

TESTIFY

November 2025



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Radio Khwezi

Radio Khwezi is a multiple award-winning radio station with a foundation built on Christian principles.

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IN THIS EDITION

Issue 34
November 2025

COVER STORY: KHWEZI RADIO



Over the years, Khwezi has made significant contributions to community life, serving as a vital force for development rooted in Christian values. Celebrating its 30th anniversary in September, the station represents rural voices in KwaZulu-Natal and continues to foster hope and connection through its broadcasts. Radio Khwezi embodies its motto, “Changing lives, giving hope,” with a vision to uplift communities.

Radio Khwezi doing its part to uplift, inform, and educate its listeners. They also have counselling helplines that are available to the community.

Anyone can download the station’s application, and the three helpline numbers are on the home page. By clicking on any of these numbers, the callers are immediately connected with well-trained counsellors standing by to assist!

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Kingdom Leadership
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For this Cause

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COVER STORY

AWARD WINNING KHWEZI RADIO



Radio Khwezi is a multiple award-winning radio station with a foundation built on Christian principles.

By Gerda Potgieter

AWARD WINNING KHWEZI RADIO

In a landscape often clouded by misinformation, Radio Khwezi shines as a beacon of honesty. Known as ‘morning star’ in isiZulu, this non-profit radio station serves rural communities with uplifting and informative programs. Recently, it celebrated 30 years in the industry, a testament to its success rooted in Christian principles.

Over the years, Khwezi has made significant contributions to community life, serving as a vital force for development rooted in Christian values. Celebrating its 30th anniversary in September, the station represents rural voices in KwaZulu-Natal and continues to foster hope and connection through its broadcasts. Radio Khwezi embodies its motto, “Changing lives, giving hope,” with a vision to uplift communities. As one of South Africa’s largest rural community radio stations, it reaches over 100,000 listeners via transmitters in Greytown (90.5 FM) and Eshowe (107.7 FM), and is also accessible worldwide through their app, which can be downloaded from the website, www.khwezi.org.za.

GRASSROOTS DEVELOPMENT

Community radio stations are recognised for keeping their listeners informed about global events and providing valuable information that helps them develop informed opinions. Radio Khwezi has taken this a step further by playing a significant role in grassroots rural development. It engages with its audience in their native language, fosters a sense of community, and, most importantly, uplifts its listeners. The radio station’s content offers a unique local flavour of languages, culture, and social issues content, which is well-received by listeners. The content and broadcasts represent high-quality regional, national, and international standards. The language used includes

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approximately 90% of the programming in isiZulu, with 5% in English and 5% in German – a unique offering that also resonates beyond the German community.

Daniel Wunderlich, the station manager, says: “Our daily German programme for an hour in the afternoons is very popular and well-received by our extended German community. However, our isiZulu community reported that they tune into this programme to listen to the music they enjoy. It is heartwarming to receive such wonderful and positive feedback, as Radio Khwezi is a radio station for all its people.

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Because of this feedback, we try to focus more on the music people enjoy and not on discussions in the German programme, because we use our listeners' feedback in planning our programmes.”

One of the station's projects that allows it to make a difference is the Masibumbane Listeners Club, which has over 6,500 registered members representing 40 branches in the community. The club enables the station to engage with local political officeholders on service delivery issues at the grassroots level and other important matters of mutual interest. This has proven to be most successful in educating the communities and helping them understand the position of the local authorities. The Club also has annual meetings and year-end functions.

UPLIFTING CONTENT

These are just a few examples of **Radio Khwezi** doing its part to uplift, inform, and educate its listeners. They also have counselling helplines that are available to the community. Anyone can download the station's application, and the three helpline numbers are on the home page. By clicking on any of these numbers, the callers are immediately connected with well-trained counsellors standing by to assist!

Radio Khwezi has received numerous awards and accolades over the years for the quality it contributes to the industry (see sidebar for details). In 2024, at the South African Radio Awards ceremony, it was nominated for 19 awards and won many, demonstrating its commitment to excellence across various categories. “Those awards are important to us because they provide us with a benchmark to help us stay on track and give our community our best,” says Daniel. As far back as 1995, Radio Khwezi has been working with the communities in which it

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operates. Under Daniel Wunderlich's management, this community radio station is realising its vision to uplift the community. It covers current affairs, featuring regular news bulletins and weekend feature shows, such as Iso LeKhawesi. It broadcasts several evening and weekend shows. In addition, it offers a diverse range of shows that strike a balance between entertainment, education, faith, and community empowerment.

These are some of the programs which are popular with the community at large:

- Vuka Nathi Breakfast Show – a weekday morning magazine-style program tackling policies, business, finances, youth citizenship and problem-solving segments.
- Imini Yethu Day Show – Mid-morning programming on health, relationships, women's empowerment, disability awareness, financial literacy, and more.
- Hamba Nathi Drive Show – afternoon drive-time show with gospel music, mental health topics, crime awareness, and socioeconomic insights.
- Khwezi sport zone- sports news covering local and international leagues, including EPL, Bundesliga, La Liga and KZN leagues.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Radio Khwezi not only provides information but is also actively involved in skills development. I once interviewed Mmangaliso Zuma, a young presenter who joined the station in late 2020. She is an excellent example of the skills development and knowledge transfer that the radio station promotes. It's evident that she enjoys her work and is especially passionate about empowering women.

AWARD WINNING KHWWEZI RADIO

In the diverse and lively landscape of rural South Africa, especially in KwaZulu-Natal, Christian radio stations play a crucial role in broadcasting messages in many languages. These stations serve as vital platforms for addressing pressing social issues, becoming pillars of empowerment, information, and hope for many people. By blending spiritual guidance with important social and economic news, these radio stations build a sense of community and connection.

Listeners can access uplifting content that not only nourishes their spiritual lives but also keeps them informed about local events, health initiatives, and agricultural practices essential to their daily survival. In an area where the challenges of poverty and limited access to information often persist, these stations stand out as invaluable resources, offering listeners insights that can lead to better decision-making and an enhanced quality of life. Through their dedicated programming, these Christian radio stations truly embody the spirit of compassion and support that is crucial for the development of the communities they serve. **Radio Khwezi** excels in that.



PASTOR MIKE GOBEL

SPIRITUAL AWAKENING



by Pastor Michael Gobel Associate
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South Africa

Final Part in this Series

“My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart; For they are life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh. Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.” — Proverbs 4:20-23 (NKJV)

SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Introduction

Greetings to all our brothers and sisters in Christ, and to the thousands of readers, followers, and supporters of Testify and Testify PLUS Magazine around the world. It is almost hard to believe that we are less than two months away from Christmas and the end of 2025.

In June of this year, I embarked on a series of doctrinal teachings entitled “**The Biblical Interpretation of the Word of God.**” This body of work was divinely placed upon my heart by the Lord to share with you—particularly with those believers who earnestly desire to grow in spiritual maturity and become true disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sadly, this is the final article in the series. With the extensive research I have conducted, I could easily have written an entire book or thesis on the subject of ‘**effective biblical interpretation,**’ and another on the vital importance of believers—the entire Body of Christ— becoming more intentional in their ‘call to evangelism’ and in their personal discipleship journey.

As such, in this concluding article, I wish to summarise a few of the critical principles discussed over the past six months. These include: the importance of following a **Word-based biblical interpretation; being shepherded and guided by Spirit-led leadership; the believer’s roadmap to committed discipleship; and the call to evangelism** within the local church. I will also revisit some key principles of our faith, focusing on the spiritual discipline and devotion required to develop the skill set necessary to become true disciples of Christ. I therefore ask for your patience as this final article is somewhat lengthier than usual.

SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

It is my sincere conviction that the sharpening of our biblical knowledge and understanding of God's Word will not only enhance our ability to discern the audible voice of the Holy Spirit—thereby strengthening our relationship with God—but will also equip every believer and disciple of Christ to speak, preach, teach, and witness to others with reverence and divine authority concerning the doctrines and biblical truths of the Christian faith.

Hearing the 'Audible Voice' of God

Let me begin with a statement that may surprise you: **“most Christians overcomplicate and often misinterpret what it means to “hear God’s voice.”** We tend to treat it as some mysterious, elite experience reserved only for prophets, pastors, or the “super-spiritual.” (Becoming Christians, 2025)

But here is the **truth**—God never intended His voice to be a rare or distant event.

He designed it to be a ‘daily reality’ for His children. Think about it—what kind of Father refuses to speak to His children? That is not the heart of Yahweh. He is a loving Father who delights to guide, comfort, and correct His people.

Yeshua (Yeh-SHU-ah) Himself said, **“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me”** (John 10:27, NKJV).

If you belong to God, hearing His voice is not optional—it is expected. So why do so many believers struggle in this area? Quite frankly, it is because we have confused God's simplicity with our own noise. We have become so addicted to busyness, drowning in a sea of worldly distractions, and tuned in to every other voice except the **‘audible voice of God.’**

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This spiritual noise is also the reason why so many believers experience a serious disconnect from the Holy Spirit. I often get the distinct impression that many in the Body of Christ believe the Holy Spirit is only present when we gather for church on a Sunday, or during corporate prayer and Bible study. Yet this could not be further from the truth.

The Bible clearly affirms that the Spirit of God dwells ‘within us’:

❖ **1 Corinthians 3:16** – “You are not your own; you, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you.”

❖ **Romans 8:9** – “And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.”

What is the ‘audible voice’ of God?

In the Bible, there are numerous instances where God spoke audibly to individuals. For example, Adam and Eve heard the voice of God in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:8–10), and Moses received direct instructions from God on Mount Sinai (Exodus 19–20). These accounts demonstrate that God has historically communicated with humanity in a clear and audible manner—particularly with those He appointed and called into positions of authority within His Kingdom. Such individuals include prophets and shepherds (pastors) who are tasked with leading and guiding God’s people on the path of righteousness and holiness in Christ.

However, as I have indicated earlier, this does not mean that God speaks exclusively to those in leadership or ministry. That notion is simply not true. God’s desire is to communicate with all His children, for He is no respecter of persons (Acts 10:34).

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In our modern day, the belief in hearing God's audible voice varies among Christians. Some believers testify to having experienced such moments—often describing them as deeply personal, transformative encounters with the divine. According to certain studies, approximately ten percent of Christians report having heard God's audible voice at least once in their lives. Yet, interpretations of these experiences can differ, as they may sometimes be influenced by personal emotion, mental state, or external circumstances.

While it is true that God can still speak audibly to His people, His primary means of communication today is through **Scripture** and the **Holy Spirit**. The Bible remains our unshakable foundation—a divine guide revealing God's will and purpose for our lives. Therefore, I strongly encourage all believers to devote themselves to the study of God's Word. It is through the Scriptures that we come to understand His voice, character, and direction.

In addition, the Holy Spirit provides divine guidance and inner conviction that always aligns with biblical truth, helping believers discern the voice of God amid the noise of daily life. It is through this Spirit-led discernment that we grow in wisdom and intimacy with the Lord.

However, it is crucial—especially for shepherds and pastors—to remember that the ultimate purpose of our calling is not to preach only to the converted, but to reach the lost. Too often, we become self-absorbed within the comfort of the church walls and miss out on the extraordinary blessing, honour, and privilege that come from leading others to Christ.

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Ultimately, this must remain our foremost mission: to be willing vessels, used by Christ to share the love of God, the mercy of our Saviour, and the transforming grace of Jesus Christ with all who are willing to hear.

Reflection on Hearing God's Word

We often fail to realise the profound impact that hearing the Word of God has on our lives – “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17, NKJV). Hearing God’s Word shapes our spiritual views and beliefs, leading countless individuals—both within and beyond the church—closer to Christ. It sustains us during times of trial and tribulation, and it humbles us during moments of success and achievement. Giving God the honour, praise, and glory for all that He has done and continues to do in our daily lives must become a natural **act of worship**.

As pastors and spiritual leaders around the world prepare and present their weekly sermons, and as believers gather for midweek Bible study, prayer meetings, and the partaking of Holy Communion, it is possible to view these moments as mere religious routines or spiritual rituals. Yet, in the eyes of God, these sacred practices are not routine—they are vital ‘acts of worship’ and some of the most significant building blocks for strengthening and growing our faith in Christ (Bible Analysis, 2025).

When we embrace the principles of faith according to the Word of God—not only as the biblical cornerstone of our belief but as the divine source of spiritual, moral, and intellectual inspiration—we are establishing an unshakable ethical foundation as children of God. In doing so, we root out the corrupting influences of secular worldviews and make the Word of God the primary foundation of divine guidance, godly wisdom, and spiritual illumination for believers across the universal Church.

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We must never forget that there is absolutely nothing—nothing—that we, as humans and sinners saved by grace, can do to draw men and women unto God. No amount of preaching, teaching, worship, programming, conferences, or church planting can, in and of itself, grow the Kingdom of God. Do not let anyone convince you otherwise.

The one and only force that draws souls to God is God Himself. It is His **‘divine initiative’**—His gracious act of drawing men and women unto salvation and ultimately unto Himself. This drawing process is not coercive but compassionate; it is the beautiful ‘work of sanctification,’ revealing God’s love and purpose in our lives. Through His grace, individuals are led to faith in Christ. This process involves both God’s initiative—often sparked through hearing His Word—and the believer’s response: a willing heart that seeks to deepen their relationship with the Heavenly Father by accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, and by allowing the Holy Spirit to move freely within their lives.

This divine invitation is not limited to a chosen few; there is no “elite” or “VIP club” in Heaven. It is a **universal call**—for God has revealed Himself through creation and through the Gospel of Jesus Christ, extending His saving grace to all who believe.

By acknowledging God’s divine providence in the delivery and preservation of His sacred Word, we come to understand that His hand has been intricately at work throughout history, ensuring that Scripture would reach humanity despite the failures and frailty of men. This understanding is vital, for through the Bible, God reveals His character, His will, and His redemptive plan for humankind—offering hope and salvation to all who believe in Him.

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Hearing the Word of God is not merely about auditory reception; it is about **spiritual engagement**. It requires us to open our hearts and allow the living Word to take root within us, transforming our minds and conforming our character to that of Christ. As believers, we are called to listen attentively and apply these truths in our daily lives. This active listening cultivates a deeper communion with God and leads us into a fuller experience of His glory and His omnipresence.

The psalmist expressed it beautifully: *“Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; if I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me.”* — **Psalms 139:7-10 (NKJV)**

The ‘Nature of Worship’ in the Bible

I wish to draw your attention to a very important truth — the **significance** and nature of **worship** in our daily devotion and in honouring God through all that we do.

Firstly, let us clear up a common misconception: worship is not limited to singing or praising God through music and song. While such expressions are indeed powerful and meaningful, they represent only one aspect of worship. In the biblical sense, worship encompasses everything we do to honour, praise, and glorify God — not merely for what He has done, but for who He is.

True worship flows from a heart that loves God deeply and responds with gratitude for the gift of salvation through the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. It is both an inward posture of reverence and an outward expression of obedience and devotion.

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In Scripture, worship is fundamentally about recognising the sovereignty of God and acknowledging His divine attributes. The Hebrew word for worship, “**shachah**,” means to bow down or to prostrate oneself, expressing physical submission and humility before the Almighty. Likewise, the Greek term “**proskuneo**,” used in the New Testament, conveys the act of bowing down in homage. These words capture the essence of worship – a posture of heart and body that demonstrates love, respect, and surrender to the will of God (Bible Analyzer, n.d.).

When we immerse ourselves daily in the Word of God, we come to better understand the significance of hearing His Word and the transformative power it holds over our lives. It is through His Word that strongholds – whether physical, emotional, or spiritual – are broken. Addictions, fears, anxieties, doubts, sinful thoughts, and ungodly behaviours lose their grip when we truly allow the living Word to shape and sanctify us.

In the New Testament, the acts of worship often centred around **communal gatherings** among believers. Practices such as the breaking of bread (Holy Communion) and sharing in the Lord’s Supper reflect the early Church’s emphasis on fellowship and remembrance of Christ’s sacrifice. These gatherings were not merely religious observances; they were sacred moments of spiritual edification, as the apostles taught and encouraged the congregations of old.

Prayer also holds immense significance throughout the New Testament – and rightly so, it must retain that same importance in our daily and weekly devotion, both within the church and within our homes. In the early Church, believers engaged in **corporate prayer**, seeking divine guidance and strength amid persecution and hardship. Their example sets a model for us today: a form of worship grounded in dependency on God and unity in the Spirit.

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Acts 2:42 records that *“they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”* Similarly, Romans 12:1 urges believers to *“present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.”*

These passages remind us that worship extends beyond the sanctuary walls. It is a lifestyle — encompassing our work, leisure, education, relationships, public service, and personal devotion. Every moment becomes sacred when lived in submission to Christ. Our worship, therefore, must not be compartmentalised but integrated into every sphere of life, reflecting the image of Christ to those who look to us as examples of faith.

The Difference Between Disciple and Convert?

(Poonen, 1999) It is a common mistake among believers to focus exclusively on one passage of Scripture while neglecting others that shed fuller light on the same subject. This selective reading often leads to incomplete or even erroneous interpretations. When Satan tempted our Lord in the wilderness, he quoted Scripture, saying, “It is written ...” (Matthew 4:6). Yet Jesus rebuked him, declaring, “It is also written ...” (Matthew 4:7). The whole counsel of God can only be understood when Scripture is compared with Scripture — when “It is written ...” is balanced with “It is also written ...”

This principle is especially vital when we consider The Great Commission. Jesus gave two distinct yet inseparable commands: “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15), and “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19, NASB). These are not two separate missions but two parts of one divine mandate. Only through faithful obedience to both can the Church fulfil God’s purpose on earth.

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God, in His infinite wisdom, uses ordinary men and women as instruments in His extraordinary plan – transforming new believers into mature, world-impacting disciples. This truth is beyond human comprehension: that the Creator of heaven and earth entrusts frail humanity to reflect His image and carry forth His mission. Yet that is precisely what He does.

Making Evangelism a ‘Priority’ in the Church

The first command of the Great Commission is clear: “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.” (Mark 16:15). However, this commission is not given to an isolated believer, but to the entire body of Christ. It is humanly impossible for any one person, congregation, or local ministry to reach every human being on earth. Yet, each of us, as members of the universal Church, has a sacred part to play – however small – and must faithfully fulfil that calling.

Acts 1:8 reinforces this truth: *“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”* Every believer must be filled with the Holy Spirit to be an effective witness for Christ. The Spirit empowers, equips, and sustains the Church in her witness to the world.

It is crucial to note that not all are called to be evangelists (for Christ gave evangelists only to some, as stated in Ephesians 4:11). Yet all believers are called to be witnesses – to testify of God’s truth and of His transforming work in our lives. The divine call to witness is therefore universal.

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An evangelist's ministry, however, extends beyond the personal circle of influence that characterises a witness. While every believer should proclaim Christ among family, friends, and co workers, the evangelist is gifted with a broader calling — reaching beyond familiar boundaries. Importantly, the role of the evangelist is not limited to “winning souls” or bringing individuals to initial faith. According to Ephesians 4:12 (NKJV), their purpose is *“for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.”*

The Church's Failure in Modern Evangelism

This distinction exposes one of the greatest weaknesses of contemporary evangelism. Much of modern outreach focuses almost exclusively on conversion — counting the number of souls saved — but fails to prioritise discipleship, teaching, and spiritual formation. Too often, new converts are placed in lifeless churches where the Spirit is absent and the Word of God neglected. As a result, many quickly lose their zeal, fall back into sin, or become lukewarm in their faith.

The warning of Revelation 3:16 (NKJV) rings true today: “So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.” Genuine evangelism must therefore aim not merely to save souls, but to build the Church, equipping believers to live godly lives and to grow into mature disciples of Christ.

The Example of Spirit-led Evangelism

For this reason, one must commend Spirit-led organisations such as African Enterprise, whose vision is “To be a catalyst for effective urban evangelism in Word and Deed ... in partnership with the Church.” This partnership between evangelists and local congregations reflects the biblical pattern for sustainable spiritual growth and community transformation. (African Enterprise, 2025)

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Jesus called His followers “fishers of men.” Yet evangelism that is carried out in collaboration with unconverted “Christian” leaders, or with the endorsement of political figures seeking influence, is like fishing with a net full of holes. Such alliances compromise the purity of the Gospel and lead to spiritual blindness — “If the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit.” (Matthew 15:14, NKJV).

True evangelism must remain Spirit-led, Scripture-centred, and Christ-exalting. Converts must be nurtured into disciples, disciples must grow into witnesses, and witnesses must reflect the image of Christ in all they do — until the Church fulfils her divine calling as the light of the world.

Jesus Christ is Head of the Christian Church

One cannot imagine Jesus inviting Annas, Caiaphas, Herod, or Pilate to sit beside Him to inaugurate His ministry or evangelistic campaign! Yet this is precisely what many of today’s ministries do — welcoming unconverted political leaders and secular institutions to share their platforms, often praising them publicly. The infiltration of worldly influence into the sacred sphere of the Church is one of the greatest dangers of our age.

We see this trend playing out even within our own nation under the auspices of the CRL Commission, which claims constitutional authority to “protect and promote the rights of cultural, religious, and linguistic communities.” On the surface, this may seem noble. However, the subtle danger lies in the partnerships and affiliations being formed between secular authorities and evangelical institutions under the banner of accountability and regulation. Their rallying cry — “Nothing for us, without us” — may sound democratic, but its focus lies on ‘us’ rather than on ‘Christ.’

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So, let us ask the most crucial question: **Who is the Head of the Church?**

According to Scripture, **Jesus Christ alone** is the Head of the Church. This divine truth is repeatedly affirmed throughout the New Testament, especially in Paul's writings. "And He put all things under His feet and gave Him to be head over all things to the Church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all." (Ephesians 1:22–23, NKJV). Likewise, Colossians 2:19 warns against those "not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together through joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God."

The health and unity of the universal Church depend not on human authority, governmental recognition, or institutional endorsement, but on her living connection to Christ, the divine Head. Any attempt to replace that authority with secular oversight is spiritual adultery. If the Church becomes detached from her Head — severed from her divine source — she will lose her authority, wisdom, spiritual nourishment, and power. Without Christ, she becomes a lifeless organisation rather than the living Body of the Lord.

Making Sure of Your Salvation

When Jesus said that salvation had come to Zacchaeus' house, it was only after Zacchaeus demonstrated genuine repentance and a willingness to make restitution for his wrongs (Luke 19:9). True salvation always produces visible fruit — a change of heart that leads to a change of life. Tragically, in many modern ministries, "salvation" is proclaimed without repentance, restitution, or transformation.



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Even after repentance and conversion, a believer must be led further into discipleship to fulfil God's purpose for their life. Evangelism without discipleship is an unfinished work. The apostle Paul exhorts believers in 2 Timothy 2:15-17: *"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. But shun profane and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness. And their message will spread like cancer."*

Many independent ministries today seek to build their own empires, refusing to work in unity with other Spirit-led churches. This fragmentation harms believers, especially new converts, who are often left with a one-sided understanding of Scripture. While we are not to judge, such ministries will give account before the Lord for hindering the growth of His people into mature disciples — a vital part of building up, equipping, and edifying the body of Christ.

The Conditions of Discipleship

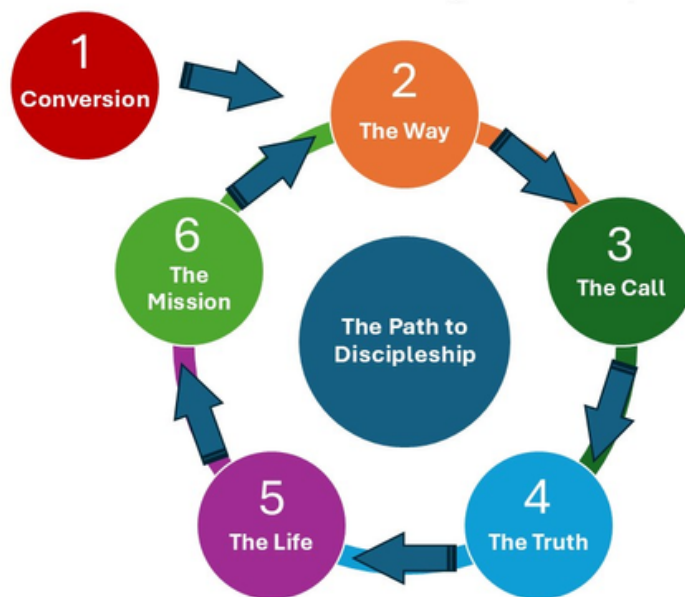
In Luke 14:25-35, Jesus outlines the conditions of true discipleship. He compares a disciple to a man building a tower who must first calculate the cost before laying the foundation. Jesus' words are clear: it costs something to follow Him. God does not desire us to wait years after conversion before counting that cost; He expects full surrender from the beginning. A believer who refuses discipleship is as useless to God as salt that has lost its savour (Matthew 5:13).

Jesus lists three fundamental requirements for anyone who wishes to be His disciple:

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1. Detachment from all that hinders devotion to God – We must place no person or thing above Christ (Luke 14:26).
2. Daily self-denial – We must take up our cross and crucify the self-life every day (Luke 14:27).
3. Freedom from material attachment – We must hold possessions loosely and keep God first above all else (Luke 14:33). These are not optional ideals but essential commands for every follower of Christ.

The Path in Becoming a Disciple



Designed by: Pastor Mike Gobel (2025)

This Pathway to Discipleship provides a spiritual model for believers and church leaders to guide new converts beyond the first stage of conversion. Beginning in the new year, I intend to teach this series, titled **“The Pathway to Discipleship,”** which will focus on six key stages of spiritual growth:

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1. **Conversion** – The first steps from belief to transformation in Christ.
2. **The Way** – Discovering Christ's path to discipleship.
3. **The Call** – Counting the cost of following Jesus.
4. **The Truth** – Engaging the foundations of our faith.
5. **The Life** – Living a spiritually disciplined and holy life.
6. **The Mission** – Joining God in His work of witnessing to the lost.

The Ephesian church was warned by Christ that it risked rejection for having lost its first love (Revelation 2:1–5). Likewise, every believer must return to that place of deep devotion where we can truly say, “Whom have I in heaven but Thee? And besides Thee I desire nothing on earth.” (Psalm 73:25).

True love for Christ is not sentimental or emotional. It is expressed through obedience. Jesus said, “*He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me.*” (John 14:21).

Denying Self and Taking Up the Cross

Jesus declared, “If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his own life, he cannot be My disciple.” (Luke 14:26). This is one of His most difficult yet vital teachings. To deny self and take up the cross daily (Luke 9:23) means to renounce our own will, ambitions, and self-centered desires. It is not merely refraining from sin — it is dying to self.

The self-life is the greatest enemy of the Christ-life. The Bible calls this “the flesh” — the storehouse of selfish motives and desires inherited from Adam. Even our best deeds can be tainted by pride or self-interest. Thus, we must learn to hate this self-life and put it to death through daily submission to the Spirit.

SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

This call to crucify the flesh is repeated more than any other statement of Christ — six times across the Gospels (Matthew 10:39; 16:25; Mark 8:35; Luke 9:24; 14:26; John 12:25). Yet it remains one of the least preached and least understood.

To hate our old life means to relinquish our rights, ambitions, and worldly attachments. It means no longer seeking our own glory, comfort, or will — but living wholly for Christ. Only then can we become His true disciples.

Unless we embrace this truth both as individual believers and as church leaders, we will never fulfil the complete purpose of God in our lives or in His Church.

Therefore, I urge every preacher, evangelist, pastor, and spiritual leader:
Proclaim this message of discipleship to your congregations.

Let us restore Christ to His rightful place — as Head of His Church, Lord of our hearts, and the sole authority over His people.

May the grace and truth of our Lord Jesus Christ guide you always. Amen.



SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

If you wish to support my ministry to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the lost or in helping the efforts of my registered 'non-profit,' public-benefit organisation called Planting Hope Foundation NPC to offer humanitarian aid and relief to many struggling widows, orphans and vulnerable families and individuals suffering in our community, as a result of poverty, unemployment, or various addictions, feel free to contact me on the details below.

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In God's love and service,

Pastor Mike Gobel

Associate Pastor of 'The Campus Church'

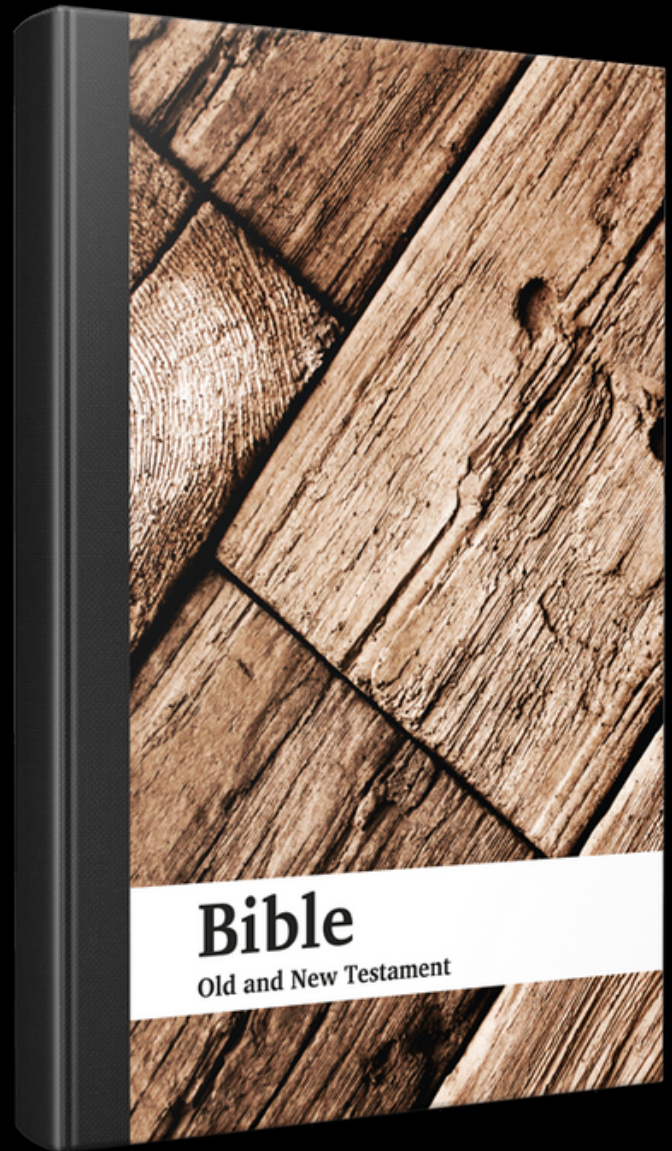
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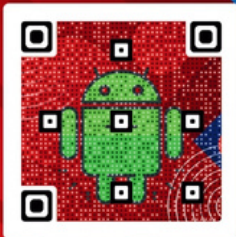
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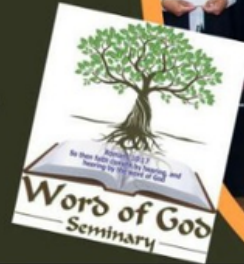
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KINGDOM LEADERSHIP REQUIRES A KINGDOM MINDSET

A famous author once said, “There are no office hours for leaders. There are, however, coffee hours. Use them wisely.” Do you relate to this statement in this quote? There is nothing more relaxing than spending time in fellowship while drinking a cup of coffee. Well, maybe you would prefer a cup of tea. It is not what we drink but investing in quality time. I want to encourage you as a leader to incorporate more “coffee hours” in your week. John Maxwell goes further and he wrote: ““A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way.

In the Kingdom of God we need to lead by example. Samuel Logan Brengle wrote the following in the book the Soul Winner’s Secret, and I quote: “Spiritual leadership is not won nor established by promotion, but by many prayers, tears and confessions of sin and heart-searching and humbleness before God, and self-surrender and a courageous sacrifice of every idol and a bold and deathless, and uncompromising and uncomplaining embrace of the Cross and an eternal, unfaltering looking unto Jesus crucified. It is not gained by seeking great things for ourselves (Jer. 45:5), but rather, like Paul, by counting those things that were gain, loss for Christ”. There are many great leaders in the Bible and we can learn much from them. Most of them were mere ordinary men chosen by God himself to lead. They faced many challenges and experience many failures while leading but God never left their side. I would like to encourage you as a leader that through persecution and failure we become better students, yes, a student, an excellent student or if you will disciple of Christ in order for you can become an excellent teacher. In the Bible we read that Apostle Paul faced many challenges and had to go through seasons of stretching and discomfort, trained by the Holy Spirit himself to become an imitator of Christ.

He believed in someone greater than himself, he believed in the Lord Jesus.

KINGDOM LEADERSHIP REQUIRES A KINGDOM MINDSET

Nehemiah was a great leader who taught us that we must build on what God gives us, we must build on faith. Moses taught us that we need to blind our eyes to criticism and Elijah taught us to move in love and courage while Peters walk with God encourages us when we fall we get up again! Men who were not perfect but were called for greatness because of the anointing upon their lives. In the Kingdom of God we lead by example.

We follow the example of Jesus, the greatest leader of all. Servant leadership serves others by investing time in them, in their growth and well-being to become better leaders themselves. The greatest leaders serves God through investing in others so they may accomplish what God has called them for to glorify Him. Great leaders focus on Christ more than anything else, they are focused on purpose and doing the will of God. To be clothed with Godly character leaders must be prepared to surrender their reputation. A Kingdom mindset includes Christ in our daily Christian walk not thinking more of ourselves but walking in humility and having the same mind as Christ. Philippians 2:5 instructs us, “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus”. In 1 Corinthians 2:16, Paul quotes Isaiah 40:13 and then makes a statement concerning all believers: “We have the mind of Christ. The greatest leadership qualities in Kingdom leadership is servanthood, stewardship, humility and the way we complete a task or assignment successfully and efficiently, it requires a Spirit of Excellence that we can only receive when we as leaders allow ourselves to be trained by Holy Spirit and other great leaders who imitates Christ.

Great leaders work together. They choose unity over competition and they lead with Grace. We must always remind ourselves that we have been given a leadership role through Grace and we should lead by Grace.

KINGDOM LEADERSHIP REQUIRES A KINGDOM MINDSET



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THE GOSPEL MESSAGE

SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS!

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, God has 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.

BELIEF

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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HYBRE KIVEDO

GIRLS ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS



Hybre Kivedo is Writer and Author with an amazing insight and passion for Jesus!

Even When Heaven Is Silent, God Still Holds Our Hands

“As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you; and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem.” – Isaiah 66:13 (KJV)

The Quiet Places of Pain

There are valleys in life that no one prepares you for, valleys where the laughter fades, prayers feel unanswered, and the only sound left is the quiet ache of your own heart breaking.

GIRLS ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS

I have walked through those valleys, a kind of valley that changes a woman forever.

I remember holding my firstborn daughter in my arms, tiny, beautiful, and perfect. She looked as though she were only sleeping, yet her heartbeat had already stilled. Three days after her birth, she slipped quietly from my world into the arms of Heaven.

There are no words for that kind of letting go. How do you release the life you carried beneath your heart? How do you say goodbye to the sound of dreams that never had the chance to breathe? I held her close, kissed her soft forehead, and through the ache that tore through my soul, I whispered, “Jesus, please carry her safely home.”

In that moment, love and loss met in the same breath, and Heaven became a little more real. Nothing prepares a mother for that moment, the moment when the doctor lowers his eyes and says, “We can’t find a heartbeat.”

Time stops, yet the world keeps moving, but your soul can’t catch up. After my firstborn passed, I walked through heartbreak again, three miscarriages, each one tearing through my spirit like a storm I couldn’t outrun. Then came the words that echoed like thunder: “You will not be able to conceive again.” The diagnosis was Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS), a hormonal disorder that disrupts ovulation and often leads to infertility. The doctors explained it clinically, but no medical term could describe the ache that gripped my faith. It would’ve been easy to surrender to despair. But even in that valley, when Heaven felt silent, God’s whisper broke through:

GIRLS ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS

“This is not the end.” And I clung to His Word:

“The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.” — Psalm 34:18 That verse became my heartbeat when my own heart forgot how to keep believing.

There were nights when I questioned everything, His timing, His plan, even His love. But God never turned away. He sat with me in the silence, in the tears, in the aching emptiness. He reminded me of another promise: “Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.” — Psalm 30:5

And slowly, the morning light began to rise. Not in the way I expected, but in the way, I needed, in healing, in surrender, in discovering that even when the womb is empty, the heart can still be full of God.

Because faith isn’t built only in answered prayers, it’s also built in the quiet spaces where God says, “Wait.”

In those moments, His hand still holds ours. Even when Heaven is silent.

Even when the promise feels far away. Even when the tears won’t stop.

He is still Emmanuel, God with us. “Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.” — Isaiah 41:10. And that is the hope we carry, dear sisters, the sacred knowing that even in loss, love remains. Even in silence, Heaven still speaks.

When Heaven Weeps with You

Grief after losing a child is unlike any other grief.

You don’t just lose a life, you lose a future. You lose birthdays that will

GIRLS ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS

never come, first steps that will never be taken, laughter that will never fill the air, and a pair of arms that will never wrap around your neck.

There are no words for the silence that fills the room when a mother gives birth to a baby who does not cry. That silence is deafening; it echoes through your body, your mind, and your spirit. It's a silence so deep that only Heaven itself can understand it. But hear me when I say this, God is present even in that silence.

He does not turn His face away from pain. He does not stand far off. He is near enough to catch every tear that falls. "Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: are they not in thy book?" — Psalm 56:8 (KJV) When I left the hospital empty-handed, my faith felt shattered. I thought I had failed God, or worse, that He had failed me. But faith, I learned, is not about holding everything together; it's about clinging to the One who does.

"When my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I." — Psalm 61:2 (KJV). Faith isn't proven in the moments we stand strong; it's proven in the moments we fall apart and still whisper, "Yet will I trust You." There were nights I sat alone, the pain pressing like a weight on my chest, whispering prayers that barely made it past my lips. But I found that in those moments, Heaven wasn't silent after all; it was weeping with me. Just as Jesus wept at Lazarus's tomb, He wept with me at the grave of my dreams.

"Jesus wept." — John 11:35 (KJV)

"In all their affliction He was afflicted, and the angel of His presence saved them." — Isaiah 63:9 (KJV) I began to see that tears are not signs

GIRLS ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS

of weak faith; they are sacred offerings. Each tear is a prayer too deep for words. Like Hannah in 1 Samuel 1, I poured my soul before the Lord. I wept bitterly, not because I doubted His goodness, but because I trusted Him enough to bring Him my pain. And just as He remembered Hannah, He remembered me.

“And it came to pass, as she continued praying before the Lord... and she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the Lord, and wept sore.” — 1 Samuel 1:10 (KJV). “Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come about after Hannah had conceived, that she bare a son.” — 1 Samuel 1:20 (KJV). In His time, not mine, He restored my joy. He blessed me with another daughter, a miracle only Heaven could have written into my story. Her laughter became the sound of redemption, proof that even after loss, God still gives life.

“For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the Lord.” — Jeremiah 30:17 (KJV). Now I know this truth: Heaven not only rejoices with us, but it also weeps with us. And when Heaven weeps, healing begins. Because in every tear shed on earth, Heaven sees the reflection of His promise, that one day, “God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain.” — Revelation 21:4 (KJV)

When God Holds Both Our Hands

“For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.” — Isaiah 41:13 (KJV)

That verse became more than words to me; it became breath. It became the invisible hand that steadied me when the ground gave way beneath

GIRLS ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS

my feet. When you sit in a doctor's office and hear, "There's no heartbeat," God holds your hand. When you lie in a hospital bed with empty arms and hollow dreams, He holds your hand. When the world feels cruelly quiet and you can't find words to pray, He holds your hand. But He doesn't stop there, He holds both of your hands.

Because grief doesn't come for one; it comes for two. And though the mother's tears may be visible, the father's grief often hides behind the walls of strength he thinks he must keep. Many forget that fathers weep, too. They carry a silent sorrow, the ache of wanting to fix what cannot be fixed, the weight of being the "strong one" when their own hearts are breaking. I remember looking into his eyes and seeing tears he tried to hide, not out of pride, but out of love. And in that sacred pain, God whispered a truth that changed us both:

Healing is not found in pretending to be strong; it's found in being held.

We learned that strength isn't the absence of tears, it's the courage to cry together and still believe that God is good. "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow." — Ecclesiastes 4:9–10 (KJV)

During those nights when words failed us, our prayers turned into tears, and tears became a language clear enough to show that heaven understood every drop. "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." — Romans 8:26 (KJV). Each cry was heard, and each silence was sacred, because the same God who formed our children

GIRLS ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS

from dust also shaped the hearts that still love them, and His hands, the very ones that hold galaxies, never let go of ours. There's something holy about those unseen moments when faith and grief collide. It's in those spaces that you discover the kind of love that doesn't always speak; it simply stays.

The Lord didn't remove the valley, but He walked through it with us. I learned that this is the deepest form of comfort, not the absence of pain, but His presence within it. "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me." — Psalm 23:4 (KJV)

Every time I reached for His hand, I realized it had never left mine. And every time I thought the silence meant He was gone, He was whispering still, not in thunder, not in wind, but in the still, small voice that says, "Fear not; I am with thee." Now, when I think of those moments, the hospital room, the tears, the long nights, I no longer see emptiness. I see His hands, one holding mine and the other holding the child I'll meet again in eternity. "He will tend His flock like a shepherd: He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom." — Isaiah 40:11 (KJV). And so, I rest in the truth that Heaven and Earth are both held by the same hands, the hands that never let go.

When Purpose Is Born from Pain

There came a day when I finally understood, my story wasn't only about loss; it was about what God was birthing through it. My womb once carried death, but my heart began to carry purpose. Every miscarriage, every diagnosis, every tear, they were not wasted. God was using each one as a seed, buried deep in sorrow, to produce something eternal.

GIRLS ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS

“They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.” — Psalm 126:5 (KJV). I didn’t see it at first. I thought pain was punishment. I thought waiting meant delay. But the Lord was not withholding; He was preparing.

Grief became my classroom, the waiting became my altar, and the pain became my teacher. Through loss, He taught me compassion. Through waiting, He taught me worship. Through pain, He taught me trust. And through it all, He taught me to see Him, not as a distant God who watched from Heaven, but as a Father who knelt beside me in the ashes and whispered, “Daughter, I’m still here.” Like the woman with the issue of blood in Mark 5, I pressed through every obstacle, disappointment, fear, and shame just to touch the hem of His garment. She suffered for twelve long years, but her faith moved Heaven.

“For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole.” — Mark 5:28 (KJV). That woman’s story became my lifeline. She didn’t wait for the crowd to part; she pushed through it. And I learned that sometimes, faith isn’t elegant; it’s desperate. It’s crawling through the dust just to touch Jesus. And when she touched Him, she was made whole, not just healed, but whole. Wholeness doesn’t erase the story; it redeems it. It takes the same hands that once trembled in pain and fills them with power to comfort others. “Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble.” — 2 Corinthians 1:3–4 (KJV)

Your healing might not come overnight. It might not come the way you expect. But it will come. Because the same Jesus who stopped for her will stop for you. And when He does, you’ll find that His healing reaches deeper than any wound this world could give; it touches the soul.

GIRLS ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS

He doesn't just restore what was lost, He gives birth to something new. "Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert." — Isaiah 43:19 (KJV).

So don't despise the breaking, and don't rush the waiting, because buried inside the pain is a divine assignment, it is a calling forged in fire, meant to bring life where others only see loss. God still births purpose out of empty places, and sometimes, the womb of your sorrow becomes the cradle of your ministry.

When Loss Takes Many Forms

Not all loss happens in the womb, some mothers have lost children in the world, children who once laughed, ran, and called them "Mom." To the mother who sat beside a hospital bed and watched the light fade from her child's eyes. To the mother who buried her child after a tragic accident or a violent act. To the mother who lives with the silence of a home once filled with laughter. To the mother whose child was taken too soon by illness, addiction, or the cruelty of this world. God sees you, too. He has not turned away, as He has not forgotten. "Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: are they not in thy book?" — Psalm 56:8 (KJV). Every tear that falls carries a name, a memory, a moment, and Heaven holds them all. He knows the ache that doesn't fade, the questions that never seem to have answers, the dreams that replay in the quiet hours of the night. And though the world may move on, your pain is not invisible to Him. He is the God who lingers beside the brokenhearted, who sits quietly in the shadows when everyone else has gone home. "The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit." — Psalm 34:18 (KJV)

GIRLS ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS

Even Mary, the mother of Jesus, walked that road of grief. She stood at the foot of the cross, the place where love and loss collided. She watched her Son, perfect and blameless, suffer and die before her eyes. She could not stop it, she could not fix it, but all she could do was stand there, her heart breaking and trust that God would redeem what she could not understand.

“Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother...” — John 19:25 (KJV)
The loss that shattered her soul became the very doorway of salvation for all mankind. Sometimes the greatest pain holds the seed of the greatest purpose. Therefore, your story may carry sorrow, but it is not without divine design. God wastes nothing, not even the tears that fall unseen.

“To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness.” — Isaiah 61:3 (KJV). The pain you carry may one day become the oil that heals another woman’s wounds. Your story, told through tears, may be the very testimony that helps another mother breathe again. And one day, when you least expect it, you’ll see how God turned the ashes into an altar, how the very thing that broke you became the vessel that poured healing into others.

Because the God who allowed your heart to be pierced also promises this: “Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.” — Psalm 30:5 (KJV)

So keep holding on, dear one, as Heaven has not forgotten your child, and Heaven has not forgotten you.

GIRLS ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS

The Beauty of Surrender

“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose.” — Romans 8:28 (KJV)

There came a day when I could no longer carry the weight of the why.

So I surrendered. Through trembling lips I whispered, “Lord, if this pain can help another woman find You, then let it be so.” And that’s when peace began to rise, slowly, gently from the ashes of what I thought was over. Surrender didn’t erase the pain; it transformed it. God took my mourning and turned it into ministry, and He took the story I tried to hide and used it to heal others. “To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning.” — Isaiah 61:3 (KJV)

Years passed, and life unfolded in ways only Heaven could have written. One afternoon, I found myself sitting beside my daughter, my miracle child, in a doctor’s office. The doctor spoke with care, explaining gently that she, too, had been diagnosed with Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS). For a moment, time stood still. The same ache I once knew came rushing back, the fear, the uncertainty, the whisper of old wounds reopening. But before I could speak, my daughter turned to me with strength and faith in her eyes, and said:

“Mommy, see how God blessed you with me... He will do the same for me.”

Her words silenced every doubt, and in that sacred moment, I realized I was witnessing the faithfulness of God being passed from one generation to the next. The same God who carried me through the

GIRLS ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS

valley was now walking beside her.

The same hand that once held mine was now holding hers. “For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endureth to all generations.” — Psalm 100:5 (KJV)

Tears filled my eyes, not from sorrow this time, but from gratitude.

Because in her faith, I saw the reflection of everything God had promised: that no pain is wasted, no story is lost, and no heart is too broken to be made whole again. And I knew, deep in my spirit, that healing would come once more. Maybe not instantly. Maybe not the way I expect. But surely, in His perfect time. “He hath made everything beautiful in His time.” — Ecclesiastes 3:11 (KJV)

That’s the beauty of surrender when you finally stop trying to understand and start trusting the One who already holds the ending. Because the story was never just about loss, it was always about love, the love of a God who writes redemption into every chapter, who holds both mother and daughter in His unshakable hands, and who turns every valley into a place of victory. And so, I rest, because the same God who carried me... will carry her too.

When God Turns Tears into Testimony

Tears have a language that only Heaven understands, and in that they carry the sound of surrender, the weight of longing, and the echo of faith that refuses to die. Sometimes, it’s in the quiet dripping of those tears that God writes His loudest stories. You see, testimonies aren’t born on mountaintops; they are born in the dark, where faith is tested and hope is refined. They’re born in hospital rooms, gravesides, and sleepless nights when you whisper, “God, I don’t understand, but I’ll still trust You.”

GIRLS ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS

And somehow, the same God who met Hannah in her anguish, who wept with Mary at Lazarus' tomb, who stood beside a broken Peter after his failure, that same God bends low to meet you. He takes your shaking hands in His, and He breathes courage into your soul.

He reminds you that your tears are not wasted; they are watering the ground of someone else's miracle. When you tell your story, Heaven leans in. Because your pain turned to praise becomes a declaration: "Look what the Lord has done!" The enemy thought loss would silence you, but God used it to amplify His glory. What was meant to destroy you became the very platform from which you'll speak life. You will comfort others with the same comfort you have received. You will wipe tears from eyes that mirror your own. You will point trembling hearts back to the One who held yours.

And when that day comes, you'll understand why every broken piece was necessary because they formed the mosaic of a testimony that no one else could tell but you. You'll lift your face toward Heaven, no longer just asking why, but whispering thank You. Thank You, Lord, for turning tears into testimony and ashes into beauty. For this is who He is, the God who redeems every sorrow, restores every heart, and resurrects every promise. And through it all, He still holds both your hands.

His Hand Still Holds Mine (Closing)

When I trace the path behind me, I see fingerprints of mercy everywhere. What once felt like abandonment now glows with evidence of His nearness. In the waiting rooms, in the hospital corridors, in the nights when I thought my prayers had hit the ceiling, He was there. Quiet, constant, faithful.

GIRLS ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS

There were seasons when I reached for His hand and couldn't feel it. But now I know, even when I couldn't hold on to Him, He was holding on to me. His grip never loosened. His promise never failed.

The truth is, none of us chooses the road of loss. No one signs up to have their heart shattered in the process of loving deeply. But somewhere along that road, when the pain feels too heavy to bear, you discover that His strength begins where yours ends. To the mother with empty arms, to the father who hides his grief behind strength, to the family who carries an unspoken ache, please remember: you are seen. The same God who knit your child together in the secret place has never stopped caring for you.

He gathers every tear; not one escapes His notice. And though you may not see it now, He is turning even this, yes, this into something sacred. One day, your story will become the hand that reaches back for another soul lost in the dark. One day, the very valley that broke you will bloom again with life and purpose. And when you look back from that place of peace, you'll see what I see now, that through every loss, every question, every sleepless night, the hand of God never once let go. So today, as I stand healed but still tender, grateful but still remembering, I say it with quiet certainty:

“God’s hand still holds mine.”



BISHOP OT WHITAKER

FOR THIS CAUSE



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For This Cause The 8 Prophetic Processes

1. The Voice.

In the previous article, we examined the first prophetic process – “The Voice.” According to 1 Corinthians 14:10, “There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world, and none of them is without signification.” In the prophetic realm, these voices fall into three main categories:

1. The Voice of Satan – which brings deception, confusion, and fear.
2. The Voice of People – which reflects human reasoning, opinion, or

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emotion.

3. The Voice of God – which brings truth, direction, and life. Each of these voices seeks to influence how we think, believe, and act. Discerning which voice we are responding to is essential in walking accurately in the prophetic.

2. The Voice Directs:

The second prophetic process is that when God speaks, He gives a directive. Our foundational text, Genesis 12:1, illustrates this truth: “Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father’s house, unto a land that I will show thee.” When God speaks, His word often comes with an instruction that requires obedience.

Divine communication is not random – it carries purpose, direction, and a call to action. Many people assume that after receiving a prophetic word, their only task is to wait for its fulfillment. However, the reality is quite different. A prophetic word is an invitation to participation, not permission for passivity. After receiving a prophecy, prophetic engagement becomes necessary. This means aligning your actions, prayers, and decisions with the word you have received. Failure to engage prophetically can result in disappointment or frustration when the word does not seem to come to pass. Often, this is not because the prophecy was false, but because it was not activated through obedience and warfare. The Apostle Paul highlighted this principle when he instructed Timothy in 1 Timothy 1:18: “This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare.” Prophecy demands warfare – contending for what God has declared. It

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is through prayer, faith, and obedience that prophetic words manifest in the natural realm. The prophetic process is not just about hearing God's voice; it is about responding to His direction. When God speaks, He reveals both purpose and pathway. The fulfillment of prophecy depends not only on divine timing but also on human alignment with divine instruction.

Let's expand deeply on the concept that prophecy gives direction or instruction, using biblical examples, principles, and practical insight. Whenever God speaks prophetically, His word is not random or vague — it carries purpose, direction, and often, specific instruction. God's voice is not merely to excite us; it is to enlighten, align, and activate us. Every true prophetic word points to a destination and provides a path to get there. The prophetic is not just about foretelling (revealing the future), but also about forth-telling — declaring God's mind for the present moment to guide us into His will.

2.1. The Pattern of Prophetic Instruction in Scripture

From Genesis to Revelation, God consistently uses prophecy to give clear instructions that require a response. Let's look at a few examples:

a. Abram (Genesis 12:1–4)

“Get out of your country... to a land that I will show you.” The prophetic word gave Abram both a promise (God will make him a great nation) and a directive (leave your country). Until Abram obeyed the instruction, the promise could not begin its fulfillment.

Principle: “The instruction within the prophecy is the key that unlocks the promise.”

b. Noah (Genesis 6:13–22)

God prophesied that judgment would come upon the earth through a

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flood. But He didn't stop there — He gave Noah a divine blueprint for salvation: "Make yourself an ark of gopher wood..." If Noah had only believed the prophecy but ignored the instruction, he and his family would have perished. The direction (build the ark) was the pathway of preservation.

Principle: "Every prophetic revelation requires prophetic preparation."

c. The Widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17:8–16)

Elijah gave a prophetic instruction: "Make me a little cake first." That word didn't make sense in the natural, but her obedience to that directive activated her miracle — the oil and meal never ran out.

Principle: "The power of a prophecy is not in hearing it but in obeying it."

d. Naaman the Leper (2 Kings 5:1–14)

The prophet Elisha gave Naaman a seemingly simple instruction: "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times." The direction was specific, and obedience produced his healing. Naaman almost missed his miracle because he expected a dramatic performance, not a simple directive. This shows that prophetic instruction often comes in humble, practical, or unexpected forms.

Principle: "Divine direction may look ordinary, but it carries supernatural results."

e. The Apostles (Acts 9:10–17; Acts 13:1–3)

In the New Testament, prophetic instruction guided both individuals and the Church.

□ God gave Ananias a vision and told him to go to Saul (Acts 9).

□ The prophets and teachers at Antioch heard the Spirit say, "Separate unto me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." (Acts 13:1) In both cases, the prophetic word came with clear direction that birthed movement and ministry.

Principle: "Prophecy is not only to inform but to mobilize."

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2.2. The Nature of Prophetic Direction

When God gives a directive through prophecy, it can come in different forms:

1. Conditional Instruction – “If you do this, I will do that.” (2 Chron. 7:14)
2. Preparatory Instruction – “Gather vessels, not a few.” (2 Kings 4:3)
3. Strategic Instruction – “March around the walls seven times.” (Joshua 6)
4. Restrictive Instruction – “Do not go down to Egypt.” (Genesis 26:2)
5. Progressive Instruction – “As they went, they were healed.” (Luke 17:14)

Each type of direction is designed to position you in alignment with God’s timing and purpose.

2.3. Why Instruction Matters

Prophecy without instruction can lead to assumption. Instruction defines your role in what God wants to accomplish. When a word from God is released, there is:

- God’s part — what He has promised to do, and
- Your part — what you must do to activate it.

Ignoring divine instruction can delay or even cancel manifestation. The Israelites received a prophetic promise to enter Canaan, but disobedience to instruction caused an entire generation to die in the wilderness. A prophecy is not automatic — obedience determines manifestation.

2.4. The Prophetic Word as a Compass

Prophecy acts as a spiritual compass, directing the believer through seasons of uncertainty. Psalm 119:105 says, “Thy word is a lamp unto

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my feet and a light unto my path.” When God speaks, He gives clarity about where you are, where you’re going, and what to do next. Even when the full picture is not revealed, the instruction you obey today prepares the ground for tomorrow’s revelation.

2.5. Responding to Prophetic Direction

To walk correctly under prophetic direction:

1. Discern the voice — Confirm it aligns with Scripture and the Spirit of God.
2. Document the word — Write it down; every detail matters.
3. Seek understanding — Ask God for the wisdom to interpret the instruction.
4. Act in faith — Partial obedience is still disobedience.
5. Stay in prayer — Prayer sustains and protects prophetic progress.

2.6. Prophetic Instruction and Timing

Sometimes, the instruction doesn’t make sense because the timing isn’t yet clear. Obedience must precede understanding. God told Joshua to march around Jericho without saying when the walls would fall. The obedience of faith brought divine timing into manifestation. Obedience brings revelation; revelation rarely precedes obedience.

Conclusion

Prophecy that lacks instruction can excite but not transform. God’s prophetic voice is directional — it is meant to lead, align, and position you for purpose. Every time God speaks, He is not only informing you but inviting you into a path of obedience. The miracle is often hidden in the instruction. “Whatever He says to you, do it.” – John 2:5 When Mary

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spoke these words at the wedding in Cana, she unlocked the first miracle of Jesus — because obedience to divine instruction always births manifestation.



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