Faith Fusion

"We love because he first loved us." — 1 John 4:19.







Editor's note

My main goal since I was born again has been to win souls. It seems like a simple task, but the persecution that comes with being a young, devoted Christian can be unbearable.

After some time of reflection, I started building my confidence by preaching to a small audience—my class of about 20 people—every morning. One day, during one of our daily discussions, someone asked me how a person who is not very good at speaking to others but really wants to share the gospel can overcome that challenge.

At that moment, the idea of a magazine came to mind. I realized that anyone who wanted to share something Christian-related could do so through this platform. I shared the idea with my friends and encouraged them to prepare something and invite their friends to contribute as well.

Truly speaking, I am very grateful for the friends who helped me throughout this entire journey—Yeshua and Kaitlyn. These two worked even harder than I did, making sure I kept my eyes on the prize. There were days when I doubted whether it would work out, but questions like, "How far are we with the magazine?" reminded me that people would actually benefit from it. That left me with no choice but to make it happen.



Lastly, I am incredibly grateful to God for His grace (undeserved merit). But He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. — 2 Corinthians 12:9

He gave us the strength and perseverance to keep moving forward, and He will continue to be with us in many more issues. I want to thank every author who contributed an article—know that your messages are deeply appreciated.

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make His face shine upon you. I hope to work with you again in the future. Again, thank you so much.

Richard Baroni

RICHARD BARONI

he death rate of young people is increasing rapidly every day. However, death itself is not our primary concern. What truly worries us is whether those who have passed away had the opportunity to hear about salvation and the gospel of Christ.

Hebrews 9:27 (NLT): "And just as each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment."

Once the flesh dies, there is no longer a chance to repent or turn away from earthly distractions. As Christians, we should come together and win as many souls as possible.

Proverbs 11:30 (NKJV): "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise."

Upon hearing the Word, let us be like the seeds that fell on good ground—bearing fruit and manifesting faithfulness in our lives. There is nothing more painful than losing a friend, and the pain deepens if you never told them about Jesus Christ and salvation.

Ezekiel 3:17-20 (MSG):

"Son of man, I've made you a watchman for the family of Israel. Whenever you hear me say something, warn them for me. If I say to the wicked, 'You are going to die,' and you don't sound the alarm warning them that it's a matter of life or death, they will die, and it will be your fault. I'll hold you responsible. But if you warn the wicked and they keep right on sinning anyway, they'll most certainly die for their sin, but you won't die. You'll have saved your life."

faith fusion

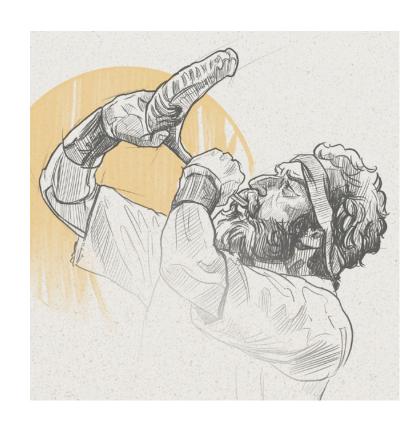
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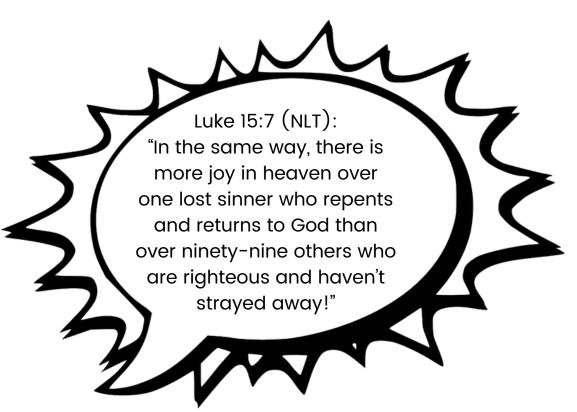
We are like watchmen for the people around us. If you notice a friend drifting away from God's Word, remind them of the truth. Whenever you feel led to preach to someone, do it immediately—do not procrastinate—because the Holy Spirit is speaking through you. Many of us hesitate out of fear of being judged or labeled as "churchy," but isn't it worth the sacrifice? Jesus was nailed to the cross and died for us so that we could have eternal life.

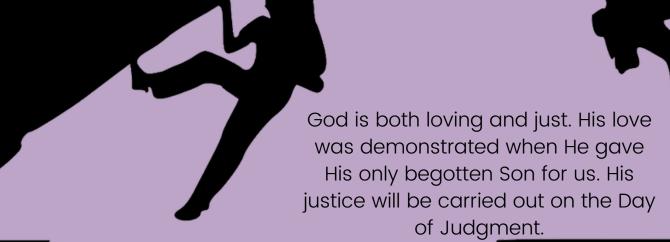


Ezekiel 18:32 (NIV):

"For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign Lord. Repent and live!"

God desires as many people as possible to repent because His love for us is immeasurable. Jesus paid the ultimate price on the cross—His perfect sacrifice for our sins.



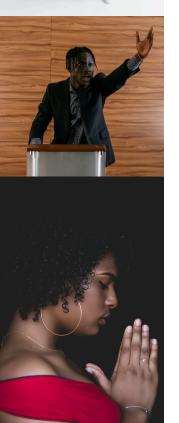


. God takes no pleasure in the death of anyone -not even sinners-so He calls everyone to repentance. It is our responsibility to warn others and encourage them to turn away from sin. If they choose not to listen, you will have done your part. However, this does not mean evangelizing carelessly—do the Lord's work wholeheartedly and with wisdom.









- Pray for the courage to speak to people without fear of their reactions.
- Pray for the right words to capture their attention and open their hearts to listen.

 A supporting scripture for encouragement is John 15:18 or any other verse that strengthens your conviction.

BACKBLIDING

BACKBLIBING

MAKA MAKAYA

He left the 99 for you. Even if you fall back, He will run back to find you.

"If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them gets lost, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that is lost?" — Matthew 18:12

Take time to reflect and ask yourself, why do I keep backsliding? Identify the problem. If we don't identify the problem, how will we find a solution? God recognized the devil and the sin that filled His people, and what did He do? He sent Jesus. First, the problem; then, the solution.

Is it music, forgetting to read your Bible, forgetting to pray, getting involved in unholy things, lust, drinking, or something else? What do you struggle with? Focus on ways to tackle it.

The most important key to not backslide or drift away from God is discipline. Ask God to grant you discipline—to read your Bible consistently, to pray daily, and to stop being involved in unholy things. It's consistency that leads to discipline.



You must be disciplined enough to know you need to read your Bible every day, pray every day, and stay away from things that do not bring you closer to God. Consistency leads to discipline. Just like going to the gym: you need to go regularly to see results and maintain your progress. Missing one day can quickly turn into missing days, weeks, or months, which prevents you from achieving your goal.

It's the same with your relationship with God. To avoid backsliding, pursue Him every day! Do not stop. The more you do it, the more you will see results, and the easier it will be to maintain your relationship with Him.

If you do stop, ask for forgiveness and continue. The most important thing is to not give up.



HOW BAD DO YOU WANT GOD!?

Don't just say it—do it. A common phrase is, "Actions speak louder than words." This applies to your relationship with God too. Show God that you want a relationship with Him, that you love Him, and that you desire to feel His presence.

You show this through the steps you take to get closer to Him: reading your Bible even when you don't feel like it, praying even when it slips your mind, and asking for forgiveness when you sin. That shows zeal.

God didn't just say, "I love you." He showed it by sending His only Son to die for us. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."—
John 3:16

"But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." — Romans 5:8

It may seem difficult at first, but the more you do it, the easier it gets. It's even easier with God because He will give you the strength. You don't have to do it alone. Stop telling yourself you're too far gone. Stop telling yourself you're too sinful. Those are lies from the devil. Speak God's Word over your life and into your heart.



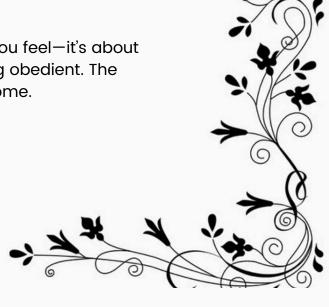
Dear Heavenly Father, I struggle, Lord, to do certain things. I may fail, Lord, and I may fall, but I'm asking that You help me. I am desperate for You, and I pray that I show this by continuing to seek You even if I fall back. I'm grateful that even if I do fall back, You leave the 99 for me, which shows Your love. May I always be reminded of that love.

It may be hard, but I have faith that if I draw nearer to You, You will draw nearer to me. May our relationship be renewed. In Jesus' name, Amen.

HOW TO STOP BACKSUDING???

One Way to Stop Backsliding and Be Consistent
To stop backsliding, read your Bible, watch sermons,
and pray. You might say, "Sometimes I forget, or it
feels boring." Remember, Jesus didn't want to die, but
He did it anyway. It wasn't about Him—it was about
you and me.

Doing these things isn't about how you feel—it's about giving glory to your Father and being obedient. The more you do it, the easier it will become.





SEXUAL SIN

-It Disqualifies the Anointing

- It is a spiritual act.
- Sinning will cause your body to underperform.
- Punishment is given to the flesh.

1 Corinthians 6:15–18 1 Corinthians 6:16 (KJV):

"What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh."

Proverbs 6:24

When fleeing, certain personalities are needed.

Kaitlyn Gwekerere



2 Timothy 2:22 (KJV):

Flee also youthful lusts; but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

Proverbs 13:20

- Anointing is an act.
- The same measure of the Holy Spirit that
 Jesus received, you have also received.
 However, you cannot do what He has done.
 Tampering with the Holy Spirit determines
 the qualifications you receive.

Sex is a Spiritual Act.

And the wages of sin: it is the flesh that has to pay for what the spirit has done. Flee from fornication because it will be a spiritual flight.

You need to make use of your grace and anointing. So, if I'm to flee spiritually, it means I should have the ability to sense seduction at a spiritual level. It's a demonstration of what is not known — how sin will affect your physical actions.

Hebrews 12:16-17
Temporary hunger made Esau
lose his birthright. The anointing
remains, but a part of you is lost.
(The right of birth is lost due to
temporary hunger.)

Ezekiel 28:14 (KJV):

Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.

Anointing is not lost, but your rights to the power available in you are lost.

It is due to a lack of understanding that fornication is committed. It also results in the destruction of your own soul, with another soul taking over.

Understand that there is beauty that cannot survive your touch or glance. Just like a rose or any flower, it does not wither when looked at, but it withers when many have touched it.

As a girl, there is something precious you carry. If you don't allow any man or boy to touch you, you preserve that beauty.

• No sex before marriage. Your flesh will have to pay for the consequences. Fornicating with many people leads to the continued destruction of your soul, and you become one with all those souls (The soul of the person or people will settle, and the effects could include losing feelings, etc.)

The same power used for sin is the same power needed for something great.

- Set your boundaries.
- Do not be unequally yoked.

This sin is different because every other sin can be committed without attachments forming between souls.

• Spiritually: the gains you are supposed to get in the flesh are distributed to each soul formed after fornication.



WHAT IO THE PURPOSE OF LIFE?

I believe that the purpose of life—or the greatest achievement a person can obtain—is love. Let me explain why, according to the Bible. To help you understand, I'll link three key concepts: the Scriptures, God, and love itself.

Munashe Nemangandu

Many philosophers, writers, and thinkers have also argued that the meaning of life is love. Here are a few notable examples:

Aristotle: In his work Nicomachean Ethics, Aristotle argued that love (philia) is a key component of a happy and fulfilling life.

Saint Augustine: The Christian philosopher believed that love (caritas) is the fundamental principle of human existence and the key to understanding the meaning of life.

Jesus Christ: Our Savior declared that love is above all.

1 John 4:8 says, "Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love." This verse clearly tells us that God and love are one and the same. So, does that mean the purpose of life is also God? Absolutely correct!

Now that we've connected God and love, let's consider the Scriptures. Many people know John 1:1: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God." This reveals that God is not only love, but He is also the Word.

Finally, Matthew 28:19-20 states, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." This instruction to preach the Word means spreading God's love and truth.

If God is the Word, and He is also love, then anyone who does

not read the Word cannot truly know God. And if they do not know God, they cannot truly love, because God is love.

To achieve the greatest goal known to mankind—love—you must read the Word, know God, and share the Gospel. Spreading the Gospel is one of the greatest acts of love, alongside kindness, compassion, and selflessness.

Hello everyone

Greetings, my name is *Mutsawashe Musiyiwa*. As we all know, life is a rollercoaster of ups and downs, twists and turns. We all face challenges that test our resolve, push us to our limits, and force us to confront our deepest fears. But it's in these moments of darkness that we discover the power of faith and the importance of holding onto hope.

My own journey has been marked by its fair share of trials and tribulations. There have been times when the road ahead seemed uncertain, and the weight of my struggles felt overwhelming. But in the midst of these storms, I've learned to draw strength from my faith and to find solace in the simple act of smiling.

It's not always easy, of course. There are days when the pain feels too real, and the tears seem to fall like rain. But even in these moments, I've come to realize that faith is not about being immune to hardship; it's about trusting that a brighter tomorrow awaits.

So how do we keep smiling through the hard times? Here are a few lessons I've learned along the way:



- 1. Focus on the present moment: When the future seems uncertain, it's easy to get caught up in worries about what's to come. But faith reminds us to focus on the present, to trust that God is working everything out for our good.
- 2. Practice gratitude: Even in the darkest of times, there is always something to be thankful for. Focusing on the good things in our lives helps shift our perspective and reminds us that we are not alone.
- 3. Surround yourself with love and support: Having a strong support system can make all the difference when navigating life's challenges. Surround yourself with people who uplift and encourage you, and don't be afraid to ask for help when you need it.
- 4. Take care of yourself: It's easy to neglect our own needs when we're struggling, but taking care of our physical, emotional, and spiritual health is crucial for building resilience. Make time for self-care, engage in activities that bring you joy, and prioritize rest and relaxation.

As I look back on my journey and also look ahead, I'm reminded that faith is not a magic wand that makes our problems disappear. It's a steady presence that guides us through the ups and downs of life, a reminder that we are never truly alone.

Smiling through the hard times doesn't mean ignoring the pain or pretending everything is okay when it's not. It means choosing to trust that a brighter tomorrow awaits, and that with faith, hope, and resilience, we can overcome even the darkest of challenges.

As the Bible reminds us, "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine" (Proverbs 17:22, KJV). Smiling has a way of healing our hearts and lifting our spirits, even in the midst of challenges.

For me, smiling is a choice – a decision to trust in God's goodness, even when circumstances seem uncertain. It's a reminder that better days are ahead, and that with faith and hope, I can overcome any challenge.

LIVING FOR GOD X THE GREAT COMMISSION

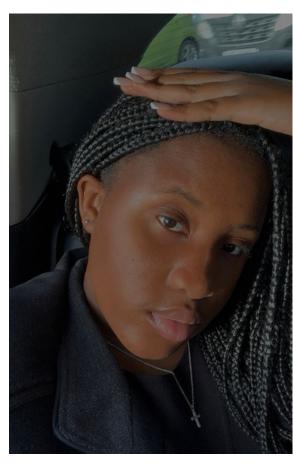
AISSION

Yeshua Dzumbira

Christianity is not just a religion; it's a way of life. Let's dive deeper into this statement. In Acts 11:26, the Bible tells us about the attitudes and characteristics of Jesus' disciples in Antioch. People who observed and interacted with them concluded that they were "Christ-like individuals," now called Christians. Christianity isn't solely about belief; it's also about the lifestyle one leads.

As Christians, we are called to live in a way that reflects Christ. This means consciously making an effort to "walk the talk." James 1:22 reminds us to not only be hearers but also doers of the Word. We have free will to choose between right and wrong, good and bad. Yet, countless examples in the Bible reveal that people cannot consistently make the best decisions without God. Adam and Eve tried to act independently of God and failed. Abraham and Sarah stepped outside God's will, choosing their own path, and they failed. Jacob spent years making his own decisions, deceiving others, and ultimately fell short.

It's clear that living for God requires putting Him at the center of everything, acknowledging Him as the author and perfecter of our faith.



How Can You Live for God?

1. Understand Who You Are in Christ: Recognizing that you are set apart from the world transforms your perspective. As heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, we have access to everything Jesus has. This means all things work together for our good (Romans 8:17-28). We are spirit beings, and our spirit is what connects us to God.

2. Activate the Spirit of God in Your Life: Open your heart to God and invite Him into every aspect of your life. Acts 17:28 reminds us, "In Him we live, move, and have our being."

3. Depend on His Grace:

God's grace empowers us to do more than we ever could on our own. By His grace, we are saved (Ephesians 2:8). Depend on His unmerited favor for strength and ability in all areas of life.

4. Walk by Faith, Not by Sight:

Faith means believing God and His Word over what you see or feel. Trusting in His promises ensures that all things work together for those who love Him (2 Corinthians 5:7). Faith isn't just about church service; it's about trusting God with every part of your life.

5. Maintain a Heaven-Focused Mindset: Although we live in this world, we are not of it. Colossians 3:2 encourages us to set our minds on things above, not on earthly distractions. Guard your heart with diligence and refuse to succumb to the works of the flesh (Proverbs 4:23).





by Nicole Matsaudza

These keys will help strengthen your relationship with Christ and keep you on course

Concerning You and Salvation

1. Salvation is a Gift:

- "God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit
 for this: it is a gift from God." (Ephosians 2:8.9)
 - for this; it is a gift from God." (Ephesians 2:8-9)
- Salvation is not earned by works but through faith in Jesus' sacrifice.
- 2. Avoid a Performance-Based Relationship:
 - · God's love isn't dependent on your actions. His love is unconditional

3. Confess and Believe:

- "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us." (1 John 1:9)
- Jesus' sacrifice on the cross is complete: "It is finished." (John 1 9:30)

CONCERNING YOU AND THE LAW OF MOSES



1. The New Covenant:

- Jeremiah 31:31-33 reveals that God has written His law on our hearts through the Spirit.
- The law no longer binds us externally because Christ fulfilled it.

2. Follow the Holy Spirit:

 The Spirit leads you, giving peace when you are in God's will and a lack of peace when you step out of it.



3. Freedom in Christ:

• "Sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace." (Romans 6:14)



Concerning You and Satan

- 1. Satan Cannot Separate You from God:
- "Nothing can ever separate us from God's love." (Romans 8:38–39)
 - 2. Resist with the Word and Spirit:
- Be alert (1 Peter 5:8-9) and use the Word of God as your sword, just as Jesus did in the wilderness.
 - 3. Victory Over Satan:
- Satan has been disarmed; the Holy Spirit now rules in your life.

Concerning You and Hardships

- 1. Keep Your Eyes on Jesus:
- Like Peter walking on water, focus on Christ, not the storm (Matthew 14:30).
- 2. You Have Victory in Christ:
- "In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us." (Romans 8:37)
- 3. God's Grace is Sufficient:
- "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." (2 Corinthians 12:9)
- When you are weak, Christ's strength fills the gap.



Prayer: Lord, we thank You for the gift of Your Spirit and the salvation given through Your Son, Jesus Christ. Help us to keep these truths close, walking in Your grace and trusting in Your leading. Strengthen us to stay on course and draw closer to You each day. In Jesus' name, Amen.

May these keys guide you in your journey with Christ. God bless you! The Cambridge Dictionary defines the word voice as the sounds made when people speak or sing. In this day and age, when Jesus is no longer physically with us and countless other voices surround us, how do we hear God's voice? Better yet, how do we discern whether the quiet voice in our hearts and minds is actually His?

When you want to hear someone whisper in a loud room, you need to change your approach. You focus on them, tune out the surrounding noise, and pay close attention to what they're saying. It's the same when we want to hear God's voice—we need to change the posture of our hearts.

Here are five questions to guide you in aligning your heart posture to better listen for God's voice:

Who?

Firstly, who is God to you? Everything in our lives has its place, but there is only room for one on the throne of your heart. In Luke, we are told, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Luke 12:34). To hear someone whisper, you must focus solely on them. Similarly, if God isn't on the throne of your heart, it will be difficult to hear what He is saying because your attention will be on whatever has taken His place.

Where?

Even Jesus took time to be alone when He wanted to pray (Matthew 14:23). He moved away from distractions, showing how important our surroundings are.

Ask yourself, where do you spend most of your time? Is it in God's presence, or is it indulging in the things of the world? Are you with people who challenge you to grow in Christ, or with those who pull you away from His presence?

When?

When do you expect to hear His voice? God speaks to each of us in different ways. He spoke to Moses through a burning bush (Exodus 3) and to Elijah in a gentle whisper (1 Kings 19). Personally, I often hear God's voice through worship music. I've found answers to my prayers in the lyrics of songs from my shuffled playlist. These are just a few examples of how God might speak to you. Pay attention to what resonates with your spirit and how the Lord reveals Himself to you.



What/How?

Once you've identified when and how God often speaks to you, ask yourself: What practical steps am I taking to ensure I can continually hear His voice? We must regularly reflect and pray for God's help in hearing Him clearly. Be intentional about spending time in His presence and consistently work on growing your relationship with Him.

Why?

Why are you trying to hear God's voice? When we listen to someone speak, whether we internalize their words often depends on how much we value the person or what they're saying. Similarly, it's crucial to establish why you want to hear from God. This will help you remember why His voice matters and motivate you to act in obedience to what He says.

After reflecting on these questions, I hope you'll better recognize God's voice. Unlike the dictionary definition of voice, God's voice takes unlimited forms—you just have to be willing and ready to listen.

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you." (Matthew 7:7)





I am *Rejoice Vhiya*, and I am delighted to share with you the story of my journey—a voyage filled with moments of joy, faith, and deep fellowship with the Lord. Life is like a vibrant tapestry, woven with experiences, trials, and blessings that shape our paths. Along my journey, I have discovered the immense joy that comes from walking in obedience to God's will, trusting in His perfect plan, and embracing His unfailing love with a grateful heart.

Celebrating Obedience

Obedience to the Lord is not just a duty but a source of incredible joy and fulfillment. By aligning my actions with His teachings and commands, I have experienced a deep sense of peace and purpose that far surpasses worldly pleasures. Each step of obedience has drawn me closer to His holy presence, filling my heart with gratitude and overwhelming joy.

The Freedom of Trust

In life's uncertainties and challenges, I have found refuge in trusting the Lord with unwavering faith. Relying on His promises and providence has freed me from fear and doubt, allowing me to bask in the security of His love and guidance. Placing my trust in Him has opened doors to blessings beyond measure, strengthening my faith and lighting my path with His divine presence.

The Joy of Giving and Serving

There is unparalleled joy in giving selflessly and serving others with a heart full of generosity. Sharing blessings and spreading kindness reflect the love and grace of our Heavenly Father. This selfless act not only blesses others but also fills the giver with a unique and lasting joy that mirrors the heart of God.

The Power of Prayer and the Scriptures

Prayer has been my sacred connection with God—a place where I seek His guidance, find solace, and draw strength. Whether in moments of happiness or pain, prayer has been my sanctuary, renewing my spirit and drawing me closer to the Lord.

Similarly, immersing myself in the Scriptures has nourished my soul. God's Word has provided wisdom, comfort, and hope, especially in times of trial. It is through prayer and the study of His Word that I have found the courage to face life's challenges with optimism and faith.

In conclusion, my journey of faith is a testimony to the indescribable joy that comes from walking in obedience to the Lord. Through heartfelt obedience, steadfast trust, selfless giving, humble service, fervent prayer, and a deep commitment to His Word, I have experienced the transformative power of His love and the joy of His presence.

May my story inspire you to celebrate obedience, find joy in giving and serving, draw strength from prayer and the Scriptures, and walk each day with gratitude and hope.

With love and blessings,



Hello, everyone.

To all those who think God is mute, inactive, unavailable, or anything else of the sort, I hope my story will help change your mindset today. Having faced my share of losses, risen from countless downfalls, and overcome trials and tribulations, I can confidently assure you that the God we serve is faithful and mighty.

As a 20-year-old, I can already testify to God's amazing grace and mercy. My story reminds me of people in the Bible like Gideon and Jeremiah. When they were called to serve, they felt too young, too unworthy, or too small to fulfil God's purpose. Growing up, I struggled with self-esteem, often viewing myself as timid and insignificant. But God had other plans.

At the age of ten, He opened doors that revealed the gifts and potential burning inside of me. I became a distinguished presenter, speaking confidently to large audiences that included influential and accomplished people. It was a position I never imagined for myself. God gave me supernatural intelligence, and by His grace, I continue to excel today. Truly, this is just a small glimpse of what God has done in my life.

God blessed me with a loving and supportive family, a strong community, and faithful friends. He carried me through situations I was convinced I would fail, yet somehow, by His grace, I overcame. He taught me the power of my thoughts and words—as a man thinketh, so is he. Every day, God pours into me the confidence, strength, and agility I need to move forward. Even my health, something so many of us take for granted, has been preserved by His grace.

Most importantly, He has shown me the value of faith and how it deeply impacts my life. Faith has become the anchor of my existence, shaping how I navigate challenges and celebrate victories.

At the end of each day, I count my blessings. Challenges may make life difficult, but they also make it meaningful, allowing us to discover the grace of God as He aids us to solve them.

Shalom

Rumbi Funani



In Luke 4, we learn about how Jesus spent 40 days and 40 nights in the wilderness, fasting and praying. During this time, He was in a state of physical vulnerability, and with vulnerability often comes the temptation to make impulsive decisions. Yet, Jesus never gave in to Satan's temptations. He remained steadfast, rooted in His purpose, and completely secure in His relationship with God.

As sons and daughters of Christ, we can only aspire to reach that level of spiritual strength and security that Jesus demonstrated. But it's important to remember—it's a journey. The devil's mission is clear: he comes to steal, kill, and destroy. This may not always be physical; often, it's mental and emotional. Falling away from God's purpose is something many of us experience as we work to strengthen our relationship with Him. It's during those times when you're praying consistently, fasting, studying the Bible, and feeling spiritually strong that the enemy attacks most fiercely. The devil doesn't want to see your growth. He'll try to derail you by placing obstacles in your path—suddenly you're too tired, too busy, or too distracted to spend time with God. Sometimes, he tempts you with things that seem good on the surface, just as he did with Jesus in the wilderness. This could be relationships, career opportunities, or other seemingly harmless distractions. You might not notice at first, but over time, these things can take priority in your life, becoming idols that overshadow your relationship with Jesus.

When you realize this is happening, it can hurt deeply—especially when you've worked so hard to build that bond with Him. But let me remind you: if you ever find yourself in this situation, it's okay. The fact that you can feel the distance is a good sign—it shows your heart longs for Him.

It's never easy to rebuild, but never give up your relationship with Christ for temporary luxuries or distractions that the devil offers. Only God can provide what is truly best for you, and He knows your needs better than anyone.

The beauty of God's love is this: He is always waiting for you to return to Him. He will welcome you back with open arms, no matter how far you feel you've strayed.

Never forget that His grace is sufficient, His love is unconditional, and His arms are always open. With love,



Whitney Matindife

After losing my best friend to suicide and my grandfather to cancer, my life took a devastating turn. I truly thought life couldn't get any worse—but little did I know, it was just the beginning of God's plan for me.

At the time, I was playing the best rugby of my life, and things were finally starting to look up. Then tragedy struck again. I suffered a serious accident, fracturing my knee. I lost my scholarship, couldn't walk, and spent three months in a wheelchair, followed by another three months on crutches. Everything I had worked so hard for felt like it was slipping away.

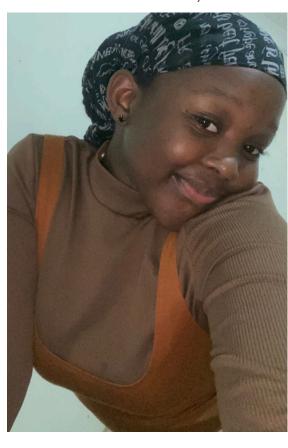
In my despair, I began finding comfort in self-harm. I shut out everyone around me, including my mother, who tried to reach out and help. Concerned, she asked my grandmother—who is also my Bishop—to speak to me.

My grandmother shared her personal experiences and how she overcame her own struggles with panic attacks. She encouraged me to surrender my burdens to God, trust His guidance, and have faith that He would make a way forward. She gave me Bible verses to help ease my anxiety and prayer points to guide me through the darkest moments. She would also pray with me whenever the weight became too much to bear alone.

I hid my self-harm by cutting my thighs, thinking no one would notice. It was my way of feeling something in the midst of all the numbness. But one day, I cut too deep, blacked out, and collapsed on the bathroom floor. My mother found me unconscious and saw the severity of my wounds. She was devastated. She immediately got me into therapy, where I was diagnosed with early-onset depression and anxiety. I was prescribed antidepressants and anxiety medication, but none of it seemed to work. Instead of relief, I felt numb and emotionless, as if I were sinking deeper into a void. It wasn't easy. I didn't wake up one day magically healed or free of pain. It was a long, difficult road. Doctors told me I might never play rugby the same way again—or even walk the same way. I lost all hope. But deep down, I knew I needed God more than ever.

Even though my relationship with God wasn't perfect—and still isn't—I held onto Him during my weakest moments. I kept pushing through with prayer, no matter how broken I felt.

Months later, after what felt like an eternity, I received my final CT scan and was cleared to play rugby professionally again. I'm proud to say that I am no longer on medication, and I've found joy in life again.



I know, without a doubt, that I wouldn't have made it this far if I hadn't listened to my grandmother's advice and surrendered everything to God. I'll leave you with two verses that have carried me through my darkest days:

- Hebrews 13:5 "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."
- Luke 11:28 "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it."

Never give up. God's plan is bigger than anything you're facing.

TESTIMONIES TESTIMONIES TESTIMONIES TESTIMONIES TESTIMONIES TESTIMONIES TESTIMONIES TESTIMONIES TESTIMONIES TESTIMONIES

Last year, my mother suffered a severe stroke while my dad and I were on our way to church. We received a frantic call from home, telling us to rush back because she had fallen terribly ill. When we got home, we found her in a heartbreaking state. She couldn't speak, her hand was numb, and she was clearly fighting for her life. You could see the pain and frustration in her eyes as she struggled with what was happening to her body.

In that moment of fear and desperation, my dad and I turned to the only source of hope we knew—God. We started praying fervently, speaking life over her, and playing worship music in her room, including Pastor Chris's healing songs. As we prayed, my dad checked her pulse, which was fading. But as we continued to worship and pray in the Spirit, we felt the pulse return—stronger and stronger. It was like witnessing life flow back into her body in real-time.

The journey wasn't over that night. She couldn't move or speak properly, and we had to help her with even the simplest tasks. But we didn't stop praying. Family and friends joined in prayer, standing in faith for her healing. The next morning, I went to school, still unsure of what would happen, but when I came home later that day, I walked in to see my mom sitting up, talking, and recovering!

This experience showed me that God's love and healing power are as real today

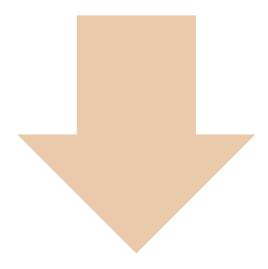
as they were in the Bible. He heard our prayers, responded in His mercy, and restored my mom. God is truly faithful, and He is always ready to meet us in our darkest moments.

There was a time when my family and I almost faced deportation from the UK because our visas relied on my grandmother's employment. Chound the same time, my mom was unexpectedly fired without notice. It was a challenging period, and it took us a while to figure things out. But by the grace of God, my mom found a New job and a New sponsor for our visas. Through this experience, my parents taught me an important lesson: "We are all we have together as a family, and if one of us is feeling down, the rest of us must do our best to lift them up." They also encouraged me to surround myself with people who will fight for me when it feels like the world is against I thank God for the strong bond I have with my family and for this amazing community that continues to help me grow and become a better person every

faith fusion

FUN SECTION

HERE





OLD TESTAMENT

- 1. Who was the first man created by God?
- 2. What was the name of the garden where Adam and Eve lived?
- 3. Who built the ark to survive the great flood?
- 4. What did God use to show Noah He would never flood the earth again?
- 5. Who received the Ten Commandments from God?
- 6. What was the name of the giant that David defeated with a slingshot?
- 7. Who was swallowed by a great fish after running from God's command?
- 8. How many days did God take to create the world?
- 9. What was the name of the man thrown into a lions' den but was not harmed?
- 10. Who was the strongest man in the Bible, known for his long hair?



NEW TESTAMENT

- 1. Who was Jesus' mother?
- 2. In what town was Jesus born?
- 3. How many disciples did Jesus have?
- 4. What was Jesus' first miracle?
- 5. Who betrayed Jesus for 30 pieces of silver?
- 6. What did Jesus feed to 5,000 people?
- 7. Who denied Jesus three times before the rooster crowed?
- 8. What is the shortest verse in the Bible?
- 9. Who wrote most of the letters (epistles) in the New Testament?
- 10. What happened three days after Jesus was crucified?

- 1. On which day did God create humans?
- 2. What were the names of Adam and Eve's first two sons?
- 3. Who was the oldest person in the Bible, living 969 years?
- 4. What type of bird did Noah first send out from the ark?
- 5. What was the name of the tower where people tried to reach the heavens, causing God to confuse their language?

PEOPLE & PLACES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

- 1. What was the name of Abraham's wife?
- 2. Who had a dream of a ladder reaching to heaven?
- 3. What city's walls fell down after the Israelites marched around it for seven days?
- 4. What prophet called down fire from heaven on Mount Carmel?
- 5. Who was thrown into a fiery furnace but was not burned?

LIFE & TEACHINGS OF JESUS

- 1. What was Jesus' occupation before He started His ministry?
- 2. Which disciple walked on water toward Jesus before sinking?
- 3. What was the name of the tax collector who climbed a tree to see Jesus?
- 4. How many times did Jesus say we should forgive someone?
- 5. What was the last command Jesus gave to His disciples before ascending to heaven?

NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH & TEACHINGS

- 1. On what day did the Holy Spirit come upon the disciples?
- 2. What missionary was shipwrecked but survived by God's protection?
- 3. What is the "armor of God" used for?
- 4. What book of the Bible is known as the "love chapter"?
- 5. In Revelation, what is the name of the final battle between good and evil?





ANSWERS

Old Testament

- 1. Adam
- 2. Garden of Eden
- 3. Noah
- 4. A rainbow
- 5. Moses
- 6. Goliath
- 7. Jonah
- 8. Six days, resting on the seventh
- 9. Daniel
- 10. Samson

New Testament

- 1. Mary
- 2. Bethlehem
- 3. Twelve
- 4. Turning water into wine at a wedding in Cana
- 5. Judas Iscariot
- 6. Five loaves and two fish
- 7. Peter
- 8. "Jesus wept." John 11:35
- 9. Paul
- 10. He rose from the dead

Creation

- 1. The sixth day Genesis 1:26-31
- 2. Cain and Abel Genesis 4:1-2
- 3. Methuselah Genesis 5:27
- 4. A raven Genesis 8:6-7
- 5. Tower of Babel Genesis 11:1-9

People & Places in the Old Testament

- 1. Sarah Genesis 17:15
- 2. Jacob Genesis 28:10-12
- 3. Jericho Joshua 6:1-20
- 4. Elijah 1 Kings 18:36-38
- 5. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego Daniel 3:23-27

Life & Teachings of Jesus

- 1. Carpenter Mark 6:3
- 2. Peter Matthew 14:28-31
- 3. Zacchaeus Luke 19:1-5
- 4. Seventy times seven Matthew 18:21-22
- 5. The Great Commission Matthew 28:19-20

New Testament Church & Teachings

- 1. Pentecost Acts 2:1-4
- 2. Paul Acts 27:41-44
- 3. To stand against the devil's schemes Ephesians 6:10-18
- 4. 1 Corinthians 13
- 5. Armageddon Revelation 16:16



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