

KEEPING JESUS BEFORE PEOPLE
PROMOTING A VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN LIFE

TABERNA DEI CHURCH "THE WORKSHOP OF GOD"



TESTIFY

MAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER 2024

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TESTIFY MAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER 2024 EDITION



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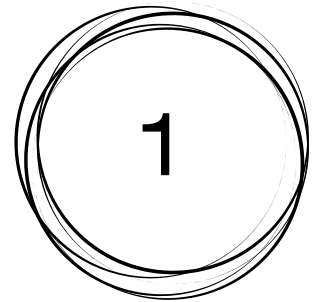


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MY SPIRITUAL HOME



I am extremely honoured and excited about this month's edition of the magazine as it features my own local church and all the Pastor's who are involved in the life of the church.

I have had such awesome experiences and teachings, and it has helped form me into what God wants and expects from me as an individual, Father, Husband, Friend and Evangelist.

I share with all our readers where I am based and what the church is all about. I trust that as readers you will be blessed and inspired to carry on telling people about Jesus.

Please get onboard and assist us in whatever way you can, we cannot do this on our own.

1. Advertisers: We are seeking constant and regular advertisers for each and every edition of the magazine. Our goal is 8 advertisers per edition

Then our next challenge that we would like to overcome is:

2. Our Children's Section.

We are looking for somebody to take ownership of this section and write for us every month in order to better our magazine and bless our children readers.

If you can help in these regards please contact me asap!

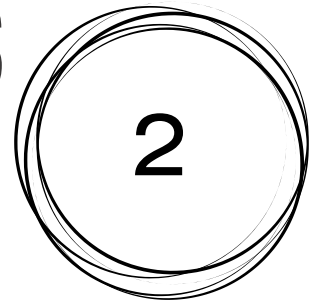
Blessings

Mark



TABERNA DEI CHURCH

THE PASTORAL TEAM WHO IS CHALLENGING THE FLOCK



Foreword by The Editor-in-chief Mark Page:

I have a story all of my own to tell but as Pastor Danie Oosthuizen puts it so well, “That story is for another day” but I gave my life to Christ when I was in Standard 7 in 1989 and after many years ended up at Taberna Dei as my Spiritual home together with my family. We serve at the English Campus under the leadership of Pastor Douglas Brooks.

I have known and ministered with Pastor Albert Van Der Westhuizen since 2013 and that is how my journey started with Taberna Dei as a church. A long story short is that in this time period I went through many difficulties and even went into the business world for a few years, but God pulled me back into the ministry and into Go Big Media NPC, I will always be grateful to Him for this, in this time Pastor Albert stood by me in a way that just reiterated to me that God is about love and relationship, and in October 2023 I joined Taberna Dei as my Spiritual home and covering. We are privileged and blessed to have such a church and a group of dedicated staff at the church, we really need to understand that God is good despite what we might think or go through, hence my decision to feature the church and honour all involved at Taberna Dei including all members of the English and other campuses.

Before we read about the Pastors involved in the church here is a history of the church as by Visionary Leader, Pastor Theo Theron:

Taberna Dei Polokwane – Our story!

By Theo Theron (Visionary Leader)

In the beginning of the previous century, there was a “Pentecostal Revival”

in the U.S.A. Touched by this outpour of the Holy Spirit, a man by the name of John G. Lake came to South Africa. Amazing things happened under his ministry. Aside from all the miracles, many people got saved and churches were planted all over South Africa. In 1915 a small group of people started meeting in homes in (the then still called) Pietersburg. In 1918 this small group officially became an assembly of the Apostolic Faith Mission of South Africa.

In 1929 they built a small hall (at a total cost of what would now be R700). Over the next 20 years the church kept on growing. At some stage they had to borrow chairs from neighbors to seat everyone. In 1950 they moved into the first “church building”. By 1973 this building was too small yet again. Under the leadership of Past. Buks Fourie, they moved into a new building (on the corner of Jorissen and Potgieter streets).

In 1976 Past. Koekemoer took over the church and the Lord’s blessing was evident. The church grew to a point where, by 1990, a decision was made to “birth a daughter church”. The original church was then called “A.F.M. Mother assembly” and the new planting “A.F.M. East assembly”. The East assembly conducted their services in a school hall for two years. In 1992 they moved into their new building at Bekker street in Fauna Park.

In 1995 Past. Danie Oosthuizen was called to the East assembly. Soon they had to enlarge the building. They decided to “re-name” the assembly. It was called “Taberna Dei”, meaning: “The Workshop of God”. In 2007, after negotiations between the “Mother assembly” and “East assembly” (by then Taberna Dei), a decision was taken to join the two assemblies. They believed that by joining the recourses of the two assemblies they would be able to make a bigger impact in Polokwane.

Other initiatives were launched like an Multi cultural service in 2002; an Young Adult community service in 2015 and an English service in 2019. Today it is a very unique setup... At Taberna Dei Polokwane we see ourselves as ONE Church; With two buildings; With several campuses meeting on Sundays:

- 8:30 Afrikaans @ Mother Campus
- 9:00 Afrikaans @ East Campus
- 10:15 English @ Mother Campus

□ 11:00 English @ East Campus

□ 18:00 Nova @ East Campus

□ (There is also a Sepedi service in a village called Kalkbank)

Our dream is **“That every person in our city and province will experience Jesus Christ”**. To accomplish this dream, we offer a variety of ministries:

□ Dynamite Kidz – Every Sunday morning at all our campuses we cater for children

□ “Muurprop” – On Tuesday evenings all the High School students meet at Mother Campus

□ Connect – On Wednesday evenings all the students and young adults meet at East campus

□ Once a month there is M.A.N. (men’s meeting); Beloved (women’s meeting); “Rusuurtjie” (for elderly people)

□ We are involved in mission projects in South Africa; Africa and all over the globe.

□ We are involved in several welfare actions: Feeding schemes; squatter camps; “Ngwana House” takes care of “unwanted babies”; “Lighuis” is caring for people who can’t take care of themselves; “Serving kids through community” is involved with orphans and foster care children.

At Taberna Dei we have a Passion for GOD; for INTEGRITY; for PEOPLE; for SERVING; for OUR CITY and for OUR PROVINCE. We believe that we have a role to play (with other churches in our community) to make our city a better place and to further the Kingdom of God.

The Values of Taberna Dei:

1. Kingdom – The Word of God is our focus and the expansion of the Kingdom of God.

2. Teamwork – We appreciate the diversity in the Body of Christ. Diversity when it comes to personalities, gifting and skill. As a TEAM we want to synchronize this to such an extent that we as church (and with other churches) can effectively serve the Kingdom of God.

3. Development – We want to develop a relevant, modern and dynamic church experience for our members and visitors. We also want to develop

people by discipling them and helping them develop into spiritual maturity and fulfilling their creation purpose.

4. Reproduction – We want to reproduce what we have for the next generation by creating opportunities for younger leaders and church members.

5. Authenticity – We want to stay authentic – stay true to what God has made us and called us to be. We will be transparent and truthful at all times. We want to walk in integrity.

6. Excellence – We strive to do everything we do and say to reflect the life of Christ. We want to inspire people to do everything to the best of their ability. He deserves nothing less than our best.

7. Hospitality – We want people to experience the love of God through the way we receive them and treat them. People should always feel welcome, accepted and appreciated when they visit Taberna Dei.

It is our testimony that God is a Good and Loving God. He is a Faithful Father. At Taberna Dei we are blessed beyond measure. If you are staying in Polokwane and you are without a “spiritual home”, come visit us. If you are visiting our city from elsewhere, pop in and come and experience God with us.



**“That every person in our
city and province will
experience Jesus Christ”**

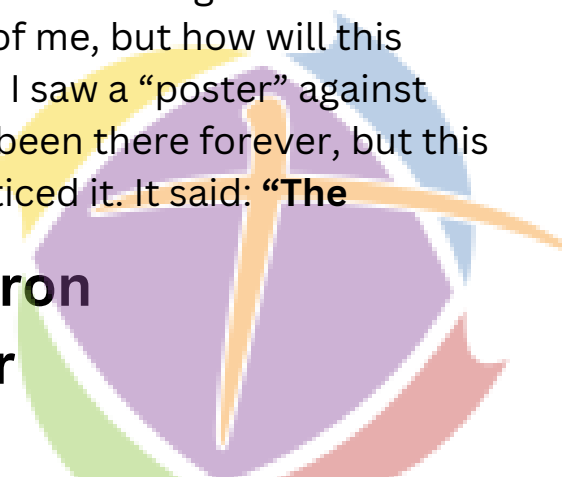
I remember the “fight” in our house that Sunday morning. It was the 6th of February 1983. I was a St.7 (Grade 9) schoolboy. We still had to go to church with a suit and a tie those days. My only jacket was too small for me, so I refused to go to church. My parents took us to church twice on a Sunday and to prayer meeting on Wednesday evenings. We also had “devotions” every evening before we went to bed. Out of self-consciousness (about my jacket), I thought to myself: “I spent enough time in church – I won’t go to hell if I miss a couple of services, until they have money to buy me a new jacket”. My father had other ideas. “You don’t have an option, you can go with or without a jacket or even in your pyjamas, but you are going to church with us”. Needless to say, I went with a very bad attitude. Angry. Unhappy. Feeling sorry for myself. Half way through the sermon, I started listening to the pastor. By the time he made an altar-call (to what we use to call the “prayer room” of the church), I just about ran out. A gentleman explained to me the plan of salvation and lead me in the sinner’s prayer. That day I realized that I won’t go to heaven because I’m a good person, or because I went to church a lot. I needed a Saviour. I accepted Jesus as King of my life. That day, that started out very unpleasant, turned out to be the best day of my life. The next Sunday, 13 February 1983, I got baptise. I never looked back.

My plan (my dream) was to become an architect. But God had other plans (another dream) for my life. After giving my heart and life to Him, pieces of the “puzzle” began to fall into place. I increasingly became aware that He wanted me to be in ministry. At first I thought I could be an architect working for Him part-time. By the time I went to matric, I knew I had to go and study to

become a pastor. I had a lot of questions. How will my parents be able to afford my studies? Where will I stay? Where will I get a car from? One evening – in the same prayer room where I committed my life to Jesus – I was on my knee’s praying. I said to Him: “I am willing to do whatever You expect of me, but how will this work?”. When I got up, I saw a “poster” against the wall. It must have been there forever, but this was the first time I noticed it. It said: “The



Pastor Theo Theron
Visionary Leader



beginning of worries, is the end of faith". It settled it for me. When God calls you, He will do the rest. (Or as I heard someone said: **"If it's God's will – it's God's bill"**). I can write a book on all the miracles of God's abundant and super natural provision during my studies and my ministry to date.

Jesus went to a wedding once. A crisis developed. When the servants asked the mother of Jesus: What should we do?", she replied: **"Just do whatever He says"**. That became a motto in my life. I have been in ministry for 35 years now. Obviously, I made a lot of mistakes. Obviously, I was disobedient to His voice a lot of times. But this is it: when you do as He commands; if you are obedient to His Word in and over your life – you will experience the joy and satisfaction of the fulfilment of your "creation purpose".

My biggest desire is to get even closer to Him - to hear His voice even clearer. I just want to do whatever He says I must do. My biggest dream is to see people saved by the grace of God. To see those same people transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit. To see people develop into the man/women God created them to be. If God could do it for (and with) a 14 year old boy; on a normal Sunday; in a ordinary church; in a country town (Potchefstroom)... I know He can do it for you!



The afternoon of 27 July 1980 I heard a voice, asking me: "What will your parents say if they know what you are doing?" Under the influence of alcohol I answered: "Lord they will be ashamed of my behaviour" Suddenly I was awake and having a cold shower. I dressed up and decided to visit a church, for which I didn't visit for many years. That night I visited the AGS church in Witbank.

After the sermon the Pastor made an invitation to us as the audience to give our lives to Jesus.

I was the only one who reacted to the invitation. I confessed my sins and accepted Jesus as my Saviour. Furthermore, I remember 2 things: first the gentleman who prayed with me said after he prayed and thanked God that He will forgive me of my sins... he stopped me and said: He will not still have to decide to forgive you, but has already forgiven you the moment you confessed your sins and secondly I rose from my knees sober and knew that Jesus is alive and has forgiven me and that I am His child.

The Pastor preached from Acts 2:37 ... "Brother, what should we do?"
38 And Peter replied. "Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. An amazing week followed where I read the Bible with new eyes, heart and mind. And in that week I knew that I will work for the Lord.... it was a dream that I had when I was a little boy to preach. Sin took me away from the dream and the church till that night of the 27th July 1980.



How God called me to different Assemblies Supernaturally is a story for another day.

Pastor Danie Oosthuizen
Founder Taberna Dei East Campus
and Former Visionary Leader



Thank You Jesus...

I grew up in a loving church going family and I can't remember us ever skipping a Sunday service. Even though we moved around quite a bit my father was always involved in church as a deacon or elder and after the church services me and my sister devoutly attended the Sunday school catechism classes. Though we learned a lot about the Bible and heard about the Holy Spirit being part of the Godhead, I never really got to know who the Holy Spirit is and what role he plays in my life. This was evident in the fact that I knew about God but didn't truly know Him in a deep relationship. This radically changed years later.

In school I tried to fit in and to be a good boy keeping the grades up and trying to perform in sports. I even landed a prefect badge in Grade 7 (standard 5 in those days) and played for the 1st Rugby team. Things took a turn for the worst in my life when I went to high school. High school was some of the worst years for me as a child where I experienced rejection from friends, fighting and struggling to fit in and was ecstatic the day where I could leave grade 10 with good grades to go to college to study to become an electrician. In 2004 I left my parents house at the age of 16 to go to college and I remember the fear and excitement I experienced at the same time, wondering what college would be like. My parents got me a room in a hostel at the high school that was sectioned off for college students and I travelled back and forth to college every day with a friend on the back of his motorcycle. That same year, on a Friday night in September, me and a bunch of friends decided to hike 9 kilometres to the club we heard about to have a

a good time, to meet some girls and, being under age, to try to get a drink without getting caught. The evening wasn't that bad. We had a good time, met some new people, but it was getting late and at 1 o'clock in the morning we asked whether someone might be able to give us a lift to the hostel 9 kilometres away. I remember one of the college students, one of my college facilitators,



Pastor Albert Van Der Westhuizen
Children and Evangelism Pastor



my friends and some other people were standing in a circle.

He was one of the coolest facilitators we had and we felt comfortable asking for a lift. He responded by looking down, stretching out his arm holding the keys saying “Yes, but I’m too drunk to drive. Someone else take the keys.” The college student took the keys and we were all grateful not wanting to walk that far at 1 o’clock in the morning, not realizing that that would turn out to become one of the worst moments in my life. We all jumped on the back of a single cab bakkie and the last thing I can remember is us stopping at the garage, just before the long road down to the hostel, to buy something to eat. I woke up in ICU two weeks later with my skull cracked in three places, broken ribs, a broken ankle and some scars and bruises, struggling to talk, struggling to remember simple things like the name of the tools on the boxer shorts I was wearing, which were pictures of a hammer, a screwdriver and a spanner. I lost the ability to taste and to smell but gained a very short temper and what followed was months of recovery.

Interesting enough was that even though my memory was vague after the accident and the fact that I can’t remember our reverent coming to visit while I was recovering at home, the reverent told my parents that he clearly notices memory loss, but amazingly enough every single question he asked of the Bible I could answer without hesitation.

I wish that here I could say that after the accident I gave my life to Jesus and started a Bible study at college amongst my fellow students, but I can’t. In 2005, during the second term, I went back to college to see whether I might be able to finish my studies. I also moved from the hostel to the dormitories next to the college. Here I met some interesting people. One night sitting outside the dorms with two of these interesting people they asked whether I’ve ever done drugs before and if I would be willing to try. This at the moment sounded like a great idea and new avenues of destruction in my life was entered. From that day on things started spiralling out of control with smoking, drugs alcohol girls and parties. For some odd reason after applying for a bursary at the biggest electricity supplier in our country and an interview I was invited to I was accepted into the company as a student which financed all my drugs and alcohol. Miraculously, I finished my electrical studies N6 and was sent to another town in 2007 to start my apprenticeship. Although the drugs stopped, and I was doing pretty well in

my levels as an apprentice, I was no better off and the alcohol, girls and parties continued. There were so many evenings where there were close calls, near death moments, and moments where I have no idea how I got home in one piece. I thought this was life, and I have everything I need that would make me happy, but I really had nothing, no purpose and felt empty inside.

It was in 2008 where a gradual turn started to take place in my life. I visited my parents over weekends slipping out of the house when everyone was asleep, and not for parties, but to talk to God on the lawn in my parent's back yard. I remember kneeling on the grass, looking at the heavens, stretching out my arms saying to God "I know this is not what you planned for my life, please forgive me Lord. I want to give my life to you and I want to be like David (David who slew Goliath)". At that moment my life was changed completely. I stopped smoking, I stopped drinking and I stopped partying and chasing girls. At that time I discovered the DVD How great is our God by Louie Giglio and Christian music by Chris Tomlin. I broke all my secular music CD's and started developing a crazy love for the Word of God and took up the challenge to read through the Bible in one year. Back at the training facility on a Friday evening friends invited me for a bear at the club at which my response was "I already have other plans", which was to spend the weekend in the Bible, making heaps and heaps of notes as I was reading. This blew my mind as I read and discovered things in the Bible I have never heard before. The fact that people will notice something different in you and you starting to testify about God's goodness in your life is evident and I was invited to my first small groups by one of the facilitators at the training facility. This was an amazing time in my life, meeting fellow believers and as a young believer even being challenged to minister to other people in church struggling with various things in their lives. I was now on fire for Jesus and after qualifying as an electrician wanted to get involved in church back in my home town with the heart of ministering to young adults like myself. I no longer wanted to be only a hearer of the Word, but a doer like James 1:22 says. With my first job opportunity and me being transferred to the place I now call home I looked to get involved in the local church immediately. For some reason I ended up at this Pentecostal church which is unlike anything in the church I grew up in. But, reading through the whole Bible and learning many things in the Word of God the way I was taught didn't add up. I was now open to see

God's Word come to life in this day and age we live in today. It was here I made the decision to be baptised. It was here I really started to get to know the Holy Spirit and the role He plays in my life. It was here I started leading my own small group. It was here I met this beautiful godly woman I now call my wife. It was here I left my job to join ministry full time and it was here I was baptised by the Holy Spirit. For the first time in my life, I felt Jesus asking me to pray for sick people during an evening service and after saying a simple prayer two people were healed. It was here I discovered my passion for children's ministry. And it was also here I discovered my James 1:27 ministry to care for the orphan in our community and to start the NPC Serving Kidz Through Community.

Everyday I discover something new about our Lord and Saviour and I am now challenged this year to stop looking for the gifts of the Spirit but to look for relationship with the One who has all the gifts.

This is friendship with the Holy Spirit. He is our Helper, our Comforter and our guide, empowering us and pointing us to Jesus.

Looking back I now know that God is the only god. He is loving and searching for the lost. He is the one who took this broken and lost soul to transform his life forever. In all His glory, His majesty and His might, He chooses to love me, to spend time with me and to use me for His glory. I will forever be in reverence and awe at the God who has overflowing grace and mercy for me and who calls me his son. I know I am on my way to heaven to receive the greatest gift that any living being can receive which is to be in His presence for all eternity and I'm taking as many people as I possibly can along with me to share in this great gift. If He could save me, He can save anyone.



I was born and raised in Springs on the East Rand. I have an older brother André and younger sister Lisa. I was very privileged to have spent most of my younger life in the same house and attended only one primary and one high school. Most of my memories are of both my parents serving the Lord as I grew up, with Church playing a major role in who I am today.

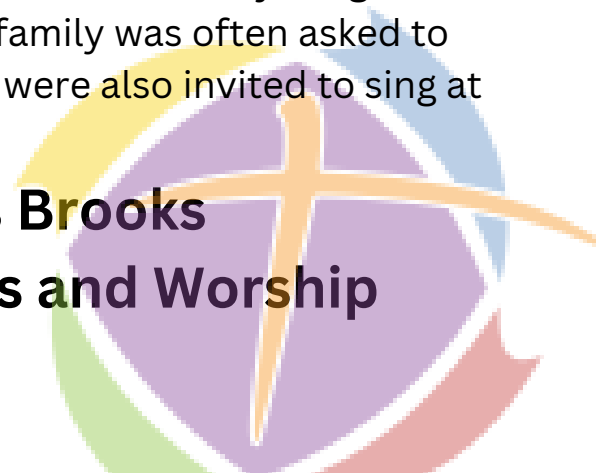
I love sport and grew up spending most of my school life wrestling and playing tennis. I still play tennis as often as I can and live out my faith in this area as well. My very first Church was the AFM in Springs Central – We had an amazing kids-church that at times filled the whole building with about 500 kids worshipping God. I didn't realise at the time how privileged and blessed I was to be part of such an amazing move of God. We even had a bus picking up the kids from their homes to take them to church. Waking up early on a cold winters' Sunday morning to be with my friends and family in Church was an important part of my life. This is what I knew about fellowship and church; you would never miss a meeting if you could help it. Even on holiday, Sundays was a day of worship and fellowship for our family.

Both my parents sang in the choir and later joined the church band. I was influenced by music and worship for most of my life. I remember my grandmother playing her Hammond organ and the whole family singing along. Drives in the car was often filled with voices singing in harmony. My father was a real entertainer and always enjoyed singing and playing his guitar while Mom and the kids sang together. My older brother, Andre, would sing Bass, mom would sing alto, my sister Lisa would sing melody or any

harmony that would suit her. My sister is currently a worship leader at a Church in Perth Australia. She is married to a Pastor, Peet Palm, who was family friends with us for most of our lives. I was a late bloomer and mostly sang the high tenor voice. Our family was often asked to sing in church and we were also invited to sing at



Pastor Douglas Brooks
English Campus and Worship
Pastor



other churches and this made my dad and mom so proud.

I recall hearing my parents, through their bedroom door, praying for the children; that God would save our lives and that He would lead us. That prayer was answered when I was 16 years old; I was in Benoni AFM church. Even though I grew up in a Christian home I needed to make my own decision and choice to follow Christ. On that Friday night I experienced Jesus like never before. While we were worshiping, I surrendered my life to the Lord and I was baptised in the Holy Spirit. Shortly after I was baptized and my whole life changed for the better. I experienced the joy of being part of God's family and my life was filled with people who loved the Lord and who played a major role in my life.

Many of my friends were born again and went on to study Theology and are still in fulltime ministry. They encouraged me to do the same but I had no desire to be in fulltime ministry at that stage. I studied Mechanical Engineering at Pretoria Technicon. Three years after finishing my studies I was invited by one of my Pastor friends to help with worship-leading at Charis church in Pretoria. A few months later I accepted a call to that church and started my journey in full-time ministry. Shortly after the call I met my wife Olga, who was also involved in the music team. Later that year we got married and started our journey together. We later took a call to Doxa Deo church in Pretoria and also helped plant a campus in Cape Town. Our oldest son Joshua, was born in Cape Town. After about 3 years in Cape Town, we returned to Pretoria where our second son, Elijah, was born. We loved the city but family life and ministry were taking its toll. We decided to take a call to Polokwane and our third child, Gabriella was born there. Olga was spending most of her time home-schooling our children and teaching singing and piano from home. Later she started teaching guitar also.

Most of my ministry was in the line of Music and worship but I also enjoyed the technical side of music and sound. I started preaching more and later started an English Campus at Taberna Dei Church. We have spent almost 16 years in Polokwane at Taberna Dei Church [Meaning "Workshop of God"]. Since our children have become more independent Olga started getting more involved in the Worship team. She leads worship, helps in the Woman's' ministry and loves teaching and developing people.

We have had many challenges in our journey – but God has always taken care of us. I am a proud dad because my children all serve the Lord. My oldest son Joshua helps with sound and my Daughter Gabriella, 15, has joined the Youth Band and also the Church band. Elijah, now 17, is a natural musician but is still a bit shy, much like I was in my younger life. When God enters your life many things change, the Spirit of God makes you bold and you seek His will and plan for your life. One of my favourite verses is Ephesians 3:20 “Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us...”

I never had the desire or thought that God wanted to use me for His glory. Right through scripture it is evident that God uses the most unlikely people to do His work. Never underestimate what God can do in and through your life.

It is a privilege to be part of a community of believers and a local church where people love the Lord, their lives are changed and God uses them for His glory. I am excited about the future of the Church and what God wants to do in our communities.



My story began when I was a little girl. My parents separated shortly after my birth, and for about 14 years, I had very little contact with my father. He moved around a lot with my stepmother due to work, making it difficult to build a relationship. This led to a deep sense of rejection during my childhood.

When I was 14, my mother committed suicide, and I found her body. It was a profoundly traumatizing experience. After her death, I lived with my stepfather and my 8-year-old brother, and he took good care of us. About a year later, my father also attempted suicide. Despite our strained relationship, this event deeply affected me, and I struggled to understand it.

This turmoil led to my own depression. At 16, I attempted suicide by taking 18 pills. Three days later, when I regained consciousness, I heard a voice saying, "No, no, no." I knew immediately it was God protecting me and that He had a plan for my life.



Pastor Vickey Fritz
Youth and Children's Ministry
Pastor



Taberna Dei is an Apostolic Faith Mission affiliated church and located on the Cnr of Potgieter and Jorisson Streets, and 108 Bekker Street Polokwane Limpopo South Africa

I came to conversion in 1989 at a marriage camp. I was molested by my father for my entire school life and before school. As a result, I led a very promiscuous life. I became pregnant at 17. Since I met the Lord, I wanted with all my being to 'work' for the Lord. From 2007, I worked for 13 years at Taberna Dei's admin office until the Lord, after such a long wait, opened a door for me in a full-time ministry position. I have been serving as part of the Taberna Dei full-time team for the last 4 years.

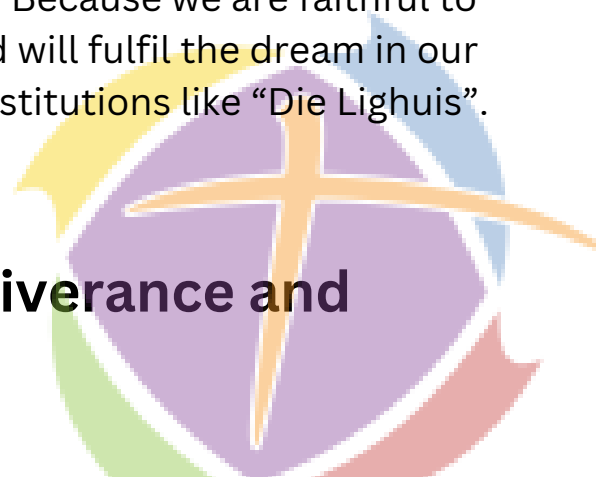
My passion is for people who are marginalized by society and who need someone to stand up and defend them. This has played a significant role in how the Lord uses me in welfare. In 2022, Bianca and I answered the Lord's call by opening a house for Him. "Die Lighuis"; houses mentally disabled adults. They cannot survive without a caretaker or a mother-role.

We appointed a "mother" in the house to take care of them. The residents need acceptance, but society's pace is too fast for them. The love they have for the Lord has opened doors for them to work and serve the Lord with us. This has allowed them to be accepted by people who need them to prepare food or help other institutions. From "Die Lighuis", we started a welfare project where we provide food to needy people. The Residents who were once rejected by society can now find purpose by serving the community. Currently, we provide food to 50 families on a monthly basis. What the house also looks forward to is our street ministry. The need for food on the streets is very high. They will do anything to get food. We distribute food to approximately 300 people monthly through our street ministry, and the gospel is preached to them at their level so they can hear the Good News

that Jesus is their Savior. Other institutions in our town also receive our produce, bread, and any other food we have in abundance on a weekly basis. The Lord is so faithful to His promise that He will provide for His people. Because we are faithful to His command, the Lord will fulfil the dream in our hearts to open more institutions like "Die Lighuis".



Wanda Farrell
Evangelist (Deliverance and Welfare)



As a young boy, I grew up in a Christian home with good parents and an awesome sister! Growing up in a Christian home, I started to love Jesus from a very young age and became involved as a volunteer in my local church!

Though I have many hobbies, my love for church has always been at the top, playing in the band, doing multimedia, lots of video editing... and years of just being in the family.

After studying Theology, my life took a few unexpected turns and I studied and worked as a draughtsman for a while... Today, after years have passed, I am now blessed to be able to work in the same church I have loved and volunteer at for most my life! I now work full-time at Taberna Dei, being part of an amazing team, all with their hearts on fire for Jesus!



Pastor Andre De Villiers
Media Pastor



MY STORY FOR HIS GLORY

My name is Bianca Jones, I am 30 years old, and I am originally from Cape Town. I would like to share my testimony about how the Lord changed my life in 2020. As a young girl, I was sexually molested and raped, and I never spoke to anyone about it or thought it would impact my life so significantly.

My school career was very busy! I was very talented and excelled in both sports and academics. This was my way of expressing my emotions. I was spontaneous, athletic, and known for my sense of humour. In my matric year, I started to fall apart. Everything felt like it was too much for me. You can only suppress your emotions for so long!

I began cutting myself for the first time and desperately wanted to commit suicide. My parents wanted the best for me and took me to the best and the first of many psychiatrists and psychologists. They prescribed medication, and I started therapy. My life was never the same again... I was depressed, and anxious, had suicidal tendencies, and frequently wanted to cut myself. Later, I began having fits and blackouts. I was admitted to numerous psychiatric hospitals and put on various medications.

My parents, psychologists, and psychiatrists tried everything possible... but my WILL was just not there! I developed anorexia, stopped eating, and began weighing 37 kg. I was then admitted to a unit where they fed and forced me to eat until I weighed 108.9 kg. I didn't know who Bianca was, and I was a complete zombie! Hearing voices in my head was common for me. The

doctors said I was hallucinating and prescribed medication for it. I even sketched the faces of the voices, but they still attributed it to hallucinations. My condition fluctuated. Sometimes it got better, and then I would be admitted again. The trauma of my past was so severe for me that I subconsciously blocked it



Bianca Jones
Student Pastor (Admin and Welfare)



out. My emotional state elevated suicidal thoughts and the urge to cut. I was diagnosed with:

1. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
2. Borderline Personality Disorder
3. Major Depressive Disorder
4. Anxiety

Psychiatrists informed me that I would have to use medication for the rest of my life. 2020 was God's year for me!!! A friend invited me to Taberna Dei Church and persuaded me to see the spiritual counsellor for counselling. She (Wanda) spent hours, days, and weeks teaching me everything about the Word and the CROSS. I was hungry for change and started making the Word mine. I wanted to know Jesus Christ and find myself in Him.

I was trapped in trauma, lies, voices, depression, and a handful of medication. I saw the counsellor (Wanda) 2-3 times a week, for at least 2-3 hours at a time. Her biggest challenge was probably the fact that I frequently had fits (epilepsy). I became ill during lockdown, and the counsellor and her husband (Wanda and Leon) decided to let me stay with them. Wanda could minister to me daily and even spent nights with me. She told me so many times that my blackouts and fits were demons!! Naturally, I was in denial... There was no way I could have demons!! The lies of the demons and the devil were revealed to such an extent that the truth about my trauma was disclosed to me. That's when my deliverance began.

I thank the Lord today and every day that He gave her the perseverance and patience to never give up on me. The sessions we had became more and more intense to the point where the demons started manifesting. The spiritual counsellor (Wanda) cast out 13 demons from me, including Fear, Suicide, and Hatred. I was not myself at times, and the shame about my past made me suppress everything. These demons gained access to my life through trauma at a young age. I'm not saying that everyone who has gone through trauma or has suicidal tendencies has demons. However, this was the case for me. I found deliverance... I was baptised in water and with the Holy Spirit. My life made a 180-degree turn. I stopped taking my psychiatric medication, and my fits were healed! I no longer have suicidal, depressive thoughts or the urge to cut. I am a completely new person, full of life, happy, and excited about my love for sports and what I can still

achieve.

I gladly share my testimony because maybe you also feel trapped in some way, or maybe you don't know who you are... I could only find myself in Jesus!

Today I can testify and proudly say: I am uniquely created by God... In His image He designed me... I am not a failure!! His Son, Jesus Christ, died for me So that I could be washed clean by His blood!! He chose me to be His He redeemed me!! He has so much grace for me... He saved me He has a bright future for me... Because He loves me!!! I no longer wonder... I know.... I am a Child of GOD



An up-to-date picture of myself



Here I weigh 108.9 kg. And this was before my encounter with Jesus Christ... and before deliverance. [Aug 2020]



My Journey

My name is Jaco Roggeband, Pastor at Taberna Dei Polokwane. I am married to a wonderful wife for 5 years Karlien, we have two amazing children Joshua (2) and Kari (1). I am an Associate Pastor responsible for the Worship ministry at our easter campus, the Young Adult ministry and the NOVA campus service which is our 18:00 Sunday service.

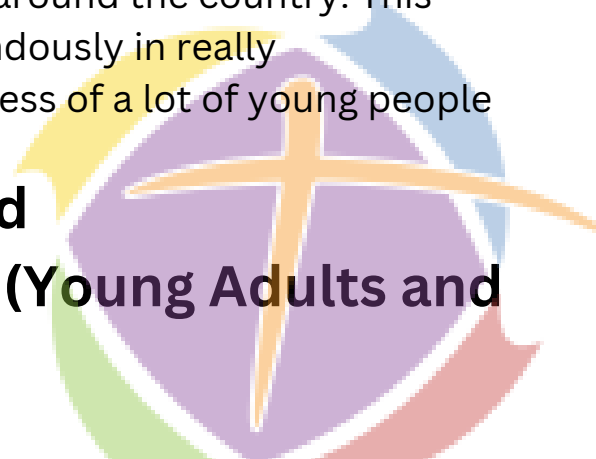
I was born Jaco Lourens Roggeband on 3rd of July 1990. My father passed away when I was 18 months old, so growing up with my mother and sister. We lived in an apartment next to my grandparents, house. My grandfather (Protestant Reverend) and my grandmother (housewife) really invested in us from a young age. My grandfather really had a great impact on me growing up. This changed when my mother remarried when I was 11 years old and we moved from Johannesburg to Tzaneen. So now a city boy growing up on a farm. My life was a typical teenagers' life, I did well in sport in school was pretty average in academics, but everything else was just living for myself. Knew who Jesus was, but never had a living relationship with Him.

I started smoking at the age of 12 abused alcohol from 14 and started experimenting with drugs at 15. I was broken and hurt because of my choices, and that spiralled further the older I got. My brokenness also had an effect on the people closest to me. Unhealthy relationship etc. Apart from specific moments that catapulted me to see God in my life, everything changed when I was in my matric year 2008 August, writing a letter to my then girlfriend who was living in Germany, but in one moment I heard God calling my name and telling me that I was going to work for Him. I stood up walked to my mother and told her that God has called me to work for Him.

The very next day I went to see our youth worker at school and told Him what happened and he helped me get connected to apply for a Theological training school that did dances and dramas to evangelise around the country. This shaped my life tremendously in really experiencing the rawness of a lot of young people



Jaco Roggeband
Student Pastor (Young Adults and Worship)



equally broken trying to preach the good news that we were all still trying to figure out ourselves.

I always hoped that my story would be like others that radically changed everything in one day and for the rest of my life I was freed from all addictions and strongholds, but it wasn't my story. It took a lot of years and from my side a very slow process trusting God with my brokenness. So, while still being part of ministering I was still addicted and not free, but through many people that God had put in my life these things started to be broken off. My identity became so much more defined in Christ, my need for having vices in my life changed and God freed me from all the things that had once held me captive and in shame. The scripture that has been in my heart since I could read and understand was the one on my father's grave Psalm 139:7-12 (ESV) 7 Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? 8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! 9 If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, 10 even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me. 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night," 12 even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.

This Scripture had always brought me back to the idea that there is no place away from God. Challenges and Growth: My biggest challenge in my life was probably surrendering and laying down my life enough for God to do a radical work in me, It is the same hesitance that Peter had with Jesus the fact Jesus had warned Him that the devil wants to come and sift, and he could not stand the test of the sifting, but when Peter repented and was restored His life was unwavering for Jesus. I would like to encourage any person reading this that the Lord want for us to be sanctified and it is only by sitting with Him that we get to see clearly that unwavering truth about who He is and who we are in Him.

So my prayer for you is the same Paul prayed for the Ephesians 1: 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him,

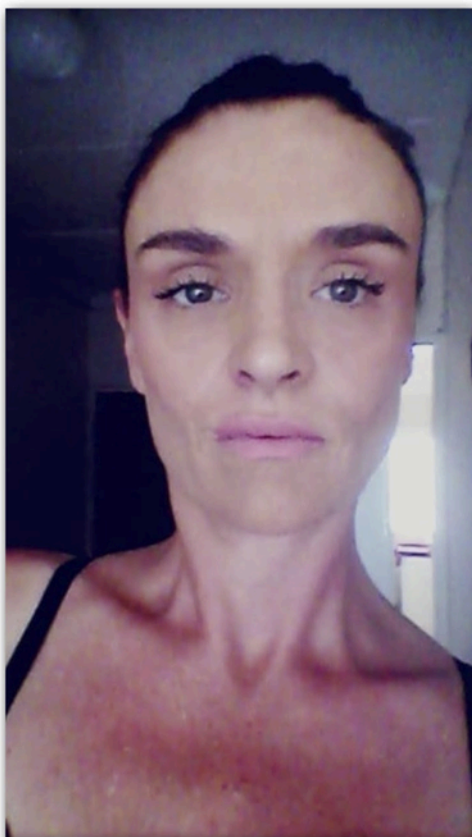
Blessings

Addicted Attorney turns her life around!

My name is Arine Helmand, a graduated and admitted attorney, and proof of the miracle of God's Love and Grace.

I graduated from the University of Pretoria in 2008, and during my time there, I was part of the TUKS netball team, as well as the National u21 Team. I was a regular girl, with dreams and goals similar to other regular girls my age. I did my articles and practiced as an attorney at several law firms in and around Pretoria from 2006 to 2012.

My cocaine addiction started at the age of 21 at a house party. The experience of euphoria got me hooked instantly. I was a "functional" addict, being able to work as an attorney, funding my habit with my salary. Until I wasn't.



**I was a
"functional"
addict, being
able to work as
an attorney,
funding my habit
with my salary.
Until I wasn't.**

I attended my first rehab in 2012, which wasn't successful. Then I started with crystal meth, and that's when everything fell apart. I couldn't hold a job, and lost everything.

I attended rehab after rehab, psychiatric hospital after psychiatric hospital and ultimately ended up in jail. I served 10 months between 2018 and 2019. And as is usual in these scenarios, I was in several verbally- and physically abusive relationships.

I know what it's like to be beaten up by a partner. And I know what it feels like to want to give up on life.

A big turning point came when I arrived at Freedom Recovery Centre in Sept 2022. I felt hopeful. And also quite a bit broken. The thought of a meth pipe on my nightstand scared me. And I



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realised I WANTED to be clean. I realised if I do drugs again, I will die. I would rather LIVE!

It would be an understatement to say my life has completely changed since I arrived here at FRC. I never thought that after 17 years of addiction I could be clean and sober. The counsellors and social worker involved are excellent. The classes that are presented are practical and relevant to my recovery. The 12 step program has a massive impact and made me realise recovery is a life-long process. It's definitely not a quick fix.

I'm about to celebrate two years clean, and I couldn't have done it without my counsellor and mentor at FRC, Susan Snyman. I would also like to thank FRC for the platform and support system they have created. I have found my family there, and together we will support each other in our recovery.

But most of all, I couldn't have done this without God's Amazing Grace and Love. Jesus picked me up when I was down and out, and He made beauty out of ashes.



I felt hopeful. And also quite a bit broken. The thought of a meth pipe on my nightstand scared me. And I realised I WANTED to be clean. I WANTED to Live!



www.frc rehab.co.za / freedomrecoverycentres@gmail.com
Contact Derick on 078 465 4243 / 082 506 7890

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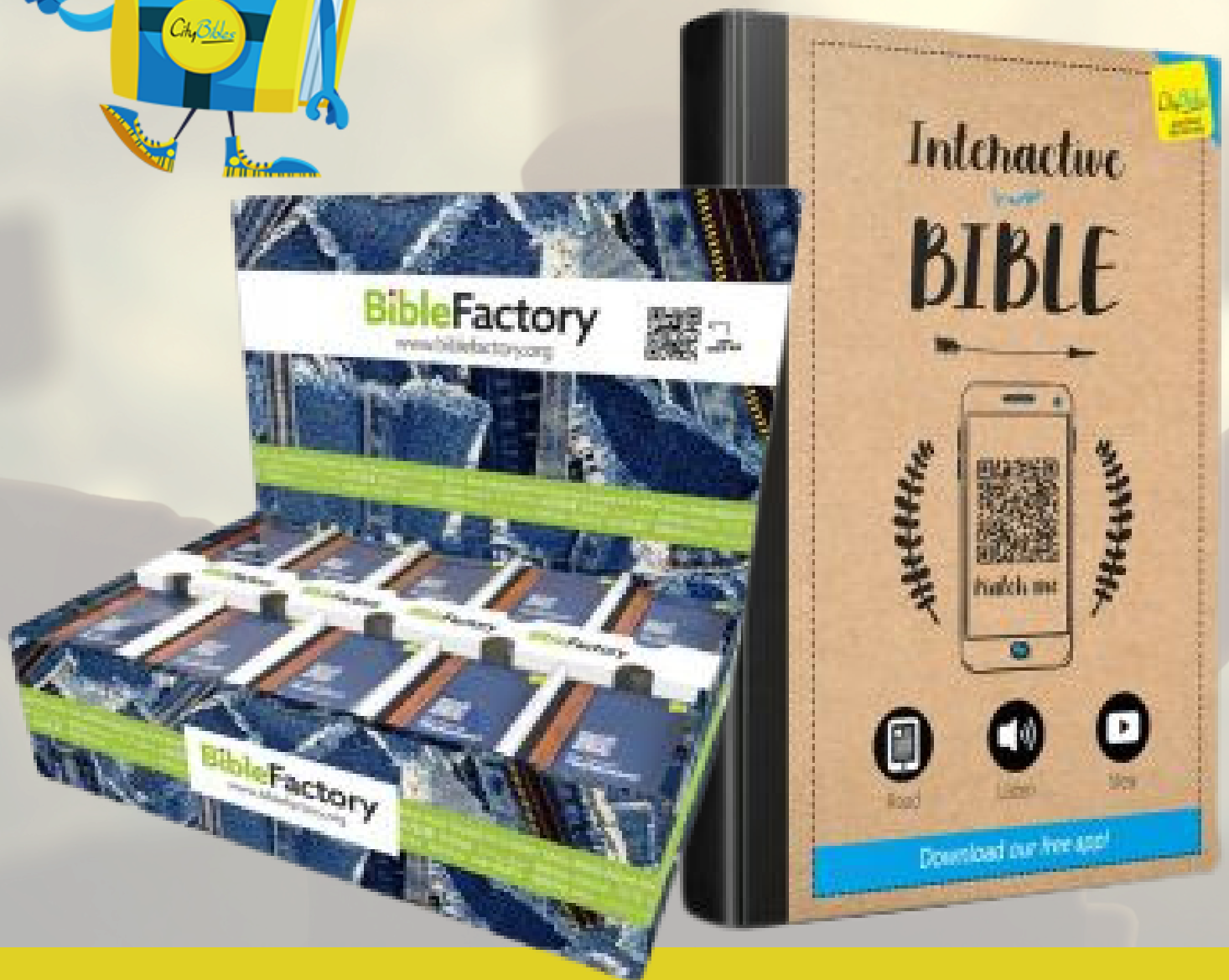
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BY PASTOR MIKE GOBEL

3

LIFE'S 'ULTIMATE GOAL' *FOR THE BELIEVER*

Introduction

As I embarked on the journey of writing my first book, which I trust, by the grace of God, will be published soon, I spent the last few years studying the Word of God and exploring the fundamental truths of our Christian faith in my work, subtitled, **“Rediscovering the Biblical Principles for Practical Christian Living.”** This endeavour revealed to me numerous aspects of our Christian faith that we, as spiritual leaders, often overlook in our preaching and teaching. As a result, the body of Christ is often left to struggle alone, searching for answers to lead a more consistent and devoted life in Christ.

As Prof. Shaun Ramroop wrote in



his dedication to my book, **“It’s a resource that will not only enhance your spiritual walk but also empower you to become an agent of positive change in the lives of those around you.”**

With this in mind, I have decided to use this platform to highlight some of these fundamental principles that we often overlook in our walk with God because they don’t seem religious enough. Yet, these biblical principles are essential for building a stronger, more meaningful and consistent relationship with God, providing direction in your faith journey as a believer in Christ.

Philippians 3:14 says, **“I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”** As Christians, our ‘ultimate goal’ is to be in heaven with Christ.

Motivation: The Foundation of Decision-Making

The key component in the decision-making process of becoming a child of God and receiving the gift of eternal life, is ‘motivation.’ In this context, motivation is the foundation upon which a choice is made—the choice to follow Christ and align with God’s will for your life rather than continue in your old, sinful nature. It is the underlying, though not necessarily expressed, reason for the decision to become a ‘child of God.’

1 Corinthians 15:58 says, **“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.”**

Motivation is not the cause of the decision itself, as ‘free will’ is the cause, but it provides direction for each decision we make, including the decision to follow God. It establishes the purpose for the entire decision-making process, functioning like a rudder on a ship. It defines the objective behind the decision, explaining what we seek to accomplish and the direction we wish to take in achieving our ultimate desires.

Habakkuk 2:2-3 reads, **“Then the Lord answered me and said: “Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it. 3 For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not**

tarry.”

Motivation is not always the expressed reason for making a decision. For instance, one may marry for the stated reason of ‘being in love,’ but the underlying motivation might be a desire for security. Because it can be painful to admit such a purpose, the person may accept the belief that they married for ‘love.’

Motivation serves as the foundational purpose for making decisions, not the surface reason or the objective at any other level. Consider the foundational purpose of seeking an education. Is it to obtain a better job? Is the better job to provide more income? What is the purpose of the income? If we continue this line of inquiry, we will eventually arrive at the foundational purpose, or motivation, for the initial decision to seek an education. This exercise reveals the complexity of the decision-making process, where decisions are built upon decisions, often shaping our lives in either positive or negative ways. The entire process, however, rests on motivation.

Philippians 3:13-14 says, **“Brethren, I do not count myself to have [a]pprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, 14 I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”**

The ‘Ultimate Goal’

Motivation can be described as one’s ‘ultimate goal.’ This ultimate goal defines our purpose for living and influences every decision we make in life. An ultimate goal is the highest objective one seeks to fulfill, serving as the foundation for every other goal one adopts.

2 Corinthians 12:9 reads, **“And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore, most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.”**

An ultimate goal is what an individual ultimately seeks to accomplish in life. It is the goal to which one devotes all your time, energy, and material possessions, striving to achieve what you have set out for your life. Our ultimate goal also directly or indirectly shapes our personality, decision-making process, values, beliefs, and behaviour. Every decision we make is influenced by our ultimate goal in life.

Luke 14:28 reads, “For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it—”

To further understand the importance of motivation as one’s ultimate goal, we need to consider it in the context of human organisations and institutions. Just as an individual is governed by their ultimate goal, every human institution is governed by the ultimate goal of those leading it.

Proverbs 3:5-6 says, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall [a]direct your paths.”

In civil government, the controlling party’s ultimate goal establishes the purpose mission, and vision of the local, provincial, and national governments. In a democracy, the ultimate goals of a majority of eligible voters determine the government’s direction.

In a family, the parents’ ultimate goal sets the course for the family. Schools, businesses, churches, clubs, and charities are all governed by the ultimate goals of those in charge. Therefore, choosing one’s ultimate goal is the most important and far-reaching decision anyone can make. It is the most practical decision, as it governs every other decision in life.

Romans 12:2 “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

Choosing an Ultimate Goal as a Believer

The concept of life’s ultimate goal is crucial for believers. If this concept governs each decision we make, a thorough understanding of our faith and the biblical principles that guide our lives is essential for achieving a godly outcome.

John 4:34 reads, “Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.”

Each believer should adopt an ultimate goal not based on personal desires or needs but focused on what God desires for us as His children—a purpose for our existence. Remember, things without perceived purpose are eventually discarded or rejected. The discouragement and despair one feels when you falsely believe you have no purpose or hope in life can be crippling.

Matthew 21:22 says, **“And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.”**

It is vitally important to understand that there should be a significant difference between our ultimate goals as children of God and those of someone who has not yet accepted Christ. Our ultimate goal and purpose on this earth is to live for Christ and seek the things of God. The Bible tells us, **“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”** (Matthew 6:33, NIV).

When we live with a worldly mindset focused on self rather than on God, our ultimate goal will naturally reflect the characteristics of a worldly order. The Word of God says, **“Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.”** (Colossians 3:1-2, NIV).

We are not speaking here of superficial, surface goals or even expressed goals for an activity. We are concerned with the ultimate “why.” Why do we strive for the things we do? Why do we set the priorities we do? Why do we make the choices we do? Some possible ultimate goals may come to mind: having a family, making money, being educated, becoming important, or even just surviving. However, none of these can legitimately qualify as an ultimate goal.

What is the purpose of money? What is the underlying motivation for obtaining an education or becoming important? Why does one have a family? Why does one choose to survive? Someone may suggest security as the foundational goal for these objectives. While security might be a first-tier goal, it is not an ultimate goal. For what purpose does one seek security? When we thoroughly examine human goals to determine what choices exist for an ultimate goal, we find that all human goals resolve into just two ultimate possibilities:

1. To live for oneself, regardless of the cost to faith or others (this goal is referred to as “self-gratification”).
2. To live for the benefit of serving and pleasing God and others, regardless of the cost to oneself (this goal is referred to as “benefiting God”).

One who lives for themselves seeks to gratify or fulfill their own desires, and their decisions are ultimately based on self-interest. On the other hand, one who lives to benefit God and His Kingdom (including others) seeks to do what

is best for all, regardless of personal feelings, with truth as the basis of their decisions.

Character and Ultimate Goals

A person's ultimate goal is revealed in their character. They exhibit either the characteristics of a self-gratifier or the characteristics of someone living for the benefit of pleasing God. These characteristics become more consistent the longer the person maintains their ultimate goal of following God's will instead of their own.

Matthew 6:33 **“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”**

A person living for themselves may desire to live for others or appear to do so to gain something for themselves. However, since they have not made a decision to live for the benefit of pleasing God and others, their actions will eventually reveal characteristics consistent with self-gratification.

A person living to benefit God and others is just in their decisions. They set aside self-interest to make decisions that benefit all concerned. One living for themselves is not just, although they may try to appear so. They are always interested in the outcome of a decision and how it affects them personally, whether directly or indirectly. They use evidence and circumstances to justify their desires rather than to determine the accuracy of their decisions. They determine what they want to do and then accept only the facts that support their desires.

Proverbs 16:3 says, **“Commit[a] your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established.”**

If a decision's outcome does not personally affect them, their desire to appear just may prevail. If their desire to be merciful or compassionate prevails, they may attempt to be merciful. However, this attempt to be merciful is simply another form of self-gratification. They try to relieve another's suffering, not because of genuine concern, but because the suffering makes them feel bad, compassionate, or sympathetic.

Instead of being just, the one living for self becomes judgmental if they feel someone has violated their sense of right and wrong. This may conflict with their feelings of compassion, with the strongest feeling ultimately governing their decision.

When judgmental, the self-gratifier criticizes and condemns without offering constructive help. They do not attempt to help others learn from the consequences of wrong decisions; they simply condemn those decisions. This leads to resentment and a breakdown in communication.

One who lives to benefit and please God, and others respects and obeys authority, recognising that this promotes orderliness, which depends on such respect. They accept just godly laws and rules, even if it restricts them personally. Orderliness and discipline are essential in the life of a believer and enhance unity in the body of Christ. Disorder increases insecurity and division. If a person with an ultimate goal of living for God is “required” by their authority to take action they can prove incorrect, for the good of all, they will not compromise, regardless of the cost to themselves.

Romans 13:1 says, **“Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. 2 Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist [a] will bring judgement to themselves. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. 4 For he is God’s minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God’s minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. 5 Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience’ sake. 6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God’s ministers attending continually to this very thing. 7 Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honour to whom honour.”**

A person living for self-gratification only obeys authority when they believe they will personally benefit, or when the consequences of disobedience outweigh their desires. They break rules with impunity if they do not foresee personal consequences. They may attempt to ignore apparent consequences if those consequences do not immediately affect their desires. This leads to personal lawlessness and a lack of self-control. Unfortunately, their example encourages others to disrespect and disobey authority—whether of the church, society, or even God—resulting in further lawlessness and disobedience. Violating godly laws and rules for self-gratification, if followed by others, leads to a breakdown in law and order

within the body of Christ.

The resulting disorder, unless corrected, causes the destruction of the institution involved or leads to the establishment of more oppressive laws and rules than those originally violated. As one can clearly understand, the greater the segment of any society that lives for self-gratification, the quicker that society is disrupted and destroyed, eventually leading to governance by repression.

Matthew 6:1-4 says, **“Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise, you have no reward from your Father in heaven. 2 Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. 3 But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you [a]openly.”**

The Intellect and Ultimate Goals

One who lives for God rather than self has an uncompromised intellect, as their intellect is not merely a tool for self-gratification. Such a person is intellectually honest. Honesty requires a willingness to seek the truth in all decisions and a willingness to submit to it when it is clearly found.

A person living to please God seeks the truth in each decision to benefit all concerned. They realize that truth is the only foundation upon which they can truly benefit in their relationship with God. Their intellect, when uncompromised by personal desires, can weigh decisions and evidence to determine consistencies and inconsistencies before making a decision.

Isaiah 40:28-31 says, **“Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, Neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable. 29 He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength. 30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, 31 But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.”**

This uncompromised intellect enhances the ability to accurately evaluate facts and experiences in light of known truth. A person living to please God and others makes the decision to study and learn biblical truths from God's Word. Conversely, one living for self resists the truth and accepts, without thorough examination, beliefs—no matter how absurd—that further their desires. They may embrace relativism, the belief that there are no absolutes. In doing so, they may compromise their intellect to the point of believing there are absolutely no absolutes, abandoning antithesis thinking and never being sure of anything. A subdued and compromised intellect then adds to the person's confusion about their purpose in creation and their relationship with the Creator.

Results of Choosing an Ultimate Goal

A person's motivation produces certain results in their life and the lives of others. The longer they continue to pursue their chosen ultimate goal, the more defined these results become. The following are some of the results of choosing either life goal:

The person living for God, regardless of the cost to themselves, has a clearly defined life purpose. They can chart their life's course according to their life's goal. They have a godly standard (whether moral or biblical) to apply to each decision and a reasonable basis for decision-making.

Conversely, someone living for self-gratification seldom admits that this is their life's goal, though this is becoming more common as society increasingly values worldly achievements over personal spiritual growth and maturity in Christ. Acknowledging self-gratification as a life goal used to evoke shame, causing people to avoid such self-evaluation. However, today, self-enrichment and self-gratification have turned our youth into social media zombies—motivated purely for the fortune and fame of the rich and famous.

Those who have chosen to live for the benefit of their relationship with God, however, are satisfied with life and whatever circumstances they may face, as long as they believe they are doing their best with what they have.

Satisfaction, in this context, is synonymous with contentment, as opposed to gratification, which refers to fulfilling a desire or feeling. Those living for God and others realise that any circumstance can be used for the glory of God, and this realisation fosters creativity and godliness.

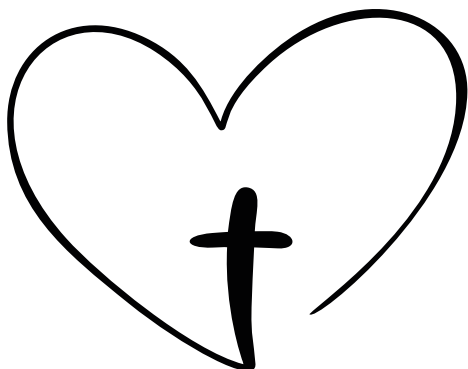
Such individuals determine the best way to use their resources to bring the greatest benefit to God's plan for their lives. This satisfaction and contentment also result in hope for those living to please God. They understand that no matter what happens in their lives, no one can take away their life's ultimate goal. No one can interfere with the achievement of their life's goal. No matter where they find themselves, they live to build a stronger, more consistent relationship with God to reach the ultimate goal of glorification.

Proverbs 3:1-6 says, **“My son, do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commands; 2 For length of days and long life and peace they will add to you. 3 Let not mercy and truth forsake you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart, 4 And so find favour and [a]high esteem In the sight of God and man. 5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall [b]direct your paths.”**

If you wish to support my ministry or the efforts of Planting Hope Foundation to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the lost and to help the widows, orphans and most vulnerable people in our region, feel free to contact me on the details below.

In God's love,

**Pastor Mike & Jada Gobel
Contact No.: 071 018 0768
Email: michaelgobel14@gmail.com**



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IMPACT YOUTH

BY ITALIA STEENKAMP

HOW TO OVERCOME *PEER PRESSURE*

How to overcome peer pressure

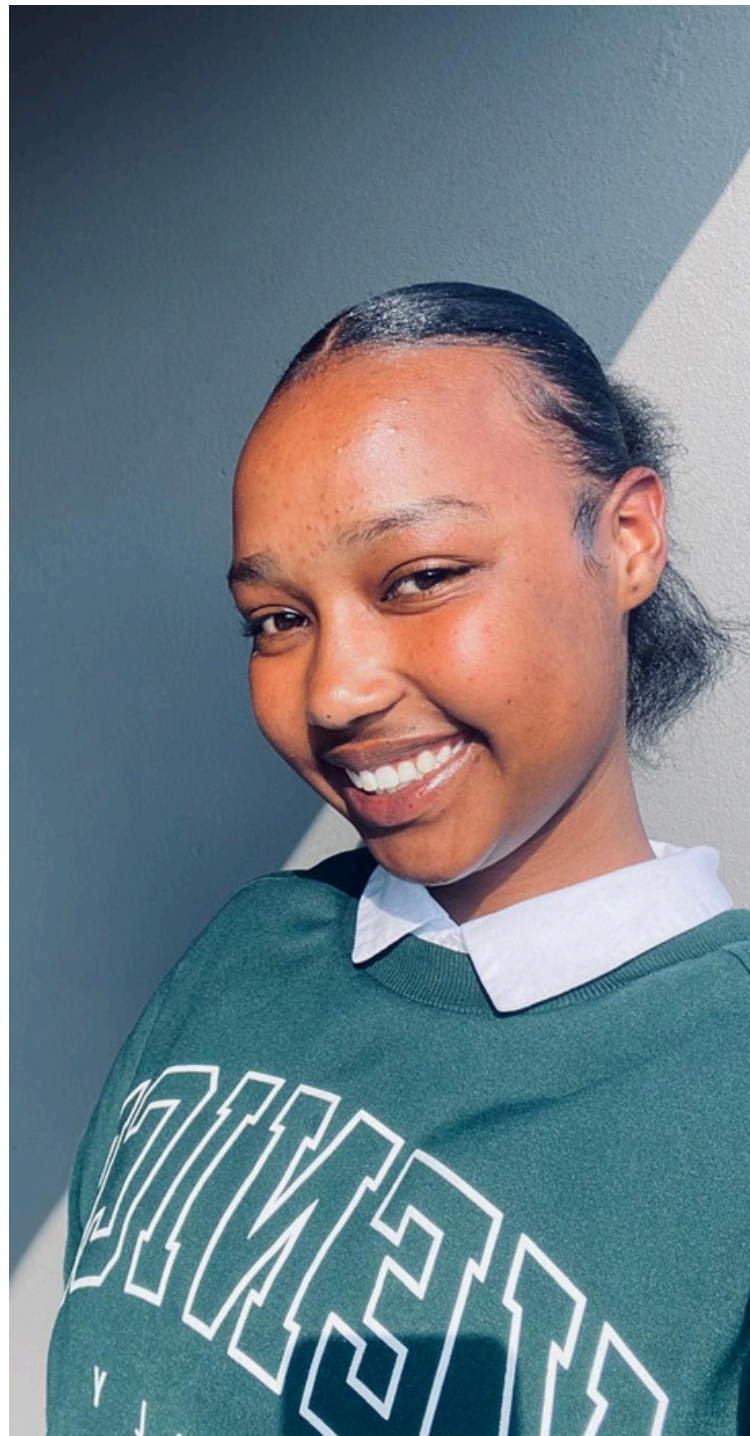
My name is Italia Steenkamp. I am 15 years old turning 16 soon. I was born and raised in Nigel, Alra Park where I'm still residing.

Peer pressure can be a powerful force in our lives, influencing our decisions and actions. While it's natural to want to fit in and belong, giving in to peer pressure can lead to negative consequences.

We will explore strategies for dealing with peer pressure and staying true to yourself.

1. Stay true to yourself. Know your values and identify what's important to you and what you stand for.

2. Set boundaries for clear communication and limit your expectations. Be self-aware and recognise your emotions and



Don't let others dictate your actions.

3.Say No.Be confident and assertive when declining requests that go against your values and believes.Express your thoughts and feelings into decisions;take time to consider the consequences.

4.Build Resilience.Develop a growth mindset to view challenges as opportunities for growth and learning.Find positive role models and mentors for guidance and support.

Dealing with peer pressure can require self-awareness,courage and effective strategies.By staying true to oneself,setting boundaries, saying no and building resilience,you can navigate challenging situations with confidence.

Remember it's okay to say no and prioritise your wellbeing, that's it's okay to be different and that your individuality is valuable.



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THE GOSPEL MESSAGE

SHARE IT WITH ALL PLEASE

SHARE



HAVE YOU ACCEPTED JESUS
CHRIST?

THE GOSPEL MESSAGE

Romans 3:23 ESV

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"

The abovementioned verse is an extremely well used verse and many people know it and can even quote it off by heart, but the significance of it is the reality that every single person needs to contemplate.

If you have not accepted Jesus as your Personal Saviour yet or are thin king about it, you have to start here. The reality of your sin problem cancels and disqualifies you from the very presence of God and this bars you from eternal Life. Your choices are simple here, either an eternity with God or an Eternity without God. I would think that the logical answer would be an Eternity with God. Why? Well let's look at this:

2 Thessalonians 1:9

"They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might"

NASB

This is the reality of a choice that omits Jesus as your Personal Saviour -

= Everlasting Punishment

= Destruction

= Shut Out

= No Godly Presence

= And no Glory at all

This is not something to take lightly and by the way this is not scaring you into making a false decision, God is love, thus we as His followers are love, this means if I say I have the love of God, it is my duty to tell you the truth and point you into the right direction.

So in looking at the sin problem and the reality of this, what is the answer then? Let's look at this:

John 14:6

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

NASB

What a wonderful solution to an immense problem, Go gas made a way and in making the way He has also made it very clear that this is the only answer to the problem. You have to accept Jesus His Son in order to obtain Eternal Life and ward off all the destruction and other bad things spoken about in the previous Bible verse.

It also makes it very clear that this can only be done through JESUS CHRIST His Son, there is no other way to salvation or Eternal life other than through Jesus, NONE!

Let's look at this too:

John 1:12-13

"But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God."

NASB

Wow! Just look at this, not only do we get Eternal Life but we become Children of God. The impact of this is massive as it speaks to the fact that we now belong to the family of God and receive the benefits of being part of a family, and not just any family but a royal family (1 Peter 2 vs 9).

So in looking and understanding all of this, How do you accept Jesus as your Personal Saviour?

Romans 10 vs 9-10

"that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; 10 for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation."

NASB

Let me just make one point very clear before we look at the above verses, your salvation cannot be obtained by good works, you cannot go to Heaven or be part of God's family because you are a good person, or you do good deeds, No! The Bible makes it clear, if you want to accept Jesus as your Personal Saviour then it gets done on the basis of two things. These two things are critical because it will also help you on your work with the Lord and attain righteousness and a life pleasing to God.



Firstly, you have to confess with your mouth that Jesus is your Lord, this is very important because by your confession God will know and people in the world will know. This is significant because one does not hide a light under a bowl. Everyone must see and hear that you are a child of God.



And secondly you must believe in your heart, with your whole being and understanding that Jesus was raised from the dead and is alive and is your only Saviour.

So if you have read all of this and the Holy Spirit is directing you to accept Jesus as your Personal Saviour please pray the prayer on the next page, God loves you so much.



ACCEPTING JESUS IS EVERYTHING!

PRAYER FOR SALVATION

Dear Lord Jesus,

I understand that I am a sinner and in need of desperate saving, The Bible tells me clearly that the only answer is for me to confess with my mouth and believe in my heart. I am now confessing with my mouth that I am accepting You as my Personal Saviour and believing in my heart that you are alive and well and dwelling within me. Thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit and the fellowship of other Believers and allow me please to follow in your footsteps. Amen!

Wow! Congratulations if you have just prayed this prayer, and know that you are now part of the family of the Kingdom of God. Please tell someone about your decision, pray all the time and read and study your Bible. Find a Holy Ghost, Bible preaching church and join.

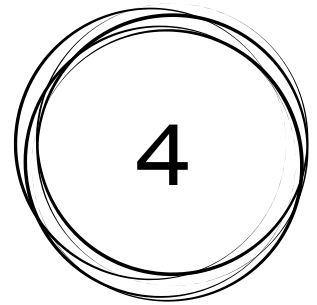
Please let us know if you have made this decision and allow us to point you in the right direction.

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THE HEART OF JESUS

Calling All Saints
Calling All Sinners!



BY PASTOR NOMSA

BOOK OF THE BIBLE:

GALATIANS

PRAYER:

Wonderful Holy Spirit, thank you for your constant presence in our lives; and for living within us. We are blessed to have you as a Partner in our lives. Holy Ghost, help us through the power of the Blood of Jesus to understand your precious Word. Open the scriptures for us, so that we are able to help others who do not understand Your Word. Let your Spirit be the Teacher, through this amazing Word, in Jesus Name. I trust that the Holy Spirit will touch people's lives when they are reading this Teaching, so that it will encourage them to start reading God's Word more, in Jesus Name, Amen.

BIBLE BOOK: GALATIANS

1) STATISTICS

Galatians is the 48 th Book of the Bible, it is the 9 th Book of the New Testament and has 6 Chapters with 149 verses

altogether. If you learn two scriptures per day, it will take you



Prophetic Teacher Nomsa
Email: RestorationTRT@gmail.com

only two-and-a-half months to learn this whole Book.

2) INTRODUCTION

The book was written with a sense of urgency due to the sins of the Galatians. No doubt, brother Paul felt it necessary to share the good news gospel of grace with them as soon as possible; since grace does not encourage sin. Galatians has traditionally been recognized as one of the four “capital epistles” of Paul (the other three being Romans, and 1&2 Corinthians).

3) WHO WERE THE GALATIANS?

They were the believers in the region of North-Galatia (present day Turkey). The name “Galatia” was taken from three traditional Celtic tribes (Gauls) which lived in the area (near the Halys River). See map where Galatia was situated. Galatia was a huge Roman Province which was situated through mountains and valleys in Turkey. According to the book of **Act 13-14, 16**, we know that Paul established churches in Antioch, Iconium, Lystra and Derbe on his first missionary trip. Lystra was Timothy’s hometown.



4) WHO WROTE THE BOOK OF GALATIANS?

We notice that Paul did not do the actual writing, possibly his secretary wrote it for him. But in **Gal 6:11-18** he wrote “with his own hand”. Paul, who was known as Saul, was the author/speaker of Galatians. His name Paul means “little”. His previous name Saul meant: “significant one; sought after” – in Aramaic it is “kefa” which means “rock” (Greek – Petros, little stone). Isn’t it amazing how God humbled him when his transformation took place? God gave him a character that fitted his name – he was “small” in his eyes.

PAUL’S CHARACTER:

Jesus started a new doctrine of Faith called Christianity, but no other man shaped the history of Christianity like the Apostle Paul. His actions were always noteworthy, even long before he was a believer in Christ. He was a devout religious man who had training from Gamaliel. Every goal and endeavor were sincere. As a Pharisee he was good; and knew the word of God. He believed the Christian movement was dangerous to Judaism. He hated Christians and their faith and had no mercy to them. Which is why he was oppressing the Christians and was responsible for Stephen’s death. But this man did not know that he would have a personal encounter with Christ Himself on the way to Damascus, while prosecuting the church of Jesus. Paul was travelling to capture more Christians and bring them to Jerusalem, obviously to have them murdered and play sports (humiliating) them. I think it is safe to say, after his “Metanoia” experience (conversion) he was never the same man again. When we search the scriptures, we can clearly see that even after Paul became a Christian, he did not lose his fierce passion – only now, he channelled it towards Christianity for the good of mankind, like for instance working hard to convince Jews that Gentiles were also acceptable to God. Many lives were changed, and people accepted Jesus as their Lord and Saviour because of Paul. God used everything Paul consist of to expand the gospel of Grace – His training, citizenships, background, even his weaknesses was used for the better. Paul’s life story is written in **Acts 7:58-28:31** and through other New Testament Letters.

(MEDITATION) - Are you prepared to allow God to do the same with you?

YOU CAN NEVER KNOW WHAT GOD CAN DO WITH YOU UNLESS

YOU ALLOW HIM TO HAVE ALL THAT YOU CONSIST OF!

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF PAUL

- God changed him from being a persecutor of Christians, to be a Preacher for Christ.
- He went on three different missionary journeys through the Roman Empire preaching the gospel of Christ.
- He wrote 13 Letters to Churches, which are 13 of 27 Books of the New Testament.
- He worked with Gentiles everywhere and was called the Apostle to the Gentiles.
- He adhered to God's leading by the Spirit and always did as God directed, despite his own strong will.

WHAT THE JUDAIZERS SAID ABOUT PAUL

- They said that Paul was distorting the truth as they knew it.
- They said he was disregarding the Law of Moses.
- They called him a Traitor to the Jewish faith.
- They suggested that he compromised and watered down his message for the Gentiles.

WHAT PAUL SAID ABOUT HIMSELF:

- He said that he had received this message from Christ Himself (**Gal 1:11-12**)
 - Paul realized that although he was one of the most dedicated Jews of his time, God transformed him through a revelation of Jesus when he was pursuing the Church of Jesus (**Gal 1:13-16; Acts 9:1-30**).
 - Paul put the Law in its proper place. He said it showed people where they have sinned, and it points them to Christ (**Gal 3:19-29**)
- Some Apostles declared that the message which Paul was preaching, was the TRUE gospel of Jesus – (**Gal 2:1-10**)

5) WHEN WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?

There are three possible dates:

- a) Not long after his first missionary journey 47/48/49aD from Antioch.
- b) Between 50-52aD from Corinth at the end of Paul's second mission trip.
- c) And the other date is also from Corinth about 50-55aD.

It is therefore correct to say that nobody is sure exactly when the book was written. In fact, the words “so quickly” (Gal 1:6) would imply not long after the first missionary journey (47/48aD). There is also the possibility of the book being written during his first journey due to “at first” (**Gal 4:13**) when Paul and Barnabas visited Galatia twice; going from Pisidian Antioch to Derbe; and back to Pisidian Derbe again.

Others say it could not have been written before 49aD when his second missionary journey began (**Acts 16:6**). Therefore, it is more likely that the book was written after 52aD, when the third journey began and Paul visited Galatia a second time (**Acts 18:13**) – due to his reference to them as having preached to them “at first” (**Gal 4:13**) literally, the “former” time (somewhere between 47,48,49,50aD).

6) WHAT WAS THE DESTINATION OF THE LETTER?

The Letter was sent to the churches of GALATIA (**Gal 1:2**). Note here that “Galatia” was used in two distinct senses in the 1 st Century aD; it might denote ethnic Galatia in central Asia Minor; or a much larger Roman Province of Galatia. Therefore, we are not sure exactly which regions Paul visited in **Acts 16:6** and **Acts 18:23**. There is only evidence that he visited the “S” area of Galatia and planted churches there.

Two different Views:

- a) The view that this Letter is addressed to ethnic Galatia is called the “N Galatian Theory”.
- b) the “S Galatian” theory, says the Letter was sent to churches of Pisidian Antioch, Iconium, Lystra and Derbe, all in the S of the Roman Province, and all planted by Paul and Barnabas during their 1 st missionary journey (**Acts 13:14- 14:23**).

7) WHY WAS THIS BOOK WRITTEN BY PAUL?

The book was written to believers (Paul’s converts) who were in danger of being trapped in Jewish legalism; ignoring the gospel of Christian Freedom taught by Paul. He tries to prove to the Galatians that you cannot get to God by obeying laws like circumcision which was a chief issue. They also included the observance of the Jewish Calendar (**Gal 4:10**) and Jewish food-laws, like

like things you were not allowed to eat.

Churches in Galatia was visited by Judaizers who insisted that, in addition to the faith in Christ which Paul preached, it was necessary to be circumcised and to conform in other respects to the Jewish Laws, if they wanted Salvation in Christ. Obviously when Paul heard this news, he “quickly” (probably with a temper) wrote this Letter, denouncing the teachings of the Judaizers.



The Judaizers obviously mingled grace and the Law as a different gospel from that which Paul preached in Christ’s Name. Paul wrote this Letter to ask them to stand firm in their new-found liberty in Christ and not to place their necks again under a yoke of bondage with Laws.

LEADING ARGUMENTS which Paul uses in defense of true gospel liberty:

- a. The gospel which Paul preached was the gospel which he received by direct commission from Christ - it came to his hearers with Christ’s authority, not with Paul’s.
- b. Some argued that Paul’s “commission from Christ” was invalid since all apostolic authority had to be mediated through Jerusalem. They stated his

peaching and method was invalid because it deviated from the Jerusalem patterns and Laws. Paul answered them referring to his visits to Jerusalem between his “Metanoia” experience (conversion) and the time of writing. He showed that Jerusalem Leaders had no opportunity of commissioning him but, on the contrary, they acknowledged the apostolic commission (to the Gentiles) which he already received from Christ (Gal 1:5-2:10).

c. Paul argued that Christ’s death was pointless and in vain (Gal 2:21) if acceptance with God could be obtained through circumcision and observances of the Jewish Law.

d. Paul reminded them that Christian Life is a gift of God’s Spirit and when they received it, they also received unmistakable proof of the Spirit’s presence in their midst. If they began their Christian Walk on such a high note, it would be “utterly stupid” to revert to the lower plane of Legalistic observances.

e. Judaizers argued with Paul that circumcision is necessary since God told Abraham to circumcise all males as a sign of Covenant between God and them. They did not understand that Paul was telling them the TRUE children of God are those who are justified by faith in God, as Abraham was. All children of God enjoy the blessings promised to Abraham. GOD’S PROMISE TO ABRAHAM WAS FULFILLED IN CHRIST, NOT IN THE LAW, therefore the blessings of that promise are enjoyed not through keeping the Law but through FAITH in Christ (Gal 3:6-9; 15-22).

NOTE: THE Law came long AFTER the promise and could not affect its terms.

f. The Law pronounces a curse on those who fail to keep the Law in every detail, therefore those who put their trust in the Law is in danger of that curse. By the death on the cross, Christ bore all curses in His people’s place and delivered them from the curse which the law pronounces. Therefore, children of God must not go back and put themselves under the law again with its attendant curse (Gal 3:10-14).

g. To accept arguments of Judaizers to keep the Law would mean to revert to infancy (Gal 3:23-4:7) since principles of Law-keeping belong to the age of spiritual immaturity. Christ came, and died so we can be free of the Law – we who believe in Him have attained spiritual maturity as Sons of God.

h. To observe the Law, impose a yoke of slavery whereas Faith in Christ brings total liberty (freedom). If you have been freed from sin through the blood of Jesus and you give up that freedom to dedicate yourself to

Jewish Laws, then you are foolish (Gal 4:8-11; 5:1; 3:19).

i. This freedom which the gospel of Grace proclaim has nothing to do with anarchy or license; FAITH IN CHRIST works by Love and fulfil the Law of Christ (Gal 5:6; 5:13-6:10).

These same arguments mentioned here in Galatians are also found in Paul's letter to the Romans, written 8-9 years later. Paul probably received these revelations from Christ at the time of his conversion on the way to Damascus. Because of the above arguments of Paul, the Book of Galatians has to this day been cherished by Christians as a great charter of gospel Liberty/Freedom.

THINGS THAT WERE WRONG WITH THE GALATIANS: (which is why Paul wrote this letter)

- a) They considered Paul an enemy for telling them the truth – **4:16**
- b) They desired to be in bondage – **4:9, 21**
- c) They permitted false Teachers – **V7; 5:8-12**
- d) They started in the Spirit and sought perfection in the flesh – **3:3**
- e) They turned back to the weak and beggarly elements of the world – **4:9**
- f) They were “bewitched” from being obedient to Christ's gospel – **3:1; 5:7**
- g) They were attributing their gospel blessings to the Law of Moses – **3:2**
- h) They were back in Law bondage – **5:1**
- i) They were backslidden and in need of re-birth again – **4:19**
- j) They were “biting and devouring” one another – **5:15, 26**
- k) They were convinced of circumcision – **5:2**
- l) They were crucifying Christ anew – **3:1**
- m) They were fallen from grace – **1:6; 5:4**
- n) They were going back to the law of works to be justified – **3:10-12; 5:4**
- o) They were removed from Christ – **V6**
- p) They were seeking to escape persecution for allegiance to the cross of Christ – **6:12**
- q) They were suffering for the gospel in vain by losing gospel benefits – **3:4**
- r) They were using Liberty as an occasion to the flesh to commit sin – **5:13**
- s) They were zealous for wrong things – **4:17-18**
- t) They were going back to observance of sabbaths and other festivals of the Law – **4:9-10**

8) THE KEY TO PAUL'S THEOLOGY

The book Galatians is the key to Paul's Theology:

"The grace of God in Christ is the only foundation for salvation" **[Gal 2:21]** and was written to disprove the Jewish error (that believers should observe the Law and Jewish rites, including circumcision, before they can be saved) – see No. 6. The book has only 6 Chapters, but it can keep somebody busy for a long time when it is looked at in depth.

Paul's Theology can be summed up into THREE DIFFERENT WAYS:

Gal 1-2 = History or "auto-biography" part.

Gal 3-4 = Theological part.

Gal 5-6 = Admonition (rebuke, warning) part.



9) THE GOD-GIVEN GOSPEL

From the beginning you notice Paul's urgency with the letter. He does not start with a song of praise like he used to. He immediately starts talking about the problems. Jewish troublemakers tried to undermine Paul's authority. They accused Paul that he received preference from certain people and called him a "bogus" apostle. After these accusations, Paul realized that he would have to defend himself. He starts sharing his God given talents and instructions. The gospel that he preaches is directly from God, not given by man, not even by another apostle, but delivered by God Himself.

10) WHAT IS THE MESSAGE OF THIS BOOK?

Grace is the only ground for salvation. The grace of God and life according to the Holy Spirit is according to Paul the only defense against sin. You do not need to observe laws to be saved, your belief and faith in Jesus Christ affords your salvation. **Gal 5:1** – "Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery".

11) WHAT IS EVIDENT IN THE BOOK OF GALATIANS?

Galatians have a special similarity with the book 2 Corinthians as well as Romans. Together with 1 & 2 Corinthians and Romans, Galatians fall in as

Paul's Main Letters.

Notice that before in Paul's ministry, he circumcised Timothy (**Acts 16:3**), but he did not have Titus (a Greek) circumcised. And he brought him into the Temple. (Greeks were not allowed to enter the Temple area). Paul emphasized his Theology through this act: God's grace in Christ is the only requirement for salvation. You do not need to be circumcised (**Gal 5:6 and 6:15**), and it does not matter if you are a Greek, a Jew, an Arab or an Englishman. God's salvation is open for all. The fact that Paul did not circumcise Titus (a Greek), was too much for the Jews. This act of Paul's ceased persecution of the Christians by the Jews. The Jews felt that their culture and religion was being threatened in their own land. The circumcision (and the law) was a symbol of their national identity. Paul's radical standpoint (**Gal 5:2**) that those who differed on this matter, would find themselves outside of God's grace, caused him to open himself up for persecution. Other believers who stood with Paul, experienced that to be a Christian, suffering would follow them. Christianity brought Paul a break with Jewish nationalism that had bitter consequences. Many Christians lost their lives in those first years.

THE APOSTLES CONFIRMED PAUL'S CALLING

Paul defends his position between the other apostles. It seems like Paul's character has been thrashed. He defends himself violently. Paul was taken on by the Jews and it seems like his self-esteem was damaged.

Some apostles were pleased with the work that Paul has done amongst the Gentiles. Peter erred (his words and deeds did not match up) and Paul had to reprove Peter in front of the Jews and the Gentile believers. "How can you that have once known the freedom in Christ, be ensnared again under the yoke of slavery?"

**If good works could give you salvation,
then Jesus died on the Cross for nothing.**

12) WHAT IS THE MAIN SCRIPTURE/S OF THIS BOOK?

FREEDOM IN CHRIST!

GAL 5:1 In [this] freedom Christ has made us free [and completely liberated us]; stand fast then, and do not be hampered and held ensnared and submit

again to a yoke of slavery [which you have once put off]. **Gal. 2:16:** [Therefore even us ourselves] have believed on Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the Law” (This is how we are acquitted (cleared of all charges against us: By believing in Christ and not by observance of the Law.)

13) IMPORTANT SCRIPTURES TO REMEMBER?

Gal 1:11-12 “For I want you to know, brethren, that the Gospel which was proclaimed and made known by me is not man’s gospel [a human invention, according to or patterned after any human standard].

Gal 1:12 For indeed I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but [it came to me] through a [direct] revelation [given] by Jesus Christ (the Messiah)”.

Gal 3:26 For in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God through faith.

Gal 3:27 For as many [of you] as were baptized into Christ [into a spiritual union and communion with Christ, the Anointed One, the Messiah] have put on (clothed yourselves with) Christ.

Gal 3:28 There is [now no distinction] neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is not male and female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus”.

For Paul there is only one thing to glory in:

THE POWER OF THE CROSS OF JESUS CAN CHANGE AND HEAL US.

14) IMPORTANT ISSUES IN GALATIANS:

a) Paul receives the gospel directly from God and not from man – **1:11-17**

b) The gospel of grace does not encourage sins – **2:15-21**

c) The covenant with Abraham was before the laws of Moses – **3:7-22**

d) Christian Maturity - **3:23-4:11**

e) We are now full-grown sons of God – **3:23-29**

f) Christian Freedom: the two Jerusalem’s – **4:21-5-1**

g) Faith, not works – **5:2-12**

h) Liberty, not laws **5:13-26**

i) What you sow, you reap – **6:6-10**

j) True signs of the servant of God – **6:17**

k) Benedictions / Blessings – **6:18**

We are saved FOR WORKS; not by works.

15) MAIN TOPICS IN GALATIANS

This letter has four main topics, namely:

□ The Judaic law (and their rites)

You can never be saved just by keeping the Old Testament Law, or even the Ten Commandments. The law served as guide to show us that we need to be forgiven. Christ already fulfilled the obligations of the law for us when He died on the Cross. We must turn to Christ for salvation – He is the ONLY savior. Jesus alone can bring us in right standing with God, the Father, through His blood on the Cross.

□ Faith (in Jesus)

God the Father accepts you as a child because you believe in Jesus His Son. You can never forget, twist, or add to this fundamental TRUTH. Although we do good to others, it is not the good that saves us, it is our FAITH in Jesus that saves us. Do you trust in God for everything you need? – You can! By trusting in Jesus, His Son. In doing so, you will please the Father, for FAITH pleases God (Hebr 11:6). Only Jesus can forgive your sins and bring you into a relationship with the Father. Through His death, He opened the veil that we can now boldly go to the Father (Heb 4:16).

□ Freedom

We are totally FREE IN CHRIST - this is both an honor and privilege and we serve Jesus in Freedom. Let us therefore use our freedom in Christ to do good and love all, and not do wrong ideas and hate. We are not free to disobey God or to practice immorality and do bad things. The price He paid for your freedom was too high a price to pay, for you to disregard and fall back in sin.

YOU ARE FREE IN CHRIST, STEP INTO THE LIGHT AND CELEBRATE!

□ The Holy Spirit

When we are guided by the Holy Spirit of God, the fruit of the Spirit starts growing in us, and produces good spiritual fruit. Because we are saved by God's Grace and unmerited favor, we also grow by faith (and not by deeds). If we believe in Jesus, we have the Holy Spirit living inside us, who

guides and protects us, and help us live for Jesus Christ. Follow the prompting and guidance of the Holy Spirit and you will always live, in obedience.

In view of the fact that Jesus carried our punishments for our sin's, and He became cursed on the cross for us, our faith in Christ could now bring us true freedom in Christ. Freedom from punishment, sins, and disobedience. Freedom allows you to live according to God's will.

16) WHAT CAN YOU LEARN FROM GALATIANS (the Book)?

SALVATION – (new life) is God's gift to all who believe. No man can be saved by living a good life. These preachers said that Faith is not enough. They said there are things that one must do to receive salvation. The gentiles that were saved started to believe this false doctrine. It was a desperate situation, which required the most expressed letter of all Paul's letters.

The letter to the GALATIANS, stands out as the greatest CONSTITUTION of Christian FREEDOM.



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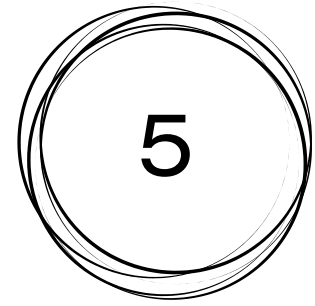
Judges 13:24

“The woman gave birth to a boy and named him Samson. He grew and the LORD blessed him”



NEWS ZONE

NEWS FROM THE GROUND



A Youth Conference for the Glory of God Experiencing it first-hand and unrehearsed By Gerda Potgieter

Over the years, I have attended countless conferences and gatherings, but the one I recently attended differs in its impact and execution. Over 8,000 young people registered for the week-long youth conference, and on Sunday, 23 June, the community and other guests joined, taking the guest count to over 12,000. The dignitary guest list included the Royal houses from Swaziland and KwaZulu-Natal.

My journey to the 50-Year anniversary event of KwaSizabantu Mission's youth conference from 19-27 June was a profound experience of gratitude. This conference, held twice yearly for the past 50 years, has significantly impacted the lives of countless youths and instilled hope for their future. The stories of restored lives I discovered at the conference are genuinely inspiring and some of them can be read on the Mission's official website, www.ksb.org.za.

The KwaSizabantu Youth Conference is a beacon of hope and positivity, demonstrating the transformative power of gratitude and perseverance. God is undoubtedly at work at KwaSizabantu, and the supporting evidence is there for everyone to see.

Youth conferences can transform lives and inspire hope for the future, and the KwaSizabantu Youth Conference excels in it. Imagine two conferences attended by thousands of youngsters every time for 50 years. I helped in different activities, visited various venues randomly, and spoke with around twenty helpers and volunteers to understand the arrangements behind the event and the event's purpose. I was especially interested in discovering why

people would fly and drive from afar to help and serve thousands of young people and children willingly. Most of these youngsters they would never see again in their life! People did not know I would talk to them or observe what they were doing, so I received their feedback on the experience firsthand and unrehearsed! Those I spoke with were regular helpers, but I understand some came to help for the first time. Those who come regularly to help said they would do it again, God willing, and many of the first timers also. That says something about an attitude of gratitude and sustainability!

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

When considering this event's significance, one must first provide context for the reader to conclude. KwaSizabantu has hosted youth conferences at its Mission station twice a year for fifty years. At first, a small group came to hear the Gospel and listen to testimonies of other people's restored lives. Quickly, the numbers grew, with significant numbers of young people coming to the Mission to get help from a wide variety of socioeconomic challenges, including addictions. Very soon, the Mission realised that the socioeconomic challenges of the young ones were far more than what the community and government helped with. This realisation led to the Mission opening its gates to help those in need, significantly impacting the community. This commitment to community upliftment, a cornerstone of the Mission's agenda, inspires hope and confidence in the community it serves. Since the beginning, KwaSizabantu has hosted the youth who came for an entire week, providing them with accommodation, sharing the gospel with them, and teaching them various life skills to help them with challenges—all free of charge. The Mission's unwavering commitment to this cause, its collaboration with churches, schools, and charity organisations, and its provision of transportation to and from the conferences demonstrate its dedication and inspire appreciation for its work.

Well-experienced mentors are available 24/7 to help those who need support with spiritual or life challenges. An expert medical team is ready for accidents and more severe illnesses. On Sunday, 24 June, the workers and helpers were prepared to serve the more than 12,000 people who came to celebrate with the Mission. They were all hosted in giant tents, which could accommodate the thousands who streamed to the event.

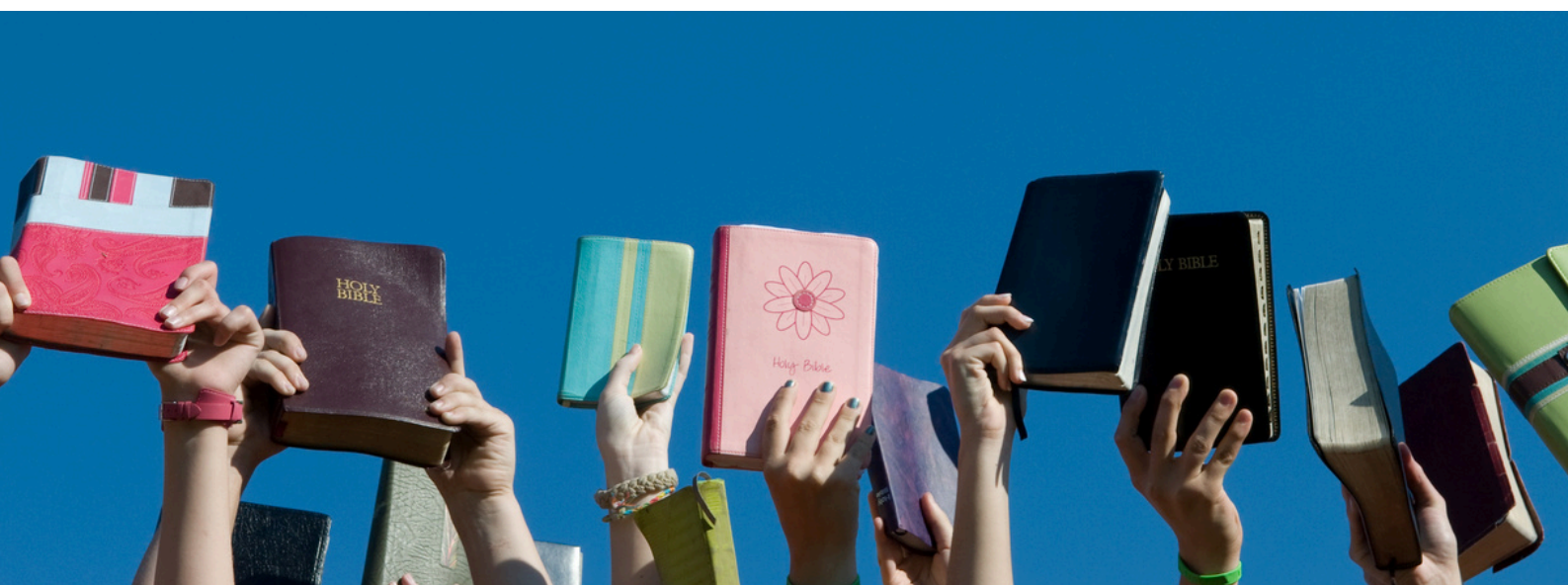
I had a long talk with one of the ladies who was helping prepare the food for

the youngsters. She caught my attention because of her age and the joy of how she went about doing the work. Greama Kwela is a resident and worker at KwaSizabantu and is in her golden years but as fit as a fiddle. She put a lot of youngsters to shame, stirring the massive pot of food with more vigour than I saw people half her age doing! She told me she enjoys the work tremendously. “I was here from the beginning when Erlo Stegen started with KwaSizabantu”, she said. “I was part of his ministry when he started, even before that when the revival came to Maphumulo. I got married in 1966 – I was the first to get married here at KwaSizabantu. I was here from the beginning of the youth conferences and was at all of them.”

What a revelation that was – for 50 years, twice a year, this elderly lady did what she likes the most, and in between conferences: Sharing the gospel with those who want to hear and serve His people literally! What a testament to what it means to be a great servant...

Over the years, thousands of young men who attended a youth conference decided to change their lives and asked for help after they were touched by a message. The CYPISA (the Concerned Young People of South Africa) restoration program was formed. Over 20,000 have since attended the program and started a new life afterwards. Devoted has shared life-changing stories and will continue to do so on many occasions. Like the Youth Conference, CYPISA is a treasure trove of inspiration!

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE DEVOTED MAGAZINE. VISIT THE WEBSITE:
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TESTIMONIES OF NOTE

THE LOVE OF *GOD*

I want to share a praise report of God healing someone I know personally. We hear about sickness and disease and the endless cries of why, but rarely do we learn about miracles when God intervenes and touches a person with His creative and restoring authority.

In the New Testament, there are true accounts of Jesus asking what He can do for those who were suffering, and when they told Him their request, He said, “I will.”

As Christians, we pray because we believe God is listening and that He will answer our petitions according to His perfect plans. His written word is His general will, and He also has a specific will where He speaks directly to us.

This is where we need to advance in our spiritual discernment and sensitivity.

For example, God says that He will bless a couple when they are married, but there is not a chapter and verse saying Sally will marry Joe. With every decision in life, The Almighty is trying to get our attention as He desires to lead us into divine appointments we commonly call, “walking in His Spirit.”

Can you imagine how much more meaningful our life would be if we could develop a constant awareness of His presence?

I help manage a food distribution ministry that receives groceries from

large markets and we give it away to those who could use a blessing. We have a team of ten individuals that work in this community outreach three times each week.

One of the members, Wanda Humes is a very sweet Christian lady that unfortunately was the victim of a rear-end collision two years ago. The cervical vertebrae in her neck were damaged and the muscles and tendons have been pulling her chin down to her chest since the accident.

This has caused her head to point directly to the ground without being able to lift it. Any attempt to raise her head was excruciating and so she has been walking around with not being able to see people when she talks to them.

People are constantly criticizing her for not looking at them when they are talking to her. I have felt compassion for her and occasionally I will gather the team around her to pray that God would heal her.

On Friday afternoon February 25, 2022, the trailer had just been unloaded and we were loading our vehicles to give the food away when suddenly I felt compelled to gather the two team members that were still there and to pray for Wanda again. I laid hands on her along with Louise Gauthier and Norman Cline and started asking Jesus to touch her neck. I said I believe that God can straighten bones, muscles, and tendons, and He is our provider and healer.

I was pleading the blood of Jesus over her while these two witnesses were agreeing and together we sealed this request in the Name of Jesus. We left and went separate ways with the food. Fifteen minutes later I received a call.

Louise and Wanda had pulled over on the side of the road shouting praise God into the phone, saying that Wanda's neck suddenly straightened up for the first time in 2 years! She could raise her head and see the sky like it was before the accident! We came back together about an hour later and were rejoicing when we saw her neck had been completely healed by the love and mercy of Christ.

We do not always understand why God heals some and does not heal others or about His perfect timing, but as I explain in my last book about

miracles, there are so many factors involved. It's not easy to discern the plans of God without fervently seeking His face and even then He is not obligated to share His reasons in every situation. We know that God spoke the universe into existence with His voice, yet many fail to believe He can speak to their sickness and remove it. The Bible says in Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

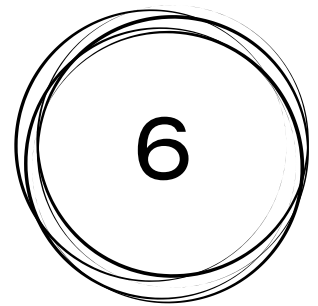
Be encouraged, He can heal anyone of anything. There is nothing special about me, I'm just a person like you trying to live for Him as I continue learning how to love Him and those around me. I humbly relay this testimony to you and declare that in this particular case, it was God's will to manifest His power on this day at this moment for His glory.

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SAY IT AS IT IS

BY WANESSA NUNES



The real truth about tithing.



With the huge debate currently doing the Christian rounds, it's necessary to push all preconceived ideas aside and be like the Bereans. Opinions don't weigh against the Biblical facts. So, let's look at what the Word of God really does say about tithing.

WHO HAD LEGAL RIGHTS TO RECEIVE OR TAKE TITHES?

God instituted tithing for the nation of Israel as a Law. Moses, who received it, clearly specified those who should and shouldn't pay tithes and those who should receive them. Today, many don't understand this truth.

We already know that Israel had twelve tribes. Of these tribes, God chose the

tribe of Levi to serve as Temple workers. From that tribe also, God hand-picked Aaron to serve as the high priest.

In God's arrangement in the Law, ONLY Levi and his sons had the authority to receive 'tithes of the children of Israel'. And ONLY members of the remaining eleven tribes of Israel had a commandment to give tithes to Levi and his descendants.

In this legal SYSTEM, ONLY Aaron and his sons could produce the high priest and they were entitled to receive from Levi the 'tithes of tithes'.

Concerning Levites, God said to Moses: 'But the Levites shall do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation, and they shall bear their iniquity: it shall be a statute forever throughout your generations, that AMONG THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL they have no inheritance.

'But the tithes OF THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL, which they offer as a heave offering unto the LORD, I have given to the Levites to inherit: therefore I have said unto them, Among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance.' Num. 18:23, 24.

The New Testament affirm this truth. Heb. 7:5 says: 'And verily they that are of the sons of Levi, who receive the office of the priesthood, have a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the law, that is, of their brethren, though they come out of the loins of Abraham.'

This is how that system worked. After the Levites had received tithes from children of Israel, they would take a tenth of it and offer it as a heave offering to God. God required the Levites to offer the 'tithes of tithes' to Him by giving them to Aaron and his children.

Num. 18: 26-28 state this Law: 'Thus speak unto the Levites, and say unto them, When ye take of the children of Israel the tithes which I have given you from them for your inheritance, then ye shall offer up a heave offering OF IT for the LORD, even a tenth part of the tithe.

'And this your heave offering shall be reckoned unto you, as though it were the corn of the threshingfloor, and as the fullness of the winepress.

‘Thus ye also shall offer a heave offering unto the LORD of all your tithes, which ye receive of the children of Israel; and ye shall give thereof the LORD's heave offering to Aaron the priest.’

You see, the high priest didn't receive tithes directly from the people. Only the Levites did. There was only one high priest in Israel per time and the tithes he received from the Levites were to be deposited in storehouses built around the Temple at Jerusalem.

It might interest you to note that even though the Law required the children of Israel to pay tithes to the Levites, it was not every Jew from the eleven tribes of Israel that actually tithed.

The fatherless and the widow were exempted. Strangers were barred from paying tithes. The Law even provides that during the third year, the feasts year, those who tithed should invite and share (that is, eat) their feast tithes with these categories of exempts.

Deut. 26:10 – 13 say:

‘10 And now, behold, I have brought the firstfruits of the land, which thou, O LORD, hast given me. And thou shalt set it before the LORD thy God, and worship before the LORD thy God:

‘11 And thou shalt rejoice in every good thing which the LORD thy God hath given unto thee, and unto thine house, thou, and the Levite, and the stranger that is among you.

‘12 When thou hast made an end of tithing all the tithes of thine increase the third year, which is the year of tithing, and hast given it unto the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, that they may eat within thy gates, and be filled;

‘13 Then thou shalt say before the LORD thy God, I have brought away the hallowed things out of mine house, and also have given them unto the Levite, and unto the stranger, to the fatherless, and to the widow, according to all thy commandments which thou hast commanded me: I have not transgressed thy commandments, neither have I forgotten them.’

You can see then that the Old Testament taught and the New Testament

confirmed that ONLY Levites had the divine authority and legal rights in the Law to receive tithes and that ONLY the eleven tribes had a commandment to pay tithes to them.

In other words, in the Mosaic Law, paying tithes only becomes operative when there is a Temple, Levites to serve there and a high priest to stand between God and Israel at a physical Temple. If any of these elements are missing, this system would crumble in practice as it is today in Israel.

Now, if you know something about the Law of Moses, you will appreciate the fact that you cannot trespass any of its provisions. You trespass it at the risk of your life.

To trespassers, Deut. 17:6 says: 'At the mouth of two witnesses, or three witnesses, shall he that is worthy of death be put to death; but at the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death.'

Heb. 10:28 confirms this precept. It says, 'Anyone who disobeys the Law of Moses is put to death without any mercy when judged guilty from the evidence of two or more witnesses.' [GNB]

Therefore, if you're practicing tithing as a precept from the Law of Moses, you need to look again at the details of every provision of the Law.

Concerning tithing, the Law provides that you must be a son of Levi to receive tithes. You must be a child of Israel to pay tithes. There must be a physical Temple in Jerusalem and a human high priest to act as a mediator between God and the children of Israel. And there must be storehouses to hold his tithes (foods).

Are you one of the children of Israel? Which of the eleven tribes do you belong? What is the name of your high priest? Do you store the 'tenth part of the tithes' in a storehouse for him?

More importantly, if you keep the Law of tithing, you're under a legal obligation to keep the rest of the Law, 613 of them in total. And if you fail to keep just one of them, you're under the 'curse of the Law'.

Deut. 27:26 declares: 'Cursed be he that confirmeth not ALL the words of this law to do them. And all the people shall say, Amen.'

Paul confirms it in Gal. 3:10: "Those who depend on obeying the Law live under a curse. For the scripture says, "Whoever does not always obey everything that is written in the book of the Law is under God's curse!" [GNB]

The fact is, the moment you pick one jot of the Law and keep it, God expects and demands you to keep the rest of the provisions in the Law. You come under God's curse when you fail in doing EVERYTHING written in the Law!

To confirm with Moses how the Law works, James said: 'For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.' James 2:10

If you didn't know, you need to understand that the Law is a yoke and nobody can bear it. And that includes the law of tithing. A believer CANNOT keep the law of tithing as written by Moses.

When Paul came before the apostles and elders in Jerusalem, accused of preaching against the Law, the whole assembly decided after much debate that it was NOT right to put a burden on them. They called the Law of Moses 'a yoke upon the neck'. Why?

Acts 15:10 supplies the answer. It says: 'Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?'

Jesus came because no one could keep the Law of Moses. He actually came to rescue us from that Law! The Scripture says God sent Jesus 'to redeem those who were under the Law, so that we might become God's children.' Gal. 4:5 [GNB].

Are you under the Law, make sure you keep everything written therein. Or, you can come out of it and enjoy the freedom of being in Christ to live a new life in the Spirit!

Should Holy Spirit lead you to sow into the ministry or life of a minister, make sure

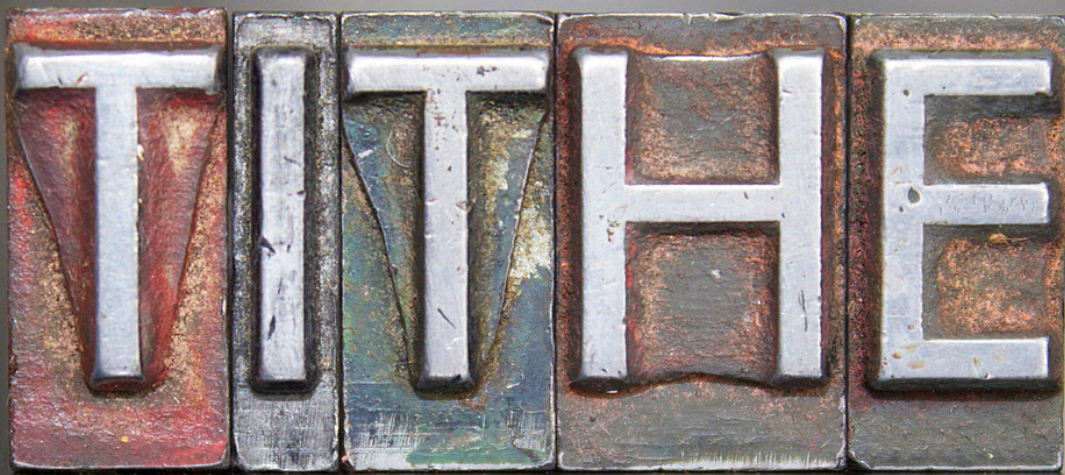
1. This is not a legalistic sowing (God loves a cheerful giver).
2. You're sowing into fertile soil. In other words, a minister or ministry that is presenting authentic, lasting fruit. (We reap what and where we sow).

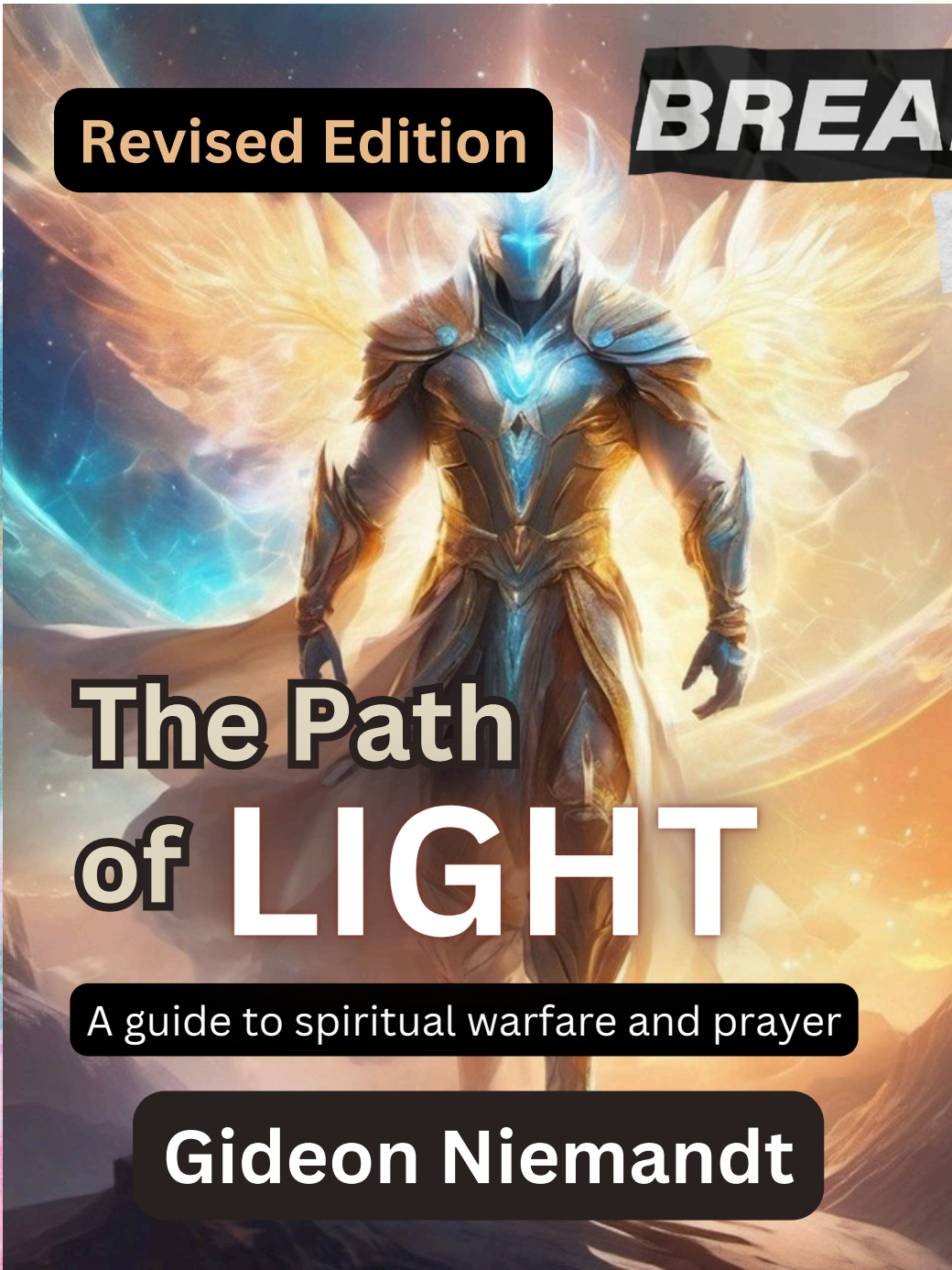
Saints, don't permit yourselves to be yoked into bondage in order to buy your Pastor's/Prophet's/Bishop's/Apostles huge mansion or fourth luxury vehicle.

May we be led by Holy Spirit alone in Jesus mighty name.

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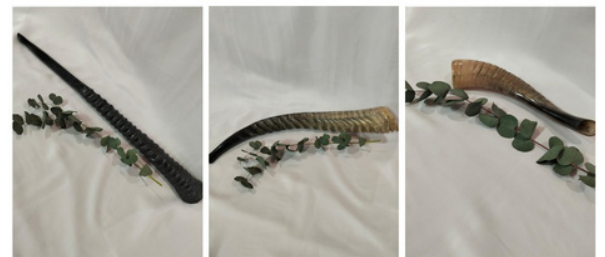
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DO I NEED DELIVERANCE?

I'm pretty sure that I'm not the only one who wondered if I needed deliverance. When you're experiencing pressures that are beyond what you can handle, your reactions aren't always ... pure and holy (to say the least). Are You Possessed or Oppressed?

Acts 10:38 (NKJV) says, "how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him." Here the blind's eyes were opened, the deaf started to hear and signs and wonders followed after deliverance.

There is a huge difference between being oppressed and being possessed. If you look in the Strong's Concordance for the word "oppression," you will learn that it is someone exerting harsh control over you. This is very different to passages that speak of demon possession where the person is controlled by the demon against their will.

So just because you had a bout of road rage or posted a rant on Facebook doesn't mean you're possessed by a demon! What it means is that the enemy is out to get you! He's exerting pressures on you that are meant to rattle you. He wants nothing more than to make you stumble.

For those taking notes for your own study, let me make it clear for you.

Demonic Oppression: Demonic oppression is the enemy exerting a force on you from without. The purpose is to trip you up and get you to sin. If your'e constantly feeling oppressed, there could be a legal right in the Courts of Heaven (an accusation of an open door you made, or bloodline curse) on which the enemy have right to execute attacks on you. The word of God says that the enemy accuses us day and night.

Demonic Possession: Demonic possession is when a demon has been given residence in your soul to take control over your mind, emotions and will. This can only be done if there was an opening created for satan and demons to enter, such as sexual sins, blood covenants, trauma that happened to you, demonic games, etc.

So then, how do you know if you are possessed? Here are some clear signs and symptoms you may experience that indicate you need healing of trauma or deliverance.

7 Signs You Need Deliverance:

Sign 1: You physically battle demons when you're asleep or awake.

Sign 2: You experience anxiety attacks, depression or negative and suicidal thoughts.

Sign 3: You cannot recall hours or sometimes days. You seem to black out. (I'm not referring to memory loss but rather to often experiencing seasons where you "snap out" of an episode, not remembering anything you did.)

Sign 4: You experience physical manifestations that you cannot control. (Shaking, rolling, screaming ... Being that you are reading this in a charismatic magazine, I'm guessing you know what I mean when I refer to obvious demonic manifestations!)

Sign 5: You experience re-occurrences of misfortunes like, losing your business, losing your job, constantly sick, early deaths in the family, re-occurrence of relationship problems or divorce.

Sign 6: You battle with uncontrollable anger. The kind where you lose control, damage property or hurt others.

Sign 7: You lie uncontrollably. This is usually accompanied with not remembering that you lied. Being that the enemy is the father of lies, I recognize that someone who's possessed often lies uncontrollably.

If you recognize three or more of these signs, then ministry is required! Please contact our Ministry and reach out for counselling, prayer and teaching. It is God's heart to restore you, Joel 2. John 10:10 "The enemy came to kill, steal and destroy, but God came to give life, and in abundance for you." Let us help you heal, let us help you break the bondages of the enemy, let us help you present your case in the Heavenly Courts which will bring you much fruit and a good harvest in you life. God was able to heal me from all my trauma, bondages of sin that I was trapped in, He healed me from re-occurrences, freed me from drugs, sickness, suicide thoughts and divorce and aggression. He can do the same for you.

Pastor Gideon Niemandt

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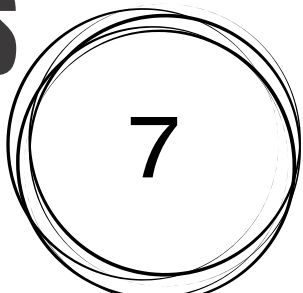
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DAILY DEVOTIONALS

BY BISHOP MATTHEW DANIELS

OVERCOMING

DARKNESS!



POWER OF YOUR TONGUE IN WARFARE

I have written extensively on how evil forces attacks us in prior devotionals. Whether they attacks you in your emotions with doubt, fear, depression or discouragement or through sorcery, or witchcraft, the Word of the Spirit is a powerful weapon you need to handle attacks.

Learn to talk in the Spirit. I am serious. This is not some joke or charismatic gesture of “name it claim it”. The words from your own mouth are vital in your spiritual battles. Watch your mouth, and speak to wield the Sword of the Spirit.

Apostle John, who knew the devil’s workings so well, said in his first letter: “I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one” (1 John 2:14).

The Word of God is the power that overcomes the devil. So it was with Jesus in the wilderness. To every temptation thrown at Him by the devil, He quoted Scripture (Matt. 4:4, 7, 10). If Jesus was Himself the Word of God and yet He depended on Scripture to defeat the temptations of the devil, so should we. We were given a snapshot of how this works when Jesus successfully overcame Satan’s attacks by quoting the word of God to him. After the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus at His baptism (Matt. 3:16), the Spirit propelled Him into the wilderness (Matt. 4:1). There, He was tempted by the devil. Each time the devil tempted Him, Jesus responded to the attacks with the words of God:

- “It is written, ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that

comes from the mouth of God.” (Matt. 4:4)

- “It is also written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” (Matt. 4:7)
- “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’” (Matt. 4:10)

It was after the third Scripture Jesus quoted that “the devil left Him, and angels came and attended him” (Matt. 4:11).

If we want to stand firm in our faith and drive the spiritual forces of evil back, we must fill up with the words of God in Scripture and keep proclaiming the gospel message of our saving, risen King Jesus.

The sword of the Spirit is the truth of God’s Word revealed by the Holy Spirit to the believer’s heart, which is then spoken, declared, prophesied, or proclaimed by the believer in faith!



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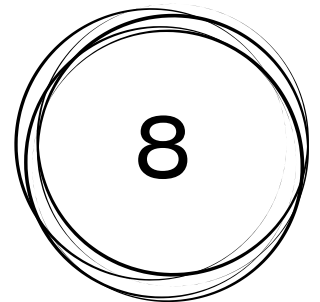
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GIRLS ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS

BY HYBRE KIVEDO



Unmasking the Pain: Seeking the Lord in the Midst of Suffering

Scripture: "Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to him, God is our refuge." - Psalm 62:8

As Christians, we are frequently taught to put on a brave face, to believe in God's sovereignty, and to worship Him under all circumstances. But what happens when the anguish is too much to bear?

When the mask of okayness begins to shatter and the tears we've kept hidden for so long begin to flow? The anguish of unfaithfulness is a severe trauma that leaves scars for a lifetime. For those of us who have suffered the betrayal of unfaithful men, the road to recovery can be long and difficult.

However, it is in this brokenness that we have the opportunity to learn the depths of God's love and the power of His restoration.

We've all been there: hiding behind a mask of okayness, pretending everything is alright when it isn't. We put on a brave face, repressing our genuine emotions, and convince ourselves that suffering in silence is preferable to burdening others with our troubles. But what happens if this



facade starts to crack? When does the weight of our suppressed emotions become too great to bear?

The experience of unfaithfulness can leave us feeling crushed as if our hearts have been irreversibly damaged. We may experience feelings of humiliation, remorse, and self-blame, questioning whether we were somehow responsible for the infidelity. However, it is critical to acknowledge that the behaviours of others do not represent our worth or value. The brokenness we have undergone does not define us.

In the middle of our pain, it is tempting to believe that God is distant, that He is not listening, or that He does not care. I've felt similar emotions many times, yet the fact is that God is always with us, even in the darkest of moments. He sees our anguish, hears our screams, and wishes to console us. According to Psalm 34:18, "The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

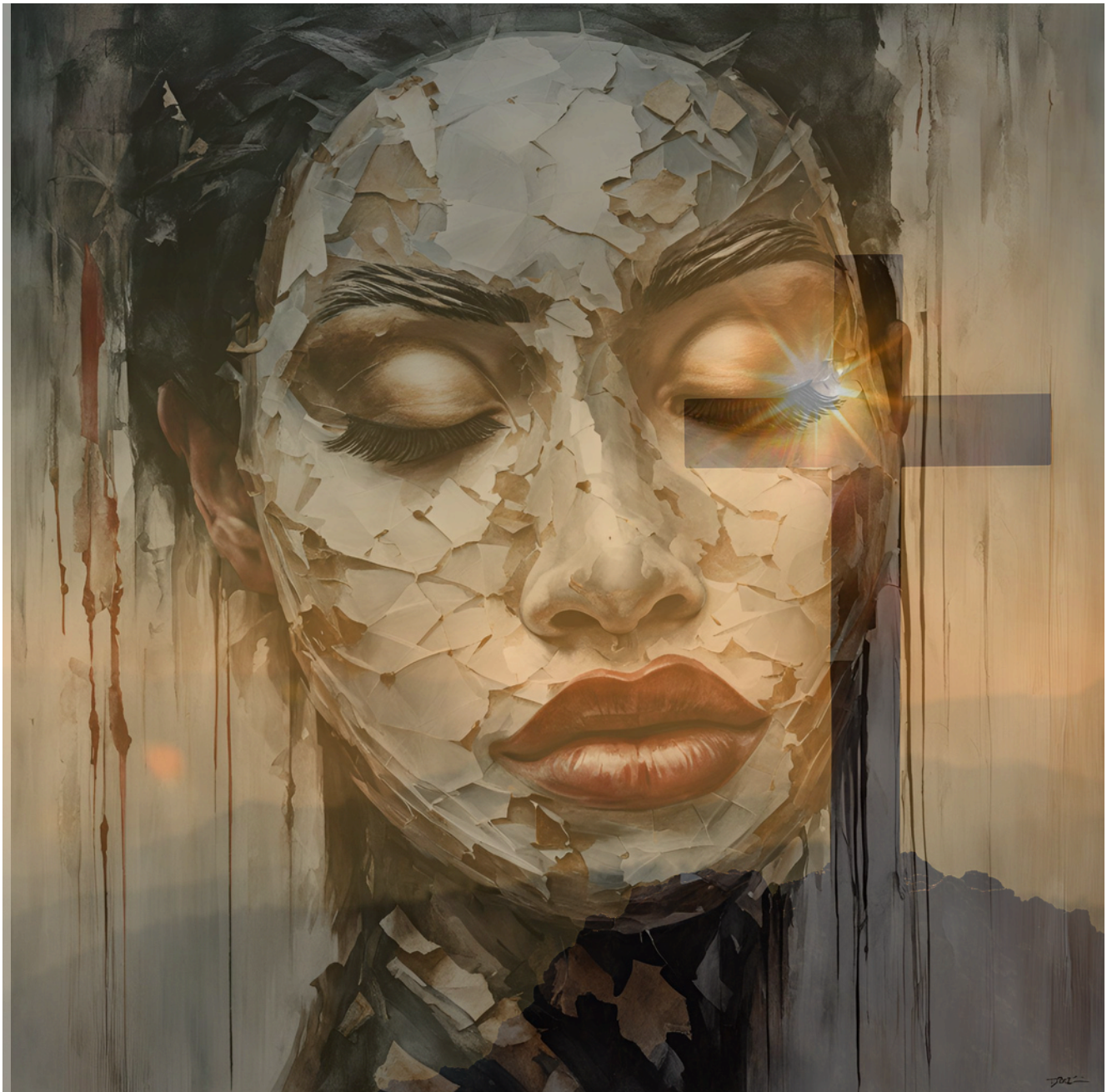
Forgiving oneself is the first step towards healing. We must admit that we did our best with the resources we had at the time. We must accept that we are not to blame for the conduct of others and that we do not deserve to be wounded. Forgiveness is not about explaining or defending others' acts, but rather about releasing the hold they have on ourselves.

When we eventually have the strength to face our grief, be open, and seek the Lord, we realize a lovely truth: our feelings are valid. God created us with emotions and wants us to express them honestly. We find validity in Christ, not because our feelings are always correct, but because we are loved, seen, and heard.

Forgiving people who have wronged us takes time, effort, and support. It is critical to understand that forgiveness is not about reconciling or forgetting what happened, but rather about releasing the unpleasant feelings linked with the event. Forgiveness is a decision, and it is a process in which we give up our right to vengeance and hatred. It is difficult to face our anguish and seek the Lord in the midst of suffering, but it is important. It's vital for our healing, progress, and liberation. When we finally have the strength to be vulnerable, honest, and seek the Lord, we discover a love that is beyond our comprehension, a love that heals our brokenness, and a love that sets us free. God is the ultimate healer, and He desires to return us to wholeness.

He intends to transform our brokenness into something lovely. Psalm 147:3 states, "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." God's healing is not a fast remedy, but rather a process of change. He will walk with us through the darkness, bringing us to the light.

Finally, recovering from the damage of unfaithful men is difficult, but it is achievable. We can attain completeness and repair via God's forgiveness, support, and love. We may regain our trust, love, and ability to live. Remember: you are not alone, and your brokenness does not define you. You are a treasured child of God, worthy of love, care, and compassion. Allow God to heal you and see the beauty of His healing.



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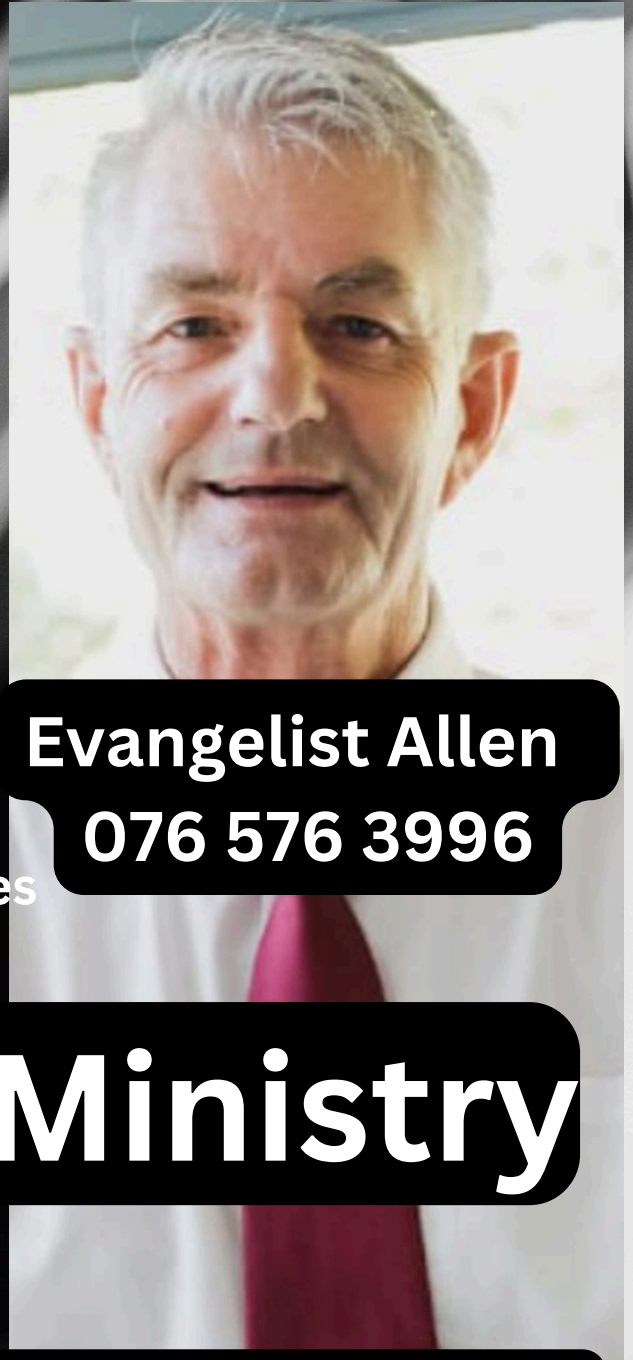
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How many people were raised from the dead in the Bible?



Lets Investigate

When we hear the word resurrection, we immediately think of Jesus first, then Lazarus follows and some people will remember the story of Elijah who raised the widow's son from the dead, but there are actually 11 resurrection cases recorded in the Bible.

Old Testament Resurrections:



1 The widow of Zarephath's son - 1 Kings 17:17

The Lord told Elijah to go to Zarephath, where He instructed a widow to take care of him. When Elijah arrived at the city gate, he ran into the widow and asked her to fetch him water and a piece of bread, but she said, she only had enough flour and oil for her and her son's last meal. Elijah, however, ordered her to bake him a small bread first, and then make something for her and her son with what was left. He then assured her that if she did what he asked, the oil and the flour in the containers would not run out until it rained again.

The widow's son became very ill and died. She asked Elijah if he came there to point out her sins, by killing her son. Elijah took the boy, pleaded with God, and stretched himself out over the boy three times. He prayed and asked God to let the boy live. God answered Elijah's prayer and the boy came back to life.

Side note: Stretching out over the body three times could represent the fact that Elijah understood the importance of body, soul, and spirit and that these three need to reunite in order to be resurrected.



2 The son of the Shunammite woman - 2 Kings 4:18–37

Elisha often stayed in Shunem in an upper room that a Shunammite woman and her husband had prepared for him. Elisha told his servant to ask the woman what they could do for her since she always treated them so kindly. The servant, Gehazi replied, “She doesn’t have a son, and her husband is an old man”. Elisha then prophesied that the woman would have a son the following year. When the son was older, he went to help his father who was working in the field, but he became ill. His father told one of the servants to take the boy home to his mother. Later that afternoon the boy died. His mother carried him to the upper room and laid him on the bed of the prophet. She closed the door and without telling her husband about the boy’s death, she took a donkey and went to Elisha who was at Mount Carmel. When she came to Elisha at the mountain, she fell to the ground and told him what happened. Elisha told his servant to take his staff and put it on the boy’s face, but the woman didn’t want to leave without Elisha, so he went with her. When Elisha arrived at the house, he went to the upper room, locked the door, and prayed. Elisha stretched out on top of the boy's body, and the body began to heat up. Elisha got up, walked around the room and stretched himself back on the body. The boy sneezed seven times and woke up from death.

Side note: The number seven represents completion and spiritual perfection.



3 Jonah – Jonah 2

Most people are familiar with the story of Jonah. God told Jonah to go to the city, Nineveh and warn them to repent from their wicked ways. If they do not

listen, He will destroy the city and its people. However, Jonah did not listen and tried to flee from God by getting on a boat and hiding there. The sea became turbulent, and Jonah realized that it was God and the only way the men on board could be saved, was if they threw him overboard. When you read the story of Jonah thoroughly you will see that he actually drowned (Go read the article about Jonah that was discussed in May's Faith Over Fear column of Testify Magazine) God miraculously preserved Jonah's lifeless body in the stomach of a large fish. Three days later, the fish spat Jonah out and God breathed life into Jonah's body again. Side note: Jonah's 3 days in the fish, foreshadowed and depicted Jesus' crucifixion, death and resurrection.



4 Man resurrected from Elisha's grave - 2 Kings 13:20-21

Shortly after Elisha was buried, a group of evildoers from Moab invaded Israel. A group of Israelites were burying a man when they noticed these evildoers. They quickly threw the body into Elisha's grave. When his body touched Elisha's bones, he came to life and stood up on his feet.

Side note: If the power of God in a dead man's bones could raise the dead, should not His power in a living man do the same? Christ commanded his disciples to do just that. He promised that his followers/believers would perform even greater miracles than He did.

New Testament Resurrections:



5 The son of a widow in Nain - Luke 7: 11-17

Jesus went to a town named Nain. When Jesus and the disciples arrived at the gate of the town, a funeral procession was coming out. The dead man was the only son of a woman who was a widow. When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and He said, "Don't cry." Jesus walked to the coffin and said to the dead man: "Come to life, get up now." A great miracle took place, and the boy came alive.

Side note: By doing this miracle Jesus turned a sad day of burial into a day of praise and worship.



6 Jairus' daughter - Luke 8: 40–56

A man named Jairus came to Jesus and begged Him to go to his house, because his only child, a twelve-year-old daughter, was dying. As Jesus walked with him, the crowd surrounded them. A woman who had been bleeding for twelve years, touched Jesus' hem and she was immediately healed. While Jesus was still talking to her, a messenger came from Jairus' house and said that it would no longer be necessary for Jesus to go there, because the child had died. However, Jesus told Jairus not to fear, but only to believe and she would be whole again. When they arrived at the house, Jesus only allowed Peter, John, James, and the child's parents to enter the house with Him. Jesus took the child's hand and commanded her to stand up. She immediately woke up and stood on her feet.

Side note: Whenever something terrible happens and you need a miracle, it is of utmost importance that you **DO NOT FEAR** and **KEEP ON TRUSTING GOD**, by having faith in Him, no matter what the outcome. The reason Jesus only allowed the parents and his disciples to go in with Him, and told the mockers and scoffers to go out, is not, because of their unbelief or because His faith and power could not operate with them present, but because He would have quietness and reverence.



7 Lazarus of Bethany - John 11

Jesus loved Martha, her sister and Lazarus. When Jesus heard that Lazarus was sick, He said: "This illness is not going to result in death but has to happen to make the glory of God visible, so that the Son of God is glorified through it." He and the disciples remained two more days in the place where they were. When Jesus finally arrived in Judea, Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Martha said to Jesus: "Lord, if only You had been here, my brother would not have died. Jesus answered her: "Your brother will rise again." Martha then said: "Yes, Lord, I am firmly convinced that You are

are the Messiah, the Son of God, He who would come into the world." Lazarus' other sister Mary fell crying at Jesus' feet and said to Him: "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died!" Jesus felt sorry for the sisters and began to weep too. Jesus then ordered his disciples to roll away the stone in front of the tomb, but Martha said to Him: "Sir, it must already smell, because it is the fourth day." Jesus then said to her: "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" Then they rolled the stone away. Jesus raised His head and prayed to the Father and cried out with a powerful voice: "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his whole body still wrapped in cloths. Jesus told them to take off the cloths.

Side note: Jesus loved Lazarus and his sisters dearly. It broke his heart to see Martha and Mary so sad, but He knew that this miracle could only take place after 4 days, precisely to show His power and might to everyone in the world and glorify God through it. Once again, Jesus reassured everyone by encouraging them to stand firm in their faith. How much more will Jesus also come through for us because God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son to die for our sin, so that we can inherit eternal life.



8 Various saints in Jerusalem - Matthew 27:50–53

After Jesus took His last breath on the cross, the earth shook, and the rocks split apart. Because of this earthquake, graves were opened, and God revived the bodies of many believers who were already dead. They came out of the tombs, and after Jesus' resurrection they entered the holy city of Jerusalem and appeared to many people.

Side note: These are the bodies of the multitudes of captives Christ captured from Satan in the underworld of departed spirits and which He took captive with Him when He ascended on high (Eph. 4:8-10; Heb. 2:14-15) Now when Christians die, they no longer go into the lower parts of the earth held captive by the devil against their will, but go to heaven to await the resurrection of the body (2 Cor.5:8; Phil.1:21-24; Rev. 6:9-11; Heb. 12:22)



9 Tabitha - Acts 9: 36–43

In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha. She was always busy doing

to others and helping the poor. It was at this time that she fell ill and died. They prepared her body for burial and laid it in an upper room. Believers heard that Peter was in the area and sent messengers to summon him. Peter immediately went there. At the house, Peter however, sent everyone out, and then knelt and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up!" She opened her eyes!

Side note: This was the first resurrection by the apostles.



10 Eutychus - Acts 20: 7-12

In Troas, Paul and a group of believers gathered in a large room on the third floor in the city to worship the Lord. Since Paul was to leave the next day, they stayed until long after midnight. A young man named Eutychus sat in a window. Later he grew tired, fell asleep and then fell out of the window. When the people got to him, he was already dead. Paul went down, threw himself on the young man and put his arms around him. "Don't be alarmed," he said. "He's alive!"

Side note: Paul resurrected him in the same way Elijah and Elisha brought back the dead.



11 Jesus - Mark 16:1-8

Of course, any resurrection list in the Bible should include the resurrection of Jesus Christ. His death and resurrection are at the centre of Scripture and the most important events in the history of the world. Jesus' resurrection is totally different from all the other resurrections in the Bible. All other resurrections were temporary, but Jesus' resurrection is unique and permanent. His death and resurrection were an act of love, where He laid down His life, took the sin of the world upon Himself, so that those who believe in Him can live forever.

Side note: Christianity is the only religion where the Christian God died for His people. In other religions their gods expect their followers to die for them.



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ALL our Youth Seminars are free of charge. On average about 70 children attend per weekend, resulting in 280 plates of food and cups of cold drink being prepared. The food is usually prepared by the mothers of some of these teens and done on open fires. The average cost for a Seminar amounts to about R9000-00, which includes my travelling cost, the manual that each child receives as well as their Certificates of Attendance. On average a cost of R129 per child. We trust God to raise up sponsors who will invest in these life-changing Seminars.

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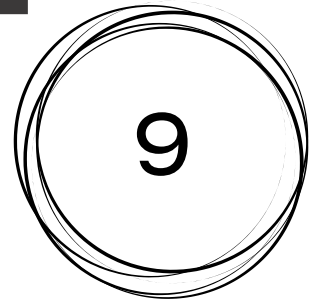
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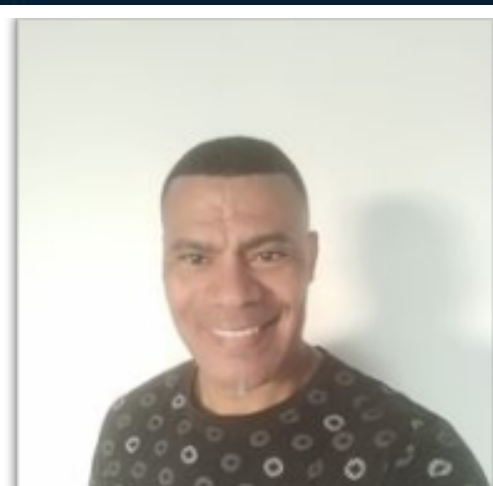
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BY PASTOR OLUWATOMI OYEBANJI

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Haggai 2:9

"The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts."

This is the year that the Lord had promised to bestowed fortune on His children and make them wealthy. Psalm 66:12

"Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads; We went through fire and through water: But thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place."

We are talking about all round wealth by the power and favour of the Lord.

Psalm 112:3

"Wealth and riches shall be in his house: And his righteousness endureth for ever."

Psalm 44:3





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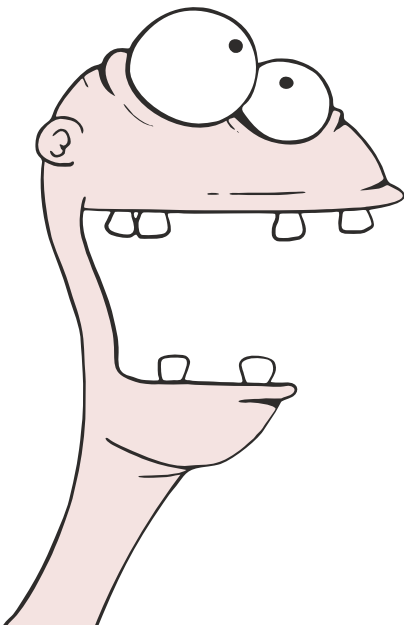
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Two Cowboys Bragging

There were two cowboys trying to out-brag each other regarding how big their property is. One cowboy puffed out his chest and said, "I guess I have about a thousand acres of land. How big is your spread?"

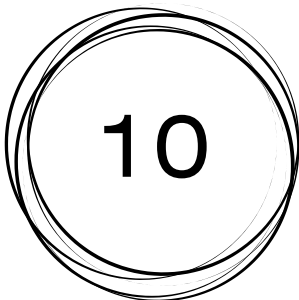
The other cowboy stated, "I rightly don't know. I get up in my pickup in the morning and travel until evening and I am still on my property."

The first cowboys stated, "Yelp, I once had a pickup like that!"



REVIVAL'S FIRE

BY PASTOR RIAAN
ENGELBRECHT



10

PRAY FOR *REVIVAL*

More than ever we need to pray for revival. More than ever believers need to come together in a united front and cry out for revival. Prayer has proven to be a catalyst for many great revivals and awakenings as it moves God to show His power and grace.

2 Chronicles 7:14 says, “If My people, who are called by My Name, humble themselves, and pray and seek (crave, require as a necessity) My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear [them] from heaven, and forgive their sin and heal their land.”

We must pray with humility and a pure heart, then God will hear us. More than ever there is a need

in these last days of so much peril to cry out to a holy God to awaken the churches to awaken the nations from its darkness. David writes in “Psalm 6:9: The Lord has heard my supplication; The Lord will receive my prayer.” It has always been God’s intention to hear us, to speak to us and to fellowship (tabernacle with us). He hears His children and we hear Him if we serve and follow Him (John 10). As we cry out to Him for revival, humbling ourselves before His greatness and goodness, He will surely hear us! John Wesley once said, “God does nothing but in answer to prayer.” Prayer is not an option for mankind but a necessity. Prayer is man connecting with His Creator, and seeking God’s help, His counsel, His guidance and strength to secure favourable outcomes according to His perfect will. God’s plan is for mankind to desire what God desires, to will what God wills, and to ask God to accomplish

God's purposes in the world, so that goodness and truth may reign on the earth rather than evil and darkness. Praying does not mean convincing God to do your will but doing God's will through your will. It says in "James 5:16: The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." We live in terrible and perilous days of darkness, but those who seek His righteousness and follow God can stand upon the Word that one's prayer avails much! Prayer of the righteous will thus be useful and beneficial, all to the glory of God. A prayer for revival will surely move heaven!

Prayer is not an option for the believer. It is a necessity to fulfil God's purposes in the world and our individual lives. Time spent in prayer is not time wasted but time invested. As we embrace the will of God, as we live before Him in the righteousness of Christ, as we seek to fulfil His purposes, nothing will be able to hinder our prayers, and we will begin to understand Jesus' saying, "With God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26).

A dedicated and functional prayer life is vital as we seek revival. Do we realize the power we have available to us when we take our authority in prayer? If we did, we would be praying in Jesus' name more. There would be no such thing as doubt, fear, or anxiety because we would be on our faces before God, storming the heavenly realms in battle with the darkness and evil forces in our world. We have the authority firstly as stewards of the earthly domain and the custodians of the eternal Kingdom. We move in such authority by the Blood of the Lamb that sealed the Covenant!

The power of prayer isn't in the words you utter. It's not about what you pray or even how you pray.

Prayer can be defined as talking to God, but it is much more than that. Prayer is an act of worship that glorifies God and reinforces our need for Him. Through living a life of prayer, we communicate with the very source of and purpose for our existence. Prayer is simply connecting with the Great I Am – thus the Deliverer of the Jew and the Gentile who seeks and worships Him. We connect to an awesome and amazing God. There are many descriptions to describe God - omnipotent, all-powerful, loving, kind, omnipresent, glorious, wondrous and magnificent. In the Scriptures, we find God is also described as being awesome. I just love that word and how wondrous the concept is that we serve and know a God who is amazing,

magnificent and glorious. He deserves our love and praise.

We are not serving some small-time deity that has mood fluctuations like us. We don't serve a God who is overwhelmed with our problems. We might, like Saul, wake up one morning and find a giant by the name of Goliath standing in our way. But God is in control. He has always been and nothing escapes His attention. He is the author of Revival. He has every means to awaken His people and to bring restoration to lands and communities. Since we are serving such an awesome God, we must realise that this Lord desires for us to continuously ask and pray in times of sunshine and storms. Yes, we must cry out for revival.

“Matthew 7: 7 Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. 9 Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? 11 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him! 12 Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.”

Matthew 7 highlights the importance of praying according to God's will, for then surely our prayers shall be heard and answered. Revival is surely the Lord's will, for His heart is to see the lost, the broken, the forgotten and the neglected redeemed. And yes, the prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. So pray fervently for revival. Always seek the Lord's will in all things to pray by His plans and purposes. If we do so, we glorify God, we seek His will, we seek His Truth and such Truth sets us free (John 8:32).

The Lord God Almighty answers prayer. “I call on you, O God, for you will answer me” (Psalm 17:6). “The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles” (Psalm 34:17). We are encouraged to always pray in faith for it is written in “Matthew 17:20: Because of your little faith,” He told them. “For I assure you: If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will tell this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.” The power of prayer isn't in the person praying. It's not a magic formula. It isn't keywords. It is an open heart,

humble and filled with awe of who our mighty God is. Rather, the power resides in the God who is being prayed to. 1 John 5:14-15 tells us, “This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us — whatever we ask — we know that we have what we asked of him.”

Psalm 107:28-30 reminds us, “Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and he brought them out of their distress. He stilled the storm to a whisper; the waves of the sea were hushed. They were glad when it grew calm, and he guided them to their desired haven.”

There is power in prayer! The Word of God is full of accounts describing the power of prayer in various situations. The power of prayer has overcome enemies (Psalm 6:9-10), conquered death (2 Kings 4:3-36), brought healing (James 5:14-15), and defeated demons (Mark 9:29). God, through prayer, opens eyes, changes hearts, heals wounds, and grants wisdom (James 1:5). The power of prayer should never be underestimated because it draws on the glory and might of the infinitely powerful God of the universe! Daniel 4:35 proclaims, “All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth.

No one can hold back his hand or say to him: ‘What have you done?’ Jesus often prayed and was often found praying. Jesus knew the power of prayer, for it strengthens our resolve, gives us courage, provides guidance, fortifies our hope, and quickens our faith. As we pray for revival, seeking a mighty move in the church and the nations, trust and have faith in an almighty God! The need for prayer warriors and true intercessors is of critical importance in the end times. The end-time remnant, therefore the Bride of Christ, is going to need a lot of prayers to remain standing, to endure, to overcome and also to fulfil its task of fulfilling the Great Commission. Fervent prayers are also needed to pray for the lost, the forgotten, the broken, and the downtrodden. We need a lot of prayer for revival to sweep this world.

One man who knows about the power of prayer in difficult times is John Knox, who was born in Scotland in about 1514. Converted to Protestantism from Roman Catholicism in 1543, Knox lived during a time when it was often

very dangerous to be a follower of Christ. When the Roman Catholic Mary Tudor (also known as “Bloody Mary” because of her ruthless persecution of the Protestants) became queen in 1553, Knox, who was in England at this time, was forced to hide. He eventually landed in Geneva where he met John Calvin, who became his mentor. Knox returned to Scotland in 1559, the year after Queen “Bloody Mary” died and was succeeded by the Protestant Queen Elizabeth. He remained in Scotland, bringing reformation to the church until his death in 1572.

Today people remember Knox as the leader of the Protestant Reformation in Scotland and the founder of Scottish Presbyterianism. But what others don’t realize is that by the end of his ministry, he became better known for his prayer than for his other ministries. The devout Catholic Mary, Queen of Scots, is reputed to have said, “I fear the prayers of John Knox more than all the assembled armies of Europe.”

She saw the impact of Knox’s prayer. From a human point of view, it was the prayer of Knox that sparked the Reformation in Scotland. His prayer became the fuel of the ongoing reformation during his time. His prayer shook the land of Scotland, causing a revival among God’s people. Perhaps of all the prayers of Knox, “Give me Scotland, or I die” is the most quoted one. It was not an arrogant prayer but a passionate plea, showing his intense desire for the conversion of the people of Scotland. His prayer was an expression of his great confidence in God. His prayer also echoes the Apostle Paul’s prayer in Romans 10:1, “my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.”

Knox remained prayerful even to death. It is said that during his dying hours, he was much engaged in meditation and prayer. Knox was not perfect, but we can learn from his prayer life. Our English word “intercession” is derived from the Latin for “to come between,” which means both “obstruct” and “to interpose on behalf of” someone. Christ stands between us and the Father. That’s why we pray “in Jesus’ name” because it’s by His sacrifice that we are made righteous and can approach the throne of God. Believers are, therefore, able to bring the needs of other people before God through Christ. While we may not all be gifted as intercessors to be steadfast in prayer (Colossians 4:2), we are all called to pray. Paul exhorted the church to pray that he would boldly declare the gospel (Ephesians 6:19). He told

the church to pray for one another with “supplications [...] and thanksgivings,” (1 Timothy 2:1), and he prayed for them too. “We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfast hope in our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thessalonians 1:2). We all need intercession, even believers. Paul was moved and encouraged by prayer on his behalf.

You can say intercession is a prayer that pleads with God for your needs and the needs of others. But it is also much more than that. Intercession involves taking hold of God’s will and refusing to let go until His will comes to pass. Intercession is warfare -- the key to God’s battle plan for our lives. But the battleground is not of this earth. Intercessory prayer takes place in this spiritual world where the battles for our own lives, our families, our friends and our nation are won or lost. Intercessory prayer is simply a pointed, persistent pleading on behalf of someone else for a deep need. Specifically, in the New Testament, we read that Jesus and the Holy Spirit interceded on behalf of God’s people for various reasons. The reality is that we need a lot more intercessory prayer in the Body of Christ, and especially intercessors to heed the call for 24-hour prayer houses. We live in times of so much deception, that all believers need prayer right now, and we need to pray day and night for the lost and the broken.

Intercession is vital these days as it has always been important throughout the Bible. Abraham interceded on Lot’s behalf to save him from the destruction of his home town (Genesis 18-19), Jonah (though begrudgingly) interceded for the town of Nineveh (Jonah 3), and in the greatest act of intercession, Jesus came down to earth to live as one of us and interceded for our salvation (John 17:20-26; Luke 23:34).

There is great power in prayer. We cannot only be occupied with preaching and teaching God’s word, but we need to pray the word, and we need to seek the face of the Almighty day and night!

Constant prayer across the globe is vital, interceding and seeking the Lord’s will and that His hand shall move in power. How we need constant fervent prayer from the righteous and the humble for God’s revival. Let there be a

cry again in the churches for God to send His fire as on the day of Pentecost.

Riaan Engelbrecht is the co-founder of Avishua Ministries and also serves on the board of Lighthouse Ministries. He has been teaching the Word for the past couple of decades, which included being involved with online Christian radio stations (Lighthouse Radio, Rainbow Radio) for many years, and also featured on Osasogie TV (Nigeria-based). He has written over 85 books to uplift, edify, prophetically guide and speak the Lord's will in the last of days. His heart's desire is to seek the world flooded with God's truth, for only such a truth sets free. To contact the author, send an email to prophetriaan@gmail.com or forward a WhatsApp message to 084 666 3070.





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Who we are?

Serenity Oak Recovery and Wellness Centre is a non-profit organisation, found by Pastor Pieter Engelbrecht, who has a TBH degree, as well as a Diploma in Apologetics. Pastor Pieter, as well as his wife Tanya, who has a bachelor's degree in Pastoral Counselling are well loved in their congregation and in their community. Serenity-Oak is designed to provide a drug and alcohol rehabilitation service in the Polokwane area of Limpopo Province, where there is a critical shortage of such facilities to address the

currently alarming statistics of drug misuse and addiction in the area. It is Serenity Oak's primary aim to provide a highly effective and expertly managed Recovery and Wellness centre, in a welcoming home-like setting, with the assistance of individually appointed specialized and appropriately skilled and qualified personnel. With a good success rate over the past three years, we are destined for greater things.

Our Vision

Our vision is to become the number one choice accredited drug centre for drug rehabilitation and recovery services, in Polokwane and the neighbouring rural regions. Provide a safe and professional environment for inpatients and give them the necessary tools to become viable in the society. To give them the life they deserve.

Our Mission

Our mission is to provide a professional, quality, and affordable service to anyone who needs alcohol and drug rehabilitation treatment and to give them the assurance that this is the best choice they made. The assistance of individually appointed specialized and appropriately skilled and qualified personnel.

Running the following Programs:

1. 12 Step plan of the Narcotic Anonymous.
2. Authentic Manhood
3. C.B.T Treatment (Cognitive Behaviour Treatment)
4. One-on-one sessions and counsel sessions
5. Recreational exercises

The 24/7 physical and emotional support of the well-trained staff members helps the road to recovery to become just that much easier. It is also very important to repair the broken relationships between the loved ones and the addict due to the behaviour of the addict, with the assistance of individually appointed specialized and appropriately skilled and qualified personnel regular counsel meetings between patients and family, the family bond will be reconciled. The road to recovery is always better when we stand together. "United we stand but alone we fall".

Our Goals

- Provision of counselling to corporate employees, individuals, couples, and

families. □ Provision of a temporary save-heaven for Alcohol and drug addiction patients. □ Provision of various therapeutic group sessions, including the provision of drug prevention and health maintenance groups. □ Development and provision of drug prevention and recovery plans and after-care services for recovered patients. □ Evaluation of patients' addictions and their readiness for treatment. □ Review and recommendations of treatment options with patients and their families/support groups. □ Assistance to patients to help develop their own treatment goals and plans. □ Development of the necessary skills and behaviours to enable patients to recover from their addictions. □ Work closely with patients to help them to understand and manage their behaviours and/or the situations that can interfere with their recovery. □ Educate patient's families and support groups about drug addiction and help them to understand and develop strategies to assist the patients with their recovery. □ Promotion of a sobrieties lifestyle and the provision of a support system for the after-care of recovered patients, providing them with the necessary tools and support to ensure they remain recovered. □ Prepare the patients to not only recover from their afflictions, but also to be able to fit back into society as productive members of their community.

Sponsorship

Because of our nature of business, we are a Non-Profit Organisation, and we are fully relied on the sponsorship of the community. There are a lot of needy people that we had to showaway because of funding. We would love if the big businesses can become involved and sponsor us, through your sponsorship we can help the needy and the business sector of Polokwane can become personally involved in a good “cause” that will improve the quality of life of everyone.

□ Sponsor a bed:

Provide finances to accommodate some one who can not afford to be in rehab.

□ Food Sponsors:

Provide Dry Ration, can food, mielie meal, spaghetti, meat. Building materials:

Sament, wooden or steel Poles, IBR Roof

Sheets, Channel Iron, Bricks, Fire extinguishers, plastic pipes, Bedding: Duvet, pillows, fitting sheets, blankets, mattresses.

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The story of Priscilla Frost

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