



January 2024

# Power Seeds

*...empowering your life.*

DAILY DEVOTIONAL & GUIDE

GEORGE & MANUELA IZUNWA



GATEWAY INTERNATIONAL CHURCH



PASTOR  
GEORGE  
IZUNWA  
Host

JANUARY  
TO PLEASE

GOD

IT IS 12 DAYS OF PRAYERS, PROPHECY & POWER

MON. 15TH - FRI. 26TH JAN 2024 | 5:00PM

PROPHETIC VIGIL | FRI. 26TH JAN 2024 | 10:00PM TILL DAWN

"ROHI" COVENANT SERVICE  
28TH JANUARY 2024

7:00  
AM  
1ST  
SERVICE

9:00  
AM  
2ND  
SERVICE

11:00  
AM  
3RD  
SERVICE



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# **POWER SEEDS**

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## QUIET TIME PROGRAMME

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Good Morning Jesus                          | 1Min          |
| Praise And Worship (Hymns & Songs)          | 6Mins         |
| Power Seeds & Bible Reading                 | 7Mins         |
| Prayer For Self & Family                    | 12Mins        |
| Prayer For Church & Others                  | 7Mins         |
| Spiritual Warfare                           | 5Mins         |
| Quiet Moment To Listen For Divine Direction | 5Mins         |
| Final Song and Closing                      | 2Mins         |
| <b>Total</b>                                | <b>45Mins</b> |



# ▶ INTRODUCTION

“And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.”

Mark 1:35

PASTOR & BARR. MRS.  
GEORGE IZUNWA

During King David's reign, the tabernacle (the movable tent) that Moses had made was erected at the high place in Gibeon. This tabernacle represented the presence of God among the people.

At one particular time when David sinned, he needed a more immediate and convenient altar, so God sent him to Ornan and told David to build on Ornan's threshing floor. **1 Chronicles 21:26** says, “*And David built there an altar to the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings, and called on the LORD; and He answered him from heaven by fire on the altar of burnt offering.*”

Thanks to Jesus, the sacrificial system is out, the need to go through Levitical priests to get to God is out, and the need to stand before a particular altar whenever you pray is out. However, even though all those things are no more, the spirit of each part of David's worship is still necessary today.

You see, your body is now the temple. **1st Corinthians 6:19** says, “*Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit...?*”

It is your responsibility to build an altar to the Lord in your heart, maintain it, and visit it frequently! Receive grace!

Open your Bible and prepare to find the power of His presence as Pastor George Izunwa and Co-Pastor, Manuela Izunwa are set to take you on a journey through the Scriptures in this monthly devotional.

# THE GATEWAY STRATEGY

## This is Gateway International Church!

**Our mission** is to help you genuinely encounter God.

**There are three (3) values that drive everything we do in this church;**

- i- We Love God Passionately,
- ii- We Love People Unconditionally, and
- iii- We Live Our Faith Intentionally!

**There are four (4) things that define a true Jesus' follower;**

- i- Every true disciple studies & **LEARNS** from the Bible!
- ii- Every true disciple **LIVES** in holiness before God!
- iii- Every true disciple **LOVES** & serves in the church!
- iv- Every true disciple **LEADS** others to Jesus Christ!

**There are five (5) things that will help you get the best from this church;**

- i- Always come expectant and worship with passion!

## THE GATEWAY STRATEGY

- ii- Receive the man of God with an open heart!
- iii- Be regular and punctual in every church service!
- iv- Join a cell group & serve in a church department!
- v- Use our Welcome Centre for all your enquiries!

**There are three (3) activities that define our God first culture as a church;**

- I- God first quiet time!
- ii- God first yearly and monthly consecration!
- iii- God first tithing and first fruits!



**2024**

# **▶ ROHI COVENANT CONFESSION**

**(Lift your right hand and declare body)**

I confess that God is a good God!

He is my source; He is taking good care of me!

My life is sustained by His covenant!

**Today, standing on Romans 10 vs 9-10, I affirm that Jesus Christ is my Lord**

He died and rose from dead!

His sacrifice paid the price for all my sins!

He is in heaven now but His Holy Spirit lives in me!

Jesus is my life; I live by His Word; I am led by His Spirit!

I believe that in Him and through Him, I am a member of the family of God.

And very soon, He will come back to take me home!

**Because of Jesus Christ, I am blessed of God!**

My DNA is supernatural!

I walk in prosperity; I create my dreams; I find favour everywhere!

**2023**

# **COVENANT CONFESSION**

Nations open their gate and treasures to me!

I cannot fail!

Nothing dies in my hand

No power can hurt my destiny!

Goodness and Mercy follow me at all times!

On my path, there is no sickness nor death!

**This year, 2024, I receive the covenant of ROHI!**

The Lord is my shepherd!

Gateway International Church is my spiritual family!

I out God first, I pay my tithes; I am a soul winner; I serve in God's kingdom!

My life works; my faith works; my relationship works; my business works; everything works!

My covenant place is at the topmost top!

Every promise and prophecy of 2024 will be fulfilled in my life!

There shall be no loss nor evil report in my life this year!

Only good things are permitted in my life!

# PROGRAMMING YOUR YEAR

## KEY TEXT

*Job 22:28 "Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—Programming your year is the process of designing, developing and setting the course for your life. Anytime life is left to itself, it ends up at the mercy of strange forces and strange circumstances, as Satan also has a plan for you (1 Peter 5:8). However, you can resist the devil's wiles by determining how you want your year to look at the beginning of the year. The Almighty God is the Master Programmer. He declares the end from the beginning. Hence, we emulate our Father by conducting spiritual programming which is simply framing your expectations by the covenant and by the prophetic. God has your days mapped out for you (Psalm 139:16) but you must set the stage in preparation and anticipation for it to be fulfilled.

Nothing takes God unawares as there are no emergencies with Him. He prepares before He begins and He finishes before He starts. He is never uncertain and you will never catch Him worrying whether anything He decides to do will work or not. If our Father is diligent in this matter of programming, we must follow suit. The Holy Spirit is evidence that the Spirit of God lives in you and whatever He can do, you are also empowered to do. If you don't program your life; life will program you. Failure to handle things before they begin will make life a struggle for you. Begin now to paint the picture of how your year will end!

**APPLICATION**—To programme your year, exercise faith. Determine how you want your year to end now and set up structures to help you achieve your goals. Declare it! Prepare for emergencies! Even before Adam fell, God made provision for his recovery. Map out strategies to help you bounce back on your feet when your plans go awry. Raise your

expectations high and be audacious to dream big, yet realistic about what you can do. In conclusion, your ability to effectively programme your year in alignment with the Will of God for your life is enhanced by studying God's Word, engaging in prophetic prayers, raising memorial altars and Spiritual Impartation. Apply these and watch your year move in the direction of God's plan for you.



*Father, as I begin to programme my year, order my steps and keep me in the centre of Your will, Amen.*



How do you wish to see your year-end? Start programming one day at a time and you will be surprised at how fruitful your year will be.



**Genesis 1 – 4**

# INVOKING SUPERNATURAL SPONSORSHIP THROUGH PRAYERS

KEY  
TEXT

*Psalms 2:8 "Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**— Greatness in life is not by luck, it is a deliberate journey. Every great destiny is built on a man's natural efforts, backed up with supernatural sponsorship—whether from God or the devil. Job was a man supernaturally sponsored by God and even the devil testified of it in Job 1:10 *"Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? Thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land."* Many believers are down because they are not properly holding on to who will sponsor them (God). Men don't rise because they're strong rather they rise based on connectivity to their sponsors

One of the forces that sponsor a believer is the power of prayers. Prayer can accomplish that which we cannot do by our strength as it says in **Matthew 19:26**, ***"But Jesus looked at them and said to them, 'With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.'***" Before engaging in the pursuit of your goals this year, you need to spend time fighting on your knees. Many people wait for God to say something concerning them but there are times when God gives you the privilege of saying something concerning yourself while He confirms it by Himself. Through prayer, we surrender the battle to God and put God and all His resources against the enemy.

**APPLICATION**— If God moves in power by the prayers of His people, what keeps you from praying or praying more? The amplified classic version of **James 5:16** says ***"The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working]."*** The earnest prayer of a righteous man produces results. Elijah was like any other human being. The Bible says he prayed that there would be no rain and the earth went without rain for three and a half years. He prayed again, and the heavens supplied rain. God honoured Him and gave him a voice in his nation. Will your destiny be divinely sponsored? If yes, See to it that your prayers are "heartfelt" and "continued". Rewards will come and most definitely, they will be visible.



*Father, thank You for this insight into Your word. I pray that whatever it takes to make the most of this year, You give it to me, and make it a fruitful year, in Jesus' name. Amen!*



Sign up for a committed lifestyle of prayers. If you can, create a schedule that works for you.



**Genesis 5 – 8**



# A GRATEFUL HEART

## COVENANT DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER

KEY  
TEXT

*Isaiah 35:10 ESV "And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away."*

A new year is God's gift to you. It is God saying you have a chance at another year. It is God saying your life is valuable and needed around here. Many didn't make it even though they saw the last day of 2023. But you are here. Life is something to be grateful for. Today, come to God with a grateful heart and express your gratitude to Him.

### Prayer Points:

1. Father, what a faithful God You are! I bless You for all that You are to me.
2. Thank You Lord for 2024. This is a year that You have made for my advancement in destiny; I connect to Your programme for my life, in Jesus' name.
3. Almighty God, thank You for my life and the vision You have given me for this year. I anticipate success every step of the way, in the name of Jesus. You have made and established for my good. I will eat of the tree of 2024. Satisfy me with Your goodness.
4. Lord, thank You for my family, business, job, and everything You have blessed me with. I declare that the lines are falling for me in pleasant places and my inheritance is goodly.
5. Father, I thank You for Your promises and the prophecies over my life; they are actualized in 2024, in the name of Jesus!
6. Oh Lord, You are my Shepherd! Thank You for daily watching over me. This year, I will be the evidence of your lovingkindness and tender mercy.
7. Thank You Father for your servants all around the world, whom You have ordained and equipped for the spread of the Gospel this year. Go ahead of them and release Your divine strength upon their lives. Let there be an influx of souls into the Kingdom in this season.
8. Father, thank You for Gateway International Church and Your Covenants that we constantly enjoy. Thank You for Your mighty acts in our midst. In this new year, oh Lord, do more! Exceed our expectations!
9. Today, I bless You for Your son, Pastor George Izunwa. Thank You for preserving his life, family and ministry. This year, watch over him to keep him, in the name of Jesus!
10. Thank You for our country, Nigeria. We speak healing, peace and transformation over the different cities around Nigeria and other nations of the world, in Jesus' name. Amen!

# FRAMING YOUR WORLD

## KEY TEXT

*Hebrews 11:3 "Through faith, we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXTS** - The Greek word translated "framed" from our key text is "*Katartizo*", which means to repair, frame, perfect, mend and restore. Everybody's world is a picture of what he created or refused to mend. By applying the right faith principles we can create our world. Through faith in God, we understand that He created the visible world by framing it from the unseen because faith is a medium of transport from the invisible to the visible realm. With faith, there are no impossibilities. The beauty of faith is, it doesn't matter the size. The minutest faith has enormous powers to produce huge results. You can shape your daily experiences by speaking God's Word. Just like how God created everything with His words, you too have creative abilities because you are made in His image and likeness. You possess a creative force within yourself to craft any kind of life or environment you desire using faith-filled words. You have control over your destiny and can change events in your life through powerful beliefs. Don't limit yourself! Believe for big things and trust in an unlimited God who always exceeds expectations. Remember: build up your faith first so that it aligns with God's thoughts which are higher than ours!

**APPLICATION**— Today, call forth what you want to see in your life and frame your world. As you utter those words of faith, the Holy Spirit will brood over them and make them a reality. It makes no difference what has happened in your life in the past; there's hope for a change. The power for that change is in your mouth. Speak words of faith, blessing and power and recreate your world! Perfect, mend and restore everything in your world



PRAYER

*Father, thank You for Your word today. In agreement with this word, I take charge of every activity in my world. Today, I decree by faith, that I will no more be disadvantaged in Jesus' Name, Amen!*



ACTION POINT

Highlight areas of your life that need to be repaired or framed. Start declaring words of faith, based on how you would want them to be.



DAILY BIBLE READING

Genesis 13 – 17

# PAINT A PICTURE

## KEY TEXT

Isaiah 55:11 "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it"

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHT ON TEXT**— One of the things we know about God is that He declares the end from the beginning. Nothing ever catches God off guard because He always plans and programme the course of things before they even exist (see Jeremiah 1:5). And yes, this same ability lies within every one of us. To paint a picture is to use your perception, imagination and desire to design, develop and manage your future. Now we may not be omnipotent like God, but still, we are people of faith. As people of faith, we are connected to the supernatural and therefore can programme just like God.

Our text gives us a hint on how we can do this. It tells us how the Lord uses 'words' to accomplish that which pleases Him, and as His children, we must adopt this very principle. If a picture paints a thousand words, then why can't a thousand words paint a picture? Life and death are in the power of the tongue, so speak! Speak and paint the picture you want to see in your life. But remember, your speaking does not begin with your mouth, but rather with your heart (see Matthew 12:34). Just as Louise Hay stated, our words are extensions of our thoughts, so we must always be wary and careful, guarding our thoughts and hearts with all diligence.

**APPLICATION**— The words of the president hold more weight than an average civilian's. The best words to paint your life with are the words of the Lord, as His words never return to him void. You may ask, how do I paint the picture of my life with God's words? (1) **Prophecy to yourself** based on what God puts in your heart. Every scripture carries your destiny within itself. (2) **Take the promises** and use them to frame your desires. (3) **Keep your eyes glued** on the promises. (4) **Set up pictures** of your expectations. Visualise your life beginning this year.



*Father, help me to see the beautiful life You have designed for me and paint my life accordingly, in Jesus' name.*



Do you have a vision board? If not, make one for yourself and your family.



Genesis 18 – 20

# ALPHA AND OMEGA

## KEY TEXT

*Isaiah 46:10 KJV, "Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—Alpha and Omega are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet respectively. Theologians have postulated how the term “Alpha and Omega” is used as a representation of the comprehensiveness of the Lord. How He can encompass all that was, all that is, and all that is to come. Our text, however, expresses another dimension of this. It shows us another aspect of His nature, how He does not just know the end, but rather declares it before it even begins. The question now is, if you have a father who declares the end of things before they begin, why are you still trying to handle that situation alone? The Prophet Jeremiah was ordained a prophet before he was even conceived. The great mystery revealed through the coming of Jesus was spoken about by prophets before He came. Our reconciliation with God was arranged even before Adam fell. Do you believe the Lord doesn't know how that seemingly hopeless and dead situation will turn out in the end? Do you believe that one word from Him can't turn that situation around?

**APPLICATION**—Get God's opinion on it. Don't let the current view of your situation blind you to what God has declared over you. Life sometimes may seem like a bombardment of storms; it may seem like there is no hope for tomorrow, and you may feel as though the trouble is a sign of the absence of God in your life. But remember, the Lord is an ever-present help in trouble. He was there at the beginning of the trouble, He has already declared the end of it all, and He is also the one in the middle guiding us towards the glorious ending. Rest, knowing that the Lord takes pleasure in seeing you prosper. And since He will surely do all that pleases him, then you will surely prosper.



*Father, thank You for Your Word. May Your counsel stand in my life, in Jesus' name.*



Rest in God.



Genesis 21 – 23



# FIRSTFRUITS

KEY  
TEXT

*Proverbs 3:9 "Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase."*

Foundations are prophetic. The moment you lay the foundation for anything, you have decided about that thing. If you lay the foundation of a bungalow, you would be a fool to put a two-storey building on top of it. The kind of foundation a man lays in January determines how far his life will go in the year. Understand that January begins the year for you and thus is your first fruit. Give it to God and watch Him handle the rest of the year.

## How do you give your January to God?

- Avoid the trap of sin
- Advertise Jesus and the church
- Be generous with your giving
- Serve God passionately
- Seek God desperately

Lay the right foundation for your year and celebrate your victory all year long.



*Lord, I give You my January; please, give me the rest of the year.*



Give God your January.



Genesis 24 – 25

# DON'T WAIT FOR GOD

## KEY TEXT

*Isaiah 44:26a NIV "Who carries out the words of his servants and fulfils the predictions of his messengers...."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**— It is important to wait on the Lord. Yet, there are some situations in which God will expect you to take action! Many people wait for God to say something concerning them but there are times when God gives you the privilege of saying something concerning yourself and He proceeds to confirm it. In Esther 8:5-8, Haman had already been hanged but Esther did not stop there. She went further to repeal the sentence of death placed on the Jews. If she hadn't said what she wanted to be done to the law, the king wouldn't have read her mind to know that Haman's death wasn't the end yet and to grant her request. In the same vein, God has given us the power to speak into our families, health, business, academics, relationships, church etc. and He is faithful to confirm the words of His children.

In Matthew 18:18, Jesus told us that whatever we bind on earth would be bound in heaven and vice versa. He did not tell us what to bind exactly but he assured us that it would be bound anyways. So, in times of trouble when you identify the source of that problem, don't wait for God to explicitly tell you what to do! Bind that trouble in His name first, then you can await further instructions. As the temple of the Lord, God has given you authority to act in His Name. Your words are powerful and creative. Your ability to discern what God expects from you in every situation will help you save time and save lives.

**APPLICATION**— The purpose of today's text will be actualized by adhering to the following principles;

- Acknowledge that You are the servant today's text talks about.
- Don't ask amiss.
- Pray and decree in the name of Jesus.
- Speak His Word in every situation you find yourself in.



PRAYER

*Father, thank You because I know that You would confirm my words and glorify Your Name in my life, Amen.*



ACTION POINT

Prophecy into that situation today and it shall be so because God honours and confirms the words of His children.



DAILY BIBLE READING

Genesis 26 – 28

# YOUR FAITH WON'T FAIL

## KEY TEXT

**LUKE 22:31-32:** "And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren."

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**— In our key text, we witness Jesus forewarning Peter about an impending danger. Although God did not prevent Peter from denying Him, Jesus prayed that Peter's faith would not fail. Rather than asking for Simon to never fall, Jesus requested that even if he did stumble, his trust in God's perfect love would remain intact. Even at the bottom of the pit of failure, Peter would declare, "God still loves me". This is what it means to have faith and this is what we must always confess with our words and hearts.

Satan aimed not only to destroy but obliterate him utterly; however, God prevented it from happening by limiting the extent of testing or trial bestowed upon us as individuals. Similar life experiences are intended to remove chaff-like attitudes from our lives, a process similar to how farmers sift wheat after harvest. When your chaff begins to disappear, over time, you become a better person through the lessons learned from your failure. However, through the process, you are still held securely in God's hand.

**APPLICATION**— There lies a glorious intent behind each failure experienced throughout your lifetime! Whenever "rock-bottom" moments occur, it becomes crucial that your confidence in God's love remains unshaken. Hence, the reason Jesus prayed for Simon and is still doing so today for all believers. You see; when you understand your weaknesses and how you are what you are by the grace of God, it becomes easier for you to accommodate others. Suppose the Holy Spirit filled him before experiencing any significant failures first-hand, then maybe he'd stand proudly on Pentecost Day while boasting about never having failed previously. The lesson however is that God wants you to win through your failures and never lose faith in yourself because of them. Your faith won't fail!



*Father, I receive strength for my moments of temptation and pray that You equip and strengthen my spirit to overcome the vices of the devil in Jesus' name.*



Daily draw strength from God's Word and teachings; uphold someone in need of strength.



**Genesis 29 – 31**

# SURRENDERED TO GOD

## COVENANT DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER

### KEY TEXT

*James 4:7 "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."*

A surrendered life is one God can use and there is no better time to surrender than at the start of something. A successful year is characterised by a series of events that end up favourably. Yet, it takes a surrendered heart to enjoy what each year offers. One who is surrendered to God gives up their will, pains, pleasures and ambitions for the fulfilment of God's purpose. When a person is surrendered, consecration, flexibility, sensitivity and obedience become easy and the devil has no chance of winning over such a person. This year, as you surrender to God, He will make all things add up for your good.

### Prayer Points:

1. Father, thank You for Your covenant faithfulness. I am grateful for this year, 2024. Be glorified in my life!
2. I come before You with my heart bowed. I surrender my all to You. I surrender my will, plans, visions, pleasures and pains to You. Take them and make me a destiny!
3. Today, I denounce and separate myself from anything that doesn't look like or represent You in my life.
4. I consecrate myself to You. Use me for Your glory, Lord. Let my life be proof that You can raise men from the pit and set them among princes.
5. This year, I surrender my mind and tongue to You! Refine me again and again. Purge me, wash me and clothe me with Your glory!
6. Father, let me radiate your beauty. Let my life reflect your light and love, in the name of Jesus! Oh Lord, You are my Shepherd! Thank You for daily watching over me. This year, I will be the evidence of your lovingkindness and tender mercy.
7. Thank You Father for your servants all around the world, whom You have ordained and equipped for the spread of the Gospel this year. Go ahead of them and release Your divine strength upon their lives. Let there be an influx of souls into the Kingdom in this season, to the glory of Your name.
8. Father, thank You for Gateway International Church and Your Covenants that we constantly enjoy. Thank You for Your mighty acts in our midst. In this new year, oh Lord, we surrender to Your leadership and we ask that You do more with us, within us and through us! Jesus, exceed our expectations!
9. Today, I thank You for Your servant, Pastor George Izunwa. Thank You for preserving him, his family and his ministry. Our Shepherd, watch over him to keep him, in the name of Jesus!
10. Thank You for our country, Nigeria. We speak healing, peace and transformation over the different cities around Nigeria and other nations of the world, in Jesus' name. Amen!



DAILY BIBLE  
READING:

Genesis 32 – 35



# STRENGTHEN YOUR BRETHREN

KEY  
TEXT

*Luke 22:32 "But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**— The verb "strengthen" means to cause to be inwardly firm or committed, confirm, establish. It is such a positive, weighty, substantial word. For many of us, it is our mission. As we strive to grow in our Christian faith, we must also pay attention to the sharpening and building up of our brethren as the Scriptures say in Proverbs 27:17, *"As iron sharpens iron; so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend."* It is too risky to do life alone; on this journey, we need our brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus. Not only do we need them, but they need us too. That's why every gift and experience we have as children of God is for the edification and strengthening of the body of Christ.

Strengthening our brothers and sisters is a key part of our mission. When we see people weak and struggling, we are to walk alongside them and strengthen them with Christ's strength. Have you been hurt? Has your faith been wounded? Then let God fulfil this promise of His Word in you. But after Jesus has strengthened you, then the onus is on you to go out and strengthen the faith of your brothers and sisters. Your words or acts can be the "refreshing" that person has long desired, it could be what changes what could have turned out negative for the person.

**APPLICATION** — Each of us endure hardships and have seen God's love and power revealed to us through them. This is what we can share with others: God's truth, His character, and His power in our lives. As we walk through trials and problems, we grow in spiritual maturity and with that maturity comes the responsibility to pass along the knowledge of Christ that has been revealed to us. What better way to help strengthen a believer than by the use of the word in fellowship together? That person who confided in you about that challenge or weight saw strength in you. Be an extension of Christ; who prays for our faith not to fail in the days of adversity.



PRAYER

*Lord, I pray that you use me to strengthen others and enable them to strengthen others in return as we all grow in stature and faith into the fullness of your purpose.*



DAILY BIBLE  
READING:

This week, reach out to that person you know needs comfort via God's word and encouragement and be a medium of strength to the person.

Genesis 36 – 38

## PUT A BLESSING ON IT

### KEY TEXT

*Deuteronomy 11:29, "And it shall come to pass, when the LORD thy God hath brought thee in unto the land whither thou goest to possess it, that thou shalt put the blessing upon mount Gerizim, and the curse upon mount Ebal."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**— In physics, we were made to understand by Isaac Newton that, "Every object is at a state of rest until an external force is applied". Unlike physics, when it comes to spiritual things, whatever is left in a state of rest or chance ends up at the mercy of strange forces and circumstances. Friend, I would like you to note that as much as you do not or do have a plan for yourself, the devil also has his programs for your life. This is why you cannot afford to take life with levity. Spiritual programming involves designing and managing performance by framing expectations through covenant and prophetic means. The Bible gives us an understanding of God's nature as a programmer from Isaiah 46:10 NIV. God being all-knowing and powerful, knows enough to always set everything right from inception. This is the very reason He cannot be cut off-guard because He knows the end and in-between from the very beginning. Now, as He is so are we. This ultimately gives us an advantage and keeps us prepared so life doesn't take us unawares.

**APPLICATION**— Today's seed emphasizes understanding how God's power works through blessings. So for everything you do, every decision, adventure, get the blessing. The blessing is a spiritual force. It is an empowerment to prosper proclaimed by someone of higher spiritual authority. The blessing sets destiny in motion. A blessing can confirm or guide the direction a person is seeking for their lives. The good news is this; the power of the blessing is continuous. What you enjoy or suffer today, is as a result of the blessing you received or ignored yesterday. When there is a blessing at work, forces beyond a man's thinking are put to work on his behalf. You may have the qualifications, beauty, experiences, opportunities, charisma and everything packaged for success, but never settle there; put a blessing on these things. Value God's blessing diligently and seek it from anyone who has authority over you—parents, bosses, pastors, etc. Remember, the Blessing of God is above all others. May God bless you!



*Father, thank You for Your word today; I engage the power of blessings over everything I set out to do today in Jesus' name.*



Speak blessed words over every one of your plans and aspirations for this year.



Genesis 39 – 41

# DON'T OUTSOURCE YOUR DESTINY

## KEY TEXT

**Genesis 30:37 ERV,** "Then Jacob cut green branches from poplar and almond trees. He stripped off some of the bark so that the branches had white stripes on them."

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**— To outsource is to leave the handling of a task in the hands of another person but you. It is based on the principle of delegation and is a very useful resource in the business world. However, it is a costly mistake that no human being should ever make in the battle of destiny. Nobody should be as invested in you as you; not your family, friends, church or even your prophet/pastor can determine the course of your destiny the way you can. Even your enemies and the witches in your hometown can't influence your destiny like you. Today's text is a prime example of how we can take charge of destiny. It tells us a story of the life of Jacob. How after fourteen years of unpaid labour, his father-in-law still sought to cheat him again in his compensation. He separated all the spotted, stripped and black lambs and goats, and left Jacob herding a flock he had no hope of receiving anything from. Such wickedness! But that is the nature of man. But what did Jacob do in that situation? Did he run to a native doctor? No! He became his native doctor. He knew the promises of the Lord over his life and made a prophetic move based on that revelation. Such should be the behaviour of every Christian.

**APPLICATION**— You are the first priest in your life, act as one. Have you been denied what rightfully belongs to you? Your happiness? Your freedom? Your child? Your finances? Your promotion? Stand and fight! Don't take your situation lightly and believe it will get better. Nothing good in life ever comes without a fight. God promised Abraham that his descendants would inherit the promised land, but still, they had to wage wars from the moment they stepped into Canaan. We as Christians have two great advantages in the fight for destiny: first, we are always fighting from the place of victory, and second, God is in this battle with us (see Psalm 46:1). How do you involve God in your battles? **(1)** By warring with His word. **(2)** By prophetic prayers. **(3)** By setting up memorial altars. **(4)** By making faith moves.

Don't be casual about your life and destiny!



*Father, by Your spirit, I am fortified to fight and win, in Jesus' name.*



Do what you can to take responsibility for your life.



**Genesis 42 – 43**

# SEEKING GOD

KEY  
TEXT

*Proverbs 8:17 "I love them that love me, and those that seek me early shall find me."*

God is loving and lovable. Whenever a person genuinely loves God, it reflects in the person's pursuit of God. Hence, the major driver for every genuine pursuit of God is love. That's why God leaves His seekers with a reward such that eyes have neither seen nor heard what God has in store for those who genuinely love Him (1 Corinthians 2:9).

## What Makes A God-Seeker?

- Genuine hunger for God and passion for His Word.
- Intentionality in fellowshiping with God through prayers, Bible study, worship and fasting.
- Desire to stay in the company of other seeking believers.

Are you a God-lover? Are you a passionate God-seeker? This is the month to seek God like never before, convinced that as you seek Him this month, everything else will be added to you within the remaining days of the year. Seek God this month and watch Him make you!



*Father, increase my hunger for You and help me to seek You genuinely, in the name of Jesus.*



Seek God this month.



Genesis 44 – 46



## MAKE YOUR LIFE A SPIRITUAL HABITAT

KEY  
TEXT

*Acts 8:39 "And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—The supernatural is a depth of untapped realities. Over and again, we have heard about, seen and experienced the supernatural. There have been testimonies of healing, deliverances, resurrections, favours, etc. Some people have had visions, trances and words of knowledge, and some others have experienced prophetic depths, working of miracles and so on.

Philip was one of the Deacons of the early church who manifested several signs after Jesus' death and served God's Kingdom fervently as an evangelist. His life was characterised by faithfulness, wisdom, godliness, and a good report of deep spirituality and faith in God. On one of those days, as he went about his business, an angel visited and led him to an Ethiopian Eunuch who at this time was reading the Bible but couldn't understand it. When he met the man, he explained the Scriptures (as he had read) to him, got him saved and baptised and then left him. Notice that he did not just leave, the Spirit of the Lord took him and in verse 40 of Acts chapter 8, he was in a new city where he had been carried.

**APPLICATION**—In today's world, Philip would not need a visa or any means of transportation to get into different countries as long as He was in sync with the Holy Spirit and ready to do His bidding. No doubt, Philip's habitat was the spiritual. As a result, he and many others enjoyed the supernatural life as it ought to be. If you make your life a spiritual habitat, spiritual realities will become second nature to you but if you make your life a natural habitat, natural things will be the norm in your life. God is interested in revealing His secrets to you. He desires that you live in the consciousness of spiritual realities but then, you need to press in. Make the spiritual your dwelling place and watch the supernatural become your reality.



*Father, You are my dwelling place; let my life reflect divinity, in Jesus' name. Amen!*



Be conscious of God's presence as you live through your day.



Genesis 47 – 50

# THE ATMOSPHERE OF GRACE

KEY  
TEXT

*Psalms 92:13 "Those that be planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—Atmosphere is everything. It is the pervading tone or mood of a place, situation, person or creative work. Your atmosphere sets the tone for your experiences. It determines the outcome of events in your life. Everyone carries an atmosphere. Jesus, while He was on earth carried an atmosphere of grace such that whenever He walked into a place, His impact was felt. But it didn't just happen; He created His atmosphere through His practice of consistent prayer and fellowship with God (Mark 1:35-37).

There's an atmosphere required by every child of God to flourish. To thrive, plants also require a certain atmosphere. The same applies to fish, eagles, other animals, etc. Jesus understood this. In the Old Testament, the people of God usually created their atmospheres by making sacrifices and burnt offerings. In the New Testament, atmospheres were created through prayers and heartfelt worship. Recall today's text; it is those who are planted in the house of God that flourish. This can be interpreted to mean that the house of God is the right atmosphere for His children to flourish.

**APPLICATION**—Jesus created an atmosphere of grace which birthed the signs and wonders he manifested. What atmosphere are you creating? When you create an atmosphere of grace, you enjoy ease, speed and blessings, and flourishing becomes natural. David understood the importance of setting the atmosphere for success in life. When he became king, He brought in the ark. His son Solomon slaughtered a thousand burnt offerings. All for what? For the Lord

and the success of their assignments. Determine the atmosphere you want to create. An atmosphere of grace is an atmosphere of favour. It is an atmosphere of the supernatural. Create yours today by praying fervently, worshipping wholeheartedly, sacrificing painfully, giving cheerfully and guarding your heart jealously.



*Gracious Father, breathe upon me and saturate my life with the fragrance of Your presence.*



Create an atmosphere of grace for yourself and your family.



Exodus 1 – 4

# DIVINE VISITATION

## COVENANT DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER

### KEY TEXT

*1 Samuel 2:21 "And the LORD visited Hannah, so that she conceived, and bare three sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel grew before the LORD."*

Whenever God has a vacancy to fill, He schedules a visitation. Divine visitations open the door for people to enter into the secrets of God. It launches men and women into their destiny purposes. It creates the manifestation of a long-awaited miracle. Just one visit from God can turn an ordinary person into a global icon. Notice how the "barren" Hannah suddenly became the mother of children. By divine visitation, Mary's life changed and she became the mother of the Messiah. What about David as in today's text? Just one visitation moved him from being a forgotten shepherd boy to being anointed as the second king of Israel. Desire and expect a divine visitation today!

### Prayer Points:

1. Father, I worship You today. I thank You for Your covenant faithfulness. Be glorified in my life!
2. Lord, I am hungry for You. Fill me up! Visit me with all Your goodness. Take me deeper into You, in Jesus' name.
3. Father, visit me in Your mercy. Lay Your hands upon me. Change my story. Let my life be that of visible, notable, undeniable, positive change.
4. By the Blood of Jesus, I visit every evil ancient covenant speaking against my family and father's house; limiting our progress and impacting the life of anyone in my household negatively; I declare those evil covenants are shattered in the name of Jesus.
5. Oh Lord, just as You visited Hannah, visit me. Visit my family. Take away the shame. Let negative history be rewritten in the name of Jesus!
6. Over my life, family and business, let the book of remembrance be open! Father, show up in a way that only You can. Let people recognise that You have helped me.
7. Thank You Father for your servants all around the world through which your counsel is being established. Visit them as they go about their assignments.
8. Lord, concerning Gateway International Church, let there be strange acts of your grace. Visit us in this season. We call forth a harvest of testimonies in our midst.
9. Over Pastors George and Manuela Izunwa, we ask for back-to-back manifestations of your mercy in their lives and family. Visit them with your power and love. Let their rewards come in abundance this month, in the name of Jesus!
10. Thank You for our country, Nigeria. Father, just one visit from You will change everything. Visit us in Your justice and mercy. Put a new song in our mouths, in Jesus' name.



DAILY BIBLE  
READING:

Exodus 5 – 7

# THE GOD THAT SEES

## KEY TEXT

**Genesis 16:13 AMP** "Then she called the name of the Lord who spoke to her, "You are God Who Sees"; for she said, "Have I not even here [in the wilderness] remained alive after seeing Him [who sees me with understanding and compassion]?"

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**— It doesn't matter how rebellious a sheep is, to its shepherd, it is worth going after and attending to. In Matthew 18:12-14, Jesus shared a parable of the lost sheep. He explained how a shepherd leaves 99 out of 100 sheep to go after a straying lost one. He used this parable to describe God's commitment to His people and how important each one of us is to the Lord. He never has too many people on His side that He no longer cares about having more.

Hagar was Sarah's maid who had conceived for her husband, Abraham and began to put up a very nasty attitude. Sarah, in return, maltreated her until she ran away for her life. While in the Wilderness, an angel of the Lord appeared to her, comforted her, talked with her and instructed her to go back to her mistress, Sarah and be of good behaviour. He didn't just stop at that, he promised her and her child compensation. To everyone else, Hagar was an insolent maid to her mistress and deserved what she got from Sarah but to God, Hagar was a lost sheep who needed to be found and restored.

**APPLICATION**— Whom have you written off and abandoned to fate? Who has written you off and left you to wander in the wilderness? Realise that Jesus, the Good Shepherd still has His eyes on you. He is still looking out for others as much as He's looking out for you. Neither you nor the other person is a finished case. His speciality is going after the abandoned, forsaken and rejected and giving them second chances. He's interested in taking a chance on you. He sees your weaknesses but then, He also sees your strengths. He sees your rebellion but He also sees your pain and fears. He sees your foolish acts but He also knows that foolishness is not a permanent state. He sees your needs and tears even when no one else does and He is coming through for you. Today, see yourself and others the way the good shepherd sees us. You are sheep.



*Dear Lord, thank You for having your eyes continually on me. For this, I know that my destiny is secure in You, in Jesus' name. Amen!*



What have you given up on? Hold on, call on the God that sees and stay persistent this year.



Exodus 8 – 10

# LET GOD OWN YOU

KEY  
TEXT

*Exodus 13:2 "Sanctify unto me all the firstborn, whatsoever openeth the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and of beast: it is mine."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—When God claims ownership of a thing, He takes responsibility for that thing. Unlike most leaders who only wish to have a position and do no work, God takes His place of ownership in our lives and does the work required of an owner. The emphasis of today's text isn't on the principle of first fruits, it is rather about what happens to a person who is owned by God. Whether or not a person is the firstborn of his parents, the new covenant in Christ operates in an all-inclusive way such that we are joint heirs with Christ who is the firstborn of the family of God and we are also owned by God who takes responsibility for our lives.

When God owns you, He becomes the primary ruling force in your life. Nothing and no one else has authority over you unless it is authorized by God. When God owns you, He governs your life. He puts a wall of fire around you and jealously protects you. He determines who and what has access to you. He takes responsibility for your security and helps you to fulfil your purpose (Isaiah 43:21).

**APPLICATION**—Let God own you. When He does, you have nothing to lose but you have everything to gain. God owning you goes beyond being born again. When God owns you, you are completely surrendered to his leadership and authority. When you let God own you, you deliberately give up your intelligence and will for His purposes and preferences. When He shows the way, you follow. When He gives an instruction, you value it. These and more are what it means to let God own you. When God takes ownership of your life, then, He becomes Lord. Is God the Lord of your life? Have you let Him own you? Submit your all today and watch Him take charge. He is not Lord at all in your life if He is not Lord of all.



*Father, be my Lord! Come, take charge of my life. I surrender my all to you today, in Jesus' name!*



**Surrender all to God today!**



**Exodus 11 – 13**



# THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

KEY  
TEXT

**2 Chronicles 26:4-5 KJV** "And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Amaziah did. And he sought God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the visions of God: and as long as he sought the LORD, God made him to prosper."

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**— When you don't have a clear understanding, submit to someone who has a clearer understanding. God guides or tends to us through different mediums, like dropping thoughts in our subconscious, sending prophets or anyone to us, etc. Uzziah was already made a king at sixteen and it'd have been normal for today's person to think he's arrived, but he submitted under the tutelage of Zechariah who was said to have an understanding of visions.

We are in a generation where people feel they know or can do it themselves. The sad thing is that the more we feel we can go alone, the more God stays by and watches us make messes. Even when it seems a prophet isn't close, there's always a thought or a word from the Bible that God Himself whispers in a still and calm way that reflects His will. Would you hear Him today? Uzziah the king sought God and God made him to prosper. The place of God in our lives cannot be overemphasised. Moses said, "God, if your presence will not go with me, I won't go". Don't depend on your expertise, security and education (these and many more have failed a lot of people). God is our shepherd in this fold and men who seek God can never sink. He may not shout the way you expect or show up physically with a staff but He certainly guides us if we follow Him. If we allow Him, He orders our steps.

**APPLICATION**— The good shepherd has been on the wait while you strayed, doing your things your way. Determine today to allow Him to take the lead by beginning with your routines and advance afterwards. It's dangerous to do life alone but not more dangerous than taking a journey without the way, the truth and the life (God). Whatever position you find yourself in today, high, average or low, amplify God above it. Learn to allow Him to lead, instruct and be over all that concerns you and watch your life take shape. Learn to seek counsel from a sent man. Learn to listen while He speaks in that fury and you'll never make a grave mistake. Follow Him when it's clear and when it's unclear, before long you'll find out He was taking you on a journey.



*Heavenly Father, help me to recognize your leadership and stay guided by you all the time.*



intentionally call Him to guide you on that step you want to take now.



**Exodus 14 – 16**

# EXPERIENCING THE SUPERNATURAL

## KEY TEXT

*John 3:8 "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is everyone that is born of the Spirit."*

The supernatural is possible. It is life beyond the natural. Everyone who is a child of God should experience it or rather live in the reality of it—in their day-to-day lives, in relationships, in their finances and the manifestations of the gifts of the Spirit. Life becomes exciting for the believer when it transitions from the natural to the supernatural. This year, in addition to prayers, fasting and Bible Study, desire to make the supernatural your reality by doing the following:

- **Have a "right now" faith.** Don't postpone your answer. Believe it, expect it and expect it now!
- **Demonstrate sacrificial love for God.** Solomon had a supernatural life. He had 700 wives and 300 concubines. Still, he was the wealthiest man in his days and remains the wisest man in history. This did not just happen. In 1 Kings 3:3-5, the Bible records how he transitioned from being the mere son of King David to becoming this powerful man that is much talked about. He loved the Lord and went on to express it. You too, love the Lord and let your giving express it.
- **Speak your revelation as your reality.** The tongue is both a maker and a breaker. With your tongue, you can make your destiny or break it completely. What have you believed, never catch your tongue speaking contrary to it. (Psalm 50:23)
- **Invade your life with prophecy.** There are prophecies hanging over your life this year; call them into manifestation. War with them and don't cease until you win. (1 Timothy 1:18)



*Father, usher me into new realms in the supernatural as I act on Your Word, in Jesus' name.*



Apply the steps above.



Exodus 17 – 20

## THE MYSTERY OF ALTARS

### KEY TEXT

**Genesis 15:18-21 KJV, "In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates: the Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites."**

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—An altar is a place of meeting with God where a gift is offered to Him by way of a sacrifice. Altars are mysteries that are capable of carrying memorials for generations. Hence, the record of altars can be remembered for many generations to come! However, an altar can also be used as a medium to offer sacrifices to evil spirits as well but the key mystery about any altar is that the sacrifice keeps speaking. In Genesis 8:20, Noah erected the first Hebrew altar after the flood. The rainbow is a testament to this altar he erected and a reminder to God of the promise He made to mankind. Even today, after it rains, the rainbow still shines. Above all the altars that have ever been erected, the Sacrifice of Jesus Christ for mankind still speaks until eternity and the Blood of Jesus remains forever as the ultimate sacrifice for the propitiation of our sins and a memorial unto God (Hebrews 10:19-22).

In Genesis 15:1-21; Abraham offered a sacrifice unto God which caused him to receive a covenant and a promise from God as well. In verses 13-16, God told Abraham that his descendants would be enslaved for 400 years but promised him that He would deliver them. God remembered His covenant with Abraham and fulfilled His promise by bringing the Israelites out of bondage from Egypt. Abraham's sacrifice was still speaking for him and his generations to come.

**APPLICATION**—To raise an altar of memorial unto God, believe in the faithfulness of God, give a sacrifice that counts and watch over your sacrifice by tarrying in the place of prayers. When God accepts your sacrifice, He confirms it with His Word, He establishes His covenants with You and in turn, He requires You to wait patiently for the manifestation of His promise. Altars speak and ancient altars still speak. What is speaking concerning your destiny? Let the altar of Calvary speak for you this year.



PRAYER

*Father, may my sacrifice of love be accepted unto you. May it serve as a memorial for me and my generation. Amen.*



ACTION POINT

A memorial can be for good or for evil. Ensure your sacrifice speaks well for you to God. Believe that you will surely be remembered!



DAILY BIBLE READING:

Exodus 21 – 23

# GOD IS WORKING ON YOU

## KEY TEXT

*James 1:3-4 "Be assured that the testing of your faith [through experience] produces endurance [leading to spiritual maturity and inner peace]. And let endurance have its perfect result and do a thorough work, so that you may be perfect and completely developed [in your faith], lacking in nothing."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—I am convinced that Abraham's 25-year waiting period from when he was called by God at 75 to when he had Isaac was an intentional act of God to teach him a lesson. Who knows what the story would have been should Abraham have had Isaac earlier? Abraham who was so agitated and could not wait patiently for the promise without giving birth to Ishmael suddenly was ready to sacrifice the same son he had long anticipated on God's altar. That was God's test and Abraham's proof of growth.

Sometimes, when we have desires that seem not to be considered by God, prayers that seem not to be answered, expectations that seem delayed, etc, it has nothing to do with the faithfulness of God. Sometimes, it may be the devil withholding the manifestation of your answer. Yet again, at other times, it may be God asking you to wait. He may be saying wait because that is when He can get you to seek Him and trust Him more. While the goal is not seeking Him to get your needs met, He knows that when you seek Him over time and continue trusting Him, you will move from just seeking to love Him because nobody stays in the presence of God without growing in love for Him.

**APPLICATION**—Realise that every time your expectations seem delayed, God may be working on you. In Hebrews 10:35, the Word of God admonishes us to not cast away our confidence in God but rather wait patiently because it's when we have done His will that our answers manifest. Doing His will is allowing Him to work on you. He may be working on your character, prayer life, Bible study, faith, and generally, your Christian conduct. His goal is to shift your priorities so that your relationship with Him will be real and not transactional. Relax and be confident, God is working on you and He requires your cooperation to complete His work in your life. Cooperate!



*Father, thank You for always having the best plans for me. I receive grace to work in alignment with Your will, in Jesus' name! Amen!*



Wait patiently and cooperate with God while waiting.



Exodus 24 – 27

# EMPOWERED TO PROSPER

## COVENANT DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER

### KEY TEXT

**3 John 1:2** *"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."*

To be empowered is to be furnished with capacity, authority and everything it takes to get something done. It means to enforce a person's audacity. It is to make someone stronger and more confident, especially in controlling their life and claiming their rights. Prosperity is God's will for His children and it is your right as God's child to prosper. God has also empowered you to prosper. Today, you are going to enforce your prosperity.

### Prayer Points

1. Father, thank You for Your favour at work in my life and for every benefit You give to me daily! I'm grateful!
2. Oh Lord, open Your good treasures to me! Let the heavens over my life and family be open, in Jesus' name!
3. I decree: the works of my hands are blessed! Let there be a rain of abundance in my household! Let the earth yield to me in this season, in the name of Jesus!
4. Father, bless me and enlarge my coast! Make me a lender! I declare: I have all sufficiency in all things and I am a blessing to my world! My season of lack and borrowing is over forever!
5. **Psalm 2:8**—Father, today, let the doors of nations be opened to me! Wherever I step my foot, I take it as a possession! My visa is here! My set time for a favour is now!
6. **1 Corinthians 16:19**—Every power of darkness or human enemy against my lifting, standing in the way of my open door, scatter into pieces, in the name of Jesus!
7. Almighty God, I ask concerning Gateway International Church; let there be multiplied harvest and exponential growth on all sides, in the name of Jesus! Let souls be saved like never before! Lord, gather the people!
8. Today, I declare that Gateway International Church steps into her season of flight! Let resources flow in abundance! Release Your blessing upon us and cause us to prosper!
9. Father, over Your servant, Pastor George Izunwa, set him upon the wings of grace! Usher him into a season of abundance and greatness! Let greater doors for life and ministry be opened to him, in Jesus' name!
10. Lord Jesus, Nigeria is a fruitful field! Take us beyond our limitations! Amen!



DAILY BIBLE  
READING:

**Exodus 28 – 30**



# THE EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE

## KEY TEXT

John 14:21a *"He that hath my commandments and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me..."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—Sometimes, what we call love is a joke to God. Love is easy when you talk about it, dream it, imagine it, listen to music or watch it in movies. But we can't say the same when real practical love is the goal. Whereas the English language describes love as a feeling—a noun, we describe love as a verb—an action; a doing word. Love is work. Loving someone requires intentional effort and commitment. The intentional effort a person puts into loving another is what we mean by the expressions of love. Expressing love is about acting on the feeling of love. It is practically showing that someone means so much to you.

When we say we love God, it is not a feeling of affection but rather a commitment and conscious effort to affirm His place in our lives. Hence, we express our love to Him in various ways. Some of these expressions include desire, reverence, obedience, fellowship, service, sacrifice, worship, etc.

**APPLICATION**—Are you hungry for God? Do you desire Him? Do you anticipate or detest His presence? Do you struggle to put God first or give Him an honourable and reverential place in your life? David was a man after God's heart and with no iota of doubt, we can trace this reality to David's love for God, his devotion to him and the simplicity and authenticity of their relationship. Interestingly, everybody wants to be a person after God's heart but not everyone sees the work behind the story. David, while taking care of his father's

flock had grown greatly, not just in his skill as a musician but also in the anointing as a minister because he was intentional about his walk with God through worship, personal fellowship, a burning desire, obedience to God and intentional service. How do you express your love for God? Practise the different expressions of love and make real your confessions.



*Lord, teach me to love you indeed and let everything about me express that love, in Jesus' name.*



Which expression of love have you ignored? Practise it henceforth.



Exodus 31 – 34

# PUT GOD FIRST

KEY  
TEXT

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

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—The God-first principle is one we have practised for many years and I am convinced that when a person puts God first, God honours Him in everything else. Life is a battle of spirits and until you make your life spiritual, you will suffer like an ordinary man. Many unbelievers understand the need for spiritual fortification. Hence, they do all sorts of things to ensure their lives are not wasted on carelessness. Unfortunately, this is not so with Christians. We've got the most powerful person living in us but we choose to box Him up while we carry on our lives in the natural.

A natural or carnal man will put things first but a spiritual man puts God first at all times. The first, according to Scriptural principle, sanctifies the rest. Understand that God desires to take first place in your life and affairs. He wants to have your first fruits. He wants to have the first hour(s) of your day. He desires to have your early years in life. He wants to have your first income in everything. He wants your tithe to be your first expenditure in every expense. He wants your first thought to be about him when you are on the verge of making a decision. If you don't give him first place, everything else won't matter. His principle is "Me first"; seek Him first and everything else will be added (Matthew 6:33).

**APPLICATION**—How can you practically put God first? **(1) Structure your life around Him.** Never take anything off the table. Your sleeping and waking up, drinking and eating, and the entirety of your life should be built around God. Lay them down as an offering before Him [Romans 12:2 MSG]. **(2) Seek Him early.** Prioritise seeking Him early. This could mean two things—seeking him early in the morning and seeking Him before you are old and worn out. **(3) Make His purposes your calling.** Be intentional about your life and relationship with Him. Let your spiritual life override every other aspect of your life. **(4) Make sacrifices to honour Him.** What can you give up for God's sake and His kingdom? To what extent can you sacrifice for God?



*Lord, thank You for Your interest in my life. I receive the grace to put You first in everything, in Jesus' name. Amen!*



Put God first in all things and at all times.



Exodus 35 – 37

## EQUIPPED TO SERVE

KEY  
TEXT*Ephesians 4:12 AMP "[and He did this] to fully equip and perfect the saints (God's people) for works of service, to build up the body of Christ [the church]"*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—Serving in the church is an important aspect of every believer's life as it gives you a platform to contribute to the edification of the body of Christ as well as the equipping of the saints. However, this is not the ultimate. The goal of the church is to equip the saints for ministry, which is the real service. One of the greatest undoing of believers is thinking that service to God and His Kingdom ends with what they do in church. Hence, they live every other day outside church service days living their ordinary everyday life like the rest of the world does.

Serving God isn't just in church. It goes beyond that. The real service that God is calling us to is done outside the church and a major part of our everyday ordinary lives. Never lose sight of this purpose. Are you a gifted singer? The goal is not just to edify the body of Christ; it is more importantly about winning souls and discipling the world for Christ. The same applies to politicians, businessmen, career people and so on.

**APPLICATION**—Are you equipped for service? Do you belong to a life-giving church? Are you actively serving God's people? Have you discovered a purpose to live for? What value are you adding to your world? You were apprehended by Christ for a reason; like Paul, apprehend the reason for which you were apprehended (Philippians 3:12). When you fail to rise to your ministry responsibility as a child of God, you are failing God and the Kingdom of God. Today, get serious with the assembling together of the saints.



*Father, thank You for the gift of a faith family; I receive grace to offer useful service to Your Kingdom, in Jesus' name.*



Serve God's kingdom; begin with evangelism and discipleship.



Exodus 38 – 40

# THE YEAR SUBMITS TO YOU

## KEY TEXT

*Isaiah 45:1 "Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut."*

One of the greatest fears of men is the fear of the future. Because of this fear, many people would rather remain in their comfort zone than step out into a future they are unsure of. What they fail to acknowledge is that whether they take a step forward or backwards or choose to remain in their comfort zones, they are making decisions and there is still a future ahead. Hence, whether you face it or shy away from it, your future comes to you.

2024 is here already! You can decide to either face it headlong or stay stuck in the past years. The choice is yours! Rather than dwell on your fears and what may not go right, channel your energy optimistically. See that God has gone ahead of you. He has cleared the path for you. He has even subdued nations and straightened crooked places. He has opened the gates of 2024 and guess what else? He is holding you by your right hand and nudging you to move in the direction of your future. Will you follow or will you run off in fear? You have planned, prayed and consecrated your year to God; this is the time to stand in action having done all to stand. Stand! The year is submitted to you!



*Lord, I receive boldness to walk in the path You have created for me. I soar by grace, in Jesus' name.*



Talk to someone about your fears and be accountable.



Leviticus 1 – 4

## BECOMING GREAT

KEY  
TEXT*Genesis 26:13 "And the man waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—Greatness in life is not by luck, it is a deliberate journey. For a child of God, greatness is not just physical. Every great destiny is built on natural effort and supernatural sponsorship. Men don't rise because they are strong but because they are sponsored. The reason people get discouraged and mock Christianity after hanging around the church is that they choose the periphery and refuse to go deeper into God, thinking spirituality can be attained by secular knowledge.

In the Old Testament, people understood the role of divine backing in their aspirations for greatness. Hence, they went on to have prophets and priests over them. In 2 Chronicles 20:20, the people of God were admonished to believe the Lord and His prophet. It was in believing His prophets that they prospered. In the New Testament, there is a place for believing the prophets and priest, however, it is an age where the veil of the temple has been torn and everyone has direct access to the holy place; it's an era of a personal walk with God.

**APPLICATION**—You can become great too when you go deeper into God through these six ways—visitation, altars, blessing, purpose, covenants & power. Visitation is when God reveals Himself to you. Anyone with a revelation of the person and power of God can never be small. When you have a visitation from God, raising an altar is your next bold step. The greatest exchanges on human destiny happen on altars. For you, there is no altar greater than the Altar of Calvary where Jesus gave His life as a sacrifice for us. In summary, greatness is sponsored by your commitment to principles that make men grow and God's investment in our lives. As you apply them, become great, in Jesus' name.



*Father, by Your help, I become very great, in Jesus' name.*



What can you do to launch into a new season of greatness? Do it.



Leviticus 5 – 7



# FINDING PURPOSE

## KEY TEXT

*John 18:37 "Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Everyone that is of the truth heareth my voice."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—Jesus knew exactly why He was on earth. His answer to Pilate as in today's text characterizes confidence and conviction. He categorically said, "I was born for this reason". Can you confidently say the same? Purpose is one of life's greatest forces. It is a highway of destiny. Nothing makes life meaningful like purpose. Whenever a person lives outside his purpose, he begins to compete unnecessarily. I mean, how absurd would it be for a fish to compete with a bird? That would only happen when the fish lacks an understanding of its purpose. Apostle Paul was called to the Gentiles and he flourished in his assignment but struggled through when he chose to go to the Jews.

Your purpose is doing what you are on earth for at the time you are meant to be doing it. It is the reason for a person's existence. A typical example is found in Esther 4:14 where Mordecai implied that Esther may have become queen at the time she did to save the Jews. In other words, that was her reason for existence and being in the palace at that time. When you enter into the fullness of your purpose, life submits to you. Peter knew his purpose. Jesus knew His. John the Baptist also knew his and it was obvious in the turn their lives took.

**APPLICATION**—How do you find purpose? **(1) Make the most of what life has put in your hands now even though you have not discovered who you are.** What you do with what you have today is a test that will determine tomorrow. Strive to be faithful. It is when you are faithful in little that God can trust you with much. **(2) Hold on to what God has said to you, either through His Word, genuine men of God or any other means.** Whether they look reasonable or not, keep praying until God refines your understanding of them. **(3) Keep praying for opportunities and ordered steps that will bring you to your place.** Your purpose will stand you out and when you arrive at your place in destiny, you experience a certain kind of peace and fulfilment.



*Dear God, I don't want to have a careless life; guide me into your purpose for my life, in Jesus' name.*



Discover your purpose; while waiting, make your life count.



Leviticus 8 – 10

# NOTHING WILL HINDER ME

KEY  
TEXT

*"Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us."*

The devil's strategies have always been the same. He either hinders you from doing what you are meant to do or he does something to hinder you from receiving what God has already released to you. He realises he has no power, so, he comes up with schemes and these schemes only succeed with the ignorant or unbothered. In many ways, he has and will keep trying to hinder you but say no. Don't let it happen. He cannot shut a door the Lord has not shut. Therefore, arise today and get him out of your way.

## Prayer Points:

1. Father, thank You for Your blessings in this season. Be magnified in my life, in Jesus' name.
2. Today, I receive the capacity to dream big! I receive a breakthrough! I won't end where my fathers and relatives ended. I won't die small!
3. I take authority over the forces of containment keeping a lid over my destiny. I paralyse every monitoring and sabotaging agent planted in my life.
4. By fire, I command every iron gate closed against me to open! I must enter my city! No barrier will separate me from my inheritance!
5. I repent and receive mercy for every sin or mindset sponsoring smallness and limitation in my life and destiny.
6. I receive the spiritual empowerment to make every destiny dream a reality; I command everything unproductive in my life to become productive.
7. This year, I gain new ground and I achieve new milestones. I go beyond my equals and I enter a new phase of life, in Jesus' name.
8. I break every embargo of numerical and financial growth placed on Gateway International Church! We move forward and we grow greater in Jesus' name.
9. I rebuke every hand trying to prevent the ministry of Pastor George Izunwa! I declare supernatural increase over God's servant.
10. I break every embargo on Nigeria's peace, good governance and greatness! We move forward! We go greater!



DAILY BIBLE  
READING:

Leviticus 11 – 13

# Prayer Of *Salvation*

**Lord Jesus, I ask you to come into my life today and forgive all my sins. I confess with my mouth that**

**You are the Lord of my life and I believe with my heart that you rose from the dead. I am saved! Thank you Father for saving me in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

If you just prayed this prayer, please email or call us, we would love to help you understand more about this new life in Christ:

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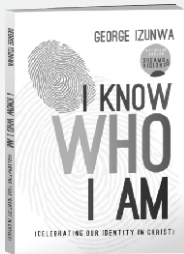
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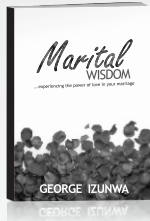
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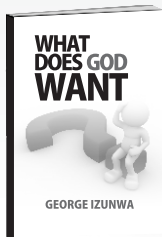
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## 📌 About The Authors

**George Izunwa** is the Lead Pastor of Gateway International Church, a dynamic and vibrant growing church with headquarters in Port Harcourt, Nigeria. He is called, anointed and commissioned by God to 'Go teach my people Strength'. Thousands have been positively affected by his pulpit ministry, TV ministry, books, tapes, crusades and special empowerment seminars.

He is the host of "THE GATEWAY", Which brings God's word to countless souls through television. THE GATEWAY is broadcast live on Silver Bird Port Harcourt – Saturday by 11:30am. Pastor George Izunwa also ministers live on radio on the programme "GATEWAY HALF HOUR" every Monday-Saturday by 7:30am-8:00am on Radio Rivers PHC 99.1 FM and on Garden City Radio every Monday – Sunday 5:30pm-6:00pm.

Pastor George spends a lot of his time in Pastoral and Leadership Mentoring projects through Impact Ministers Mentoring Outreach. More than 2000 pastors are active participants of the program. He meets every month in mentoring sessions with at least 500 pastors/leaders. He is the author of a number of life-transforming books, among which are these best-sellers, The Uncommon Life, The Rules of the Game, High Impact Living, Dreams and Destiny to mention a few.

**Manuela George Izunwa** is an administrator, counsellor and pastor. She is also the mother of three amazing children. Her passion is women empowerment and youth development. Presently she runs two non-governmental organisations: Girls' Organisation For Leadership And Development (G.O.L.D) and WIM(Women In Ministry) & WIL(Women In Leadership) of Deborah's Cradle.

Pastor Manuela is the proprietress of SITRID INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL in Port Harcourt. She also heads the Children's ministry (Exceptional Teens and Children Church) of Gateway International Church. She frequently writes inspirational quotes and messages on her blog: Deborah's Cradle. You can follow DC on facebook, twitter, Instagram and visit her website on [www.deborahscradle.org](http://www.deborahscradle.org)



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