

# **Spirit & Life**

# **Devotional**

**October 2017**

**Chinaemerem Ibezim**

SPIRIT & LIFE DEVOTIONAL

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the New Living Translation of the Bible.

Keys for other Bible Translations used:

NKJV - New King James Version  
KJV - King James Version  
NIV - New International Version  
AMP - The Amplified Bible  
CEV - Contemporary English Version  
MSG - The Message Translation  
ISV - International Standard Version  
NASB - New American Standard Bible  
TEV - Today's English Version  
RSV - Revised Standard Version  
ESV - English Standard Version  
ERV - Easy To Read Version

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“It is the Spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.” John 6:63

## **AUTHOR'S NOTE**

The messages in this devotional are inspired by the Holy Spirit and are God's now word to you. However, please note that this is not meant to be a substitute for serious personal Bible studies. All readers are strongly encouraged to be as the Berean believers who, "received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so." Acts 17:11 KJV.

Chinaemerem Ibezim

## **ABOUT SPIRIT AND LIFE DEVOTIONAL**

Spirit & Life Devotional is more than a devotional, EVERY MESSAGE IS A PROPHECY, communicating God's NOW word; God's perfect will for our lives as individuals, nations and the Church.

The messages are true, anointed, fresh, insightful, gracious, refreshing, timely, inspiring and edifying.

Spirit & Life Devotional reveals the whole counsel of God, to the end that we would be drawn closer to God, remain focused on Jesus, increase in knowledge, be effective ministers, victorious Christians, and be the glorious Church ALWAYS READY for the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Spirit & Life Devotional exists to fulfil the words of Isaiah 11:9 – “For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.” That's our passion and vision.

Become a partner in achieving this global vision as God leads you.

## **ABOUT PROPHETIC DECLARATIONS**

Hebrews 13:5-6 says, "Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. FOR HE HIMSELF HAS SAID, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." SO WE MAY BOLDLY SAY: "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"

You see, whenever God speaks we are expected to speak in agreement with Him. When God speaks, they come to pass as we put those same words in our mouths. When God speaks, His words are meant to inspire us to say the right things, and as we do, God is obligated to bring them to pass.

The Bible says that the word of God is the spirit of prophecy. We have included prophetic declarations in the devotionals, don't just read them, open your mouth and prophesy! They will all come to pass in Jesus name. Amen.

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**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Sunday, 1 October 2017**

**A Very Good Life**

**“Dear friend, I hope all is well with you and that you are healthy in body as you are strong in spirit.” 3 John 2**

The scripture above was written by Apostle John, one of the original twelve apostles of the Lord Jesus Christ. He obviously knew what he was talking about. He lets us know that God’s perfect will for us is that all is well with us, that we are in health, and strong in spirit. In other words, it is the perfect will of God that we are in perfect condition, so to say.

When God created the world and man, He saw that everything He made was very good (Genesis 1:31). God has not changed; when He looks at our lives today, what will give Him joy is the fact that He sees everything as being very good.

Don’t ever believe or think that God is pleased to see you in a mess, sick, broke and weak, physically and spiritually; no! If all is not well with you, know today that it is not the will of God for you. Jesus paid the price for your healing, and He became poor so that through His poverty you and I would be rich.

God sent Jesus so that we could have a very good life. Jesus said, “The thief’s purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.” John 10:10. From today, may you begin to enjoy a rich and satisfying life, in Jesus name. Amen.

**Prophetic Declaration**

From today, I declare that my life is very good. I declare that my health is very good, my business is very good, my job is very good, my mind is very good, my family is very good, my spiritual life too is very good. Whatever I do and am involved with from today will be very good, in Jesus name. Amen.



**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Monday, 2 October 2017**

### **Having Pure Motives**

**“People may be pure in their own eyes, but the Lord examines their motives.”**

**Proverbs 16:2**

Motives matter a lot; it is not enough to do what is right, what is right has to be done with the right motives for it to be truly right in the eyes of God.

Apostle Paul said something very important in 1 Corinthians 13:3. He said, “If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn’t love others, I would have gained nothing.”

A person can give for selfish reasons. A politician, for instance, can give Twenty million, not because he loves the people, but because he wants their votes and their affection. But if that same politician gives because he genuinely loves the people, his giving becomes acceptable in the sight of God. Motives make a difference.

As believers it is important that we do things with the right motives. That’s why pleasing the Lord should be our ultimate priority, because when you set out to please God, you have already gotten it right, and whatever you do will be accepted before God.

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I have the mind of Christ in me, therefore it is easy for me to do things with the right motives. I live everyday of my life to please the Lord; pleasing God is my main motivation from today onward, in Jesus name. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Tuesday, 3 October 2017**

### **Lay Your Crowns Before The Throne**

**“The twenty-four elders fall down and worship the one sitting on the throne (the one who lives forever and ever). And they lay their crowns before the throne and say, ‘You are worthy, O Lord our God, to receive glory and honour and power. For you created all things, and they exist because you created what you pleased.’” Revelations 4:10-11**

A crown represents power, dignity, honour, accomplishment and success. In worship and service to God, we must learn to lay our crowns before His throne just as the elders in Heaven do.

That is one thing that was not a problem for David to do: the Bible says that when the Ark was taken to Jerusalem, David danced before the Lord with all his might, being clothed with only a linen ephod. David was king; imagine a king dancing almost naked: the Bible says that his wife Michal, looked through a window, and saw him leaping and dancing before the Lord, and she despised him in her heart (2 Samuel 6:16). Michal was so pissed that her husband “disgraced” himself: she said to him, “How distinguished the king of Israel looked today, shamelessly exposing himself to the servant girls like any vulgar person might do!” Michal was raised as a princess, she was trained to carry herself with pride and dignity; what she did not understand is that all that is nothing before God. When we go before God we must forget about who or what we are and bow before Him. Michal had no child for David because of her attitude. David, on the other hand, said, “I am willing to look even more foolish than this, even to be humiliated in my own eyes!” No wonder the man remains the greatest king Israel ever had.

Brothers and sisters, learn to humble yourself before the Lord. He is great and glorious, and He deserves the highest praise.

### **Prophetic Declaration**

Today, I lay my crown before the throne of God in worship and adoration; Father, You are great and mighty, I humble myself before You.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Wednesday, 4 October 2017**

### **Pleasing God – The Way To Prosper**

**“God gives wisdom, knowledge, and joy to those who please him. But if a sinner becomes wealthy, God takes the wealth away and gives it to those who please him. This, too, is meaningless – like chasing the wind.” Ecclesiastes 2:26**

The Bible says that God takes the wealth of the sinner away from him and gives it to those who please Him. Therefore, the qualification for enjoying divine prosperity is that you be a person who pleases God. Wow!

There is so much that we can gain by pleasing the Lord. Jesus said, “And the one who sent me is with me – he has not deserted me. For I always do what pleases him.” John 8:29. The reason why Joseph prospered was because God was with him (Genesis 39:3). Verse 23 of Genesis 39 says, “The Lord was with him and caused everything he did to succeed.” Why was God with Joseph, and why did God cause him to succeed in everything? Jesus gave us the answer: Joseph did the things that pleased God.

You cannot live to please yourself and expect God to help you to prosper and succeed. If you live for yourself you are responsible for yourself, but if you live to please the Lord He becomes responsible for everything that concerns you.

It’s not difficult to please God. In fact, God wants to help us please Him. In other words, we do not have to struggle to please Him: Philippians 2:13 says, “For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.” God gives us the desire and the power, our part is to do them. And as we do them He causes us to prosper.

### **Prophetic Declaration**

God is working in me, giving me the desire and the power to do what pleases Him. From today, I choose to do only the things that please Him. And because I please the Lord, I declare that success and prosperity are mine; the wealth of the sinners are being transferred to me from today, in Jesus name. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Thursday, 5 October 2017**

### **Pleasing God And Knowing His will**

**“So we have not stopped praying for you since we first heard about you. We ask God to give you complete knowledge of his will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding. Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better.” Colossians 1:9-10**

You cannot do the things that please me if you do not have an idea of the things that please me. So the first thing to do if you truly want to please me, is to take time to know what you can do to please me.

Apostle Paul talked about them having a complete knowledge of the will of God. That comes by revelation. But you cannot know everything in one day, you must continue to seek His will in all you do. You must search the Scriptures too. The word of God contains the will of God. It is dangerous to live by assumptions; you must get to know exactly what God wants.

Paul said that our lives will produce every kind of good fruit when we have a complete knowledge of His will; he also said that we will grow as we know God better and better. You can see how important it is for us to have knowledge: knowledge is our guide. We must give the Holy Spirit the opportunity to teach us and to reveal the will of God to us.

### **Prophetic Declaration**

Today, I receive knowledge of the will of God; I also receive spiritual wisdom and understanding. I declare that from today my life will always honour and please the Lord, and that my life will produce every kind of good fruit. I will grow continually as I learn to know God better and better. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Friday, 6 October 2017**

### **A Little Yeast**

**“But Israel violated the instructions about the things set apart for the Lord. A man named Achan had stolen some of these dedicated things, so the Lord was very angry with the Israelites. Achan was the son of Carmi, a descendant of Zimri son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah.” Joshua 7:1**

Take a good look at the scripture above: who violated the instructions of God according to the Bible? The entire nation of Israel. But who was actually responsible for the sin? Just one man, Achan. Yet the Lord was angry with the entire nation; not just with the man who sinned.

The church is a body and what one person does has effect on the entire body – it could affect their entire worship and their fellowship with the Lord. We’ve got to be very conscious of that as believers.

In 1 Corinthians 5, we see Apostle Paul rebuking the entire church because of a brother among them who was sleeping with his stepmother, and it was not even a secret! The church was aware and they did nothing about it; Paul accused them of being proud of themselves when they should have been mourning in sorrow and shame. Here’s what he told them: “Don’t you realize that this sin is like a little yeast that spreads through the whole batch of dough?”

As a member of the church you need to understand the implications of your actions on the entire church. Don’t be the one causing problems for the others, be the one that’s a source of blessing. Don’t do anything capable of bringing shame to the church and dishonour to the name of the Lord; let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in Heaven.

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I will not be the little yeast that affects the church; I choose to be a blessing, not a problem to the body of Christ and to my local church. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Saturday, 7 October 2017**

### **Don't Be An Hindrance To Another's Salvation**

**"We live in such a way that no one will stumble because of us, and no one will find fault with our ministry." 2 Corinthians 6:3**

If people will not give their hearts to Christ, or attend church, or stop believing or attending church because of you, then you are an hindrance. You are not walking in love, and you must repent of your actions.

Maybe you are a leader in your organization, or a lecturer in a school, your actions affect quite a number of people. You really don't have to be a leader to be an influencer: once you are a believer the eyes of people are on you. You should know that.

There are two categories of people who are affected by our actions – sinners and weaker believers. Apostle Paul said in Romans 14:13, "Decide instead to live in such a way that you will not cause another believer to stumble and fall." He said again in verse 15, "And if another believer is distressed by what you eat, you are not acting in love if you eat it. Don't let your eating ruin someone for whom Christ died." He spoke more about it in 1 Corinthians 8.

So my dear brothers and sisters, we must live carefully: even when what we are doing is not sinful, it becomes wrong when it is affecting another person. Walking in love is being concerned about the implications of our actions on others. May we always walk in wisdom, in Jesus name. Amen.

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I declare today that I will not be a cause of stumbling or a hindrance to the salvation of unbelievers around me. I will live in such a way that no one will find fault with God, the church and my personal ministry as a believer. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Sunday, 8 October 2017**

### **His Commandments Are Not Burdensome**

**“That’s the whole story. Here now is my final conclusion: Fear God and obey his commands, for this is everyone’s duty.” Ecclesiastes 12:13**

Someone said to some employees, “Your job is whatever your boss asks you to do.” You could wake up and have your own plans for the day, you could go to work thinking that you are in control of your time, but all that changes the moment your boss gives you an instruction; and you are obligated to obey him or her.

One of the saddest realities is that it is easier for a lot of us to obey men than it is for us to obey God. Many times, we obey men because of fear; fear of losing our jobs, fear of suspensions, fear of this and fear of that, not realizing that the greatest person to fear is God. Jesus said, “Don’t be afraid of those who want to kill your body; they cannot touch your soul. Fear only God, who can destroy both soul and body in hell.” Matthew 10:28

However, we are not obey God because we are afraid of what He can do to us; we are to obey Him because we love Him and realize that obedience to Him is for our own good. Whatever God asks us to do is for our own benefit, He instructs us so that all will be well with us. No matter how hard and inconvenient God’s instructions seem, they are very beneficial to us. And really, His commandments are not difficult. 1 John 5:3 says, “Loving God means keeping his commandments, and his commandments are not burdensome.”

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I live in obedience to God’s commandments from today, because I love Him and I know that His words are for my own good. God’s plans for me are good and not evil, therefore I will obey His commandments no matter how inconvenient they seem to be. I can do all things by the power of the Holy Spirit within me. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Monday, 9 October 2017**

### **Rest From Your Labour**

**“For all who have entered into God’s rest have rested from their labors, just as God did after creating the world.” Hebrews 4:10**

Work is good, hardwork is good too, we all must be hardworking as children of God. But you will agree with me that there are different kinds of “hardwork”; some people work hard in comfortable offices and under wonderful working conditions, while some others are on the streets carrying heavy things on their bodies, working under terrible conditions just to make ends meet.

One of my favourite scriptures in Psalm 127:2. It says, “It is useless for you to work so hard from early morning until late at night, anxiously working for food to eat; for God gives rest to his loved ones.”

We have seen people faint and fall sick because of their work; we have also seen people toil day to day, week to week, with little or nothing to show for their efforts. That is not the will of God for us; the curse made things difficult, but the blessing makes things easy.

I pray for you today, that you will begin to enjoy the rest of God. I put the blessing of God on you, your job and your business, you will begin to get results effortlessly in the name of Jesus. Amen.

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I declare that from today I am living in the rest of God; I will no longer suffer to get results and to eat or make money, success comes to me effortlessly in the name of Jesus. I enjoy my work from today; I receive grace for my job, business and studies, in Jesus name. Amen.



**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Tuesday, 10 October 2017**

### **Don't Wait Until After Twenty Years**

**“Sisera, who had 900 iron chariots, ruthlessly oppressed the Israelites for twenty years. Then the people of Israel cried out to the Lord for help.” Judges 4:3**

The people of Israel were oppressed for twenty years before they cried out to the Lord for help! Twenty years! Some of them would have died within that period; why did they have to wait that long?

Reminds me of the woman Jesus met in a synagogue. The woman was crippled by an evil spirit, she was in bondage for eighteen years! Think about it. And she was a daughter of Abraham! She should have been free; she should not have suffered for so long; yet, she was bound for eighteen years!

Brothers and sisters, never permit anything that is not of God to last in your life; do something about it immediately; your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit not a place for the devil, and everything that belongs to you is holy, so no devil should make your life his playground! You've got to be aggressive; use your faith violently and take authority over every work of darkness in the name of Jesus! Stop managing unpleasant situations; stop living on mere hope; do something, cry out if necessary, and God will answer you. Amen.

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I claim my liberty right now, in the name of Jesus. The Son of Man set me free, therefore I declare that I am free in deed. Every satanic and unpleasant activity in my life, my family and my work comes to an end now, in the name of Jesus! Thank You Father for victory, in Jesus name. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Wednesday, 11 October 2017**

### **You Have Something**

**“But Peter said, ‘I don’t have any silver or gold for you. But I’ll give you what I have. In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, get up and walk!’” Acts 3:6**

The lame beggar wanted money but Peter did not have money to give to him, but Peter knew that he could give him something much better, and he did. I’m sure the man was grateful to Peter for the rest of his life.

The lame beggar’s expectation was to be given money, he did not even think that he could be healed. Thank God that Peter was proactive enough to offer him something else; Peter could have walked away, thank God he did not.

You may not have what is being required or requested for, but you certainly have something else that they might need. Don’t be afraid to say, “I don’t have what you are asking for, but I have this that could be beneficial to you.”

You must learn to see needs and recognize opportunities. The man had never walked, so he never imagined that he could walk, but Peter saw him differently; Peter saw him walking. What can you see in that situation or place? Don’t limit yourself to the general thinking or views, see beyond the visible and obvious; see with your eyes of faith; anything is possible to him that believes. The world needs what you have; you are divinely endowed for signs and wonders; do exploits in the name of Jesus. Amen.

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I am for signs and wonders in my generation, I was born for exploits. I am not an empty vessel, I have what the world needs. In me is the divine ability to do the impossible; I see beyond the physical, I see into the realm of possibilities. God is showing me what to do even now; I am able to exceed expectations, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Thursday, 12 October 2017**

### **Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread**

**“The Israelites were puzzled when they saw it. ‘What is it?’ they asked each other. They had no idea what it was. And Moses told them, ‘It is the food the Lord has given you to eat.’” Exodus 16:15**

Jesus taught us to pray, “Give us today the food we need.” Matthew 6:11

We are never too big for God to provide for us; we never become too wise either. God is always our God and our Father, and He loves to provide for us.

You see, God is the Source of all our blessings. Thank God for your strength to work; thank God for your academic qualifications; thank God for your job or business; but you’ve got to acknowledge that God is the Source of everything you have and receive.

Whenever you need anything be “childish” enough to ask God for it. Apostle Paul said, “And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:19

You can get that thing you are believing God for today; that’s what Jesus said, “Give us today...” You will receive it today, in Jesus name. Amen.

### **Prophetic Declaration**

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want; day by day I receive supernatural provisions for all my needs; my God will supply all my needs according to His riches for me in Christ Jesus. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Friday, 13 October 2017**

### **Raising Godly Children**

**“How happy I was to meet some of your children and find them living according to the truth, just as the Father commanded.” 2 John 4**

As we continue in our walk with God we must ensure that we are carrying our children along; we must pass the truth on to them and ensure that they are not just hearers of the truth but doers of the truth.

A good job was done on Timothy by his mother and grandmother. Paul acknowledged them when he wrote to Timothy: “I remember your genuine faith, for you share the faith that first filled your grandmother Lois and your mother, Eunice. And I know that the same faith continues strong in you.” 2 Timothy 1:5

Our generation must raise the next generation of Timothys; sons and daughters who will grow up to be mighty instruments in the hands of the Lord. It’s our collective responsibility as parents, teachers, uncles and aunties, and ministers of the Gospel. Proverbs 22:6 says, “Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it.”

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I declare today that I will faithfully perform my duty as a parent and guardian to the children and to the Lord. I will teach them the truth and ensure that they live according to it. I will always pray for them, and ensure that they do not go astray and become worldly. So help me God. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Saturday, 14 October 2017**

### **Build Your Strength**

**“If you fail under pressure, your strength is too small.” Proverbs 24:10**

Strength does not come automatically, it is built, and it is increased. The difference between a strong man and a weak man is that the strong man has taken time and effort to develop his strength while the weak man did little or nothing.

The way strength is built is by lifting heavy things, eating right and having enough rest. You see, as a child of God you must learn to exercise yourself spiritually. Let's see lifting heavy things as prayer. The more you pray, and fast, your spirit is energized. The Bible says in Luke 22:41-43 that as Jesus prayed an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him.

To be strong we must also feed ourselves rightly and adequately. We feed ourselves with the word of God. The word of God is food for our spirits; faith comes by hearing the word of God. Acts 20:32 says, “And now I entrust you to God and the message of his grace that is able to build you up and give you an inheritance with all those he has set apart for himself.” Feed on the right messages – messages of the grace of God!

Lastly, we must learn to rest – rest in God. Isaiah 40:29-31 says, “He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless. Even youths will become weak and tired, and young men will fall in exhaustion. But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.”

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I will not fail under pressure. Daily, I am growing stronger and stronger both physically and spiritually. I enjoy ministrations of angels everytime I pray, in Jesus name. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Sunday, 15 October 2017**

**Jesus Is Coming Again**

**“So also Christ was offered once for all time as a sacrifice to take away the sins of many people. He will come again, not to deal with sins, but to bring salvation to all who are eagerly waiting for him.” Hebrews 9:28**

Brothers and sisters, Jesus is coming again, and His coming is very near. We must begin to prepare ourselves.

Hebrews 9:28 talks about those who are eagerly waiting for Him. Are we? A lot of us do not seem to be. It's a mistake to think that Jesus will not return anytime soon; look around you, the signs are everywhere: nation rising against nation, kingdom against kingdom, earthquakes, in divers places. Many false prophets have arisen, a lot of people are in deception, iniquity abounds, and the gospel is spreading like never before.

Jesus said, “Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom the master has put in charge of the servants in his household to give them their food at the proper time? It will be good for that servant whose master finds him doing so when he returns. Truly I tell you, he will put him in charge of all his possessions. But suppose that servant is wicked and says to himself, ‘My master is staying away a long time,’ and he then begins to beat his fellow servants and to eat and drink with drunkards. The master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he is not aware of. He will cut him to pieces and assign him a place with hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” Matthew 24:45-51 NIV

**Prophetic Declaration**

I believe that Jesus is coming again very soon, and I am ready for His return. I will not be taken unawares, I will live everyday of my life in anticipation of His second coming. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Monday, 16 October 2017**

### **Being In The Right Place At The Right Time**

**“I have observed something else under the sun. The fastest runner doesn’t always win the race, and the strongest warrior doesn’t always win the battle. The wise sometimes go hungry, and the skillful are not necessarily wealthy. And those who are educated don’t always lead successful lives. It is all decided by chance, by being in the right place at the right time.” Proverbs 9:11**

While working, there were those we referred to as “walk-in customers”. They are people who walked in on their own to do business with the organization. Sometimes those walk-in customers are big customers. Being at the right place at the right time makes you fortunate to have such customers.

It’s good to be very skilled, very hardworking and very intelligent, but the truth be told, there are many of such people in the world today who are not successful. There are many talented singers who are unknown, they have not even been able to sell a CD; there are many gifted and knowledgeable leaders who will never be given the opportunity to lead large institutions and states; many qualified graduates who have no jobs, meanwhile there are those who did not go to school who are doing better.

It’s not bad to be good at what you do, but you’ve got to seek divine support, because that is what makes the difference. The Bible says that the Lord directs the steps of the godly (Psalm 37:23). As a believer, always ask God to direct your steps. One information that God causes you to hear can change your life forever; God can cause you to be there just on time! No longer will you miss opportunities, in Jesus name! Amen.

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I declare today that my steps are directed by the Lord. From today, God is leading me and causing me to be at the right places at the right times; no more missed chances and opportunities; I will win and succeed, in Jesus name. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Tuesday, 17 October 2017**

### **Anxious To Do The Will Of God**

**“You won’t spend the rest of your lives chasing your own desires, but you will be anxious to do the will of God.” 1 Peter 4:2**

When Jesus came to the world, He said, “Look, I have come to do your will, O God – as it is written about me in the Scriptures.” Hebrews 10:7

We always ask each other, “What do you want to be?” “What’s your purpose?” “What’s your dream?” “What’s your vision?” “Where do you want to be in the next five years?” and so on. We need to start asking questions like, “What’s the will of God for your life?” “Have you discovered God’s purpose for your life?” “Is that what the Lord is leading you to do?” “Have you heard from God?”

We are either chasing our own desires or we are chasing God’s desires for our lives. When we do our own things, we should not blame God for whatever happens to us. We cannot hold God responsible for the effects of our own actions. We must understand that.

God is not the author of confusion, He speaks and reveals things clearly. It’s our duty to make sure we hear Him well and to understand exactly what He wants us to do. The Holy Spirit is here to guide us. We won’t err, in Jesus name. Amen.

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I was born to do the will of God and that is what I will do today and for the rest of my life. I no longer live for myself, I live to fulfill all of God’s plans and purposes for myself. Amen.



**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Wednesday, 18 October 2017**

### **Fight For Your Brethren**

**“When Abram heard that his nephew Lot had been captured, he mobilized the 318 trained men who had been born into his household. Then he pursued Kedarlaomer’s army until he caught up with them at Dan.” Genesis 14:14**

Abraham heard that his nephew Lot, was captured and he wasted no time in going after those who captured him, in order to rescue his nephew. Abraham used his own men and his resources to work for Lot’s freedom; he didn’t delegate the task to anyone, he went to war himself.

That’s the spirit that God wants us to have; God wants you and I to have a heart for other believers. See, we are all blood relatives! The blood of Jesus connects us all and God is our Father. We should never hear that something is wrong with one of us and be unconcerned about it; we must act fast and support our own.

We must fight for one another on our knees. It’s our ministry as priests. Especially when our brethren seem to have been captured by the enemies of our faith – sin, deception, the world and the devil. That’s not the time to gossip, it’s a time to seek a lost soul, no matter the cost.

James 5:19-20 says, “My dear brothers and sisters, if someone among you wanders away from the truth and is brought back, you can be sure that whoever brings the sinner back from wandering will save that person from death and bring about the forgiveness of many sins.”

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I will not be unconcerned about the physical and spiritual welfare of my brethren; I will fulfill my ministry as an intercessor, and I will work together with other believers to work towards the restoration of those who have wandered away. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Thursday, 19 October 2017**

### **Display The Wisdom Of God**

**“God’s purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.” Ephesians 3:10**

Did you see that? Wow! God wants to use us to display His wisdom to spiritual beings! That’s awesome!

But it means that you and I must display that wisdom here on earth too! How can we display the wisdom of God to spiritual beings if we cannot display that wisdom among mere mortals? Everyone of us, from the least to the greatest should be displaying the wisdom of God everywhere we are; in our schools, offices and business places.

That’s what Apostle Paul was trying to tell the Corinthians. He said, “When one of you has a dispute with another believer, how dare you file a lawsuit and ask a secular court to decide the matter instead of taking it to other believers! Don’t you realize that someday we believers will judge the world? And since you are going to judge the world, can’t you decide even these little things among yourselves?” 1 Corinthians 6:1-2

Start today to display the wisdom of God; do it consciously; don’t say that you don’t know what to do; the wisdom of God is within you!

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I am full of the wisdom of God. I do not lack wisdom; I do not make stupid and unwise decisions, because from today the wisdom of God is working in me. I display the wisdom of God everywhere to the glory of God. Hallelujah!

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Friday, 20 October 2017**

### **Paralyzed With Fear**

**“When Ishbosheth, Saul’s son, heard about Abner’s death at Hebron, he lost all courage, and all Israel became paralyzed with fear.” 2 Samuel 4:1**

Fear is one of the most dangerous things on earth; a lot of us don’t even realize how dangerous it is. The Bible says that fear has torment. There are people living in constant fear, they cannot even enjoy their sleep. Fear has kept a lot of people in bondage: they should not be where they are now, but they have remained there because of fear.

Fear is not normal. You have to start seeing it as abnormal if you want to experience freedom from it. There’s nothing normal about it; the Bible says that we live by faith, not fear. Faith is normal for us, not fear.

Certain things will try to make you afraid, e.g. bad news, rumours, etc, but you must exercise faith in God and in His word instead of being afraid. God says, fear not. Meaning that fear is a choice. Stop choosing to be afraid; be strong in faith.

Stop looking at the greatness of the storm, God is greater, stronger and more powerful than any challenge of life. When God is with you, you have no reason to fear. Fear not!

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I do not fear; I refuse to fear; I live by faith not by fear! Greater is He that is in me than whatever is in the world. I am not tormented by fear, I am righteous, therefore I am as bold as a lion! I am strong and I am courageous; I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me!

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Saturday, 21 October 2017**

### **Go And Tell Them**

**“So the disciples went out, telling everyone to repent of their sins and turn to God.”**  
**Mark 6:12**

The wages of sin is still death. Heaven and hell still exists. Jesus is still coming back, and all sinners who do not believe in Jesus will be cast into the Lake of fire prepared for the devil and demons. The message is still relevant, it has not expired; we must preach it to the world.

Who exactly are we preaching the gospel to? They are not just strangers, they are people like us; they are members of our families, friends, colleagues, classmates, neighbours, customers and clients, employers and employees. It would be terrible if we allow these precious souls to go to hell.

Apostle Paul said to the Ephesian elders, “I never shrank back from telling you what you needed to hear, either publicly or in your homes. I have had one message for Jews and Greeks alike – the necessity of repenting from sin and turning to God, and of having faith in our Lord Jesus.” Acts 20:20-21

Brothers and sisters, preaching is not meant for only a few, it’s a job for everyone of us. We must tell the world about Jesus; we must save as many as we can from the fires of hell. Amen.

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I will preach the gospel today and always; I will tell all men about Jesus and the love of God; I will not sit idly and watch precious souls go to hell; from today it is my passion and mission to see sinners repent from sin and turn to God through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Sunday, 22 October 2017**

### **Unafraid Of Trouble And Enemies**

**“Why should I fear when trouble comes, when enemies surround me?” Psalm 49:5**

There are two kinds of people: those who are terrified by troubles and enemies, and those who are not. The first set are like the servant of Elisha, and the second are like Elisha himself.

There's a story about Elisha and the Aramean army in 2 Kings 6:8-24. The king of Aram was at war with Israel, and anytime he strategized with his army officials on how they were going to attack the Israelites, Elisha would reveal his plans to the king of Israel. It happened several times. The king of Aram got fed up one day and began suspecting his officers; he wondered how the king of Israel was able to always predict his moves with accuracy: they told him, "It's not us, my lord the king, Elisha, the prophet in Israel, tells the king of Israel even the words you speak in the privacy of your bedroom!"

One night, the king of Aram sent a great army with many horses and chariots to capture the man of God. Elisha's servant got up early the next day and went outside, he saw troops, horses and chariots everywhere and was afraid! He ran to Elisha, "Oh, sir, what will we do now?" "Don't be afraid!" Elisha told him. "For there are more on our side than on theirs!" Hallelujah!

The author of Psalm 49 said, "Why should I fear when trouble comes, when enemies surround me?" Why should you fear troubles and enemies when you have God? Why should you live in constant worry and restlessness when God is available to help you? It doesn't matter the size of the problem, God is greater and stronger!

### **Prophetic Declaration**

From today, I will not be afraid; my God is bigger, greater and stronger than any trouble and person, and I know that He is willing to help me.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Monday, 23 October 2017**

### **God Is Able To Keep You**

**“Now all glory to God, who is able to keep you from falling away and will bring you with great joy into his glorious presence without a single fault.” Jude 1:24**

Never doubt God’s ability to keep and save, God is stronger than you can ever imagine. We never have to fear falling or failing if only we put our trust in Him and follow Him wholeheartedly.

While Jesus was praying, as recorded in John 17:11-15, He said to the Father, “Now I am departing from the world; they are staying in this world, but I am coming to you. Holy Father, you have given me your name; now protect them by the power of your name... During my time here, I protected them by the power of the name you gave me. I guarded them so that not one was lost, except the one headed for destruction, as the Scriptures foretold... I’m not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one.”

Did you read that? Jesus, even before His departure, ensured that we would be protected and kept from falling: He said in verse 20, “I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message.” That includes us!

Have no fear of falling; have no fear of failing or of getting lost; no devil is strong enough to snatch you out of His hands! Don’t you know that we are the apple of His eye? Just keep trusting in Him, you have already made it! Hallelujah!

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I am safe in Christ; God is able to keep me from falling; I have no fear of failure, no fear of falling, no fear of evil because I know without a doubt that God is able to keep me. I will make it to the end, and I will succeed. I do not rely on myself or on my ability, my trust is in God’s ability to save and deliver. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Tuesday, 24 October 2017**

### **A Promise Of Blessing For Your Work**

**“Seven days you shall keep a sacred feast to the Lord your God in the place which the Lord chooses, because the Lord your God will bless you in all your produce and in all the work of your hands, so that you surely rejoice.” Deuteronomy 16:15 NKJV**

The Bible says that God will bless us in all the works of our hands! It says all the work, not some: everything a Christian does should prosper, not because the economy says so; because God says so.

Psalm 1:1-3 says, “Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in his law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.”

There’s no limit to the number of things that you should do: if you have the ability to do fifty different jobs and businesses God says that all of them will prosper! God says that He will bless all you do so that you will rejoice. He’s such a good God!

Stop thinking that God is against your progress; no, He’s not; He wants to help you succeed. All we have to do is to delight ourselves in Him and in His word; live a life that pleases Him, and success is guaranteed. Amen.

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I declare today that the works of my hands are blessed; everything I do will surely prosper. I will excel at the office and my businesses will succeed. Whether I am working or studying, success is mine, in Jesus name. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Wednesday, 25 October 2017**

### **Make God Your Partner**

**“Therefore they stayed there a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord, who was bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.” Acts 14:3 NKJV**

The apostles spoke while the Lord bore witness to the word that they spoke, causing signs and wonders to be done by their hands. That’s what happens when the Lord works with you; He helps you achieve success.

Make the Lord your partner. Success is guaranteed only when the Lord is with you. On our own, there’s a limit to what we can do: in this world of fierce rivalries and enmity, there’s always the need for supernatural support, especially when you are doing the Lord’s work.

What you may not be aware of, is that those people you interact with might be working with demonic powers. Don’t be naive; it’s true! There are witch doctors everywhere; who do you think patronizes them? People like you and me! One traditional ruler once advised that we have something to lean on; that’s exactly what a lot of people are doing; some have “big people” who can help them too.

Thankfully, we have God; and He is stronger than any other power or being in the world. Greater is He that is in us, than he that is in the world. When God works with us, nothing on earth will hinder us from succeeding. Amen.

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I declare today that God is my Senior Partner in all that I do. I trust in the Lord with all my heart, and I do not lean on my own understanding. I will seek His will in all I do, and I will always commit my plans to Him in prayer before I take any action. Success is mine from today, in Jesus name. Amen.



**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Thursday, 26 October 2017**

### **Divorce Your Past And Embrace Your Future**

**“Then they plotted among themselves, ‘Let us choose a new leader and go back to Egypt!’” Numbers 14:4**

After the spies returned from searching the land of Canaan, and the ten spies had given an evil report, the people of Israel begin to weep. The Bible says that they cried all night! And then they protested: they said that God was taking them to die in battle, and then they concluded that it was better to return to Egypt, the land of slavery and bondage.

They had fears of the future; they were afraid of where God was taking them to, so they preferred to go backward.

The problem of the Israelites was that they did not think that God was capable of defeating the inhabitants of the land that He promised them. They must have thought that the land was probably unoccupied, or that the people there were people they could easily defeat with their own strength. Another problem that they had was that they were forgetful. God had performed several miracles in Egypt, parted the Red Sea, and destroyed the army of Egypt: how could they have forgotten all that so soon?

If God is taking you somewhere, you’ve got to trust Him to take care of every problem associated with that place. Don’t let fear hinder you from making progress; don’t let your doubts deprive you of taking bold steps: realize that God knew about the giants in the land, and that He will be with you and surely give you the victory. Never go back to whatever Egypt represents in your life, and don’t remain where you are; keep moving forward.

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I declare today that fear has no power over me; my faith in God is strong and I know that He is able to defeat every giant in my way. I won’t go back to where I am coming from; I divorce my past and embrace my future. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Friday, 27 October 2017**

### **Eagerly Awaiting The Return Of Christ**

**“Now you have every spiritual gift you need as you eagerly wait for the return of our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 1:7**

Two angels appeared to the apostles the day Jesus ascended into Heaven; they said to them, “Men of God of Galilee, why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven in the same way you saw him go!” Acts 1:11

We are still awaiting the return of Christ; He is yet to return: we must not be deceived by anyone that He has. The angels specifically stated the manner in which He would return: they said it would be the same way He ascended.

Jesus Himself talked about His return: Matthew 24:30-31 says, “And then at last, the sign that the Son of Man is coming will appear in the heavens, and there will be deep mourning among the peoples of the earth. And they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with the mighty blast of a trumpet, and they will gather his chosen ones from all over the world – from the farthest ends of the earth and heaven.”

We must never forget that Jesus is coming again; it’s something that we should look forward to with great joy! Before He left, He said that He was going to prepare a place for us; nothing in this world compares to what awaits us in the life after this. We must live every day ready for His return, and we must continue to announce it to the world that Jesus will return soon, and that this world will come to an end.

Maranatha!

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I am eagerly awaiting the second coming of Christ. The signs of His return are being fulfilled, and I know that He will return very soon: I will always be ready!

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Saturday, 28 October 2017**

### **Obedience To God**

**“Now if you obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my own special treasure from among all the peoples on earth; for all the earth belongs to me.” Exodus 19:5**

Nothing pleases God like obedience to Him; it glorifies and honours Him. God will shake the heavens and the earth for the man and woman who lives in obedience to Him: obedience to God is, and will always be the way to enjoy the very best of God.

1 John 3:22 says, “And we will receive from him whatever we ask because we obey him and do the things that please him.” God is not partial, neither is He a respecter of persons; but He is very principled and He honours His word. God is never under pressure to answer prayers; He is God Almighty and nothing can stop Him from being God: we cannot live however we please and then think that He would be forced to answer all our prayers simply because we prayed to Him; no, we must live in obedience to His word and do the things that please Him.

Friendship with God is dependent on how obedient we are to His word. Without mincing words, Jesus said, “You are my friends if you do what I command.” John 15:14. He also said, “When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father’s commandments and remain in his love.” John 15:10. We must live in complete obedience to the Lord. Amen.

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I am a doer of the word of God and not a hearer only; I love God with all my heart and I desire to please Him every day of my life. From today, I will live in total obedience to the word of God, by the help of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Sunday, 29 October 2017**

**Work On Yourself**

**“So get rid of all evil behavior. Be done with all deceit, hypocrisy, jealousy, and all unkind speech.” 1 Peter 2:1**

Being saved and a new creature does not make you a perfect person; you’ve got to understand that. God did not replace your mind after salvation, that’s why you did not forget everything you learned in school over the years: there was no loss of memory when you got born again.

You still have your flesh which you must deal with, not alone, but by the power of the Holy Spirit. Don’t let anyone deceive you: being a Christian will not stop you from having sinful and evil desires and thoughts; but being a Christian, those desires and thoughts no longer have power or control over you, because sin has no power over the new creation. The new creation is never forced to sin; he chooses to sin.

We have a role to play in living right before God. It begins with the renewing of our minds, and then taking conscious steps to get rid of old behaviours and habits. Ephesians 4:21-24 says, “Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature, created to be like God – truly righteous and holy.”

May we become who we should be in Christ, and continue to grow in Him until Christ is fully formed in us. Amen.

**Prophetic Declaration**

I am a new creation in Christ Jesus, and every day I am growing to be like Jesus. I am throwing off my old sinful nature and former way of life, my thoughts and attitudes are being renewed by the Spirit of God, and I am putting on my new nature, which is righteous and holy. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Monday, 30 October 2017**

### **Preparing For The Future**

**“David said, ‘My son Solomon is still young and inexperienced. And since the Temple to be built for the Lord must be a magnificent structure, famous and glorious throughout the world, I will begin making preparations for it now.’ So David collected vast amounts of building materials before his death.” 1 Chronicles 22:5**

A great future requires great preparation. Wise people start today to prepare for the future they desire. Never live for only today; it is a very unwise way to live. It’s a mistake that a lot of us have made before now, but it’s never late to start something good.

David said that his son, Solomon, was young and inexperienced. Preparing for the future is not complete without preparing our younger ones to take over from us, and to continue from where we stopped. The younger ones are our future; they are the greatest investments we will ever make; they must never be ignored.

Your time on earth is limited: between now and when you die what are you going to do in order to leave an enduring legacy? Jesus Christ erected no structures, but He founded a Church (a group of people who He made just like Himself through His teachings), filled them with the Holy Spirit, and till today; as a matter of fact, till eternity, the world will never recover from the impact of His ministry. He is Lord forever!

You are not successful until you have raised people to do exactly what you can do, and to be greater than you. The future begins now!

### **Prophetic Declaration**

The future is bright, and I am taking steps by the Spirit and wisdom of God, to lay a solid foundation for posterity. The work of God will not end with me; the vision that God has given me will not die with me; it will endure for generations, in Jesus name. Amen.

**Spirit & Life Devotional**  
**Tuesday, 31 October 2017**

### **Delivered From Destruction**

**“She gave birth to a son who was to rule all nations with an iron rod. And her child was snatched away from the dragon and was caught up to God and to his throne.”**  
**Revelations 12:5**

A large red dragon stood in front of the woman as she was about to give birth, ready to devour her baby as soon as it was born; that’s how close the enemy was, and that’s how close she was to losing her baby; but God snatched the baby away from the grip of the enemy.

God is always ahead of the enemy; there’s nothing that the enemy can do to outsmart God: I have good news for you today; it does not matter how close you are to being defeated and destroyed; do not panic! God will surely deliver you.

One time, they pushed Jesus right to the edge of a cliff to push Him down, thereby killing Him: they started pushing Him, nothing happened; they continued pushing Him, nothing happened; until they got to the very edge, and suddenly the supernatural hand of God was manifested, and Jesus walked right through them away! The Bible says that it was not yet time for Him to die.

I prophesy to you today: your time has not come! It does not matter what it is going on now; maybe in your body, at work, or even in your village; it’s not time for you to go. Even if they have concluded and perfected their plans to hurt you or to terminate your job or appointment, God will frustrate them, in the name of Jesus!

Relax! God is at work. Give Him praise!

### **Prophetic Declaration**

I refuse to worry or fear; my God is able to deliver me and I know that He will surely deliver me from every evil imagination and plan of the enemy. I declare safety for myself and all my loved ones, in Jesus name. Amen.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Chinaemerem Joshua Ibezim writes, speaks and counsels with the aim of helping people succeed in all areas of life and faith. Through crusades, seminars and social media, he continues to inspire people to draw closer to God, to succeed, and to fulfill the purposes for which they were born.

Chinaemerem is the founder and pastor of Able Ministers Chapel in Calabar. Able Ministers Chapel exists to shine the light of the gospel to all the nations of the earth, and to raise a people of truth, faith, love and righteousness for God. He is also the founder of Wise Singles Community, Fellowship of Christians on Facebook, and Success Driven Students (all Facebook Groups with activities offline).

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