

COMPASS

DAILY DEVOTIONAL



**FOR
MAY 2025**

Temiloluwa Ola

**NOT
FOR
SALE!**

Practical thoughts for a productive day

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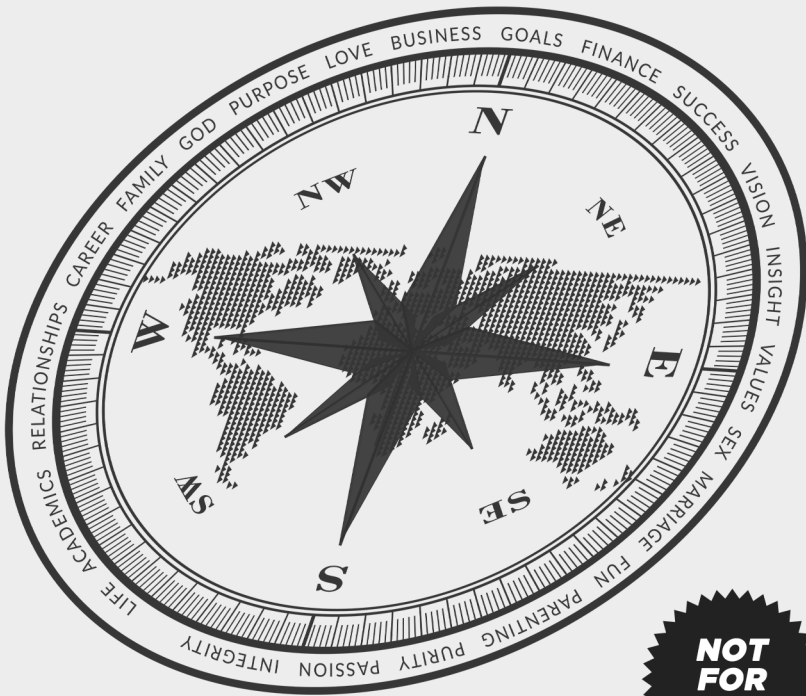
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- MAY 2025 -

COMPASS

DAILY DEVOTIONAL



Temiloluwa Ola

Practical thoughts for a productive day

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Introduction

Welcome to the Month of May!

It will be a month of great joy for you. Joy is a force of the kingdom that does not fail. No matter what has happened, stay in joy.

When joy fails, everything collapses.

Joel 1:12 KJV

[12] The vine is dried up, and the fig tree languisheth; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, even all the trees of the field, are withered: because joy is withered away from the sons of men.

However, when you insist on joy, there is a great turn around.

Habakkuk 3:17-19 KJV

[17] Although the fig tree shall not blossom, Neither shall fruit be in the vines; The labour of the olive shall fail, And the fields shall yield no meat; The flock shall be cut off from the fold, And there shall be no herd in the stalls: [18] Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. [19] The LORD God is my strength, And he will make my feet like hinds' feet, And he will make me to walk upon mine high places.

What do you seek to draw this season from the wells of salvation? Is it life, healing, prosperity, blessing, strength or more? Joy is the fetcher.

Isaiah 12:3 KJV

[3] Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

Let me tell you how it will end:

Isaiah 12:4 KJV

[4] And in that day shall ye say, Praise the LORD, call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted.

You will praise the Lord.

You will declare his doings.

You will testify.

Be blessed.

temilOluwa Ola, Eruwa

Feedback

This devotional has really enhanced my development and growth in faith, I look forward to it everyday. It is spiritual tonic to me. Thank you so much for allowing God to use you.

- PST JEMIDE

I always look forward to reading the Compass devotional each morning, It has been fueling me on my journey of faith, there is always a word for me amidst the letters

- ADEDIWURA AFOLABI

This devotional has been the one of truth and practicality, dealing especially with the matters of the heart and Christian attitude.

I must say that every time I read the ATOM Daily Word it is always timely. Speaking to my current situation or to a matter I am involved in.

God bless the set man with more wisdom and Grace.

- ADEBIMPE ADENIRAN FUNMILAYO, LAGOS.

I am an eighteen year old girl who has been using the compass devotional for over six months now. I've been blessed immensely and the devotional has contributed greatly to my growth as a child of God.

May the oil upon the lives of all those making this a success never run dry.

Thank you so much.

- BOLUWATIFE

Thank you Pastor TemilOluwa for allowing the Lord to use you in a dynamic way in teaching His Word and Principles too.

You reminded me of Dr Monroe.

I have been greatly humbled and blessed by your teachings accompanied by personal experiences which you share generously to help us.

I could remember at some point when my relationship with my wife was quite critical, I dread reading the Compass Devotional because your words often come to change my mind or perspective on the matter.

I deeply appreciate your ministries and I'm greatly blessed by your balance approach to the scripture.

More Grace and Coverage in Jesus Mighty Name!

I've really been blessed by the daily devotion. I came across it through my friend **OMOLOLA**. It was the period of teaching "Stay in Joy no matter what".

I was elevated and encouraged because it was really a tough period for me I was battling with a whole lot in my home, Marriage and life. I was having suicide thoughts and depression. I felt my relationship with God weakening cos it was so thick around me until I read **stay in Joy no matter what**.

And it has helped me tremendously in shaping most of my decisions that has to do with destiny and all. Thank you sir and ma for being a great blessing tool.

The devotional has helped to deepened my faith, I have found encouragement, Growing in relationship with God and people.

God bless you.

Thank you for this and more always. We always look forward to God's word and instruction through your devotionals. This has kept us in shape and in check.

Please don't loose strength sir, you are blessing lives daily by the grace of God over your life sir.

God bless and Renew your strength greatly sir. We say thank you



“LORD, HELP ME”- THE CRY THAT SAVES

Text: Psalm 121:1-2 NKJV

I will lift up my eyes to the hills— From whence comes my help? My help comes from the LORD, Who made heaven and earth.

We had just come in from church when one of my beloved ones ran to me to tell me that our neighbour's young son had locked himself inside the car. Unfortunately, the remote key was right in his hands. He had activated the central lock accidentally.

We all surrounded the car. We kept giving instructions, but this toddler did not know what to do or which button to press. He began to sweat profusely. He dropped the car key. He would climb to the back seat and then into the boot (trunk).

His mum was in panic mode. There were times when the car's panic alarm also sounded, creating even greater confusion for the boy. After we had tried all we could, I told someone to get us a wheel spanner to break a section of the glass. A broken glass was far cheaper than a suffocated son.

Just at the very last minute, I let out the cry, “Lord, help.” What happened next was a miracle- the boy picked up the remote key and pressed the open button without knowing. We pulled the door open, and the mum ran to carry her son. We all heaved a sigh of relief.

First, do you know what the Psalmist said about God?
Psalms 46:1 NKJV

God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble.

God is our present help in times of trouble.

Second, prayer and call to God must not be treated as a spare tyre. It should never be the last thing we try after everything else has failed. It should be the first in our hearts.

The Psalmist again made us understand why:
Psalms 127:1-2 CEV

[1] Without the help of the Lord it is useless to build a home or to guard a city. [2] It is useless to get up early and stay up late in order to earn a living. God takes care of his own, even while they sleep.

There are things efforts will surely get done, but efforts with the help of God make all the difference.

Today, make sure you ask for the help of God. Do not treat it like a spare.

Say with me, “Lord help me.”

CONFESSION

I enjoy divine help. I am not stranded in life. Help comes my way.

DAY 02

WHEN HE HOLDS YOUR HAND

Text: Isaiah 41:10 NLT

Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.

Some years ago, my grandfather in the faith came to preach in the city where I was serving. It was a church with quite a heavy protocol. During the meeting, he asked us to walk around and greet people. I made sure to walk to the minister who followed him on that trip. He was surprised to see me and told me to walk back to him after the meeting.

Just as the meeting was ending and Baba was about to move, I walked up to the minister. He called Baba's attention and said that I was around. When Baba spotted me, he beckoned me to come. He held my hands. All protocol was suspended. He walked right with me through all the doors. I walked into places where I would not have entered. I walked past people who normally would have questioned me. As long as I walked with him and his hand held mine, doors flung open. It was not about me; it was about who I was walking with.

There is a songwriter who said, "When you hold my hands, everything is possible." True. The hand of the Lord is the hand of help.

Psalms 119:173 NKJV

[173] Let Your hand become my help, For I have chosen Your precepts.

No matter what happens, protect your walk with God. Any door that you enter after you let go of the Hand of the Lord and sacrifice your walk with God is

nothing but a slaughterhouse.

The struggle becomes real for anyone who does not know and sustain this very simple practice- protect your walk with God.

Remember Peter, as long as the Angel (symbolic of divine presence) walked with him, chains fell off, prison doors opened, and the city gate opened by itself. Why? He was walking with someone with no barrier to hinder him.

When you struggle with anything and anywhere, pause and check whose hands I am holding. Who am I walking with?

I see many try to hold on to things that will falter and fail. No! Jesus Christ is the one who is the same yesterday, today and forever. Only God remains the same and does not change.

Are you holding on to who will never change? Or have you been deceived? Do not abandon the rock of ages to walk on sinking sand.

CONFESSION

I protect my walk with God always. I hold on tightly to the hands of God. I am not alone.



DO NOT KILL A VISION BEFORE IT TAKES OFF

Text: Proverbs 11:14 NKJV

Where there is no counsel, the people fall; But in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

As I sat with another young pastor, I asked him, “Kindly describe what you feel about ministry in one word”. He took a deep sigh and said, “Frustrating”. He had “invested” so much in buying expensive gadgets. His handbills are top-grade. They were lovely to behold, but he did not ask himself whether it was sustainable and the real cost of what he was building.

Beloved, whenever you are starting on the journey of vision, there are very essential instructions that you must never joke with:

First, listen to your midwives. Midwives are those who have been where you are now but who are also standing where you desire to be. There is no pregnant woman who is in labour who despises the role of a midwife. Your midwife will give you life-birthing and life-saving instructions. Ask God to lead you to destiny midwives. They are key.

Second, you must ask yourself two simple questions:

Question 1: “Can I start it?”- You look at what you desire to buy or use to drive the vision. Appraise it by asking whether you can start it. If the answer is positive, then the next question is key.

Question 2: “Can I sustain it?” – There are things you can start that you will not be able to sustain in three months. Why? You will be back to square one. It is better to grow things organically. Do you know

the taste of fruits that we’re forced to get ripe before their time? It looks like it, but the taste is not the same. Patience is a major factor in building a vision.

Third, do not load the vision with what it cannot bear. If you start by borrowing, you have started in a graveyard. It will take resurrection for the vision to live. The pressure that will be on you too will be needless and avoidable if you follow simple instructions and guidance.

When Pharaoh wanted to go after the Hebrew boys at birth, he consulted with the midwives. He knew that the growth of that vision was a major threat to his kingdom. This is a midwife’s counsel. That vision that the Lord has given you can live but you need to ensure you do not kill it with your own hands.

One of the prostitutes in Solomon’s day slept and tumbled on her baby. She was in snooze mode and placed a weight on that seed that led to death by suffocation. Do not be careless with what God has blessed you with.

May the vision live.

CONFESSION

I will not strangle God-given vision with my own hands. I enjoy the blessings of counsellors.

DAY 04

WHEN CLOSED DOORS ARE A SIGN

Text: Psalm 23:2 NKJV

He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.

I had spoken to the agent a day earlier. He promised me that he had spoken to the landlord. The house met about ninety percent of the specifications we needed. We thought about seeing it and making a final decision. Honestly, I thought our prayers were answered.

The agent reassured me that he had spoken to the landlord and he had promised to be available. He even told me about twenty minutes before our arrival that the landlord was also on his way home. He was residing in the same place.

The story took a twist afterwards. We arrived at the property, and the agent kept calling the landlord's line. He refused to pick. We knocked on the gate, and he did not answer. The security men at the estate gate said, "He just drove in some minutes ago. He is inside." We waited for about an hour.

As we left the place, the men at the estate gate said, "If it is that house you want to rent, we do not advise you to take it. His tenants do not have a great relationship with him. Some move out once their rent expires. Some do not even wait for their rent to expire. His attitude does not help in any way."

Whether true or not, we do not know, but what we knew was what happened next:

While wondering whether we had travelled all the way to waste another day house-hunting, a man came and said, "There is a house not too far away. Would you check that out?"

When Irewamiri and I saw it, it met our desires a hundred percent. It was exactly what we were looking for. It was the description that our daughters prayed and asked the Lord for.

Listen, in the dealings of God in your life, closed doors can be a sign of God rerouting your path. You must know the doors to knock on, and you must trust God when closed doors are signs to turn elsewhere.

Some open doors are not even signs of divine support. For instance, King Herod was open to the wise men. That open door was a disaster to the divine agenda. If they had gone back because they wanted royal pampering, they would have used temporary pleasure to disrupt the kingdom's agenda. Some open doors are not yours!

The doors of the prison were closed. Joseph did all he could- he had good character and connected to the big boys, but all was still not working until it was time to interpret Pharaoh's dreams. Joseph was closer to the palace in prison than he was in Potiphar's House.

Learn to trust the leading of the Lord. Never assume all open doors are a divine opportunity. Some are demonic traps. Be discerning. There was a day I was refuelling the generator, and a house fly flew inside the tank immediately after I opened it. You know the end of the story.

Beloved, not all open doors are yours. At times, closed doors are the operation of God's mercy also. Be discerning. Tell him to help you.

Pray like Solomon:
Proverbs 3:5-6 TPT

[5] Trust in the Lord completely, and do not rely on your own opinions. With all your heart rely on him to guide you, and he will lead you in every decision you make. [6] Become intimate with him in whatever you do, and he will lead you wherever you go.

CONFESS I O N

I am open to the leading of the Holy Spirit. I do not rely on my understanding and intellect. I recognise my open doors.

DAY 05

BE BOLD ABOUT WHO YOU KNOW

Text: Proverbs 18:10 NLT

The name of the LORD is a strong fortress; the godly run to him and are safe.

Many years ago, I went with an uncle and my little niece to a government parastatal. He had a relationship with the head of the organization in that area. We stepped out briefly to get some documentation done.

When we returned, the official manning the gate mentioned that there was no space at the car park. My uncle smiled and said, "I am heading to the office of so and so. Would you be kind enough to park my vehicle and bring my key to his office?"

All of a sudden, the space to park manifested. I was laughing, but the look my uncle gave me made me change my mind.

Some doors will never open to you except you have a relationship that can open the door. For instance, the gates of heaven are open to you in eternity when you have a relationship with Jesus Christ. No matter how good you are, if you do not have a relationship with the owner of a house, they will turn you back at the door. What will he say? "I do not know you. Get away". Does it sound familiar?

Matthew 7:23 GNT

Then I will say to them, 'I never knew you. Get away from me, you wicked people!'

Some have relationships that can open

doors, but are not bold enough to take advantage of the relationship. The bold will gain more ground even when they have no relationships, and the coward will remain stranded even though they have relationships that can work for them.

Did you hear about the seven sons of Sceva? They did not know Jesus, but they used His name as preached by Paul. They gained some ground until they faced the demon who exposed them as fake.

Believers who know Jesus are not bold enough to maximize the relationship and use the name of Jesus. Be bold to use the name of Jesus:

Proverbs 18:10 NKJV

The name of the Lord is a strong tower;
The righteous run to it and are safe.

Imagine you have a strong tower but refuse to utilize it for your safety and victory. That would be terrible.

Use the name of Jesus, and you will see doors and gates open up to you. Be bold to wield that name.

CONFESSION

I weaponize the name of Jesus at all times. The name of Jesus is my fortress. I cannot be defeated.

DAY 06

A BAD ATTITUDE AND DIVINE FAVOUR DO NOT MIX

Text: Luke 1:28 NIV

The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

I had a very important meeting to attend, and I also needed to get some other things done. There was no way I would miss the meeting. It was way more important to me.

So, I wanted to delegate the things I needed to fix to another person. Someone said to me, "Sir, even if you call them, they are always busy. They will not leave their workshop to come to you".

The moment he made that statement, my spirit got charged up, and I told myself, "I enjoy the favour of the Lord, and I will get my request." I took the phone from him and spoke to their boss. In less than thirty seconds, he agreed to what I said. I was overjoyed. Things got done. I was also able to attend the meeting.

If you are not conscious of the favour of God upon your life, you will settle for things less than what the Lord has ordained for you. The favour of the Lord is a sure mark upon a believer. God decorates you with favour.

You are a favour-carrier and a favour-transmitter. Some things would cease because favour is speaking for you. Favour will decorate you, put you on the platform and allow you to get all the accolades.

If you want to enjoy divine favour, you must ensure you do not joke with having the right attitude. Combining favour and a bad attitude is like spraying perfume on a stinking body. What you need is first a clean bath that transforms you.

And the king loved Esther above all the women, and she obtained grace and favour in his sight more than all the virgins; so that he set the royal crown upon her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.

Esther 2:17 KJV

You cannot be fighting an invisible enemy

when you are coloured with pride. You are your own enemy and God himself will resist you.

A man who knows how favour works does not strive with men. Abraham did not strife with Lot. Isaac did not strife with the Philistines.

A man who is conscious of favour gives no room to strife. Strife strangulates the flow of favour. Where there is strife, good works will cease.

For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.

James 3:16 KJV

Strife opens the door for every evil work and closes the door against favour. When you savour the presence of God, He will decorate you with favour.

As you grow in wisdom, you will know that you do not just need favour with God, you also need favour with men. On earth, it matters who likes you. Do not say "I do not need anyone". Even Jesus needed the favour of God and that of men.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

Luke 2:52 KJV

Love God. Value His Presence. Be conscious of the favour of God upon your life. Do not despise men. Build the right attitude always.

CONFESSION

I am conscious of God's favour on my life. I transmit favour. I enjoy favour. Favour surrounds me like a shield.

DAY 07

YOU CAN'T POUR FROM AN EMPTY CUP

Text: Psalm 23:5 NIV

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

As we returned home that day, Danielle began showing signs of hunger. Irewamiri tried different means to placate. It seemed to work for a while, as we distracted her momentarily. Then, she began to throw tantrums again. We made it home, and then the tears reached a new level. Irewamiri, though moved by her tears, said to me, “No matter how much she cries, I must eat first before I feed her. She has taken a lot from me today already, and I have not eaten well.” Danielle had no option. She waited for Mummy to eat for strength first before she could be fed.

Beloved, ministry is an overflow. You must not minister to people out of your reserve but out of your overflow. You must get to the place where the Lord anoints you with oil and your cup overflows. If you minister to others from emptiness, there will be no impact. You will likely be a victim of trying to make it work. You will use schemes because “you want the presence to move.”

What is the pattern?

“Then he added, “Son of man, let all my words sink deep into your own heart first. Listen to them carefully for yourself.” Ezekiel 3:10 NLT

The key is to prioritize your feeding. Let the word sink into you first. Eat well for strength. There is a trap in our generation that you want to study so that you can share a deep revelation with friends and your online audience. Social media is not the first place to rush to with a revelation. The secret place must be first. Read it.

Study it. Meditate on it. Let it produce fruit in your life. The finest revelation of God's Word is not deep teaching or high-sounding words but a changed life.

To the believer: Do not sit in a place where you are not fed or nourished. This could sound tough, but your decisions in life are tied to how nourished your spirit is. If all you hear are stories from African Magic movies intertwined with some fear-motivated talks, you may have to anoint your feet and run. You cannot be in a place where all you have are sermon titles but no practical handles for growth in life. After you put down the title, there is nothing more to note; be watchful.

However, you must not just have the mindset of a consumer. You will be pruned for more when you bear the fruits of kingdom service. You just have to ensure that the tree-bearing fruits of service do not die gradually. Are the fruits diminishing year after year? Do you now struggle in your love walk? Are you downcast even though you sing in the choir? Sit down and get back into the secret place. Make it a pattern.

Eat for yourself first. Only a nourished mother can function well as a nursing mother.

CONFESSION

I prioritize feeding on the word of God. I am not malnourished. I pursue the kingdom agenda.

DAY
08

STRIFE WILL KEEP YOU SMALL

Text: Matthew 7:11 NIV

If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

Before Irewamiri knew I would get to ask for her hand in marriage, I had a code that one of her friends gave me- she loved a particular drink. I began to keep the drink handy in my office.

One evening, I handed over the drink to her. As she stepped out, one of her friends took it from her. She did not argue or fight at all. She simply told the person, "My daddy will give me another one." She indeed got another one.

There is a mindset that keeps you from the strange spirit of unhealthy competition- it is a knowledge of how gracious God the Father is. God, the Father, is rich in mercy. He is so rich that you cannot afford to play the judge or the jury in anyone's matter. When a man encounters mercy from the Lord, there will be things about him you will never be able to explain.

Father Abraham knew this dimension of God's graciousness. When Lot and his herdsmen grabbed as much as they could and sowed the seed of strife, Father Abraham was willing to let go. Why? He told Lot, "We are brothers. Let there be no strife between you and me."

God's work in Abraham was not solely to make him the father of Isaac, but the father of nations. The first step was to work on his heart. A heart destined to father a nation must see Lot misbehaving and still go all out to fight for him.

You can be born-again and small if you are tied to the spirit of competition. If the devil succeeds in sowing the seed of strife in your life, marriage, career, or ministry, he has succeeded in shrinking and stifling your growth. You will remain perpetually small.

The heart that cannot forgive the past of Saul can never see the wonders of Paul. If you are a pastor, your sermon can become a flow from strife. The anointing is now flowing through the pipe of offence. Your doctrine is stained by the blood of your wounds. You will remain small.

You cannot father nations if you escape the surgery room of the Lord where the hearts of men are enlarged. You will pass the test of betrayal, denial, and outright hatred. Your response must still be love. If you are not crucified, you cannot resurrect. It takes men to crucify you. You cannot do it yourself.

You will remain defeated if you succumb to a hurting and offended heart. Job might have a double portion reserved for him, but the key was to pray for his friends who had hurt him with their words. Can you speak the blessing over those who hurt you deeply, or do you just say, "I don't wish them evil," but can you pray blessings over them? That's your test.

If you know how generous the Lord is, you will not stay scrambling for what is available in abundance.

The prodigal son got lost away from home, squandering his inheritance. The elder brother got lost at home, caught in the spirit of strife. They both needed the same cure- the father's love. Are you lost at home? Are you offended because you think you deserve more attention or appreciation?

Hear the father: "His father said to him, 'Look, dear son, you have always stayed by me, and everything I have is yours.'" Luke 15:31 NLT

Do not let the devil trick you again- strife will make you fight for what you already have. Remove that blindfold. There is more than enough to go around. Share love. Share grace. There is always more with the Father.

CONFESSION

I do not dwell in strife. I have access to God's abundance. I enjoy my Father's resources. I am rich in Christ Jesus.

DAY 09

DESTINY DOESN'T SKIP STEPS

Text: Isaiah 28:10 NKJV

For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little.

In our secondary school days, we used a Mathematics textbook called the New General Mathematics. It was full of exercises. The unique thing was that it had answers on the last pages of the book. The answers were to confirm if the solution was right or wrong after the student had practised.

Whenever the math got tough, we'd flip to the back, peek at the answer, and then reverse-engineer our way to it. At one point, my friend's dad sealed that part of the book. They were forced to work it out. They became better mathematics students. For those of us who kept checking the back of the book for answers, we remained average mathematics students.

To make it more interesting, our teacher always knew who had tried to fake it. Why? Because he didn't just grade the answers. He graded the process.

That's how life works, too. God isn't just interested in results. He's deeply invested in how you got there. Moses struck the rock, and water gushed out. It was a big win in the eyes of the people. But to God? That was disobedience. It wasn't how He said to do it. And for that one act of getting the right result the wrong way, He missed the Promised Land.

Let this sink in: You can't build a destiny on skipped steps! There's nothing noble about arriving early if you cheated to get there. One of the worst things that can happen is to enter a new season and realize you're unequipped, because you avoided the training in the last one. That's how people get stranded in life.

Do not cheat. It is better to fail honourably while you keep a good name than to succeed without a sense of value or integrity.

King Solomon said:

"A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold." (Proverbs 22:1)

There is a time for everything. Life responds to principles. If you keep breaking principles, you will be out of shape in destiny. Many character deficiencies that the church gets to address are failures of life lessons not picked up or learnt in a domestic family.

If you don't learn self-control as a single person, you're not preparing for marriage—you're rehearsing for adultery. A fornicating single is just a married adulterer in waiting. Discipline isn't downloaded overnight. It's developed over time.

"A person without self-control is like a city with broken-down walls." (Proverbs 25:28)

Go through the moments that humble you. Learn the lessons. Failure can be a springboard or a grave point. It depends on how you respond to it. Responding well can launch you to a new level with greater accuracy and better insight. If you respond poorly, life has a way of making you repeat the classes you failed. Life will not promote you on trial. Work your sums. Do not cheat. Honour process.

CONFESSION

I align with divine process. I am not hasty in my journey. I am built and furnished to last.



BUILD VALUES BEFORE OPPORTUNITIES

Text: John 8:14 NIV

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.

A dear brother who is also a minister of the gospel shared an experience that blessed my life:

He had to counsel a couple who had infidelity issues. They travelled to his base to see him. When the session was over, the husband brought out a seed. He wanted to give it to his pastor. The pastor refused the seed. He said to him, "I do not need the seed. What I desire is a changed life and a marriage that works".

In my early days in ministry, someone dear to me visited me. Some days later, he called to say that he agreed with his spouse that one of them would send their tithe to the ministry. I was already very excited. As I prayed the next day, God said I should reject the offer. Why? I was not their pastor, and I had never pastored them before. If they want to sow any seed, it should not be their tithe. It was tough but I obeyed. I imagined what their tithe would do in a young ministry every month.

To drive it home, one day I was refuelling our generator. As I did, a fly was dancing all around me. Suddenly, it flew into the open tank. That was the end. The Holy Spirit said to me, "Temi, not all open doors are yours".

Beloved, if you are always led by opportunities and not by values built on scriptures, you will soon run into grave

danger. Your life must be guided by scriptures and solid biblical values.

Why? It makes it easier to recognise opportunities that are not for you. It makes it easy to know whether the timing of a "seeming breakthrough" was right or wrong. It ensures that you do not end up collecting Naaman's seed and eventually carrying his leprosy. It will keep you away from the mesmerizing look of Mrs Potiphar and the desire of men to make a King out of you when God had not ordained it to be so.

What you share as a breakthrough testimony, kindly ask yourself if indeed it is the Lord who opened that door. The devil can open a door to shut up a man forever! Was that door indeed the Lord?

CONFESSION

I am not led by open doors. I am led by the Spirit of God. I am not swayed by opportunities created by the Devil. I discern opportunities by the Spirit of God.

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 also served in the church. 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 in '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 goodness 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 acknowledgement that you are a sinner. You are a sinner by nature, not just by conduct. A bad tree will bring forth bad fruit.

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 12

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.

DAY 13

“I HAVE HORRIBLE THINGS IN MY PAST THAT WILL CATCH UP WITH ME”

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! The day I realized this, I stopped romancing nonsense. 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 that 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 knew him to be oppressed and witnessed his nakedness could not but say that grace had 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.

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 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 rebuild 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 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 15

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 Irebamiri 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 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 from our childhood assignments during 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.

CONFESSION

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

DAY 16

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 pet. We had Jack, and we had Jill.

Jack had an amazing pattern. A few minutes before 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 a 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!

CONFESS I O N

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

ATOM

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DAY 17

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.*



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 its 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, which 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 who 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 19

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 the 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 on 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 and open your mouth and release the sword of the Spirit that demoralises hell!

You are not a victim.

You are a victor.

CONFESSIO

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

DAY 20

IF GOD CAN HAVE YOUR LIFE...

Text: 2 Corinthians 24:24 NIV

But the king replied to Araunah, "No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the LORD my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing." So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen and paid fifty shekels of silver for them.

Irewamiri and I had to make a very wise decision early in courtship; we were going to save as much as we could towards our wedding and our marriage. What led to that decision? She had just finished serving the nation, and all I had guaranteed every month as a Pastor was five thousand naira! We knew we had to be smart.

Every single dime any of us had was thrown into a savings account. One evening, as I was praying, the Lord asked if we could give the savings as a seed. It was tough.

I called Irewamiri and informed her. She said, "Ah! Is it everything?" But then she added a very profound statement that made me love her even more, "If God can have our lives, why can He not have our money?". That was how we gave it all to God. We must say that God showed up for us before and during the wedding, and He still shows up to date.

Is there anything in your life and your hands that God cannot point to? Is there anything that you hold so dear that would be very hard to give to the Lord? That has become an idol in your life.

Your condition must never hold you back from giving to the Lord. Paul wrote about the Macedonian church and used their act to challenge the Corinthians. He said:

Now, friends, I want to report on the surprising and generous ways in which God is working in the churches in Macedonia province. Fierce troubles came down on the people of those churches, pushing them to the very limit. The trial exposed their true colours: They were incredibly happy, though desperately poor. The pressure triggered something totally unexpected: an outpouring of pure and generous gifts. I was there and saw it for myself. They gave offerings of whatever they could—far more than they could afford! —

pleading for the privilege of helping out in the relief of poor Christians.

2 Corinthians 8:1-4 MSG

If giving is hard for you as a child of God, then you have neither mastered nor learnt the importance of giving yourself first to God. If you have given yourself to God, it will be easy to give as instructed or commanded by the Lord.

And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us. 2 Corinthians 8:5 NIV

No maturity in the Christian faith will escape the curriculum of giving. Abraham had to pass the divine test of giving Isaac. Why? Isaac was not just an answer to prayers, he was a test for divine promotion and fulfilment of prophecies.

If we fail our tests, we must not expect to be promoted. Behind every test is a promotion. What tests have you been failing? What idol are you holding dearly unto? What can God not point to now? Deal with it!

And if God has blessed you with a spouse who understands the spiritual principle and protocol of obedience to the Lord in all things, you must rejoice because you are blessed.

CONFESS I O N

I do not withhold in giving to the Lord. I am a sacrificial giver. I am a blessing to the work of the Lord.

DAY 21

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 walking. Looking closely, she had fallen asleep in class. When we got home, she was still sleepy. She attempted to walk but did not find her steps. The most interesting thing that 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 it 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 backs 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 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 a long time. You think the church is your problem. No sir. Your pride is your problem. If you allow God to show you how much value has flowed to you that you 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 22

MEN'S PROMISE OR GOD'S WORD- BE SURE!

Text: Jeremiah 17:7 NLT

But blessed are those who trust in the LORD and have made the LORD their hope and confidence.

I began to have a ministry itinerary in my third year at the University. A dear one was so excited about how the Lord used my friends and me in a teenagers' camp meeting. He said to me, "When next you have such a trip, please let me know. I will foot the bill for transportation".

I was very excited. We used to charter cabs. It was always a great outing, but demanding for our youthful pockets. I was really grateful. Some weeks afterwards, I called this beloved one to inform him about our next trip to the same place he had mentioned. His tone on the phone was dismissive. It was so cold that I was wondering if it was the same person who made a promise with so much excitement.

One of the things you must learn as a believer but much more if you are called into the ministry is total dependence on God. You must learn how to trust the Lord with all your heart. It is a major curriculum that you must master.

At times, the support system you built for self-sustenance will collapse before you. No one and nothing else must be able to take glory for what the Lord is doing. It is wisdom to build systems and support, but if your trust is in them, you will be shocked the day the system collapses.

There was a day I was thinking of some financial obligations in ministry, and I mentally noted that some funds would come in at a particular season and just carried on. The Lord said to me, "So you believe in your structures and systems now?". I repented. I worshipped. I danced before him. That month, the whole system collapsed but God supplied

more than enough to meet the need before it became a burden.

Beloved, where is your trust? In men! Is it your job security? Is it your business investments? Is it your family inheritance? Where is your trust?

The crutches you are leaning on will be taken away. You will learn to lean on the guidance of God.

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; And lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, And he shall direct thy paths. Proverbs 3:5-6 KJV

Jesus told them when he sent them out: Don't take any money with you, nor a traveller's bag, nor an extra pair of sandals. And don't stop to greet anyone on the road. Luke 10:4 NLT

People know when your greeting has become a sign of begging. You know the way you announce to Uncles and Aunts you will be travelling in some days as a gentle reminder of your financial needs. You cannot do that when you trust God.

Trust God. Build Systems but do not lean on them.

May you enjoy divine help.

CONFESSION

I learn to trust the words of God. I do not put my trust in men. I dwell safely as I hear God's instructions.

DAY 23

SHOW ME YOUR NOTES

Text: Habakkuk 2:2 NKJV

Then the LORD answered me and said: "Write the vision And make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it."

We were on break for some weeks, in my university days. One evening, Mum requested that I drive her to church for a sister's meeting. While they were in the meeting, I sat in our Nissan Primera station wagon underneath some cashew trees. I honestly was not really praying, but I sensed the presence of the Lord.

That April evening in 2007, I picked up my pen and my journal because the Lord began to speak to me. He told me eight things about my life. It began with a revelation about the call. The fourth one was a warning and the last one was a call for a consecration.

Everything I am doing today is tied to that evening of driving my mum and taking notes of what the Lord said. I always set aside that day in thanksgiving and adoration to the Lord every year. I still have the original copy of the note.

One of the disciplines of a man that the Lord will use is journaling. You must have the discipline of taking note of what the Lord has said and the instructions he has given you.

The simplest way to begin is note-taking while you study the Word of God. That Bible is your own. Write on it. Make it "your Bible". Note the dates that a scripture hit your heart. Note the times that light came through a verse. Meditate on it. In our digital days, keep digital notes. Some of us are still hard copy lovers. Make sure you take notes.

The second way is taking sermon notes in church. I have notes from 2006 to date. One of the proofs that you are serious about your life and destiny is how seriously you take keeping a record of teachings. Invest in good, hardcover notes. Stop using "Kola hooks Lola", "Adieu Mama", or "Graduation or Convocation" spiral-bound notes that you can easily tear from to keep shopping lists. Keep journals that you can cherish.

Do you realize that we have the Bible because some people did not joke about journaling their encounters and experiences with the Lord? Pastor E.A. Adeboye has a section on

their campground called Open Heavens. We visited once, and we were shown copies of his sermon notes from years back. They were kept and preserved. Bishop Oyedepo brought out a deck of notes at a ministers' conference to challenge our generation. Bishop Wale Oke is always with amazing journals and dates. His shelf has well-arranged sermon notes. You are a minister, but you have pieces of paper you preach from. Some are now stained with palm oil. You need to be serious.

God is a generational God. He will not use a man who is not thinking generationally. It is a waste of kingdom investment. Moses went to his presence and returned with words on a tablet. The Angel told John the Beloved to write. Daniel became restless in Babylon because he read what Jeremiah wrote. Jesus located and declared his assignment from the book of Isaiah. If your note-taking discipline is to become a blessing to a generation a thousand years from now, can the Lord trust you?

Follow the counsel of the Lord to Habakkuk. Write. Make it plain. Some people will read it soon and run with it. Be serious about taking notes in personal studies and meetings you are a part of. Revisit your notes and be stirred again.

Show me your note and I will tell you how serious you are!

CONFESS I O N

I seriously handle what God says concerning my life. I pay attention to the details of God's instructions for my life.

DAY 24

THE TESTS WE MUST PASS

Text: Job 23:10 NIV

But he knows the way that I take; when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold.

The day I got a call from the first person who began to partner with us in ministry, I knew it had come because I had passed a test. A day earlier, I had no personal cash on me, and I needed to make a call for a friend. I could only afford to send a text.

Interestingly, there was some money in the ministry office. My heart went out to it but I remembered that it was church offering. I could not take a hundred naira to buy airtime. My friend was a bit angry because I could not make that call.

Words like, "Are you saying you do not have a hundred naira to make a call? Why are you being over spiritual? You can take from the money you have in the office to use". I could not. Years later, when it dawned on me that it was a test, I asked myself why it never occurred to my friend who needed my help to send me the hundred naira airtime to make the call.

Beloved, behind every test is a divine promotion. Genesis 22 began with these words:

After all this, God tested Abraham. Genesis 22:1 MSG

God tests our hearts before he commits greater things into our hands. Jesus told us some of the areas of concentration of the divine test:

"If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won't be honest with greater responsibilities. And if you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven? And if you are not faithful with other people's things, why should you be trusted with things of your own? Luke 16:10-12 NLT

Your test will cover Little Things. If you pass, you can then be allowed to manage greater things. If you are dishonest with little

things, you will be dishonest with greater responsibilities.

Your test will cover Worldly Wealth. If your heart is tied to material things, it becomes hard for you to trust God; you cannot be trusted with kingdom resources. Why? You already have an idol that you are worshipping. Whatever God cannot ask for is an idol.

Your test will cover faithfulness with other people's things. If you treat other people's properties anyhow without a sense of faithfulness, no one will commit your own to your care.

If you are a minister of the gospel, church money is not your money. Church property is not your own. Draw a line between the two. Even if they call it "Pastor Temi's church" for description, do not let it get into your head. The church belongs to Christ.

Do not abuse properties. Do not abuse the men, women, gold, girls and guys of Zion. Treat divine things with reverence. Even if the offering is a hundred naira, it is the Lord's offering. Do not treat it anyhow. It is your test.

When the church has five members, do not treat them anyhow. Lead them with faithfulness. Disciple them gracefully. It is your test.

What rewards are you losing because of the tests you are failing?

May the Lord help us all.

CONFESSION

I will not fail on the days of my tests. I have the wisdom of the Holy Ghost and directions by the Spirit in times of trials.

DAY 25

YOU LOVE IT BUT IS THAT EXACTLY WHAT IS INSTRUCTED?

Text: Exodus 25:40 NLT

Be sure that you make everything according to the pattern I have shown you here on the mountain.

I rewamiri was working in the kitchen. I stepped in and found a small pot on the fire. The heat had already dried the pot. I assumed she wanted to boil something. Since I was about to carry a kettle of hot water, it struck me that I could pour some into the pot. I only wanted to be of help.

But it occurred to me to ask her if I should pour some water into the small pot. She responded in the negative. She said it was oil she wanted to pour inside. I would have thought I was helping her until I actually asked her.

In your walk with God, especially if you are called, you must confirm if you are just doing what you love or if you are doing what has been instructed. Acting in love without confirming instructions can result in undesired outcomes.

At age 40, Moses longed to save the Israelites from the bondage of Egypt and pursued this with youthful zeal. However, divine direction is not merely about being driven by needs; it is about being instructed to act.

David was not comfortable that the ark of God was sitting in a tent. He expressed a desire to build a temple. He even told the prophet of the Lord, who commended the move. If he had built it, he would have been celebrated. But God sent the prophet Nathan back to him that it was the next king, his son, who would build the temple. God appreciated the intention and blessed it but he halted the execution.

There are times when doing things out of sincere concern can be disastrous. Uzzah

supported the stumbling ark and he did not live to tell the story.

God told a minister of the gospel to stop giving a particular minister seed support. He was surprised and asked the Lord why. God told him that he was sponsoring the minister's disobedience, and every time that seed comes, the minister sees it as though God is with him and as a confirmation.

A father in the faith was already ordained to start work in a particular city. When he went to give thanks to God after his ordination in preparation to go to the city. God asked him, "When did I tell you about this city?" He was surprised he could not trace it. God told him that years back as a young man, he had built a desire to live in that city. It was not as God instructed.

In this kingdom, we soar and fly by instructions. We stay connected to God's watch tower. Do not take off without clearance. Passion is not enough. Love is not enough. Instructions are essential.

Have you been instructed to do it? Do not wait for the donkey to speak. Obey God now.

CONFESS I O N

I do not walk with God by assumptions. I walk with God by instructions.

DAY
26

WEIGHTY QUESTIONS – “What are you doing here?”

Text: Isaiah 40:31 NIV

Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall.

I came out one morning and I saw some of my sons and daughters waiting for me right at my door. The first question I asked was, “What are you doing here?” Why did I ask that? I did not expect to see them that day at all. They came to pull a surprise on me.

You can surprise a man but you cannot surprise God.

When God asks the question “What are you doing here?”, it means a lot; God wants to either define the purpose of a season to you, or God wants you to see that you are in the wrong place physically or spiritually.

When God asked Elijah that question, it must have been referring not just to a physical location, because it seemed Elijah was already familiar with that location. He had probably been there a couple of times before. At least, he was not just wandering around. He went to the mountain.

So when God asked Elijah, “Where are you?”, it must have been about the state of his mind. Elijah was definitely burnt out. He had all the signs of a minister or believer who was burnt out with the volume of work that had been done.

First, the same gods he shamed on Mount Carmel were used to threaten him and he could not read between the lines.

Second, he was so tired that he kept sleeping even when an angel woke him

up. If you have ever lost your appetite for everything except sleep, you will understand this perfectly.

Third, his words showed depression. He was speaking down on himself and talking about dying.

Beloved, when what you would normally handle becomes a heavy task, or you see that sleep becomes a desire over work or the worst of them, you speak condescendingly and depressingly about your call, career, marriage or yourself, you need to answer that question of “What are you doing here?”

Find out how you got there before you make permanently damaging decisions. Once Elijah said he was tired, God instructed him to go ahead and anoint his successor. He signed his resignation letter that day.

However, the most important thing is ensuring that you are not in a state of burnout at any time. Do not burn out. Anytime that question of “What are you doing here?” is asked, make sure you have an answer of hope and strength leaping out of your mouth.

CONFESSION

My response revives hope in me. I am not crushed by situations. I arise with vigour and the strength of the Lord.

DAY 27

“DADDY, YOU TAUGHT US...”

Text: 2 Timothy 3:15 NKJV

And that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Danielle walked into my room with an activity book in her hands. She said, “Daddy, I am sorry. I accidentally tore my book while I was drawing on it”. I told her, “Girl, that’s fine. Be careful next time”.

The next thing she said was what shook me to my bones, “Daddy, you taught us that when we do not cover our wrongs, we will enjoy mercy”. My sleepy eyes cleared. I smiled at my daughter and said, “That is true”. She smiled and walked out of the room.

Dear parents, you cannot use scriptures to correct a child you did not raise with scripture. That would be pure manipulation. Some parents begin to quote scriptures to children whom they never sat with to teach them the Word of God. If you shirk your responsibility of loading them with the word, it would be manipulative to use it as a tool of correction.

Dear parents, statements like “Is that what you are taught in school?”, or “Is that what they teach you in church?” are a lazy cover for foundations you did not lay. The question should be, “Do you remember what we shared at devotion last week or yesterday?”

Please, if you do family devotions, you can tailor them to meet the spiritual needs of your children. You can have “adult devotion” sometime later. Remember, no one else will teach them. Take a verse of the scripture and keep expounding on it for a week. It helps. We were reviewing Luke 6:31 when my conversation with my daughter happened.

Now to Daddy- What will your children say that you taught them? Do you know that you are already teaching them something by not teaching them? You are teaching them that fathering is only about going to work early, coming back late, eating dinner and talking about bills.

Dear Daddy, do not bribe your seeds with gifts to cover up for the guilt you feel about your shortcomings. Money is a waste to a generation that was not raised. Sit down with them so they can stand for God and you can smile at your outstanding children. Find 15 minutes in a day to teach them. Lay hands on them.

Hear the words of Proverbs:

My child, remember my teachings and instructions and obey them completely. They will help you live a long and prosperous life.
Proverbs 3:1-2 CEV

Daddy, what teachings will your seed remember? What instructions will be engraved on their heart? Will you do it, or should TV, social media and cartoons take your place?

CONFESSION

*I invest God’s words into my children.
The seed of godliness is planted into them. They shall carry on the heritage of righteousness.*

DAY
28

“I DON’T KNOW BUT JESUS KNOWS”

Text: 2 Timothy 1:12 NKJV

... For I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

My Mum once shared a story: When I was still a toddler, my brother was pushing me around in a baby pram. An accident happened. The baby pram stumbled. I rolled out. I fell. I shrieked and went quiet.

She was in shock. She carried me to the bathroom and poured water on me. I jerked to life. She administered painkillers. I kept crying at intervals. It was the same all night. She carried me at night and kept singing, “I don’t know but Jesus knows”. It was then that I slept off peacefully.

Are you going through a season where you lack explanations? It seems all human explanations have failed. I am sure men like Joseph and David were in such seasons several times.

Joseph must have looked at his dream and his reality; such a huge disconnect. David must have remembered the day that Samuel poured the oil and the night out in the cave running for his life; such a huge disconnect.

One of the seasons, when faith is tested, is on the days that you would have no idea of what to do humanly to change the narration. Friends, those are the days that teach us to trust.

Think of Abraham. He went without knowing:

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going. Hebrews 11:8 NLT

What did Abraham do during all those moments?

And being not weak in faith...He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief;

but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; Romans 4:19-20 KJV

When you are in seasons or moments where what you say is “I don’t know”, do not stop giving glory to the One you know; God.

There is only one way to feed your faith when unbelief and doubts rage. There is only one way to strengthen your faith: keep giving glory to God.

When life beats you so hard, convert it to a seed of worship. Most of what is written in the Psalms today are words of David giving glory to God when “he did not know”.

He wrote a Psalm when he was running for his life from his son, Absalom. How do you explain that your son wants you dead? He wrote a Psalm the day the Lord rescued him from Saul. He wrote a Psalm the day he had to pretend to be a madman, drooling all over in front of Abimelech. Have you been in such situations?

Beloved, if you know how to convert your storms into songs, the wind will not last. If you can look barren situations in the face with singing and dancing, you will force them to produce fruitfulness.

The devil hates people who sing in the midst of their mess. He knows when God is exalted, hell loses its grip on any man. Why? Heaven is too high for hell to reach. Change the narrative.

CONFESSION

I convert my storms into songs. My victory will emerge from my praises.

DAY
29

PREGNANCY WILL CHANGE YOUR TASTE

Text: Habakkuk 2:2 NKJV

Then the LORD answered me and said: "Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it."

Whenever we step out of our house, we always see an array of snails at various points on the fence of the house and in other areas of the estate. Iremawiri began to keep some really big snails. She did so well that she inspired my parents to build a snailery in their compound.

Then she got pregnant and the unexpected began to manifest (smiles). She became nauseated at the sight of snails. Every single one she had raised had to be relocated. We were all surprised. What happened? Pregnancy shifted something in her. It affected her taste.

First, I desire to say a word of prayer for every family waiting on the Lord: The Lord, who makes impossible situations become a testimony, will visit you. You will carry your seeds. Medical complications will become miracles of divine intervention. You will laugh. You will laugh. You will celebrate.

Every time you are carrying a vision, something will shift on your inside. There is a state you must be in for the vision to be carried to term and delivered to your world. If you value the vision, you will not joke with the changes.

There will be two types of changes:

First, the recommended change. There will be recommended changes. This will come from those who are guiding you to stay in shape for the delivery of the vision. They will tell you what you need to eat, and things you should avoid.

In the same vein, you need to stop feeding on certain things and begin to feed well on other things to build a solid vision. I learned at age 80, Papa Kenneth E. Hagin was still studying the Word for five hours a day. That is a huge sign of a man carrying a vision to teach the Word to his World.

His son said that there were times they would leave him at his study table in the morning and still find him there when they returned from school. And if they wake up at night, they will likely find him studying.

Second, there will be a demand for change. There will be changes that will not be recommended but the vision itself will demand.

For instance, if you are a minister of the gospel, especially called to raise a local church, you may initially be excited by invitations to one place or the other. But soon, you will realize that the work needs you more than you can imagine.

If at that point, you are tempted by the allure of honourarium and not the vision that is growing on your inside, you would have missed out on something very important. You will have a great itinerary but birth a weak vision. You cannot be a great pastor and a powerful itinerant preacher at the same time. The vision will demand you.

Whether it is a recommended change or a demanded change, the focus is on safe delivery.

Let the one who carries the vision be very wise. Do not eat everything. Do not go everywhere.

My Grandpa in the Faith told me that if he will start ministry again, he would have three major priorities: "Build the people. Build the people. Build the people".

Does that not sound like, "Focus on the vision? Do not abandon the pregnancy. Do not jump around"?

Be blessed.

CONFESSION

My God-given vision will not die in my hands. I will not engage in what kills visions. I will deliver safely to my world.



CHURCH WILL BOOST YOUR CAREER

Text: Psalm 92:13 NKJV

Those who are planted in the house of the LORD Shall flourish in the courts of our God.

When he got into the church as a young chap, all he wanted to do was to join the choir. He went through training and expected that he would be posted to the choir. Well! After his first class in church, he was posted to the media department. He was shocked, but he began to serve faithfully.

He was groomed. His skill in graphics and other media-related things was honed. The seed of creativity rose to new levels. He designed every day and kept getting better. Every single job he had after his service year was all media-related:

- He did creative designs for a branding and marketing company.
- He did creative designs for media houses.
- He worked as a Media Aide to a top government functionary.
- He served as a Communication Manager for a company.
- He built his own media agency.

Friends, if the devil succeeds in lying to you that the reason why you are not advancing in life is that you are committed to the church and the work of the Lord, he has shortchanged you.

I shake my head when I see students, businessmen or women, and those in careers who assume and believe that the church is a distraction- you have been successfully deceived by the devil. He has gotten you exactly where he wants you to be.

A father in the faith shared the story of a young lady who was brilliant but not committed to the church. The year she got committed to the church, she failed a course in medical school so she dropped in her commitment. The following year, she failed woefully again. So, they eventually had a conversation but she did not change.

Some years later, he read her obituary in the

newspapers and was very sad because he knew by visions what the Lord wanted to do with her life through career and ministry. It was too late. She died very young and not in active service to the Lord.

The church is the safest laboratory on earth. You are allowed to experiment and hone your skills while you are encouraged and not sacked.

If you put your career growth ahead of your spiritual growth, you have dug the grave of your spiritual walk with the Lord. The quality of your decision in life and career can never be better than the quality of your growth. The first quality decision you must make is to grow spiritually.

For Joseph, his walk with God was a plus in his career. For Daniel, his consecration was needed for his rise in Babylon. He escaped sack letters and rather got promoted. He gave solutions that many could not give. Hear his testimony:

There is a man in your kingdom (company) in whom is the Spirit of the Holy God. And in the days of your father, light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, were found in him; and King Nebuchadnezzar your father—your father the king—made him chief (CEO)...Since an excellent spirit, knowledge, understanding, interpreting dreams, solving riddles, and explaining enigmas were found in this Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar, now let Daniel be called, and he will give the interpretation.”
Daniel 5:11 - 12 NKJV

What is your excuse?

CONFESSION

I give myself to training and growth in my church. I do not stand aloof and idle. God blesses the works of my hands.

DAY 31

ARE YOUR WORDS BUILDING OR BREAKING YOUR HOME?

Text: Colossians 4:6 NLT

Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.

I still remember the exact spot where we were that day. Irewamiri sneezed, and I said to her, “Same to you.” She exploded. “Are there any words of kindness in your diary? What happened to ‘Sorry dear’ or ‘Bless you dear’? What is the meaning of ‘Same to you’? It is better not to speak at all.”

I was in shock. I told her I was just playing with her. She would not have that kind of play at all. Then I quietly asked, “I have been saying this for a long while. I did not know it was hurting you at all. I am sorry”. I became very careful with my words, especially my practice of sarcasm.

It is very important that you weigh the impact of your words on your spouse. Are there things you say that your spouse withdraws into him or herself? Do you even notice at all?

One of the things that causes issues in communication is the misinterpretation of intent.

Most times, rather than asking for clarity or telling the partner that it hurts, the partner keeps it in mind and brings it out as a weapon on a day that it will hurt or just responds in anger.

Silence is not necessarily proof that all is well. A high voltage may be passing through the mind of your spouse. The day it comes out, it could be deadly. A quiet spouse may have trouble loading. Be sensitive.

Do not clothe your thoughts in wicked sarcasm. It hurts deeply, especially when you have a smart spouse who can read between the lines. I have seen it tear couples apart.

Never use the word “Always”. Once you use that word, it has moved from discussing issues to attacking the person. You are saying it is a pattern and a character issue. Focus on resolving the issues before you. It helps communication.

There is power in a gentle answer. It turns away wrath. Respond gently during a disagreement. It douses the tension.
Proverbs 17:14 NIV

Starting a quarrel is like breaching a dam; so drop the matter before a dispute breaks out.

Learn how to drop the matter before it becomes a major issue. Respond gently, no matter what. You may be under pressure to react, but ask for grace to respond.
Proverbs 15:1 TPT

Respond gently when you are confronted, and you’ll defuse the rage of another. Responding with sharp, cutting words will only make it worse.

May your words, consciously and unconsciously spoken, build your spouse and your home.

CONFESS I O N

I speak words that build, not words that destroy. My mouth is a well of life. My home enjoys words that lift.



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