



March 2024

# Power Seeds

*...empowering your life.*

DAILY DEVOTIONAL & GUIDE

GEORGE & MANUELA IZUNWA

WEDNESDAY  
**WORD**  
EXPLOSION

**NOW 5:00PM**

**PHYSICAL & ONLINE SERVICES**

*with* P A S T O R  
**GEORGE IZUNWA**



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MARCH / 2024

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GEORGE & MANUELA IZUNWA

# **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 boldly)**

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 reaffirm 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 put 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!

# COVENANT PROSPERITY

## KEY TEXT

*Job 36:11 "If they obey and serve him, they shall spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasures."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—There is a provision in the covenant for every believer to be wealthy. The idea of running helter-skelter in search of prosperity is not part of the terms. God promises that the works of our hands will be blessed. He is a covenant keeper. That means, whenever the covenant appears to be failing, God is not responsible; you are the erring party between you and Him. God has sworn by His name that He can't fail, so, we must fulfil our part of the covenant agreement and hold Him by His word. It's pathetic how we tend to depend on God only in the face of challenges and in search of solutions, then go back to our default mode of independent living.

In Exodus 23:25, the Word of God explains that service to God comes with a commitment from Him—to bless your bread and water. Our efforts and investments in the house of God, no matter how little, amount to much more than we can imagine. Everyone who expects a salary or wages does so because he is confident he worked for it. Such a man is bold enough to approach his employer and request his due, but how can a man approach someone he never laboured for and ask to be paid? Ridiculous, isn't it? You are being ridiculous when you appear before God without a record of service.

**APPLICATION:** God is not so wicked that He can't give good gifts to His children. Even when we wander away from the covenant, He still stays faithful. Give yourself to intentional service. Serve God with your talent, gift(s), resources and all you have, and continually abide in His presence and see Him prosper you by the little you do. Today's text confirms that God has an eternal and more permanent plan for those who will fulfil the condition of obedience and service. Imagine spending your days in prosperity. It can become a reality if you will obey and serve God. I hope you prosper.



*Heavenly Father, I vow to keep Your words in my heart today. Help me to be the evidence of Your helping hand.*



Decide how you are going to serve God henceforth.



**Deuteronomy 26 – 27**

# DON'T ACCEPT LIES

## KEY TEXT

**1 Timothy 6:5-6** *"Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself. But godliness with contentment is great gain."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—Life can be fulfilling when we adhere to the principles and ways of God. No matter who you are, where you come from or how much you feel you have achieved, life is meaningless outside God and the scope of the Kingdom's purpose. Over the decades or rather, centuries, man has increasingly become aware of his physical, intellectual and spiritual capabilities which have given him the unquenchable determination to explore even the unimaginable avenues of success and power. Because of this, man has continually accepted the lie that his entirety lies only within the confines of personal achievement. In his quest for personal achievement, the essence of his existence, for which the Lord Jesus died, has continued to be relegated to the background, thereby, giving rise to diverse instances of unending sorrows and frustration.

Looking further into today's key text, Apostle Paul makes one profound statement that has been the cause of the untold hardship, chaos and anguish the human race has continually encountered irrespective of age, race, culture, geographical location or political placement. He says, *"For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."* (1 Timothy 6:10).

**APPLICATION:** When you look at your life, can you honestly say that you have right standing with the Lord? Have you accepted the lie that keeps you restless and discontent with what you have? Have you built your sense of worth, priorities and principles on the status of your bank account? If you pass on into eternity today, what would you give an account of, how much money you had in your possession while on Earth? There is a life after this life and it is only necessary now that you make the required adjustments now to secure a place in eternity. Paul exemplifies the new life in Christ when he said he didn't count any of his achievements as a gain. Rather, he considered all he had losses so that he may gain Christ. His goal was to know God and reach the prize of God's high calling (Philippians 3:1-14). What drives you? The lies of false fulfilment or the truth of God's Word? Do not accept the lies the world and the devil sell to you.



*Oh Lord, I ask You to help me as I commit to lay my life before You, wholly and today.*



Take careful stock of your life today by sincerely asking yourself some important questions: where have you placed the Lord in your life? Who/what occupies the most important place in your life? When you do, do the needful.



**Deuteronomy 28 – 29**



# RECEIVING PROPHETIC IMPARTATION

KEY  
TEXT

: Hebrews 7:7 AMP, "Yet it is beyond all dispute that the lesser person is always blessed by the greater one."

Impartation is one of the key kingdom mysteries that lift destinies. Prophetic impartation, whether by spoken words, laying on of hands, or giving of mantles, is the transfer of grace from a prophet to the recipient, thus, granting the recipient access to mysteries that unlock the gifts lying dormant in their life. For instance, a father who has spent 40 years working and acquiring valuable assets, may decide to release all his properties to his son as an inheritance, granting him access to what he acquired through many years of hard work. He doesn't have to make his son work for it; he makes it available to him because of the obvious relationship between them. Impartation is receiving, without work, access into what someone else has laboured for. In Genesis 14:18-20, Melchizedek, the Priest of the Most High God, imparted the blessing on Abraham and all over the Scriptures, we see how men are imparted on by greater men. Impartation is what changes destinies! Do you want to be great? To your hard work and skill, add impartation.

## How to receive impartation from your prophet:

1. Receive and honour your man of God
2. Trust in the vision of your prophet
3. Stay close to your man of God and participate wholeheartedly in the assignment God has given him.
4. Avoid the trap of over-familiarity and continually recognise the grace of God in his life.
5. Pursue the God of your prophet by serving. Let your greatest confidence be that you know God.



*Today, I connect to the grace of my man of God, Pastor George Izunwa; let it speak for me!*



People are not down because there was no impartation but because what they received has not been put to use. It's your boldness in insisting on the impartation that you've received that will bring about its manifestation.



**Deuteronomy 30 – 32**

# WHERE IS YOUR TRUST

## KEY TEXT

*1 Timothy 6:17 "Charge them that are rich in this world that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God who giveth us richly all things to enjoy."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—Through the abundance of God's grace, we are blessed. He gives us all things to enjoy, so, there's nothing we enjoy that was not given to us by God. It's a fool who believes he stumbled on an opportunity that shot him to the top and doesn't acknowledge the place of divinity. Yes, diligence is a virtue that makes up the process, but God makes everything beautiful in His time. Hard work isn't a sin, and being rich isn't against scripture but trusting in your strength and giving credit to yourself is wrong. The man who slept and couldn't wake up had a plan. The person who woke up and drove out but died on the road was on an appointment with what he thought would be productive after all. So, are you more mindful than others?

The needs of a man aren't as much as he thinks even though his wants are insatiable. When a man becomes so desperate to make money, he violates his principles and can betray anyone including the church of Christ and even himself, just to grab what he lusts after. Desperation messes up our confidence in God. It is okay to think rich but it's wrong to think you are all by yourself. You are what you are by God's grace (1 Corinthians 15:10). The wise are humble and get richer while the fools show off and celebrate their arrival until they wake up to realise they have lost it all.

**APPLICATION:** One mistake and moment of weakness can wreck you and destroy all you've worked for over the years. The only security we have is Christ. He is the Maker and Keeper of men. He makes glorious destinies out of men, and for as long as these men acknowledge Him, He keeps them waxing stronger. As you keep on with your pursuit of destiny, keep in mind that God is your hope and through Him, you will reach your expected end. Don't be carried away by the little you've seen. There's always more than enough to receive from God by the simple act of acknowledgement.



*Heavenly Father, help me to put my trust in You, now and always.*



Begin your day by being an extension of God's blessing to someone today. Reach out to someone in need.



**Deuteronomy 33 – 34**

# DEAL WITH ARROGANCE

## KEY TEXT

*Phil 2:5-7 "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**— From today's key text, we can see from the life of Jesus Christ that it takes humility to access the best of God. Jesus made Himself of no reputation but chose to strip Himself of His glory to achieve a purpose for man. By coming to earth as a human, Christ demonstrated humility. In reality, this is what we would call a “Grace to Grass” experience. Moses wasn't even allowed to look at God face to face because he would have died. God's glory is so brilliant and glorious that humans can't handle it. And yet, the great and glorious Son of God, Jesus, came to live in a world void of it. Sometimes, we are placed in situations that are seemingly not befitting our standards, but it takes a humble person to let go of their reputation to get the most out of every process.

Every great destiny has a process. For one, it could be taking an entry-level job as an intern, even if you are a first-class graduate. For another, it could be to step out of your comfort zone and submit to God's leading, even though you have had years of experience in ministry. We can resonate with the different ways we are supposed to abase ourselves, so we can be thoroughly worked on before we begin to manifest to our world. Unfortunately, arrogant people don't see what can be learnt from others. They are too quick with their speech and actions, and many times, it's not physically expressed. But then, God weighs the heart.

**APPLICATION**— The way up is down. A man on his knees in humility and prayer cannot crash. When life doesn't seem to be going in your favour, remember that life is a process. You may have seen the end of it but you know little or nothing about the process. God promised to give us our expected end. However, He knows what the process looks like and may never reveal it to you because He wants you to learn to trust Him. See every experience as one that is to make you, and by that, you will see the blessedness in enjoying your life's journey from start to finish. Humility affords you the chance to be empathetic just as Jesus is with us (see Hebrews 4:15). Let go of self-exaltation. Build character. I guarantee you that you will be surprised how God can lift a man to heights of unimaginable greatness.



*Father, thank You for Your word today; I pray that You engraft me with the Spirit of humility for humble beginnings and strengthen me on this journey in Jesus' Name.*



Change your attitude towards small beginnings; learn to be humble and content with little.



Joshua 1 – 4

# FIGHTING ANTI-SUCCESS BEHAVIOURS

## COVENANT DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER

### KEY TEXT

*2 Kings 5:26-27 "And he said unto him, Went not mine heart with thee, when the man turned again from his chariot to meet thee? Is it a time to receive money, and to receive garments, and oliveyards, and vineyards, and sheep, and oxen, and menservants, and maidservants? The leprosy therefore of Naaman shall cleave unto thee, and unto thy seed forever. And he went out from his presence a leper as white as snow."*

Sometimes, the people who are likely to succeed don't succeed. The enemy of progress in such cases is not always the devil; many times, it's the reality of character flaws that are not worked on until they turn around to haunt us. There's a popular saying that favour and skill can take you to the top but to remain there, you need character. Gehazi didn't have it. Imagine working directly with a prophet as great as Elisha and yet end up a leper. May that not be your story!

### Prayer Points

1. Father, I thank You for my glorious destiny in Christ Jesus. I'm here today because You kept me. Thank You, Lord.
2. I declare today, that I am a huge success. My life works, my business works, my relationships work, everything works.
3. Holy Spirit, whatever is hiding in me to destroy my life in the future, please take it away. Purge me and help me in Jesus' name.
4. I repent of every anti-success behaviour. Lord, help my weaknesses! Let every stronghold of sin lose their grip on me. I take authority over greed, lying, stealing, immorality, lust, etc in the name of Jesus.
5. I recover lost opportunities and wasted years. I come against the spirit of sleep and slumber, laziness, stinginess, recklessness in spending, and nonchalance. Let my life become a testament to God's grace.
6. Father, I ask for wisdom to take territories and rise in destiny. I won't lose my destiny portion. I won't miss the prize. I will succeed in Jesus' name.
7. Oh Lord, help Your church. Bring us to a place of oneness and unity of faith. Correct us against anti-covenant behaviours and grant us grace for destiny dominion.
8. Concerning Gateway International Church, teach us what works. We make progress; we increase, impact and grow great in Jesus' name.
9. Father, keep Pastor George Izunwa and his family. Let their enemies fall for their sake. Let their lives go from grace to grace. Help them to walk in your counsel in Jesus' name.
10. Every negative cloud sitting over this nation, be pulled down in Jesus' name. Nigeria, go forward!



DAILY BIBLE  
READING:

Joshua 5 – 7

# DEAL WITH LAZINESS

KEY  
TEXT

*Proverbs 6:10-11, "[Yet] a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**— Do you know someone who is genuinely lazy, allergic to real work and so opposed to doing anything that would require work or effort? Have you observed that lazy people hang around lazy people? Now pause and make a mental note; list those lazy people you know and their friends. Understand that lazy people get tired just being around anyone who isn't as lazy as they are. They would rather hang around people with varying degrees of laziness and make no impact.

The irony is that these people desire their lives to change for good. As little as ants are, the Bible refers to them in terms of hard work and productivity. You could take a cue from them. A person who will not work should not eat.

Natural law applied to the Garden of Eden. This meant that if the garden was not tended and kept, it would become wild and overgrown. So, God charged Adam with maintaining and preserving the garden—which demanded physical effort and work. Adam's responsibility to tend and keep the garden can be likened to the responsibility each human has to tend and keep his or her individual life and manage its outcome.

**APPLICATION**— There is no daft person. There is no person whose brain is not working. When you are lazy, your actions empower you for failure. To get an idea of what God intends for us to do with our lives, we can look at the creation of man in the book of Genesis. There we discover that the ability to work was embedded into the original human blueprint. Notice God's first order of business after forming Adam from the dust of the ground: **Gen 2:15** *"Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it."*

Constant distractions can adversely affect performance because they drain you of necessary cognitive resources. Track your distractions, noting how often you're scrolling social media or opening browsers that aren't work-related. Once you know what your distractions are, you can make a plan to avoid them and have a system of accountability for yourself.



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



Create a workable system that helps you achieve daily tasks and commit yourself to them.



Joshua 8 – 10



## BLESSING— THE SPIRITUAL FOUNTAIN OF MONEY

### KEY TEXT

*Deuteronomy 28:12 "The LORD shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**— Money matters because it cushions life and facilitates destiny pursuits. You cannot have an abundant life in poverty. However, the spiritual fountain that commands the flow of money is called the Blessing. The blessing is one of the mysteries that sponsor life. It is the testimony of the patriarchs in the Bible. Every man mentioned in the Bible was not mentioned because they were hardworking, intelligent or connected. They are there because they contacted the blessing.

Just as a fountain serves as a water source for other bodies of water, the blessing is the source from which money, health, favour, etc flow. Jacob, because of the blessing, risked his life by pretending to be Esau. Again, he wrestled with God until a part of his body was disfigured, insisting He blessed him. What was Jacob looking for? What did he understand that we are yet to understand? He knew that all he could ever become or have was embedded in the blessing. He sought it, and he got it. Today, there's a nation called Israel because Jacob was blessed.

**APPLICATION**— Don't go after money and mundane things. Pursue the blessing, which is a spiritual fountain of money. Learn to be content (1 Timothy 6:6). Contentment doesn't mean complacency or satisfaction with less than God wants to give you. It rather means that you are thankful while patiently expecting more. It means that your godly values remain in place whether or not you have the money. Like Jacob when he met with the angel of God and wrestled with him, be sensitive to quickly recognise your turning moment in destiny. Get the blessing and be sure that riches will bow to you.



*Father, I acknowledge You as my Source. Bless me so that I can be a blessing to Your Kingdom and mankind. Amen!*



Ask God for sensitivity to recognise destiny-shift moments.



Joshua 11 – 13

# BLESSING—THE HOPE OF THE HOPELESS

KEY  
TEXT

*Proverbs 13:12 NLT "Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a dream fulfilled is a tree of life."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**— In Genesis 1:26-28, God released the blessing on man to equip him for life. The blessing is one of the greatest forces of destiny. It is a divine set-up that guarantees a successful outcome and has the potential to activate the spiritual realm in your favour. Hope is the feeling of expectation and desire for a particular thing to happen. Unrelenting disappointment can dash that hope to pieces but a sudden good break can turn life around (Proverbs 13:12, MSG). This is what the blessing can do!

In Jeremiah 29:11, God assured us that He plans to give us hope which secures our future. His word can never go back empty as it will accomplish its purpose (Isaiah 58:10-13). The blessing is the assurance that a hopeless situation can turn around in a way that people will be left in awe. With God, nothing is impossible. When you lose hope, you lose sight of the blessing. This leads to feelings of discouragement and disappointment, making you feel like God has failed you. I have good news for you today! God never fails. It was the blessing that turned Abraham's life around, enabling him to have a son in his old age when even his wife had lost hope.

**APPLICATION**— What is that situation in your life that seems to be yielding no positive result? The blessing from God, which makes rich and adds no sorrow (Proverbs 10:22), is capable of turning it around. The blessing preserves hope when you feed on God's word daily, refuse to faint (Galatians 6:9) and keep believing and confessing the blessing and every good thing over your life until it becomes your reality. Keep your hope alive. It will end in testimonies!



*Father, I receive Your blessing that will sponsor my destiny. Through it, let every hopeless situation in my life be turned around for my good. Amen!*



Say to yourself, "I am blessed!"



Joshua 14 – 17

# BLESSING—THE MULTIPLIER

## KEY TEXT

*Matthew 14:18-19, "He said, Bring them hither to me. And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the grass, and took the five loaves, and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed, and brake, and gave the loaves to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude."*

Everything on earth can only exist in one of two states: it is either blessed, or cursed. Our key text today, gotten from a familiar story, shows a perfect example of what it means to be blessed. It is picked up from the household tale of how five loaves and two fishes were made to feed five thousand men, and an unrecorded number of women and children. The multiplication effect of the blessing was on full display. What else could turn a kiddie-sized meal into a full-on buffet? Now, you and I are certainly not loaves of bread and fish, but that doesn't mean we aren't blessed! We were the first receivers of the blessing (see Gen 1:28), and by design, our lives should be a reflection of this.

## HOW DO WE EXPERIENCE THE MULTIPLIER EFFECT OF THE BLESSING?

1. **Pursue after God and trust in His lifting power.** Just like the bread and fish only multiplied when they were given to Jesus, we only realise our fullness when we are in Christ.
2. **Create marketable goods and services.** You can do something to add value to your world. Go out and get your hands busy.
3. **Fight spiritual opposition.** The devil is always interested in whatever God is interested in. The blessing always comes with battles, so, stand!
4. **Stir favour by generosity.** Give and it shall be given unto you. A closed hand not only stops things from going out but it also stops things from coming in.



*Father, multiply my efforts and bless the work of my hands.*



Write a list of things you can do to move your life to the next level and pray about them.



Joshua 18 – 20



# BE BLESSED!

KEY  
TEXT

*Ephesians 1:3 "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHT ON TEXT** --- The blessing is the key to dominion. It is a transformer of destinies. **Genesis 1:27-28** says, "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth, and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." God activated the destiny of man through this blessing. Until you are blessed, destiny unlocking is forestalled.

Be blessed! Yes, it's a command. Every believer is entitled to walk in the supernatural power of the blessing but when there is an impediment to the blessing, then there is a misgiving because it's anti-covenant not to walk in the blessing. Abraham was a man who believed in the promise of the blessing but he had for a long time experienced hindrances in the manifestation of the blessing. This went on until he aligned that promise into a covenant. It was then that the transformation process began to make him the father of faith.

**APPLICATION:** Blessing is one of the mysteries that sponsor life. Blessing is the first basic equipping for life. **How do you walk in the blessing?** (1) **Believe God** – For any journey of faith you want to embark on, you must first believe. Abraham believed in God and his journey to greatness started. (2) **Renew your mind** and engage your faith. (3) **Enter into the Covenant** – The place of transition from the promise into the blessing is called the covenant. If you must walk in the blessing, then you must be prepared for a covenant relationship with God. Thankfully, in Christ, we have a covenant relationship with God and we have already been blessed with all spiritual blessings. Walk, therefore, in the blessing.



*Lord, I thank You for the blessing. Henceforth, it works in every area of my life.*



Confess Psalms 23 and prophecy 2024 is my year of ROHI – THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD!



Joshua 21 – 22

# DON'T BE A WASTER

## KEY TEXT

*Proverbs 21:20 AMP, "There are precious treasures and oil in the dwelling of the wise, but a self-confident and foolish man swallows it up and wastes it."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**— God empowers us for financial greatness through the release of divine ideas. If you want to be rich and sustain it, you need to guide the dividends of these ideas with wisdom. Many people have completely lost sight of this, taking things for granted, living a wasteful life and thereby living in lack and want. Most rich people today are people who know how to create, multiply and manage wealth. Waste is using, consuming, spending, or expending thoughtlessly or carelessly. In God's economy, waste is an enemy of wealth.

The Bible tells us a story about the prodigal son, who wasted his substance on riotous living in a far country. When famine came, he began to be in want and started eating the food meant for the swine (**Luke 15:11-24**). Similarly, when you are a victim of waste, you automatically become a victim of want. Sure, the blessing will come but management of whatever God entrusts into our hands is not going to be by divine intervention. This means waste isn't an option at all. Great worth can be found in waste. We also discovered that God Himself hates waste. The Bible tells us a story about how Jesus fed 5,000 men, besides women and children, with five loaves and two fishes. After feeding them, the leftovers that were gathered filled 12 baskets (**Matthew 14:19-21**). He wouldn't have bothered about gathering the leftovers if they didn't mean anything to Him.

**APPLICATION**— Resources without intelligence are resources soon gone. Nobody keeps a treasure under a leaking roof. If you live a leaking life, God cannot entrust His riches in your hands. If you live an extravagant life, one day you will end up in extreme want! Be financially intelligent to know what is worth spending on and what is not. This would require you to plan and budget more, not neglecting accountability in tracking the inflow and utilisation of these resources. Many people are living above their levels. Why must you impress others and depress yourself in the process? For you to qualify for sustained financial resources, you must be a good manager of your resources. Learn to order your priorities right, and live within your means per time. Don't waste resources.



*Father, by Your Spirit, empower me to live a life void of waste. I receive wisdom from God for financial dominion, in Jesus' name. Amen!*



Assess yourself, seek out areas where you have been wasteful and make adjustments.



**Joshua 23 – 24**

## LAY UP GOLD

## COVENANT DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER

KEY  
TEXT

*Job 22:23-24 "If thou return to the Almighty, thou shalt be built up, thou shalt put away iniquity far from thy tabernacles. Then shalt thou lay up gold as dust, and the gold of Ophir as the stones of the brooks."*

Wealth is supernatural. And supernatural wealth is given, either by the devil or by God. Today's text is a conditional statement. It explains the condition on which we will lay up gold (wealth) as dust. God desires that we prosper, but then, if it must be supernatural as given by God, the foundation must be God. Today, lay a foundation in God and expect wealth.

## Prayer Point

1. Father, thank You for divine empowerment. I recognise everything I have as a gift from You. Thank You for Your promise of prosperity. I receive it in Jesus' name.
2. By the provision of Calvary, I reject poverty and smallness. Wealth and riches abide in my house. I have everything money can get and more.
3. Today, I curse lack and want! My God supplies all my needs according to His riches in glory.
4. Father, I repent of every sin that accuses me before You. I repent of the iniquities of my father's house and marital family. Nothing will hinder my lifting in the name of Jesus.
5. I receive the riches of the heathen and the wealth of secret places. I lay up gold as dust.
6. This year, let channels of exponential growth be opened to me, my business, my family and my assignment. I receive divine ideas and connections for success in Jesus' name.
7. Father, prosper Your church and servants all over the world. Let men and women of substance arise out of Zion. Let such people be compelled to give to the advancement of the Gospel of Jesus.
8. Gateway International Church, you are unstoppable! Make progress, increase, impact and be established at the topmost top.
9. Concerning Pastor George Izunwa and his family, let their enemies fall for their sake. Let their lives go from grace to grace.
10. Over Nigeria, let every hovering negative cloud sitting over this nation be pulled down in Jesus' name. Nigeria, go forward!

DAILY BIBLE  
READING:

Judges 1 – 3

## THE WISDOM OF SAVING

KEY  
TEXT

*Mark 8:8 NIV "The people ate and were satisfied. Afterwards, the disciples picked up seven basketsful of broken pieces that were left over."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—Saving can be defined as the act of preserving a portion of anything to use later. Saving helps one cushion the effect of lack at any given time. It also helps curtail reckless spending or over-usage. One may not be able to predict precisely when the need might arise to fall back on what has been saved or preserved, hence, the need to save. In the text above, the Bible indicates that after the Lord Jesus fed a multitude, His disciples gathered seven baskets of broken pieces. The Bible didn't indicate what was done with what was gathered but one thing is certain; it wasn't wasted.

Despite our faith in God to provide for our needs, we need to come to terms with the fact that sometimes, things may not go as planned, especially materially and financially. Joseph saved ahead for the days of famine and by that act of wisdom, the nation of Egypt and the lives of the children of Jacob were preserved (**Genesis 43-46**). God can do anything and in any way. He wants to provide for our needs but if we do not learn to save, three things are likely to happen: we will not learn to honour the Lord and give Him the ultimate respect as our provider, we will abuse His benevolence by becoming wasteful, and we would invoke a curse of lack upon ourselves.

**APPLICATION:** Saving is not an indication of our lack of faith in God but an act of honour to the Lord and also a show of appreciation. Our transactions with the Lord are also a form of worship when we choose to allow the Lord to guide us in the way we use our resources. Have there been times in your life when you cried up to the Lord for a need that didn't come through immediately? Resources meant for that particular season may have been wasted before that time. Early gratification is satanic and it will cause you to experience what the heathen experience; lack and penury. When resources come, especially in excess, ask the Lord what He will have you do with it. He might need you to save it ahead for something. When you continually depend on the Lord for guidance with your resources, you will never lack.



*Oh Lord, teach me to depend on You at all times because I know that the plans You have for me are not of evil but to give me an expected end.*



Decide to make the Lord your partner over all your financial and material transactions.



**Judges 4 – 5**

# STIR UP FAVOUR

## KEY TEXT

**Isaiah 58:11 MSG**, "I will always show you where to go. I'll give you a full life in the emptiest of places - firm muscles, strong bones. You'll be like a well-watered garden, a gurgling spring that never runs dry."

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**— There is a direct relationship between the leading of God and His favour. Our scripture in Gateway International Church for the year (**Psalms 23**) emphasises that we do not want anything because God leads us and as He leads, it is to a place of prepared provisions. Favour is the proof of open heavens over a person. When favour is in operation, even enemies become destiny facilitators. When a man is chosen for a position he is not naturally qualified for, especially among others who are seemingly better than him, he is experiencing the favour of God.

David was the most "unqualified" person in his family, but God rejected others and qualified him (**1 Samuel 16: 11-13**). Favour is one of the expressions of God's generosity to man. From **Proverbs 13:15**, "Good understanding giveth favour: but the way of transgressors is hard", we know that good understanding sets favour loose. When you are well aware of how something operates, you know how best to get it to work for you. Divine favour is purely a gracious act from God; we cannot compel God to do anything for us. God, many times, gives men spiritual opportunities at the human level to prompt divine favour. This was the case of Abraham when he decided to host some strangers, not knowing he was hosting heavenly beings. Abraham showed them lavish hospitality and refreshed them in that hot and dusty desert environment. The divine response to Abraham's generosity was: "**I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son.**"

**APPLICATION**— When we show generosity, we directly tap into the very essence, image, and goodness of God and it brings pleasure to God. Generosity is a spiritual catalyst for God's favour. Another way to stir up favour is by simply living to please and honour God. When you seek to please God, you live righteously and are yielded to His will. How did

Esther find favour before the King? She plugged into God's will for the Jews and submitted to the training of the keeper of women. How did Mary plug in? She remained a virgin and, more importantly, she was yielded to God's will. Noah was a just man so he found favour. Even though favour is unmerited, we have our roles to play. Today seek out avenues in which God commits himself to you and things that concern you. Expect favour and walk in it.



**Father in the name of Jesus Christ, help me never to hold back from a selfless life of generosity and being a blessing to Your kingdom and those You position my way. Amen.**



**Be on the lookout for someone or a cause you can generously be a part of.**



**Judges 6 – 8**



# BLESSED TO PROSPER

KEY  
TEXT

*Genesis 12: 2 "And I will make thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thy shall be a blessing."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT:** From the beginning of creation, it has been the plan and purpose of God to bless man and for man to be a blessing to his fellow man. The blessing has never been excluded from the plan of God in the scheme of man's existence. In the beginning, God blessed Adam. He blessed Noah. He blessed Abraham. It has always been His blessing keeping and empowering men to thrive according to His purpose. However, not everything that looks like a blessing is a blessing or should be described as genuine prosperity. Prosperity in some families spans through one generation but, in some others, it transcends from generation to generation. Ungodly prosperity, which is prosperity obtained through devious means, never lasts but godly prosperity or covenant prosperity always lasts.

You have been blessed to prosper but the fact that you are a Christian is not a guarantee that you will prosper unless you are willing to walk in the requirements of the covenant. If you align yourself with covenant requirements such as tithing, seed sowing and kingdom service, you are sure to enjoy covenant prosperity. It's one thing to be blessed but it's a different ball game to walk in the blessing. The truth is that we are all blessed but, unfortunately, just a handful of us enjoy the blessing or covenant prosperity because we usually refrain from walking in the principles of covenant prosperity.

**APPLICATION:** You have the choice to make covenant prosperity a reality in your life by simply imbibing the covenant disciplines into your life. What God wants to give to you is prosperity that transcends generations. Be the vessel that the Lord will use to break the shame of poverty, stagnancy and oppression in your life and family.



*Oh Lord, I declare that every power of hell over my finances is broken right now. Today, I am walking out of poverty into covenant prosperity in the name of Jesus.*



If you have failed to walk in the covenant requirements that pertain to covenant prosperity, repent from the things that have caused the enemy to creep into your finances and determine to do right henceforth.



**Judges 9 – 10**

## RELEASING YOUR CREATIVE POTENTIAL

KEY  
TEXT

**2 Kings 4:7** *"Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, Go, sell the oil, and pay thy debt, live thou and thy children of the rest."*

The blessing is not just a reward; it is a force. Whenever a man or a woman is experiencing an unwavering flow of potential, it is safe to say there has been a release and that release happens because of the Blessing. **Acts 2:17** *"And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughter shall prophecy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams."* Recall **Exodus 31:1-5**; how God called and anointed Bezaleel, not for miracles and preaching but for creativity in his craft.

### ***How do you experience the release of your creative potential?***

- Connect to the force of the blessing.
- Have an insatiable desire for growth and excellence.
- Engage your mind.



PRAYER

*Lord, I thank You for the creative power You have deposited in me. Today, in Jesus' name, I take charge of any hindrance that seems to hinder the flow of grace in my life.*



ACTION  
POINT

Learn to take some time out of every 24 hours in a day to think about your work; journal your ideas as you do.



DAILY BIBLE  
READING

**Judges 11 – 13**

# WONDERMAN

## KEY TEXT

*Judges 16:3 AMP, "But Samson lay [resting] until midnight, then at midnight he got up and took hold of the doors of the city gate and the two door-posts, and pulled them up, [security] bar and all, and he put them on his shoulders and carried them up to the top of the hill which is opposite Hebron.*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—The bible is a Book filled with wonders. It narrates the encounters of several wonder men and women with the only wonder-working God. Abraham birthed a son at age 100. Elijah outran chariots. Jesus turned the world on its head in 3 years, and the Apostle Peter slept in tranquil peace a night before his supposed death. There are so many wondrous stories to pick from, but today's key text puts our focus solely on Samson.

Samson was a true wonder. Anyone capable of lifting a city gate, putting it on his shoulders, and climbing a hill should be given his laurels (still acknowledging God as the Wonder Worker). Samson's life, from the nature of his birth to the flare of his death was just a show of wonder. But despite how actively the spirit moved through him, Samson wasn't perfect. Apart from his several run-ins with women, he was prideful, wrathful, a lawbreaker, and even boasted in himself rather than in God. Just like every other man and woman spoken of in the bible, Samson was an imperfect man, yet greatly used by God.

**APPLICATION**—People are great, just as you will be great, not because we are perfect but because God is. You are a wonder, not because you truly are but because God is. Imagine Isaac sowing amid famine and reaping a hundredfold the same year because God wanted to make him a wonder. This didn't take away his humanity; he still lied about his relationship with his wife. Yes, even kings sometimes can have their feet in mud. Give yourself and others room to grow. Accept the imperfections in yourself and others; love them as they are and certainly love yourself as you are too. Make mistakes and learn from them, but don't hurt yourself in the process. Never stop striving for perfection, but remember our Father loves us and can use us despite our imperfections.



*Father thank You for the work You are doing in me. Help me remember to love myself and others.*



Stop beating yourself up so much, take a breather and move on, more determined to succeed under God.



Judges 14 – 16



# MAXIMISING OPPORTUNITIES

## KEY TEXT

*Ruth 1: 16 "And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for wither thou goest, I will go, and wither thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—There is a common saying that goes thus, "Opportunity comes but once." I believe that opportunities come much more than once in a lifetime but what makes opportunities rare is the fact that we are hardly prepared for them, primarily because we don't recognize them well enough. Quite disturbingly, a lot of Christians are rarely prepared for opportunities. If we can look well enough, we will see opportunities all around us. The truth about most opportunities is that they usually come disguised in various forms such as hard work, humility, honesty, courage and the like. And, because of our desire to take the easy way out, we miss out on opportunities.

The Bible character, Ruth, unknown to her, was able to seize an opportunity by taking a courageous stand to remain with her mother-in-law, Naomi. When she decided to go with Naomi, she didn't realise that she was positioning herself for a life-changing opportunity despite her background as a Moabitess. When she decided to go with Naomi, she knew what she was going to be up against but her topmost priority was taking care of Naomi despite what the outcome may be. And in the process of trying to fulfil her obligation to her old and widowed mother-in-law, she found a divine purpose. Genealogical history defines Ruth as one of the ancestral mothers of our Lord Jesus Christ. Ruth located divine purpose through hard work, humility and courage.

**APPLICATION:** As you look at your life today, are you feeling down and out? Do you feel forgotten, cheated and rejected? Maybe you're going through that frustration because of your inability to recognise the people, times and seasons the Lord orchestrated and positioned for your lifting. Sometimes, lifting comes in unattractive and undesirable packages. God is merciful and would open other windows of opportunities to you, however, you must recognise them. One way to recognise and maximise an opportunity is by your ability to do something noble (and maybe menial) that no one else is ready or willing to do. Be sensitive and don't let divinely-orchestrated opportunities slip by you.



*Lord, I ask You to bless me with the grace and foresight to recognise opportunities, in the name of Jesus.*



Look honestly and critically at your life, point out the areas where you believe you have missed opportunities and write them down. Intentionally resolve to make the needed improvements in those areas.



Judges 17 – 19

# WAR AGAINST SPIRITUAL FORCES

## COVENANT DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER

KEY  
TEXT

*Ephesians 6:10 "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."*

The devil's goal is to bind men in the shackles of poverty until they are willing to submit and surrender to him. This is the reason for toiling endlessly without results to show. Many people grow up and grow old, yet have nothing to show for their lives. This is no coincidence. Some people labour under a curse and are ignorant of this fact. Others are being manipulated by the enemy into a life of discomfort and poverty. However, God wants His children to have their best lives. Take the time today to war against spiritual forces that hinder your financial progress.

### Prayer Points

1. Father, You are my God. Besides You, there is no other God. Thank You for the provisions You made available for my prosperity through Jesus' death on the cross.
2. Today, I declare that I am a child of God, so, I can't toil through life. Whatever has been a resistance to my rising is hereby arrested by the blood of Jesus.
3. Every demonic sabotage, manipulation or divination against me come to an end now. Let the diviners go mad. Let their devices be frustrated and let their enchantments come to nought!
4. Every curse of shame and suffering hanging over my life and family is broken. I step out of every chain and set my household free in the name of Jesus.
5. I am a beneficiary of the almightiness of God. I lack no good thing. Whatever money can buy is mine, without or without money. I claim every good thing by the mercy of God.
6. In Jesus' name, whatever needs to work in my life begins to work. I arrest the forces of darkness whose assignment is to hurt my destiny. I refuse to be insignificant henceforth.
7. Every force of darkness blinding the eyes of men, women, girls and boys around the world from the Gospel, be arrested by fire! Over Nigeria and the ends of the earth, let the Gospel of Jesus grow and prevail in Jesus' name.
8. Gateway International Church, you are unstoppable! Make progress, increase, impact and be established at the topmost top.
9. Concerning Pastor George Izunwa and his family, let their enemies fall for their sake. Let their lives go from grace to grace.
10. Over Nigeria, let every hovering negative cloud sitting over this nation be pulled down Jesus' name. Nigeria, go forward!



Judges 20 – 21

# GOD IS YOUR SOURCE

KEY  
TEXT

*Psalms 128:1-2 NIV "Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in obedience to him. You will eat the fruit of your labour; blessings and prosperity will be yours."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—One of the biggest hindrances to walking in faith is not having a clear understanding of Who our source is. This gross lack of understanding, despite God's promises, teachings and testimonies, often pervades our thinking, thereby compelling many of us to make decisions based primarily on physical realities. Most times, the supernatural works in reverse to the natural. In the natural, we see to believe but in the supernatural, we believe to see. In the supernatural, the lesser gives to the higher to tap into grace but in the natural, the higher is expected to give to the lesser.

You cannot harvest supernatural results through natural means. When you keep your eyes on the physical; on the amount of money you have, on the economy and the height of bills you are often required to pay, supernatural harvests will become almost impossible. God is your source but He passes through channels to bless you. Truthfully, our resources, most times, are hardly enough to go around, but when we put our trust in God by simply adhering to covenant principles, He will, in turn, motivate men to become a blessing to us. The reason God expects us to obey covenant principles is not because He has any need for our resources but because He wants to partner with us. Faith and trust are the currencies with which He works with us, not our money.

**APPLICATION:** Do everything in your power to shift your focus away from the natural realities around you. The natural realities around you may be real but they are not true. It is what God says that is true. God's Word and promises concerning you transcend any reality in your life. Neither your job nor business is your source. If you were to save, how much would you be able to gather until your dream becomes a reality? Think about it. Do you now realise that your help does not come from either the North, South, East or West? Your help is from above. Look to Jesus; He is your Source.



*Oh Lord, I repent from my lack of faith and trust in You. Please forgive me for the times I felt I could do it all by myself, in Jesus' name.*



Focus more on your walk with God and on how you can effectively partner with Him to thrive.



Ruth 1 – 4

# YOU'VE GOT IT!

## KEY TEXT

*Exodus 4:2 "And the Lord said unto him, what is that in thine hand? And he said, A rod. And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent, and Moses fled from it."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—It's amazing how we tend to look for the key to our lifting everywhere else but ourselves, without realising that most of the things we would require to succeed are within and around us. Your lifting is primarily tied to what has already been given to you by the Lord Himself. When Moses began to exhibit fear towards the possibility of leading the Israelites out of the land of Egypt, he didn't realise that all he needed to perform the great task was already in his hands. The widow whose sons were going to be carried away as collateral for their father's debt didn't realise that her help would come from the little oil in her house. She went out in search of help, only to be sent back into her house by the prophet (2 Kings 4).

For everything God has created you to be and every good work He has created you to accomplish here on earth, He has already deposited in you the grace to accomplish those things. He gave you a good voice for a reason. He gave you the ability to do business for a reason. He gave you compassion for the hurting for a reason. Therefore, struggling to be what you are not wired or created for is a complete tragedy of destiny. Many Christians are locked in a world of frustration, pain and poverty because they have opted to do what they were not created to do.

**APPLICATION:** As you go through today's seed, bear in mind that you are here (on earth) for a reason. You are here for an assignment and you were tailor-made by God to fit your purpose. You've already got it. Don't try so hard to be anyone else because everyone else is taken. Additionally, learn to downplay the need to go in search of external solutions to your problems when you haven't looked within.

Before you consider money as a threat to your business ideas, have you considered the resources available to you? Moses was sceptical about how to approach Pharaoh until God showed him how powerful and useful his staff could be. Look around you; what do you have? Explore it and get to work with it.



*Oh Lord, I cannot afford to disappoint You and my generation. Holy Spirit, help me to take advantage of every gift You have deposited in me in the name of Jesus.*



Make an honest list of the gifts, talents, skills and opportunities you have. When you do, decide what to do with them.



1 Samuel 1 – 3

# THE URGENCY OF SUCCESS

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."

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—Before we can begin to state what the urgency of success is all about, we must be able to define success. Different people define success differently. To one, success could be defined as having a lot of money, while to another, success may be described as enjoying a thriving marriage with lots of children. And to yet another, it can be defined as attaining great heights in education and career or business. As children of God, we define success differently. Godly success is doing what God would have you do, how He would have you do it and when He would have you do it. It is attained only through godly means which cut across different facets of life as clearly stated in the text above—financial prosperity, spiritual vibrancy and sound health.

Having understood this, in as much as we are required to exude the Fruit of the Spirit such as patience, meekness, long-suffering, temperance and the like, we must also understand that God expects us to have a sense of urgency in carrying out our God-given assignment. When it has to do with destiny success, sensitivity to timing is key. God works with us and through us, within a timeframe He has fixed for the accomplishment of His divine purpose. When this timeframe is compromised, it affects His divine plan negatively. The goal is to be in sync with divine timing, not ahead or behind. For instance, God's ultimate plan concerning the children of Israel was to deliver them from the hands of the Egyptians after four hundred years of captivity but the Israelites stayed for an extra thirty years in bondage because Moses was too hasty in trying to fulfil God's call as their deliverer.

**APPLICATION:** Your coming to this world was for the accomplishment of a divine purpose. God had a deliberate reason for your being here irrespective of how you were conceived or the state of your family background. Stop going through life as if there is no divine plan for your life. Souls and destinies are depending on you for their rising. Your financial capacity alone does not define your success. Your resolution to write that book, establish that business, acquire that education, sing that song, etc and do them on time is what we define as the urgency of success. Your world is waiting and you do not have eternity to fulfil destiny (Romans 8:19). Do you sense that it's time? Don't hold back; seek God and step out in faith.



PRAYER

*Precious Lord, I ask You to imbibe in me, a deep sense of urgency concerning my destiny and the purpose for which You called me, in the name of Jesus.*



ACTION  
POINT

Step out of your comfort zone and do something today in line with the assignment God has given you.



DAILY BIBLE  
READING:

1 Samuel 4 – 7



# YOU WILL GIVE AN ACCOUNT

KEY  
TEXT

**Romans 14:11-12 KJV, "For it is written, [As] I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So, then every one of us shall give an account of himself to God."**

In the actualization of a pursuit, the "how" is as important or even far more important than the "why". That's why the Bible emphasises in **Deuteronomy 8:18, "But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for [it is] he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as [it is] this day."** Meaning, while it is necessary to prosper on earth, how you go about the pursuit of your dreams and aspirations matters to God. Also, how you steward the resources God has given to you will be taken into account. Continually bear in mind that someday, after all is said and done, you will give an account of your life to God. Decide now what that account will be.

## You will give an account of the following:

- If you received Jesus or ignored and mocked Him, and whether you lived a life that was pleasing to God or not.
- How you used your gifts and talents to fulfil God's purpose for your life.
- Your service and labour in God's Kingdom
- How you managed God's resources.

Make sure you are prepared!

**PRAYER:** Father, thank You for Your Word today. Help me to live prepared for that day, in Jesus' name.



*Let go of every besetting sin in your life.*



Get rid of your distractions.



1 Samuel 8 – 12

# DREAM IT!

## KEY TEXT

**Genesis 37: 6-7** "And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed: For behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf."

The body of Christ is not a name given to the church because we are a **BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—Dreams can be defined in many ways but from the context of today's text, it was a dream perpetuated because of the thoughts of a young boy who saw himself beyond the flock of the wilderness. One of the most profound treasures given to us is our ability to dream, to bring the visions of our hearts to physical reality or manifestation. All of mankind's breakthroughs emanated from someone's ability to dream. The passage from the world of the known to the world of the unknown, to the world of turning impossibilities into possibilities, is birthed through our ability to dream.

Joseph dared to dream and he was also courageous enough to share his dream despite his age and position in his family. I believe the reason God used Joseph was first, because of his ability to trust in Him. God is in search of men who can believe in the manifestation of the impossible through the intentional application of faith. God said to Abram, "For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed forever." (Genesis 13:15) He was simply trying to tell Abram to use his power of vision to visualise with his mind, what He intended to give to him and his future generations.

**APPLICATION:** Your power to dream is your ticket to the actualisation of the 'impossible'. You cannot live beyond what your mind can see or visualize. In other words, dream! Good things don't happen only because of the resistance of the enemy but because we refuse to put our minds to work. What do you want to achieve this year? Have a dream that you can work towards. Your dream is like the building plan you need to make your perspectives come alive. Dare to picture it and dare to make it work. No matter how impossible it may seem, if you keep your dreams alive, it becomes possible.



*Oh Lord, I receive the power to dream and the empowerment to turn my dreams into reality, in the name of Jesus.*



Get a personal journal and write down your dreams: the visions of the spirit and your aspirations and trust the Lord for the enablement to fulfill them, backing each up with relevant scriptures of the Bible.



**1 Samuel 13 – 14**

# SPIRITUAL FORCES

## KEY TEXT

*Isaiah 45:1-3 NLT, "This is what the LORD says to Cyrus, his anointed one, whose right hand he will empower. Before him, mighty kings will be paralyzed with fear. Their fortress gates will be opened, never to shut again...I will do this so you may know that I am the LORD, the God of Israel, the one who calls you by name."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**— Cyrus II of Persia, commonly known as Cyrus the Great had an interesting history. He was born to the daughter of Astyages, the king of Medes and overlord of the Persians. When his daughter was about to give birth, Astyages had a dream that his grandson would overthrow him, so he ordered the child to be slain. However, rather than being slain, the baby was given to a shepherd. Born with the potential of a ruler, Cyrus' destiny looked set to be that of a shepherd. But then, he had an encounter in a dream, and from that point, he went on to set up an empire that ruled 44 percent of the world's population. Such is the result of spiritual backing!

One of the first lessons you learn in the school of maturity is that the natural is never enough. Anyone who builds his life on the natural will have shameful outcomes as the natural will fail at the time you need it the most. You will never attain certain heights in life unless you are sponsored by God or satan. The problem with satan's sponsorship is that it doesn't last. It will hurt you and your generation, and when you die and leave this earth, you will still end up in eternal damnation. But unlike the devil's sponsorship, the blessing of God makes you rich and doesn't add sorrow; so, you make a choice.

**APPLICATION**— Choose God. You have a more secure destiny when God sponsors you. Anyone could have assumed that Cyrus was an overnight success, but he wasn't. He has a story. A spiritual force intersected his life's journey and propelled him into greatness. God picked interest in him and changed the course of his life for good. God can pick you up. He can change your life permanently for good. Ask Him for it. Ask Him for the good of the land. Ask Him to beautify your life. Ask Him to hold you by the hand and lead you into His best for you. If He could do it with Cyrus (who was a heathen), He can do it with you, His child. While others toil through life, grace can make a difference in your life. Receive God's grace today!



*Father, help me. Be my Destiny Sponsor.*



Study Isaiah 45 today.



1 Samuel 15 – 16



# RESTORED AND COMPENSATED

## COVENANT DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER

### KEY TEXT

*Job 42:10 "And the LORD turned the captivity of Job when he prayed for his friends: also the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before."*

Job was a wealthy and blessed man who had his share of challenges. In the process, he lost everything he had. It wasn't an easy journey but he remained hopeful until God restored him. From Job's experience and a few others in the Scriptures, we recognise that God doesn't restore people to where they fell. He always restores us to a higher place. When God remembers you, your lost years won't matter. Just as He brought the Israelites out of Egypt (their land of bondage) with silver and gold, God will bring you out of your season of lack and poverty into abundance.

### Prayer Points

1. Father, thank You for Your undying love for me and Your desire to prosper me.
2. Today, I speak life to all that concerns me. Let the season of toiling and suffering end in my life and family.
3. I receive the help of God today. Oh Lord, remember me for good!
4. Whatever I have lost in the past years of my life is restored to me by the mercy of God. This year, I rise to a place of wealth and dominion.
5. In Jesus' name, I connect to supernatural open doors and exceptional favours. No more losses! No more failures! No more wasted time and effort. Father, show up in my life, family and business.
6. This year, let channels of exponential growth be opened to me, my business, my family and my assignment. I receive divine ideas and connections for success in Jesus' name.
7. Father, prosper Your church and servants all over the world. Let men and women of substance arise out of Zion. Let such people be compelled to give to the advancement of the Gospel of Jesus.
8. Gateway International Church, you are unstoppable! Make progress, increase, impact and be established at the topmost top.
9. Concerning Pastor George Izunwa and his family, let their enemies fall for their sake. Let their lives go from grace to grace. Father, let lost years be restored in Jesus' name.
10. Over Nigeria, let every hovering negative cloud sitting over this nation be pulled down in Jesus' name. Nigeria, go forward!

## PREPARE FOR BATTLE

### KEY TEXT

*Numbers 14:9 "Only rebel not ye against the Lord, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the Lord is with us: fear them not."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT:** Life, in a nutshell, is a battle though not in the literal sense of the word. This simply means that there is always something we must intentionally resist if we must make headway in life. For as long as man has existed, battles have raged on in basically every facet of life, leaving even the feeble and innocent at the mercy of the strong and merciless. In simple terms, winners are born basically out of their ability to exude strength when the need arises. No life is free of battles irrespective of age, geographical location or background. Not all battles share the same intensity or ferocity but one thing is sure, there's always something to fight for and a reason to fight.

After the exodus of the children of Israel from the land of Egypt, they had to be battle-ready at all times to take over the inheritance God had prepared for them. One may ask, why didn't the Lord drive out the heathens Himself for His children? God was indeed capable of driving out the unbelievers from the lands Himself but the Israelites needed to prepare for battle and face their enemies themselves.

**APPLICATION:** Life is not a walkover because you are a Christian. One of the lies we often tell ourselves is that because we are Christians, things would automatically fall into place. Through the covenant, we have been promised a life of victory. However, nobody becomes victorious without an actual fight. Fight! Resist the urge to be spiritually lazy no matter how trivial your issues might be. Spend time building spiritual muscles through fasting, prayer and Bible study. Don't be careless about spiritual warfare. Once in a while, roar like a lion because your Father is a Lion. Lions sometimes roar to announce their presence and establish their dominion over a territory. Practise spiritual warfare, if there is no reason, at least, do it to establish your dominion over the enemy.



*Oh Lord, grant me the strength for spiritual warfare, in Jesus' name.*



Join the Altar of Mercy Prayers at 11:00 pm tonight. Call our help desk for more information.



1 Samuel 19 – 21

# IT IS FINISHED.

## KEY TEXT

*John 19:29-30 "A jar of vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus. When He had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished. With that, He bowed His head and gave up His spirit."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—When Jesus went to die on the Cross, He made a deal with the Father. He said something like, "Okay Father, we are agreeing. I will go, I will die, I will pay the ultimate price for their sins and then, they will go free." This was what Jesus came to do so that the Father's wrath and anger against mankind would be completely turned away. Because of His sacrifice, God's wrath against man was turned away and we were able to enter a relationship with our God at the end.

Jesus' death was a deal for us and also a deal with God. But on the other hand, it was a deal-breaker for the devil because the devil had taken something very precious from us. He had taken away our souls. By the transaction between the devil and man in the Garden of Eden, the devil stole the souls of the entire human race, including those who were yet to be born. And because man disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden as the Bible suggests, Satan injected sin into us, thereby, keeping us in the bondage of sin which continued to compel us to live in ways contrary to God's plan. But when Jesus came, He simply said to the devil, "That thing you did is broken forever. It ends now! Now that I have come and paid the ultimate price, you are defeated. Now, let these people go!"

**APPLICATION:** Remember that when Jesus died on the Cross and cried, "*It is finished*", sin, bondage, poverty, oppression, unfruitfulness, sickness, curses, death and the like, were destroyed and cast out of our lives forever. His victory on the Cross was simply an indication that He had declared an atonement for us. Jesus' sacrifice became the ultimate sacrifice that the blood of animals can never supersede no matter what. This means that no sacrifice or restitution is better than what Jesus did for us. This also means that there is no other sacrifice required for you to make peace with God. All you need to do is acknowledge Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, accept His forgiveness and He will give you the grace to walk in righteousness. Today is Good Friday, and as we remember this sacrifice, it would be a good time for you to reflect on the death of Jesus and reconcile with God.



PRAYER

*Lord, this day, I acknowledge the ultimate price You paid for me. Grant me the grace to walk in ways that please You.*



ACTION POINT

Reflect soberly on the message and purpose of the Cross today and how it should affect your life.



DAILY BIBLE READING

1 Samuel 22 – 24

# THE CROSS IS THE CURE

## KEY TEXT

*Romans 3:22 NIV "This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."*

**BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT**—Life has both simple and complex problems. For instance, the process of deciding what to wear on a beautiful Sunday morning is not as complex as deciding who to marry. It's the same situation as one trying to deal with ordinary acne and another, a cancerous growth. When man fell and was alienated from God, it wasn't a simple problem; it was a complex one. When man disobeyed by eating the forbidden fruit, it appeared like a simple problem but that seemingly simple disobedience brought about the fall of man.

It wasn't the fruit but the act of disobedience, the rebellion against the authority of God and the choice to be independent that caused the fall of man. Because of this, Jesus had to die on the Cross, which is the meeting point between the Law and grace. That's where mercy encountered the law and won. Jesus is the embodiment of mercy and grace. When Jesus won, you also won. The law of righteousness took effect (we become righteous, not by works but by faith); the spiritual hierarchy was rearranged, the blessing cancelled the curse and we became covenant heirs with Christ.

**APPLICATION:** The first thing you need to know is that the devil is already defeated and his power broken. You may be asking yourself if this is true because of the hold of sin and oppression over your life. The reason it appears as if you're still being dragged by the devil is because: (1) **You are still ignorant** of your victory in Christ Jesus. (2) **You may have rejected pardon** by rejecting God's forgiveness and refusing to acknowledge the Lordship of Jesus Christ. (3) **You may have failed** to enforce your covenant right over a situation. This is why satan keeps carrying the day over your life. Victory is already yours. Claim it! Call on God and keep going to Him for help until the truth becomes your reality. He will never fail you. If you go to Him sincerely from your heart, He will give you the grace to overcome and live in victory. This is what the Cross gave to you and me. means that there is no other sacrifice required for you to make peace with God. All you need to do is acknowledge Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, accept His forgiveness and He will give you the grace to walk in righteousness. Today is Good Friday, and as we remember this sacrifice, it would be a good time for you to reflect on the death of Jesus and reconcile with God.



*Oh Lord, please help me and heal me as I commit my flaws and faults to You by faith.*



Never see yourself as a failure because God has already given you victory. Tell yourself that you won't die small.



1 Samuel 25 – 27

# HE AROSE

## KEY TEXT

*Luke 24: 5-6 "In their fright, the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, why he was still with you in Galilee.'"*

Today's text narrates the experience of the women who had gone into the tomb where Jesus was laid to rest to use some spices on His body, most probably for preservative purposes. To their amazement, they didn't find His body but instead, met two men who scared them out of their wits. The men (angels) had to remind them that Jesus had openly declared that He was going to be betrayed, crucified and would rise again. The Bible says afterwards, that they remembered His words. Isn't it amazing how we sometimes, lose focus and forget the purpose of His death and resurrection? Sometimes, we get carried away by the ceremonies and lose sight of the significance of the season. He arose many centuries ago and today is a reminder that He is risen! Don't forget this. As you celebrate His resurrection, don't forget that by His rising, you have also risen from death to life, from darkness to light, from sickness to health, from poverty to wealth and from bondage to freedom. See yourself today as one who has been created, crafted and commissioned to carry God's glory.

## What to Do:

- Reflect on the purpose of Easter
- Remind someone of the purpose of Easter
- Celebrate Jesus like you have never done before.



*Lord Jesus, thank You for dying for me. Thank You for paying the ultimate price for me, thereby giving me a future.*



Use social media as a tool to remind people of the purpose of Jesus' death and resurrection.



1 Samuel 28 – 31

# 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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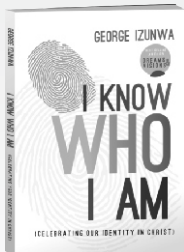
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**God bless you.**





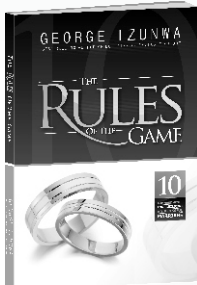
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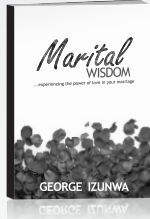
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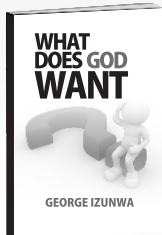
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10 Hospital Road, Beside Charlison Supermarket Ahoada, Rivers State. **Contact:** Min. Lucky Paulinus 07031617459

## **ALUU SATELLITE CHURCH**

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**Contact:** Pst. Sunday Onyeke - 08167108273

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**Contact** -Min. Chidi Michael - +234 803 8036 298

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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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