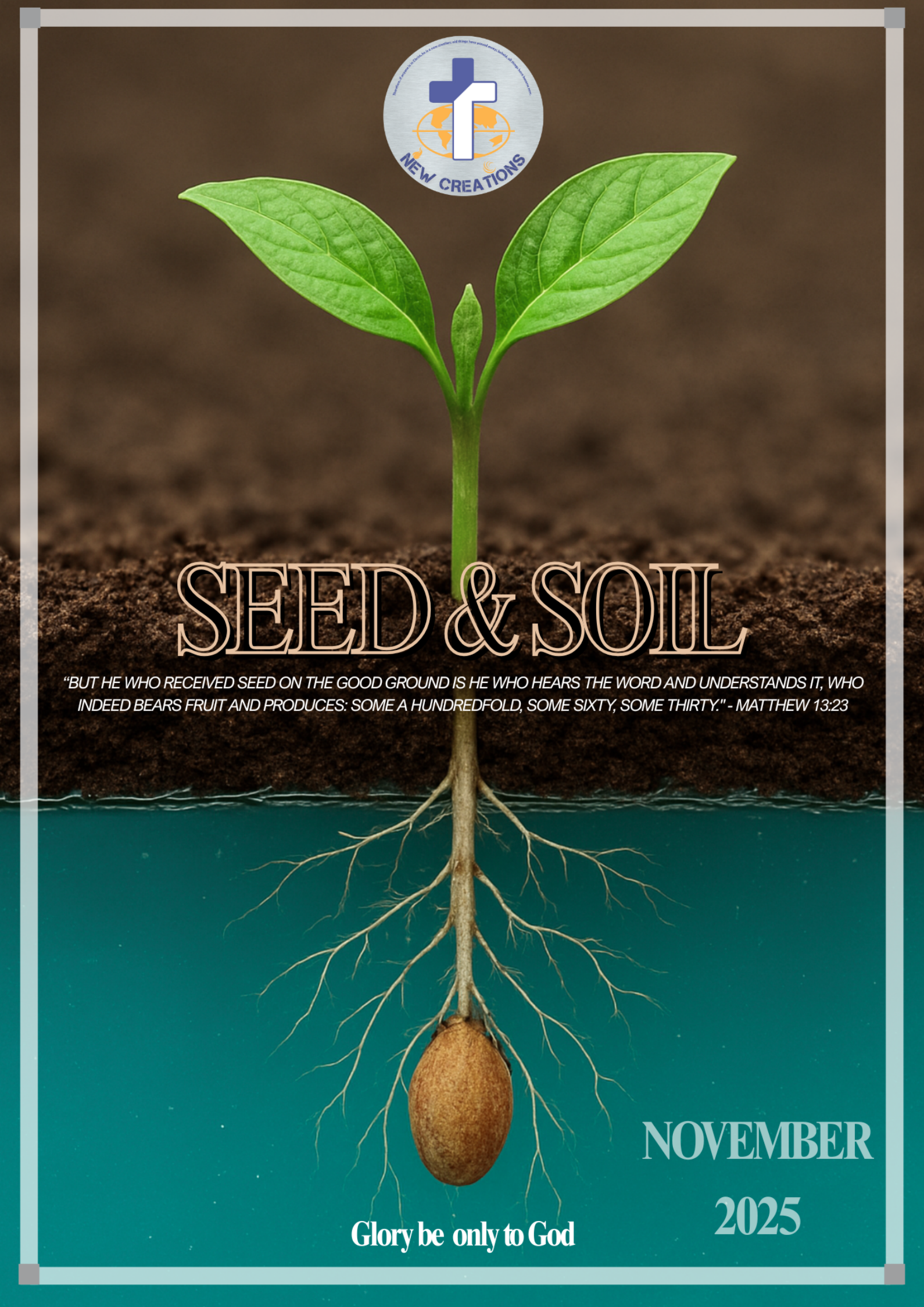


SEED & SOIL

"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

NOVEMBER

2025

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!

The Wait In The Shepherd's Pouch



"Then David took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd's bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine". 1 Samuel 17:40 (NIV)

In the fight between David and Goliath, **David chooses 5 smooth pebbles** from the brook over the armor that King Saul offered to him. Now when he gets to the battlefield, **he takes the first stone** out and slings it at the giant and kills him in a single shot. Then he praises the Lord God who gave him the victory and goes on to his further adventures.

Now this got me wondering about the **remaining four stones** that were left behind in his shepherd' pouch. He had carefully **chosen them from the brook**, so there is no way that a seasoned fighter like David would just throw them away. **He must have kept them safe inside his shepherd's pouch to use at the right time.**

The same way, **we are chosen by God among several others to serve His particular purpose.** We are happy when He uses us in a flamboyant way like the one pebble used to defeat Goliath.

But when we are put into the Shepherd's pouch and asked to wait for our turn to be used, we get restless and start doubting our chosen purpose. **We want things to happen at our time and not on God's time, forgetting that God's time is infact the right time.**

If you are one of the pebbles right now inside the Shepherd's pouch, just remember that He chose you for a purpose and you are safe within His hands until your time to be used for His glory comes. In the meantime, ***"Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you". -1 Peter 5:7***

Let Us Bear Fruits

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.-Galatians 5:22-23

The Holy Spirit's work in us is like a tree that grows fruits. When we are connected to Jesus, the Spirit produces qualities like **love, joy, and peace** in our lives.

These are not things we can produce on our own, they are evidence that the Spirit is at work in us. When we stay connected, the Spirit will naturally produce these fruits in us. This is not about striving or self-effort, it is about abiding in **Jesus and letting the Spirit work through us.**

Think of it like a branch on a vine. The branch does not try to produce fruit, it simply **stays connected to the vine and the vine produces the fruit.** In the same way, when we stay **connected to Jesus, the Spirit produces beautiful qualities in our lives.**

This is a slow and steady process, not a quick fix. **But as we prioritize our relationship with God, we will see the Spirit's fruits growing in us.** And that's where the real transformation happens which is not in our efforts, but in our character and actions.

Let us focus on being rooted in Spirit daily to produce beautiful fruits through us and also in reflecting Jesus to the world.

Closer Than You Think

In one unsuspecting moment, everything can change. A relationship can shatter; a dream can suddenly end. Your heart can break for a million different reasons: grief, rejection, loneliness, uncertainty, tragedy, or betrayal. When something terrible happens and the world makes zero sense, remember this verse:

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; He rescues those whose spirits are crushed."— Psalm 34:18

David, the writer of **Psalm 34,** preached from the trenches. He experienced intense highs and fierce lows, yet he recognized God's presence even in pain. He knew that God was near, no matter what was happening around him.

Is your heart broken? Is your spirit crushed?

God is near. He hasn't left you to fight alone. He sees your pain, meets you where you are, and will never abandon you. This doesn't mean life will be easy. But even when your mind races and your heart doubts, God offers peace and intimacy that surpass understanding. Through Jesus' death and resurrection, we have constant access to His Spirit, the **Comforter,** who soothes, guides, and strengthens us.

The comfort we receive from God is a precious gift. So if your spirit feels crushed, **rest in His presence and trust His care.** Trials and hardships are part of life, but God has the final say. Take a moment today to sit with Him, reflect on **Psalm 34:18,** and share His hope with someone who needs it.

God's Zeal For His People

"Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this." - Isaiah 9:7

God's zeal ensures the fulfillment of His promises and the establishment of Christ's kingdom. Isaiah was speaking to a people living in darkness, oppression, and war the northern tribes of Israel who were suffering under Assyrian threat.

In that darkness, Isaiah declares a message of hope and divine promise a child would be born who would bring light, peace, and everlasting rule. His reign will constantly expand; it will not decline or end like human empires do. **God's kingdom under Christ will be everlasting, ever-growing, and ever peaceful.**

As in Luke 1:33 — "And he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end."

God's kingdom will be perfectly organized under divine wisdom. Christ's kingdom is marked by truth, fairness, and righteousness. **His rule began spiritually with His first coming, continues through His Church today,** and will be fully realized in His second coming and eternal kingdom **(Revelation 11:15).**

This reminds us that **God's kingdom is unstoppable and eternal.** Jesus reigns not through force, **but through righteousness, love, and peace.** God's zeal for humanity ensures His promises never fail. It's a prophecy of hope, restoration, and divine faithfulness, fulfilled in Jesus, who reigns forever as Prince of Peace.

Trusting The Unseen Hand Of God

"As you do not know the path of the wind, or how the body is formed in a mother's womb, so you cannot understand the work of God, the Maker of all things."
Ecclesiastes 11:5

There are so many things in life we just can't figure out. We don't know where the wind comes from or how life starts inside a mother's womb.

In the same way, **we don't always understand what God is doing in our lives.** Sometimes things don't make sense — prayers seem unanswered, doors stay closed, and we start wondering if God is really working.

But this verse reminds us that even when we can't see or understand, **God is still at work.** He's moving in quiet ways, arranging things for our good, and preparing answers before we even realize it.

The unseen hand of God is never still.

Faith means trusting that He knows what He's doing, even when we don't. His plans are always wiser and better than ours. When we can't trace His hand, **we can still trust His heart.**

So today, don't be discouraged by what you don't understand. Keep believing, keep waiting, and keep trusting. God is working in the background; perfectly, patiently, and with love.

A Willing Heart

The angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon while he was hiding from his enemies in fear. Yet the angel's message was, "The Lord is with you, mighty warrior" (Judges 6:12, NIV).

Gideon did not feel strong or courageous, **quite the opposite!** But God wasn't speaking about Gideon's past or his ability. **He was announcing what He could do through His powerful presence.**

That same truth changed **Andrew Palau's life.** For years, Andrew resisted God's call to be a preaching evangelist. Speaking in public filled him with dread—he knew he wasn't good at it! And he felt certain he was the wrong person for the job.

But when he read Gideon's story, the words of **Judges 6:12** struck Andrew. God called Gideon **"mighty warrior"** before he ever fought a battle. Andrew realized **God wasn't dependent on human ability—but on His own ability.** God was declaring what was possible through His strength. That realization shifted everything.

As Andrew surrendered his fear, God began to use his willing heart. He started publicly delivering Gospel messages and went on to speak life-changing words to thousands around the world. It was never about skill or confidence **it was always about trusting that God was faithful and able to work through him.**

Gideon's story and Andrew's show that **God often calls the unlikely.** **Moses** felt inadequate, **Jeremiah** thought he was too young, and **Jesus' first messengers were ordinary tradesmen.** Yet God moved through each of them. What about you? Where might God be inviting you to trust His presence and power in your weakness?

Proverbs 31 Woman!

I often came across the passage in **Proverbs 31**, and every time I read it, **I couldn't help but feel that I wasn't enough.** I even thought I could never become that kind of woman. But one day, while reading a book titled **A Woman God Can Use**, I came across a chapter on the Proverbs 31 woman, and it beautifully highlighted the kind of character she possessed.

The very first verse describes her as **rare and noble someone hard to find.** As I continued reading, I realized that she was confident in who she was and clear about what she needed to prioritize. So often, we try to do everything and be everything for everyone, and in the process, we lose sight of who we are and what truly matters. But unlike us, she had her priorities in order. She managed her time, resources, and gifts wisely.

She also nurtured healthy relationships with her husband and children. **Proverbs 31 calls her blessed a woman of kindness, diligence, and compassion, who feared God and sought His perspective** in every decision she made.

Through this, I learned that ***God never expects us to be perfect; He simply calls us to be His loving daughters trusting that He holds everything in His hands.*** When we live with that assurance, we too can laugh at the days to come, just like the Proverbs 31 woman.

You too can be a Proverbs 31 woman.

Not My Righteousness But His

All of us want to do the right things, follow every rule perfectly, and attain the status of "**righteous**". After all, the blessings promised for a righteous man in the Bible are not a few. But no matter how hard we try to do so by our own strength, it is not possible; because

Romans 3:23 says, "all have sinned, and fallen short of the glory of God."

How then, do we attain this "**righteousness**"? If you are someone who's disappointed that you're not able to live that perfect, righteous life no matter how hard you try, **this is for you.**

Galatians 2: 21 says "I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain."

The good news is, that our righteousness does not come from following the law, but from Christ, the epitome of righteousness, who died for all our sins. The scripture says, **"Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness."**

Because Christ died for us, we have been set free from the curse of the law, which we could not have escaped, if not for Him. And now, all we have to do is to have faith in Him, because the scripture says that the **"righteous will live by faith".**

When we remember each day **His sacrificial love for us on the cross,** and in return love Him with all our heart, mind and soul, he will guide us gently in the way we should go, and we don't have to be afraid of failing, because He's already won the victory on the cross for us!

Bless Those Who Curse You

Recently, I shifted to a new state. Although the language was new, God helped me learn it well pretty soon. One day, while walking back home after work, **a possessed man with torn clothes approached me and started cursing me.** I was terrified, so I began to pray. **I must have prayed for hardly a minute when suddenly he stopped and left.**

He was homeless, beaten, lame, and speaking to someone standing beside me—though there was nobody there. I came home, knelt, and prayed, **"Lord, please heal him."** A week later, **I saw him sitting with a friend, talking properly.** He pointed at me, smiled, and said something to his friend. I went home and prayed again, **"Lord, is he really healed? Sorry for my unbelief, but I want to see it once again!"**

The very next day, returning from church, I saw him well-dressed and tidy. He came to me and said, **"Thank you!"** My heart was filled with joy beyond words. When I saw him again, I gave him some snacks, and he happily left.

There are moments when we get scared, but instead of stepping back, **we should boldly call upon our Lord.** I prayed for just a minute, yet it changed someone's life forever.

Prayer is not a mere custom—**when you pray, even with faith as small as a mustard seed (Matthew 17:20), God listens and answers (Jeremiah 33:3).**

You are never alone. **Our Father is always with you, even to the end of the age (Matthew 28:20). The enemy can never harm you, for He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world (1 John 4:4).** Amen

His Strength My Uncertainty

Opportunities never knock twice. Being a child of God, we might have experienced a lot of them. There are a few people who still doubt when a door opens for them. Are we one among them? **Those are opportunities for us to shine for God,** and it gets us one step closer to God.

2 Corinthians 12:9 says "But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness".

The only weakness that we endure in certain scenarios in life is doubting ourselves that makes us doubt in what God has for us. Whenever we doubt ourselves, we must remember that **we are not alone**. We are surrounded by the gracious **presence of God**.

Take for example certain instances from the Bible; **Moses** was not an eloquent speaker whereas **Peter** doubted God when he stepped into the river.

But God chose them to be **perfect in His eyes**. God chose them despite their weakness only to **show His strength and miracles** through them. The things that we limit in our lives are **God's opportunities**.

Prayer: Lord, I might be uncertain about the place and position that you give in my life but I'm sure that I'm going to **trust God's faithfulness** on me. Rather than focusing on what I can't, help me to focus on what you need me to be. Amen.

Leadership Under Pressure

"And Joseph was the governor over the land; it was he who sold grain to all the people of the land. And Joseph's brothers came and bowed down before him with their faces to the ground."-Genesis 42:6

Joseph didn't rise to leadership in Pharaoh's court by accident. His years in Potiphar's house and prison **shaped the character and skills he needed.** Though he was governor, his true power came from influence, not title. **Real influence flows from integrity,** not position.

When Joseph saw his brothers, his emotions surged, but he controlled them. Leaders don't ignore feelings; **they discipline them.** He could have taken revenge, but he pursued restoration. **True leaders use power to heal, not punish.**

The famine drove nations to Egypt, yet Joseph remained strong and served with excellence. Crisis doesn't create character, it exposes it. He provided grain for Egyptians and outsiders alike, showing a vision beyond his own people.

His brothers bowing fulfilled his dreams, **but Joseph didn't boast, he blessed.** Real leaders use dreams to guide others toward purpose. Joseph didn't reveal himself right away; he observed first. Wise leaders listen and watch before they speak.

Joseph had the power to enslave, accuse, or free, yet he used it to test character and foster accountability. Leadership means handling power as a trust, not a trophy. His tests were firm, but his heart was soft, he provided food, returned their money, and wept in private.

In **Genesis 43**, Joseph's leadership brought **survival, reunion, and restoration.** He didn't just endure hardship, he led with purpose. True leadership seeks purpose over power and reconciliation over revenge.

When My Soul Grows Weary

"The Lord is near to the broken-hearted and saves the crushed in spirit." — Psalm 34:18

There are moments when the heart grows too heavy to lift in prayer, when thoughts are tangled and sadness presses so deeply that even breathing feels like effort. We come before God with trembling hearts, whispering, ***"Lord, I can't do this anymore."*** It is in these quiet, broken moments that He meets us, **not after we've regained strength, but right in the middle of our weariness.**

We often assume strong faith means never feeling weary, but Jesus Himself knew sorrow. He wept at Lazarus' tomb, and His sweat became like drops of blood in Gethsemane. The prophets lamented, David poured out his anguish, and Elijah begged to die under a tree. Yet in each story, **God drew near and spoke peace into despair.**

God never rejects our trembling prayers. He is not repelled by weakness but draws closer to those who can't pretend anymore. **When we have nothing left to offer but tears, He calls that enough.** Our worth was never rooted in emotions or achievements but rests in His unrelenting love. His light still shines when we cannot see.

God restores not situations first, but gratitude. Thanksgiving softens despair into hope. As we ask Him to **"restore the joy of salvation,"** He reminds us we are already held and loved. So, walk into worship, even weary. In sacred stillness, He whispers, ***"I am here. Trust Me."*** And our weary souls breathe again.

Different Roads, One Redeemer

"The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame." — Isaiah 58:11

We often underestimate the valleys through which God leads us. When uncertainty rises, we start comparing our story to someone else's, chasing what worked for them and growing frustrated by different timelines. We forget that God never repeats Himself. His plans are uniquely crafted for every child He loves, and **He loves us all with the same intensity.** Therefore we can trust His leading completely.

Comparison is one of the enemy's quietest traps. It shifts our eyes from **Christ to others, from gratitude to envy, from faith to frustration.** Scripture reminds us that our only true comparison is to Christ Himself. The real question is not, **"Why is my journey not like theirs"** but, **"Am I becoming more like Jesus in mine"**

The lives of **Simon and Saul** show this truth. Their journeys were different. Simon was a fisherman. Saul was a scholar. One was impulsive. The other was zealous. Simon was asked, "Do you love Me more than these" to reveal his deepest affection. Saul was brought down on the Damascus Road before being raised by grace. Both were transformed by the same redeeming hand into Peter and Paul, apostles and faithful martyrs. **What mattered most was trusting and obeying God.**

When our plans fall apart, we assume failure. But in God's eyes, small steps of obedience begin transformation. We may not understand His ways, but we can trust His heart.

The path may look different, yet when we follow His lead, we always arrive where His love intends. And in His time, it will be beautiful.

The Wells We Keep Returning To

“But whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” — John 4:14

We all have our wells. Places we go to draw worth, silence emptiness, or feel seen. Some draw from achievement, others from relationships, recognition, or control. Yet no matter how often we lower the bucket, it comes back empty. What we hoped would sustain us runs dry far sooner than expected. Jesus met a Samaritan woman by her well in the heat of the day **(John 4:6).**

She came to fill a jar, **but it was her soul that thirsted.** Shame and brokenness had driven her into isolation, yet the Merciful Lord awaited her there. Jesus didn’t ask her to clean herself up first; He met her where she was. When she was worn and longing for belonging, **He offered something no earthly source could: living water.**

The woman tried to hide her story, but Jesus already knew it. **He didn’t use truth to wound her, but to free her.** He revealed that satisfaction cannot be found in people or places, only in Him. Many of us keep searching for meaning in what drains us, chasing success, approval, or fleeting happiness, only to find the wells we return to never satisfy.

To drink from Jesus’ water means **surrender**. To stop striving to fix ourselves and trust Him to lead us into wholeness. The woman left her jar behind **(John 4:28)**. She no longer needed it. When we truly encounter Christ, we too leave our jars of shame and self-effort, walking away filled with something eternal overflowing to bless others.

Are you still drawing from wells that never satisfy? Come, sit at His feet, and let His love fill you, overflowing into other broken souls. Only He can make us whole again.

Held Close By The Father

"As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him." — Psalm 103:13

A few days ago, a nurse shared about the new cradles their ward had received. He smiled and said, "Rather than letting my children lie in the cradle, I keep them tucked close. Even when we travel, I hold them instinctively. When they're out of sight, my mind is still watching—always concerned for their safety."

His words stayed with me, for in that tender image I saw a father who cannot bear to be distant from his child. In it, I glimpsed God's own heart.

Our Heavenly Father longs to hold His children close: to shield, comfort, and whisper truth over us when the world grows loud. His love is never distant. ***"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are." (1 John 3:1)***

Yet often we resist His nearness. In pain and uncertainty, we mistake His protective arms for confinement. We question His goodness when the path leads through valleys we never chose. Even then, His compassion never wavers. His concern does not fade when we struggle. The same hands that shaped galaxies hold us steady, whispering, ***"You are Mine."***

Jesus came down when we were helpless **(Romans 5:8).** We didn't earn this nearness; God chose to adopt us into His family through Christ **(Ephesians 1:5)**. Adoption means belonging. Not by merit, but by mercy. No matter how far we drift, His love has already made room for us.

When life feels uncertain or the journey long, remember you are not alone. The Father's hands hold you, firm yet gentle. Rest today in the warmth of His nearness. The One who carries you will never let you go.

The Blood That Spoke: It Is Finished

Ephesians 1:7 — "In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace."

Have you ever felt the weight of a mistake you knew you couldn't fix? A harsh word spoken, a promise broken, a silent act of selfishness? We carry these burdens, these spiritual debts, and instinctively feel they require payment.

I have found myself keeping a silent scoreboard, tracking my performance, my mistakes, and resolving to **"do better"** tomorrow.

I approached God based on how well I've behaved or how sincerely I've repented. But Paul shares an important truth with Ephesians: **our salvation is a finished work accomplished entirely by Jesus.**

This truth humbles me. It silences my pride. Because I realize that forgiveness doesn't flow from my effort, but from His sacrifice. The heart of our faith isn't our effort; it's atonement. God is holy and perfect, and my sin creates an unbridgeable chasm.

I cannot, by any merit of my own, earn my way across. That is why the shedding of blood was necessary (Hebrews 9:22).

Jesus, who lived the only perfect life, **became the perfect sacrifice.** He willingly shed His blood to pay the full cost for our wretchedness.

Our forgiveness is not a fragile, day-by-day deal with a reluctant God. It is a settled reality, purchased once for all. The burden we try to drag is the one He already carried.

When guilt overwhelms, I rest in His finished work secured by love that declared: "It is finished."

A Friend That Clung On

Some friends walk with us for a season; others cling to us for life. **Ruth** was that kind of friend who stayed. Her name means **friend or companion**, and she truly lived up to it.

After tragedy struck Naomi's family, she decided to return to Bethlehem. Naomi urged her daughters-in-law to stay in Moab and begin new lives. One left, but **Ruth "clung" to Naomi**, saying, "Where you go, I will go... your people will be my people, and your God, my God." Ruth's loyalty was a lasting one. **She stayed, even when there was no promise of gain.**

Ruth's sacrificial love is a reflection of God's own steadfast love a love that clings, stays, and never gives up.

In times of grief, change, or uncertainty, we all long for someone who will simply stay. God calls us to be that person for others faithful, present, and loving without conditions.

Ruth reminds us that loyalty and kindness can change everything.

In the following chapters we see how God used her faithfulness to write a beautiful new beginning. **She became a part of God's greater plan to bring redemption to the world.**

Let us also be like Ruth a friend who clings with faithful love, and a follower who walks by faith, even when the road ahead is uncertain.

Little By Little

The Lord Your God Will Drive Out These nations before you little by little as you advance.-Deuteronomy 7:22

Moses' final instructions to Israel before entering the Promised Land highlight three words that catch the eye: **"little by little."** This is the same God who spoke the world into existence, parted the Red Sea, and raises the dead. From Genesis to Revelation, the Bible testifies to His glory, power, and sovereignty. Yet, He chooses to move gradually.

On the other hand, we live in a fast-paced world, always rushing to match its speed. We chase validation, money, and status, feeling behind if progress seems slow. Taking one small step at a time feels like failure. When God moves calmly in our lives, anxiety rises but we must remember,

God is not in a hurry. Neither should we be.

Why little by little? Job 37:5 reminds us that we cannot even comprehend God's power. Yet He works slowly because we are limited. If everything came at once, we'd collapse. God's goal is not just to take us to the destination, but to shape who we are along the way. Process is part of His promise. Little by little is divine strategy. The slow seasons refine us, smooth our sharp edges, and shape our character.

Every setback, delay, or painful step is part of God's careful work. In the waiting, wilderness, and quiet moments, He is building us with purpose. Even when change seems invisible, He is forming souls for eternity. Little by little, He is bringing us into the land He promised. So slow down, trust the process, and rest in His timing.

God is never late; He makes everything beautiful in its time.

Shaped for a Purpose

Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honour, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work - 2Timothy 2:21

You don't have to be popular, gifted or a confident person to be used by God. He is not looking for perfection, **He is looking for someone who is available and ready to surrender.**

In the ancient times, vessels are common tools. Some were used for daily tasks, others for sacred purposes. What made a vessel valuable wasn't its beauty, but whether it was clean and ready to be used. In the same way, God is looking for us to be the vessels **He can fill and pour out for His purpose.**

That means letting go of things that separate us from God like sin, toxic habits, bad influence, and choosing a life, set apart for Him. This doesn't mean living perfectly, but living surrendered.

The Bible is full of people who weren't ready by the world's standards, like David, Esther, and the disciples.

But they were willing, **Willingness is what God can work with.** Don't chase greatness, Chase Faithfulness. Because when you are surrendered, you are unstoppable in God's hands.

There is purpose in every touch of the Potter's Hands

Offline With The World Online With God

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went to a solitary place, where he prayed.- Mark 1:35

We live in a generation that is constantly online. Our phones buzz with messages, feeds refresh endlessly, and there's always another video to watch. While technology connects us, it also consumes us.

Many of us wake up and reach for our phones before we reach for God. Slowly, the noise drowns out the voice of the One who truly matters. Jesus modelled something different. Despite being surrendered by crowds and constant demands, He made intentional time to be alone with the Father. **He understood that intimacy with God fuels everything else.** If the Son of God needed to unplug from people to connect with heaven, how much more do we?

Being offline with the world doesn't mean ignoring responsibilities or avoiding people. **It means carving out sacred spaces where God has our undivided attention.** In those offline moments, with an open Bible, in whispered prayers, and in quiet reflection, our souls are recharged.

We gain wisdom, peace, and a fresh awareness of our identity in Christ.

Every notification fade, but God's voice remains eternal. The more we choose Him over constant scrolling, the more grounded, joyful, and purposeful our lives become.

Prayer: Lord, help me silence distractions and seek you first. Teach me the value of intimacy with Your presence above the endless noise of the world.

Wholeheartedness

Being a wholehearted person is truly challenging. In everything we do, being wholehearted reflects our genuine love for God. It's not easy, but it is God's desire that we trust Him completely and give ourselves fully to Him.

The Bible speaks of Caleb a man who wholeheartedly followed God. Scripture says he had "a different spirit," one of faith, courage, and complete devotion.

Often, we struggle with wholeheartedness. We hold back, afraid to surrender certain parts of our lives or to give up things we value. Solomon, though wise and the writer of Ecclesiastes, still fell because his heart wasn't fully devoted to God. This reminds us that knowledge or success alone cannot keep us faithful only a surrendered heart can.

Being wholehearted for God doesn't happen in a moment; it's a daily choice**. Each day we decide whether to give God our time, our priorities, and our resources**.

Are we willing to put Him first? Are we ready to obey even when it costs us something?

God promises that **"those who seek Him wholeheartedly will find Him." (Jeremiah 29:13)** What a beautiful assurance! So, let's make a conscious effort each day to seek, obey, and trust Him completely. Wholeheartedness is not about perfection but about choosing God again and again with sincerity, faith, and love.

When our hearts are fully His, we'll find true joy, purpose, and strength in every part of our walk with Him.

Unseen Hands Over Deep Waters

A year ago, I had friends. Life felt light, laughter came easy. Suddenly, things changed. The ones who stood beside me turned against me.

They blamed, they hurt, they left. I stayed silent. My heart screamed, but couldn't utter a word anxiety took over. I feared losing them, feared being hated. Surrounded by many, yet so alone.

I asked, **"Why me? Why don't people stay? Am I that bad?"**

The voices inside me echoed **"Is this life even worth living?"**

But in my darkest hour, I ran to God. I fell at His feet, crying, **"Take my life, Lord."** And He spoke gently through His Word:

"You will grieve, but your grief will turn to wonderful joy." - John 16:20

"Yes, I will keep you safe from the wicked and rescue you from their cruel hands." - Jeremiah 15:21

They tried to bring me down but God lifted me up. Maybe you're drowning in your own ocean of sorrows. **Remember your God walks on water.** He will take care of you.

At times He parts the sea, at times He calls you to walk on it either way, the **waves obey Him.**

"Remember, your God is almighty."

The Constant One

Wondering and feeling why life has to change, and why there isn't anyone constant in our lives, often makes us feel anxious or disinterested in forming connections with people and leaves us in uncertainty, but the truth is God is always constant.

That is the message of **HOPE!** He is constantly with us guiding, protecting, and loving us; quieting our anxious hearts in times of unrest.

Oh, what a delight it is to have the Constant One as our everything in times when we have nothing.

The Constant One is our safe refuge, the One to whom we can run and find rest. He fills us with peace in the midst of life's storms and prepares a way in the wilderness.

He comforts us like a friend, knows what we need, and satisfies our souls. He is the source of encouragement and our strength when we have none left. He gives us faith to move forward and keeps His promises without compromise.

His love is unconditional, and He always has the best in mind for us. He never gives up on us, even when we often do, and He protects us unfailingly.

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."
Hebrews 13:8

Blessed assurance ***Jesus, the Constant One, is mine.*** May this be our source of joy, despite our circumstances or the people around us.

Jesus Is Mine

The word *"mine"* is so profound. In our daily lives, we often use it casually my friend, my dad, or over objects like my book and my pen. Yet, *"mine"* is far deeper than mere ownership. It signifies relationship, connection, care, and responsibility. It carries meaning, value, and a personal bond.

In Isaiah 43:1, God, our Creator, declares a deeply personal connection with us: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine."

Through His one and beloved Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us, we are invited into this intimate relationship with God. Because of Him, our lives have meaning, purpose, and identity.

Are we willing, in the same way, **to call Jesus "mine"?** When we say something is ours, we naturally care for it, value it, and respect it. Declaring Jesus is mine reminds us that our life, our strength, and our every step are entirely **dependent on God.** We rely on His guidance, His provision, and His protection, knowing that apart from Him, we can do nothing.

This is a **day-by-day journey.** And through the work of the Holy Spirit, each time we affirm, **Jesus is mine, we grow closer to Him, relying fully on His love and grace**.

May our words and lives reflect this intimate bond, and may we walk confidently in the joy and security of belonging completely to our loving Savior.

Trust In The Lord

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6

There are seasons when life feels unfair, when our efforts seem wasted and outcomes don't match our hopes. In such moments, the Bible calls us to trust, not in our own understanding, but in God's wisdom and timing.

Proverbs 3:5-6 reminds us that surrendering our plans to Him is the path to peace.When things go wrong, it is natural to seek advice or opinions from others. The Bible encourages this, but with discernment.

"Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed" (Proverbs 15:22).

Listening to wise, faith-rooted people can bring clarity, but we must always weigh every word against God's truth. His voice through Scripture and prayer remains our ultimate guide. **Negative thoughts often flood our minds during setbacks.**

Philippians 4:8 teaches us to redirect our focus toward what is true, noble, and praiseworthy. When you feel overwhelmed, speak God's promises aloud, reminding yourself that He is in control even when emotions say otherwise.

Staying rooted in God means cultivating daily intimacy with Him through prayer, worship, and reading His Word. These practices strengthen your spirit, quiet your worries, and help you **see beyond the present struggle.**

So, when life doesn't go your way, **pause, pray, seek** godly counsel, and anchor your thoughts in Christ. Trust that His **"no" or "wait" is never rejection;** it is redirection toward something better prepared for you.

A Race And A Fight

Every day, a Christian is called to run a race and fight a battle not against people, but against doubt, temptation, and the pressures that pull us away from God.

The Christian life is not a sprint; it's a marathon that requires endurance, faith, and focus on Jesus**, "the author and finisher of our faith"-(Hebrews 12:2)**

Our fight is not with flesh and blood but with the spiritual forces that try to weaken our trust and joy (Ephesians 6:12).

The race demands discipline, perseverance, and constant renewal through prayer and Scripture.

The fight requires courage and dependence on the Holy Spirit. Though the path may be tiring, the reward is eternal.

At the end of the race, we long to hear the words, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

One day, the race will end, and the fight will cease. Until then, may we live each day with determination and faith, declaring like Paul: **"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." (2 Timothy 4:7)**

My Food

In John 4:34, Jesus says, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent me and to finish His work." Food is one of the most basic and essential needs for human survival.

Maslow's hierarchy of needs teaches that food is necessary for life itself. People work each day to earn and eat so they can live. But Jesus teaches His disciples that His true nourishment is doing the will of the Father.

This speaks directly to our lives today. Jesus will come again to judge us, and we must reflect on whether we are living according to God's purpose. **Adam and Eve disobeyed God** by eating the forbidden fruit. They chose the enemy's temptation instead of God's will and later blamed one another for their fall. But **Jesus, the second Adam**, shows us a different way. He could not live without doing the Father's will.

We must ask ourselves if we are following Jesus or repeating the failure of Adam and Eve. **The Bible says in Jeremiah 15:16, "When Your words came, I ate them. They were my joy and my heart's delight." God's word is spiritual food that strengthens our spirit**. Scripture says **faith comes by hearing the word of God.** As we eagerly wait for Him to speak and stay rooted in His presence, our flesh becomes weak and our spirit becomes strong. We will find joy and delight in obedience and our actions will bear His name.

Jesus said that those who follow Him must **take up their cross and follow Him.** Just as His food was to do the Father's will, as a fellow follower of chirst, **let us also make doing God's will as our lifestyle every day.** Amen.

One Thing Remains

But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her." Luke 10:41–42

This event might make us think that Martha wasn't doing the right thing, but when we look closely, we see that Martha was simply anxious and longed to be acknowledged.

Similarly, we might find ourselves in the same place trying to make ends meet, keeping ourselves busy, and striving to finish everything.

Yet Jesus gently reminds Martha, and us, that only one thing truly matters to be in the presence of God.

If you ask yourself, what is the sign that God is with me? it is this: even when storms rage, **you will still be at peace,** knowing that nothing else remains.

People may leave, things may fade or be destroyed, but His love never fails and never gives up on us.

Let's take a moment to think what is that one thing that holds us back? Let's ask Him to redeem us and fill us again with that one thing which remains.

Called Despite

There were many times I've wondered, *"Why me, God?"*
How could You entrust me with so much when I can't even rise above my own insecurities?

When I was placed in situations that demanded great responsibility, my weaknesses and fears seemed to shout louder than my faith.

Yet, looking back now, I can see how God worked *in* me and *through* me.

He trusted me when I couldn't trust myself.

He never gave up on me, no matter how many times I failed or doubted.

The Bible constantly reminds us of people who were called despite their shortcomings and still, God chose them.

He knows us inside and out, and all we are asked to do is to follow the Shepherd when He calls.

As **James 1:5** (NIV) says:

"If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."

He is the lifter of our heads.

He never stops shaping us, refining us, and making us better every single day

Good Listener

James 1:19 reminds us, "Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry."

Listening shows humility. It means valuing another person's thoughts more than our own desire to respond or prove a point.

But let's be honest sometimes it's hard to listen, especially if we're naturally talkative or expressive. We long for someone to truly listen to us, to care about what we say, and to make us feel understood. **When that doesn't happen, we can feel unseen or unimportant.**

Yet, there's One who always listens **God.** He never gets tired of hearing our voice. He wants us to talk to Him, to tell Him about our day our joys, our frustrations, our fears, and our hopes.

Often, instead of turning to God first, **we look for a person who will listen,** someone who will meet our expectations. But the truth is, there's a space in our hearts a **void that only God can fill.**

He listens not just to our words, but to the whispers of our heart. And as His children, we're called to reflect Christ by being ***slow to speak and quick to listen*** both to others and to Him.

Let's be watchful and intentional ready to listen, slow to react, and always turning first to the One who listens best.

Pride

Have you ever thought about what it really means to be ***proud*** or ***prideful*****?**

In the Bible, God repeatedly warns the rich and the powerful but have you wondered why? The one quality He cautions them against the most is ***pride*****.**

Pride is often hard to see in ourselves, yet others can easily sense it in us. Some signs of pride can include constantly seeking compliments, being ungrateful, feeling jealous or competitive, lacking peace, or living as if we are self-sufficient as though we don't need God.

God is never pleased when we are filled with pride. Instead, He calls us to be humble, just as He is**. James 4:6 says, *"God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble."***

Being humble isn't easy it's a daily choice.

It means accepting others despite their shortcomings, seeing everyone as God's creation, and remembering that everything we have is from Him. **It's about recognizing God as our superior,** being quick to admit when we are wrong, and willing to say **"sorry"** and **"thank you."**

Let's be watchful of our hearts and strive to walk in humility every day.

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+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 7 0 1 0 7 4 2 6 8