

- JUNE 2024 -

COMPASS

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

**NOT
FOR
SALE!**

Temiloluwa Ola

Practical thoughts for a productive day

www.temiloluwaola.com/partner

Become a Partner

Thank you for being a
consistent reader of the
Compass Devotionals.

Have you been blessed by the
ministry and you sense it in your
heart to partner with ATOM
in expanding the frontiers of
the gospel?



Partnership Account Details:

Bank – Access Bank

A/C No – 1819801655

A/C Name – Anuoluwapo Temiloluwa Ola
Ministry

...

Personal Seed to Pastor Temiloluwa Ola:

Bank Name – Stanbic IBTC

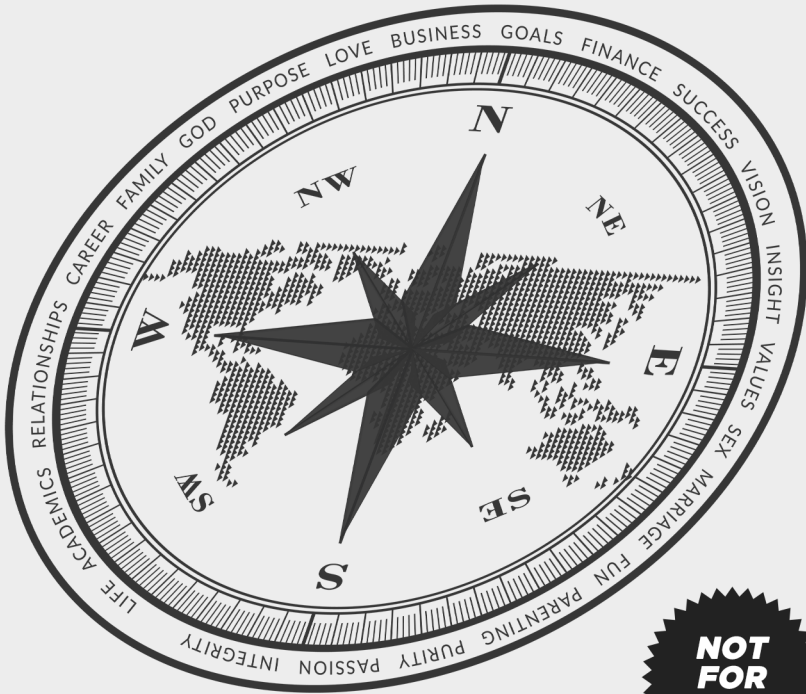
A/C No – 9202266495

A/C Name – Anuoluwapo Temiloluwa Ola

- JUNE 2024 -

COMPASS

DAILY DEVOTIONAL



**NOT
FOR
SALE!**

Temiloluwa Ola

Practical thoughts for a productive day

© 2024. Anuoluwapo Temiloluwa Ola Ministry

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means - electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording or any other without prior permission of the Author.

*Request for Information and Feedback should be
directed to: mycompassdevotional@gmail.com
+2348077467754*

Introduction

The finest revelation of God's Word is not in a deep teaching but in a transformed life. The Compass Devotion is aimed as both a testimony and a prophecy. As a testimony, the goal is to show you what God has done with lives that have surrendered to Him. As a prophecy, it is to show you that transformation is possible.

The city could not argue with the Samaritan Woman. They followed her to Jesus. Why? They could not deny that something had happened to this woman who had been with five men and the sixth was not even her husband. Where did she get this audacity to come to announce to a city?

This month's devotional would be a blessing to any believer (new or old) who desires to grow. There are simple thoughts for each day that can be a huge blessing to you. Soak in each one. Practice the Word. It will surely bless you.

Do not forget that the devotional is not a replacement for your personal devotion. Please, study the Word and grow. Spend time in prayer also.

The Lord bless everyone who partners with us to do this great work. May the Lord honour your sacrifices. Amen.

Feedback

God bless the day(March 10th 2023) I stumbled on your tweet on - "THOSE YOU DROP THE STANDARD FOR". Thank You Sir for giving out value for FREE. I was so blessed that I quickly followed, screenshotted the tweets and clicked the link to join the WhatsApp group.

When I noticed you drop the daily devotional, I was so happy that I began sharing on my status, and to my siblings group.

People would read and enter my DM, thanking me for posting, sharing lessons gleaned and how blessed they are.

Even my class representative, when I was in school, had to add me to his group and asked that I share the daily devotional with them. God is using you Sir to bless lives. Keep up the good work.

How you begin each devotional with captivating stories with spiritual instructions, especially the ones about you and your Beloved "Irewamiri" - I love Godly marriages and homes. God Bless you, Sir. When I saw the link to download COMPASS, my joy knew no bounds. Every morning, I look forward to what God has to say to me through you. Keeps me wondering how Lawyers become great Ministers of God. Thank you for answering and honouring the CALL OF GOD on your life.

More Grace, fresh anointing and fresh fire upon you Sir! God bless you for me.

- CHISOMAGA, ABUJA

I look forward to the devotional every morning because each message has been refreshing and instructive. The first time I shared it on my WhatsApp status, someone pleaded that I keep sharing it. Just last week, someone else chatted me up and told me the devotional I share has been a great blessing to her. Well done, sir. The Lord bless you and the ministry. His grace abounds towards you. You will not run dry. I pray Kingdom financiers (including me) arise to support this.

- JUSTINA OYEDEJI, ILE-IFE, OSUN STATE

To the glory of God, the devotional is relatable and very practical. It has really kept me in check. Especially the one entitled " Why do you have to check it? It's a blessing.

TGod bless you, Pastor.

- MICHAEL, GHANA

Thank you so much sir for what God has blessed us with through you. It has been an amazing journey. I started reading from someone's status, got your link, and started posting on my status as well for others to see I posted late one day and someone noticed.

It's been a good journey for me, with so much wisdom and depth. God bless you, sir! They come with relatable stories and lessons from each day. I can't get enough of them. God bless and increase you, sir!

- TOLULOPE, IBADAN

I usually read the devotional on my friend's WhatsApp status, and then as I was reading one day, I saw a link to join the WhatsApp group on the flier. I have been so blessed by the devotional and nuggets too. One of your posts came timely last week, I was in a very bad place and didn't know what to do, your write-up was the answer I needed. Thank you Pastor for writing these devotionals in a way that I could relate with. Thanks for the graphic titles and stories too. God bless and strengthen you sir. Thank you for yielding to God sir.

- ESTHER AMOS, ENUGU

I got to know you from Twitter just a few months ago. The devotionals on marriage have made me get a different perspective on marriage and my roles therein. Not yet married, but believing to be soon, and I'm going to be the best wife to my husband.

- DESIRE, UGANDA

I've been following you for a while now and your content captivated me. My walk with God improved when I started reading them. I always look forward to reading them as it has become part of my bible study. God has really really helped me and I'm blessed. A close friend of mine also testify to knowing you from his days in Eruwa(poly) and he testified that you are a child of God and he also loves your content. I have been posting since day one and my contacts have been greatly blessed. God bless you, sir. More grace and unction to function in Jesus' mighty name. May you continue to be on fire for the Lord. May your marriage continue to be sweeter and sweeter in Jesus' name

- INIOLUWA, OGBOMOSHO, OYO STATE

Feedback

After my morning prayers, this devotional is my next activity and I always share the image version of it on my WhatsApp status and it has been blessing lives.

One of the days, I just felt like not sharing it, after some hours that morning, some persons on my contact list messaged me asking for the devotional of the day. In their words, it has been blessing them too. I felt so fulfilled that day and I also shared the group link to some of them.

Most times the devotional speaks directly to what I am going through personally and as a family with my wife. Sometimes I and my wife always end up our morning conversations with the message of the day from ATOM devotional.

May God continue to bless and enrich you and your wife and also grant you all your heart desires for the family and your ministry in Jesus' Name, Amen.

- JEREMIAH UGWULEBO, PORTHARCOURT

Your messages have blessed me in no small way sir, I'm someone that has battled with unforgiveness/anger for a long time, although the Holy Spirit to a good extent, has curbed me and cut out the excesses over time. I read a particular devotional where you addressed unforgiveness, saying the devil always come around those who have his package. I made a resolution from that instant, and it has become my favorite daily quote - (offences will always come, but I choose not to be offended, I don't keep the package of the devil). Since then, I let go of hurt easily.

Not just the forgiveness aspect, I have gotten encouragement countless times from the devotional, that sometimes I just keep scrolling through to re-read them. I also post on my WhatsApp status some times, and I get amazing replies from my viewers.

Thank you so much sir. You're a blessing!

- REBECCA OSEYI, EDO STATE

I am Marie Laurel from cameroon. I love and appreciate the way God used you to speak especially to me everyday. It has been doing much good to me at all times and making my crooked really straight. More grace to you sir.

- MARIE LAUREL, CAMEROON

This devotional has really been a blessing. After my quiet time, the next thing I check out for on my phone, is the devotional. I have also been sharing and my sisters and a lot of my contact list are part of the devotional community.

Every devotional always comes with power and as though they are written to address every season in my walk with the Lord.

Thank you Pastor and Mummy for this impact. The Lord keep you and may His anointing over your life keep increasing. Amen!

- NANCY GABRIEL, NASARAWA

The content from the devotional goes beyond here, I share and post on my status as a way of spreading the gospel. I enjoy the relatable stories and it is very relevant to present days as well as historical and biblical, honestly holistic.

Thank you so much Sir

- OPE POPOOLA, UNITED KINGDOM

Thank you for the wonderful devotionals that you do send to us every morning. Sincerely speaking, each devotional relates to my life in one way, and I am happy because I get answers from the devotionals and also directions. I thank God for bringing you my way. And I pray that God will continue to anoint you and your oil shall never run dry. God bless you and the ministry tremendously, sir. Thank you very much.

- OLUWABUSOLAMI, LAGOS

Pastor Temiloluwa and everyone working with you, thank you for your consistency in delivering the word through this devotional. I came across your tweets and everytime I read, I would be encouraged. I am encouraged to also start sharing the image version of the devotionals with my contacts.

- DUDLEY CHIDZIVA, ZIMBABWE

This devotional has been a great blessing to me and those around me. It is like my daily manna. Thank you for yielding to God, thank you, sir; for sharing your life experiences and how you react to them by the help of the holy Spirit to instruct us. More of God's insight and grace.

- PATRICIA, ABUJA



IT IS POSSIBLE TO LIVE ABOVE SIN!

Text: Romans 8:13 NKJV

For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live

A dear son placed an image on social media, and his friend responded with words that gave glory to God and turned a drug addict into a Christ lover. His story still delights me each time I think about it.

He was coming to church, but he was still struggling with addiction. He would leave the church to smoke his regular joint. The fact that you go to church does not mean that you know the Lord. I sang in the choir and did not know Jesus Christ! I was lost in my addiction.

Every sinner is under the control of the devil. It is his spirit that works and controls the sinner. The sinner is his willing tool. Why? The devil is the father of the sinner. He carries the devil's DNA.

You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. Ephesians 2:2 NLT

There are things you will just naturally do. Our children will do certain things, and we will say, "That's just like me." Why? They have my nature.

You will struggle with addiction until you know your victory begins with a changed nature. There will be a change of ways when there is a change of nature. A mango tree can never bring forth orange fruits.

One day, the young drug addict left the

church and realized he could not smoke again. Why? The nature changed. The New Life swallowed that nonsense. If you have touched the life in Christ, sin becomes poison.

You will struggle with obedience until you have a "heart surgery":

And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart. And I will put my Spirit in you so that you will follow my decrees and be careful to obey my regulations. (Ezekiel 36:26-27 NLT)

Without His Spirit, you will debate His instructions and find justification for sin. You will call it fancy names- Sin will become weakness; adultery will become extra-marital affair; fornication will become pre-marital affair or cohabiting; prostitution will be hook-up; lewdness will be called groove; nudity will be called fashion. And when you are corrected and convicted, you will say, "Stop judging me."

Lord, give me a new heart and put a new spirit within me! Take away this heart of stone and give me a heart that wants to follow your will. Amen.

CONFESSION

I offer my heart to the Lord. I live above sin always. I receive a new heart and a contrite spirit.



THERE IS JOY IN CHRIST THAT NOTHING CAN STEAL!

Text: Isaiah 12:3 NLT

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

One morning, I woke up to an old song that lighted up my spirit:

Take me deeper

Deeper in love with you

Jesus, hold me close in your embrace

Take me deeper

Deeper than I have ever been before

I just want to love you more and more

How I love to be deeper in love.

As I meditated on this song, I realized how much sweetness I enjoy in the Lord Jesus. I would have been a pretender or a hypocrite. I would have been trying to keep up a show. I would have been serving in the church and serving sin. Christ changed that story.

There is a sweetness in Christ that cannot be compared to the poisonous pleasure of sin. There is joy in Christ that nothing can steal. There is a peace that passes all understanding.

Whenever I lead someone to Christ, I often hear a deep sigh of relief and a smile on their face. I always ask them why they took a deep sigh. They would say, "It is like a burden left my chest, or I sense this joy or this unusual peace." There is such a thing as the joy of salvation. Glory!

And I am praying that you will put into action the generosity that comes from your faith as you understand and experience all the good things we have in Christ.

Philemon 1:6 NLT

Did you see that? There are good things in Christ Jesus. You must acknowledge

it. You must believe it. You must confess it. You must dig it out in the Word of God. You must enjoy it.

A- Acknowledge it

B- Believe it

C- Confess it.

D- Dig it out in the Word

E- Enjoy it.

The Psalmist showed us some:

Let all that I am praise the Lord; with my whole heart, I will praise his holy name. Let all that I am praise the Lord; may I never forget the good things he does for me.

Psalms 103:1-2 NLT

See the good things here:

He forgives all my sins and heals all my diseases. He redeems me from death and crowns me with love and tender mercies. He fills my life with good things. My youth is renewed like the eagle's!

Psalms 103:3-5 NLT

Forgiveness. Healing. Redemption from Death. Overflowing Love. Tender Mercies. A life filled with good things. Renewed Youthfulness.

Do you see why sin depreciates people?

There is more in Christ.

There is More.

Will you DIG IT OUT?

CONFESSION

I have the joy of salvation. I enjoy the blessings in righteousness. I praise my Saviour all the day long.

DAY
03

COME HOME, BELOVED

Text: John 6:37 NIV

All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away.

As we wrapped up our conversation, her words were, "Pastor, I wish I had been listening to you way earlier. My life would have been better than this". Seated in front of me was a brilliant load of potentials that poor and low-quality decisions had severely damaged. Her life would have turned out better if she had a strong voice of counsel.

One of the most painful things that can happen to anyone is to lack a home, a pastor to run to, or a spiritual family to strengthen you. But if you have been blessed with any of this, one of the lies the devil will tell you is, "Why on earth do you want to call someone you have not been in touch with? Do you know how they will respond?"

A beloved one had not been in touch for years. I always call him occasionally to check up on him. At a season, I sensed a prompt to pray for him and others. In less than twenty-four hours, he reached out. He was already contemplating ending it all. He feels there was no way he could regain all the lost ground morally, spiritually, and in his career.

Friends, if you have a home, run there now. You may not have learned by instruction, but you also do not have to learn by destruction. The devil wants you to feel like there are no options and you are hopeless. It is a lie. It is a lie. It is a lie. There is always that way of escape- the path that mercy has created. Please begin the long walk home.

Hear the words of the father: for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now

he is found.' So, the party began. Luke 15:24 NLTL

You are still a Son. Do not let the devil lie to you. Some things may be dead right now, but there is life right at home. No matter the number of abortions you did or made happen, there is still a home.

No matter how bad a car is, when it is returned to the manufacturer, it can come back as new. Beloved, no matter how messed up you are, the devil has stolen- he stole some time, but God redeems times and seasons. He stole virtue from you, but God can still anoint you till your cup overflows. He stole your dignity, but have you read that the lost son was given royal robes and shoes?

He stole, but do not let him conclude by killing and destroying. You are not his game. You are not his prey.

The most beautiful picture ever is that of a loving father hugging a son in rags. You do not have to stay beaten by the sun and violated by snakes. The father is running towards you using voices of counsel in your life. He is also using me right now, saying it is not the end. A dead son can still become a living son.

Come home. The doors are wide open. The arms are wide open.

CONFESSION

I enjoy the blessings of my Father. I heed divine instructions.

LOST AND FOUND!

Text: Psalm 51:1 NKJV

Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions.

When my phone rang that evening, he only asked me, "Pastor, why do you still keep in touch with me? Why have you not given up on me? Why do you believe in me this much? Is there something you know that I do not know?"

I sincerely did not know how to answer. I was just interested in ensuring he did not go astray or miss the mark in life. He had abandoned the call at least twice. He had a brief stint of feeding (not pigs) fish. He told me how strange that was for him that season.

Eventually, when he returned, he said to me, "Pastor, I am sorry that I did not see you or accept you as my pastor for a long time. I thought I was just passing the time. But now, I want to say to you that 'you are my pastor.'"

You will never beat the pathway home until there is an awareness within you. One of the revelations that must strike you at a point in life's journey is, "There is home for me, and there is a pastor's love or fatherly love that I have not maximized".

It is pretty tough at times to be a pastor. I see beloved ones I pastored years back get into cities and just seem to lose it. Some got saved in Eruwa. Some got baptized in the Holy Ghost. Some got to drop strange habits and addictions but now have stopped going to church after a while, some begin to dress, exposing their privacy, and some have embraced a lifestyle that is not Christ-like. I am always broken seeing those things at times. I have cried on the phone as I spoke to one of them before. My last words were, "No matter what, remember we are always here for you. We love you. We will be praying for you".

Beloved one, no matter how bad it is, there is the love of God and the heart of a dear pastor still longing for your return. Your space in the heart of the Lord and a sincere pastor is still there. True pastors carry people in their hearts. True fathers carry

sons in their bosom. We are always on the lookout for the one that will return.

You know that pastor you met who disciplined you long ago. You need to call him today and say, "I am not sure if I am even a Christian anymore. I have been in places that I am not proud of. I have done things that are not Christ-like. Fear of rejection has kept me from making this call, but I would love to be trained, disciplined, and held accountable in my spiritual walk. I cannot continue like this".

That was what the prodigal son did:

So, he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him, and kissed him. Luke 15:20 NIV

How far have you gone from Christ?

How far have you gone from pastoral love?

I was broken when I lost a dear one who grew in the faith while with us. A strange illness suddenly returned. This beloved one died after servicing ancestral "strange gods." Ahhh! Nothing else breaks the heart of a pastor than such reports.

What are you doing outside?
What are you doing alone?
Call home now! Come home now!!
Son! Daughter!! Come home now!!!
We still love you and believe in God's grace in your life. Call home now.
The devil is whispering to someone, "Death is better than shame." Do not believe that liar. Life and love are waiting for you. Come home now.

CONFESSION

I do not stray from God's presence. I am preserved by His grace.

DAY 05

"I HAVE HORRIBLE THINGS IN MY PAST THAT WILL CATCH UP WITH

Text: Hebrews 8:12 NLT

And I will forgive their wickedness, and I will never again remember their sins.

A young man walked up to my friend once after he had given his life to Christ and said to him: "I did quite some terrible things in my life. The one I cannot forget is about a lady who laid curses on me after the way and manner I treated her. She said I would not prosper or make a headway in life. I know that curse will still catch up with me".

My friend opened up the Bible and showed him these words:

Who will bring any charge against God's elect (His chosen ones)? It is God who justifies us [declaring us blameless and putting us in a right relationship with Himself].
Romans 8:33 AMP

No one can bring a charge against you! You are not just forgiven; you are justified. Justification is more like "It never happened." It was never in your record. You are given a new beginning.

If you are in Christ, you even have more than a new beginning; you are a new creation in Christ. This is how Apostle Paul, who also had a messed-up past, puts it:

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.
Galatians 2:20 NKJV

If there is no charge against you, then it makes sense that you cannot be condemned. You have to be charged before you can be condemned.

Who is the one who condemns us? Christ Jesus is the One who died [to pay our penalty], and more than that, who was raised [from the dead], and who is at the right hand of God interceding [with the Father] for us.
Romans 8:34 AMP

Listen! I stopped romancing nonsense the day I realized this. It was the victory I needed over the shame, guilt and condemnation my life as a sinner placed on me.

The reason you have not surrendered your life to Christ is because you do not know how powerful grace is. If you have been touched by grace, you will know there is no other touch that is better.

If grace puts a song in your mouth, you will sing and dance till eternity comes:

Have you ever wondered why the Samaritan woman could not keep quiet in the same city where her history as a bed-warmer for different men was known? Grace restores your lost dignity and gives you a loud voice.

Have you ever wondered why the Decapolis felt the impact of Jesus Christ through the life of the former well-known madman of the Gadarenes? Grace restores your dignity and gives you a compelling voice. Those who know him bound and witnessed his nakedness could not but say that grace has made a difference.

I know you had a horrible past, but with the embrace of God's grace, you have a new story. You have a new song also:

Who could imagine so great a mercy?

What heart could fathom such boundless grace?

The God of ages stepped down from glory

To wear my sin and bear my shame

The cross has spoken; I am forgiven

The king of kings calls me His own

Beautiful Saviour, I'm yours forever

Jesus Christ, my living hope

Hallelujah, praise the one who set me free

Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me

You have broken every chain

There's salvation in your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope
Do you get it? Rejoice! Let the tears of joy flow.

CONFESSION

I am no longer a slave to fear and sin. I am a child of God.

DAY 06

YOU ARE A “DEAD MAN”

Text: Galatians 2:20 NLT

My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

While teaching a class of young converts someday, I walked up to the first person and pinched him. He responded as he felt it. I went to another person who now knew what I wanted to do and pretended like he would not respond, but he did.

Then I asked them, “What if I pinched a dead man? Would he respond?”. They all had an obvious answer. The dead man does not respond to any form of touch. What happens when we are dead to sin? We stop responding to its touch and its call. No matter how much or how loud or how hard you call a dead man, he does not have the capacity or wiring to respond to you any longer.

In Christ, we become dead to sin.

By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? (Romans 6:2 NIV)

In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. (Romans 6:11 NIV)

But you have an assignment and a responsibility. You carry a certificate by the blood of Jesus that says you are dead to sin. You now have to live according to that reality. What do you do?

Do not let sin reign in your body again. Give that ambassador of the devil no room at all.

Therefore, do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. (Romans 6:12 NIV)

You ensure this by not giving any part of your body as an instrument for sin to use.

Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness. (Romans 6:13 NIV)

Do you remember that right after the salvation of the Jews from Egypt, Pharaoh still came after them? The devil will come after you

because he never wants a sinner to be delivered.

He prefers that you pray in tongues but still curse with the same mouth. He won't stop you from singing godly songs, but he will still ensure that those strange sounds and songs that “turn you on” are still “no big deal” in your playlist. He wants to keep a foot in your space. You must deny him his working tools in your life.

You must insist that no part of your body will be an instrument of unrighteousness. It is your insistence that makes this work. As the devil throws his suggestion, remember that a dead man does not respond.

If a “dead man” is driving in traffic, no matter what happens, no vulgar words can come from provocative moments.

If a “dead man” is seduced by evil, he cannot respond.

If a “dead man” is insulted, he is not even aware of it. A “dead man” knows no pride or lust.

Why? You are dead to sin but alive to Christ. The life you live now only responds to things and signals from your Lord and Saviour.

Lay your life on the altar as a “living sacrifice.” Every sacrifice dies, but this sacrifice is dead yet living. Why? Dead to sin but alive in Christ!

Say it: “_____, you are dead to sin. You are alive in Christ. You respond to signals from your Lord Jesus Christ. You are under the reign of righteousness. Sin is an enemy. Sin is poison. It must be treated as such”.

Live in that reality. That is your safe space.

CONFESSION

I am dead to sin. I am alive in Christ. I am a living sacrifice. Sin has no dominion over me. I live victoriously at all times.

DAY 07

HOW TO TRIUMPH OVER SIN

Text: Revelations 12:11 NKJV

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

I was visiting with a young lady I just met. We both had a mutual friend. Of the neighbourhood's scarcity of friends, finding someone to interact with was a solace.

One such evening, she received a call from whom I later got to know as her boyfriend. It was an uncomfortable call. She burst into tears right afterward.

By impulse, my mind and thoughts moved to where she was sitting to console her by holding her close and wiping those tears away. That was my natural instinct.

But the Holy Spirit took over from there. "Temi, sit where you are." I obeyed. "Temi, tell her it will be fine, and you will return to check up on her some other time to give her room to compose herself and address the issues." I did.

There are instances like this that have led men astray, especially those who have just surrendered their lives to Christ.

There is data that your old man has gathered in your old mind. The natural progression of your thought life is sinful. If you ever put yourself in a position that permits sin, you are already gone. You know the end from the beginning. This ungodly data must be dealt with:

Let the wicked change their ways and banish the very thought of doing wrong...
Isaiah 55:7A NLT

Hope you know that the heart of man is desperately wicked. If you allow those thoughts to lead, you will be in a mess. So what do you do?

Your mind needs to go for a shower in the Word- a real intense shower for cleansing. Do you know how sticky you feel after a long day? Can you imagine not bathing for years? That's the state of the soul without the Word of God.

How can a young man cleanse his way? By

taking heed according to Your word.
Psalms 119:9 NKJV

The Word of God cleans your ways- Thought Ways, Word Ways, Action Ways! That natural progression and tendency to sin or walk close to sin is dealt with.

Second, that old data of sin would then be replaced with new data of God's Word for direction, instruction, and course correction so that you do not crash into those strange actions again.

Study the Word.

I study your teachings very carefully so that I will not sin against you.
Psalms 119:11 ERV

Hide the Word in your Heart.

Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.
Psalms 119:11 NKJV

Regard the Word of God as a Treasure.

I treasure your word above all else; it keeps me from sinning against you.
Psalms 119:11 CEV

When that battle of thoughts comes, you will be glad you have the Word in your heart. Without the word, you will be lost in sin again.

Great solutions always look simple! Do not despise it.

May you not fall again.

CONFESSION

I am rooted and established in the life of Christ. I treasure the Word of God. I live by the Word of God.

HOW TO BUILD A LIFE THAT STANDS!

Text: Job 34:32 NKJV

Teach me what I do not see; If I have done iniquity, I will do no more.

We had many memories as children. We were the outdoor generation—no phones, TV stations broadcast from 4 p.m., board games needed a playing mate! It was the “go out and play.” I rolled the tyres. I participated in the high jump with branches from shrubs around us.

One of the things we did with soft sand was to build “birdhouses.” Our foot was the mould. We would put sand on it till it is compacted. We removed our feet gently to make a standing house. Some would fall immediately. We kept trying till it stood. But guess what—no matter how much we tried, it never stood the test of time.

There are two prayers you must pray:

First, let me not destroy the good things I have built. Second, let me not build again the terrible things I have destroyed.

It is possible to destroy the good things you have built. A man spends most of his life building a good name, but the entire thing is lost with one unwise decision, a useless fling, or a silly compromise. There are testaments of wasted legacies. May you not be one.

“Again, when a righteous man turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, and I lay a stumbling block before him, he shall die; because you did not give him a warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he has done shall not be remembered; but his blood I will require at your hand.

Ezekiel 3:20 NKJV

It is also possible to build back the terrible things you have destroyed. Some habits you have bid farewell to can resurface if you are not careful.

For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. Galatians 2:18 NKJV

If you will not be caught in any of the two traps, you must be careful with the association you keep:

Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble.

Proverbs 13:20 NLT

Do not allow sin to thrive on the grounds of secrecy. Deal with it in its infancy stage. Give sin a brutal blow. Do not seek accountability where your flesh will be comfortable. An ‘online pastor’ can teach, but your pastor on site who knows you and sees you more often can hold you accountable.

Third, ensure the embers of your fellowship with God by His Word, prayer, the Holy Spirit, and godly brethren are constantly ablaze. Do not forsake fellowship. The lower the attention you give to fellowship, the stronger the grip of sin in your life.

This is the summary that a man who destroyed everything good he built and built back terrible things he destroyed said to us as a warning:

That’s the whole story. Here now is my final conclusion: Fear God and obey his commands, for this is everyone’s duty. God will judge us for everything we do, including every secret thing, whether good or bad.

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 NLT

May we finish well!

CONFESSION

I do not walk in the path of self-destruction. I hack down the life of sin and flesh. I uphold righteousness and godliness.

DAY 09

HOW TO BUILD A HABIT OF PRAYER

Text: Mark 1:35 NKJV

Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a solitary place; and there He prayed.

While growing up, we had a neighbour who loved dogs. Their dogs became the neighbourhood dogs- it was everyone's pets. We had Jack, and we had Jill.

Jack had an amazing pattern. A few minutes to 4 pm every weekday, Jack would come to our door and wait- that was the hour my mum would leave for the church to what is called the "Upper Room."

Jack would be right there. As we drove to church, Jack would race after the car, following us to church. It became Jack's pattern.

Anything that will become a pattern for you must be repeated again and again. Patterns are powerful. Positive patterns help our spiritual growth. One of the patterns you must develop is the Hour of Prayer.

First, you should have a company that encourages you to pray. Like faithful Jack, keep friendship with those who pray. Lifestyle can be contagious. If you will contact anything at all, let it be a positive one- prayer is life-changing.

Second, you should have a time of prayer. My mum would go to pray at 4 p.m. every day. She also woke up at 4 a.m. to have quiet time. We renamed the chiming of the clock at 4 a.m. as "Stand up fast hour."

Third, make sure that time is honoured. To do this, ensure it is time you are free

from distractions and other demands of life. This is why I encourage the Jesus pattern of waking up "long before dawn" (Mark 1:35). You have less distraction at those hours. Please deal with that phone and social media distraction!

Make it a regular pattern. Push yourself till you master that timing. Let your body clock adjust to the hour of prayer. It should be a sweet time for you, indeed.

Let us close with this simple scripture:

Now Peter and John went up together to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour.

Acts 3:1 NKJV

- Peter and John – a company of prayer.
- Together – a commitment to the company. Do not keep friendships with all talk and no action friends.
- Temple- A place of prayer.
- At The Hour of Prayer- a fixed time.

That is how you build a pattern and consistent habit of prayer.

It is that simple!

CONFESSION

*I build a system of prayer around my life.
The fire on my altar will not go down. I am
a priest unto God.*

DAY 10

HOW TO CULTIVATE SPIRITUAL APPETITE

Text: 1Peter 2:2 NLT

Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation. Cry out for this nourishment...

The first thing Ireweamiri said when I got in was, "Can you imagine what just happened?" I had travelled for about 48 hours. She was pregnant with Danielle. She said that for about 24 hours, she did all she could to get the baby to kick and turn like she would normally do, but nothing happened. She sang. She rubbed her stomach. She played music.

She then mentioned that as I drove in and she heard the sound of the car and then my voice, she began to kick again. We concluded that even a child in the womb knows the voice of the father, delights in it and responds to it. A child in the womb most likely knows when a regular voice has been missing for days.

When the Word of God says, "Like newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the Word that you may grow thereby," it means that a person who is in Christ must crave the Word of God like the baby loves to hear the voice of the Father.

A child must find delight in the words of His father. There is a generation that does not joke with personal devotion. They called it quiet time. They transferred the maxim "No Bible, no breakfast" to us. What a generation! The Scripture they would gleam on to back this up is in the Book of Job:

"I have not departed from the commandment of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth More than my necessary food."
Job 23:12 NKJV

Their quiet time translated into family devotion. If you ever grew up in such homes where the bell is rung at 6 am and maybe 9 pm every night or there was a signal for the family to gather, you are indeed blessed. The word is searched together as a family, and Bible stories come alive.

Why must you love the Word of God?

It is your daily bread. In the home of one of my childhood friends, bread was always available. It was never lacking at home. We used to even sneak there to eat bread

(Matt.4:4)

It is required for growth. You cannot grow without the Word of God. Sunday sermons are never enough. It is like an appetizer. Dig in daily. It is your course finder. It shapes your character (Joshua 1:8)

It is your nutrient for a fruitful life. You begin to grow and bear the fruit of the Spirit. Such graces do not wither (Psalm 1:1-3).

What should you do to the Word?

Beloved, read the Bible consistently. I carried a New Testament Bible with me throughout my days in the National Youth Service orientation camp. It was a great companion.

Get and read God's book... Isaiah 34:16 MSG

Commit the Word to memory. Some of the Bible verses I know to date are our childhood assignments from family devotion. It is called hiding it in your heart.

Your word I have hidden in my heart...
Psalms 119:11 NKJV

Meditate on the word. You mutter the word to yourself. Bring it from your heart to your mouth to chew on it continually.

Practice the Word. There is the blessing of doing. The person who obeys the Word has a better standing than the person who debates the Word.

If you keep this pattern to heart and practise it, you will soon realize that most of what the world calls "emotional intelligence" is a life that has been shaped by the Word that is bearing the fruit of the Spirit.

CONFESS I O N

I am devoted to the word of God. I am nourished by the word. I am transformed by God's word.



THE VALUE OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Text: Acts 2:42 NKJV

And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

My daughter did not get to call me "Daddy" at first. There were times it sounded as though she was even calling me "Temi". I would say call me daddy but nothing happened.

We had cause to visit our friends in Lagos. She heard them call "Daddy". That was all the change we needed. Everything we were struggling to make her know was settled by fellowship.

You cannot grow in isolation. The tree cannot grow without the ground. The branch cannot produce fruits without the tree. It would be impossible. We are wired for connection and not isolation. Anything that is isolated will soon lose life.

Listen! You are a part of the body of Christ. You are not the body of Christ. If you are a part, then you will love and function by connection and not isolation.

A young man walked into church a couple of times but I noticed he was not stable. I asked him what the matter was. He said that he attended different churches. I asked him a simple question: "If you plant a tree on ground A today and move it to Ground B next week and take it to Ground C the following week and return it to B again and back to A and sometimes to D because there is a special fertilized ground there and then back to A, what will happen to the tree?" The tree dies.

Some Christians are that tree. They have lost their identity. They are not

pastored by anyone. They are not rooted anywhere that is why rottenness is taking over gradually.

I know that it is for marriage that it was stated that "It is not good for a man to be alone" but you need to remember that the Church is also the bride of Christ, we cannot survive in isolation from Christ.

Focus on fellowship even when offence strikes. The trap of offence blocks you from the flow in Zion (the church). The predator is wired to go after an isolated target. He knows it is easier to defeat the one that has left the pack.

This is a scriptural charge:

not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.
Hebrews 10:25 NKJV

In the pack, you are protected. You are strengthened. You get refreshed. You are defended. You grow in strength. Do not let the enemy deceive you. Whatever deceives you will soon defeat you.

CONFESSION

I enjoy the blessings of fellowship. I enjoy the blessings of corporate grace.

DAY 12

GROW UP BUT REMAIN GOD'S CHILD

Text: Matthew 19:14 NLT

But Jesus said, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who are like these children."

Danielle came into our room crying. We wondered what was wrong. She reported that Olive had kicked her in the back. While we were placating her, I asked what she wanted me to do to Olive. She said, "Beat her". I smiled.

It was not up to five minutes when Olive also appeared at our door. As she tried to close the door, she suddenly began to cry. The door had hit her finger. The tears flowed freely. It was angry Danielle who ran over to her sister first. She held her and began to check it up while she wiped her tears.

At that moment, the Spirit of the Lord reminded me of the words of Jesus Christ that a believer will enter the kingdom of God if they have a heart like that of a child.

"The truth is, you must accept God's kingdom like a little child accepts things, or you will never enter it."
Luke 18:17 ERV

As you mature in Christ, there is a childlikeness that you must not lose. In forgiveness, remain a child. A child will still run back into the arms of the father even after the father has disciplined him.

Like a child, do not be worried about life. Children do not live in anxiety. Can you imagine your child waking up and looking worried about what everyone in the family will eat? That's amazing!

Like a child, build trust. You must have faith in God and what He can do. Have faith that His words will never fail. Have faith that He will do what he says he will

do. Have faith enough to face another day.

It is rare for a child to contemplate suicide. Have child-like faith. Be so innocent that you do not have an idea of death crossing your mind when things seem hard.

Like a child, let your imagination be great things that stir joy and hope. It makes a lot of difference when you live in joy. You can be a father in your home, but you are still a child of God. You may be a parent with bills to pay, but you are still a child of God. You may be an entrepreneur with bills to settle, but you are still a child of God. You may be a couple waiting for the fruit of the womb, but remember you are also children of God.

This is where rest lies. Take a sound rest in the arms of God.

When offended, respond like a child. Do not let it stick. Be kind at the next opportunity you get.

Some marriages are crumbling because the children of God have forgotten how to be His children. Be God's child. Love like a child. Have faith in God like a child. Forgive like a child. Trust like a child.

Grow up but remain God's Child.

CONFESSION

*I grow in faith. I grow to maturity in Christ.
I do not permit offence in my heart.*

DAY 13

YOU CANNOT DO LIFE ALONE!

Text: Psalm 68:6NLT

God places the lonely in families; he sets the prisoners free and gives them joy...

I was surprised when I saw that Olive was carried instead of her walking. Looking closely, she had slept off in class. When we got home, she was still sleepy. She attempted to walk but did not find her steps. The most interesting of things then happened:

Danielle turned her back towards her and asked her sister to climb on it. I watched the two and laughed. She carried her right from the front when that attempt was not working. Yes, she did! It was some weight, but she helped her to the house's frontage. Olive was smiling. Danielle felt the weight but was delighted to play the big sister role.

This happens in a biological family but paints a great picture of a spiritual family. You miss a lot when you take your spiritual family (your local church) for granted. You are blessed with people who genuinely care about you.

If you give those who genuinely love you a chance, they are willing to be there for you through different seasons. In this family, we do not turn our back on one another in anger or offence; we lay down our backs to bear each other's burdens. We are willing to bear the pain of the weary.

I remember at a point when we got a call that a young girl was in labour. We had not seen her in months. She was not married as of the last time we knew. But we still rallied as a family around this beloved one. We had questions, but there was a life to rescue first. We even went the extra mile to ensure that she stayed comfortable. We surrounded her with love. We would not let the devil have a family member.

Do not be like Lot, who does not know the value of an Abraham:

– They are blinded to the value that family has brought to them spiritually.

– They do not see that God has blessed them with a relationship that shows how to multiply wealth.

– They do not see that God blessed them with a relationship that does not give up on them even when they make weird choices. Kindness flows instead of blame.

– They do not see the value in the relationship that stays on its knees, so they soared from the judgement of Sodom

Lots can be blind. Lots can be ungrateful. Lots will still return to Sodom after being rescued from it. They feel that Abraham is their problem.

You have left the church for long. You think the church is your problem. No sir. Your pride is your problem. If you allow God to show you how much value had flowed to you but are veiled to, you would not take a spiritual family for granted.

Who carried you in prayer when you were weak?

Who stands with you when you are down?

Who watches your back when arrows fly?

Who wakes you from slumber when you do not hear the alarm?

Who is there when you are taking a beating from life?

You cannot do life alone! You cannot!

CONFESSION

I am not a lone ranger in life. I enjoy the blessings of fellowship with the brethren. I am committed to my local church.

DAY 14

YOU HAVE VICTORY OVER SIN!

Text: Galatians 5:16 NIV

So, I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves.

Some years ago, I was witnessing to a colleague inside a restaurant. After I shared the gospel with him and asked if he would surrender his life to Christ, he threw a subtle punch at me, "Pastor, have you kissed before?" I said, "Yes, but I would not do it again till I am married."

Beloved, every Saint has a past, and every sinner has a future. Redemption removed the sting of sin and lifted the burden of shame, guilt, and condemnation. My past has no grip on my soul any longer. Christ dealt it a heavy blow at the cross.

When that sinner at the cross asked Jesus Christ to remember him, I wondered what Jesus Christ would remember about him if not for his sins and terrible deeds. Maybe, even tell him he will rot in hell. But look at Jesus Christ; He gave him a ticket to heaven. That sinner met grace. The sinner even tried to convince the other thief. He tried winning a soul. What a soul!

A man in Christ is a new creation, not refurbished or renovated. Your past may be something you are not proud of but that changes in Christ. Apostle Paul described our past this way:

But don't take any of this for granted. It was only yesterday that you outsiders to God's ways had no idea of any of this, didn't know the first thing about the way God works, and hadn't the faintest idea of Christ. You knew nothing of that rich history of God's covenants and promises in Israel hadn't a clue about what God was doing in the world at large. Now, because of Christ—dying that death, shedding that blood—you who were once out of it altogether are in on everything. Ephesians 2:11-13 MSG

A sinner is an outsider to God's way.

A sinner has no benefit in God's covenant.

A sinner was without God.

A sinner was without hope.

Have you seen what the Lord can do with the life of a messed-up man- Look at Paul. He was a murderer. Grace made a masterpiece out of a messed-up life. Paul was so confident of what Christ did that he told a church once:

No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, Philippians 3:13 NLT

His past lost his grip on him. His future became an attractive desire in Christ.

If your past has a grip on you, check your hold on Jesus Christ! A man with Christ cannot be a slave of guilt and shame.

Remember these lines:

No guilt in life, no fear in death

This is the power of Christ in me

From life's first cry to final breath

Jesus commands my destiny

No power of hell, no scheme of man

Can ever pluck me from His hand

Till He returns or calls me home

Here in the power of Christ, I'll stand

I love you!

Jesus Christ loves you more.

CONFESSION

I am a new man in Christ. I am not a renovated sinner. I live in holiness with the help of the Holy Spirit.

DAY
15

ARE YOU A BELIEVER OR A KNOWLEDGEABLE SINNER?

Text: Romans 5:1 NLT

So Christ has truly set us free. Now make sure that you stay free, and don't get tied up again in slavery to the law.

I was born into a Christian Family. My mum was the evangelism coordinator of the church we attended. Dad served in the church also. Mum had a 4 p.m. hour of prayer at the Upper Room almost daily. I witnessed impartation and deliverance. She jokingly said once that someone informed her to stop conducting deliverance during my pregnancy so that demons do not enter the baby. (Smiles)

As a young boy, the church was all I knew. My parents even launched out in ministry when I was ten years old. All I grew up seeing was church. Sunday evening was always for evangelism. I remember my brother telling my Dad one Sunday evening, "Must we always follow you. I am not going today". Dad smiled. He left him alone. He did not utter a word.

Yet! I still got lost in the world. I had my "Hophni and Phinehas" moments – wrong and ungodly sexual behaviour! Thank God for his saving grace.

You are not saved because you can fill 'Christian' in a form. You are not saved because you grew up in church. You can be singing in the choir and yet not saved. You can be a cell leader serving faithfully, yet you are not saved. You can even be morally upright, and yet you are not saved. Why? Morality is fine, but your good is not even enough.

What makes you a believer?

It is not just believing. Do you know that demons also believe? You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble!
James 2:19 NKJV

It begins with an acknowledgment that you are a sinner. You are a sinner by nature, not just by conduct. A bad tree will bring forth bad fruits.

You see your need for Jesus Christ and salvation. You then make a conscious and intelligent decision to follow Christ. You confess Him as your Lord and Saviour. Repentance is not just remorse; it is a change of nature, attitude, lifestyle, association, and

values. Your change is so obvious that your former company sees it clearly that "Temi is a changed man."

Someone told a young lady that "Temi is at home." She said, "The Temi that came back home is not the one I used to know." I had been in compromising acts in my former life with the same lady.

You must be committed to following the Word of God and obeying the Lord no matter the cost. The salvation that leaves you to talk anyhow, dress anyhow, and behave anyhow should be suspected. Salvation straightens you up! It impacts your character.

No matter how much you feed a dog, it cannot become a man. Salvation is not a self-improvement programme. There is a total change in nature. Some who say they are believers are only "knowledgeable sinners."

Guess what! Even the devil quotes scriptures. He knows what is written. What does he do with it? He uses it to feed the flesh. That is exactly what an enlightened sinner will do. They will defend their sins with "scriptures." You cannot meet Jesus Christ indeed and abuse scriptures.

What is your salvation testimony? What has changed? Or are you still hiding under scriptures to defend nonsense? The Bible is not a defence for a sinful life!

CONFESSION

I stand in the victory Christ gave me over sin. I am not a knowledgeable sinner. I am a believer who overcomes sin and the desires of the flesh. I am helped by the Holy Ghost.

DAY 16

“WILL YOU ALLOW ME TO MARRY YOUR BROTHER?”

Text: 2 Corinthians 5:17 NKJV

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

As that priceless soul sat before me that day, I heard those words: “Sir, I feel nothing. I have done many things wrong in my life”.

From getting sexually involved with close relatives to having an abortion. She had been through all.

I began to talk to her about God’s love, emphasizing that in Christ, her past is thrown into the sea of forgetfulness, and she is a new creature. I emphasized ‘new.’

Then she smiled. I said, “I thought you had no emotions”. She said, “I sense some great joy”.

Then she leaned forward and asked, “But Pastor, what if I am to marry your brother? With all you have heard, will you allow me?”

What a question!

I replied, “Why not! You are a new creature. You are new. My brother is not marrying that dead one. You are a new one in Christ”.

She was taken aback! She then burst into a great smile.

And that is the truth.

Honestly, you would not understand the weight of some challenges until it is close to home. She brought it home to me. You cannot preach what you cannot live.

Some Christian brothers preach the love of Christ but draw the line because “they cannot marry a non-virgin” even after she is in Christ now. Where is the love?

Family, the love of God is powerful. He

wipes away that handwriting of sin, and you become a brand-new template of His love.

He takes a broken soul and brings a global brand out of him.

In CHRIST, you are never your past (Can I say that a thousand times?) You are new!

Whatever keeps reminding you of where you have been and bringing that shame and guilt is a bastard- It is not the Spirit of God.

God never uses our past as a tool to judge us. Only the devil does that. Sometimes, you judge yourself. But you are redeemed. You are new. Jesus died for both your sin and the consequence of that sin.

Sister, Brother, the fact that you had a terrible past does not make you a second-class kingdom citizen, and you now start settling for less in marriage.

There are no second-class gifts in God. You do not deserve lesser love. You have all the love of God.

Whoever (including yourself) looks down on you because of your past does not understand what God has done- the person is still in the past.

Wake up!

You deserve the best.

CONFESS I O N

My past is gone and forgiven. I am alive in Christ. I am not inferior. I am loved and cherished by God.

DAY 17

HOW TO OVERCOME STRANGE HABITS

Text: Proverbs 4:23 AMP

Watch over your heart with all diligence, For from it flow the springs of life.

I grew up seeing the changes in the world of technology. I saw the diskettes and some of the “big box” visual display units. I saw how these things began to change right before us.

As a young boy, I was visiting with an uncle during that era. He had a computer and internet linked to it. When I got the opportunity to browse one day when I was alone at home, the links I looked for were pornography.

Being an amateur, someone discovered when they saw the history list on the system. I denied it.

During my first stint in a university, I had my first access to pornography. My roommates had video discs of it staring at you in the face. Now, here is my hypocrisy – When they are watching, I will go and hide. But when they are not around, I indulge in it. They thought I was the good boy.

These are the days that pornography is accessible at a click. You carry it with you anywhere you are. You are drawn to it at the click of a button. It comes for you so hard that it seems so difficult to stand. Listen! You can win the war.

Know this- You can never overcome any strange habit that you keep hiding. Temptation thrives on the ground of secrecy. As long as it is hidden, it is powerful. It loses its power when you stop denying and hiding.

In your intent to become accountable

and open so you can win the battle, do not look for someone that you will be “comfortable” with and “anonymous” with. Let it be someone who can hold you by the hand and ask you tough questions. Tell a mature person in Christ around you. Let that demon lose its sting on you.

Sin is comfortable when your ego keeps it hidden. It feeds on your ego but then bites hard again, and you fall harder every next opportunity. When sin sees you trying to escape, it fortifies its walls all around you. Break the hold by refusing it a place to hide.

Hear the word of the Lord:

You must catch the troubling foxes, those sly little foxes that hinder our relationship. For they raid our budding vineyard of love to ruin what I've planted within you. Will you catch them and remove them for me? We will do it together.

Song of Songs 2:15 TPT

There is a blossoming relationship between God and you. Will you let the foxes destroy the vine?

CONFESSION

I guard my heart from impurities. I do not yield to the pressures from the flesh. I overcome always.

DAY 18

STOP HIDING!

Text: Psalm 27:4 NIV

One thing I ask from the LORD, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.

There was a standing rule by the Dad of our childhood friends – no games on weekdays. Another standing rule was that “You read till noon on Saturdays before you can have access to games.” They had the highest number of childhood games in the neighbourhood- TV games, Handheld Games (Nintendo), Board Games, and even bicycles.

How do you want children to comply with such hard rules surrounded by so much temptation? Well! One day, Dad came in unawares. One of our older ones hid in a wardrobe. All in an attempt to cover up the disobedience.

Guess what! That was the exact cupboard that Dad needed to pick something from. He opened it and found him there. He was a man who tortured with tough words or cold silence but never with a cane. He did not say a word. But you already know the kind of mental reset we had afterward when we all got to hear.

Listen! We can hide from man, but you need to know that you cannot hide from God. There is nothing you do that you can keep away from the Lord.

Hear the psalmist: Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there.
Psalms 139:7-8 NKJV

There is nothing you have done that is hidden. If men do not see you, God sees you. Beloved, this is why you need to fear the Lord. It is the beginning of a life of wisdom.

Do not guard your reputation at the expense of your character. People may have a packaged dimension or version of your life, but God knows the real deal.

But if you refuse to heed the fear of the Lord, do not forget that your sin can also find you out.

But if you do not do so, then take note, you have sinned against the Lord, and be sure your sin will find you out.
Numbers 32:23 NKJV

When eyes of accountability also find you out, do not start trying to cover yourself with fig leaves. It will not end well. It will always end in a loss of dignity and precious inheritances.

Gehazi packaged his sin with cover-up lies, he left with generational leprosy. David laid it bare when accountability found him, he enjoyed divine mercy.

Do not hide from the Lord. An elephant cannot hide behind a needle. It is a waste of time. What are you covering up? Where is your own wardrobe? Stop hiding. Mercy brings healing.

CONFESSION

I am accountable to the spirit of God. I do not hide from the face of the Lord. I stay in His presence always.

DAY 19

FROM “TOO SLOW” TO “ON FIRE”

Text: Acts 9:15 NIV

But the Lord said to Ananias, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel.

There was a season when we needed a new set of ministry leaders. I hinted at some of those on board already about a young man in particular. They hesitated a bit when they heard he would be leading a prayer team. They seem unsure. One said, “Pastor, this brother does not look like it. He is too slow”. Another said, “The person that should lead prayer should be passionate.” I smiled and told them, “Just wait and see.”

I called the person and handed over the book “Alone with God” by my Grandfather in the faith to him. I told him to finish it up in a week. This beloved one would come to the church office and read in a corner. Before you knew it, he would begin to roar in prayers. He would pause again and read. The next moment, you would hear sounds of intense and fervent praying. In a week, the passion to pray woke up in him. I jokingly renamed him after “fire.”

One of the lessons I have learned and still keep learning as a pastor is that “My head must never become the barrier to what the Lord wants to do with a man who comes back home.” Listen, left to Ananias, Saul was never the person to be given a chance. His track record was a total mess- grade one murderer.

Beloved, even the apostles were skeptical about him. How on earth would they accept the same person who has persecuted the church as a brother? He was the least expected.

Do you know that it is possible to keep holding grudges against a man that God has forgiven? The man who fell has returned to the father’s embrace, but the ones who have been with the father feel like the father was too quick to forgive and restore. They are the holders of the “divine forgivemeter”. They measure the repentance quotient and the remorse level. There is a depth you must get to before you satisfy their requirements.

I have seen men stuck in life because they refuse to accept that God can forgive and restore men. Some elder brothers are used to

the quietness at home. The sound of rejoicing is very strange to them. They are used to the coziness and warmth of their church. They misinterpret the sounds of rejoicing as a competition for attention. They feel they will be dethroned. They feel threatened. They put up religious shows.

This is your test of a solid love walk: If you are bidding for a contract and do not win, you then hear that it was one “Mr. Stone” (someone you do not know) who won the contract; you can easily let it slip. But if you hear that it is your neighbour, “Mr. Emeka,” who won the contract, you begin to ask yourself, “What does he have that I don’t?”

It takes grace to know the history of men and still trust in their becoming and their evolving. The history you have of men can become a stumbling block to accepting that God can forgive, restore, and use a man for greater works.

See the elder brother:

“Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’ ‘The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. Luke 15:25-28 NIV

The father is pleading with you too, today. Do not be angry. Do not shut yourself out. God knows what He is doing.

CONFESSION

I plunge into the abundance that my Father can give. I rejoice at other people’s success. I walk in love.

DAY 20

THE RADICAL TRANSFORMATION FROM 'BAD BOY' TO 'JESUS BOY'

Text: Romans 8:1 NKJV

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

“Pastor, they have been making jest of me.” Those were his first words as he settled down to speak with me. I needed an explanation. This is a young convert who just gave his life to Christ and was growing in the faith. His concern got at me.

But I let out a smile, and he explained how some of those who knew him and his former lifestyle began to question how a bad boy can become a “Jesus boy.” They are surprised about how he suddenly took Christ and being a part of the local church seriously. The change was too drastic for them to understand it.

Wait a minute! Do you know that even Ananias, a disciple of Jesus Christ, argued with the Lord regarding the authenticity of Paul’s salvation? How can someone we got intel about yesterday that he was on his way to our city to persecute the church suddenly become a believer that even the Lord attests about his salvation? God even told Ananias that Paul was praying.

Friends, a touch of God’s grace can be a radical change. When it touched a woman who had an affair with six men at the well, it was a massive shift. The woman ran into the city to talk about the seventh man she just met! She announced to all the men, “I have found a man.” I think it was their curiosity that made the city come to see who the woman had found that got her so excited.

Never be ashamed of Jesus Christ and the change he has wrought in your life. I

am also a sinner found by grace. Every saint has a past, and every sinner has a future. We all met at the junction called Grace. I was born in the house of a Pastor; however, being born in the house of God-fearing parents does not automatically make you God-fearing. Do you know any pastor’s kid that you really doubt if they know Christ or attended church?

But when grace found me, the same boy who sneaked pornographic materials into the house and was heavily bound by lust encountered the grace of God that changes a man. I had no more reason to pretend. I found the real deal.

What did I tell that young man? I told him the words of Jesus Christ, and I am saying the same to you:

“God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers. Be happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. And remember, the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way” (Matthew 5:11-12 NLT)

I follow Jesus Christ, and I am proud of it.

CONFESSION

I am saved by grace. I am sustained by grace. I have a new identity in Christ. Shame if far from me.

DON'T BE A SPIRITUAL NOMAD!

Text: Hebrews 6:12 NLT

Then you will not become spiritually dull and indifferent. Instead, you will follow the example of those who are going to inherit God's promises because of their faith and endurance.

At a season in my journey, I was unsure whether I was growing or just floating spiritually. I was getting carried away with the excitement of trending names and teachers. Yes! I was learning, but I knew there was a longing that I had not yet met. I kept wondering what was wrong.

Until one day when it struck me hard- I needed to take the teaching of my spiritual father seriously. I became intentional. I began to listen to every service. Something was fired up again in my spirit man. It was also easier to draw closer to my spiritual parents. My heart was at home. Home became sweeter. Truthfully, everything went to a new level for us- our marriage got better, ministry impact multiplied, and personal spiritual growth became obvious.

Like the prodigal son, many people have "anything but made at home" appetites. They long to be fed whatever is available. They eat anywhere and anything, yet they sense an emptiness within.

Listen! Some people are addicted to the latest. If it is trending, they must get on it. You are confused because you do not know the difference that the prodigal son eventually discovered: No matter how far you travel and how adventurous you get, there is something called "my father's bread."

Let me explain: We were in a meeting where a baby cried for food. The mother picked him up and breastfed him. I asked another nursing mother there, "Do you have what it takes to feed that baby?". She said, "Yes". Then I asked, "But will you feed him if you were the one carrying him and he cried for milk." She laughed and said, "No, I will give him to his mother." I smiled and said, "You are a mother, but you are not his mother."

Beloved, there is a difference between

"a pastor" and "my pastor". There is a difference between "a father" and "my father". There is something that food at home does to your spirit. Unfortunately, the only teaching lacking on your phone is that of your pastor, who teaches you every Sunday. You are tired, and you now crave food from 'another' mother. Wake up your senses!

Listen, beloved: Begin to take the teachings of your pastor seriously. Your home is a mess because your wife has a favourite preacher, and you have another favourite preacher, but when you have issues, you want your pastor to counsel you. There is no space for his words in your home. It carries no weight when there is no crisis. How will it automatically carry weight now?

"When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and you.
Luke 15:17-18 NIV

Get back to your senses. Listen well to your pastor. Wait! Do you even have a pastor? Set out and go back home.

No matter how much jollof rice you eat at a wedding party, it can never replace food at home. Wake up! Kill that long throat. Feed well at home. Thank God for jollof, but eat well at home. Have you been to a wedding where you did not eat from home, and then food did not get to you? Next time, what do you do? You eat from home.

CONFESSION

I stay long in God's words. My soul and spirit are saturated with the word of God. I live by the word of God.

DAY 22

THE DEVIL KNOWS WHAT YOU LIKE

Text: Psalm 19:12 NLT

How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart? Cleanse me from these hidden faults.

I was teaching a class of young believers a while back and I said to them “Your temptation is what you like. Whatever you do not like does not become a trigger for temptation for you”. One of them asked me, “What do you like?” I had a good smile.

One of the timeless strategies of the devil is to bring around people things they like so they can be trapped in temptation and fall into sin. There is no temptation if there is no desire.

“Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away” James 1:14 NLT

I have never drunk or smoked in my life. The bottle or the stick can never be a temptation for me. There is no attraction for it. There is no desire for it. Once desire is inoperative, the temptation is dead on arrival.

If you have a desire for attention and affection, the devil will organise men or women around you who will always do that for you. You will become so choked in it that it seems like you will not survive without it.

emotionally entangled with the opposite sex simply because you love the attention you are receiving especially all the endearments and all.

One of the things that you must pray for is a change of taste. Your desires must change if you will be free from that temptation.

Some of you must ensure that you do not put yourself in a space that triggers an old flame of sin. Create a solid barricade around yourself. Let the Spirit of God handle that part of your life.

You may think you are strong until you are within the space that opens you up to temptation. At that point, you may realise that even time may not heal some desires. So run from all appearances of that desire. Do not put yourself in trouble.

CONFESS I O N

The Lord's desire becomes my desire. I am not drawn into old-time lusts. I am helped by the Holy Ghost.

You can be married but



THERE IS MORE YOU CAN BE IF YOU GROW

Text: 2 Peter 3:18 NIV.

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

I took a walk to the generator house in the church as I prayed in gratitude under my breath. I told God how grateful we were for all He had done for us in His favour.

Then like a burst of light, I remembered that we had gadgets that we could not use because of the weight of power required. Now that we had a better generator, the devices would be put to use.

At that moment, the Lord said, "There are deposits and resources in your life already that will not be fully expressed until you grow in capacity."

If you have a "Mansion-sized" assignment, your preparation and capacity cannot be "boys-quarter sized." You cannot use a tiny generator to power the mansion. It cannot. It will always be overwhelmed.

Simply put: Growth attracts and reveals grace! Think about our Lord Jesus:

And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him. Luke 2:40 NKJV

It begins with growth. Some things will only find expression when you grow. Everything a baby needs as an adult is already there from birth, albeit in small proportions, but growth reveals them.

Growth is a prerequisite for strength. You need to grow to get stronger. If growth is stunted, strength is limited.

The height of it is that; grace only finds expression in an environment of growth. When you see people doing mighty things, acknowledge the grace of God but also check their growth pattern and investment.

You have the capacity for more. The only challenge is your refusal to meet the demands of growth. If you grow, you will surprise yourself.

Grow!

CONFESSION

I grow in grace and all virtues. I do not suffer from stunted growth. My capacity is enlarged.

DAY 24

WHY YOU STILL STRUGGLE WITH UNGODLINESS

Text: Galatians 5:16 NIV

So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

A dear teacher shared how he got victory over masturbation and pornography as a young convert. He was a believer but still struggled with sin.

Then one day, he saw what the Word of the Lord said:

“For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age” Titus 2:11-12 NIV

The Word “Say NO” jumped out at him. From then whenever he felt the urge to sin no matter where he was, he would not think it in his mind, he would speak out and say “No”. Sometimes his friends would ask him what the matter was, he would smile and say, “I am settling a spiritual matter”.

Friends, every time you are tempted to sin and suggestions begin to come, simply know that there is a foul spirit hanging in the atmosphere.

Remember, the devil is not omniscient so he does not know what you are thinking. So, go beyond thinking to talking. Do not think back at the devil's schemes and suggestions- talk back. Say No!

That's what Paul told Titus, “Say No to Ungodliness”. You don't battle thoughts with thoughts. You respond with words.

When next you face a temptation, do not do it with an open mind and a shut mouth. Close your mind to the thoughts of the devil, open your mouth, and release the sword of the spirit that demoralises hell!

You are not a victim.

You are a victor.

CONFESSION

My body is the temple of God. I overcome temptations to sin always. I rest on the strength of the Holy Ghost.

DAY 25

LORD, GIVE ME A HEART LIKE THIS...!

Text: Psalm 51:10 NKJV

Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me.

My daughter walked out to meet me. I was still concerned that she did not have her slippers on and told her not to step on the ground. The next thing I heard was, “Daddy, I am sorry. I did not intend to break it. I did not know it was there when I stepped on it.”

She held on to the broken Bluetooth speaker, and I looked at my daughter and loved her heart. It reminded me of my childhood days when I had to lie to cover up wrong because I was afraid of punishment. She touched a spot in me. The sincerity made me smile. I was not angry a bit. I loved the speaker. But I could not deny her sincerity.

David committed adultery by sleeping with Bathsheba, and he then killed Uriah. He covered his tracks and still carried on with life like nothing happened. But guilt and condemnation that flow from pretence will eat you up.

Before I confessed my sins, I kept it all inside; my dishonesty devastated my inner life, causing my life to be filled with frustration, irrepressible anguish, and misery.

Psalms 32:3 TPT

After David had spent quite some years trying to bribe God with sacrifices and burnt offerings, he realised something significant:

For You do not desire sacrifice, or else

I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart— These, O God, You will not despise.

Psalms 51:16 – 17 NKJV

A sincere heart is beautiful. A broken spirit can never be despised. Brokenness makes you attractive to God. Do not keep pushing in pride. Go to the Lord. Confess to the Lord. Do not speak in tongues to cover up the unaddressed issues of your heart.

Admit your fault. Do not try to minister by force. Purity is what makes you useful. Until the vessel is purged, it cannot be fit for the master's use.

“...be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the Lord” Isaiah 52:11 KJV

Are you a pure vessel?

Are you a broken vessel?

Are you disguising like nothing is wrong?

God cannot be mocked! You cannot deceive yourself. Get it settled, fast!

CONFESSION

I live a spirit-controlled life. I submit to God in brokenness. My life is a sacrifice with sweet-smelling savour.

**DAY
26**

YOUR SPIRITUAL WALK AND “FIGHTING FOR YOUR RIGHT”

Text: Romans 12:18 NLT.

Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.

About ten years ago, my sister-in-law came to Eruwa a few weeks before delivery. During her stay, her office requested that she needed to come and get some things fixed. It was meant to be a short trip to and fro for a maximum of five hours. I thought I could catch up with office work.

As the day turned out, it became a full-day affair. I had to wait for her all day. We did not get back to Eruwa until late in the evening.

The following morning, I heard her telling Mum that she wanted to get her fish, but I refused to stop so she could buy it. I got angry and said to her, "I sacrificed my full day for you. You did not appreciate that. All you remember is the fish. And I explained to you that I do not like driving at night." I was angry.

But then the Holy Spirit stepped in about ten minutes later with a firm instruction- "Go and apologise." "Holy Spirit, I am the one that needs an apology here," I responded. Then He went quiet on me. I went to apologise to her, and then she equally did, and peace reigned.

One of the things that will stunt your spiritual growth and hinder your walk with God is insisting on your rights rather than obeying the instructions of the Lord. You will be in moments when you will be right, but God will ask you to choose peace. It pains, but it is your circumcision- a cutting away of fleshly and carnal tendencies.

There is no other pathway into a glorious spiritual life outside the crucifixion of the flesh. The flesh will scream, but it has to be

mortified.

For instance, marriage involves two people ready to forgive and forbear one another. There are times that you must be mature enough to say "I am sorry" even though it is clear that you are right. Marriages crash when you have two "Personal Rights Activists" in the union. When you know you are there to serve the purpose of God and the pleasure of one another, you will forget about rights and serve each other in love.

Paul made a reference to this about the rights he had, but he put it up for the sake of Christ:

If others have this right of support from you, shouldn't we have it all the more? But we did not use this right. On the contrary, we put up with anything rather than hinder the gospel of Christ. 1 Corinthians 9:12 NIV

What is the dividing line here? When fighting for your right becomes a hindrance to the gospel, and especially when it is disobedience to the prompt and instructions of the Holy Spirit, you will need to exercise caution, apply brakes, repent genuinely, and ask for the help of the Lord in that matter.

It is always better to obey God in all matters than to have your way and be caught in the web of disobedience.

CONFESSION

I will not sacrifice the voice of the Holy Spirit for my rights. I choose obedience over rights. I choose peace with all men even amid chaos.

DAY
27

"DON'T YOU HAVE YOUR OWN WEAKNESSES TOO?"

Text: 1 Thessalonians 4:3 NLT

God's will is for you to be holy, so stay away from all sexual sin.

I was greatly troubled when I invited the brother for a heart-to-heart discussion on an issue that I knew was simply

ungodly- it had no two words to describe it.

When I laid down what I believe would be a friendly godly warning on the matter, the response I got shook me to my bones.

He looked at me and said, "Don't you have your own weaknesses too?"

I was shocked.

Ah!

When you begin to see sin as a weakness, you will not be open to divine rebuke.

Sin is sin! The wages of sin is death. Weaknesses are laid aside. We mortify the works of the flesh. The nature of sin must be exchanged for the Spirit of Life in Christ.

You cannot improve on a dog till it becomes a man. Salvation is not a motivational self-improvement programme. No!

It is God's redemption package from a life of sin. It breaks the stronghold of sin over your life.

If you keep giving excuses and calling sin a weakness, you will never escape the grip of death- the wages of sin.

Every time we sin, something dies in us. Sin is limiting. There is a difference between

weakness and wickedness.

Do not slip into hell from the pews of the church simply because you kept underrating the consequence of sin.

If it took Jesus to die for our sins, that is a serious issue that you must not take for granted.

Stop justifying nonsense. Sexual purity goes beyond "We did not have sex" but you did everything else. Can you hear yourself?

Stop tolerating sin. A guest well-treated will stay longer than intended. Get the room of your life so hot that sin will take a walk to places where things are taken cool.

I am not taking things cool.

Sin is sin!

Hate sin! Hate Sin! Hate Sin!

CONFESS I O N

I do not justify a sinful life. I am not weakened by lustful desires. I flee from all appearance of sin.

DAY
28

CHRONICLES OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH 1

Text: Proverbs 27:17 NIV.

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

My spiritual growth leaped in my second year at the University. Even though I had given my life to Christ way earlier as a teenager, I still was on a plateau. I was more religious. I only followed the routine. There were no sparks or vibes in my walk with God. It was just boring.

One evening, I was visiting with a senior colleague of mine and he gave me a tape. It brought a revolution to my prayer life. I listened to it again and again. It was

as if a well that was locked up within me was opened up.

There is an environment where the seed must be for the seed to grow. There is a ground the seed must be for the seed to thrive. If you will grow, the environment must be right. Some things suffocate growth.

Get away from the wayside- things that cause distractions. Things that turn the Word of the Lord into meaningless jokes.

Runaway from rocks. Run from thorns. Do not get comfortable in places and with things that do not give room for the seed of the Lord within you to grow.

You cannot love the Word of God if you keep company with those who talk down the instructions of the scriptures. You cannot grow in prayer if you settle with those who talk down on prayer in subtle ways.

The Word is needed for your growth.

Apostle Peter told us to deal with the things that hinder growth by going after the Word that provokes growth:

Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, as newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby... 1 Peter 2:1-2 KJV

Most of the things that Apostle Peter mentioned can be transferred by relationships- malice, hypocrisy, envy, and evil-speaking.

If you will grow, you must watch the company that you keep. You must watch what such company brings or introduces into your life also.

One of the testimonies of God about Saul (who became Apostle Paul) right after his conversion was that "He prays".

And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth, Acts 9:11 KJV

And if you grow in prayer, your spiritual experiences and growth will enter into fresh dimensions. Saul entered into the realm of visions by praying.

...and hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

Acts 9:12 KJV

If you will grow, watch your company, love the Word of God, and study the Word. Without it, there is no growth.

CONFESSION

I am intentional about my spiritual growth. I am surrounded by people of spiritual substance. I do not keep a godless association. My faith is anchored on the word of God.

DAY
29

CHRONICLES OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH 2

Text: Hebrews 12:2. KJV.

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

In my second year at the university, I woke up one night because I had a test in the morning. I picked up my books to read and at that moment it struck me like light "Have you ever woken up to pray, study or fellowship with the Lord?" That day, I decided that nothing would ever come before my devotion to the Lord.

(Kindly note that I was not an unserious student. I was the type of student who drew red lines in my notes for personal study. I was the 'I will be in the library after class' kind of student. This is not to promote laziness).

You cannot grow spiritually when there is no desire for growth. Desire is the prerequisite for pursuit. Without pursuit, things will remain on a spot. Certainly, whatever stays in a spot will end up depreciating.

Jesus our Lord puts it this way: "Do not just seek the kingdom. Seek the kingdom first".

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Matthew 6:33 KJV

If you will grow, do not just enjoy God's presence in your life, make sure you also make him your priority.

God gave you time. The devil wants you to waste it. God wants you to maximize it.

God blessed you with resources. The devil wants you to worship it. God wants them to serve you and His purpose on earth.

If you will grow spiritually, you must settle on what your priority is. There is a measure where you add God to your timetable. There is a measure of growth where you hand your timetable over to God. There is a measure of growth where you ask God for His timetable and you add yourself to it.

Are you worshipping things?

Are God and His kingdom indeed your priority?

If your priority is settled, your posture changes, and your growth path is laid out but you must be willing to play your part.

What is your desire?

What is your priority?

CONFESSION

I am an ardent seeker of God. I am passionate about God's will and purposes for my life. I prioritise God in all my ways.



CHRONICLES OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH 3

Text: Hebrews 10:25 AMP

"not forsaking our meeting together [as believers for worship and instruction], as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another..."

A protege of mine got admitted to the University and he came to ask me for one thing I would have done better if I had the chance to get admitted again. It was a question I had answered before he even asked. My answer was simple, "I would not waste time getting committed to a church".

I was actually of the school of thought that I went to school for academics alone. I analyzed how fellowship meeting days were wasting precious time. I did not realize that I was only slowing down the process of my spiritual growth.

It is not God's plan that anyone should grow in isolation.

God setteth the solitary in families: He bringeth out those which are bound with chains: But the rebellious dwell in a dry land.
Psalm 68:6 KJV

Even Paul who was spoken to by Jesus Christ had to fellowship with Ananias, sought the Apostles, and became active in the early church.

It is easy to get lost in high-sounding unbalanced revelation when you have no company that challenges you to grow or brings clarity to areas where you need such.

Right from Antioch, Paul had a believers' company. He did not say 'I have heard God and I do not need anyone. Paul at a point even submitted what he was teaching to the pillars of the church to vet and examine. He did not want to become a lone ranger with strange insights.

It is a great thing to be part of a spiritual family- it helps your growth. It keeps you in a company of accountability.

Do not isolate yourself from the church. Plug in and grow.

CONFESSION

I am not a lone ranger in destiny. I enjoy the blessings of spiritual gatherings with brethren. I am not isolated from my spiritual family. I enjoy grace for growth in my spiritual family.



Be the first to get
daily devotional
updates, join our
Telegram Community

t.me/compassdaily

Access other useful links

linktr.ee/ptemiloluwaola



CONNECT WITH
PST. TEMILOLUWA OLA
ON SOCIAL MEDIA

 ptemiloluwaola
 ptemiloluwaola
 ola.temiloluwa
 atomtvonline

www.temiloluwaola.com



CONNECT WITH US @

NOURISHING GROUND COMMUNITY CHURCH

with

Pastors Temi
& Ronke Ola



IBADAN:

1ST FLOOR (FRESH BITE BUILDING),
OLUYOLE TEACHERS HOUSE ROAD,
TOWN PLANNING ROAD, OLUYOLE,
IBADAN, OYO STATE.

ERUWA:

NGCC WONDERLAND 1.
BEHIND AWOJOBI CLINIC,
ERUWA, OYO STATE.

Sundays
9AM

Tuesdays
5PM

www.ngcc.church

    [ngccglobal](https://www.youtube.com/ngccglobal)





www.temiloluwaola.com
© 2024. All Rights Reserved