

SATURDAY TO BE A VICTOR

I READ: 2 Samuel 8.

Constant warfare, being hunted, committed adultery and a complex family relationship were part of King David's life. Nevertheless, the bible notes that David is the only biblical figure that is a friend of God and God bestowed victories over him whenever and wherever he went. What is the key to his victories and God's favor in his life? The answer is because David underlined his life with pray, praise and worship. David understood that when he brings sacrifice of prayer, praise and worship to God, God dwelled in that vicinity and in his life. Furthermore, pray, praise and worship will coerce the devil to flee. When David played his music in front of King Saul, the evil spirit that was lodged in King Saul took flight. Are you tired of living in defeat and being a victim and not to live according to His will? Start with faithful praying and bring a sacrifice of praise and worship to God, then He will act. He will take us from one victory to the next victories, from glory to glory.

I DECLARE: Psalm 22:3: But You are holy, Enthroned in the praises of Israel

I DO: I will adopt praise and worship as a lifestyle.

I PRAY: I will pray so that God's churches in America will be filled with praise and worship, and as a result, God will be enthroned over America.

SUNDAY

OBTAINING A CROWN OF GLORY

I READ: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27.

Apostle Paul had a clear vision for his life; he understood God's calling to do His will. Eventhough he had to experience myriad sufferings and persecutions for the gospel, He never gave up and retreated from his duties as a servant of God. He even said, "For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Philippians 1:21). Paul understood that all he did for God will never be in vain; there is an eternal crown of glory stored in Heaven for him. As servants of God, we have to understand that all our efforts, time, sacrifices and even sufferings that we experienced will never end in vain. Do not halt at the path but focus our eyes to the heavenly call because we know that we will receive an eternal crown of glory if we stay faithful till the end. We should live our lives according to his calling; wherever he placed us, because that is the best option and the most satisfying life for us.

I DECLARE: 1 Peter 5:4: and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

I DO: I will always remember that what I do for God will contribute to the crown that I will receive.

I PRAY: I will pray so that all children of God understand their calling in their lives.

Publishing Team, IBC Church

DAILY WORD

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MONDAY

FIRST LOVE

I READ: Matthew 22:34-40.

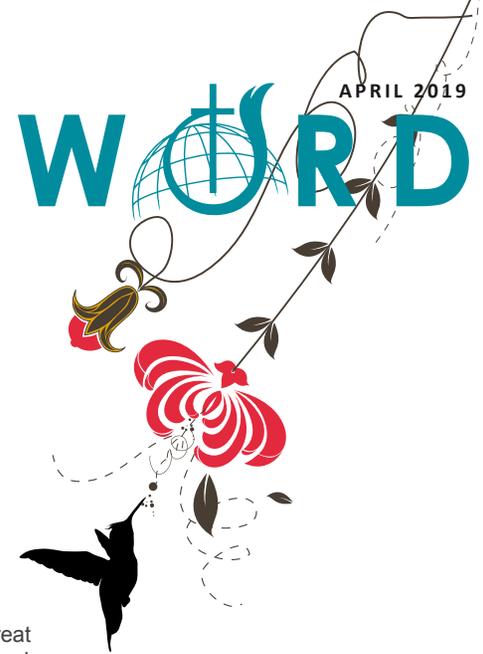
To maintain our first love towards our husband/wife is not an easy thing. It is even harder maintaining our love to God because He is someone whom we cannot see. The Word of God states that the first great commandment is to love Him with all of our heart, soul, and mind. This is the definition of the first love. Our heart, soul, and mind should only be for Him. In other words, God has to be the center in every situation and condition in our life. To maintain your first love towards God, the first thing we have to do is to build an intimate relationship with Him through prayer, praise and worship, and daily Bible reading. In addition, we have to diligently go to church, gather often with our brothers and sisters in faith, and serve the Lord. Doing these things will keep our love for the Lord burning. In addition, we have to be aware of the lies of the devil. He will always try to make our love for our God cold. That is why we have to do the things mentioned above so that we are always in love with the Lord. Having the first love is the foundation for us to be able to live in God's calling.

I DECLARE: John 15:9: "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love.

I DO: I will love the Lord more than anything in my life and regardless of what happens in my life.

I PRAY: I will pray so that God will renew my heart and so that I can continue to have the burning love for the Lord.

LIVING IN GOD'S CALLING



TUESDAY UNDERSTANDING GOD'S WILL

I READ: Matthew 26:36-46.

The Lord Jesus was successful in doing the Father's will. The Father's will be for Him to die on the cross to redeem the world's sin and be resurrected on the third day. Because of Jesus' faithfulness, whoever believes in Jesus will be saved and have a place in heaven. The Lord Jesus knows clearly His purpose in being born into this world. Knowing God's will for our lives is really important because we do not want this life to be wasted and not being able to obtain the crown of righteousness. We need to often ask the Lord what He wants us to do. The will of God can be conveyed through the Holy Spirit, who will speak in our heart, our spiritual father, brothers and sisters in Christ, family or people who are close with us. If we are faithful in doing God's will, God will ensure that we're living in His calling. Someone who lives in God's calling will always feel satisfied in going through their lives. This person will never calculate profit or loss, be happy, and be able to enjoy his/her life. The reason for this is because this person is walking according to the Father's will.

I DECLARE: Colossians 3:2: Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

I DO: I will pray so that I can do the will God faithfully.

I PRAY: I will pray so that God's churches can understand His will in this end time.

WEDNESDAY SERVING THE LORD

I READ: Mark 10: 43-45.

When Jesus Christ was on earth, his life was filled with ministries according to the Father's will. What the Lord Jesus did should be an example of what we should do while we are still living, which is to serve our Father in heaven. To serve the Lord is a life calling for believers.

If we love the Lord Jesus, there should be a strong push in our heart to serve Him and we should take part in serving the Lord in church. Life wouldn't feel complete if we don't serve the Lord. To be faithful in serving the Lord, we must always remember that we are serving the Lord and no other human beings so that when we have a conflict with people in the same ministry, we can stay firm and focused in pleasing the Lord's heart.

Other than that, we must remember that we must sacrifice and pay the price when we are ministering. When we have this in mind, we don't become easily disappointed and hopeless when our ministry is taking up a lot of our time, energy, and financials.

There is a saying that says serving the Lord is sweet. Yes, serving the Lord will always be sweet if we maintain our first love for Him.

I DECLARE: I will continuously serve faithfully so that my life isn't useless, but instead it will bring a positive impact for others and for the Kingdom of God.

I DO: John 12:26: If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor.

I PRAY: I'm going to pray for my friends of the same faith

THURSDAY STEP OUT FROM YOUR COMFORT ZONE

I READ: Psalm 126:5, 6.

In this life, there is no result without effort. A farmer does not know whether the seed he sows will produce good harvest or not, because the result of his harvest depends on how much rain will come, the soil fertility, the presence of pests etc. Even if the result is uncertain, a farmer still wakes up in the morning to sow seeds and work on his land. That farmer must come out from his comfort zone if he wants to see results. The same also applies to God's children. Living in God's calling often requires us to sacrifice our time, energy, emotion, finance, and even until it's not rare to shed tears. But those who continue to faithfully do what the Lord wants, they will reap with joy. The challenges and price we must pay for the Lord will actually make us move forward and sharpen us. Always be aware, so that we are not caught up in our comfort zone, which can turn us to be "insensitive" and no longer on fire for God.

I DECLARE: Matthew 6:33: "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

I DO: I will ask the Holy Spirit to remind me if my life gets too comfortable and if I do not serve the Lord with a serious heart.

I PRAY: I will pray so that my family and I may always live in God's plan and calling.

FRIDAY RESILIENT

I READ: Genesis 37: 12-36.

Joseph is an example of someone who has great resiliency towards pressure and difficult situations. From living a life of abundance and being his father's favorite child, Joseph "stepped down" and became a slave and a prisoner. In this terrible condition, he never once complained or became angry. How was Joseph able to face all of these things without anger or disappointment? Because he knew who God was and believed in the Lord's promise given to his ancestors, one of them being Abraham. Believing in the Lord's promise allowed Joseph to be a resilient person. Many people back out of their ministry and the Lord's calling over their life because when they face challenges and shakings happen, they lose focus on the Lord and His promises and the truth of His Word. But if we continue to focus on the Lord and not on man or our situations that we are facing, then when shakings do happen or when we face unfavorable conditions, we can stand firm and become resilient people.

I DECLARE: Isaiah 40:31: But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew *their* strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

I DO: I will always declare the Word of God and build up my faith

I PRAY: I will pray that the children of God will be strong.