SEED & SOIL

"BUT HE WHO RECEIVED SEED ON THE GOOD GROUND IS HE WHO HEARS THE WORD AND UNDERSTANDS IT, WHO INDEED BEARS FRUIT AND PRODUCES: SOME A HUNDREDFOLD, SOME SIXTY, SOME THIRTY." - MATTHEW 13:23



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NEW CREATIONS

Glory be only to God

All glory to God alone! We praise Him for the privilege of being used to bring glory to His name. The heart of this book, *Seed and Soil*, is to guide both readers and writers into a deeper walk with God, rooted in His Word. Our prayer is that every heart becomes fertile soil, ready to receive His truth, grow in His love, and bear lasting fruit for His Kingdom.

As Jesus calls us to be new creations, we desire to walk in daily transformation through His grace. Changed by Him, we long to become vessels through which others encounter His renewing power.

We are grateful to celebrate **ten months** of this devotional journey. By God's faithfulness, this printed edition exists. Behind every page are the dedicated hearts of individuals who made space for God despite their busy lives. Their obedience has inspired others to step forward in faith.

This journey reminds us that God can use anyone. No gift is too small when surrendered to Him. Offer what you have, and He will multiply it for His glory.

We humbly ask for your continued prayers. Let us lay aside the old, step boldly into the new, and build His Kingdom together.

Let His name alone be glorified!

Right Choices



Genesis 2:16-17 says, ***"And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.'"*** Notice the word *free*. God created us to live in freedom. At first, Adam and Eve made the right choice; they did not eat from the tree. But when the serpent came, they made a wrong choice, and that choice enslaved them to sin.

We also face choices every day. Many say, **"My life, my rules,"** but the truth is, we can only make right choices when **we are free in Christ**. If we are slaves to sin, our choices will lead us away from God. Satan, just like the serpent, tries to control our decisions so we end up spiritually dead. Eve was deceived because the fruit looked pleasing to the eye, and she believed the serpent's lies. In the same way, **we often chase after what pleases our eyes and trust the enemy's lies.**

Are we truly free today? Satan sends many "serpents" into our lives: lust, anger, lies, greed, wrong friends, addictions, and even distractions like our phones to enslave us. **But Jesus came to set us free.** Only in Him can we choose rightly.

Adam and Eve's wrong choice cost them their lives. Let us not make the same mistake. Instead, let us surrender to Christ, so that through His freedom we may walk in obedience and make the right choices.

Unusual Calling

Acts 19:11-12 says, ***"Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul, so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them."*** When I read this, I wondered, "Lord, You used Paul in such an unusual way, why not me?" But when we look at Paul's life, we see the price he paid for following Jesus.

In **Acts 14:19-22,** Paul was stoned and left for dead, yet he rose and continued to preach the gospel and won a large number of disciples. Just imagine he was stoned, thought to be dead, yet the next day he went to **carry out the mission the Lord had given him.**

To be used unusually by the Lord, we need to have a **proper relationship with Him, understanding His calling and loving Him more than anything in this world,** not just in words, but through action. We often fall when small things do not happen in our favour. We question God, "Are You really with me, Father?" But Paul knew his calling and loved God. That's why he said in **Acts 21:13, *"I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus."*** This implies he loved the Lord and had a burden for others more than his own life. This made him special in God's sight and able to be used unusually.

So, God loved us in an unusual way through Christ's sacrifice. Let us, in return, love Him unusually through unwavering faith, obedience, and devotion, because we have been called to be used by Him unusually. **So let's have the desire to see Him, accept Him as our personal Saviour, have faith in Him,** not in what we have, and do what He has called us to do.

Turning Our Eyes On Jesus

Hebrews 12:2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Emotions are part of how God created us. Even Jesus experienced sorrow, anger, and compassion. But unlike us, **He never let emotions control Him.** He brought them under the Father's will. When our feelings overwhelm us, **we too can choose to shift our gaze from ourselves to Christ.** Turning our eyes to Jesus doesn't mean ignoring how we feel; it means inviting Him into our emotions so He can guide, comfort, and strengthen us.

We see this modeled in **Psalm 34**, where King David, though weighed down by despair and regret over his choices, still rejoices and lifts his eyes to God. His example shows us that emotions need not pull us away from God but can **become the very place where we encounter His presence.**

Practically, this begins by simply acknowledging what we feel before Him: "Lord, I feel anxious, sad, or angry." Instead of letting emotions dictate our actions, we can turn to Scripture and replace fear and doubt with God's promises, such as **Philippians 4:6-7.** Praise also lifts our hearts and reminds us of His greatness. Sometimes, even a short prayer is enough to draw our focus back to Him.

And finally, we can end by surrendering every emotion to Him with thanksgiving, trusting that He is in control: "Jesus, I give You this feeling, use it for Your glory."

His Last Words And His Everlasting Words

Four years ago, during the pandemic, my Dad was admitted to the ICU for about 33 days. Before getting admitted, he said, I'll be back soon. When my entire family was quarantined at home due to COVID, his last words through video call were, Take care of mom and your younger brother. I said, Yes, Dad, I will. Please take care of yourself and come back soon.

Never knew that would be the last conversation with him. Never thought he would break his promise. After he passed away, it was really hard for me to keep my promise and focus on studies as well as my family, since my mom was also not working, though I was a prodigal daughter, both my earthly father and heavenly Father met all my needs at all times. Recently, when I missed my Dad so much, God spoke to me saying, **I'm your father, father to the fatherless and defender of widows (Psalm 68:5),** and **I will not leave you as orphans, I will come to you (John 14:18).**

If I tried my best to keep up my promise to my earthly father by doing everything he liked and everything he wanted me to do, then how much more should I be doing for my heavenly Father, **who knew me by name even before I was born?(Isaiah 43:1), The one who has engraved me in His Palms? (Isaiah 49:16)**

Everyone who sees me tells me I look like my Dad, and I do everything just like him. If so, **Genesis 1:27 says, God created mankind in His own image.** Let us ask ourselves today, are we reflecting our Father in everything we do? **Our Father God is a promise keeper and a light in the darkness.** Are we keeping our promises when He is faithful to keep His words? Are we being the light reflecting His Glory when it's dark? **It's never too late to start shining like Him, for Him.** Think about ways in which you can be a good child of God and serve your good Father. May God bless you and your family according to His riches in Glory!

Transformation Starts Here

Do you want to be new?

All around the world, humans long for change. We long to throw off old habits and ways of thinking if they aren't serving us anymore. Thousands of self-help books, podcasts, articles, and all kinds of media exist for this very reason. We know we need to change, and we want to! And yet it can feel impossible.

Paul, one of Jesus' disciples, shares this powerful truth in **Romans 12:2**

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Transformed by the renewing of our minds. **What does this mean?**

Transformation is a massive change. It's thorough. Complete. A total difference. Like a caterpillar becoming a butterfly, **transformation brings an end to the old and a beginning to the new.**

Paul is showing us that transformation isn't work we do from the outside in; **transformation happens from the inside out.** It begins with our mind. And for our minds to change, we need Truth to grab hold of.

God's Word

"All Scripture is breathed out by God…"

2 Timothy 3:16-17

"For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."

Hebrews 4:12

"... Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

Matthew 4:4

God's Word guides us when we are lost, strengthens us when we are weary, challenges us when we are compromising, and encourages us when we are overwhelmed. God's Word changes everything.

And this very moment, you hold God's Word in your hand. **Transformation is in your grasp.** Read the Bible closely, dig into its verses, wrestle with its teachings, and treasure what you discover about the love and grace of God.

The best place to bring your desire for change is to God and to His Word. **God's Word renews our minds and begins to transform us from the inside out.**

The Way You Live, The Way You Think

"Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads."- Deuteronomy 11:18

When Moses speaks these words in **Deuteronomy 11**, he's not talking about just any words; he's talking about God's commands, which he had just finished restating to the people of Israel. These were the foundational truths of how God called His people to live: to love Him, obey Him, and walk in His ways.

Earlier in the chapter, Moses reminds the people of God's power, the way He rescued them from Egypt, **led them through the wilderness, and promised them a land of blessing.** But along with the blessings came a choice: t**o remain faithful to God or to turn away.** That's why Moses urges them so passionately to **"fix these words" in their hearts and minds.**

Why the hands and the forehead? It's a vivid picture. The hands represent what we do, and the forehead represents what we think. In other words, Moses is saying: l**et God's Word guide both your thoughts and your actions.** Let it shape the way you live and the way you see the world.

For the Israelites, this even took a physical form; many wore small scrolls of Scripture (phylacteries) as a literal expression of this command. But whether literal or symbolic, the call remains the same: Keep God's Word close. Let it saturate your life. **Let it lead your heart, direct your mind, and shape your everyday choices.**

How will you fix God's words in your heart and mind today?

Boldness Beyond Fear

Getting out of your shell not only lets you do something new but also unlocks a new self in you. Unlocking your inner self requires great courage and boldness. **Queen Esther is a great example of great courage when it comes to stepping up at the right time.**

Esther 4:16 - "Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my young women will also fast as you do. Then I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish". Esther showed how courage and boldness can get into oneself. **She humbled herself before God and found favour in his eyes.**

We all have experienced such situations in life, like getting caught in the rain of fire and being hopeless, with no way out. God does not simply put us in those situations. **He pushes us to help ourselves unlock our inner selves.** We might face a similar situation in our college, workplace and family. The question is, **'Are we willing to risk our comfort to stand up for God's purposes?** 'The only answer to it is trusting God in his doings, which helps us get through those situations with courage and boldness.

Prayer: Dear God, help me trust your timing and purpose. When fear makes me remain silent, help me understand that it was you who put me there for a reason. Strengthen me to go through it and help me to face it with courage and humility. Amen.

He Chooses The Unlikely

One evening, my best friend seemed really down. When I asked her what was wrong, she said, **"I feel so unconfident about myself. I don't know what God has for me in such an uncertain future."** I wanted to encourage her, so I reminded her of a woman in the Bible, **the widow of Zarephath.** During a time of great famine, when the whole city was in despair, **God chose her to provide for Elijah.**

She was a widow, possibly filled with insecurities and doubt. She might have wondered why God would ask her to do something so big while she was in great need herself. But even in that uncertainty, she obeyed. She acted in faith, trusting God's word, and provided for Elijah as God had instructed.

What stands out is not her strength or qualifications, **but her obedience.** The world viewed her as weak and insignificant, yet God saw her differently. **God often calls the unlikely those who feel unworthy, weak, or overlooked and uses them for His purpose.**

Our self-confidence often depends on appreciation, visible success, or assurance from others. But **God doesn't measure us by these standards.** He simply calls us to trust and obey, even when life makes no sense.

Today, we may feel overwhelmed, helpless, or unworthy. But **God sees us as chosen.** Let us pause and reflect: Are we seeking confidence in the world's applause, or are we resting in the truth that God calls us despite how we feel?

Truly, His ways are amazing.

He Waits For Me & You

Psalms 86:15

But You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious, Long-suffering and abundant in mercy and truth.

Have you ever wondered why a mother of an alcohol dependent man is so willing to give all her love, care, advice and her warnings in love for that one son who squanders every bit of what she has earned in vain drinking and prodigal living?.

She waits and is persistent in persuading him to change the course of his life for his own good. Sadly, he is determined not to change until one day he passes away, leaving a hollow in her heart forever!!.

This is the story of our God, who doesn't want anything but good for us. He says in **Ezekiel 18:32**

“For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies,” says the Lord God. “Therefore turn and live!”.

If you're living the lie that your life is too sinful to be redeemed or that God doesn't have patience for you to change, remember that.. **The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. II Peter 3:9**

He is just waiting for you to reach out to Him, so please run to Him, right now!.

Unshakeable

Isaiah 40 is a chapter of comfort and hope. It was written for people living in the shadow of exile, weighed down by the consequences of sin and the fear of what lay ahead. But right from the beginning, in verse 1, God speaks words of reassurance: **"Comfort, comfort my people."**

As the chapter unfolds, we see a beautiful tension. On one hand, we are reminded of the frailty of human life: **"All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field" (verse 6).** Life is fragile. Our efforts fade. Seasons change. The things we build, rely on, or admire can crumble in an instant.

But then we read **Isaiah 40:8: "The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever."** This is the turning point. While everything around us is temporary, God's Word is unshakable and eternal. His promises never expire. His truth never becomes outdated. His voice still speaks comfort and strength today, just as it did then.

The chapter goes on to describe the greatness of God, the One who holds the oceans in His hand, who calls the stars by name, and who gives strength to the weary. And yet, this all-powerful God chooses to speak tenderly to His people, assuring them of His enduring presence and faithfulness.

So when life feels unstable, remember this: God's Word is not like grass that fades. **It's like a rock that never moves.** And it will carry you through whatever season you face.

Sorrow Turned Into Joy

Psalm 126: 1-3, When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed. Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, “The Lord has done great things for them." The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

The Lord is capable of changing our situation in no time. I'm going to share a testimony of what God has done in my life, which was just my dream before. My family was in great debt, my father lost his job, my elder brother lost his job, and my other brother has just finished college, but he couldn't get a job. It was just my mother's income that kept us running.

There was a lot of debt, which was for my brother's education. At the same time, I finished my schooling and was completely unaware of what I was going to do. My mother is also about to retire, and we were told that she wouldn't get her pension, which we had been solely believing would help us. That was the time I wrote my entrance exam in CMC and was waiting for the results. **There were many nights filled with tears and prayers.** We thought we lost everything, and if I didn't get into CMC, I know that it would be even harder on my parents to pay for my education. **During this period, God gave me this verse promising that he'll do great things.**

I trusted in it and prayed even more, and **yes, God did great things in my life before I knew it.** Both of my brothers got a good job, and the pension that was promised, we won't be getting it. God opened the way for us, and we received a message that my mother's batch would be the last to receive the pension. At the same time, I got into CMC. We were able to pay off all our debts and even save some for my brother’s wedding.

I was not able to believe what had happened. God changed all our sorrows into Joy. As we see in the story of Job, **Job 42:12, "The Lord blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the former part”.** When God promises, it's not like worldly promises; when you trust in it, he'll make the impossible things possible.

Immanuel

And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age - Mathew 28.20. Moments before Jesus' ascension to heaven, He gives his final instructions to his disciples on the Mount of Olives that end with the promise - **I am with you.** Jesus' place in history is unique, and His words reach people personally with the same uniqueness. While the tombs of many legends remain closed, **Jesus triumphed over death, rising from the grave to live with us and be with us in every circumstance.**

About 700 years before the birth of Jesus, there was a prophecy about the Messiah who shall be called **Immanuel, meaning God with us.** Jesus fulfils this prophecy also uniquely through this promise. How wonderful it is to be loved and known by a God who stays so close to us. No matter how strong the feeling of loneliness may be, it does not change the reality of God's presence. Even when people walk away, relationships crumble, silence feels louder than comfort, but The Lord remains. You are not forgotten or abandoned.

Sometimes it's really hard to focus on the goodness he is bringing about in our lives through the times of silence and uncertainty. But we can be sure that they are not built on the shifting circumstances but on his unchanging words and ordination for your life. He knows the blessings, the friendships, the furnace and the purpose. **The enemy may whisper lies of hopelessness, betrayal and doubts to you.** But God **declares a future filled with hope for you.** He covers you with his love even when you don't see it. Feelings, though they are powerful, don't have final say over your life. **So, pour over His words of truth over your life.**

Boldly hang on to and revisit the promises when lies are loud. Whisper them when your heart feels weary. Shout them in your praises. Declare them in your worship. He who has promised his presence is holding you as you read this. Let go and fall back in his embrace.

Embrace The Forge - Part 2

There is an interesting anecdote of a few women attending a bible study. They were reading through the verse in **Malachi 3.3,** which reads' **He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver.** They wondered what was so special about this process. Out of curiosity, one of them went to a silversmith and asked if she could just watch the process while he worked with the piece of silver.

He agreed and proceeded with his process as usual. He was explaining that the silver needs to go in the furnace so that the **heat will bring out all the impurities present in it,** but he has to sit through it till the process completes, otherwise the piece will be damaged. She asked, How does he know that the process is complete and he replied, **When I'm able to see my reflection.**

The greatest comfort that we have is that we have a **God who sits with us during those times when our faith is tested.** He doesn't flinch his eyes for a moment when you're in the forge. He looks at you with all the compassion that he has and directs with his hands to let you from crumbling under the heat of affliction. But why the afflictions in the first place? We need to understand that, **in the broken world, it's the afflictions that bring out the genuineness of our faith and character.**

Everything that cannot inherit God's kingdom must be refined in the forge, so the reflection of Jesus can bring heaven to earth through us. Though we often avoid affliction, God's love assures us He understands, having endured the greatest suffering caused by our sins. He emerged victorious, giving us hope.

Therefore, our confidence is that in the hands of the same God who went ahead of us, we are always safe, our souls free of the corruption of this world, and his goodness heals us. Live in that truth.

A Resume That Doesn't Define Me

"Though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, as for zeal, persecuting the church;…. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord" Philippians 3:4-7

Recently, I sat at my desk, staring at a half-finished resume. My time of service at the mission hospital was coming to an end, and I needed to prepare for what's next. But the more I tried to align my experiences and make them sound **"worthy," the more anxious I became.** Truth be told, my resume didn't feel impressive. I kept wondering what I should highlight and what really defines me. And then a thought crossed my mind: **How often do we try to build our identity around our achievements?**

It reminded me of **Philippians 3:6,** where Paul laid out his "credentials": Hebrew of Hebrews, zealous, faultless in legalism. It almost reads like a first-century résumé, like a perfect "LinkedIn profile. But then comes the shocker. He calls it all garbage compared to the **surpassing worth of knowing Christ.**

We often do this too. We stack up moral checkboxes: We go to church, serve, pray, and write devotionals. Subtly, we start believing these things define us or make us acceptable. But none of them can save us. In fact, if we cling to them, they can even become a wall of pride, just as Paul was once blinded until Christ met him on the road to Damascus.

To God isn't after a polished resume or a spiritual portfolio. **He looks at the posture of our hearts.** The incredible relief of the Gospel is that we no longer need to prove our worth. We can lay down the heavy burden of achievement and rest, not in what we've done, but in the finished work of Christ. My resume may not impress the world, **but in Christ, my identity is secure. And that's enough.**

Guarding The Gates Of Your Heart

“Do not be deceived: ‘Bad company corrupts good character.”-1 Corinthians 15:33

We are shaped by words. God’s Word trains us in truth, moulds us in godliness, and teaches us how to walk in love. But step outside, and you’ll notice a different current pulling hard against us. **Our culture is flooded with conversations, jokes, songs, and messages that dismiss, twist, or outright challenge the authority of God’s Word.** Scripture calls this “evil communication.” And Paul doesn’t soften the warning: it corrupts.

The company we keep matters. **Proverbs 13:20** says, “**He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm.” Psalm 1** paints the picture clearly: **blessed is the one who does not walk in the counsel of the ungodly, or sit at the table of mockers.** Why? Because voices shape choices, and choices shape character.

When you see an inscription on someone’s gate that reads. “Beware of Dogs”, they’re warning you of the dogs inside, not the ones outside. Even inside the church, Paul warns us in **1 Corinthians 5:11: Don’t link arms with someone who claims faith but clings to immorality, greed, or a slandering tongue.** That may feel stern, but the Spirit knows what’s at stake. **Philippians 3:2** puts it plainly: **“Beware of dogs, evil workers, mischief makers.”** Mischief doesn’t look dangerous at first; it sneaks in with charm. But it chips away at your soul.

The Bible wouldn’t warn us if it weren’t real danger. The enemy knows if he can’t steal your salvation, he’ll try to erode your character. So, what do we do? Guard the gates of your heart. Fill your ears with the Word. Surround yourself with those who love Christ. Walk in wise company, and your life will shine with the glory of God.

The Weight We Cannot Carry

A while ago, I was reading **Dostoevsky's "Crime and Punishment".** A young man named Raskolnikov commits a crime and hides the evidence, but he cannot forgive himself. The guilt gnaws, making his mind restless and body weary. Every heartbeat seems to whisper, You are guilty!

We don't have to swing an axe to know that feeling. Guilt is a heavy stone drowning our souls. We replay the words we wish we hadn't spoken, choices we wish we could undo, secret sins no one knows but the eyes of our heart know. As Scripture says, **"Be sure your sin will find you out" (Numbers 32:23).**

But the Gospel is different from the story of Raskolnikov's despair. He struggled with guilt, whereas Christ stepped in to carry ours. **"He himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness" (1 Peter 2:24).** The punishment that crushed Him became the pardon that freed us.

Dostoevsky shows how sin isolates and condemns, but the scripture shows how **Christ restores and redeems**. Instead of hiding, we confess. Instead of fear, we receive forgiveness. **"There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (Romans 8:1).**

Raskolnikov's story reminds me of my own, without Christ, tired, guilty and restless. But Jesus offers a better ending - freedom. The weight we cannot carry, He carried to the cross. And when He said, "It is finished," He meant it — for me, for you.

This Is The Way; Walk In It

Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, **"This is the way; walk in it"- Isaiah - 30:21**

Isaiah 30 describes the prophet Isaiah rebuking the disobedient nation of Israel for their rebellious actions and defiant attitudes toward God. From their time in the wilderness, they murmured against the Lord during times of hardship, acted wickedly in His sight, and resisted His teachings. Israel repeatedly broke their covenant with God and refused to heed His voice, ultimately leading to their punishment.

Despite the necessity of punishing their infidelity, **the Lord remained faithful to His promises and His people**. In His grace, He did not abandon them permanently but offered continuous opportunities for repentance and restoration to those who turned away from their sins.

It is tempting to judge Israel's persistent foolishness and their cyclical resistance to **God's gracious call to repentance**. However, we too cultivate our own forms of folly and perpetuate cycles of resistance. Like Israel, we can be forgetful and foolish, rebellious and ignorant, disobedient and petulant, relying on our own abilities rather than trusting in God's sufficient strength.

Let us remember, we need not navigate our life's complexities alone. **A greater plan exists, and God is always present to guide us**. Christ is the only Way and our Guide. He is the Path and our constant Companion. He is the Rock of our salvation.

Source Of Joy

Can we please ask ourselves today? Where does our joy come from? Some of us will be happy if we can earn more money, some of us will be happier if we can build a new house, and some of us will be the happiest if we could get rid of all the problems in our lives. But happiness is different from joy. **While happiness is often linked to external circumstances** and can be fleeting, **joy is a deeper, more enduring state arising from within** and is not dependent on external factors.

Most of us are often influenced by various trials of the world and we let our circumstances decide our state of mind but we often forget that **the joy of our Lord is our strength (Nehemiah 8:10).** Our God says, **"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice" (Philippians 4:4).** If Paul can write these words from prison, if Joseph can praise God from prison, if Jeremiah can praise God from a dungeon, if Moses can praise God in the wilderness, if Daniel can praise God from the Lion's den and if Jesus can seek God in the garden of Gethsemane, couldn't we do the same? **“Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds” (James 1:2).**

Jesus says, **“These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full” (John 15:11).** He promises to fill us with His joy, something deeper and constant in the midst of the chaos of this world; far beyond what the world could offer. Ask yourself today, where does your joy come from? If our joy comes from the Lord, aren't we supposed to be filled with joy every day? **Because our Lord Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today, tomorrow and forevermore.**

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus **(1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18).** May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope **(Romans 15:3)**. Amen.

Weeding Out Sins

Matthew 13:41, "The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers"

This verse warns us about the **future, the time of judgment**. God allows good and evil to coexist for now, but **evil will not remain forever**. At the right time, **God will cleanse His kingdom**, removing sin and the sinners.

It reminds the believers to **examine their lives**, turn from sin, and **make room** for others to repent.

Sin is like a "weed" in our hearts. A small lie, gossip, or jealousy may seem like nothing at first, but it **takes root, spreads and hurts others**. Jesus calls us to carefully **recognise and prune those weeds** now, so we are not **"gathered out"** later.

Matthew 13:41 is not to frighten us, but is a **warning and encouragement** to us. God sees both the **good and the evil** in the world. He promises to **deal with everything fairly** at the end. Until then, He gives us time to **repent from sin and live faithfully and fruitfully**, so we can remain as a part of His good harvest.

But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin - **1 John 1:7**

True Peace

"Those who love Your law have great peace, And nothing causes them to stumble" - Psalm 119:165

In a world filled with chaos and uncertainty, people are desperately searching for peace. We try various methods to find it, like exercise, travel or even material possessions. But as we read this verse, we are reminded that true peace comes from a different divine source.

The Bible reveals that true peace belongs to those who love God's Word. Why is this? Because God's Word reveals God Himself. As we read and meditate on the scriptures, we gain a deeper understanding of God's nature, which brings comfort and peace.

Think about it, when we know God's character, we can trust in His goodness, even in the midst of uncertainty. We can **rely on His faithfulness, even when the world around us seems unfaithful**. And we **find hope in His promises, even when our circumstances seem hopeless**.

But what happens when we search for peace in other places? We may find temporary relief, but ultimately we will be left empty and unsatisfied. We may experience increased anxiety and stress as we chase after these solutions.

So let's return to God's Word. Let us make reading and meditating on God's word the priority in our lives. As we do, **let us seek God's presence, trusting that He is near and that He is our peace**.

True Strength

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”
Philippians 4:13

Life can feel overwhelming at times, whether it’s exams, family struggles, sickness, or loneliness. In those moments, we may think, “I can’t handle this!” But **Philippians 4:13 reminds us that our strength does not come from ourselves; it comes from Christ.**

Paul wrote these words while in prison, yet he was content in every situation. **His secret was not his own ability, but Christ living in him**.

This verse doesn’t mean life will always be easy, but it assures us that God gives strength, wisdom, and courage for whatever we face. **With Christ, we are never alone**.

Every day, Christ offers His strength for both small and big challenges. Whether it is forgiving someone, staying patient, overcoming temptation, or pursuing a dream, we don’t walk alone. **His power strengthens our weakness**.

Today, remind yourself: **“I am not strong enough on my own, but Christ in me is.”** Let this verse guide your steps, calm your worries, and give you courage. **With Christ, there is no burden too heavy and no obstacle too great.**

The Power Of A Renewed Mind

“Be made new in the attitude of your minds, and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness” - Ephesians 4:23-24

A renewed mind is not just about rejecting old ways, but about embracing the new identity we have in Christ. It is the Spirit of God who works within us, reshaping our thoughts, attitudes, and desires so that **the character of Jesus will be reflected through us** in the broken world.

The greatest battlefield of a believer is the mind. When our thoughts are filled with fear, doubt, or worldly distractions, our faith becomes weak. But when our minds are filled with God’s truth, **our lives overflow with His peace, wisdom, and strength.**

A renewed mind sees challenges as opportunities for God’s power to be revealed. It learns to forgive when others hold grudges, to hope when others despair, and to live a holy life when others compromise.

Philippians 4:8 gives us the key: “Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think about such things.” **The direction of our thoughts determines the direction of our lives**.

Prayer: Lord, renew my mind each day with your word. Teach me to think as You think, to love as You love, and to walk in holiness and wisdom like You do. May my life be a reflection of a mind transformed by your spirit. Amen.

Existential Crisis

“Meaningless! Meaningless! says the Teacher. Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless” - Ecclesiastes 1:2

Throughout history, people have wrestled with deep questions: Why am I here? What is my purpose? Does life have meaning? These struggles are what many call an existential crisis. Even King Solomon experienced this very turmoil. **Despite having wisdom, wealth and power, he declared life meaningless when lived apart from God**.

Our hearts long for a deeper purpose that the temporary pleasures, success, and even relationships can never fully satisfy. Jesus reminds us in **John 10:10, “I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”** True meaning is not found in possessions or achievements **but in a relationship with the One who created us.**

When doubts overwhelm us, we can take comfort in God’s promises. Paul writes, **“For in Him we live and move and have our being” (Acts 17:28).** Our lives are not accidents; we were created with a purpose. **Ephesians 2:10** assures us that **“we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”**

An existential crisis can lead us closer to God if we allow Him to fill the emptiness in us with His presence. Instead of despair, we assuredly find hope, direction, and lasting peace in Christ.

Guarding Against Hypocrisy

“These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.” -Matthew 15:8

When Jesus addressed the Pharisees, He exposed their hypocrisy. They spoke as if they loved God but lived in a way that proved otherwise. Outwardly, they appeared holy, yet their hearts were filled with pride and self-righteousness. God is never fooled by appearances. As Scripture reminds us, **“People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7).**

It is easy to point out flaws in others while ignoring our own. Jesus gave a vivid picture: **“First take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye” (Matthew 7:5).** Hypocrisy begins when we hide behind a mask of spirituality instead of dealing honestly with our weaknesses.

True discipleship calls for integrity. James teaches, **“Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead” (James 2:17).** Likewise, Paul urges, **“Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good” (Romans 12:9).** Our faith should be visible not only in words but also in **genuine love, humility, and obedience to God.**

The world often rejects Christ not because of His message, but because of the hypocrisy of His followers. May our lives reflect authentic faith that draws people closer to Him.

Don't Let Your Son Die

Luke 7:11-17. The story of the widow of Nain is more than a miracle; it's a mirror. In it, we can see ourselves. The widow represents us, the believers. Her son represents the likeness of God within us, as seen in **Genesis 1:26,** where God said, **"Let us make man in our image, after our likeness."** The town of Nain, which means beauty, pleasantness, grace, symbolises the life God intended for us, a life full of peace and divine purpose.

But just like the widow, many of us mourn because we've allowed that likeness, the image of Christ in us, to die. We've chased the world's validation, not God's. As **Romans 1:23** says, we **"exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man."** And instead of burying what died, as the law commands in **Deuteronomy 21:23,** we carry it around publicly. We continue the procession, showing a lifeless spirituality to the world while grieving inside.

That's when Jesus steps in. **"When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her..." (Luke 7:13).** He approaches, touches the coffin, and says, **"Young man, I say to you, get up!" (Luke 7:14).** The boy doesn't just rise; he speaks. When God restores His image in us, it won't remain silent. **It will walk. It will speak.** That becomes our testimony. As **Revelation 12:11** declares, ***"They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony."***

So don't let your son die. Don't let the image of Christ fade. Don't bury your calling, your likeness, or your witness. **Romans 8:29** reminds us we are ***"predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son."*** And **1 John 3:2** promises, ***"We shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is."***

Remember, only a son can call Him Father **(Romans 8:15).** Protect that likeness. Stay rooted in Christ. And let your life rise, walk, and speak again.

Aquaphotomic Study

Scientists discovered that, when sound waves pass through water, they create vibrations that can affect the arrangement of water molecules. Water exposed to positive words, music, or intentions formed beautiful, symmetrical crystals when frozen, while water exposed to negative influences formed irregular, chaotic patterns.

Likewise, **Dear Child of God, our body (The temple of the Holy Spirit)** is made up of 60-70% water. **So whatever we hear, speak and watch is directly influencing our Holy Spirit.**

The fallen Angel Lucifer was built with instruments by God to produce heavenly music to worship and praise God, but since he's fallen, he misuses his abilities just like we do. **He uses them to produce everything against God and grieves the Holy Spirit within us.** Be it secular songs, Instagram reels, YouTube videos, movies or even gossiping, every worldly pleasure **has a negative influence on our soul, body and especially on the Holy Spirit, dwelling inside us.**

Our Father clearly tells us, **Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him (1 John 2:15).** Therefore, put to death what is earthly in you: **sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry (Colossians 3:5).**

Most of us are like the woman at the well, influenced by worldly pleasures, but the Spirit and the bride say, ***"Come!"*** *And let him who hears say,* ***"Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely (Revelation 22:17),*** and ***whoever believes in me will never thirst (John 6:35). May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:7).*** Amen.

Called To Love, Not To Judge

When we come to Christ, **our eyes are opened to the truth**. We begin to see what is right and wrong according to God's Word. We learn how to treat others, how to live our lives in holiness, and how to spread His gospel **(John 8:32).** Being a true, eye-opened Christian and being a traditional or nominal Christian are at two very different ends of the spectrum. This is why Scripture reminds us, **examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves (2 Corinthians 13:5).** It is important that we analyse ourselves.

When we meet an unsaved person, how do we respond? Do we judge them for their foolish talk or sinful actions? Whether they are Christian by name or not, if their words and actions go against God, it is clear they are still lost in worldly ways **(1 John 2:15-16).** But does that mean we should condemn them?

The Bible is clear: You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, **for at whatever point you judge another, you are condemning yourself (Romans 2:1).** Jesus Himself said, **Do not judge, or you too will be judged (Matthew 7:1).** We are not called to condemn. **Instead, we are called to reflect Christ. In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you (Matthew 7:12).** We must treat others with the same love, patience, and grace that Christ has shown us.

That does not mean we ignore sin or pretend it is acceptable. **Rather, we speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15),** always remembering that it is **God who convicts hearts, not us.** Our role is to live as light in this dark world **(Matthew 5:14-16)**, showing others through our lives what it means to follow Jesus.

Let us, therefore, not be quick to judge **but quick to love, quick to forgive**, and faithful in prayer for those who are lost. For it is only by God's grace that we ourselves have been saved **(Ephesians 2:8-9).**

Barabbas: A Picture Of Us All

Before Jesus was crucified, a man named Barabbas was set free. His story mirrors the mercy and freedom that have been offered to each of us. Barabbas was a notorious prisoner, guilty of insurrection and murder **(Mark 15:7)**. When Pilate offered to release one prisoner during the feast, the crowd chose Barabbas. **And instead, Jesus, the sinless Son of God, was delivered to be crucified (Matthew 27:15-26).**

It is easy to view Barabbas as a villain, but the truth is, he is a picture of us all. The Bible says, **"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).** And in **Romans 6:23** we read, **"For the wages of sin is death."** Yes, since there is none among us without sin, like Barabbas, we all stand condemned - deserving death and eternal separation from God. **But God, in His great love, made a way for us to be saved.**

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

Jesus was not a helpless victim. **He was the willing sacrifice.** He died so that we could live. He took our sin upon Himself and offered us His righteousness in return. The invitation still stands today. **"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31).** Will you receive the freedom that He offers? Verse to Remember: **Romans 5:8 "But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."**

Prayer: Heavenly Father, I thank Thee for Thy boundless mercy. Though guilty like Barabbas, Thou hast set me free through Thy Son's sacrifice. Help me to live each day in gratitude, walking in Thy ways and bringing glory to Thy name. In Jesus Christ's name I pray, Amen.

The Season Of Waiting

Waiting is a season when we feel weary, worthless, lose hope and confidence, and doubt the promises of God.

But that is the season where God is preparing you to fulfil His promise.

As the bible verse says in **Deuteronomy 31:8**

"It is the LORD who goes before you; he will be with you and will never fail you or forsake you. So do not fear or be dismayed,"

Reminds us of **His faithfulness.**

We serve the **MIRACULOUS GOD,** so we don't fear. If the Sea couldn't stop Moses, if the giant couldn't stop David, **then nothing can stop His beautifully orchestrated plan for your life.**

So don't get disheartened, our God is the **PROMISE KEEPER.**

Trust Jesus and hold onto your faith, and one day he will turn your sorrow into joy **(John 16:20)**

Surely Jesus is going to put a song of praise in your hearts as the promise and bountiful blessings are coming your way.

Why Do We Feel Lonely?

Have you ever wondered why we feel lonely, even when we're surrounded by people? Loneliness is a strange feeling. It doesn't always come from being alone. **Sometimes, even in a crowd,** we feel an emptiness; we can't explain a quiet, heavy void deep within our hearts.

As humans, we often try to fill this emptiness with entertainment, relationships, achievements, or material things. We think success or approval from others will satisfy our souls. But in the end, none of these things truly fills the void. No matter how much we gain, loneliness finds its way back.

I recently listened to a powerful message by Billy Graham, where he said something that struck me deeply:

There is always a space in our hearts meant only for God.

God created that space, and only His presence can fill it.

The Bible reminds us in **Jeremiah 29:13:**

"You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart."

When we turn our hearts toward God, intentionally seeking His presence, we begin to understand that we are never truly alone. His love holds us together, comforts our souls, and brings peace to our restless hearts.

Let us not seek love or approval from temporary things. Instead, let us hunger for the eternal presence of God. When we spend time in prayer, worship, and reading His Word, we experience a deep, lasting connection where loneliness fades and God's love becomes our greatest joy.

Faith: Gift and Growth

The Bible says, **8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9).**

This shows us that faith is not something we earn; **it is a gift given by God out of His love.** Through faith, we receive salvation and enter into a relationship with Him.

But faith is not only a gift; it is also a journey.

Romans 10:17 says, **"Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."**

As we spend time in Scripture, prayer, and worship, our faith grows stronger. **Each promise of God we hold onto adds strength to our walk with Him.**

Trials and challenges also play a part in shaping our faith. Just as fire refines gold, difficulties purify and deepen our trust in God. Every answered prayer, every moment of His help, reminds us of His faithfulness.

Faith is not passive; it calls us to action.

James reminds us that faith without works is dead. True faith produces obedience, love, and courage to follow God's will.

So, faith is both a **gift to receive** and a **life to grow in**. It begins with God's grace, grows through His Word, is tested in trials, and shows itself in action. As we walk daily with Christ, may our faith continue to deepen and shine as a witness to others.

SPREADING HIS WORD TOGETHER WITH

1. Mr Abishek Samson
2. Ms Adeline Sylvia
3. Ms Benita Albert
4. Mr Blessen Samuel John
5. Mr Blessing Jonathan R
6. Mr Giftson
7. Ms Jameema S
8. Mr Jeffery Jefson
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16. Mrs Shincy Jonathan
17. Mr Simon.K
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20. Ms Sunaishwarya R

If you are interested in sharing and spreading his word with us, please contact us via the number given below:

+91 9944890966

For receiving the seed & soil devotion book, prayer requests, or to share a testimony, you can contact us via email or through the mobile number provided.

Mail ID: newcreations.ministry.india@gmail.com

Ph.no: +91 701 074 268