, "what is man that you are mindful of him?"

Knowing that life is vanity, there is a need to make eternity count. Knowing Jesus who is the ultimate wisdom of God, and following Him is the key. At KSi, we desire that while you live here on earth, you can make your eternity count with Jesus.

Action Point: Give your life to Jesus and work according to His dictates.

Daily Confession: Lord Jesus help me to fix my gaze on You.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for countries planning election that peace will reign and God will take absolute control in Jesus name, amen.

Hymn: My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly lean on Jesus name

May 16th

Gratitude

By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to his name. Hebrew 13:15

Bible Reading: Psalm 95:1-7

Gratitude means appreciating to someone for something they did or they will do. Gratitude unto God is a time set apart to reflect on God's goodness and praise Him for His doings and His promises concerning us. We are to give thanks to God in all situation and this we can do through dancing, singing or by saying a prayer of thanksgiving. Showing gratitude pleases. In fact, God inhabits the praises of his people (Psalm 22:3).

King David is an example of a man who knew how to thank God so much so that God described him as a man after His own heart. We are to thank God for His faithfulness, power, love, preservation, our salvation, hope, blessings, deliverance and so many numerous things. Giving thanks to God keeps our heart in constant communication with Him and we receive His blessings regularly. Sacrifice of praise is that which we offer to God when life isn't going the way we planned it but we still choose to believe God and trust Him for the best. Nahum 1:7, Job 13:15.

Action Point: Our praise to God should be continual and not based on our circumstances.

Intercessory prayer: Appreciate God for the intercession we have made prayed.

Hymn: Praise my soul the King of heaven
To His feet thy tribute bring
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven
Who like me His praise should sing?

May 17th

Jesus is Passing This Way (I)

When he heard that it was Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me! Mark 10:47-48 NIV

Bible Reading: Mark 10:46-52

Today's reading presents the story of the blind Bartimaeus. I can imagine him correcting us anytime we refer to him as blind Bartimaeus, "I was blind, but now I can see". The cause of his blindness was unknown, but one thing we know was that Bartimaeus was not comfortable in his situation. His daily work was arms begging; I can imagine him sitting by the road side singing to get attention from passersby, requesting for their help. The blind Bartimaeus believed that Christ Jesus could heal and restore his sight unlike the Pharisees and the Sadducees who saw Christ Jesus' miracles daily but refused to believe in Him. May the eyes of our heart be flooded with light so that we may come to know Him (Ephesians 1:18).

It was obvious that Bartimaeus was blind physically, but he could see spiritually. Thus, when Jesus was passing by, Bartimaeus did not allow the people around him to silence him. Rather, he cried out to Jesus, "Jesus, son of David, have mercy on me" and Jesus made him whole. What situation are you passing through today? Do you know that Jesus Christ has the power to turn it around? He is ever near only call upon Him in righteousness and holiness and He will answer. If you are yet to know Him as your personal Lord and Saviour, He is at the door of your heart, knocking and waiting for you. Open unto Him today and just like Bartimaeus, you will receive your sight.

Action Point: pray to God about your situation today.

Intercessory prayer: Lord give sight to the blind in my community in Jesus name.

Hymn: Jesus is passing this way,
This way, today
Jesus is passing this way,
Is passing this way today.

May 18th

Jesus is passing this Way (II)

They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by" He called out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Luke 18:37-38 NIV

Bible Reading: Luke 18:37-38

Bartimaeus' attitude to the opportunity heaven presented him was well-received and maximized. He didn't only leave his comfort zone, he lived above distractions, and discouragements in and around him. Perhaps, we need to take a step back and reflect on the opportunities God has graciously given us this year. How well did we use them? Did we complain and grumble on our predicaments, rather than rely on His unending grace to help us till the end?

Fanny Crosby, probably the most prolific hymnist in history wrote a hymn that bears the same title as our study. The hymn was inspired by the story of blind Bartimaeus. It is a song of salvation and teaches us to rest in the arms of the Saviour, in order to receive peace and abundant life. The writer although shared the same physical predicament with Bartimaeus, however beyond this, both shared the attitude of embracing every opportunity from God despite the physical limitations. No wonder Bartimaeus cried to Jesus Christ for mercy and the central message of the hymn reads: "Jesus is passing this way; mercy is tenderly pleading; come to the arms of the Saviour; come to His infinite love."

May we maximize God's gift unto us in every situation and not give in to discouragements and distractions.

Self-Reflection: How well are you using your God given opportunities?

Intercessory prayer: Pray for boldness for those who are timid and fearful around you.

Hymn: Jesus is passing this way,
This way, today
Jesus is passing this way,
Is passing this way today.

May 19th

Jesus is Passing this Way (III)

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. Matthew 7:7(NIV)

Bible Reading: Mark 10:46-52

Just like Bartimaeus, we have different desires we want God to meet in our lives. There are genuine longings that we want God to satisfy.

The joy that fills my heart as we roundup lessons from the story of Bartimaeus today is that God is never tired of hearing us. He knows, sees, and listens to us -- even our inner thoughts. Amidst the crowd and the noises that surrounded Bartimaeus, Jesus heard his distinct voice, and gave him an unreserved attention. Beloved, you have a Father who knows you by name and He hears even before you call. Bartimaeus believe that Jesus could heal him. He cried to Jesus, left his comfort zone and acted according to his expectations. Today, we encourage you to take time to seek God's face concerning your heart desires, believe, act accordingly as the Holy Spirit directs, and patiently wait on God.

Self-Reflection: Why pray if you don't believe? Why believe if you aren't taking the right steps that correspond to your faith?

Action Point: Pray to God for your specific needs in your life.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for the spirit of supplication to rest upon your household (Zechariah 12:10).

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.

May 20th

Self-Control

For we all stumble and sin in many ways. If anyone does not stumble in what he says [never saying the wrong thing], he is a perfect man [fully developed in character, without serious flaws], able to bridle his whole body and rein in his entire nature [taming his human faults and weaknesses]. James 3:2 NIV

Bible Reading: James 3:1-12

A seed does not bear fruit instantly when planted. It has to undergo a growth process which will enable it germinate and grow. The same way maturity does not just come like that. It is a gradual process that we grow into. Self-control is part of the fruit of the spirit and it is important in all ramification as we grow unto maturity. Self-control is discipline—the ability to bring one's desire, appetite and desire under control. This is wisdom and it requires yielding to the Holy Spirit, and the word of God.

In today's reading, we are called to be perfect just as our Father in heaven is perfect. If you react to everything, you speak out of fury and anger, or you do things based on earthly wisdom, then, you are called unto self-control. Many times, when we sincerely desire self-control and we rely on God to help us, situations that will require us to exercise self-control will arise more than before. However, we have to learn to rely on the Holy Spirit, study God's word and read books so that we can grow and build stamina needed for self-control. The Holy Spirit is always with us, we must understand that even when we fall in the process, He is there to pick us up to continue the journey.

Self-Reflection: Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. (Matthew 5:48)

Daily Confession: Holy Spirit, help me in all ways.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for those in the prison for God's visitation, change of heart where needed and God's mercy.

Hymn: Footprints of Jesus,
That make the pathway glow;
We will follow the steps of Jesus
Where'er they go.

May 21st

God's Standard (I)

Nevertheless, the firm foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, "the Lord knoweth them that are his. And, let everyone that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity" 2 Timothy 2:19 KJV

Bible Reading: Romans 6:1-14

Compromise can weaken standards especially when it involves lowering a requirement. As Christians when we introduce or accept standards that are lower than what God desires, we weaken our faith. For instance, lowering God's standard in order to accept everyone to perform duties in the church does not align with what God wants. Rather, we may end up building a new generation of people who believe that anything goes in God. To be clear, God's standard cannot be changed because God is no respecter of persons. But in every nation, he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him (Acts. 10:34).

Although God loves sinners, but sin is an abomination unto Him; He calls all people to come as they are so that He can wash us clean by the precious blood of His only son Jesus Christ. If you genuinely come to God, you can never remain the same because you are made clean, holy and righteous unto God. Dear friends, Christ Jesus is the only way to the Father; only those who are consecrated, sanctified and holy unto God shall see God. Do not be deceived, a life of sin will only lead you to hell. God does not want eternal damnation for anyone, hence he made provision for redemption in Christ Jesus so that we can live above sin and reign with Him in Heaven. Repent today because tomorrow may be too late!

Self-Reflection: In what areas have you set standards contrary to God's?

Action Point: Repent and turn from your evil ways.

Daily Confession: Lord I repent of my old ways and turn totally unto You. Help me stand in Thy truth forever, amen.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for your city for God's healing.

Hymn: Is there a heart that is waiting,
Longing for pardon today?
Hear the glad message proclaiming,
Jesus is passing this way.

May 22nd

God's Standard (II)

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

Bible Reading: Romans 6:1-14

The message of Christ Jesus is that of grace. It teaches us to say no to ungodliness and worldly passions, and live self-controlled, upright and godly life in this present age (Titus 2:11-14).

Is your lifestyle pleasing unto the Lord? Can people see you and glorify your heavenly Father? Does worldly passion, lust, pride of life, and works of flesh evident in your life? Is your life reveals a form of godliness but denies the power therein? Do you profess you love God but you disobey Him? If your response is yes to these questions, then Jesus is calling you today.

If you are in Christ, you are a new creation and old things have passed away, all things have become new (2 Corinthians 5:17-18), and God's seed is in you so you cannot sin. Dear friends, in case you are yet to know accept Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Saviour. God desires that you return to Calvary so that you can truly be cleansed. Rely on the Holy Spirit because by your strength you can do nothing.

Daily Confession: Lord have mercy on me and save me from my iniquities; purge me and search me to remove any unclean thing in me in Jesus name (Psalm 51:7-12)!

Intercessory prayer: Pray for the homeless in your city for a change in their conditions.

Hymn: Is there a heart that is waiting,
Longing for pardon today?
Hear the glad message proclaiming,
Jesus is passing this way.

May 23rd

Our Helper

You, however, are not controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. Romans 8:9

Bible Reading: Romans 8:1-17

We have been considering God's standard of holiness and righteousness. It is not self-righteousness that will save us, rather we have to believe in the saving grace of Jesus and rely on the Holy Spirit to help us live for God. Here are some biblical truth to help us as we seek God.

First, we have become the righteousness of God through Christ Jesus (2 Corinthians 5:21). It is absolutely about Jesus Christ. As we fix our gaze on Him, we are transformed unto glory, continually becoming like Him (2 Corinthians 3:18). This position we now occupy in Him is a result of Christ's death, resurrection and the new life we have in HIM (Ephesians 1:17-23). No wonder Apostle Paul reminded us in Romans 8:1 that: "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."

Furthermore, the Holy Spirit, who is our Helper and Counselor is always ready to empower us when we rely absolutely on Him (). We have to set our affections on things above and live a holy life unto the Lord (Col. 3:1-5). God's word continually serves as our guide. It is important that we understand our position in Christ Jesus, cooperate with the Holy Spirit, make the word of God our companion, and deny self each day are absolutely important.

Action Point: Make a commitment to grow spiritually by living according to God's standard.

Daily Confession: Lord Jesus I thank You for the redemptive grace, the cleansing by the blood of Jesus, the word of God that guides me, and the Holy Spirit that is my Counsellor. I choose to stand in the position I have in Christ Jesus and rely on the Holy Spirit to help me in all things.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for your church members for deeper walk with God. May God meet them at the points of their needs.

Hymn: The Comforter has come,
The Comforter has come!
The Holy Ghost from heav'n,
The Lord's dear promise giv'n;
Oh, spread the tidings 'round,
Wherever man is found—
The Comforter has come

Joshua's Strategy

Then Joshua son of Nun secretly sent two spies from Shittim. "Go, look over the land", he said, especially Jericho. So they went and entered the house of a prostitute named Rahab and stayed there. Joshua 2:1

Bible Reading: Joshua 2

Today, we want to consider a strategy employed by Joshua. It is called "spying" or "espionage". In military terms, spying is an important strategy employed to gather information about the enemy which is later used to the disadvantage of the enemy. Information such as demography, policies, military strength; knowledge, arms and ammunition; environmental factor, numerical strength, belief system, and natural resources among others. The information gathered will help in devising effective strategies against the opponent. That was exactly what Joshua did. He learnt from his master Moses who sent twelve spies including Joshua to the land of Canaan (Numbers 13).

The art and act of strategizing is important to maximizing potentials and opportunities. As Christians, we need to understand the importance of being strategically positioned and work at it so that at the end of the day, we can occupy effectively for Christ Jesus. The strategy of spying itself is essential in the Christian race because we are soldiers on the battlefield. We have to be watchful, attentive, and sensitive to and in all things as the Holy Spirit, our Helper leads. Unity is key in taking over nations for Christ Jesus. In addition, we have to be zealous, full of faith, have right understanding and be well-prepared. Jesus summed it up this way: "watch and pray".

Self-Reflection: How watchful and prayerful are you?

Action Point: Develop your spiritual strategy of being attentive, intuitive, sensitive and obedient in your walk with God.

Daily Confession: Lord have mercy on me where I have not fully maximized Your grace, I turn to You for Your help in Jesus name. Amen!

Intercessory prayer: Let's pray for your country's military, naval, police and air officers for God's help as they carry out their responsibilities.

Hymn: Lead me, Lord, lead me in your righteousness,
Make your way plain before my face.
For it is Thou Lord, Thou Lord only,
That makest me dwell in safety

May 25th

Fully Consecrated Unto God

Now see to it that you drink no wine or other fermented drink and that you do not eat anything unclean, because you will conceive and give birth to a son. No razor may be used to his head, because the boy is to be a Nazirite, set apart to God from birth, and he will begin the deliverance of Israel from the hands of the Philistines". Judges 13:4-5 (NIV)

Bible Reading: Judges 13:1-14

A major attribute of God's Generals across nations of the world is consecration and commitment unto God. The Bible documents in abundance lives of fathers of faith dedicated to God's purpose. In a generation like this, it is helpful to see kingdom principles at work through the lives of certain individuals. For instance, D.L Moody's resolved that, "The world is yet to see what God can do with a man fully consecrated to Him. By God's help, I aim to be that man". D.L Moody shook the world for God's glory and through him, the world encountered a great revival. D.L Moody was fully dedicated and devoted unto God. And God did exploit in and through D.L Moody.

The encounter between Manoah's wife and the angel in today's reading revealed what consecration entails. It means self-denial and separation unto the Lord. The moment an individual is consecrated unto the Lord, s/he shouldn't yoke with the world again. Sin becomes foreign because the new life in Christ brings newness.

In this last day, it seems many have forgotten how important "consecration" is. Here's a wise saying: "Anyone who has a destiny in God needs to be consecrated for God's purpose, deny self and work in righteousness and holiness".

Self-Reflection: Anybody that has a destiny in God must consecrate him/herself for that purpose, deny self and walk in righteousness and holiness

Action Point: Take a decision to be consecrated unto God today.

Daily Confession: I give myself away Lord Jesus Christ. Be the Lord over my life, be my saviour and use my life for Your glory. Amen

Intercessory prayer: Pray for drug and substance addicts for God to encounter their lives.

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

May 26th

Open Up to God

He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy. Proverb 28:13 (KJV)

Bible Reading: Joshua 7

Sometimes ago, I saw this advert: a mother walked into her son's room; noticed that it was extremely dirty, and told her son to clean the room. The son refused to carry-out her mother's instruction because according to him, cleaning his room was a huge task which he wasn't ready to undertake because it was time consuming exercise. The mother however, offered him an alternative solution, which was to clean the room by spraying a fragrance to cover the dirt and for fresh fragrance.

Many times, we are like this. Our hearts are unclean and we look for shortcuts before God instead of exposing ourselves unto Him. In fact, we should have tarried before Him to purge us, deny ourselves of worldly lust and be cleansed by the precious blood of Jesus and the word. The world system is deceptive and many love its ways. However, God desires that we seek Him with the whole of our heart. Unlike the deceit inherent in our analogy, God wants us to come to Him in all sincerity without holding back.

God considered David as a man after His own heart because he was honest, and open to God regardless of his offence. Anytime he made a mistake, he would cry to God for mercy and refused to cover his sins. No wonder he wrote Psalm 51, one of the most profound Psalms ever written. Beloved, we are in a world where unrighteousness is celebrated and sins are covered. I encourage you to cry out today like Paul (Romans 7:24-25) and be delivered. Remember, "He that covereth his sin shall not prosper, but whosoever confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy" (Proverb 28:13).

Action Point: What areas of your life have you hidden from God? Confess unto Him today!

Daily Confession: Purify me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow in Jesus name.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for primary and secondary school teachers for God to keep them, give them wisdom as they teach our kids, and for God to fight for them on every side.

Hymn: Search me, O God,
And know my heart today;
Try me, O Saviour
Know my thoughts, I pray
See if there be
Some wicked way in me;
Cleanse me from every sin
And set me free

May 27th

Do Not Be Afraid

Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still". Exodus 14:13-14

Bible Reading: Exodus 14

God's word of assurance, promise, and encouragement comes to a user of this devotional this morning because God sees what you are passing through, and what is ahead of you. Today's word is that of comfort and when God promises, He brings it to fulfillment if we cooperate with Him. The account of the Israelites reminds us of their struggle and trouble in Egypt even though they flourished in the Land of Goshen. The triumphant exit from the land of Egypt, the miraculous crossing over the red sea, and the saving grace of the Almighty God showed God's commitment to His children.

The only responsibility expected of you is this: Do not be afraid but hold your peace! Isn't that amazing? How will you do this? Simply replace fear with faith. Fear is not of the Lord and anytime it comes, confront it with the word of God because faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God (Romans 10:17).

As you continue in the journey of this year, remember God's word today that God will fight your battle for you. He will deliver you because He never fight a battle that He cannot win, and you are only to hold your peace. Choose to see that situation from the perspective of God's word, believe Him absolutely and as you hold fast to God's word, you will see Him work tremendously in your life. God bless you.

Self-Reflection: How much of God's word do you know?

Action Point: Search what God says about your situation.

Daily Confession: Thank God for His word and present your situation unto God.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for faculty members of postsecondary institutions in your country

H

ymn: When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word,
What a glory He sheds on our way!
While we do His good will, He abides with us still,
And with all who will trust and obey.
Trust and obey, for there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

May 28th

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 of wonders and wonder working God! His creativity transcends human understanding and it is still unfathomable despite human's curiosity. He is an indescribable God because no number of names can describe Him. I have read hundreds of names that have evolved from different people, tribes and circumstance about miracles and various experiences to show how awesome God is. Interestingly, God's wonders are prominent every second even when we are oblivious or we refuses to acknowledge it. There are many signs and wonders that show this creative wonder of God. For instance, as a woman, if you have experienced child birth before and you reflect on that experience, you are left wondering how great our God is. No wonder it is called "signs and wonder", 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 sustains God's creation. After reading several accounts or theories of creation, I can only submit that God remains unfathomable 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 the wonder working God that sustains all things. 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.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for God to work wonder in the lives of your family and friends.

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

May 29th

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. 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, we refuse to cooperate with Him and hold on to His promises tenaciously. At time, 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 missed Jesus' perspective; he understood the miracle that could happen in that second but his faith was not bold or strong enough to stand against unbelief and he cried out to God for help. Before we call unto God to help our unbelief, the first question is this: do you even know God's promise concerning you? If you are asked what is God saying about your situation, can you reveal the mind of God about it?

God's promises are written in the word of God. God can not contradict His word. You only need to take time to study the word and locate God's promise concerning your situation.

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

Daily confession: Lord deliver me from every spirit of unbelief.

Intercessory prayer: Pray for fresh hunger for God's word in your life, in your home and in your church.

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

May 30th

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 in abundance— his life, goodness, favour, peace, and blessings etc. He has great and mighty things planned for His children. His words comfort, guide and assure us of His plan and purpose (Jeremiah 29:11). However, many children of God are living below God's expectations because they don't even know God's promises for their lives. They cannot stand and fight to finish because they are not familiar with the ministry of the Holy Spirit (Hosea 4:6).

Standing on the promise of God means keeping the word of the promise by confessing it, constantly praying it, and unwaveringly believing it. 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 knowing that He is able to do that which He has said.

Dear friends, take right step at the Lord's command by faith. Do not allow doubt or fear in your life. Continually fix your gaze on Jesus. Sin can either delay or abort the fulfilment of God's word in the life of a man. Therefore, let sin be far away from you. Do not be weary but stand on God's promises. Finally, continually rejoice and be thankful.

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: Pray for God's abundant rain in the regions of the world experiencing drought.

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

May 31st

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 of 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 etc. Also, in our walk with God, strength is important (Isaiah 40:31). 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 power comes, we can do extra ordinary things for God. For instance, we walk in grace, we become the hands and legs of Jesus (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 in prayer, studying and meditating on His 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 by the Lord.

Intercessory prayer: pray for yourself and your family concerning the month of June

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