

AND PRAYER 21 DAYS OF FASTING AND PRAYER 21 DAYS OF



1-21 2023
JAN DEVOTIONAL
GUIDE

**WIDE-EYED
WONDER**



FOREWORD

“Wide-Eyed Wonder” is a 21-Day Devotional Guide to help us renew our vision and see more clearly.

Over the next 21 days, as we seek God, we can expect the Holy Spirit to open our eyes to see His power, wisdom, and wonders. God has awesome, unimaginable things He wants to share with us! He has always been, and will always be ready to reveal them! No matter how much of God we have experienced, there is still more.

God does not see as we do. His ways are higher, better than ours. His thoughts are not like our thoughts. We do not always think good thoughts or right thoughts. Sometimes we face doubts, fears and unbelief, or lose sight of God’s goodness when we face challenges. And sometimes we go through the daily grind, not really expecting anything good can happen.

As we seek God, we can expect Him to give us fresh perspectives of who He is, how He perceives us, and how we should perceive our situations. When we allow God to exchange our thoughts and ways for His, everything changes. From day to day, week to week, and season to season, we can live the abundant life that He has promised!

FOREWORD

Each week of this devotional focuses on different aspects.

In Week 1: *Hunger*, we allow God to stir up a new hunger in us and believe that God wants to show and give us something new, something we have never seen or had before.

In Week 2: *Change My Heart*, we zero in on areas that need change, asking God to replace and remove perspectives, attitudes, or mindsets which are holding us back.

In Week 3: *Open My Eyes to the Good Things Ahead*, we position ourselves to receive fresh faith, fresh fire, new encouragement and expectation of God's good things.

At the end of each week, we take time to meditate on all God has spoken, to apply and consolidate what we have received from Him.

So we invite you to join us on this exciting journey. As we go through this devotional, we believe God will open our eyes to see His goodness in every area of our lives. He will give us supernatural strength and lead us into the new year with faith and confidence.

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DAY 1

THERE IS MORE

But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him”— these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

1 Corinthians 2:9-10

DAY 1 | THERE IS MORE

Overview

No matter how much of God we have experienced, there is still more.

Observation

Every day our senses are overwhelmed with new information. Ideas, images, news, rumours, and experiences fill our lives and give us our view of the world. But God is far beyond this world, His ways are far beyond our understanding, and His purpose is beyond what we can imagine. And His promise to us is that He reveals His purpose to us through the Holy Spirit.

We cannot just be content with what we have experienced in the past, or understand in our natural perception. There is more! More that God desires to do, more that God desires to speak, more that He desires to pour out on us. Paul states in this verse that God's purpose for us is unthinkable - beyond what has even entered our hearts - that God desires to open our eyes and show us that very purpose.

You are part of that purpose and promise. Your life is not excluded. God desires to reveal to us His heart and ways. Let this be the beginning of a pursuit to receive all that God has for us. Let this promise sink into your heart that there is more God has for you, and He is ready to reveal it.

Response

As we begin this 21 day journey, let us commit our lives to seeking God for the "more". Ask Him for a new hunger and understanding that He is not done revealing himself to us.

Prayer

Father, I thank you for your great love and the purpose You have given to me. Help me to pursue You, and to desire to know more of what You have in store for me. Today, would you reveal Your purpose to me? Open my eyes to see more of what You want to show me so that I can follow You. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

DAY 2

LORD I WANT TO SEE

When Jesus heard him, he stopped and ordered that the man be brought to him. As the man came near, Jesus asked him, “What do you want me to do for you?”
“Lord,” he said, “I want to see!”

Luke 18:40-41

DAY 2 | LORD I WANT TO SEE

Overview

We need to come before the Lord with clarity.

Observation

What an incredible statement - *I WANT TO SEE!* This phrase is spoken by a blind man who had called for Jesus' attention. He cried out again and again so the Lord would minister to Him, yet when Jesus called him to come near, the Lord put a direct question to Him, "*What do you want me to do for you?*". And the man's response was so clear - his desire was that Jesus would enable him to see!

It is sometimes difficult to come before the Lord with clarity. When we pray and seek Him, we are often distracted by many thoughts, or overwhelmed by our many needs and requests. I wonder if Jesus asked us this question today, how would we answer?

The man standing before Jesus lacked physical sight, but he had great *spiritual* insight! He knew what to ask. He knew what this moment was. He understood the power of a touch from Jesus.

This is a season to seek the Lord and allow God to help us to see more clearly. When we see what God wants to reveal, we will be filled with wonder and amazement at His good purpose, plans, and promise. But it all starts with a desire. It starts with a heart cry to *SEE*.

Response

Let this moment be a moment of response in our lives, where we ask the Lord to open our spiritual eyes and help us to see more clearly. Do not let this moment pass you by. Let God fill your life with a desire to see what He wants to reveal to you.

Prayer

Lord, I know You can do anything. I know You have more in store for me than I have experienced. I pray that You would fill me with a desire to see more clearly what You are saying and desire to do in my life. Open my eyes - I want to see! In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

DAY 3 | SCALES REMOVED

Overview

To see as God sees, the scales on our eyes need to be removed.

Observation

God's vision does not always come to us at the most convenient of times, when we are expecting it. More often than not, it comes to us in the most unexpected places. It may also mean we have to give up our own way of seeing things.

For Saul, it was on his road trip to Damascus. He was a man on a clear mission - to round up and arrest Christians. He was bound to succeed. Then, out of nowhere: A heavenly light strikes. Jesus speaks. Saul is left physically blinded after this encounter. Interestingly, when God speaks to Ananias to send him to Saul, He says that Saul has seen. How could a physically blind Saul see? He had received spiritual sight! Later, when Ananias prayed for Saul, scales fell off his eyes - a sign that God had removed his spiritual blindness.

Like Saul, we are highly capable of heading towards one direction in life thinking that we know where we are going and what we are supposed to do; yet we may be walking with scales on our eyes. To receive God's vision means to let go of our own - the scales must be removed! There are scales that hinder us from seeing God's vision. These can include our own perspectives, the scales of materialism, distractions, or fears.

All of these things affect our heart and cloud our vision. We may have the desire to see clearly, yet there may be things that God needs to remove from our lives so that vision can be restored.

Response

Let us seek to have our spiritual eyes opened, so we can confidently pursue God's purposes. Over the next few days, ask God to reveal things in your life that may be preventing you from seeing as He sees.

Prayer

God, I come to You in humility and ask that You remove the scales from my eyes. Show me the things that are keeping me from seeing as You do. Open my spiritual eyes so I may see Your vision, as I let go of mine. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

DAY 4

EYES OPENED

“Don’t be afraid,” the prophet answered. “Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” And Elisha prayed, “Open his eyes, Lord, so that he may see.” Then the Lord opened the servant’s eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

2 Kings 6:16-17

DAY 4 | EYES OPENED

Overview

By faith, we can ask God to open our spiritual eyes, to see as He sees.

Observation

We experience our physical world through our senses – what our eyes can see, what our noses smell, what our hands can touch. We often make decisions based on what our physical senses tell us. But as believers in Christ, we can know and understand God's world and see as He does. We experience it through our spiritual senses, through eyes of faith, just as Elisha did in the verses we read.

Elisha's country Israel was at war. The enemy king of Aram surrounded the city with a multitude of chariots and horses. When Elisha's servant saw the enemy forces, he was overcome with fear. But Elisha had a supernatural perspective and saw that God's angelic army far outnumbered their enemy. He asked God to open his servant's eyes so he could see that the Lord was with them in numbers.

From these verses we can glean these truths:

1. There is a physical reality and a spiritual reality, and the two can be quite different!
2. We can perceive God's workings when He opens our spiritual eyes.
3. God will open our spiritual eyes when we ask Him to.

Last year, I was unsuccessful in many job interviews, and felt confused and lost as God had earlier promised that He would prosper me in my career. In that moment, all I could see was failure and lost hope. But as I prayed, God opened my eyes to see that He would never fail to deliver on His promises. Months later, God opened doors to a position in a company I had prayed for. Through this, God taught me that He wants to open my spiritual eyes to see way beyond what my natural eyes can see so that I can overcome any situation in my life. I do not need to feel overwhelmed because I can see that I am surrounded by heaven's armies that are much larger than any natural crisis I face.

DAY 4 | EYES OPENED

Response

Are you guided today by your natural perspective? Perhaps you have a certain outlook about your situation at work or at home. Or perhaps your best efforts are met with seeming failure? Our perspective may seem logical, but what we are seeing may not be the true state of affairs! Let's ask God to open our eyes to see as He does, and exchange our perspective for His.

Prayer

God, I surrender to You my every desire to direct my life by my physical senses. I choose to not lean on my own understanding. Open my spiritual eyes so I can see and know what You are doing in my life, in the community around me, and in Your church. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

DAY 5 | CLEAR UNDERSTANDING

Overview

God never does anything without revealing His plans to His servants.
(Amos 3:7)

Observation

There is a difference between seeing and seeing *clearly*. Countless dollars are spent every year on glasses, contact lenses, or even Lasik surgery in order to achieve clear sight. You see, even though we have sight, there can still be a need for clarity.

Jeremiah has been called by God as a prophet, yet God tests the clarity of His vision asking him if he is seeing clearly what has been revealed. In fact, in the Old Testament prophets were often referred to as “seers” - those that could see clearly what God was doing.

I wonder if we could clearly describe what God is doing in our lives today. Do we have the clarity to know what He has shown us and what He desires us to do? If not, we should ask the Lord to give us clear spiritual sight! He can show us His plan, teach us His ways, and reveal to us His heart.

Response

We should not be content to just know generally about God’s purpose and will. He can give us a clear understanding today that will guide us. As we seek Him, He will show us what He wants to do in our lives and the purpose He has for us. Take time to wait on the Lord today, and hear His voice. Write down what God shows you as He brings clarity to your spiritual life.

Prayer

Father, help me to clearly perceive what you are doing in and around me. Let me hear your voice today. Let me know your heart. Give me the understanding to know your desire for my life so that I can pursue you with intentionality. I want my life to be guided by your word. In Jesus’ name I pray, amen.

DAY 6 | HEAVENLY PERSPECTIVE

Overview

God wants to give us His wisdom so we can see life from His perspective.

Observation

Most of us understand the value of a good education, and we spare no effort in acquiring knowledge. But far more important is to have godly wisdom! Wisdom is the ability to correctly and effectively apply knowledge.

God's wisdom is far superior to human wisdom. And godly wisdom is the ability to understand life from God's perspective and to apply this understanding in our life.

James says if we need wisdom, all we have to do is ask because God is generous and wants to give us His wisdom. God's wisdom is infinitely better than ours because He is good and all-knowing, and He knows the end from the beginning.

Today, we can ask God for wisdom in faith, and expect to see as God sees.

Response

Do you have a sense of how God sees your life? And are you seeing life from God's perspective in your relationships, career choices, financial and time management? Today, let us ask God to give you His wisdom, so you can see these areas from His perspective.

Prayer

Lord, I need your wisdom in (list the areas in which you are needing wisdom). I want to understand from Your perspective. In exchange, I surrender my own perspectives. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

DAY 7 | WEEK 1 APPLICATION

Summary of Past Week

No matter how much of God you have already experienced, there is more that He wants to reveal! This past week, you have been asking God to open your spiritual eyes, remove scales from your eyes, and fill you with His perspective.

List What God Has Shown You

Think about what God has shown you this week, for you personally, for your family and for the Church. List some areas that God has shared with you. It could be the realisation that you have been complacent, or that you have some ways to go in terms of seeing as God sees.

Pray Over Your Life, Your Family and the Church

Begin to thank God for His faithfulness in opening your eyes. Ask the Holy Spirit to do a deep work in your heart. Pray through areas till you see clearly from God's perspective. Ask Him to seal the revelations He has given you this week. Pray the same for your family and the Church.

Application

Share with someone what God has shown you, pray with and for each other, and pray for the Church as well.

What Is in Store Next Week

No matter how much of God you have already experienced, however many breakthroughs, or answered prayers you have received, this is just the beginning! God has so much more to show you. In the coming week, we are going to ask God to deal with our hearts so we can see like He sees.

DAY 8

SHOW US OUR HEARTS

It was in the year King Uzziah died that I saw the Lord. He was sitting on a lofty throne, and the train of his robe filled the Temple. Attending him were mighty seraphim, each having six wings. With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. They were calling out to each other, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Heaven's Armies! The whole earth is filled with his glory!" Their voices shook the Temple to its foundations, and the entire building was filled with smoke. Then I said, "It's all over! I am doomed, for I am a sinful man. I have filthy lips, and I live among a people with filthy lips. Yet I have seen the King, the Lord of Heaven's Armies." Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. He touched my lips with it and said, "See, this coal has touched your lips. Now your guilt is removed, and your sins are forgiven." Then I heard the Lord asking, "Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? Who will go for us?" I said, "Here I am. Send me."

Isaiah 6:1-5

DAY 8 | SHOW US OUR HEARTS

Overview

There is much more God wants us to see. He wants to show us the condition of our hearts.

Observation

Isaiah was a righteous man, a prophet. Yet when he saw God's holiness, he realised there were areas in his heart that needed to change. We may think we are already seeing as God sees, but there is more! Like Isaiah, we need to allow God to show us our hearts and allow Him to remove the broken and flawed things. For Isaiah, it was guilt. For us, it may be doubt or anxiety or sin. Isaiah acknowledged his heart condition and allowed God to restore him. Isaiah was then ready to see God's heart and purpose.

Man looks on the outward, but God sees the heart. (1 Samuel 16:7b). As we draw near to God, He will reveal the true condition of our heart so He can cleanse and forgive us, and remove our guilt. He does this so He can reveal even more of His nature and purpose to us.

Response

Ask God to examine your heart; to show you things you need to change and areas you need to adjust so as to align with His character. Perhaps there is an attitude you are holding on to or a habit that needs to be broken. Ask God to open your eyes to the condition of your heart.

Prayer

Lord, please show me the true condition of my heart. Examine me and see if there are ways in me that I need to change. Cleanse me, forgive me and remove my guilt on account of what Jesus has done for me on the Cross. Thank you for working in me, to change me. I pray all these in Jesus' name, amen.

DAY 9 | SHOW US A BETTER WAY

Overview

There is a better way God has for us, and He wants to reveal it to us.

Observation

God's thoughts are far beyond anything we can imagine. His ways are higher, far better than what this world and its system offer. As an infinite Being with perfect wisdom and knowledge, His ways are infinitely better, wiser, more perfect than our ways. And God wants to show us His ways.

As we spend time with God daily, in His Word and in prayer, we can know His thoughts and see His better way for us. In Isaiah 55:3 God gives the invitation: "Come ... with your ears wide open. Listen, and you will find life."

Most people live in a "default mode" that is determined by their upbringing and culture. When we are offended, we choose to take revenge, rather than learn to forgive. When we are overwhelmed, we allow ourselves to be anxious and fearful, instead of stopping to pray. When we are frustrated we complain, instead of learning to rejoice. When we are unwell, our first response is to pop some pills or see the doctor, when instead we should first seek God, our Healer. We may not realise that our normal responses, actions and decisions are not always His ways.

The Bible reminds us that "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death" (Proverbs 14:12). Anger, unforgiveness, fear, are examples of ways that lead to death.

God wants to reveal His ways to us. He invites us to wait on Him. As we wait on Him, He will reveal His better way to us.

Response

Let us make seeking God be our first response to life's issues and challenges. Let us not go by the way of our upbringing or culture. When you spend time seeking God, in prayer and His word, He will show you areas that He wants you to align with. He will show you how to relate, study, manage your resources, plan your life, lead your family and much more. In every aspect of our lives, His ways are infinitely better than ours.

Prayer

God, I know You are infinitely wiser, Your ways are unimaginably superior. I want to be led by You. Please show me Your ways. Let Your thoughts displace mine, Your ways replace mine in every area of my life. I ask this in Jesus' name, amen.

DAY 10 | SHOW ME THE PATH OF LIFE

Overview

God wants to show us the path of life. It is a path of abundant life; a life filled with stability, joy, hope and pleasures.

Observation

In an unfamiliar place, we can have confidence if we have a guide who can show us the best, safest, easiest or most scenic route. In Psalm 16, David describes the benefits of having God as His guide.

God is able to show us the “path of life” – the way to live so that we can reap all the benefits and blessings of life. Life has its ups and downs. But with God, we can have counsel in the dark seasons, remain unmoved, and have joy and hope.

To see this path and walk in it, we need to relate intimately with the person of Jesus. He does not just show us the way, He is the Way (John 14:6). Psalms 16:11 says that at God’s right hand are pleasures forevermore. We can experience God’s life, a life of fulfilment, as we walk in His path.

Response

As we look to Jesus, trust in Him and wait on Him, we can expect Him to show us clearly His wonderful plans for us this year, for every area of our lives. We need to allow God to direct and guide our life rather than just do what is “normal” or usual. Since we know God has good plans for us, we need to stop and ask, “God, is this the path you would have me take in this season of my life? What are your plans for me, my family, and my Church?” We need to be open to God’s specific direction.

Prayer

God, please show me Your paths. Lead me in Your paths. Give me a firm footing. I trust in You to lead me in Your path for each day of my life and for every season of my life. In Jesus’ name I pray, amen.

DAY 11**BATTLE OF
THE MIND**

For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. And we will be ready to punish every act of disobedience, once your obedience is complete.

2 Corinthians 10:3-6

DAY 11 | BATTLE OF THE MIND

Overview

To receive God's wisdom and perspective, we need to war against competing thoughts.

Observation

We could have and want God's perspective, but other things can creep in. We want to rejoice in God's goodness, but sometimes we allow worry to steal our joy. We want to take on a posture of faith, but we allow doubt to enter our minds about whether God will fulfil his word. We believe God will provide for us, but reading the news can make us second guess whether we will have enough. The battle is against these thoughts that stop us from seeing clearly who God is and what He wants to do for us.

The verses we read today tell us that we are at war. It is a war in which ideas, thoughts, perceptions, mindsets, and worldviews set themselves against God's truth. It is a war of "arguments and pretensions" and "thoughts" - a battle in the mind.

To receive God's wisdom and perspective, we need to war against these competing thoughts and uproot them. The enemy introduces doubts, undermining your faith in God's promises. He causes you to question God's goodness, reminds you of your weaknesses and seeks to shift your attention away from God's revelation.

To win this battle for our mind, we must bring our thoughts under subjection to Christ's lordship. This means that we renounce thoughts that oppose God's way and choose instead to receive God's truth and live by them.

Response

Let us ask the Holy Spirit to identify in us any perspectives, thoughts, beliefs, mindsets, etc., that need to be uprooted and demolished. Let us surrender them to Jesus, and renounce them.

Prayer

God, I pray You will renew my mind and dethrone every thought process and mindset that is against Your word. Lord, I seek Your forgiveness for my selfish ambitions, rational arguments, and worries that have caused me to see wrongly. I renounce these areas in my life right now, and declare that the enemy has no foothold over me. I thank You, Lord, that these strongholds are torn down and I can see clearly now, in Jesus' name, amen.

DAY 12

OPEN DOORS EVERYWHERE

See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name.

Revelation 3:8

DAY 12 | OPEN DOORS EVERYWHERE

Overview

Doors of opportunity are all around us. We need to see them!

Observation

The scripture is a promise given to the church of Philadelphia. From it, we learn that God is the one who opens doors. An open door speaks of opportunities, a place through which we gain access. It may be access to a position of influence in our school, workplace or community, it may be access to someone's life so we can bless or minister to them. When faced with obstacles, an open door gives access to solutions. An open door is a God-given opportunity for breakthroughs.

God is the one who opens doors in our lives. It does not depend on our human ability or strength, or our deserving. And the doors that He opens, no one can shut.

God has prepared doors of opportunities for us. We just have to see them! Have you noticed salespeople working at a roadshow? As they actively canvas, they see every passerby as a potential customer, an "open door"! We will do well to have this same attitude because it is easy to miss those opportunities if we do not intentionally look out for them.

Whether it is your school, workplace or at home, actively look for opportunities today! There are open doors to blessings from the Lord, and also opportunities to bless others.

Response

Ask God to open your eyes to the doors He opens for you so you will not miss any God-given opportunities.

Prayer

Dear God, I acknowledge You are the God of open doors. Please show me the opportunities You want to give me today. Help me to be attentive, so I will not miss the opportunities that You set before me. In Jesus's name, amen.

DAY 13

FAITH THAT OVERCOMES

While he was preaching God's word to them, four men arrived carrying a paralyzed man on a mat. They couldn't bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, so they dug a hole through the roof above His head. Then they lowered the man on his mat, right down in front of Jesus. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "My child, your sins are forgiven."

Mark 2:2-5

DAY 13 | FAITH THAT OVERCOMES

Overview

Faith allows us to see that God can do miracles despite obstacles.

Observation

In Mark 2:1-12, four friends took radical action to bring their paralysed friend to Jesus, believing that Jesus would heal him. Jesus was thronged by crowds, and impossible to reach, but the friends went up on the roof, broke a hole in it, and lowered their friend right in front of Jesus. Jesus saved and healed the paralysed man that day. A miracle had taken place. And it was all because four friends saw with eyes of faith.

Faith enables us to see that miracles are possible no matter what obstacles may lie in the way. And faith inspires us to overcome difficulties.

When faced with challenges, it is easy to see only the obstacles. But like the faith-filled friends, we need to see that God is able and wants to perform miracles.

Response

God is able to do the miraculous! Don't let the circumstances or difficulties discourage you. Let's ask God to open our eyes of faith to believe Him for miracles.

Prayer

Dear Lord, I believe You are the God for whom nothing is impossible. Open my eyes to see the miracles You can do in my circumstances. I want to see beyond the obstacles. Shift my mindset from the impossible to the possible, from limitations to Your unlimited power. I pray this in faith, in Jesus' name, Amen.

DAY 14

WEEK 2 APPLICATION

But I, the Lord, search all hearts
and examine secret motives.

Jeremiah 17:10

Guard your heart above all else, for it
determines the course of your life.

Proverbs 4:23

DAY 14 | WEEK 2 APPLICATION

Summary of Past Week

Your heart determines the course of your life, and it matters to God. This past week, you have been asking God to work on your heart; to show you areas you need to change in, how to live victoriously and to be ready for miracles.

List What God Has Shown You

God has shown you things this past week. Think about what He has shown you personally about your heart, areas He has worked in, pathways to take, open doors He has presented and miracles to claim. List them down.

Pray Over What He Has Shown You

Thank God for His faithfulness in opening your eyes and working in your heart. Ask the Holy Spirit to seal the work He has done in your heart, and to do a deeper work in the week to come. Ask Him to help you to continuously live in the newness of your restored heart. Pray the same for your family and the Church as well.

Application

Consider what new habits you need to cultivate and new thought patterns to develop. Share with someone what God has done for you, pray with and for each other. Pray for the Church as well.

What Is in Store Next Week

There is still more! In the coming week, we are going to ask God to open our eyes to the good things He has in store for us.

DAY 15 | SEE GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

Overview

God is faithful and has never failed in all the promises He has made.

Observation

Before Joshua dies he reminds Israel to see that God is faithful – that every promise God made, He kept and not a single one has failed. He reminds Israel to see God's faithfulness and to be secure in it. In the same way, God is reminding us to see His faithfulness in our lives and be strong in our hope.

Sometimes when we go through situations, we may be tempted to think that some of God's promises may not come to pass in our lives. This is where we need to recognise that God is faithful. He is trustworthy. And all that He has promised will come to pass.

Numbers 23:19 reminds us: "God is not a man, so he does not lie. He is not human, so he does not change his mind. Has he ever spoken and failed to act? Has he ever promised and not carried it through?"

2 Corinthians 1:20 also reminds us: For all of God's promises have been fulfilled in Christ with a resounding "Yes!" And through Christ, our "Amen" (which means "Yes") ascends to God for His glory.

God has been faithful to forgive us; He has given us victory over the flesh; He has answered our prayers, performed miracles and healed our sicknesses. He has proven time and again that He is true to His word. We can count on Him. He is faithful!

Response

No matter what situations you are facing today or this year, allow the Holy Spirit to open your eyes to see the faithfulness of God. You can expect God to come through for you because not a single promise of God has ever failed.

Prayer

God, I commit my impossible situations to You. Forgive me for the times where I lacked faith and allowed my thoughts and doubts to dim the promises in Your word. Help me to trust in Your promises, rejoice in hope and see Your faithfulness. I rejoice in the fulfilment of all Your promises because You are a faithful God!

DAY 16

SEE GOD'S GOODNESS

Taste and see that the Lord is good. Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in him! Fear the Lord, you his godly people, for those who fear him will have all they need. Even strong young lions sometimes go hungry, but those who trust in the Lord will lack no good thing.

Psalm 34:8-10

Yet I am confident I will see the Lord's goodness while I am here in the land of the living.

Psalm 27:13

DAY 16 | SEE GOD'S GOODNESS

Overview

Recognising and seeing that God is completely good will result in goodness flowing in and through us.

Observation

In Psalm 34, David declares that God is good. It is His nature to be good. Goodness flows out of Him. The psalmist challenges us to taste, to experience God's goodness. And when we see God's goodness, good things will begin to flow into and through our life.

If someone told you such-and-such a chilli crab stall was great, you would never know it was true unless you went and tried it for yourself. It is the same with God's goodness! We need to taste and see - experience and recognise His goodness!

God's intentions and plans for us are good (Romans 8:28; Jeremiah 29:11). He has a good end in store for us. God has done, is doing and will continue to do good things in our life. God is not done doing good in our lives.

God wants to restore our perspective of His goodness, to know that He is in us, with us, and for us. His intentions towards us are 100% good. Of course, life is not a bed of roses, and we do face challenges. But we should not let our situations shift our perspective of God's goodness. Rather, we need to let God's goodness shift our perspective of our circumstances. When we learn to do this, we will build a character and capacity to have confidence in God's goodness.

Response

Do you recognise God's goodness at work in your life? When you think of your future, do you see goodness and mercy (Psalm 23:6) or do you see hardship and failure? Think of all the goodness God has poured out on you. Stir up your heart and declare God's goodness for today and the rest of this year. Thank Him in advance for the goodness you will experience in your family, workplace and ministry.

Prayer

Dear God, thank You that Your goodness never changes. Today, I remember and thank You for all the good You have done, how You have saved me, rescued me, answered my prayers, healed me, never abandoned me, and given me Your promises. I know You are good! I thank You that I can expect to see Your abundant goodness daily. In Jesus name, amen!

DAY 17

SEE GOD'S BENEFITS

Blessed be the Lord, Who daily loads us with benefits, the God of our salvation!

Psalm 68:19

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Psalm 103:2-5

DAY 17 | SEE GOD'S BENEFITS

Overview

God wants to bless us daily. His benefits do not come in tiny trickles but in loads! We can expect and claim His benefits each day of this new year!

Observation

We often associate the word "load" with negative ideas like "heavy load", "burdens", "weights" or "workload". But here, the word "load" has a delightful association! Psalm 68:19 says the God of our salvation daily loads us with benefits! This brings up a mental image of a dump truck unloading an entire load of benefits!

God is a God of blessing. Right after He created Adam and Eve, the first thing He did was to bless them (Gen 1:27). Jesus came to die on the cross for us, so that we may be set free from the curse of sin, and restore us to that position of being blessed.

Psalm 103 lists some of these: forgiveness, healing for all diseases, being saved from destruction, lavished with love and mercies, filled with good things, and renewed with strength.

This is what we can expect daily from the God who saves us. We can claim these benefits every day, and expect that new loads will be delivered fresh the next day!

We need to see that God is for us, He is not against us. He wants to bless us daily. This will change the way we think, speak, and live. We no longer have to live under fear and anxiety or feel that we have to look out for ourselves. We will have confidence and assurance that no matter what, God is in us, with us, and for us, and His blessings will not stop.

Response

Let us acknowledge that God is our Blessor. He wants to daily load us with His benefits. We can praise God for all His benefits, and claim these benefits for ourselves, our loved ones, and the Church.

Prayer

Thank You Heavenly Father for daily loading me with benefits! Thank You for (list all the benefits you can think of). I am amazed at Your goodness. I praise You for all that You have blessed me with. I have so much to look forward to each day because You are in my life. Thank You Lord!

DAY 18

SEE GOD'S POWER

Then Jesus got into the boat and started across the lake with his disciples. Suddenly, a fierce storm struck the lake, with waves breaking into the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. The disciples went and woke him up, shouting, “Lord, save us! We’re going to drown!” Jesus responded, “Why are you afraid? You have so little faith!” Then he got up and rebuked the wind and waves, and suddenly there was a great calm. The disciples were amazed. “Who is this man?” they asked. “Even the winds and waves obey him!”

Matthew 8:23-27

DAY 18 | SEE GOD'S POWER

Overview

Jesus had authority over the storm but His disciples saw the storm and feared for their lives.

Observation

Jesus had told his disciples to cross the lake and get to the other side, but in the middle of the lake, such a violent storm brewed that the disciples, seasoned fishermen, panicked, and feared for their lives. In contrast, Jesus was sound asleep in the boat. The disciples thought the storm would end them. But Jesus was taking a nap!

This showed the disciples that they did not know Jesus like they thought they did. They did not know He had authority over nature. With a single word, He rebuked the storm, and it died down.

Storms come to challenge God's direction and purpose in our lives. We must focus on what God had spoken, and not on the storm.

The storm shouts "you are alone", "Jesus does not care", "you are finished" and "this is the end!". But we must listen to the voice of God's unchanging character, the voice of His presence. Do not listen to the storm. Instead, open your eyes to see God's power. Jesus is greater than any storm you will face. He has conquered death and rose from the dead! Nothing is impossible with God. He is for you and not against you.

Response

Do you see a situation that challenges the promises or direction God has given you? It could be a medical opinion, an examination result, or some "bad" news. Ask God to open your eyes to see His great power over your specific situation. See through the eyes of faith. Know that Jesus is with you today, commanding your storm to be still.

Prayer

God, you are the God for whom nothing is impossible. You even conquered death. I thank You that You have power over my situation and You are for me. I declare that God You are greater than any storm I face. I declare that all the promises You have spoken over me are "yes" and will come to pass. I thank You, in Jesus' name, amen.

DAY 19 | SEE GOD'S HARVEST

Overview

Jesus wants us to see that the harvest is ready now.

Observation

In John 4, Jesus had just encountered the Samaritan woman at the well, ministered to her, and won an entire city. The disciples returned from buying food, and Jesus began to teach them about the urgency of the harvest.

Using an analogy from farming, Jesus pointed out that He had a different perspective than His disciples about the priority of the harvest. For the disciples the time was “later”, but for Jesus the time was “now”.

Like the disciples, we too need to have a change of perspective about the harvest. Very few believers would actually say “it is not important to share the good news”, but oftentimes, we may think “it is not the right time” or “maybe later”. But Jesus is saying, the harvest is ready now.

Jesus also told the disciples “the harvesters are paid good wages”. Workers are paid only when the work is all done. By this, Jesus was telling His disciples that He is getting ready to wrap things up. The time is short. He is coming back soon.

When we see the urgency of the harvest, we will change the way we prioritise and make decisions.

I recently shared the Gospel on the street with a few friends and we met an 18-year-old boy who had never heard about Jesus before. He seemed quiet and unresponsive as we spoke, but to my surprise, he readily said “yes” when we asked if he wanted to receive Jesus! This was a reminder to me that not only do people need Jesus, but as the verse highlights, many are already willing to accept Jesus as their personal Lord and Saviour.

Response

Let us ask God to give us a fresh perspective on the harvest, to see the urgency and priority of the harvest. Pray and declare “Today is the day of salvation over our friends and family.”

Prayer

God, help me to see the urgency of needing to share your good news with others. Help me to see Your purpose and timing. I want to order my life and make the harvest a priority, as Jesus did. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

DAY 20

SEE GOD'S FAVOUR

I pray... the eyes of your understanding be enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power.

Ephesians 1:18-19

DAY 20 | SEE GOD'S FAVOUR

Overview

Today's scripture shows us how highly favoured we are by God.

Observation

We already have God's favour, but sometimes we may not see it. Paul's prayer for the church is that we will receive the spirit of revelation to see God's favour in our lives.

We know we are highly favoured because God has given us hope (v 18), we are the prized possession of Jesus (v 18b) and we get to enjoy the greatness of His power. The Bible adds that we are seated with Jesus in heavenly places (Ephesians 2:6). This allows us to see things from a different perspective. As He rules and reigns, we too get to rule and reign over our problems simply because we are seated with Him. What an honour; what a privilege! What favour.

In the Bible, we read of Daniel, a civil servant who survived treacherous political intrigues time and again because of God's favour. In Genesis, we read of Joseph, sold as a slave to Egypt and wrongfully jailed, yet prospering in all he did because God was with him (Genesis 39). He became the second most powerful ruler in Egypt. These men experienced God's supernatural favour in their workplace and so can you.

In Zechariah 2:8b, God's prophet declares, "...anyone who harms you harms my most precious possession." We see here that God's favour offers you great assurance and security.

Today, God wants you to know that you are highly favoured. He has called you in hope, you are His prized possession and His great power is on you. You can expect to see His favour at your workplace, in school, in your families, and in all your relationships. You can expect His protection over your life.

Response

Have challenging situations made it hard for you to believe that God favours you? Today, God wants to restore hope and show you His favour through the spirit of revelation. Ask the Holy Spirit to open your eyes to see God's favour!

Prayer

God, thank You for Your favour in my life. Forgive me for the times I have been overwhelmed and lost sight of it. Holy Spirit, please open my eyes, help me to see the greatness of Your favour on me. I declare that I am highly favoured, and I will prosper through You at my workplace, school, relationships and family. I declare and stand upon Your supernatural favour in every aspect of my life. In Jesus' name, amen.

DAY 21 | WEEK 3 APPLICATION

Summary of Past Week

This past week, you have been asking God to open your eyes to the good things He has in store. There are promises to claim, good things to expect, and benefits to enjoy. You are deeply loved, richly blessed, and highly favoured. You can expect good things for the rest of this year.

List What God Has Shown You

What has God shown you this week? What good things can you lay hold of for yourself, your family, your Connect Group, the Church? Write down what you see. Remind yourself of what you can expect for the rest of this year.

Pray Over What He Has Shown You

Thank God for opening your eyes to see these good things. Let your heart overflow into praise and thanksgiving. Ask the Holy Spirit to seal the revelation He has given you. Ask Him to help you to continuously live with faith and expectation. Pray the same for your family and the Church.

Application

Develop a habit to share God's favour with others. Share with someone the good things God has shown you, pray with and for each other, and pray for the Church as well.

What Is in Store

In the coming days and weeks, keep asking God to open your eyes to see the good things He has for you, and keep expecting them to break out in your life.