
God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/01 12:43

When Trouble Comes

In the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion. - Psalm 27:5

When trouble comes, do these three things:

(1) Get alone with God! The Psalmist writes, "In the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion." The secret place in a king's palace was called a "pavilion." There you were protected from the enemy. All hell could break loose around you but it didn't matter; in the secret place there was peace. Are you allowing things to overwhelm you that really don't make a difference? Are you upset over things that should be dismissed as trivialities? Get alone with God!

(2) Refuse to live beyond help because you have an image to uphold. The Bible says those of us who are strong ought to bear the burdens of the weak. There are times when we need to do the lifting; and times when we ourselves need to be lifted. Jesus healed a woman who had been bowed down for 18 years and "Could in no way raise herself up" (Lk 13:11).

Sometimes you need help because you can't help yourself. David understood this so he turned to the men of Issachar because they "had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do" (1 Ch 12:32). God has provided help, reach for it!

(3) Be sensitive to the voice of the Holy Spirit for He will constantly remind you of God's plan, and show you how to carry it out. Jesus said, "The Holy Spirit...will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you" (Jn 14:26). What has the Lord said to you? Have you done it? Obedience is your doorway out of trouble. (See Ps 143:10 NAS).

SoulFood Bible Readings: 2 Ch 18-20, Jn 11:45-57, Ps 114, Pr 27:20-22

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/01 12:50

Challenged To Reach Higher

He who walks with wise men will be wise. - Proverbs 13:20

Certain people stoke the fires within you to be all you can be. When you find them, feed off them! When you have little or no water in your own well, be willing to draw it from theirs.

Elisha spent many years living in Elijah's shadow. But he saw it as a privilege, not a put-down. He was willing to set up tents, cook meals, wash clothes and run errands because it meant he would experience first-hand some of the greatest miracles in history. As a result Elisha said to Elijah, "I want a double portion of the Spirit that's at work in you" (See 2 Ki 2:9). And before his life was over Elisha worked twice as many miracles as Elijah.

Understand this: you must have a foundation - and you can't build it without help!

Seeing God bless someone else should challenge you to reach higher. This is not envy - just a strong desire to receive more. Look at Hannah, Elkanah's wife. She wanted a child. In order to stir her up God used Peninnah, who was married to the same man but able to bear children.

The more Hannah saw Peninnah have children the more she wanted her own. Peninnah challenged her. She also made Hannah pray. That's the right response! It wasn't that Hannah was jealous and didn't want to see Peninnah have children, it was just that she wanted her own.

If seeing others succeed makes you want to sabotage their success, you'll never prosper. Learn how to rejoice over the blessings of others, and realise that the same God who blessed them can bless you too. Let their blessings challenge you to reach higher!

SoulFood Bible Readings: 2 Ch 6-8, Jn 11:17-27, Ps 102:12-17,

Pr 27:10-12

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by Meli - 2007/12/01 12:56

Beautiful. I just hope the Webmaster will think more about opening a special head for God's Word For Today. It would also help us prepare for Xmas.

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/01 13:00

Pursue...Overtake...and Recover

Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them, and without fail recover all. - 1 Samuel 30:8

David and his men were doing well until the Amalekites destroyed their homes and took their families captive. So:

(1) The enemy will attack your family to get to you! He'll do it through big stuff like your husband losing his job or your wife discovering a lump in her breast. Or little stuff like family tension and lack of consideration for each other. Be alert, discern his attack so you can defend yourself against it.

(2) Learn to depend on God, not people! When things turned sour the same people who praised David yesterday wanted to stone him today. Sound familiar? Love people because they need it. Learn from them because their wisdom will benefit you.

But lean only on God. Your strength, strategies and solutions for living must come from Him. David said, "Bring me the ephod (religious garment)" (1 Sa 30:7 NIV). That's what Israel used to get direction from the Lord. Smart move!

(3) Learn to talk to yourself! Words are like fuel; they stoke the fires of faith or fear within you. "David encouraged himself in the Lord" (1 Sa 30:6). If you want to get discouraged, talk about your situation. If you want to get encouraged, talk about the God who can change your situation. Solomon says: "A wholesome tongue is a tree of life" (Pr 15:4). So start talking to yourself the right way.

(4) God's plan for you is total recovery! He told David, "Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them, and without fail recover all."

These words "Pursue...overtake...and...recover all" are your marching orders - and God's assurance that things are going to change for the better in your life!

SoulFood Bible Readings: 1 Ch 19:1 - 23:20, Jn 10:11-21, Ps 50,

Pr 26:27-28

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Re:God's Word for Today
Posted by tonto - 2007/12/01 13:07

When God Puts You On Hold!

Be diligent...so that everyone may see your progress.

1 Timothy 4:15 NIV

A well-known Bible teacher tells of a pilot friend who received word from the control tower saying, "You're cleared for 5,000 feet." When he got there he had to hold for further instructions. Next came the words, "You're cleared for 10,000 feet." Gradually the controller took him level by level to 35,000 feet where he was cleared to fly to his destination. God spoke to this Bible teacher and said, "I wish you would trust me like that. Instead you want to go straight to 35,000 feet in one thrust!"

Try to understand this: God sees the end from the beginning and He has already mapped out your journey. He knows that if you rise too quickly there are dangers. You may be in the cockpit, but God's in the control tower. And His Word to you today is: "Trust Me and I'll get you safely to your destination." God's plan for your life can't be rushed. When you try to move too quickly you end up in a tug-of-war with Him. And you lose every time!

Before God could trust David to lead the nation He first had to see how he'd handle his father's flock. It was here David built a relationship with God and developed the qualities that would sustain him through the tough times ahead when he was king.

God will let you practice in a place where your weaknesses can be worked on, your gifts developed, and where your mistakes won't affect too many others. That's because He cares for them too!

If God has put you on hold today, it's because He loves you and wants only what's best for you.

SoulFood Bible Readings: 1 Ch 26:20 - 29:30, Jn 10:34-42, Ps 76,

Pr 27:4-6

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/01 13:31

Are You not ruler over all...of the nations.

2 Chronicles 20:6 NAS

God's Still In Charge!

This country we call 'home,' exists only by God's permission and power. "He made from one man every nation...having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation" (Acts 17:26 NAS).

In the final analysis summit conferences don't shape the geography of countries, God does. Leaders don't determine the future of countries, God determines the hearts of leaders. "The king's heart is like a stream of water directed by the Lord; He guides it wherever He pleases" (Pr 21:1 NLT).

The stubborn will of the most powerful politician can be directed by God as easily as a farmer reroutes a shallow canal on his farm.

Remember the account of Cyrus, King of Persia? When God wanted the Jews to return to Jerusalem He simply prodded him to make an "official

announcement" (Ezr 1:1 TM).

God not only set the Israelites free from 400 years of slavery in Egypt, He caused their captors to equip them with supplies. " load you down with gifts...so...you will empty-handed" (Ex 3:21). That would be like America's post-civil war plantation owners signing their cotton fields over to the slaves.

If we enjoy a great economy, personal freedom and a high tide of justice, we don't limit our thanks to politicians. No, we thank God: "He makes nations great, and destroys them; He enlarges nations, and disperses them" (Job 12:23 NIV). Tally this up.

God sets national boundaries. He determines leaders. He dispenses blessings. And we are the privileged recipients of each and every one of His blessings. Can we afford to forget this? Only at a terrible risk!

Bible-in-a-year Reading: Ruth 1-4, Mark 6:14-29, Ps 119:81-88, Pr 18:1-5

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Re:God's Word for Today

God Will Make A Way

Eve gave birth to another son and named him Seth (meaning 'Granted').

Genesis 4:25 TLB

In one sweep of jealousy Eve's dreams lay bleeding on the ground; her older son a criminal on the run, her younger son murdered in the prime of life. She's supposed to be the mother of all living, now all she has is a corpse and a killer.

Can you identify with her? Have you been saying: "Lord, this is not what You promised!" If that's where you are today - God will make a way! Look what He did for His people in the wilderness: "He led them forth by the right way" (Ps 107:7). God knows what He's doing!

Everything in your life may seem to be falling apart, when in reality you're just in one of those "But God" situations. When He enters the picture everything changes!

When Cain killed Abel God's plan for Eve was delayed - but not destroyed. And in spite of what you are going through right now, everything God has promised you will be fulfilled: "Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion" (Php 1:6 NIV).

God has a way of restoring things you thought would never come to pass. He moved in Eve's life and gave her another son called Seth, which means "One who takes the place of." Suddenly Eve realised that if God says it, He will do it. Satan may try to put up roadblocks, but he can't prevent it from happening.

Your blessing may not come in the way you thought it should or through the person you thought it would, but if God said it - rest assured, He'll make a way!

SoulFood Bible Readings: 2 Ch 13-17, Jn 11:38-44, Ps 95, Pr 27:17-19

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/01 13:46

Self-esteem - Built On God's Esteem!

You are precious to Me. You are honoured, and I love you.

Isaiah 43:4 NLT

Are you able to look in the mirror today and say, "Thank You Lord, You did a good job?" If you can't you're in danger of settling for anyone who can give you what you're incapable of giving yourself - a sense of worth! You can't become arrogant, but you've got to find a healthy balance somewhere between martyrdom and narcissism.

Until you do, everybody else's needs and opinions will be more important than yours. When that happens you end up resentful and living without things you don't have enough self-esteem to ask for because you don't think you deserve them.

If you don't believe in yourself and respect your own opinions you'll finish up living to please everyone else. One wrong look or one critical word from them and you'll say, "I'll never do that, say that, or wear that again." Talk about feeling worthless and insecure!

Thank God you don't have to live that way. Peter writes, "The God of all grace.....perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you" (1 Pe 5:10). God wants to give you a sense of self-esteem - built on His esteem. Will you let Him?

Once others have heard you sing confidently they'll want to hum along. Just make sure they're in harmony when they do. You train others to treat you by how you treat yourself. The buyer will pay no more than the seller demands.

So go to God today, ask Him to tell you who you are and what you're worth.

He will say, "You are precious to Me. You are honoured, and I love you." That's God's opinion - make it yours!

SoulFood Bible Readings: Nu 9:15-23, Gal 5:13-26

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by Kalibattanya - 2007/12/01 21:40

Webale okutuliisa ku kigambo kino ekirungi bwekiti, ate ekibereera emirembe gyonna Amina.

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/09 10:29

Waiting For God's Appointed Time

The vision is...for an appointed time...though it tarries, wait for it; because it will surely come.

- Habakkuk 2:3

God is a God of order; everything He does is by appointment. An appointment is simply a meeting or event that has already been set up. God has a scheduled time for bringing to pass two things in your life: His promises and His purpose. You can count on that! Whatever you're going through today, there's peace in knowing that nothing the enemy does will pre-empt these two things.

The problem arises when we try to rush God's timing. When the Lord gives you a promise it's like a seed; it needs time to take root and bear fruit. Every mother knows the order - first the seed, then the pregnancy, then the development within the womb, and finally the day of delivery. And what does she do during this time? Prepare! She gets ready for the joys and responsibilities of parenthood for when her due date arrives that little one announces, "Ready or not, here I come!"

The Psalmist writes: "Don't be impatient for the Lord to act! Keep travelling steadily along His pathway and in due season He will honour you with every blessing" (Ps 37:34).

You must learn the difference between what you can do and what God can do. Fools rush in. If you don't want to risk delaying the fulfilment of God's plan for your life, learn to wait.

The prophet said, "The vision is...for an appointed time...though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come." Each time you get anxious and impatient remind yourself, "My life cannot end without certain things happening.

God said it and He will bring it to pass!"

SoulFood Bible Readings: Jos 14-15, Jn 15:5-17, Ps 148:1-6, Pr 29:11-15

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/09 10:39

God Will Bring You Through!

A tempestuous head wind arose...Euroclydon.

- Acts 27:14

Euroclydon! It's the only storm named in Scripture. It means "typhoon," and Paul had to sail through it to reach his destiny.

Observe:

(1) To reach your goal you'll have to go through storms. "When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days and the storm continued raging, we finally gave up all hope of being saved" (Acts 27:20 NIV). There will be days when you'll wonder how you're going to make it. But by God's grace you will!

(2) Storms reveal how well you know God. "Last night an angel of the God whose I am and whom I serve stood beside me and said, 'Do not be afraid, Paul,'" (Acts 27:23-24 NIV). It's the tough times that reveal the strength of your God-connection.

(3) God can make a success out of a shipwreck. Notice some important things in this story:

(a) Sometimes you'll have to throw stuff overboard (See Acts 27:18).

(b) In spite of your best efforts you'll occasionally run aground (See Acts 27:26).

(c) You must remember what God told you and stand on it (See Acts 27:25).

(4) Often the worst thing that could have happened turns out for the best. God used this shipwreck to reach Malta with the Gospel. And notice what happened to Paul and his travelling companions as they left that island: "They honoured us...and when we were ready to sail, they furnished us with the supplies we needed" (Acts 28:10 NIV).

Stop worrying, God will provide what you need in ways that amaze you. If you're His child you're not the victim of circumstances. Your future is not in the hands of people, it's in the hands of God. And what He owns, He takes care of!

SoulFood Bible Readings: Jos 5:1 - 8:29, Jn 14:1-14, Ps 2, Pr 28:25-28

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Somebody is fighting the BIBLE!!

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/09 13:49

Have seen this advertisement?

Dark History of the Church:

How Genuine Spirituality Gave Way to Rigid Dogma - and the Fine Line that Separates the Two

Spirituality can be the most empowering, most liberating, most life-giving force in all the world.

Or it can be a tool for greed, manipulation and control.

What is it that makes the difference?

Some religious leaders seem to tell us that we're not smart enough or good enough to discover God on our own. Who says?

If God is good and perfect, why is there so much evil and suffering in the world?

How can anyone rely on the Bible for answers, if it's just a loose translation of ancient myths anyway?

Have you seen the above-quoted advertisement right on this CU site?

Tewali muntu asobola kulwanyisa Bible namalako.

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/14 20:55

Kalibattanya wrote:

Webale okutuliisa ku kigambo kino ekirungi bwekiti, ate ekibereera emirembe gyonna Amina.

Webale kusiima Mummy. Gwe wange jjo naluli.

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by omumbejja - 2007/12/14 21:06

Oluusi oja okwatidde tembo ensawo naye bwotuuka wano ngoyambala ekyambalo kyo ekirala nange mukama wange nsiimye omulimu gwo guno gwokola ssebo tonto yongera okutuliisa ekigambo kya Mukama

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/14 21:13

Ka kiss kaako, Omumbejja, webale kusiima, era nfukamidde. Anti mwe abambejja tubakwata mpola. Naye mumbejja nange ndi muntu, era ssiri atukiridde. Nina appetites ezenjawulo Mummy Kaliba zalabirira obulungi. Ate era appetites zino Mukama yeyazimpa. Kale oluusi zekaalisa nange nezinsobera. Yenno bweziraba ku mumbejja nekisukka.

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by omumbejja - 2007/12/14 21:20

Anti kale kati otandise okubula naye njagala onkolere ekintu kimu njagala oyiteko kumutwe gwa bakazi bajja oba basajja banno, kikube mu search ndabe ensonga zo weziri, nkooye okuleetanga wano emitwe negibusibwa amaaso kale tugende wepime

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/14 21:40

Mumbejja emiramwa joleeta giba popular nnyo, teri agibuusa maaso. Kannoonye omulamwa gwogambye.

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/15 16:11

The Rebekah Principle

Those who work hard will prosper.

- Proverbs 13:4 NLT

Good leaders constantly observe the actions and attitudes of those around them. They're looking for someone they can trust; someone who sees the big picture yet doesn't miss the details. And when they find them they reward them!

Don't wait for tomorrow, empty your best into today and watch what happens. Rebekah did and she inherited the wealth of Abraham, became the bride of Isaac and the mother of a nation. What a payoff! When Abraham's assistant was sent to find a bride for Isaac, he asked God for a sign to confirm his choice.

He said that the woman who would voluntarily offer him and his camels a drink of water would be the one. Do you have any idea how much water one thirsty camel can drink? Abraham's assistant was looking for someone who wanted to serve rather than be served: in a 'me first' world that's hard to find!

Notice Rebekah's qualifications. She was motivated and time conscious: "She...ran to the well." She was thorough: "drew water for all his camels" (See Ge 24:20).

That one act of kindness altered the rest of her life. She'd been to that well many times before and nothing unusual happened, but that day she found favour and her life changed for good. What if she'd missed her opportunity, or said, "That's not my responsibility?"

Whether you realise it or not your actions and attitudes are determining your future. So perform with excellence for someone is watching; someone God may use to help you get to the next level. Live by the Rebekah principle - always do more than is required of you, and do it gladly!

SoulFood Bible Readings: Jon 2, Lk 11:29-36

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/15 16:19

How To Pray When You're Worried

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything... His peace will guard your hearts and minds.

- Philippians 4:6-7 NLT

Are you worried today? Have you lost your peace of mind? Begin to pray this prayer until it takes root in your heart and becomes your fixed attitude:

"Father, You told me not to be afraid because You are with me, You will uphold me, and those who come against me will not succeed. (See Is 41:10-11). You said no evil would come upon me, nor any plague touch my home for You have ordered Your angels to protect me. (See Ps 91:10-11). You said when I walk through rivers of difficulty You won't let me drown, and when I walk through fires of adversity You won't allow me to get burned for You are watching over me. (See Is 43:2-3).

You said no weapon formed against me shall prosper. (See Is 54:17). I cannot keep the enemy's weapons from being formed, but I know You will keep them from prospering.

You said if I ask anything according to Your will, You would grant my request. (See 1 Jn 5:14-15). You said when I walk in obedience before You I will be blessed when I come in and blessed when I go out, blessed when I lie down and blessed when I get up. (See Dt 28:6).

You told me to give all my troubles to You and You would take care of me. (See 1 Pe 5:7).

So here they are! Today I'm standing on Your Word. You said it! I believe it! That settles it! Amen."

SoulFood Bible Readings: Ne 1-4, Jn 17:13-26, Ps 105:23-36, Pr 30:15-19

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by Meli - 2007/12/15 16:28

Great! I'm printing this out.

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God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/24 15:09

Merry Christmas

Can God Use You?

Ephesians 2:1-10; 1 Peter 4:9-10; Matthews 28:19-20; 2 Timothy 2:2; 2 Corinthians 5:20 NIV

Some one says; "I am my own man or woman. I do my own thing. No body tells me what to do. I am going to do things the way I want to do". No you are not. You are either going to do things God's way and obey him, or you are going to do things the devil's way and obey Satan the devil.

You say; that does not work with me because I am not even a Christian. You are doubly guilty. First of all you rejected his son. Secondly, you are living in sin by rejecting his son...

You were created for a purpose. The Lord wants to use any of us throughout our entire life. Each of us has a role to play in getting God's truth to the world.

Have you ever wondered why God doesn't use you? Or may be he is using you, but you are wondering why he is not using you much more than he is using you. Some times, people just decide not to serve God. They never take any effort

to serve God, not realizing that God desires to use them. What does God say about this issue? It is God's responsibility to tell us how he wants to use us, and it is our responsibility to make ourselves available to be used.

There are literally millions of people who sit in church week after week, and as far as they are concerned, God is using them by bringing them to the church. That is not being used by God. We come to church to worship and to encourage each other. To listen and to be instructed. To be challenged, to be convicted and to be lifted up in such a way that our life will make a difference. But many people come to church just to satisfy their conscience; they hear the message, listen to the music, give a little money, then they go home till next week. Many of them do not even bring a Bible with them. And they call that being used by God. That is not being used by God.

Let's understand what being used by God is. We read Ephesians 2:1-10 (NIV):

1 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins (that means dead to the things of God) 2in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. 4But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. 6And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. 8For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9not by works, so that no one can boast. 10For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

It is a serious matter that a person lives his life and does not serve God when according to scripture; he saved us for the purpose of good works. He saved us in order to serve him, and he says he prepared all this before hand. We are serving God wherever he places us. The scripture says that he has given us different skills, abilities, talents and spiritual gifts.

We read in 1 Peter 4:9-10:

9 Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. 10Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

Look what he has done. He says; "I have created you to carry out my work on earth. You are to do that by serving one another. So, I am giving you skills, talents, ability and spiritual gifts. I am giving you the divine energy that you need to get it done. I want to equip you and help you and I will be with you every step of the way". When he sent those disciples out, what did he say? He said; Go onto the whole world and preach the gospel to every creature. He says; I am going to be with you even to the end of this age.

You do not want to take the last breath, having spent 10, 15, 20 years in some retirement situation somewhere, where your life has not counted for anything. Where you sit and watch TV and playing Dominoes or Omweso, Matatu, Checkers and all the rest of it, and then die and face Jesus.

You say; that does not work with me because I am not even a Christian. You are doubly guilty. First of all you rejected his son. Secondly, you are living in sin by rejecting his son. Thirdly, you are wasting away your life. And number four, he says that it is appointed for man once to die, and after this the judgment. And he says; every one of us should give an account for the life that he has lived and the things he has done. You see, many people do not want to hear that. But as for you, the reader of this message, naturally you do want to hear it, because you are reading this. You want to know the truth.

Each one is to employ his gifts and talents and skills and abilities to help one another. That is the way God gets his work done. Somebody might ask; what task does God have to give me? God does not have to give you a big task. It is a matter of using us in serving each other, and yet we are serving God. You ask; when does he start using us? What does the Bible say? "A little child shall lead them..." God even uses little children.

Different people have different capacities, skills, abilities, talents and gifts. So, whatever God calls you to do, whatever skill he has given you, he intends for you and me to exercise it in a way that is godly, in a way that, in some way, impacts the people around us, and the people for whom and with whom we work.

God could have written in the sky, in every single language there is. He could have put the plan of salvation in the sky so that every single person can read it in their language and tongue in some way if they want to. Why didn't he do that? It's because he wants to give you and me the privilege of being his servants.

The most awesome thing we can do is to take the gospel; the simple message of the cross of Jesus Christ and tell somebody else. And see their life changed. And then they will tell somebody else, and somebody else. Do you realize where we have come from? We have come from the one man Jesus, and those 11 disciples (having left out Judas), and the 120, and the 3,000, and now look at the millions and millions of Christians. Do you know why? It is because a handful of men were willing to do what God called them to do.

God is looking for people who are available. You may still ask; "Do I have a role to play in communicating God's truth to others?" The responsibility to reach others for Jesus Christ doesn't just belong to pastors and full-time missionaries, which is what many people think. God has made all believers missionaries. Notice what Jesus says in Mathews 28:19-20; 19Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

When you come to 2 Timothy, for example, here is what Paul said when he was writing to Timothy:

2 Timothy 2:2

2 And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men (and women of course) who will also be qualified to teach others.

Also remember what the apostle Paul said in 2 Corinthians 5:20 when he was talking about our responsibility. He said;

20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/24 17:41

Let God Use You

Mary said...let it be to me according to Your Word.

- Luke 1:37-38

When God told Mary she was going to give birth to the Christ-child, she asked how it could be possible. Perhaps God's been telling you things He wants to do through you, but you're looking at your own limitations and asking, "How will this be?" (Lk 1:34 NIV). You're telling God, "I don't have the training, the experience, the skill, or the connections. And I certainly don't have the strength to accomplish it alone."

Like Mary, you're thinking only in the natural, that you must have man's help to do it. If you've been wondering how God will make things come to pass in your life, remember, He will accomplish the task. No man will get the credit for your deliverance.

He told Mary, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you" (Lk 1:35 NIV). The Holy Spirit can impregnate you with a vision, inspire you with creative ideas, introduce you to the right people, and empower you to do the job.

God had a special plan for Mary; and He has one for you too. You aren't privileged to see the future. You don't know all that He has in store for you. But He has a plan.

After the angel spoke to Mary, do you know what she said? Let it be to me according to Your Word" (Lk 1:38). Not according to my marital status, or my job, or my finances, or what I deserve. No, "Let it be to me according to Your Word!" Was that easy to do? No, she was taking an extreme risk; to be pregnant and unmarried brought dire consequences in those days. Yet she gave herself willingly to God - and the results were truly miraculous!

SoulFood Bible Readings: Isa 9:1-7, Lk 2:1-20, Mic 5:2-5a

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by omumbejja - 2007/12/24 17:55

Tonto sometimes i get so emotional Bwemmala okusoma ku God's Word for Today i calm down thank you:)

=====

Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/30 13:17

30.12.2007

Failing to Listen to God.

Genesis 3:1-7; Genesis 2:16-17; John 8:44; Genesis 3:8-13; Genesis 3:16; NIV

We know that God speaks to us through his word. He speaks to us through the Holy Spirit. He speaks to us through circumstances and through people. When he does speak, he does so for these particular purposes:

> to communicate so that we might comprehend the truth of the word; that we may understand what he is saying in the scriptures.

> secondly, that you and I might be conformed to that truth, that our lifestyle may be shaped by the word of God

> and thirdly, that you and I can communicate it to others.

The question comes; what happens when you and I fail to listen? God speaks very clearly with very simple purposes in mind. But what is it that causes us not to listen? Why don't we listen? What happens when we do not listen to what he says? In the third chapter of Genesis, the account of the fall of man, are the consequences of failing to listen to God.

Genesis 3:1-7 NIV

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" 2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, 3 but God did say, 'you must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" 4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. 5 "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." 6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Now let's go to Genesis 2:16-17 and note what God said originally.

16 And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; 17 but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."

Eve correctly quoted what God said. In this passage of scripture, it is very clear that God has spoken. What I want you to remember is this; sometimes, God will say something to us that we can recall when he said it, and the circumstances in which it was said. And we can say that; "back there, at a certain time, I know that God spoke to my heart".

God does not only want us to hear what he says one time. There are some things that God says to us that he wants us to keep on hearing; which means, I must keep on reminding myself, or recalling for myself what God said. God is not going to say it to us loudly every day. Sometimes he is going to say it one time; he knows we have heard it, and therefore we are accountable for what we have heard. And therefore, what we are to do is to recall and refresh our memory, and keep before us some of these things that God has said to us.

What happens here is that God speaks to Adam, the head of this first family very briefly, clearly, very understandably, and Adam in turn told it to his wife. Eve understood very clearly exactly what God said or she would not have quoted it so accurately. And yet in spite of that, we see the very fall of mankind. Adam was the first person of the whole human race. He was, as it were, the fountain of human race. They understood what God said very clearly but they did not obey what they heard. When we fail to listen to God, what happens? I am going to give you eight consequences for failing to hear and obey or ignoring what God says.

1. We end up listening to the wrong voices.

Adam and Eve is the first family and there was no sin in the world at that particular time. Now she begins to listen to a very strange voice. It is not the voice of God. It is not the voice of her husband. It is a strange voice. When you and I don't keep before us what God has said to us, we are going to listen to the wrong voices. You turn on the TV, you listen to the radio, pick up the newspaper, you read the magazine, we are bombarded with a lot of vain, empty, erroneous, non-biblical, ungodly philosophy.

2. We get easily deceived.

When you and I are not listening to God, recalling what God says, we are easily deceived. Satan is a deceiver. This is exactly what Satan did to Eve. It is Satan's nature to lie and deceive.

3. Pride and Independence.

The truth is all of us sin. No matter what it is, the ultimate root of that sin is pride. When you and I fail to listen, what we are doing is we are expressing pride and independence. What we are saying is; we think we can handle it. Eve heard and knew exactly what God said. But she decides that instead of listening to God, she is going to listen to Satan.

4. We make decision that appeal to the flesh.

When we fail to listen to God, we make decisions that appeal to the flesh. Satan appealed to three legitimate facets of the human life, all at once. (a) Appetite; it looked like good for food. (b) She said it was very attractive and pleasing to the eye; a desire for beauty. And (c) it will make her wise; a desire for wisdom. God gave the appetites to us and he has offered to us the Holy Spirit to give us wisdom to know how to keep those appetites under control and in balance; whether it is appetite for food, sleep, recreation, sex or whatever it might be.

5. We blame other people.

When we fail to listen, we excuse our wrongs and often blame other people. Genesis 3:12. The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it." When you and I stop listening to God our problem is, instead of facing and assuming our responsibility for our thoughts and our failures, we want to blame somebody else. Once in a while we hear somebody in a very humanly fashion saying, "the devil made me do it". The devil cannot make a believer do anything. You and I consent to do what he tempts us to do.

6. We do suffer the consequences.

Look at the consequences of what happened to Adam and to Eve and to their family in Genesis 3:17-24. 17 To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. Read on up to verse 24.

7. We cause others around us to suffer.

When we fail to listen to God and walk in obedience to him, we cause those around us to suffer. We have just described part of that in Eve giving the fruit to her husband, and he suffers. Suffering goes on with sin coming to their family, and there is strife. You will recall Cain having to run and run and run, after killing Abel.

8. We miss out on God's best.

When you and I fail to listen, and fail to be obedient to him, we miss out on God's best. Think about what Adam and Eve had. They had the Garden in all its perfection. They were two perfect human beings. In their nakedness there was no shame, there was no guilt, everything was absolutely perfect.

When you and I listen to him and obey, we are blessed. When we fail to listen and disobey, we suffer the consequences. I will simply say, if you want to avoid the consequences of disobedience, then, my friend, receive Jesus Christ as your Savior, get into the church that teaches the word of God, listen to the word of God week after week after week, understanding the principles of scripture, and God will build a hedge of protection around you.

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Re:God\'s Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/30 13:25

30.12.2007

Have You Asked God About It?

The men of Israel looked them over and accepted the evidence.

But they didn't ask God about it.

- Joshua 9:14 TM

It's hard to remain humble when you've just walked through the Red Sea without getting wet, and conquered Jericho, the biggest city in the Promised Land. Over-confidence can be deadly!

Flushed with victory the Israelites thought they didn't need to consult God or listen to what He had to say concerning their next move. It's quite a story. The crafty Gibeonites realised they couldn't win against God's people so they sent out a team of negotiators to make peace with them. And it worked!

Even though they were lying, Joshua presumed they were telling the truth and signed a peace treaty. It was one of the biggest mistakes of his life! From that day on the Gibeonites were a constant thorn in Israel's side. Joshua lived to regret that he "didn't ask God about it."

Fanny Crosby, the blind songwriter, wrote: "O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear. All because we do not carry, everything to God in prayer!"

It's frightening how easily we move from relying on God to relying on ourselves, or trusting in a method because it worked in the past, or doing what everybody else is doing. Hearing from God for yourself is what gives you the edge;

leaving Him out is what gets you into trouble.

If you have a tendency to move too quickly or to operate in your own strength and skill, pray for a red light in your Spirit. Ask God to let you know when you're moving in your own will rather than in His. It'll save you untold heartache!

SoulFood Bible Readings: Zec 10-14, Jn 20:19-31, Ps 97, Pr 31:22-24

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by Meli - 2007/12/30 13:33

Thanks Tonto. It feels like we get washed clean every sunday, by these good words you bring. May The Lord our God have mercy on us. Amen.

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/30 13:56

30.12.2007

Listening For God's Voice

He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

- Matthew 11:15

It's not only possible to hear from God, it's absolutely essential! Mary took the time to sit and listen to Jesus (See Lk 10:39). Her sister Martha didn't, she was too busy serving.

There's a lesson here: you can get so busy serving the Lord that you lose your sensitivity to His voice and end up settling for second best. You learn to hear from God - by making time to hear from God! Fifteen times in the New Testament Jesus said: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

This tells you three important things:

(1) You were born into God's family with Spiritual ears.

(2) You have to learn how to use them.

(3) Hearing from God must become your highest priority. A baby is born with the ability to hear, but he doesn't understand what he's hearing. Understanding takes time; it requires intimacy with his parents. Getting the idea?

Luke writes: "Then He opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures" (Lk 24:45 NIV). Looking back over your life you realise that God has often talked with you, you just didn't understand what He was saying at the time. But He's patient with you while you learn.

Why is it that you can hear from God in times of crisis, yet not at other times? Because you have to! Until that changes, you'll keep living from crisis to crisis and you'll never learn to hear from Him regularly or correctly. Jesus said, "I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge" (Jn 5:30).

Jesus did only those things placed in His mind by God the Father. And He wants you to learn to live that way too!

SoulFood Bible Readings: Ne 8-10, Jn 18:12-24, Ps 57, Pr 30:24-28

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/30 14:04

Meli wrote:

Thanks Tonto. It feels like we get washed clean every sunday, by these good words you bring. May The Lord our God have mercy on us. Amen.

God can never forget his people. Webale kusiima, mukwano.

=====

Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2007/12/30 14:16

30.12.2007

The Reason For The Battle

The Lord is with you, mighty warrior.

- Judges 6:12 NIV

If you've been under attack lately, get ready; God's about to show you what the fight is all about! The level of warfare over your life tells you what God is going to build in and through you. Sometimes the devil is more aware of who we are than we are.

Gideon was hiding in a cave, afraid of the Midianites. Yet God calls him a "mighty warrior." God sees things in you others don't; that even you don't! Our God, who is "the beginning and the end" sees things in their completed state - including your ultimate victory.

Somewhere in your life you should have a vision that humanly speaking makes no sense, something you know could never happen without God. When you first receive it something inside you will say, "I will," while everything around you is saying, "you can't." It will take you beyond your own competency and make you realise that it's "Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord" (Zec 4:6).

Quit asking people who they think you are. Ask God! When He endorses you what difference does their opinion make?

When God calls you He shows you what you've got, then empowers you to use it. When Gideon said, "I don't have what it takes," the Lord replied, "Go in the strength you have" (Jdg 6:14), and "I will be with you, and you will strike down all the Midianites" (Jdg 6:16 NIV).

There's an important truth here: you must start where you are and use what you have, then God will give you more. If you're unwilling to move until you get more, you may wait forever!

SoulFood Bible Readings: Ne 11-13, Jn 18:25-40, Ps 67, Pr 30:29-33

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by Jona - 2007/12/30 16:36

Thank you Tonto, for God's word for today.

The message is very relevant.

=====

Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by Meli - 2008/03/01 13:09

It's about soul to soul. Onward Christian soldier. The truth will set you free.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YJgt2ktRJME>

=====

Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/03/02 13:35

02-03-2008

Prodigal, Come Home!

I will arise and go to my father.

Luke 15:18

The prodigal son demanded his inheritance before he was ready for it, and it turned out to be the worst thing that could have happened to him. He "set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living.

After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine...So he went and hired himself out to a citizen...who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything" (Lk 15:13-16 NIV).

Solomon writes, "There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death" (Pr 14:12 NIV). What seems like a good idea today may cost you dearly tomorrow. So trust God when He says "no", and thank Him when He pulls back on the reins.

In Luke Chapter 15 Jesus points out that the shepherd went looking for the lost sheep, the woman went looking for the lost silver, but nobody went looking for the lost son. He took himself away, he let himself down, he picked himself up, he brought himself back. Nobody is going to do this for you. You must do it!

The prodigal son said, "I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, 'Father, I have sinned'." Notice three important statements.

- (a) "I will arise." Everybody falls; the winners are the ones who get back up again.
- (b) "And go back to my father." If you are sick of religion - try Jesus. He won't disappoint you!
- (c) "And will say to Him, Father, I have sinned."

Today, pray and make things right between you and your Heavenly Father.

SoulFood Bible Readings: Ge 35-36, Mt 23:23-39, Ps 77, Pr 6:29

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Go to: <http://www.rhema.co.nz/index.php#email>.

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by omumbejja - 2008/03/02 18:21

Tonto obadde obuliddewa oba obadde ogamba nti ekigambo kya Katonda twakikutta dda mwattu twesiimye okubanaawe nate era yongera okuliisa ekigambo ekyo omulimu gwo gusimibwa

=====

Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by Meli - 2008/03/03 10:51

Tonto wrote;

In Luke Chapter 15 Jesus points out that the shepherd went looking for the lost sheep, the woman went looking for the lost silver, but nobody went looking for the lost son. He took himself away, he let himself down, he picked himself up, he brought himself back. Nobody is going to do this for you. You must do it!

I'd forgotten those words. Thanks Tonto. Keep posting every Sunday.

=====

Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/03/03 13:20

omumbejja wrote:

Tonto obadde obuliddewa oba obadde ogamba nti ekigambo kya Katonda twakikutta dda mwattu twesiimye okubanaawe nate era yongera okuliisa ekigambo ekyo omulimu gwo gusimibwa

Omumbejja webale kusiima sebo. Mbadde nkumissinga nnyo, bebi. Mbadde kumweezi jenali ngenze okukwata ensenene. Wabula tezikwatikayo, kuba nnene nnyo. Ensenene emu (body yokka nga totaddeeko magulu gaayo) yenkana nga okugulukwo kwonna. Wabula zzo mubungi tozimalaayo.

=====

Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/03/03 13:34

Meli wrote:

Tonto wrote;

In Luke Chapter 15 Jesus points out that the shepherd went looking for the lost sheep, the woman went looking for the lost silver, but nobody went looking for the lost son. He took himself away, he let himself down, he picked himself up, he brought himself back. Nobody is going to do this for you. You must do it!

I'd forgotten those words. Thanks Tonto. Keep posting every Sunday.

Thnx, Meli. I will do as you suggest.

"Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or swerve from them (Proverbs 4:5).

=====

Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by kingo - 2008/03/03 15:22

All i Have to say is that am happy to see you
back. Actually i have been missing that Avatar
though it usually shakes me with fear due to my
horrible experiance with a bouncer.I will tell
you that story at length Next time.

=====

Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/03/17 17:19

17. 03.2008

You Are Somebody.

And God saw... it was very good. - Genesis 1:31

you'd need and the environment required to put it all together. Then He looked at you and said, "Very good."

It's important that you can say that too, because others will only treat you according to how you treat yourself. If you don't like the way people respond to you, stop and ask yourself, "What's the message I'm sending out?" For people to treat you well, you've got to send out a message that says, "I'm somebody, because God made me somebody!"

We're talking about an inner strength that makes you attractive when you walk into a room, and causes others to say, "Who's that?" And they won't be asking because your appearance is stunning. No, they'll be asking because your character is magnetic and your presence has impact. This is not pride - it's just healthy self-esteem based on God's opinion of you. When you have it, it affects the way you... talk to others... sit in a classroom... apply for a job... perform the ministry God gave you... and even the way you pray. That's right; if you think you have no value, you'll pray with less confidence and conclude that the promises of God are for everybody but you! (1 Jn 3:21)

Line up your opinion with God's! Appreciate who He made you to be. Develop what He gave you. Stop wishing you were somebody else. If two of us are identical, one of us is unnecessary. You are a unique blend of gifts and character. You have a special destiny on this earth. You are somebody - remember that today!

SoulFood Bible Readings: Job 5-7, Mt 26:14-25, Ps 4, Pr 7:26-27

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/03/22 19:28

21.03.2008

Testifying Without A Touch

Blessed are those who believe without seeing. - John 20:29 NLT

Asking for proof before you believe something can stop you from receiving what God wants you to accept based on His Word. Thomas watched Jesus die. That's hard evidence to refute. As a result Thomas decided to believe only what he could see and verify. When your faith's been shaken, you're inclined to cling to things that are practical, absolute and tangible. Jesus graciously gave Thomas the proof he needed, and said, "You believe because you have seen...Blessed are those who believe without seeing."

The fact remains, however, that if Thomas hadn't been permitted to see and touch Jesus it wouldn't have changed the reality of the resurrection one iota. Thomas' problem wasn't lack of faith, it was misdirected faith. He trusted only what he could process on a human level. Sound familiar?

By contrast, when Mary Magdalene met Jesus at the tomb He told her, "Don't touch Me...But go find My brothers and tell them" (Jn 20:17). Mary once washed Jesus' feet with her tears and dried them with her hair; touch was important to her. And touching Jesus at that moment would have confirmed what she'd seen and heard. This time, however, Jesus asked her to trust His Word and not His flesh; to be willing to testify without a touch.

Sometimes we feel "the touch of God" calming us, strengthening us and reassuring us that He is still in control. The truth is, His touch has often kept us from giving up or going over the edge. But sometimes He asks us to trust Him without the crutch of sensory perception. That's faith at its highest level.

SoulFood Bible Readings: 1 Co 15, Mt 28:1-10, Lk 24:1-12

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Re:Somebody is fighting the BIBLE!!

Posted by rambuka - 2008/03/23 02:16

Religion--is all our way to God-----we must respect all the religions-----Katonda tuyambe tuyigge abalabbe abagezako-okwagara--okutabula amadini.

=====

Re:Somebody is fighting the BIBLE!!

Posted by Astartois - 2008/03/25 22:07

Oooh Pastor Rambuka and Rev Tonto, I am impressed, you two have a calling. I have a confession to make.....:laugh: C'mon not in public. Where do you carry out your pastoral calling? I need to speak to you both in confidence, ofcourse individually and in isolation. Don't worry it won't be out of context. :P

On a serious note am impressed by the variety . We need soul food occasionally.

=====

Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/03/29 12:08

29.03.2008

ASKING BIG

How would you describe your prayer life? Is it focused on hearing and doing God's will, or is it centered on getting what you want? In his sermon "Are You Limiting God's Blessings?" Dr. Stanley taught that God desires to bless us abundantly, but our role is to ask expectantly. In faith, we should "ask big; anticipate big; prepare for big; trust big." God desires to shower us with prosperity—not necessarily always a surplus of material goods, but spiritual fruitfulness.

Are you "asking big"? I certainly don't always. I might ask God for an affordable house, the salvation of a family member, or healing for a co-worker. Does God want me to come to Him with petitions like these? Of course. But if my requests never go to the next level, I'll miss much of what God wants to accomplish. Prayers like these can be a reaction to my environment instead of a response to my Creator. I'm fighting individual battles but not necessarily taking my place in the spiritual war God invites every believer to join.

"Asking big" involves lifting our eyes off the mundane to see life from God's perspective. It's reminding ourselves that we aren't here to live comfortable, unremarkable lives. We weren't designed to focus on excelling in our careers, gathering newer or better toys, raising successful children, or having enough money to retire in style. These things aren't bad in themselves; they just aren't enough. Ultimately, they can't fill our hearts with the satisfaction and contentment that comes from knowing and doing God's will.

Every believer needs to ask, "What great thing does God want to do through me?" Notice the question isn't, "What great thing do I want to do for God?" The plans must stem from God's heart, or we will be on our own agenda, however spiritual it may appear. Only when we know the Father's plan for us can we most effectively ask Him to do the incredible through our lives.

When was the last time you allowed yourself to dream about what the Lord wants to do through you? If you're like me, you may need to spend some time with Him, asking what He wants to do through you to impact your family, neighborhood, workplace, and the world. You may be called to be a well-known leader, or your role may be far more humble—faithfully assisting someone else in his or her calling.

I think God desires us to approach dreaming about our future like children, believing anything is possible. When children dream about their future occupation, they don't typically worry about how obscure their job will be, how tough it will be to succeed in that profession, or how much money they will make pursuing that dream. Remember how confidently you told people what you wanted to be when you grew up? With a similar attitude, we can take a faith-filled, yet realistic, look at our abilities, gifts, and talents and ask, "God, how should I invest my time so that I am accomplishing Your will?"

You may discover the Lord's direction through a Scripture that comes to life for you, through His words spoken to your heart, or through a mental picture of what He'd like you to do. After allowing yourself to dream, be sure to evaluate your goal to be sure it's feasible. For example, if you weigh only 125 pounds, you probably need to let go of your dream to play professional football and impact the NFL™ for Christ. But if you have writing talent, perhaps God will use you to compose articles about the lives and faith of Christian athletes, sharing the gospel that way.

Once you're sure the dream is realistic, begin taking small steps toward it. Someone who feels called to be a missionary could first take a short-term mission trip. A person who wants to be a high school principal could work towards a career as a successful teacher. Someone called to be an entrepreneur could start small and let the company grow little by little as

profits rise.

Small victories over time prepare us for God's best. Rarely will God shower a big blessing on someone who is unwilling to follow Him in small steps of service and obedience, often over a long period of time (Matt. 25:14-30). But He will use those seemingly unimportant steps to prepare us for the fulfillment of His plans for us.

What is God's big dream for you? Ask Him to reveal it and then boldly anticipate that He will accomplish it through your life.

As Dr. Stanley says, "Be sure that you're continually listening and walking in His ways, and you'll get more than you could ever expect."

Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by Kalibattanya - 2008/03/29 14:23

Sebbo Tonto webale naate kugabula kijjulo kino ekyo mwooyo. Oteesezza sebbo.

Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by Kalibattanya - 2008/03/29 15:50

Tuyimbe nako nga tutendereza.

Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m7CHddSMDXc>

Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/04/06 20:29

Mummy Kalibatanya webale kusiima. Nze bwentyo. Ndi mugabuzi nga jjenje.

God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/04/06 20:33

06.04.2008

Intimacy with God

Philippians 3:7-11; NIV

How close to God are you? You say, well, I am not so sure how close I am. So I ask; how close do you want to be? You say, well, I want to be as close as I can. Why aren't you any closer than you are? Oh, well, I do not know. Do you realize that you can be just as close to God as you choose to be? I thought I had to know a lot of things. No, you don't have to. You can be just as close to God as you choose to be.

The problem is that most people just do not give God much thought. You might as well ask yourself a question; "how close to God am I, and how close do I really and truly want to be?" The most important thing in your life today is your personal, intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. Everything about you, in your environment, every relationship you have, your work, your friends, your loved ones, your money, every single aspect of your life is affected by your relationship to Jesus Christ. When your relationship with him is right, God can make all these other things so awesome.

Notice I have not mentioned church, or reading the Bible, or praying, or giving or witnessing. I am talking about a personal relationship between you and God through his son Jesus Christ. In Philippians 3:7-11 Paul says that the heart of his whole life is his faith in, and knowing the Lord Jesus Christ. And he says, "Therefore I pursue that above everything else". People can neglect this relationship for years and years. But when they think they are about to die or when they are going through difficulty, trial, pain, prosecution, all of a sudden, what should have been important from the moment they were saved becomes important now. The most intimate friend should be God through his son Jesus Christ. Intimacy with God simply means this; it is a close, personal, private relationship with Christ that results in a strong desire to know him, to trust him, to obey him and to accept his love. That is more than just going to church. It is more than just reading the Bible. It is more than trying to do good works. That is the will of God for every single believer.

It is not enough just to be saved. God desires that you and I have an intimate relationship with him. Think about your relationship between your husband or your wife. You can have a marriage without having intimacy. Most people think in terms of intimacy as sex; that has nothing to do with it necessarily. You can have sex with somebody whom you have no intimacy whatsoever. If you genuinely love your husband or your wife, you want to know them, and you want them to know you.

Peter, James and John

Jesus chose the 12 disciples. Out of that twelve, three began to surface; Peter, James and John. Out of these three, John seems to be more intimate than the others. Now, did Jesus choose these three men as his favorites? No, he did not choose them. God is not partial. He does not choose favorites. Each one of these disciples chose how intimate they wanted to be with Jesus. Peter, James and John were not simply satisfied with just knowing him as a trainer. They wanted to get closer and more intimate.

The scripture says that if you and I draw to him, he will draw out to us. But note this; it is God who takes the initiative to build an intimate relationship. "...and God spoke to Abraham. ...and God spoke to Moses. ...and God spoke to David. ...and God spoke to Daniel. ...and God spoke to..." When Jesus had some very special experiences, Peter, James and John wanted to go, and he chose them. He responded to their hunger for him. When he raised Jairus' daughter it was Peter, James and John who were there. On the mountain of Olive when he was sharing with them some of the most precious knowledge about the future, who did he pass that to first? It was Peter, James and John. Where were the others?

Tragically enough, most believers have a "settle-for" Christian life. I trust Jesus, I go to church and they just settle for that. Here is what most Christians are; they get saved, they step into the door of salvation, and they just park right there. Someone may honestly say this; "No body ever told me that I can have an intimate relationship with God". Somebody may ask, "Why do you think that you can have a special relationship with God? What makes it special is that I accepted an invitation to have a personal relationship with him. It is special to me. You can have the same thing.

What is it all about?

I watch the Television, and I see congregations sitting and listening to some body speak, and nobody in the congregation has a Bible, no body has a pen or pencil to take notes! You might say, "I remember the sermon". You may remember something in the sermon, but you won't remember much. As soon as the service is over, your mind is jammed; with lunch, traffic, getting home, you name it. People who go to church and sit and listen, no Bibles and take no notes, they do not know whether what has been preached is true or not. This is how liberal pastors destroy their churches. What is it all

about? If it is all about learning to have an intimate relationship with Christ you have to put in some effort. You say, "When I go to church, I do not necessarily take notes". If you are going to sit 30–45 minutes and listen to something and you do not hear anything worth writing down and remembering and putting into practice in your life, there is something wrong. Change churches. Church is all about understanding a little more about how to have an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ.

Who are you going to spend eternity with? It is Jesus. One of these days you are going to die, and face him. So, I ask you a question; what are you doing about gaining knowledge of him? The aim of the church, is to have you hear something that deep down in your heart, will create a hunger to know him and to walk in obedience to him, and to walk in his will and fulfill your purpose and his plan for your life. All about it is about Jesus. He wants us to build a relationship with him, because he said, if we see him, we have seen the Father. If we know him we know the Father. He came to reveal the Father, and die on the cross to make it possible for us to go to the Father. He came to reveal himself. God wants us to know, first of all, who he is. You will be surprised if you ask the people who sit in church, whether they believe Jesus is God; many will say they do not believe that.

Who is Jesus? He wants us to know who he is. He is the son of God. He is the Lamb of God. He is the King of kings, the Lord of lords. He is our very light. He wants us to know his ways. How did he live? That is the way he wants us to live. What are the ways of God? What motivated him? How did he think? How does he think? He wants us to think the way he thinks, to know and to understand his ways. He wants us to love as he loved, and to forgive as he forgave. He wants us to walk like he walked before the Father in obedience to him. He wants us to know how to respond to difficulties, temptations, trials, prosecutions and rejections. He wants us to know how to respond when everything about us is going in the other directions. He wants us to have such relationship to know him the way he responded. The apostle Paul is a beautiful, powerful example of the life of Christ. You name it, and he faced it; he never gave up, he never quit, he never stopped. He kept going. Your intimate relationship with him is the most important thing in your life. Therefore how do we develop it?

1. Spend Time with him

The necessary thing to build an intimate relationship with the Lord is time. You have to spend time with him. What matters is the value you place on knowing him. You have time to watch TV, time to work, time to do all things; is it not interesting that you and I would be so brazen as to tell him "we do not have time"? Do you know how long it takes you to die? You are telling this God who loves you and wants a relationship with you that you do not have time for him? We all have 24 hours in everyday, and we all make choices about how we are going to spend those 24 hours. Somebody says, "I really do not have time". How many hours do you spend watching the TV? You might say, "I have to get the News". I can tell you what the News is. It is bad. It is always bad and you will sit listening to that bad news one or two hours, and you even listen to the comments and challenges. What about finding out what God thinks. He knows all about what is going on in the world.

2. Listening to him

Listen to him. Do not do all the talking. You can lie down, kneel down, sit in your chair, or whatever it might be. I am not talking about listening to him just as in waiting for your telephone call, and when it rings you jump and get it quickly. Who is more important in your life than God? Did someone say "my husband"?

Take time to learn to listen to God. It takes time to learn to listen to God. There are times when you just need to be alone, quiet, and just say to him, "Lord, I am just here to listen. Whatever you want to say to me, I am available to hear it". Then when he brings up something, you cannot ignore it. He is not there just waiting for you to give him a chance to pounce on you. That is not who God is. For those of you who are married, when you talk, what do you want your husband or wife to do? Is it not to listen? If the man doesn't listen, she gets upset. She thinks that you do not put much value on what she says or that you do not put much value on her.

3. Talking to the Father

It takes talking to the Father, talking to the Lord Jesus. Lord here is what I am thinking. Here is how I am feeling. Lord, speak to my heart. Sometimes what you say to him may simply be; Lord I just want to tell you that I love you. Thank you

for being so good to me. Prayer isn't just a plea for help. Prayer is just being in his presence and talking to him, and you have to decide the best way for you to do it. Find some place in your house where you and Jesus can get by yourself. You say, there is no such a place in my house. Yes there is; if the extremes come to the extremes get in the bathroom, lock the door, and there, it is you and God. I think especially about older people who are single. You got time and place. You can be alone, as the scriptures say, Jesus was oftentimes. He would go alone to pray and the disciples would come and say "people are looking for you". Jesus spent time with the Father.

4. Being truthful

We have to be truthful and honest with him. When God brings up something continually in your heart, and in your mind, you may ignore it but you should know that God knows what is going on. Intimacy says I have to be honest, truthful, open, which means I need to be transparent. Tell him how you feel. He already knows so he will not be disappointed. What keeps us from building an intimate relationship with God? What are the barriers?

1. Willful known sin in your life

You cannot have an intimate relationship with the Lord Jesus and have willful known sin in your life and you won't deal with it. You become estranged. It is like, for example, a husband and wife. Instead of having an intimate relationship, a real wonderful kind of relationship with unconditional love, not only are you telling her that you love her, but you have something going on inside of you. You think a woman cannot figure that out? When God sees us so distracted by something we won't deal with, you cannot have intimacy with the Omniscience as if he didn't know.

2. The desire or determination to control things.

Not just the desire but the determination to control things; control him, control her, control my circumstances, when the opposite of that is surrender. If you are not willing to surrender your life to him, your circumstances and all the rest, there is not going to be any real, genuine intimacy.

3. Self-centeredness

Lord I know what you are saying but here is what I think I need to do. Jesus said different things different ways to the apostles. They had to deal with some of those things. Peter, for example, had to ask the Lord to forgive him for lots of reasons because he was certainly self-centered. Self-centeredness, selfishness, is a barrier. You cannot have intimate relationship and be self-centered at the same time.

4. Fear

Fear for what? Fear that God is going to take something from me. "I would like to be fully surrendered, but I am afraid if I fully surrender he is going to take her, or take him, or something is going to happen to my finances. God may kill my children". It is amazing the things people say. Do you realize that the accusation is that God is mean and that he is demeaning and that he is not loving? The only action God is going to take with us is love. You do not have to fear what you are going to lose for developing a relationship with him.

5. Disbelief

"Well, I know what it says but..." He knows what he wants to go on in your life only if we believe him. Just believe the Lord Jesus Christ enough to talk to him about your circumstances or somebody else's.

I simply ask you this; what is it in your life that is more valuable to you than a personal intimate relationship with Jesus Christ who loves you unconditionally with a love that is absolutely indescribable, who will never leave you nor forsake you, who will meet your every need, who sacrificed his life because he loves you, whose intimate relationship with you can bring you a sense of satisfaction, fulfillment, contentment, joy, happiness? Just think about this message, and be wise enough to make a commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ, and ask him not to live a day without coming to him for

thanks giving, confession, repentance, intercession for your friends, and most of all, just listening to him to hear what he has to say to you today. Mark my words, God will never disappoint you. If we draw near to him, he says he will draw near to us.

If you have never been saved, you cannot start with anything in this message. The first thing you must do is to ask the Lord Jesus Christ to forgive you of your sins, not on the basis of what you are going to do, but on the basis that he died on the cross and paid your sin debt in full. He is willing to forgive you the moment you ask him, cleanse your heart, and start you on a new path of an intimate relationship with him.

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/04/12 09:13

12.04.2008

Recognising God's Voice

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening. - 1 Samuel 3:9 NIV

Learning to recognise God's voice is not a skill that's acquired overnight, because He speaks to us at different times, in different settings and in different ways.

(1) It requires you to mature Spiritually.

Jesus said His sheep follow Him because they know His voice (See Jn 10:4 NIV). Notice, Jesus said that His "sheep", not His lambs, know His voice. Baby sheep just follow adult sheep until their senses are trained. Thank God there's grace for the immature. If your Spiritual ears are not yet developed, God will work with you until you learn to recognise His voice.

(2) It requires guidance and confirmation from Godly leadership.

"Obey your Spiritual leaders, and do what they say. Their work is to watch over your souls" (Heb 13:17 NLT). Who's your Spiritual up-line?

(3) It must not be limited to your previous experiences.

God spoke to Moses on a mountain that shook, and to Elijah through a still small voice. Don't limit God; He will speak to you through the Scriptures, through those qualified to teach you His Word, through a song, through a painful situation, and even your own thoughts and desires when you're submitted to Him. The key is to stay close to God and keep your receiver on.

(4) Above all else, it requires obedience.

The Psalmist said, "When You said, "Seek My face," my heart said to You, "Your face, Lord, I will seek" (Ps 27:8). When it comes to hearing from God, how's your response time? "When I get around to it." or "...I'll see if I can fit you in!" or "...I'll think about it!?" Wrong! God speaks, and continues to speak, to those who obey, and continue to obey.

SoulFood Bible Readings: Lev 15-17, Mk 4:35-41, Ps 25:1-7, Pr 10:1

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by Kalibattanya - 2008/04/13 12:10

Thank you for the good word Tonto. God be with us all. Amen.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dzYgwxK-pWs>

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by omumbejja - 2008/04/14 04:00

Tonto tojjanga okwo naye fingerprints zetagibwa nekubirala ngamba ebitesebwa tokoma wano wokka ate ne Xaza wuuyo azze alabika alina kyayagala okuddamu mukirango kyewakuba

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God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/04/19 09:40

19.04.2008

Are You Facing Closed Doors?

There are various reasons why God closes doors. Some of them are:

1. To protect us from making a mistake.

Sometimes an open door appears to be exactly what we want. And yet God closes it. Why? We can only see on this side of an opportunity or door. God sees on the other side of that door. If we could walk around and see the other side of the door, we would realise what a big mistake it would be to walk through that door. This is where our trust is so very important. If God closes a door it is because he knows what is on the other side.

2. To re-direct us

It is not necessary that God shuts all doors, but he re-directs us from this door to another one. In other words God is re-directing us to a greater opportunity. By closing the door to the apostle Paul to preach the gospel in Asia, God was simply giving him a far greater opportunity by moving him to an entirely different continent. (Acts 16:5-13).

3. To test our faith

When we come to situations where the door is closed, it is a test to our faith. The test is: "Am I going to believe what you said, God, that you always cause all things to work together for my good?" (Romans 8:28).

4. To equip us for another door he is going to open

Sometimes we think we are ready to walk through a door and yet God shuts it. Does it mean it is shut forever? No. You are not yet ready for that door opportunity. God is in the process of preparing you so that you may be better equipped for it.

5. Our disobedience.

Sometimes he closes the door because our disobedience has disqualified us for the opportunity he provided for us. This is why it is so very important that we walk in obedience to God. The price of disobedience is very painful.

Responding to closed doors:

a) Try to kick-open the door yourself.

The wrong response to a door that God has closed is to try to get it open.

b) Manipulate circumstances

Can God allow you to manipulate circumstances and burst a door down, if that is what is necessary to teach you a lesson? Yes, and you will be very sorry. When God closes a door and you try to get it open, all you are doing is opening yourself up to disappointment, discouragement, despair, pain like you have never known. He closed the door to protect us from all of that.

c) Becoming emotionally upset

"God, I am so disappointed in you". Then you get angry, bitter, hostile etc. A lot of people get up on the shelf because they respond to closed door the wrong way.

d) To blame somebody else

Blaming somebody else for a closed door in your life is to forget who closed the door.

The right response

Wait upon God for further instructions.

Why do you think God gave in the Psalm this verse of scripture? Psalm 27.14 "Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD".

Why did he say "be strong and take heart"? Because sometimes it takes real courage to wait for God to work. Sometimes what we think is going to be a long waiting, turns out to be short. Sometimes we think it is going to be a short wait, but it is long. But God has not forgotten you.

While you are waiting, God is ahead of you, working in your behalf.

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Re:God\'s Word for Today

Posted by Kalibattanya - 2008/04/19 11:24

Thanks Tonto, for the good words.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J2pG8akfxZI>

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Re:God\'s Word for Today

Posted by JeenaJulia - 2008/04/19 11:35

Tonto webaale nyoo obugambo obwesubi bunno bwotuweleza.Wandiba nga oli mutume ela twebaza Mukama olwokuba nabantu abalinga gwe ku forum.Nzize ngobelela obugambo bunno bwotulisa obujudde ekigambo kya Mukama.Ela bwenetegeleza enyoo nkizudde nti bulinga emeere yomwoyo.Your words are really nourishing my soul.Just keep it up buddy.Wooooooowwww!

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God\'s Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/04/19 21:50

Mama wa baana, webale kusiima. JeenaJulia, webale kunzizaamu maanyi. Webale kwetegereza bintu bino.

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God\'s Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/04/26 09:46

26.4.2008

You Have Access To God

Let's walk right up to Him and get what He is so ready to give. - Hebrews 4:16 TM

If you've been to an amusement park you know that it's designed to transport you to another world. The goal of the entire experience is to help you lose yourself in its joy and excitement. In prayer, we're transported to another world. Now a theme park is all make-believe; you have to leave it and come back to the real world. But there is no make-believe with prayer. It takes us into the Heavenly realm where Jesus is sitting at the right hand of God. It positions us to hear from God.

Hear what? Hear God's voice applying His Word to our specific needs and circumstances. But let's admit it, prayer can be hard work; it requires discipline. It's not as easy as running around having fun at an amusement park. All of us know what it's like to get down on our knees with the best of intentions, and either fall asleep, run out of things to say, or find our minds wandering after just a few minutes.

"Prayer changes things," as the old saying goes, but it first has to change us: to turn us from a self-focus to a God-focus so we can understand and do His will. The writer to the Hebrews puts it this way: "We don't have a priest who is out of touch with our reality. He's been through weakness and testing, experienced it all - all but the sin. So let's walk right up to Him and get what He is so ready to give. Take the mercy, accept the help" (Heb 4:14-16 TM). Today you have access to God through prayer. Use it!

SoulFood Bible Readings: 1 Co 7-9, Mk 7:24-37, Ps 144:1-8, Pr 10:19-21

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God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/04/26 09:50

26.04.2008

Financial Amnesia

Remember...the Lord...gives you power to become rich. - Deuteronomy 8:18 TLB

Can God trust you with money? Do you have the courage to thank Him publicly for what He's given you? Ever noticed how some of us who praised Him when we had very little, suddenly become 'image conscious' when we start to prosper?

We call on God when we're in trouble, but when we get back on our feet we stop counting our blessings and start counting our money. What's happened? We've become so self-sufficient that we're reluctant to mention the name of

Jesus when we talk about our blessings! Israel's financial amnesia was nothing new; it happens once you start believing "it was own power and might that made wealthy" .

Never get so dazzled by success that you forget the source of everything you have, or become so caught up in your blessings that you fail to acknowledge the One who blessed you. God told the Israelites, "When you have become...prosperous...built fine homes...and your silver and gold have multiplied...don't become proud and forget the Lord...who brought you out of...slavery" .

God doesn't condemn success, He condemns arrogance! When you've had very little and suddenly enter the 'Promised Land,' it's easy to forget where you came from. A few gourmet meals, a designer suit and a house in 'the right neighbourhood' can make you forget about yesterday's hand-me-downs!

God constantly had to remind His people not to overlook His goodness to them. And the same applies to us. "Remember...the Lord...gives you power to become rich, and...just as ...caused other nations in the past to perish...That will be your fate...if you don't obey...God" .

Bottom line - you don't have anything God didn't give you!

SoulFood Bible Readings: 1 Co 14-16, Mk 8:14-26, Ps 94:1-11, Pr 10:24-26

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God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/05/05 16:50

5.5.2008

Come As You Are

Follow Me, and I will make you... - Matthew 4:19

Understand this: Jesus doesn't invite us to follow Him because we believe in Him. He invites us to follow Him because He believes in us! He says, "Follow Me and I will make you" (Mt 4:19). He knows what we can become when His grace touches our lives. Matthew, a Jew, collected taxes for the Romans who enslaved his people. In their eyes he was lower than scum. Yet Jesus called him and he ended up writing the first book in the New Testament.

When Nathanael was invited to meet Jesus he was downright skeptical. "Can...any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip said to him, 'Come and see'" (Jn 1:46). Even after three years of exposure to His miracles and messages, they still had doubts. Check how often He says to them, "You of little faith...why do you not believe?... If only you believed you would see."

Knowing they were anxious about what would happen when He left them and went back to Heaven, Jesus said, "I will pray to the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter , that He may abide with you forever" (Jn 14:16). The Greek word for comforter is paracletos which means 'one who comes alongside to help'.

There will never be a day when you won't need God's help!

So, come as you are. Come with your self-righteous or sordid past. Come with your halo or your hang-ups or your hang-overs. Come, even though you wonder if He can do what He promises. Let His power and presence rub off on you. What do you have to lose?

You've tried your way and it didn't work, now try His way. Come. You won't be disappointed!

SoulFood Bible Readings: Nu 16-18, Mk 10:13-22, Ps 37:32-40, Pr 1:32 - 2:2

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God\'s Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/05/11 10:59

11.05.2008

When Little Children Die, What Then?

But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would be better for him to have a heavy millstone hung around his neck, and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. (Matthew 18:6)

Whether it is an international crisis, such as the Tsunami in Asia and Africa, or a local accident or a criminal act, or a disease, the death of a child raises many questions. What happens to those precious ones who are too young to believe in Christ? How does God deal with them?

In the last few weeks, especially after the burning of Budo Junior Girls School, in Uganda, where 50 students of ages around 10, were burnt to death, I have been asked several times; what happens to the lives of the children who are lost in these disasters? Where are they? What is God's view about these children? What happens to a child when he or she dies?

In Mark 10:13-16 says; And they were bringing children to Him so that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked them. 14But when Jesus saw this, He was indignant and said to them, "Permit the children to come to me; do not hinder them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. 15"Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it at all." 16And He took them in His arms and began blessing them, laying His hands on them.

Notice that Jesus rebuked his disciples when they tried to hinder the children. He said, 'let the children come to me. Do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these'. Notice something else. He used these children to teach the adults some lessons. He said, v15 "Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it at all." He was simply saying that humility and faith are absolutely essential to becoming a part of the kingdom of God.

The scriptures say, in Matthew 18:1-6 1At that time the disciples came to Jesus and said, "Who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" 2And He called a child to Himself and set him before them, 3and said, "Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. 4"Whoever then humbles himself as this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. 5"And whoever receives one such child in My name receives Me;

And listen what he says. He gives a very stun warning to those who hinder or in some way, who harm or kill little children. He says:-

6but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would be better for him to have a heavy millstone hung around his neck, and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

Here is what Jesus was saying. Anyone who hinders a little child in some fashion, that person is worthy of having a millstone hanged around their neck and drowned at the depth of the sea. Jesus says; "Drown them".

Are Babies Sinners?

Romans Chapter 5, God makes it very clear. All of us came in this world with a bend-away from God. You might be a mother to a very beautiful little sweet baby. It might be hard for you to believe that your precious sweet beautiful baby has an all-sin nature. What!? He (or she) is just a baby!! And when that baby reaches the age of 2, you will certainly agree with me. The truth is, all of us have something within us, that at times, even though we are believers, we do not want to do the right thing. We know it is the wrong thing, but somehow we want to do it anyway.

A child comes into this world, neither righteous nor saved, but innocent. That is, at some point, there comes a time when that child becomes morally responsible for their conduct in the eyes of God. But in those early years, they are doing exactly what children do at that age. We have to teach them what obedience is and teach them to be responsible.

The question comes; what is the spiritual condition of that child? That child has no understanding of right or wrong, moral or immoral. They are in the stage of such innocence. They have to be taught what is right and what is wrong. Somebody

asks; well, is that child lost or is that child saved? They are neither lost nor saved. We hear people talking about the age of accountability. The Bible talks about a time when the child becomes responsible in the eyes of God for their thinking and their conduct. There is therefore a time when God recognizes that young ones and children are not responsible for good and evil, because they do not know to the degree to which they must (Isaiah 7:15-16).

It is one thing to be disobedient to parents. It is one thing to do what you know is not right. It something else when you know you defy God. You rebel against God. You know that you are resisting God. There is a difference between resisting God, rebelling against God, and doing things which we see children do at some early age in their life.

So, what is the spiritual condition of these children? They come to a place in their life before they are spiritually incapable of comprehending. Think about children who grew up in a home where Jesus is never mentioned, God is never mentioned and no Bible. People make fun of the church, make fun of the preachers, and make fun of the Bible. Therefore their children have no comprehension whatsoever. They never go to church, never go to Sunday schools, and when some religious program comes, they switch it off. The children grow in that kind of home with no comprehension, whatsoever of spiritual things.

At some point, however, even in the life of these children when they grow up, they know that what they are doing is wrong. That is so, because God has written on the conscious of every single person. And there comes a point when that conscious says; this is wrong.

Every child growing up knows murder is wrong, rape is wrong, stealing is wrong, lying is wrong, cheating is wrong. Why? It is written on the conscious. It isn't just a revelation from creation, it is written on the conscious, says God in Romans Chapter 1.

Well, what about children who cannot even reason; who do not know the difference between right and wrong? What about the children who are not morally responsible? Because they are not capable; they have not reached the age of moral responsibility, they are safe until they reach that age of responsibility and make a decision. Many will make a decision to receive Jesus Christ as their Savior. Many will not.

2 Samuel 12:21-23, referring David. You will recall that David committed sin with Bathsheba and the son died. David is going through a very difficult time.

21 His servants asked him, "Why are you acting this way? While the child was alive, you fasted and wept, but now that the child is dead, you get up and eat!" 22 He answered, "While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept. I thought, 'Who knows? The LORD may be gracious to me and let the child live.' 23 But now that he is dead, why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me."

God's servant about whom God said; he is a man after my own heart. Though he has sinned against God he said; "I cannot bring him back here but I will go to him.

The loving God of the Bible is going to take care of his children. And when they come to the age of accountability then they are responsible. Until then, they go to heaven if they die very early in life. Let's take for example, a little child of, say five days or six months dies, they do not go to heaven and live in eternal infancy. They go to heaven and they grow up, and are saved by the grace of God. How is this little child saved? By the grace of God.

They go to God in heaven, to a state of blessedness, which even the Old Testament saints had some expectation of. Godly parents have great reason to hope concerning their children that die in infancy that it is well with their souls in the other world; for the promise is to us and to our seed, which shall be performed to those that do not put a bar in their own door, as infants do not. Favours received should produce the hope of more. God calls those his children that are born

unto him; and, if they be his, he will save them. This may comfort us when our children are removed from us by death, they are better provided for, both in work and wealth, than they could have been in this world. We shall be with them shortly, to part no more.

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by Kalibattanya - 2008/05/11 11:34

We missed two hymns that I would like to bring first before we continue with today's God's word. So here is for the Financial Amnesia:

All things Bright And Beautiful.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZq8ZUE6GTU>

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by Kalibattanya - 2008/05/11 11:37

A hymn for the sermon; Come As You Are-

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ovYPQI93zro>

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by Kalibattanya - 2008/05/11 11:44

We Thank you Tonto for the good word.

For the sermon, When The Children Die, What Then?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1HY5aVXNxrI>

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/05/12 16:22

Mummy webale hymns ezo. All things Bright And Beautiful kanyumira nnyo.

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/05/18 16:13

18.5.2008

Speak To Their Spirit! (1)

Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. - 2 Corinthians 5:16 NKJV

We've all heard the stories of people in a coma, incapable of response, yet fully aware of what was going on around them. One patient tells of feeling trapped inside his body, listening in despair as his loved ones gave up on him and doctors talked about pulling the plug. There's an important survival principle here. When you speak to someone battling adversity or serious illness, speak life to their Spirit. Speak to the part of them that's capable of rising up in faith and responding. "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God" (Ro 10:17). How does faith come? By hearing what God thinks, what God says and what God can do when others have given up.

You say, "But the situation looks hopeless." Maybe, but until God has been heard from, the last word hasn't been spoken. God told the prophet Ezekiel to go and stand in a valley full of dead bones (that's about as bad as it gets!) and say, "This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life" (Ez 37:5 NIV). Now, you can't hold on to a loved one when God in His sovereign wisdom decides it's time to take them home. But until then, speak words of life to their Spirit. And speak them to yourself too.

Faith does not deny the reality of the circumstances - it just refuses to be intimidated, limited or ruled by them. That's why Paul writes, "Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh" (2 Co 5:16). So speak life to their Spirit - and to your own Spirit too!

SoulFood Bible Readings: Gal 5:22, Lk 19:11-26, Ps 36:5-9, Heb 10:19-23

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by Kalibattanya - 2008/05/18 17:48

Ebigambo ebyo birungi nnyo mu kaseera kokulwaaza, naffe nga tuli balwadde oba banafu, yadde nga tuwulira, era tuddamu amaanyi nebigambo ebirungi ebyomukwano. Tweyanze nnyo Taata Tonto.

Atenderezebwe Mukama Katonda waffe. Amiina.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_55kWZk0c5Y

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/05/18 18:52

18.5.2008

Speak To Their Spirit! (2)

Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. - 2 Corinthians 5:16 NKJV

When God speaks to us He often does it through people. The trouble is, our Spiritual ears are not developed and attuned to His voice. In some cases we have become doubting and cynical. What a loss! Your fear of 'getting it wrong' will rob you of vital input only God can give you.

Jacob woke up one morning after having an encounter with God the night before and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it" (Ge 28:16 NIV). You need to wake up Spiritually and, (a) desire above all else to hear from God; (b) eliminate mental clutter, slow down and take the time to understand what He's saying; (c) believe that God will actually speak to you. If you don't, you'll be at the mercy of your own best thinking, or worse, the influence of others just like you. Self-sufficiency is the enemy of hearing from God! As long as you can do it without God, you won't reach for God. Seven times in two chapters of the Book of Revelation God says, "He that has an ear let him hear what the Spirit says." Until you hear from God you're working with severely limited information and you'll keep making mistakes, costly ones. Hearing from God must become a priority so great, you adjust your schedule and your attitudes to it every day.

Paul writes, "Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh" (2 Co 5:16). Stop shutting out the people God wants to speak to you through because they are flawed. God doesn't speak to you through their flesh; He speaks through their Spirit - to your Spirit!

SoulFood Bible Readings: Heb 1-4, Mk 13:1-11, Ps 93, Pr 11:9-11

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/05/18 18:54

Kaliba, webale kusiima, dear.

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God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/05/24 10:51

24.05.2008

The Importance Of Relationships

Whoever walks with...fools suffers harm. - Proverbs 13:20 NRS

In his book High Maintenance Relationships Les Parrot offers us ways to know whether someone is a plus or a minus in our lives:

- (1) Do you feel anxious when a particular person has called and left a message for you to return?
- (2) Are you dealing with a relationship that drains you of energy and enthusiasm?
- (3) Do you dread having to see or talk to a particular person at work or in a social situation?
- (4) Do you always seek to give, but get nothing in return?
- (5) Do you keep second-guessing your own performance as a result of interacting with this person?
- (6) Do you become more self-critical in their presence?
- (7) Is your creativity blocked or is your clarity of mind hampered by the lingering discomfort of having to deal with them?
- (8) Do you try to calm yourself after being with this person by eating more, biting your nails, or engaging in some other unhealthy habit?
- (9) Do you have imaginary conversations or mental arguments in which you defend yourself or try to explain your side of a conflict?
- (10) Do you feel resentful that this person seems to treat other people better than they treat you?
- (11) Do you wonder why this person singles you out for criticism but rarely acknowledges what you do well?

If you answer yes, you're in a high-maintenance relationship, and you've three options:

- (1) Continue to suffer.
- (2) Continue to complain.
- (3) Do something about it.

Start by heeding the Scripture: "Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise; but the companion of fools suffers harm" (Pr 13:20 NRS).

SoulFood Bible Readings: Heb 11:17 - 13:25, Mk 13:32-37, Ps 45, Pr 11:19-22

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by omumbejja - 2008/05/25 05:33

Tonto twesiimye naawe okutuletera ekigambo kya Katonda ekigya mu buli situation gyetubaamu tojja nga okwo yongera okuliisa emyooyo gyaffe

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Re:God\'s Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/05/25 12:18

Sebo, webale kusiima. Christianity is a lifestyle. Buli kyeweetaaga mu bulamu bwonna, jekiri mu Bible.

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Re:God\'s Word for Today

Posted by Kalibattanya - 2008/05/25 18:14

Friendship is the watch word of this month, I think. Thanks again Daddy Tonto.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N4Pw01hKTDY>

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Re:God\'s Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/05/26 11:16

Kalibattanya wrote:

Friendship is the watch word of this month, I think. Thanks again Daddy Tonto.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N4Pw01hKTDY>

Webale kusiima, mummy. Ate bwossaako ka smile bwotyo, mu face yo enaziibwa amata, nange mpulira essanyu. Yye nno bwentunulako kukabina akapapala, haaa, nengamba nti wamma nalonda.

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God\'s Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/05/31 12:46

31.05.2008

When Things Seem Impossible

John 6:1-14 NIV

All of us have had at one point a difficult situation, and said; God I do not know what to do. I do not know where to go. I do not know which way to turn. What shall I do? We had our back to the wall – so to speak. Everything seemed impossible. I am pleased to inform you that with God, nothing is impossible.

In John 6:1, is the story of the feeding of the five thousands. You might say, oh, I know that story. But do you know the principle behind the story? What is it that God is trying to say to us in this account? After Jesus had performed a series of miracles on the sick people, a great crowd followed him. Jesus had now gone up the mountain with the disciples, probably to get a rest. It was close to the Jewish Passover Feast, which maybe, was the reason that there were many

people walking around and towards him.

Then seeing so many people coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip: “where are we to buy enough bread so that we may eat (Verse 5)?” In this, Jesus was testing Philip, because Jesus knew what He was going to do (verse 6).

The crowd of people was so large, that “eight months’ wages” of that time, was not enough to buy bread, for each one to have a bite (verse 7)! With this in mind, the only alternative must have seemed ridiculous - verse 9: “Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many people?” There were about five thousand men, in addition to women and children. So in all there were probably about 6000 or 6500 or maybe 7000 people. But nothing is impossible with God.

Jesus took the five small loaves, and having given thanks, He distributed them to them, as much as they wanted. He did the same with fish (verse 11). When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples to gather the pieces that were left over, that nothing be wasted (verse 12). They gather up and filled twelve baskets of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten (verse 13).

All miracles are signs of His true identity.

Let me just point this out. Jesus’ primary purpose for performing miracles was not just to heal people and to help them feel better. The primary purpose of His miraculous signs was to demonstrate His true identity. After the people saw the miraculous sign that Jesus did, they began to say, “Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world (verse 14).” All of his miracles were signs of His true identity that Jesus Christ was and is the Messiah.

The theme of this message, however, is, “when things seem impossible” in our daily life. Some situations that may seem impossible for us to overcome can include health or finance or employment, etc., or a combination of them. It may seem impossible to come through a given hardship. There are some facts which I want you to be fully aware of. These are:

1. Jesus is aware of those circumstances which we feel it is a seemingly impossible situation.

You notice here, that I didn’t write “an impossible situation” but I write “seemingly” impossible situation. It appears to be impossible. It looks like it is impossible. In this situation there were about five thousands men, besides women and children (Matthew 14:21). The impossible situation here, it appears, is all of these people who had followed Jesus all day long, were now tired and hungry. That it was now late in the evening with so many people who had been following Jesus all day, and now tired and hungry, made it a desperate situation.

Many times, when in such desperate situation in our life we tend to ask the wrong questions, sometimes make the wrong decisions. We tend to ask “What in the world am I going to do?” or “What shall I do?”. Wrong questions. The right question should be “Lord, what are you going to do about my situation?”(John 6:8-9). Nothing is impossible when the Supernatural invasion of the Lord Jesus Christ comes into our life, and He enters our circumstances to deal with them. God does not want us to figure it out by ourselves. God wants us to call upon Him and to trust Him to deal with our circumstances. When we call on Him, He will deal with our circumstances, no matter what they are. The apostles did not know what to do, nor did they call upon Jesus Christ to handle the problem. Instead they said “Send the crowds away... (Matthew 14:15).

2. Jesus Christ always has a plan for our seemingly impossible circumstances.

Not only is He aware of our circumstances, He always has a working plan for our problems. Jesus is never caught off-guard. He always knows what He is going to do. And He knows how, where, and when. He knows exactly the resources that are necessary for your situation. And yet often Christians act like unbelievers. Trust Him. Get on your knees and say, Lord what are you going to do? He will guide you step by step.

3. Jesus will often surprise us by the way He turns our seemingly impossible situation into things that are possible.

Sometimes God is very surprising. Don't you ever under-estimate what God can do in your life, when you surrender all you are and all what you have to him. This boy just turned over his small lunch to Jesus. After they had eaten their fill, they gathered the pieces of bread that were left over, and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten. (John 6:12-13). Surrender your life to the one who created you. God has the best plan possible for your life. But he can only make that plan work if you surrender your life completely to Him.

4. He will use these seemingly impossible circumstances to teach, train and grow us up.

Just think the impact the apostles got when they watched this miracle. This incidence must have strengthened their faith, watching the power of God in action. The same can happen to you and me. God allows you to hit some impossible situation. He has a purpose for it. Maybe it is to strengthen your faith. Maybe He wants to demonstrate His power working in your life or to demonstrate His love for you. God loves us. It may also be to reveal to us, how inadequate we are. Apart from Him we can do nothing. He wants us to live according to his resources, his strength, his power, trusting in him. He wants us to come to the end of ourselves, saying, what am I going to do? He wants us to say, God what are you going to do in my life, or in this situation? Whatever you may be going through, surrender to God, and watch what He is going to do in your life. With God nothing is impossible.

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Re:God\'s Word for Today

Posted by Kalibattanya - 2008/05/31 14:00

Thanks for today's good word Taata Tonto.

Indeed nothing is impossible to Him, because He's the Lord Of all.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i3-SwidavfU>

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God\'s Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/06/08 10:04

8.6.2008

Trusting God In The Dark

You do not realise now what I am doing, but later you will. - John 13:7 NIV

Mary and Martha were upset that Jesus didn't come until their brother Lazarus was dead. "Lord...if you had been here, my brother would not have died" (Jn 11:21 & 32 NIV). But instead of giving them reasons, Jesus replied, "Did I not tell you...if you believed, you would see " (Jn 11:40 NIV). When God asked Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac he didn't understand, but later he witnessed God's faithfulness when Isaac was restored to him. Moses didn't understand why he had to spend 40 years in the wilderness, but later when God called him to lead Israel to freedom, he got it. Joseph didn't know why his brothers mistreated him or why he was imprisoned unfairly, but later he saw God's hand in everything. His

father questioned why Joseph had been taken away from him, but later, looking into the face of the man who had been made governor and who'd saved the lives of the nation, God's purposes became clear.

Just like your children don't always think your decisions make sense, we don't understand God's ways. That's why Jesus said to Mary and Martha, "You do not realise now what I am doing, but later you will" (Jn 13:7 NIV). God doesn't expect you to understand, but He does expect you to trust Him. In spite of his boils, bankruptcy and bereavement Job said: "When He has tested me, I will come forth" (Job 23:10 NIV).

Is God testing you? If He is, what are you learning? Is the experience making you bitter, or making you better by causing you to draw closer to Him?

SoulFood Bible Readings: Rev 10-14, Mk 15:27-32, Ps 132:1-10, Pr 13:4-6

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by Kalibattanya - 2008/06/08 14:25

Beautiful words Daddy Tonto. Thanks.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7x2lpLSfqp8>

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God's Word for Today

Posted by tonto - 2008/07/25 16:41

26.07.2008

A Word To Leaders (Part 1)

Joshua ordered the officers of the people. - Joshua 1:10 NIV

Before Israel entered the Promised Land God gave two important instructions to their leaders:

(1) "Cross over ahead of your brothers" (Jos 1:14 NIV). If God has called you to lead, step up to the plate and swing the bat. Believe in yourself and your mission! Accomplishment is more than just working harder and smarter; it's about believing the right thing.

Someone called it the 'sure enough' syndrome. If you expect to fail, sure enough you will. If you expect to succeed, sure enough you will. Personal breakthroughs begin with a change in your beliefs. What you believe deep down determines what you expect, and what you expect determines how you will act. In the long run, a belief is more than just an idea you

possess, it's an idea that possesses you!

(2) "Be strong and courageous" (Jos 1:6 NIV). Your life will expand or shrink in proportion to the measure of courage you display. If you're willing to take risks you'll go further than those who timidly follow the safe and predictable path.

Orison Swett Marden writes: "The moment you resolve to take hold of life with all your might and make the most of yourself at any cost, to sacrifice all lesser ambitions to your one great aim, to cut loose from everything that interferes with that aim, to stand alone, firm in your purpose whatever happens, you set in motion the forces implanted within you for your own development. Live up to your resolve, work at what God meant you to work at for the perfecting of His plan, and you will be invincible. No power on earth can hold you back from success."

SoulFood Bible Readings: Jer 49-50, Lk 7:1-10, Ps 118:1-9, Pr 15:27-30

A Word To Leaders (Part 2)

Joshua ordered the officers of the people. - Joshua 1:10 NIV

God said to Israel's leaders when entering the Promised Land: "Help your brothers" (Jos 1:14 NIV). "How long do I have to keep investing in this person?" you ask. Want a Bible answer? "Until they too have taken possession of the land that...God is giving them" (Jos 1:15 NIV). It's not an occasional act of assistance; it's a lifestyle of serving.

At the end of every day we should each ask ourselves, "Did I do a good job today? Was I an asset and not just an expense?" Author Richard L. Evans remarked, "It's priceless to find a person who will take responsibility, who will finish and follow through to the final detail - to know when someone has accepted an assignment that it will be effectively, conscientiously completed." And Paul raises the bar for followers of Christ! "Whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus" (Col 3:17 NLT).

People who take advantage of others inevitably fail. Dr. John Maxwell writes, "If you desire to succeed, live by these four simple words: add value to others. That philosophy will take you far. All talented people have a choice to make: to do their own thing and get all the credit, or do the team thing and share it. My observation is that not only do talented people accomplish more when working with others, but they are also more fulfilled than those who go it alone."

So here's the deal: you are only qualified to enjoy the privileges and benefits of leadership when you're willing to (a) go first and (b) put others first. God says: "After that, you may go back and occupy your own land" (Jos 1:15 NIV).

SoulFood Bible Readings: Jer 51-52, Lk 7:11-23, Ps 118:10-18, Pr 15:31-32

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by Jona - 2008/07/25 17:32

Thank you, Tonto, for the above message. It makes a lot of sense, when you meditate about it, even concerning our present leaders. I wish they ever read the Bible. But do they? Wapi!!!

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Walking By Faith

We walk by faith, not by sight. - 2 Corinthians 5:7

After refusing to worship idols, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were thrown in a fiery furnace. Sounds pretty hopeless, eh? Not for the God Who specialises in doing the impossible; Who isn't known for 'business as usual'. When men do something spectacular we can detect human logic behind it. But as one author writes, "God doesn't build skyscrapers; men ...and they have the touch of human genius. But you can't find a man who can make a star. And when God steps in, like the difference between a skyscraper and a star."

God honoured the Hebrew children's faith by bringing them safely out of the fire. The king himself declared, "Blessed be...God... who...delivered His servants who...trust in Him...there is no other god who is able to deliver in this way" .

Many people who appear to be carefree, have anxieties only God understands: money problems, employment issues, health challenges and marital concerns. So God says, "Transfer all your anxieties to me" (See 1 Pe 5:7). When you walk by faith you get answers to prayer that challenge human reasoning. And looking back you realise you couldn't have come up with a better solution yourself.

Poet Patrick Overton said, "When you come to the edge of all the light you have and are about to drop off into the darkness of the unknown, faith is knowing that one of two things will happen: there will be something solid to stand on, or you'll be taught to fly."

Remember, "We walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Co 5:7). And just when you think you've learned how to do that, you'll face a situation that requires you to learn it all over again!

SoulFood Bible Readings: Acts 16-17, Lk 9:28-36, Ps 42:1-5, Pr 16:16

Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by omumbejja - 2008/07/26 05:38

Jona nnali nebuuza lwaaki wambulako naye kati nsanyuse okulaba nate webale obugambo bwaffe buno nange ndeseeyo akayimba akagenderako

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=otaSC_NHICw

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by Jona - 2008/07/27 09:56

Sebo Omumbejja, nange nsanyuse okukulaba nate, era webale akayimba ako. Hha, nange ombuzeeko nnyo, Mumbejja.

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Re:God's Word for Today

Posted by prettyd - 2008/07/28 20:24

Tonto munaffe webale nnyo kutuliisa ku kigambo ekyo,kikulu nyo nyini ddala kuba it gives us hope and strength to carry on in any situation.

God bless!

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