



April 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
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APRIL / 2024

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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
Total	45Mins



▶ 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!

Kings come to the brightness of my rising

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!

FREE AT LAST!

KEY TEXT

Acts 16:16-18 "...And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour."

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT— Today's text is an account of a demon-possessed girl who followed Paul around for many days announcing that he was a servant of God. How do you explain that a demon could be allowed to operate around Apostle Paul for many days? Well, even today, many in the household of God are not free despite the finished works of Christ. A good number of God's children are still bound and under the devil's oppression and manipulation because it's possible to be a victim of the devil's operations and not realise it. Some of such people are actively involved in kingdom service and are unable to sense that they are bound.

Church activities do not automatically connote freedom from the manipulations and oppressions of the devil. It takes spiritual sensitivity to know that something isn't right. The faster you become sensitive, the quicker your deliverance. Being insensitive to spiritual activities and attacks only prolongs suffering. When the operations of wickedness are at work in a person's life, someone else is benefitting from it. However, when you become sensitive to it, you're able to wage appropriate spiritual warfare against it. You are truly free, not when you become a child of God, but when you become aware of and enforce your liberty in Christ.

APPLICATION— Don't be spiritually ignorant and complacent. Paul could only cast out the spirit from the girl in today's text because he paid attention and was discerning. Pay attention and be discerning of the happenings around you. Take authority, preserve your territory and be consistent in spiritual warfare. Don't underestimate the craftiness of the devil; if you do, you'll end up deprived of everything Jesus paid for when He hung on the cross. Be on the offensive and not defensive when it comes to the devil. This is how to guarantee your perpetual freedom. Yes, we just celebrated the death and resurrection of Jesus. The next step is to take up the whole armour of God and quench every dart of the enemy (Ephesians 6:10).



Father, thank You for Your word! Let my senses be quickened to spiritual realities in Jesus' name.



Identify areas of your life that the devil is after; take note of evil repetitive patterns and cycles and take authority over them in prayers.



2 Samuel 1 – 3

DON'T REJECT PARDON

KEY
TEXT

1 Corinthians 15:55-56 "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law."

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT—Rejection is often rooted in ignorance and a poor sense of identity and worth. In the days of Moses' laws, when man sinned, he was required to go to the priest with an animal which was to be slaughtered and its blood used to atone for his sins. In this dispensation, we don't need that ritual anymore because of what Christ has done for us. The power of sin and death has been broken and sin no longer has dominion over us. So, the question is, if the Cross is the actual solution, why are people still in captivity? It is because they are ignorant of what Christ did on the Cross.

Some people see Jesus as one of the ancient prophets who chose to die out of sympathy for mankind. Others see him as one of the martyrs. They wonder: "How can the death of one man save the whole world, cleanse the sins of even those who are yet to be born and reconcile man back to God?" It doesn't make sense, they would argue, conclude and reject the pardon God has granted them. Many years ago, a man named George Wilson was sentenced to death by hanging having committed several murders. However, people pleaded on his behalf until the US president officially wrote and granted him a pardon. To everyone's surprise, this forgiven criminal rejected the pardon and opted to be killed. And because the pardon couldn't be imposed on him, he died.

APPLICATION: Many unbelievers out there are like George Wilson. They choose death over life. People don't go to hell because of sin but because they refuse to accept Jesus Christ. Since the death of Jesus, God has not sent anybody to hell. Men choose their eternal destination when they either accept or reject the pardon. You have been pardoned by grace. Please, don't reject that pardon. You may have been going to church for as long as you can remember. It's even possible that you are serving in a department in church but you alone know your true stand with God. Again, please, don't reject your pardon. Accept the finished work of Calvary. Your eternity depends on it. Make it right today by sincerely asking Him to come into your life if you haven't yet asked Him to. If you are born again, be concerned about seeing others saved.



PRAYER

Father, open my eyes to understand Your heart for the souls of men in the name of Jesus.



ACTION
POINT

Intentionally ponder on the amazing gift and sacrifice of the Cross.



DAILY BIBLE
READING:

2 Samuel 4 – 7

TAKE HOLD OF YOUR FREEDOM

COVENANT DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER

KEY TEXT

John 8:36 "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."

Has it ever occurred to you that you have been made free but most of the responsibility of enforcing your liberty depends on you? Your victory, in so many ways, depends on you. You can be in the house of God and yet labour under the manipulations of witchcraft. But on the other hand, you can choose to partner with the Lord and live a fulfilling Christian life. Today, as you pray, fight to take hold of your liberty in Christ.

Prayer Points:

1. Father, thank You for my liberty in Christ Jesus. I am no longer a slave to sin, guilt and evil.
2. Today, I declare that Jesus has set me free and I am free indeed. By the blood of Jesus, I enforce my liberty.
3. No power can hurt my destiny! I take authority over witchcraft manipulations and demonic attacks. I will not be a victim of the devil's oppressions, in Jesus' name.
4. Today, I arrest every mentality that enforces bondages in my life in the name of Jesus. Let the Word of God be the voice of authority over my life, family and destiny.
5. Holy Spirit, help me. Take away every evil habit, weight or besetting sin that reduces the quality of my life and walk with God. Create in me a clean heart, o God and purge me today.
6. I declare that my household is free to serve God. I release fire over every bondage of idolatry and witchcraft haunting our lives and hindering our progress. By fire, I separate myself and members of my family from inherited bondages.
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!

BROUGHT INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD

KEY
TEXT

Ephesians 2: 18–19 “For through him we both have access by one spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.”

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHT ON THE TEXT – God's original plan for man was continual fellowship. Man was meant to be constantly in touch with the Godhead but he fell to the weakness of his flesh and rebelled against God. The implication of this act is recorded in **Genesis 3:17–19** “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'you shall not eat it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face, you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

What was meant to bless and serve man led to his downfall! He lost the benefits of fellowship as given to him by God and was driven out of the garden. From then, only a few men ever had the privilege of fellowship and dominion as Adam had enjoyed. Because of His love for man, God came up with a solution—redemption. It was God's redemptive plan for Jesus to bear our sins and curse through His death on the Cross. When this mission was accomplished, we became His adopted children and joint heirs with Christ (See John 1:12, Romans 8:15-17).

APPLICATION—The power of the cross and our belief in Jesus made us eligible members of God's family. This means that we have access to whatever God owns. It means that we share His realities and have taken on His identity. It means that we are neither strangers nor outcasts. What illness or disease are you struggling with? Are you struggling with lack and poverty? Are you full of fear and shame? Understand that these descriptions don't besit you. You belong to the wealthiest, most influential, most powerful, most reputable and most permanent family in time and eternity. Think like it, talk like it and act like it.



Lord, I thank You for Your unconditional love and my new identity in Christ. Let my life reflect this reality in Jesus' name.



Take some time to meditate on your identity, benefits and responsibilities as a member of God's family.



2 Samuel 12 – 13

POSSESS YOUR POSSESSION

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—Possessing your possession simply means taking hold of what belongs to you. The first step to getting started is understanding what God's will is concerning your liberty, success and wellness. According to our key text, it is God's will that we prosper in all ramifications of life: spiritually, health-wise and financially. God intended it to be this way even from the very beginning as we can ascertain from Genesis 1:27. Isaiah 46:3-4 also clearly defines this fact as it points out God's promise and intention towards us. It says, "Listen to me, you descendants of Jacob, all the remnants of the people of Israel, you whom I have upheld since your birth, and have carried you since you were born. Even to your old age and grey hairs, I am he, I am he who would sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you."

The next step is ensuring you are doing something worthwhile concerning your needs. For instance, there is no such thing as unemployment in God's kingdom. Benevolence is not a part of the Kingdom prerequisites when it comes to our sustenance as children of God. Though there's nothing wrong in asking for and receiving help when the need arises, especially in emergencies, it shouldn't be the laid down pattern for living. By God's covenant promises towards us, we are entitled to promising, fruitful and fulfilling lives. However, after God has played His part, it's up to us to play ours. You can't possess your possession when you haven't played your role.

APPLICATION: We are God's covenant people. Our covenant with God provides shelter from poverty, shame, sickness, lack, oppression and destruction. By this covenant, our possession is already guaranteed but you need to find something to do. No matter how little it might be, get busy! Start from somewhere. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, King David, Moses, etc. were men of hard work and integrity.



I declare that I will be the evidence of God's blessings in my generation, in the name of Jesus.



Take stock of your resources; gifts, talents, connections, financial power and environmental advantages and find out what you can do with these resources.



2 Samuel 14 – 16

DO NOT SLUMBER THROUGH DESTINY

KEY
TEXT

1 Peter 5:8 "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour".

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT—A life lived in nonchalance and complacency will always result in victimization. The devil has so little time and has decided to invest it solely in destructions of all kinds. A lot of people have lost things that rightly belong to them to the enemy. They have lost touch with every good thing that the Lord has given to them as a result of the works of the enemy. While they slept, the enemy crept in and sowed tares (Matthew 13:24-28). As much as the enemy did come in, the extent to which he operated was directly proportional to the time men slept.

When we sleep and slumber through life, the enemy comes in to sow negative seeds but when we mount formidable opposition to the works of darkness, it becomes difficult for the enemy to infiltrate our lives. Even if he attacks when we are asleep, as long as we don't remain asleep, his attempts at hurting us will fail. Slumber stifles growth and spiritual sensitivity. Slumber sponsors laziness, nonchalance and spiritual dryness. It takes a lot for a seed to be sown and well nurtured into maturity in the life of a believer. When negative things begin to happen as a result of slumber, sometimes, it's not automatic. It may have been allowed to gain ground for quite some time and this only tells how long a person has been slumbering.

APPLICATION—Do you notice that you've been slumbering? Then it's time to wake up. There are a few things you can do: (1) **Keep Christian company.** It is risky to do life alone. There should be people in your life who can strengthen you back into wellness in times of weariness. The devil thrives in the life of a believer who is in isolation. (2) **Keep your vision clear.** It isn't possible to fall asleep spiritually while looking upon Jesus. Whenever a man loses focus, what should have been an added benefit becomes the primary point of struggle for that man. Do not slumber, stay awake!



PRAYER

Father, thank You for Your Word today. I receive grace to stay vigilant and well-fortified against the schemes of the devil. I gain victory over every battle of destiny in Jesus' name. Amen!



ACTION
POINT

Intensify your walk with God and your work for God. Build/join a network of Christian friends.



DAILY BIBLE
READING:

2 Samuel 17 – 19

YOU HAVE A LEGAL RIGHT

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."

KEY TEXT: Colossians 2:15 AMP *"When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities [those supernatural forces of evil operating against us], He made a public example of them [exhibiting them as captives in His triumphal procession], having triumphed over them through the cross."*

Christ meant it. He meant business when He went to the Cross. He did not only destroy the power of death; He also restored man to a place of authority and dominion. When He made a show of the devil, power changed hands. We no longer operate in fear and shame. *But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name* (John 1:12). God did not just redeem man and restore him to his original place. He placed him at a position higher than where he fell from. **Ephesians 2:6** gives an account of this; *"And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus."* By the constitution of heaven, you are legally God's child and every benefit that comes with this reality is legally yours.

How do you enforce your rights?

- **Understand that the devil has been defeated.** He isn't as powerful as you imagined him to be. He only puts up a front so that ignorant people can fear and surrender to him.
- **Understand your ranking in Christ.** You are no longer a servant of God; You have been adopted as His son.
- **Know that you are equipped for victory.** Christ in you builds your inner man to withstand any form of tribulation and emerge victorious because He that is in you is greater than he that is in the world.



Lord, thank You for the revelation of the God-dimension I now operate in. Today, I rebuke any force saying no to the full manifestation of my inheritance in Christ.



Keep declaring your stand in Christ. Be Bold and Resilient.



2 Samuel 20 – 22

THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD.

KEY
TEXT

2 Corinthians 5:21 "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him".

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT—In the Old Testament, righteousness was about obeying the laws of Moses. But today, the basis of righteousness is believing and accepting the Lord Jesus as your Lord and Saviour. Righteousness in the new covenant is not achieved by works. It is received by grace through our faith in Christ. When we are born again, we are made the righteousness of God in Christ. This is one of the reasons many people question our faith as believers and refuse to be born-again; they just can't understand how salvation is possible without works. Even in the church, people still count themselves among sinners because they often give in to the temptations of the flesh and believe that their salvation is only dependent on their works.

Many unbelievers, rich and poor, claim they're better than "churchgoers". They believe they're justified and righteous just because they give alms, keep moral principles and guide themselves against preventable contamination. They don't realize that we now operate by a different set of rules, that Jesus is the way and we only become righteous when we accept and profess Him as our Lord and Saviour. Whereas, the righteousness of Moses was obtained by the law, but the righteousness of Jesus is obtained through faith in Him. We aren't righteous because we are able. We are righteous because He made us righteous. Jesus paid the ultimate price that neither the blood of animals nor the blood of other humans could pay.

APPLICATION: Do you know that you are righteous or do you think no one is righteous? Would you rather choose religion or you would choose God's Word? Do you now understand that God's righteousness counts for something or do you think you can't stand before God? Are you still going to maintain your position as a sinner so that you can appear to be humble in prayer or will you now begin to go boldly to God's throne of grace? Change your approach and begin to see yourself the way God sees you. If you already are, take this as a challenge to help other believers to see themselves the way God does.



Father, reveal my identity as a believer to me. Help me to understand and live this life that You have called me to.



Meditate on today's text.



2 Samuel 23 – 24

EQUIPPED AND POSITIONED FOR VICTORY.

KEY
TEXT

Colossians 3:1,3 "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God."

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT—Christ is our mediator. He is the bridge between man and God. He nailed our sins on the cross. He rose and came alive with our victory that we may no longer serve sin. If a man who is driving a bulletproof car without realizing its protective capacity is being shot at by armed men, he will most likely park his car and run into the bush for safety. He will do this without realizing that stepping out of the car is the real danger. Many Christians can be likened to this bulletproof car owner. When we don't understand the efficacy of Christ's death and resurrection, and our place as new creations, we tend to run from our haven into danger.

There's a saying that dead men don't die. If today's text is correct and you are indeed dead, why should you live in fear (whether fear of death or fear of the future)? Considering your new status as a dead man or woman, our text goes further to say that you are hidden with Christ in God. Do you realize how powerful this is? When you are dead, you become immune to the things that kill mortal men. When you are hidden in Christ, it means that whatever can have access to you must have first been able to access God. Guess what? God is your bulletproof car and He is untouchable. Be still. Keep going. Nothing can harm you.

APPLICATION: You are equipped by God. He put in and upon you everything you need to have a glorious and indestructible life. He did not only equip you for victory, He also positioned you to win at all times. What sickness can you not face? What is death? What are accidents? You have Zoe—the God-life. What do you want to dare? This is the right time to do it. Have you been fighting a spiritual battle that you are getting tired of? This is the time to pick up from where you left off. You are a victor. So, Victor, get up and win!



Father, thank You for always making me victorious. I remain victorious in the name of Jesus.



Dare something new this week.
Start celebrating your sure victory.



1 Kings 1 – 2

SUBDUING THE FORCES AGAINST YOU

COVENANT DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER

KEY
TEXT

1 Corinthians 16:9 "For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and [there are] many adversaries."

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT— Every great destiny will be confronted with great battles. As a child of God, you have a great position in Christ, so, naturally, you will attract great opposition. However, whenever you are challenged, you need to know how to engage the power of God to silence the enemy. The enemy is angry with your position, and you cannot afford to let him have his way. Unfortunately, the devil only flees from you when you resist him. As you pray today, the forces of wickedness against you must bow to the power of the Holy Ghost.

Prayer Points

1. My Father, thank You for opening great doors to me. I walk through them into the best place of my life in Jesus' name.
2. In Jesus' name, I decree: no power can stand in my way. Nothing will hinder my progress or stand in the way of my breakthrough.
3. Isaiah 59:19—Holy Spirit, take charge of my life and destiny. Let the devil and his cohorts be put to shame. Let their devices be disappointed. Let their enchantments fail.
4. Lord, by the power of Your Spirit, let everything contesting my glorious destiny be utterly silenced in Jesus' name. Father, grant me the grace to take spiritual responsibility, so I can enjoy victory in every battle of destiny. in Jesus' name.
5. I subdue the forces of darkness against my life, family, business, career and marriage. Evil will not prevail over good in my life.
6. Today, in the name of Jesus, I speak the blessing of God over my life and all that concern me. I am blessed and cannot be defeated.
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:

1 Kings 3 – 5

THE REALITY OF WITCHCRAFT

KEY
TEXT

Psalm 74:20 "Have respect unto the covenant: for the dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty."

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT—Witchcraft can be termed a spiritual science. It is the science of manipulation, oppression, obstruction and destruction with the use of illegitimate powers. Anyone using illegitimate powers to attack destinies or weaken and resist lives is a witch. Witchcraft is real whether you know or like it, or not. It took me some years of pastoring and dealing with cases of witchcraft to fully accept this truth. The operations of witchcraft can be found in every area of life. It is also a proven fact that one can easily operate in witchcraft without necessarily engaging the support of spiritual powers. For instance, a man who sits in an office and hides someone's file is also a witch or as the case may be, a wizard. He may not need the help of spiritual powers to hide that file but he can be described as a wizard just for his intention to manipulate something that belongs to another for evil or selfish reasons.

When the Bible mentioned the wise men from the east, for instance, these men were not professors or anything of that kind. They were stargazers and astrologers who found out the destinies of people via the stars. One day, while on their job, they saw a star that was different and very peculiar. They realized it belonged to a special child who they didn't have the power to manipulate and decided to go in search of the child. That Child was Jesus. Many people labour under strange influences which have affected their families, marriages, homes, relationships, businesses, finances, career and health. But the good news is, you don't need to spend another minute under that strange influence or bondage anymore. Jesus guarantees your victory if you come to Him for help.

APPLICATION: Nonetheless, spiritual carelessness creates the doorway through which witchcraft can take its roots in our lives but thank God for the victory we already have in Christ Jesus. For the saving power of God to become effective in your life, you must do everything possible to avoid living carelessly. This can be achieved by placing yourself under covenant spiritual covering and taking prophetic aggression seriously. Covenant covering ensures you are spiritually fortified and prophetic aggression keeps you alert and always ready to strike. Don't be ignorant of the devices of the devil; arm yourself with knowledge so that the devil will have no room to take advantage of your ignorance (2 Corinthians 2:11).



By the power of the Holy Ghost, anything negatively influencing or manipulating my life, die now in the name of Jesus.



Intentionally and continually apply every word of prophecy over your life by declaring them boldly.



1 Kings 6 – 7

TOO HOT TO HANDLE

KEY
TEXT

Matthew 3:11 "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire."

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT—When a pot has been subjected to much heat during cooking and a person attempts to touch it, the resultant effect is pain. The same goes for the life of a believer who is actively housing the Holy Ghost. Circumstances don't overwhelm you as they do others; you don't end up where others end or suffer what they suffer. You become too hot for the devil to handle. Believe me, the devil himself knows who to tamper with and who not to. This is because when he tries the wrong person, he suffers lots of casualties and it is ultimately bad business for him.

A person in consistent fellowship with the Holy Ghost is a carrier of His fire. As much as this fire can purify, it can also consume. To the cook, fire cooks. To the goldsmith, fire refines. To the silversmith, it purifies. To waste, fire burns. Fire responds to everything and everyone according to what and who they are. The Holy Spirit set you on fire when He rested on you. That fire can respond to any situation as occasion demands. As much as fire is useful to the different categories of people mentioned above, none of these people will intentionally throw themselves into fire or play around with it. When charcoal is fanned into flames, no sane person touches it but when it's in its cool state, people go as far as grinding it for different purposes. Are you the charcoal in its cool state or you are the one that is constantly burning? Think about it.

APPLICATION— The devil thrives in an atmosphere of complacency. He makes you feel so relaxed, lukewarm, cool and comfortable with your present state, and then he sets his camp around you and begins to crush you like charcoal to be used as a cleaning agent. Don't reduce yourself to that! Fan your fire (2 Timothy 1:6). Have you ever said, "I'm dying of thirst!"? It's a phrase most of us have used. For most of us, it is just a casual statement; yet, for others, it is a brutal reality. Thirst for God's presence through prayer. When we pray, we talk to God; when we study His Word, He talks to us. Talk to Him and listen for His voice. Recognize that God is the source of our joy, peace and everything good. Soak yourself in His presence and stay hot enough such that the devil cannot perch on you.



Father, help me to be more disciplined in prayers and the study of Your word. I refuse to be a victim of lukewarmness in Jesus' name.



Begin or keep up your journey into more of God's presence. Give yourself to spiritual exercises.



1 Kings 8 – 9

STAY CONNECTED TO THE CROSS

KEY
TEXT

Nahum 3:4 "Because of the multitude of her whoredoms of the well-favoured harlot, mistress of witchcraft, that selleth nations through her whoredoms, and families through her witchcraft."

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT—Witchcraft manifests itself in diverse ways or certain patterns. A typical example is when people exhibit strange behaviour that has no justifiable explanation. For instance, some fathers refuse to care for their offspring but would rather do the needful in the lives of children who have no biological connection whatsoever with them. When one looks at them, one cannot fathom their hatred or dislike for their own children or spouse as the case may be. Such a man could be under the strange influence of witchcraft. Another manifestation of witchcraft is rising accusations. Sometimes, accusations leading to deep scandals could pop up out of the blue, leading to the damaged integrity of its victims. Accusations orchestrated by witchcraft have destroyed many lives, marriages, ministries and businesses, leaving a trail of traumatized innocent victims.

In Numbers 22-24, Balak, the king of Moab hired Balaam to curse the nation of Israel out of fear that the Israelites may topple him and invade his territory. In Numbers 22:4 Balak said to Balaam, *"A people has come out of Egypt: they cover the face of the land and have settled next to me. Now come and put a curse on these people, because they are too powerful for me. Perhaps then I will be able to defeat them and drive them out of the land. For I know that whoever you bless is blessed and whoever you curse is cursed."* In Numbers 23:8, Balaam replied Balak saying, *"How can I curse those whom God has not cursed? How can I denounce those whom God has not denounced?"* When you are in the Body, connected to the Church under the covenant of the Cross, no evil can come near you. Who and where you belong truly matters.

APPLICATION: To ensure your protection from the powers of witchcraft, the first thing you ought to do is ensure that you are in Christ and you belong to His body. This means that you are regular in church attendance. Regular church attendance invites regular cleansing and constant preservation from the wiles of the enemy. *"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the Blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin"* (Psalm 84:7). Do you want to experience strange and supernatural realities? If yes, stay connected to the Cross and to the church.



PRAYER

Father, today, I call forth my destiny portion. Whatever the enemy stole from me through witchcraft, I declare they are recovered, in the name of Jesus.



ACTION POINT

Muster up a fearless mindset. Decide that you are never going to live in fear again.



DAILY BIBLE READING:

1 Kings 10 – 12

GET THE ANOINTING

KEY
TEXT

Isaiah 10:27 "And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing."

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT—Anointing is the forerunner of deliverance. Where there is salvation, empowerment comes. This empowerment brings about the anointing which in turn, brings deliverance for any man who is saved. Deliverance is simply taking delivery of everything that Jesus purchased for us by breaking the power of sin, sickness, satanic oppressions, strongholds, shame and suffering. Sometimes, deliverance should not involve a human third party. It can be personal and self-administered. Every child of God is anointed by God to, most times, minister to themselves by themselves. Personal deliverance is when you make personal efforts to enforce your liberty. The way to do this is simply to get the anointing which is the working of the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life.

How to get the anointing:

- Pray often in the Holy Ghost (Jude 1:20).
- Associate with people who consistently desire and pursue God's presence.
- Regularly listen to music and messages that uplift your spirit.
- Engage in constant Bible study.
- Don't forsake fellowship with other believers.



PRAYER

Father, thank You for the anointing that You have made available through the Holy Spirit. I receive the grace to carry the anointing at all times; let every yoke in my life break by the anointing. Amen.

ACTION
POINT

Consciously practise the 5 steps above.

DAILY BIBLE
READING:

1 Kings 13 – 15

CONSECRATE YOUR LIFE

KEY TEXT

Luke 13:11-13 "And behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bound together, and could in no wise lift herself up. And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him and said unto her, Woman thou art loosed from thine infirmity. And he laid hands on her; and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God."

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT—One of the ways personal deliverance can be maintained or effected is through deep consecration. A deeply consecrated life is a life sold out to committedly following God. There is a dimension of consecration that one carries that puts a stop automatically to the activities of hell. A man who is deeply consecrated to God would naturally remain immune to the bondages of satan. Even if they come against him, escaping them wouldn't be such an uphill task because such men continually deter the devil.

As children of God, we are called to a life of deep consecration. But one of the reasons it appears as if the enemy is constantly gaining the upper hand over a lot of lives is. most times, people refuse to walk in consecration. Committed followership is expected in every area of our spiritual walk with God. Many Christians are yet to enjoy personal intimacy with God and freedom from certain demonic bondages because they haven't learnt to let go of the pressures and pleasures of the flesh. A lot of Christians are experiencing contradictory results, not because God is unfaithful but because they have given too much attention to the gratification of the flesh and very little attention to living a life that pleases God.

APPLICATION: The woman in our key text continued to serve God by continually worshipping in the synagogue despite her physical deformity. The Bible says she was bent over and couldn't straighten herself up. That was enough excuse to stay away from public view or beg on the streets but instead, she chose to continue going to the synagogue to worship. That was consecration. Then one day, her commitment to following God eventually paid off. Little did she know that that day would be the day of God's intervention over her case. Dear, if your sickness does not stop you from coming, one day your coming will stop your sickness.



Lord, put Your fire in me and grant me the grace to live for You, in Jesus' mighty name.



Make a choice today to aggressively follow the Lord irrespective of your challenges or people's personal opinions about you.



1 Kings 16 – 18

HE HATH NOTHING IN ME

KEY
TEXT

John 14:38 "Hereafter, I will not talk much with you, for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me."

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT—When you begin to keep yourself from sin or from living in ways that displease God, you keep yourself from being touched by the enemy. Grace, as many have wrongly presumed, is not an avenue to justify sin or keep up with wrong living because of the price Jesus has paid. Paul says in Romans 6:1-3 (NIV), *“What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus, were baptized into his death?”* So, if you are part of the Body of Christ, follow Christ committedly so that you will receive every good thing that the Kingdom has in store for you.

You cannot live in sin and try to live a righteous life at the same time. You can't love righteousness and love iniquity at the same time. You can't love Christ and love Belial. Choose! You cannot be in the camp of the Most High and continue dining with the adversary. That will be an insult to the love, pain and sacrifice which the Cross represents. Living a life on the periphery only opens up the door to severe satanic oppression because the enemy will see you as a traitor. It's either you are here or you are there, not in between. Also, you can't play close to hell and not fall in. But if you are in the camp of the enemy, is your safety guaranteed? The answer is no.

APPLICATION: You are the servant of whoever you obey and you become God's servant if you obey Him. Because of your commitment to God, He is obliged to see to your good, your safety, your wellbeing, your rising and your increase. Life is very competitive and, most times, life might want to compel us to step out of line and commit some so-called justifiable sins in a bid to achieve our dreams. But God's Word will always stand sure irrespective of the demands for compromise. There are no quick fixes when it comes to following God committedly! Only the process we must go through for our lifting is sure to stand the test of time. When the devil comes against you, will you be at his mercy or would he be sorry because he has nothing to accuse you of?



PRAYER

Father, today, I receive the spiritual might to thrive in consecration, in the name of Jesus.

ACTION
POINT

Declare to yourself that you are a child of the covenant. Make a promise to yourself to abide by God's covenant principles for lifting.

DAILY BIBLE
READING:

1 Kings 19 – 20

BURN FOR GOD

COVENANT DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER

KEY TEXT

Revelations 3: 15-16 "I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth." (NIV)

Houseflies have distinct characteristics. They do not fly over extremely hot environments for fear of losing their lives. They will not fly over anything that poses a threat to their wellbeing. This is exactly how it is with us; demons are like houseflies that perch on cool, temperate individuals that pose no spiritual threat to them. So, when you are not on fire, satan and his cohorts will have a field day in your life, manifesting as sickness, poverty, oppression, lack, etc. But when we are burning for God, they wouldn't dare come close to us because you become a no-landing ground for the devil. The purpose of today's prayer is to set yourself on fire.

Prayer Points

1. Father, thank You for the baptism of Your Spirit. Holy Spirit, take over my life.
2. I declare that my fire will not burn out and my light will not go out. Lord, continually set me on fire for You.
3. Oh God, today, purge me of anything in my life that does not look like You, purify me continually, and mould me into the person you want me to be.
4. 1 Corinthians 14:4—(Pray in the Holy Ghost).
5. I take authority over demonic houseflies flying around me and seeking a resting place in my space. Neither I nor any member of my family will be a victim of the devil's strategies.
6. I release fire in the enemy's camp. Everyone lying in wait to prey on me or anybody connected to me goes down by fire! Be judged in the name of Jesus.
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!

MAKE IT RIGHT!

KEY TEXT

Acts 16:17-18 "The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, these men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour".

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT— That evil or the works of darkness have persisted does not mean you should let it continue. Paul could have decided to ignore this lady, after all, what she was doing was not “evidently” hurting his ministry at the time. But you don't suddenly become right when travelling in the wrong direction. You don't automatically fall into God's will when pursuing your own will for your life. The mistake many make is to be deceived that it's too late to turn back. No, It is not! Abraham entered into the fullness of his destiny at an old age. This indicates that you can pull yourself out of error and back into God's plan whenever you notice you are out of course.

When a driver notices he has been moving in the wrong direction, no matter how far he has gone, the wise thing to do is to make a U-turn. Set yourself in order. Challenge the works of the enemy having a free feast in your life, do that which God instructed and you ignored just to do your own will. It is not too late to recover your destiny from the hands of the wicked. What has God instructed you to do that you successfully argued yourself out of doing? Ponder on it and return to it.

APPLICATION— The long-term effect of such an announcement from the lady possessed by demons, though at the time it was harmless, was that the works and words of Paul would have been corrupted. Rebuke that spirit, go on that retreat and seek counsel from God on what He would have you do. Your ultimate goal should be to be in proper alignment with the will of God, and anything short of that is a life not fully utilized. This is what brings peace, joy and contentment. You've been wondering why nothing seems to satisfy you, no achievement seems to cheer you and give you that much-desired fulfilment. Well, your fulfilment can only be found in your God-ordained place. When you're out of it, it is a futile effort.



Father, thank You for Your Word today. Lord, I have done things my way for far too long. I receive grace to turn to Your way and will for me. I rebuke every working of the wicked in my life and I decree that henceforth I will walk in Your counsel, in Jesus' name. Amen!



Assess your life and see where you might be wanting in today's seed and make a quick adjustment today!



2 Kings 1 – 3

WATCH YOUR ASSOCIATION

KEY
TEXT

Proverbs 13:20 "He that walketh with wise men shall be wise; but the companion of fools shall be destroyed."

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT—Bondages can be incurred through the people you associate with. Who your friend, acquaintance or associate is, matters. There are people under siege because of the people they got involved with. For instance, some women cannot give birth to children as a result of the relationships they have had in the past. Many people have had their destinies exchanged because of the people they relate with or have related with in the past.

A person's association leads to the transfer of spirits and corruption of destinies. If the devil decides to strike when you are within the vicinity of his attack, you could end up as one of his victims. For example, if you are in a vehicle that is being driven by a drunk driver and that vehicle is involved in an accident, the fact that you didn't drink is not a guarantee that you will be excluded from the effect of the accident. Everyone within the reach of the drunk driver may suffer some collateral damages, the severity notwithstanding.

APPLICATION: In Numbers 13, Korah, Dathan and Abiram decided to rebel against Moses who even tried to talk them out of their act of rebellion, but these men refused to listen. A lot of people who perished that day when the earth opened up and swallowed them, wives, children and close associates, had absolutely nothing to do with the gang up. They died because they were associated with these rebellious men. Also, in Jonah's case, everyone suffered loss except Jonah. When he left the first boat, he took another boat to Nineveh to carry out the assignment God had given him. When he finished his assignment in Nineveh, he was unbelievably, confirmed a prophet. Meanwhile, those who had associated with him earlier lost everything. Watch your association and choose them wisely. Don't let another man wreck your destiny.



PRAYER

Lord, I invoke Your abiding presence within and around me. Don't let me fall prey to the adversaries working against my life, in the name of Jesus.



ACTION
POINT

Make an honest assessment of your relationships and intentionally walk away from those that aren't beneficial.



DAILY BIBLE
READING:

2 Kings 4 – 5

THE BLESSING OVER CURSES (1)

KEY
TEXT

Galatians 3:13-14 NIV "Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is anyone who is hung on a tree." He redeemed us so that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit."

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT: Sickness, oppression, peril, lack, toiling, poverty and death are all entailed in the curse which came upon mankind after the fall in the Garden of Eden. Because of that fall, man became alienated from God and ever since then, he has suffered untold hardship at the hands of his one enemy—satan. Because of this phenomenon that has plagued mankind for thousands of years, God had to send His only Begotten Son to die to reconcile man back to Himself and to give him the hope he needed to escape the shrouds of darkness. By that act of the sacrifice at Calvary, man became blessed. Man surmounted the prevailing curses of darkness.

The Blessing is the only hope for the hopeless. The Blessing is a divine program set up by God to guarantee our success and prosperity but this can only be enacted by personal choice, through a covenant relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. In as much as we live in a cursed world that is under the dominance of satan and his cohorts, we need to realize that, by our commitment to Christ through covenant living, we are blessed over curses already.

APPLICATION: It doesn't matter how long or how severe your issues are; never forget that you are blessed over every curse through faith in Christ Jesus. When God called Abraham, he was seventy-five years old with no child. Abraham was still living in his father's house but in a few short years, Abraham became a testimony of greatness. It's a simple matter of obedience and intentionality. Intentionally choose to end the toiling and pain today by following the Lord and believing that you are blessed above every curse. Trust the Lord to take you from your story to glory.



Oh Lord, I trust You for the grace for a paradigm shift today. By the power of the Holy Ghost, I discard every garment of self-doubt, shame and stagnancy in the name of Jesus.



Intentionally source for Scriptures that talk about the Blessing and meditate over them.



2 Kings 6 – 8

THE BLESSING OVER CURSES (II)

KEY
TEXT

PROVERBS 10: 22 *"The Blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich and he addeth no sorrow with it."*

One of the prominent signs of the curse is that seasons for increase, growth, expansion and favour often pass you by. But when you are a blessed man, you will be like a tree planted by the river that brings forth her fruit in season. In other words, you will naturally flourish beyond measure. The Blessing is a divine activation that stirs up the realm of the supernatural inside a person. When you are blessed, there is always a guarantee of a successful outcome. The Blessing is also a divine investment. It is God imputing into you whatever you need to succeed in life.

Four (4) reasons the Blessing makes the difference:

- It activates the creative potential in a man.
- It overrides the curse of the earth
- It supernaturally multiplies human efforts and results.
- It mobilizes spiritual forces to assist a man.

To activate the Blessing, decide to pursue after God and trust in His lifting power.



PRAYER

Lord, imbibe in me the consciousness of the Blessing and empower me to fight for my rightful place in destiny, in Jesus' name.



ACTION
POINT

Consciously, drop every mentality of smallness from today. Say this continually to yourself, "I can't die small."



DAILY BIBLE
READING:

2 Kings 9 – 10

A LIFESTYLE OF WORSHIP

KEY TEXT

1 Samuel 16:23 "And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took a harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him."

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT— Some people believe that worship is only when they sing praise and worship songs. While that is also a form of worship, it is not the only way to worship God. A lifestyle of worship is a 24/7 affair. Whether you are singing, talking, or interacting with other people, you are raising an incense of worship. God's intention for you and I is that in everything we do, we are abiding in Him and we are doing His will at all times. Simply doing this diligently and consistently is a form of worship to God because we are acknowledging Him in every area of our lives.

A skilled harp player was recommended by King Saul's servants as being able to make the evil spirit tormenting the king flee. David was a skilled harp player who had made his skill a form of worship unto God and that way why he didn't even need to pray before evil spirits ran away. When a man is sold out to living a life of worship, light enters into that person's life and every form of darkness such as depression, oppression, and sickness, is dispelled. Demons react and flee when you worship. So, you don't need a prophet to even lay hands on you. You can become your own priest. Just as in Deuteronomy 6:5, the kind of love you have for God that will make you do His will even when you are sleeping, awake or walking, to the point that others will see God in you at all times, is the standard for every true worshipper.

APPLICATION— Every act of service you do as unto God is worship. So, present your bodies unto God as a living sacrifice, worship Him in spirit and truth (John 4:23). Let every moment of your life be seen as an opportunity to reverence God. Romans 12:1 (MSG) emphasizes this: "So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him". If you have been worshipping God without results to show, you probably need to change your strategy. Worship is not a song; it is a lifestyle of surrender to God.



PRAYER

Dear Lord, I surrender my life to You. Help me to cultivate a lifestyle of worship in Jesus' name. Amen.



ACTION POINT

Worship is a weapon; use it at all times!



DAILY BIBLE READING:

2 Kings 11 – 13

BREAKING ANCESTRAL YOKES

KEY TEXT

1 Samuel 15:2-3 "Thus saith the Lord of hosts, I remember that which Amalek did to Israel, how he laid wait for him in the way, when he came up from Egypt. Now go and strike Amalek, and utterly destroy them and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass."

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT—Ancestral bondages come from ancient sins and strange altars. They run in cycles and similar patterns. For instance, in a particular family, one might notice a similar pattern of negative occurrences happening at a particular time or season. Amalek woke up one morning and suddenly discovered that the nation of Israel had come against them in battle, killing every living thing in his path. Many generations earlier, when Israel was coming out of Egypt, Amalek attacked Israel and almost wiped them out. Because of this, Joshua mobilized his military personnel and fought Amalek while Moses went to the mountain. When the battle came to an end, God instructed Joshua to raise an altar and call it Jehovah-Nissi, meaning, God will have war with Amalek throughout their generations.

So, this generation of Amalekites didn't know where their problem was coming from but they were, however, eating the leftovers that their ancestors had left behind. How do we know bondages that are rooted in ancestral inheritance? Firstly, you will notice that relatives in a particular family have similar experiences of a particular bondage. Secondly, these experiences usually run in cycles and occur in particular seasons.

APPLICATION: In as much as the ones experiencing the bondage may not have had a hand in committing the sin, the first step to breaking ancestral bondages is repenting from the sins committed by forefathers. In the course of prayer and repentance, it is most likely that the Lord will reveal the actual cause of the bondage: truthfully, one cannot see beyond his generation but if the Lord continues to reveal something that presents itself in a similar pattern, then that thing must be addressed and thoroughly dealt with or else the bondage will continue. We belong to a new covenant that separates us from our natural lineage, so, it should not be said among us that the fathers have eaten sour grapes and the children's teeth are set on edge (Jeremiah 31:29). Again, enforce your covenant promises.



PRAYER

Today, I command a total restoration of all losses and wasted years in my life and family. I separate myself and my family from every ancestral foundation that sponsors unending evil, in the name of Jesus.



ACTION POINT

Invoke the covenant promises of restoration and preservation.



DAILY BIBLE READING:

2 Kings 14 – 16

ARRESTING ANCESTRAL BONDAGES

COVENANT DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER

KEY TEXT

Jeremiah 31:29-30 "In those days they shall say no more, The fathers have eaten a sour grape, and the children's teeth are set on edge. But every one shall die for his own iniquity: every man that eateth the sour grape, his teeth shall be set on edge."

The Word of God is the final authority in the life of a believer. Let every man be a liar but let God's Word be true. We are in the days Jeremiah prophesied about; you will no longer suffer for the evil of your fathers because you belong to a new covenant (if you are born again). Today, enforce your rights in Christ as you pray.

Prayer Points

1. Jehovah Nissi, what a faithful God You are. Thank You for being a covenant keeper. Thank You for the mystery of Jesus' blood. That blood speaks better things for me and my household in Jesus' name.
2. Today, I reaffirm my confession of faith in Jesus. I am a child of God and I belong to the family of God. Therefore, I renounce every association with curses and calamity. I renounce the claims of ancestral spirits over my life and family.
3. I declare in Jesus' name, that no evil will hurt my destiny! I am free from demonic bondages and self-sabotage.
4. Father, let Your mercy speak over my life and family today. I enforce my deliverance by fire.
5. I separate myself from ancient covenants, evil patterns and repeat afflictions. I arrest the spirit speaking against me and generations after me. I decree and declare, no more delay, denial or evil report.
6. The Lord is my Shepherd; I experience all-around peace and rest and I take authority over every power manipulating my life and contradicting this reality, 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

2 Kings 17 – 18

OVERCOMING SPIRITUAL RESISTANCE

KEY
TEXT

Matthew 12:28 "But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the Kingdom of God is come near you."

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT—Spiritual resistance is the easiest symptom to look out for when detecting if something has gone wrong. Spiritual resistance points to the existence of bondages. There are three kinds of people who experience bondages: those who are born into them, those who do things that cause them to be bound and those who suffer because of the curses and yokes that have been placed over them by others. At salvation, we are positionally free but it takes a conscious effort and a level of spiritual violence to overcome spiritual resistance because the devil does not respect any law.

So, how can you recognize spiritual resistance? When you know you love God but do not find joy in the things of God anymore, there might be spiritual resistance. When living for God has become a challenge, you may have to fight a resistance. For instance, when praying, fasting, studying the Word, giving and worshipping the Lord has suddenly become strenuous, then, something is wrong with you. Other more serious symptoms are compulsive behaviour and bad habits you find difficult to break, negative visitations through dreams and spiritual attacks, satanic oppressions, strange infirmities and sicknesses that have no diagnosis or hope for a cure, continual disfavour and rejection everywhere you go, and so on.

APPLICATION: Satanic resistance is real. When you sense that you are spiritually bound, start to regain your freedom by enforcing what Christ purchased for you at Calvary. Exercise your spiritual authority over sin, sickness and satanic oppressions. Destroy the roots of shame and suffering caused by the negative situations and circumstances you are passing through by declaring the promises of God concerning you. Make a personal effort towards ensuring your deliverance because you have been given the power and authority to do so. Take responsibility for your life and journey with God.



Father, I thank You for my victory in Christ Jesus. Anything that stands as a resistance to my rising and well-being, I curse it by fire, in the name of Jesus.



Invoke the covenant promises of God through His Word by declaring them over your life.



2 Kings 19 – 21

DEALING WITH SPIRITUAL CONTAMINATION

KEY
TEXT

Psalms 19:12-13 "Who can understand his errors? Cleanse thou me from secret faults. Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sin; let them not have dominion over me: Then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression."

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT—Contamination is real. Contamination happens when a negative influence impacts the positive or original makeup of someone or something. Some time ago, a pastor came to me and knelt by my car asking me to help him. After asking him what happened, he narrated to me how he had accompanied someone to visit a prophet. To his surprise, when they got there, the prophet turned to him instead and said he had seen something that was about to happen that would take him to the next level. Before he realized what was happening, the prophet poured oil on him and laid hands on his head. Because of that unprecedented action, he lost his spiritual sight and everything he had built up over the years in his ministry.

The first step to handling spiritual contamination is learning how to identify the red flags, or rather, the warning signs. When you suddenly sense darkness around you or an uneasiness you can't explain, watch it. When you are in a place or among certain persons you sense are carrying a contrary aura, do everything in your power to avoid contact with such a place or people. Other warning signs that indicate that you have been contaminated or are among persons that could contaminate you are the occurrences of strange attacks and strange dreams.

APPLICATION: One of the gifts of the Holy Spirit is the gift of discernment. Discernment is the first key to handling spiritual contamination. It doesn't matter the depth or the avenue through which the contamination came or how long it has persisted; as long as you can discern, you can deal with spiritual contamination before or even after it happens. Start by learning to separate yourself from spiritual contamination through personal deliverance: Make it a regular practice to go through personal deliverance to deal with any form of spiritual contamination, known or unknown. Also, just like the man whose story I shared, seek help from a trusted man or woman of God. By all means, deal with spiritual contaminations or watch them deal with you.



Father, I thank You for Your faithfulness over my life. I receive access to spiritual mysteries concerning my life, in the name of Jesus.



Ask the Lord to open your eyes to every spiritual mystery concerning your life and destiny.



2 Kings 22 – 23

DO WHAT YOU KNOW

KEY
TEXT

John 8:32 NLT, "And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free"

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT— There's a very big difference between knowing and doing. 'Knowing' according to the Merriam-Webster dictionary is defined as having a practical understanding of; whereas 'doing' is defined as the act of performing or executing. Even Jesus himself put a fine distinction between them in our text. He didn't say knowing the truth was enough to set you free, He said the truth itself will set you free. Better explained, it is only when we perform and execute the truth that we attain freedom. And this distinction between 'knowing' and 'doing' is the reason a good percentage of Christians attend church for years and see no results.

Most Christians have outsourced their Christianity. They have decided to do the 'knowing' part of Christianity, and have left the 'doing' part in the hands of their pastors. They come to church but learn and practise nothing. Rather than applying what they sometimes learn, they prefer to patiently wait for the prophecies and prayers of their pastors. Just like a man walking with a torch in darkness and deciding not to use it, they fall, get injured, and go about complaining that they are injured. The question is, what did they expect? The sons of Sceva are an example of such people (Acts 19:14-17).

APPLICATION— Be Intentional about your spirituality. Do what you are taught in church, and learn to apply biblical principles. This is the only way to thrive in this kingdom. Being casual about your walk with God is a one-way ticket to being a casualty in life. Sad as it may seem, nobody who isn't in direct touch with God gets the best out of Christianity. It's not enough to know about your faith; be a person of faith by the reason of use (application of the Scriptures to life's realities). *But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil (Hebrews 5:14).* Apply the truth, allow it to build you up, then, grow up.



Father, help me to not just be a hearer, but also a doer of Your word.



Write down a list of some of the things you need to practise from God's Word today.



2 Kings 24 – 25

DON'T PANIC

KEY
TEXT

Mark 4:39 "And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm."

Everything in nature has senses. The waters can hear, see and discern; the same as the sun, moon, trees, land, stars and animals. People who encountered Jesus never stopped wondering what manner of man He was. They knew He was Joseph the carpenter's son but his results in life didn't seem to add up. I mean, who sleeps in a storm and then sluggishly rises to command the raging storm to cease? Well, Jesus did. He ended the storm and acted like nothing ever happened. Interestingly, He did not and still does not want these wonders to be all about Him. He wanted His disciples to experience divinity even though they were mere men. So, he taught us how. Faith (total confidence and trust in God's ability and promises) was His formula. By faith, He did the unbelievable and marvelled the people.

Food for thought—

- Faith calms physical, mental, emotional and financial storms.
- Faith levels mountains and simplifies complex problems.
- Faith opens doors, heals sicknesses and brings deliverance to people and their families.
- Faith does not deny facts but it places God's word over whatever the natural senses can see, hear, feel or touch.

It's a good day to speak God's Word over your life. Instead of panicking, go ahead and speak peace.



In Jesus' name, I speak peace to every troubling situation in my life and family right now. You, problem (mention its name), be still!



Grow your faith by daily meditation on God's Word.



1 Chronicles 1 – 2

THE BLESSING MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

KEY
TEXT

Proverbs 10:22 "The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich and he addeth no sorrow with it."

BACKGROUND AND THOUGHT ON TEXT --- Blessing is one of the three greatest forces of destiny. Connecting to the Blessing enables you to have a life without setbacks. When a man is in alignment with the Blessing, he produces destiny results with speed and ease. *"Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, 'Oh that you bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain.' And God granted his request."* (**1 Chronicles 4:10**).

The Blessing is an activation that stirs up the supernatural within a person. Whenever the Blessing is eminent in a man's life, supernatural results are the proof. Issac was one man who walked in the Blessing at a time when the world was having an economic crisis as seen in present times. Supernatural results were evident in his life and business because, according to the scriptures, he got a 100-fold return on his investments. Wow! That was what distinguished him from his contemporaries. Walking in the Blessing is not just a promise, it's a covenant. When a person is working under the covenant of blessing, they begin to see the transformation of both the natural and the supernatural.

APPLICATION --- We have all been blessed. Yes, as believers we are blessed and empowered to have supernatural results. However, we must understand how we can encounter the Blessing. **How do we encounter the Blessing?** (I) **Pursue God and trust in His lifting power**—In His word, He said He will reward those who diligently seek Him. Seeking God exposes you to the extraordinary. When a man who knows nothing encounters the God who knows everything, very soon, that man will be known for something. (II) **Create Value** --- To reap, Isaac had to sow. The proof of faith is work. You must have a means through which the Blessing can be channeled to you. So, it's important to create value with your skills, intellect and resources. God does not celebrate idleness!



Father, I receive the Blessing and I activate supernatural results. I receive ideas to break forth into the extraordinary this year, in Jesus' name!



Believe and take that bold step.
You can start from NOTHING!



1 Chronicles 3 - 4

WALK WITH GOD

KEY
TEXT

Genesis 17:1-2 "And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly."

God has given us all the things required for life and godliness. After the ultimate price for redemption was paid, it became mandatory that we rid ourselves of every form of spiritual carelessness as it relates to our relationship with God and our commitment to Kingdom matters. Some Christians have continued on the paths of victory by their walk with God while others have continued to go from one frustrating experience to another. Why did Abraham wait for 25 years after God's promise to have Isaac? Why does it seem as if some people receive their breakthrough and others do not? It is largely attributed to spiritual carelessness and misplaced priorities. Carelessness in spiritual things can be very fatal if one fails to tread with extreme caution, hence, today's text.

To live above the devices of the devil, covenant obligations should be taken seriously. Being regular in church is the first step to overcoming life's battles but it goes beyond just regular church attendance. How are you serving God and blessing humanity? Find a place of service in the house of God and immerse yourself in the covenant practices of giving, such as seed sowing, first fruits, tithing and regular church offerings. Fulfilling financial obligations as a steward in the house of God has been a channel of blessing and deliverance in the lives of countless people. Through giving, you raise covenant altars of offence and defence.

APPLICATION: It is not enough to go to church. God expects us to be actively involved in His Kingdom programme. Your victory, in so many ways, depends on you and the decisions you make concerning God's kingdom. You can be in the house of God and still labour in vain. But on the other hand, you can choose to partner with

the Lord and live a fulfilling Christian life. It's truly up to you. Do everything in your power to dissuade yourself from listening to the lies of the enemy concerning your relationship with God. Go all out in pursuit of God, find Him and receive His blessing. When you do, everything will fall in place just as it happened with Jacob who later became Israel.



Father, teach me to walk with You this year. As I do, show up in my life in Jesus' name.



Nothing matters to you more than your walk with God: make the decision today to intentionally revive your daily walk with God.



1 Chronicles 5 – 6

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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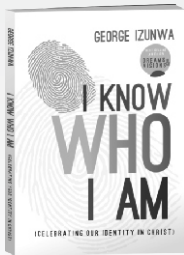
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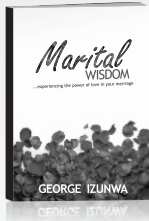
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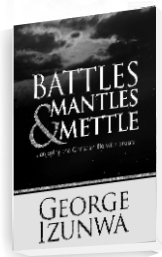
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About The Authors

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



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