

A pair of hands, with visible skin texture and dirt on the fingers, gently holds a small, vibrant green tree. The tree's roots are embedded in a mound of dark, rich soil. The background is dark and out of focus, emphasizing the hands and the tree. The overall mood is one of care and nurturing.

All for Jesus always

June

*2 Chronicles, Ezra,
Nehemiah, Esther, Job, John & Acts*

Time Alone with God

Daily



God says to me:

📖 “Let Me see your face (in other words, He wants to have fellowship with me), let Me hear your voice” (He wants me to talk to Him in prayer) - Song of Songs 2:14. This is wonderful!

📖 “But when you pray, GO INTO YOUR ROOM, CLOSE the door and PRAY to your Father in heaven...” (Matt 6:6)

Some Practical Suggestions

1. Have a daily **Quiet Time** - alone with God.
2. Have **specific times** *every day* (morning and evening)
3. Have a **specific place** of meeting with Him
4. **Keep** this appointment with God
5. **Remember *the goal*** is to know Jesus Christ, to continue to be with Him, to become like Him, to secure His presence for the day, and to glorify Him.
6. **Remember, *the Holy Spirit*** will teach you all things and guide you as you look to God, trust Him and listen to His voice.
7. **Practically:**

GO into your quiet meeting place

CLOSE the door to all distractions

Become quiet before Him, aware of His presence

PRAY

READ the portion for the day...

slowly, carefully, prayerfully, sometimes loudly,
listening to God speaking to you

THINK with your head and heart;

ask yourself specific *questions* about the portion;
apply it to your life

WRITE NOTES/ underline/ mark

PRAY : Adoration Confession Thanksgiving Supplication

MEMORIZE a portion or verse

GO and DO what the Lord wants/ shows me to DO

To His glory!



Dear Friend

Jesus says: “**Come to Me** and I will give you rest” (Matt 10:28). He wants you to know Him and to make Him known to others. But, to know Him, you and I need to know His Word, we need to eat His Word - daily.

He says, “**Seek** out of the book of the Lord and **read**...” (Isaiah 34:16a, *Amplified Bible*), “...**listen**, ...open your mouth and **eat** what I give you... eat this scroll; **then go** and speak” (Ezekiel 2:8, 3:1-4). Jeremiah said, “When your words came, *I ate them*; they were my joy and my heart’s delight, for I bear your name, O Lord God Almighty” (Jeremiah 15:16).

The Word of the Lord is our spiritual food. It is a light for our path and a lamp for our feet. It is more precious than gold, it is sweeter than honey. It revives us, makes us wise, gives joy to our hearts, gives light, warns us and keeps us in God’s way (Ps 19). His words “are life to those who find them and health... (Pro 4:20-22). God says, “Lay hold of my words with all your heart; keep my commands and you will live” (Pro 4:4).

This booklet is prepared so that we can DAILY read the Bible for ourselves, eat it, digest it and live it - to God’s glory. May the Holy Spirit help us to do so, and may Jesus be nearer and dearer to us than anyone and anything else, always.

Your brother in Christ
Ephesians 3:8

Ps. By reading the Bible portions mentioned every day, you’ll read through the whole Bible in one year... You’ll come to see and know the Lord Jesus as never before! He will become your All...!

February 2006.

Die



to multiply

June

*“It’s time to build
and to bear fruit”*

*During this month we’ll read
and learn from the books of
2 Chronicles,
Ezra,
Nehemiah,
Esther,
Job,
John
and Acts*

1 June: DIE to multiply...

Pray “Lord, I choose to die to multiply.”

Read 2 Chronicles 4-6 and John 12:20-50

Think + write One of the most godly missionaries in Tamil Nadu, South India, was Thomas Ragland (who went to heaven at the age of 43 years). He said: “*Of all plans of ensuring success, the most certain is Christ’s own - becoming a corn of wheat, falling into the ground and dying.*” Jesus said: “Unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and DIES, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.” (John 12:24). In Festo Kivengere’s words: “*Life has to DIE before it can MULTIPLY*”. To me this means that.....

.....

.....

When the corn of wheat falls into the ground, it is *separated* from all in which it had lived before...

“What the ground offers to the corn of wheat is not the rapture of welcome, but only a *quiet place* into which it may fall and die” (Thomas Walker, of Tirunneveli, India).

“If we do not die to ourselves, we cannot live to God, and he who does not live to God is dead” (George MacDonald).

God wants all the peoples of the earth tohis Name and fear Him (2 Chron 6:33) and love Him, for that is the best for them. To that purpose

- ◆ I have towherever He sends me (v34)
- ◆ I have toagainst the spiritual enemies (v34)
- ◆ I have to bein all I do (v16b)
- ◆before Him (v16b)
- ◆ I have to continuein His way (v14)

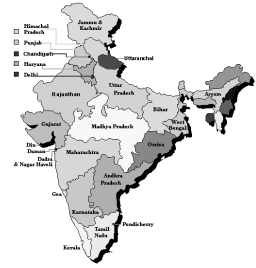
The people praised the Lord and said: “He is good; His love endures forever” (5:13). We have the privilege to experience and proclaim that

- ➔ God is **GOOD**
- ➔ God is **GENEROUS**
- ➔ God is **GRACIOUS**
- ➔ God is **GLORIOUS** (in holiness and love and beauty)

Pray “Father, may I be Your corn of wheat, wherever You choose”

Go + Do what is asked of a corn of wheat...

Work in India



*There is no gain but by a loss,
You cannot save but by a cross,
The corn and wheat to multiply,
Must fall into the ground and die.
Whenever you ripe fields behold,
Waving to God their sheaves of gold,
Be sure some corn of wheat has died,
Some soul has there been crucified,
Someone has wrestled, wept and prayed,
And fought hell's legions undismayed.*



*Lord, I will
humble myself
and pray
and seek Thy face
and turn from my wicked ways*



NOW...!



2 June: 2 Chronicles 7:14

Pray “Lord, may we live by Your Magna Carta in 2 Chron 7:14.”

Read 2 Chronicles 7-9 and John 13:1-17

Think + write When Solomon prayed he

- Knelt down (6:13) and (v13,12)
- Spread out his hands toward heaven

From this I learn that.....

.....

When he finished praying

- **Fire** came down (7:1) from heaven.
- God’s Fire consumed the sacrifices (v1), and
- **God’s glory** filled the temple.
- The people knelt and **worshipped God** (v3); they didn’t laugh like hyenas or bark like dogs or fall like those “slain by the spirit” in a Hindu temple, called “*shakti pakt*”. Please note that the LEVITES had to lead the praise (8:14) and worship, NOT the long-haired, laid-back lead-guitarists, ..NOR the dolled-up, dressed-up, dancing girls!! P-l-e-a-s-e let’s end the nonsense of **worldly worship** and let’s give God **worthy worship** (in spirit, in truth and in holiness).

God Himself came to Solomon and said (2 Chronicles 7:14):



“If My people, who are called by My Name, (Christians) will...”

1. **Humble themselves** and
2. **Pray** and
3. **Seek My face** and
4. **Turn from their wicked ways**, then I will
 - ✓ Hear from heaven and will
 - ✓ Forgive their sin and will
 - ✓ Heal their land”

Jesus showed the full extent of His love (John 13:1) by humbling Himself, taking the form of a servant (a slave) and by washing the disciples feet (v5 and Phil 2:7,8). He then said: “I have set you an example that you should do” (John 13:15)

Pray “Lord, I am willing to humble myself and serve like You.”

Go + Do “as I have done for you” (John 13:15b).

3 June: Old Modern-day demons

Pray “Lord, I want nothing to do with any unclean spirit!”

Read 2 Chronicles 10-12 and John 13:18-38

Think + write Jeroboam made goat and calf idols (2 Chron 11:15) to worship. The spirits behind them could have been **Kali** (who demands goat sacrifice) and **Sivan** (who’s identified with the calf, Nandi). According to the book of Revelation, these two spirits are also very prominent in the last days. In Rev 9:11 I read of “Abaddon”, “Apollyon”, which means “Destroyer”. SIVAN, or Siva, (one of the main “gods” in the Hindu triad of “gods”) is also called the “Destroyer”. He is recognized in *males* with...

- ⊗ **Effeminate** features
- ⊗ **Homosexual** predisposition and lifestyle
- ⊗ **Earrings** (in men)
- ⊗ Long pony-tail **hair** of men



On the other hand, **KALI** (or the Jezebel-like spirit) is spoken of in Revelation 17 (and 13) and was discussed in the June booklet. While it effects both men and women, the most prominent characteristics of it’s working in *women* are:

- ⊗ **Women becoming like men** (wearing pants, short hair, sitting and standing like men, playing soccer and cricket, etc...)
- ⊗ Women **wanting to rule** over and control men
- ⊗ **Sexual seductiveness** and prowess and manipulation - Immorality.
- ⊗ **Blood thirsty**, even for the blood of innocent, unborn babies - through abortion...

Both of these spirits can influence the lives of *both* males and females. After Rehoboam had become.....(2 Chron 12:1), he abandoned the law of God, and he abandoned(v5). “He did evil because he had notonthe Lord” (v14). **I need to set my heart on seeking the Lord, always!** This means that.....

.....Someone said: **Do not abandon the Lord, ...rather abandon to Him daily.** Jesus said: “A new commandment I give you: Love one another...By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you **love one another**” (John 13:34,35). Love and Oneness in Christ (17:23) are keys.

Pray “Father, make us one in love, Your love.”

Go + Do what will show oneness with God and NOT the world.

4 June: Puncture Peer Pressure!

Pray “Lord, we need the positive pressure of Your Presence!”

Read 2 Chronicles 13-16 and John 14

Think + write Rehoboam did not resist **NEGATIVE PEER PRESSURE** because he was

➤

➤and

➤ Not strong enough tothem (2 Chron 13:7b)

He “did not resist them with firmness and strength” (Ampl). From this I learn that I need to be **decisive** and **strong** (in my heart and mind, and in the Lord) to **resist** negative peer pressure with firmness and strength, even when I’m young! The things that make it easier for me to *resist* such pressure are:

1.

2.

The men of Judah were victorious because they on the Lord (2 Chron 13:18). To overcome negative peer pressure (and other difficulties) I need to cry like Asa: “**Help us, O Lord our God! For we rely on You, and we go against this multitude in Your Name**” (14:11; Ampl). God’s answer to Asa was: “**The Lord is with you when you are with Him**. If you seek Him, he will be found by you, but if you forsake Him, he will forsake you...But as for you, be strong and do not give up...” (15:2,7). Many of the children of God “entered into **A COVENANT TO SEEK THE LORD**... with all their heart and soul.” This means that

.....This implies:

- a specific agreement between God and me,
- a fixed agreement,
- a sure resolution
- and promise of performance (by both)
- Wholehearted eagerness (15:15)

My specific covenant with God to seek Him is as follows:.....

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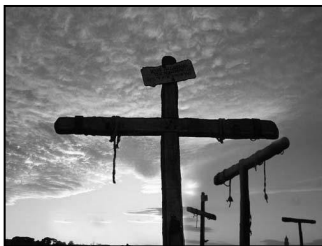
“**All who would NOT seek the Lord... were to be put to death, whether small or great, man or woman**”!!! (15:13)

Pray “Father, I will seek You with all my heart, please help me to.”

Go + Do what these men (in 2 Chronicles 15) did.

Heavenly Healing

It is sad to see how often, even as Christians, we are slow to go to God with our pains and sicknesses. We call Him “our Father”, but when we are sick, we do not go to our Father, ...or we go to Him lastly! This must be grieving God greatly. He says: “I AM the Lord, who heals you” (Ex 15:26), “I am the Lord, your doctor!” What a privilege we have! On the Cross, Christ conquered sin, self, sickness, Satan (and all evil spirits), and society (the world). He came to bring salvation, deliverance, healing, and reconciliation – through a restored personal relationship with God, and according to His will and governing principles – to God’s glory.



As Christians, then, what should we do when we get sick? What are the Biblical principles or guidelines in this regard?

We read in 2 Chronicles 16:12-13: “In the thirty-ninth year of his reign Asa was afflicted with a disease in his feet. Though his disease was severe, even in his illness he did not seek help from the Lord, but only from the physicians. Then in the forty-first year of his reign Asa died.” In the Amplified Bible it says that “**he did not seek the Lord, but relied on the physicians...**” This actually shows us what God wants us NOT to do when we are sick. By implication, we can therefore see that when we are sick, we have the privilege, first of all, to...

1) SEEK THE LORD, ...asking Him : “Lord, what are You saying to me? Is this because of sin in my life, or because of self, or because of an evil spirit activity, or because of a special purpose that You have? Lord, what do You want me to do?”. We read in Proverbs 3...”Acknowledge (know, recognize, consult) the Lord in everything you do...”. This is the first and most important step. As we seek the Lord, Andrew Murray says in his little book, “*Divine Healing*”, “The first step which the sick one has to take in the path of divine



healing will be, therefore, to let the Holy Spirit of God probe his heart and convict him of sin. This will be followed by humiliation, decision to break with sin, and confession..." This seeking the Lord and His guidance need not take days; it may be a few seconds or a few minutes and then we know what He wants us to do further.



2) DO AS HE LEADS US TO DO. To hear God speaking to us, and to obey and do what He leads us to do, *that is faith*. We read in Hebrews that "by faith, Abraham, when he was called, obeyed and went..." He may lead us to (a) continue to seek Him on our own, or to (b) go to the elders for confession of sin and prayer, or to (c) go to the physicians for help, or to (d) do all of the above. Faith is to hear the word of God and to obey it (being in a right relationship with God) – whatever it may be He wants us to do. If He leads us to take medicine and we say, "No, we'll trust God and pray...", then we are not acting in faith, but in disobedience. The inverse is also true. If He leads us to pray and go for confession and prayer, and we say, "No, we think we should go to the physician...", then we are acting in unbelief and disobedience, and not in obedient faith. He may lead us to:

(a) CONTINUE TO SEEK HIM on our own, or

(b) GO TO THE ELDERS and do as we read in James 5:14-16: "Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray....And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well;

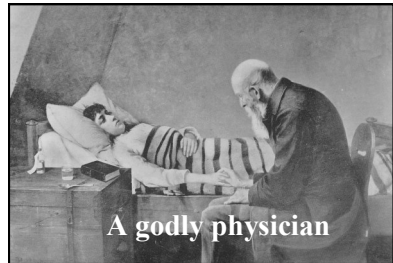


the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. Therefore **CONFESS YOUR SINS** to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed...". According to Andrew Murray, "The first step which the sick one has to take in the path of divine healing will be, therefore, to let the Holy Spirit of God probe his heart and convict him of sin. This

will be followed by humiliation, decision to break with sin, and confession...", and **prayer for forgiveness and healing**. It may also be **prayer for deliverance** (if the disease was because of demonic bondage). This is a very important aspect of God's way of healing – which

is often forgotten or neglected – and should be restored in the body of Christ, to God’s glory. Hosea 7:1;”...whenever I would heal...the sins...are exposed...” We may also be led to...

(c) **GO TO A PHYSICIAN** for help. If God leads us in this way, we'll do well to ask: "Lord, which doctor would You like me to go to?". This is important, because some of the physicians or "healers" may be mediumistic and in occult bondage themselves and therefore not able to serve without potentially contaminating and burdening their patients psychically or spiritually. When the physician states his probable diagnosis and recommended treatment, it's wise to not just accept everything unthinkingly and un-discerningly. One should have peace about the correctness of the diagnosis and make sure that the treatment is not questionable or occult (as in the case of homeopathy, acupuncture, aromatherapy, chiropractic, reflexology, etc.). It's good to not do as King Asa did. If you have peace about the diagnosis and treatment, take it prayerfully, but do not rely on the physician or the medicine or surgery or your own understanding ... **rely on the Lord only**. I believe this is God's way of doing it - in principle. God may even lead us to



(d) **GO TO BOTH THE ELDERS AND THE PHYSICIAN** (...and to continue to seek Him on our own), as long as we **first** go to the Lord, and then to where (or to who) **He** leads us to, if any. In all of this, we need to...

3) **RELY ON THE LORD** and trust in Him only.

It's good to not do as King Asa did. If you have peace about the diagnosis and treatment, take it prayerfully, but do not rely on the physician or the medicine or the surgery or your own understanding –rely on the Lord only. Some rely on pills, others on plants, others on prayer, instead of relying on the Lord. It is good and according to God's plan to **not rely on MAN or MEANS** – may it be doctors, “healers”, pastors, counselors, elders, intercessors, self, prayers or medicines. See Jeremiah 17:5-14 and Proverbs 3:1-8. This obviously

does not exclude the possibility of using the means the Lord may graciously provide and guide us to use, but then, our trust is in **HIM** and not in them. And finally,...

4) GLORIFY THE LORD

for (and by) the healing He brings about – naturally or supernaturally – by living in real fellowship with Him and by fruitful God-directed service. Then, when **HIS** time comes for His child to go to heaven, tasting death (through disease), it will mean more life and health, ...and also bring glory to His Name. This seems to be God's way, the Biblical way of healing – **in principle**.

Henry W. Frost, who worked as a missionary in China with Dr Hudson Taylor, said in his book "*Miraculous healing*": "To me it is a blessed experience, if sickness has come, not to turn first to a physician, but rather to God; to put myself wholly at His disposal, either for sickness or health; to enquire what He would have me do in seeking for healing; to ask, if the circumstances suggest this, that He will heal miraculously; to seek, lacking such healing, to know His mind in respect to healing of some other sort; and finally to accept the issue of His will, whatever it may be, not only submissively, but also in trust and with praise. This order of procedure, it seems to me, is a happy one for the saint to take, because it puts God first, gives Him opportunity to work and gives Him the right-of-way all through."



John 14

This is a wonderful chapter in God's Bible!

Jesus says: "In my Father's house are many rooms... I am going to prepare **a place for you**" (v2). George MacDonald said: "This is and has been the Father's work from the beginning - to bring us into the home of His heart." How wonderful!

Jesus also says: "I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (v6). This is as clear as daylight. It is **ONLY** through Him that I can get to the Father; **NOT** through Sai Baba or "Mother Mary" or Buddha or Shembe or whoever... These words of Jesus also mean that the Truth is a Person, the Way is a Person, and the **LIFE IS A PERSON!** "Life" is not possessions or pleasures or prestige or people or professions or plans or physical health, no, ...Life is a Person - Jesus Christ Himself. I read in 1 John 5:12 that "He who has the Son has Life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have Life."

Then Jesus explains about the **PROMISED INDWELLING HOLY SPIRIT** whom the Father would give, as He promised in Ezekiel 35:27. Jesus says: "I will ask the Father and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever - the Spirit of Truth... **He...will be IN YOU**" (John 14:16,17).

The Key to Receiving the Indwelling Holy Spirit of Christ is to **LOVE JESUS**. He says: "If you love Me..."(14:15a), "I will ask" and the Father will send....**The Prescription** for Receiving God's Gift of the Indwelling Spirit is similar to the prescription for developing a godly love relationship between a wife and a husband. There'll be

- ♦ The stage of **drawing near**
- ♦ The stage of **longing** (eager anticipation)
- ♦ The **asking**
- ♦ The total **self-surrender**
- ♦ The **trusting**
- ♦ The **adjusting**

In the same way, we find that one needs to go through these "stages" to receive the Gift of the Indwelling Holy Spirit...

In other words, **to receive this Gift of the Indwelling Spirit of Christ**, I need to:

1. **Draw near** to God in **repentance** (Acts 2:38;3:19).
2. Develop a **desperate desire** and longing for Him and to be filled with His Holy Spirit. “If anyone is **thirsty**...” (John 7:37)
3. Specifically **ASK** (Luke 11:13).
4. **Surrender** myself completely by dethroning my Self and my sins, so that Jesus may be enthroned...Once He was enthroned, the Holy Spirit was given (John 7:39)
5. Trust Him and **believe** in Him...obedient faith (John 7:38-39; Gal 3:2; Acts 5:32). This implies receiving...
6. Continually adjust myself to **walk** with Him, to walk in the Spirit...Gal 5:25; Rom 8:4-6

This is

**One of the “Secrets” of the Victorious Christian Life
- THE INDWELLING HOLY SPIRIT**



The Promise

- ♦ Eze 36:25b-27a: “I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart...and...***I will put my Spirit in you...***”
- ♦ John 14:15-17: “I will ask the Father and he will give you another Counselor...***he...will be in you.***”
- ♦ Also see 1 Co 3:16,17 and 1 Co 6:11,19

The Picture

- ♦ I'll know that I'm a **child** of God (Rom 8:16)
- ♦ My heart will cry: “***Dear Father***” to God (Rom 8:15)
- ♦ I'll have a heart to **pray** (Rom 8:26)
- ♦ God's **love** will be alive in me (Rom 5:5; Gal 5:22)
- ♦ A new **ability** to do God's will (Eze 36:27)
- ♦ A new **strength** to overcome sin, Satan and the world (1 John 4:4)
- ♦ A new **law of life** in me, Christ's life (Rom 8:1-2)
- ♦ **Jesus will be glorified** (John 16:4); Etc....

The Prescription

- ♦ This has been dealt with already (above).

5 June: I am Sent...to bear fruit

Pray “Lord, here am I, send me...”

Read 2 Chronicles 17-19 and John 15

Think + write Jehoshaphat sought the Lord and followed His commands (2 Chron 17:4). His heart was devoted to the ways of the Lord (v6). He sent men toin the towns. They did it, “taking with them the” (v7,9). *Wherever God sends me I’ll go (with His help) and whatever He tells me to do I’ll do (through His gracious working in me)* - be it teaching or preaching or serving or cooking or praying or whatever! Wherever I go, I’ll take the following as priority items with me:

- ♦
- ♦
- ♦

My **most important** preparation and essential precondition for such a mission will be to be
.....(See Eph 5:18b). Then I will “serve faithfully and wholeheartedly in the fear of the Lord” (2 Chron 19:9).

In John 15 I see ***the beautiful life of someone abiding in Jesus*** and bearing beautiful fruit, to God’s glory (v8). The symbols:

- ✓ The True Vine is(v1)
- ✓ The Gardener is(v1)
- ✓ The branch is.....(v5)

I learn of different ***degrees of fruitfulness***. Jesus speaks of having:

- ⇒ “NO fruit” (v2a)
- ⇒ “Fruit” (v4)
- ⇒ “MORE fruitful” (v2b)
- ⇒ “MUCH fruit” (v5,8)
- ⇒ “fruit that will LAST” (v16)



As I look at my own life, I see that I bear.....
.....

The ***conditions of fruitfulness*** are

1. God shouldme where and when needed (v2,3)
2. I shouldin Jesus (v4,5)
3. Andthe fruit He produces (v16)

Pray “Father, thank You for cutting off all that’s needed in me”

Go + Do what Jesus said: “GO and bear fruit...” (v16)

ABIDING IN JESUS

Another great “Secret” of the Victorious Christian Life

The *Command*

John 15:4 “Abide in Me...”!

The *Crux*

“I am the vine, you are the branches...”(v5)

“As the Father has loved Me, so have I loved you” (v9)

The *Consequences*

“...I will abide in you” (John 15:4)

“...he will bear much fruit” (v5)

“...ask...it will be given you” (v7)

“...This is to my Father’s glory” (v8)

“...so that My joy may be in you...your joy ...complete (v11)

“All this I have told you so that you will not go astray...”!! (John 16:1). The book “*Abide in Christ*”, by Andrew Murray, is a great blessing.



Abide...in Winter



Abide...in Summer

6 June: The Holy Spirit...

Pray “Lord, may Your blessed Holy Spirit work un-grieved and unhindered in our midst.”

Read 2 Chronicles 20-22 and John 16:1-15

Think + write Jesus said that the work and ministry of the HOLY SPIRIT is to

- ✠ **Convict** of “guilt... in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment” (v8)
- ✠ **Comfort** those who weep and mourn for their sins (John 14:16;KJV) and the sins of others
- ✠ **Counsel** (16:7,12-13) and Guide into all truth (v13) and Help us in our weakness (Rom 8:26) and perplexities
- ✠ Have **Communion** with believers through His living in them (John 14:17) and through the Word of God.
- ✠ **Cry** in me: “Abba, Father”, and to intercede in me, ...even with groans that words cannot express” (Rom 8:15,26)
- ✠ **Condemn** Satan (16:11) and help me to **Conquer** Satan in the spiritual warfare against him and his hordes of demons while on earth (Eph 6:10-18) - through wielding the sword of the Spirit and by praying in the Spirit...
- ✠ **Consecrate** (and sanctify) believers ...(Rom 16:15)
- ✠ **Champion Christ*** and bring glory to Him (v14). F.B. Meyer said: “When we know we have most of Christ, when we love Him most, live for Him most, we know that the Holy Spirit is within us in power.”

It’s good for me to remember in my battles in life (my inner battles, my “battles” in relating to people, and my battles against the unclean spirits of darkness), as Jehoshaphat did, that...

- ✠ The battle is the(2 Chron 20:15b)
- ✠ I should havein the Lord and I will be upheld (20:20)
- ✠ Realize I have(20:12a)
- ✠ I need to keep mythe Lord (20:12b),
- ✠ and NOT be afraid or discouraged (20:15b,17b), but to
- ✠ Praise the Lord for the splendor and beauty of His holiness (v21) as I go to war...

Pray “Lord Jesus, I praise Your holy Name. You are the Victor!”

Go + Do what is needed (in the Spirit) to be one with the Victor.

7 June: Do it NOW!

Pray “Lord, may Your light and love penetrate the darkness”

Read 2 Chronicles 23-25 and John 16:16-33

Think + write Jehoiada the priest said that “men are to *guard* what the Lord has assigned to them” (2 Chron 22:6). I am to guard:

-
-
-

King Joash called the priests and the Levites and gave them a task, so that the temple of God could be repaired. He said: “**DO IT NOW**”!! (24:5) “But the Levites did” (v7b)
From this I learn that.....

.....
Someone said: “***Duties delayed are the devil’s delight***”. According to Augustine, “God has promised forgiveness to your repentance; but he has not promised tomorrow to your procrastination.” Charles Finney said: “***Procrastination grieves the Holy Spirit***.. God requires you NOW to humble yourself before Him... Could you visit hell today, and inquire among all the groaning millions of its inhabitants how they came there, the answer in almost every case would be procrastination ruined my soul...” Someone else said: “When God says ‘Today’ the devil says ‘Tomorrow’...”!

In John 16:24 I read, “.....and you will”
and your joy will be complete. Jesus said: “The Father himself loves you because (1) you have loved Me and (2) have believed that I came from God” (John 16:27). Just think of these precious words of life...

“The Father himself loves you”

The Father himself loves ME!! How wonderful! How amazing!
How fantastic! When I think of His love for me, it has the following influence on my life:.....

Pray “Father, thank You for Your amazing, everlasting love to me”

Go + Do what is supernaturally natural in response to His love.

8 June: Know God and His will

Pray “Lord, please show me Yourself...and Your will for me.”

Read 2 Chronicles 26-28 and John 17

Think + write Jesus makes a revolutionary statement in His prayer in John 17:3 when He says: “Now this is eternal life: that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.” Put in my own words, eternal life is.....

To “know” God means to.....

.....
Jesus further said that He revealed God and glorified God “by completing the workgave me to do” (John 17:4). I too can reveal and glorify God on earth - by doing and completing the work God gives ME to do! This is wonderful! George MacDonald puts it like this: “...*a man’s business is to DO the will of God*... Unto every man whom God had sent into the world He had given a work to do in that world. He had to lead the life **God** meant him to lead. *The will of God was to be found and done in the world.*” William Perkins said: “The main end of our lives...is to serve God in the serving of men in the works of our callings.” Jesus said to His Father (and mine): “All I have is, and all You have is” (John 17:10). Can you imagine this?! It means that.....

.....
He prayed to God as “**Holy Father**”, and “**Righteous Father**” (v11,25) and asked that all believers, us too (see v20), ...

- May be protected (v11,15)
- May be one (v11,21,23)
- May be in the Father and in the Lord Jesus (v21)
- May be with Jesus and see His glory (v24)

Uzziah was 16 years old when he sought the Lord and was instructed in the fear of the Lord (2 Chron 26:5), and God helped him (v15) and gave him success (v5). But, ..when he became **Powerful** and **Proud**, he was unfaithful and came to a downfall (v16), and died a leper (v21).

Pray “O Lord, keep me true to You, by Your great grace.”

Go + Do what God showed ME to DO for Him in this life.

9 June: Meeting Jesus daily

Pray “Lord, may I never neglect meeting with You.”

Read 2 Chronicles 29-31 and John 18:1-23

Think + write In John 18:2 I read that there was a specific place where Jesus had often met with his disciples. **My specific meeting place with Jesus** is.....

Jesus spoke(18:20a). He said “.....
in.....”(20b). From this I learn that I should also **speak**

He allowed himself to be bound (18:12) so that I may be unbound!!

When **Hezekiah** became king, he called the priests and the Levites and told them (2 Chron 29:11), just as God is telling me today: “My sons...

- **Do not be negligent now,**
- **for the Lord has chosen you**
- **to stand before Him**
- **and serve Him,**
- **to minister before Him**
- **and to burn incense”** (to pray and intercede for others)

From this I learn that I.....

But, before they could do that, they had to **Listen** (29:5), **Consecrate themselves** (v5) and **Remove all defilement** (v5). I read ***they brought out everything unclean that they found*** (v16). Have I done this in my life? Have I brought out everything unclean?

All the people were told: (1) ***Return to the Lord***...that He may return to you (30:6); (2) ***Do not be like your fathers and brothers***, who were unfaithful (v7); (3) ***Do not be stiff-necked***...(v8); (4) ***Submit to the Lord*** (v8); (5) ***Serve the Lord*** (v8)

In EVERYTHING Hezekiah undertook, (1) “**HE SOUGHT HIS GOD** and (2) **WORKED WHOLE-HEARTEDLY**. And so he prospered” (31:21).

Pray “Father, please make me like Hezekiah”

Go + Do as he did...

The following are extracts from “*God’s Best Secrets*,” written by Dr Andrew Murray:

FROM DAY TO DAY

“The inner man is renewed from day to day” - 2 Co 4:16

There is one lesson that all young Christians should learn, namely this—**the absolute necessity of fellowship with Jesus each day**. This lesson is not always taught at the beginning of the Christian life, nor is it always understood by the young convert. He should realize that the grace he has received of the forgiveness of sins, of acceptance as God’s child, of joy in the Holy Ghost, can only be preserved by the daily renewal in **fellowship with Jesus Christ Himself**.

Many Christians backslide because this truth is not clearly taught. They are unable to stand against the temptations of the world, or of their old nature. They strive to do their best to fight against sin, and to serve God, but they have no strength. They have never really grasped the secret: *The Lord will every day* from heaven continue His work in me. But on one condition—**the soul must give Him time each day** to impart His love and His grace. Time alone with the Lord Jesus each day is the indispensable condition of growth and power.

...For Christ’s sake, and in order to please Him; for my own sake, and to enable me to enjoy this blessed experience each day, I will learn the lesson, **to spend time each day—without exception—in fellowship with my Lord**. So will the inner man be renewed from day to day.

TAKE TIME WITH GOD

It should be the aim of every Christian to **set aside ...time each day for quiet communion with God**... The holy, loving God is indeed worthy of the best of our time. We should live in constant fellowship with Him, but each day there should be a special time of quiet when we are with him alone... O Christian, give the holy, gracious God all the time you can until His light and life and love fill your whole life and you abide in Christ and His love through His Word and through prayer.

In the little book, “*The Inner Life*,” Dr Andrew Murray says:

THE MORNING HOUR

From the earliest ages, God’s servants have thought of the morning hour as the time especially suitable for worshiping Him. It is still regarded by Christians both as a duty and a privilege to devote some portion of the beginning of the day to seeking seclusion and fellowship with God. Many Christians call it the Morning Watch...

In speaking of the extreme importance of this daily time of quiet for prayer and meditation on God’s Word, Mr. Mott has said, “Next to receiving Christ as Savior, and claiming the baptism of the Holy Spirit, we know of no act attended with larger good to ourselves or others, than the formation of *an undiscourageable resolution to KEEP the morning watch, and spend the first half hour of the day ALONE WITH GOD.*”

Lord, I see the absolute necessity and privilege of time alone with You, and fellowship with You each day... Please help me not to neglect it...!



10 June: Manasseh's Repentance

Pray “Lord, may Your Presence be revealed - to Your glory.”

Read 2 Chronicles 32,33 and John 18:24-40

Think + write When the king of Assyria came up against the children of God, Hezekiah said: “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged...for there is a *greater* power with us than with him. With him is only the arm of flesh, but with us is the Lord our God to help us and to fight our battles” (2 Chron 32:7,8). In the Amplified Bible it states: “...for there is Another with us greater than [all those] with him” (v7b). According to 1 John 4:4 the **Greater One** is not just with us, but.....!! This is wonderful. On the other hand, God sometimes leaves us,

- ♦ to test us and
- ♦ to know what is in our hearts (32:31)

Manasseh was 12 years old when he became king! In his life I see

- ➔ Great **Rebellion** and Revelry (33:1-10)
- ➔ God's **Retribution** (v11)
- ➔ Great **Repentance** (12)
- ➔ Great **Restoration** (13-16)
- ➔ Great **Redeemer-God** (13b)

During his time of youthful rebellion, he.....

.....(See 33:2-10)

His repentance was shown by the fact that he.....

.....(See 33:12-13)

His restoration was evident by.....

.....(See 33:13-16)

Our Redeemer-God is revealed as One who (1).....

(2).....(3).....(See 33:13)

Just like Mannaseh, Barabbas was a rebel (John 18:40). Despite his rebellion, Jesus loved him and was willing to redeem him too - by dying in his place. **Because of Christ's Cross I too can be redeemed from each and every trace of rebellion in my heart and life.**

Pray “Father, please show me all traces of rebellion in my heart.”

Go + Do what Manasseh did when he humbled himself greatly.

11 June: Begin to seek the Lord!

Pray “Your face, Lord, I will seek” (Ps 27:8b)

Read 2 Chronicles 34-36 and John 19:1-22

Think + write It is recorded of Josiah that “*while he was still YOUNG (16 years), HE BEGAN TO SEEK the God of his father David*” (2 Chron 34:3). Like Josiah, *I need to seek the Lord from when I am still young.* To seek the Lord means to.....

The things that may hinder a young person to seek God are:



I'll be **helped** in seeking God by the following:

1.
2.
3.

Some of the things that helped Josiah a lot were:

- ✓ They “*found the Book*” of the Lord (34:14,18)
- ✓ They *read* from “the Book” (v18b)
- ✓ He *heard* the word of the Lord from/through “the Book” (v19)
- ✓ His heart was *responsive* to what he heard from it (v19,27)
- ✓ He *humbled himself* before the Lord (v27)
- ✓ He read from “the Book” *to others* (v30)
- ✓ He renewed his *covenant* (fixed relationship) with God (v31)
- ✓ He and everyone in Jerusalem pledged themselves to “the Book” (v32). In many ACE schools students and staff regularly say the following pledge: “***I pledge allegiance to the Bible, God’s holy Word. I will make it a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. I will hide it’s words in my heart that I may not sin against Him.***”

Jesus was crucified at “the place of the Skull” (John 19:17). The brain and mind is at “the place of the Skull”. Often, Jesus is crucified by what happens in a person’s MIND, in his (or her) THOUGHTS, for example:.....

Pray “Father, I pledge allegiance to You and Your Word.”

Go + Do what is written in His Word.

12 June: Return to God

Pray “Lord, thank You for moving my heart to return to You.”

Read Ezra 1,2 and John 19:23-42

Think + write Though the books of Ezra and Nehemiah were different compositions, they were originally regarded as one book. In them we see the

- ➔ **Return** to Jerusalem (the place of peace): Weeping
- ➔ **Rebuilding** of the temple of God: to Worship
- ➔ **Reformation** and **Revival**: to Witness
- ➔ **Repairing** and **Rebuilding** of the walls: to Watch and War

This is also a picture of what happened ***in my personal life and relationship with the Lord Jesus***, and of what happens in the life of any person who is saved... There should be

- ⇒ a Return to God,
- ⇒ a Rebuilding of the relationship with Him,
- ⇒ a resultant Reformation and Revival in that person’s life, and
- ⇒ a Repairing and Rebuilding of the walls of defense and protection against the enemy’s onslaughts.

In fulfillment of the prophecy by Jeremiah that the exiles will return, ***the Lord moved the heart of king Cyrus*** (a heathen king of Persia) to make a proclamation that anyone of God’s people may go up to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple (Ezra 1:1-4). Then, ***“everyone whose heart God had moved”*** - prepared to go up and build the house of the Lord in Jerusalem...(1:5). “The Lord moved the heart” means:

.....
.....
Some instances when the Lord moved my heart are the following:

1.
2.
3.

This is only possible because of what Jesus Christ accomplished on the Cross. There He said: “It is finished” (John 19:30). His death and resurrection brought an end to the

- ✠ Darkness and Dominion of **Sin**
- ✠ Disposition and Dominion of **Self**
- ✠ Despotism and Dominion of the unclean **Spirits** (the hordes of hell)
- ✠ Dominion of **Society** (“the world” and the spirit of the world)

Pray “Thank You, Lord!!” **Go + Do** what God put in my heart.

13 June: Saved and Sent!

Pray “Lord, thank You for speaking to me through John’s gospel”

Read Ezra 3-5 and John 20

Think + write The book of John was written so “that you may.....that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by.....you may have.....in his name.” (John 20:31). I read in verses 19 and 26 that when Jesus came, he said: “.....”. Oswald Chambers said that “*when Jesus comes, He shatters all peace that’s not built on a personal relationship with Him...*” and gives true peace, His peace. Some people even have “peace” (false peace) while they sin, because they are in love with their sin and bewitched by their sin. AFTER Jesus said to His disciples, “Peace be with you!” (v21), He said:

*“As the Father has sent Me,
I am sending you”*

True saints are

1. *Saved*
2. *Sanctified*
3. *Sent*

But, for this to happen, I must go through God’s school of discipleship. Again, Oswald Chambers said that *the graduation years* in God’s school include

- ✠ Separation
- ✠ Sorrow
- ✠ Supreme Sanctification
- ✠ Suffering

Jesus said: “I am returning to my Father and your Father...” (John 20:17). These words are most precious to me. How wonderful! How amazing! See the next page about how Jesus came to reveal God to us as our Father...

Pray “Father, thank You for revealing Yourself through Jesus.”

Go + Do what He told me to do... (“I am sending you...”)

“Father!”

Jesus came to reveal ***God as my Father***. John quotes Jesus as calling God “Father” on nearly every page of the Gospel of John. The word “***Father***” is used 105 times in that book alone! See for instance:

- “The Word ...came from the Father” (John 1:14)
- “How dare you turn my Father’s house into a market!” (2:16)
- “The Father loves the Son...” (3:35)
- “...you will worship the Father...” (4:21)
- “My Father is always at work...” (5:17)
- “God the Father...” (6:27)
- “If you knew me, you would know my Father also” (8:19)
- “...the Father knows me and I know the Father” (10:15)
- “Father, I thank you that you have heard me” (11:41)
- “Father, glorify your Name!” (12:28)
- “No one comes to the Father except through Me” (14:6)
- “Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father” (14:9)
- “I love the Father...” (14:31)
- “The Father himself loves you...” (16:27)
- “Holy Father... Righteous Father” (17:11,25)
- “Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?” (18:11)
- “I am returning to my Father and your Father” (20:17)
- “As the Father has sent me, I am sending you...” (20:21)

George MacDonald said:

- ***The hardest, gladdest thing in the world is to cry “Father!” from a full heart.*** I would help whom I may to call thus upon the Father.
- ***He who seeks the Father*** more than anything He can give, is likely to have what he asks, for he is not likely to ask amiss.
- From the 365 stanza poem (and book) “*Diary of an Old Soul*”:
**Oh Christ, my life, possess me utterly.
Take me and make a little Christ of me.
If I am anything but thy Father’s son,
‘Tis something not yet from the darkness won.
Oh, give me light to live with open eyes.
Oh, give me life to hope above all skies.
Give me thy spirit to haunt the Father with my cries.**

Come Down

*“Still am I haunting
Thy door with my prayers;
Still they are panting
Up Thy steep stairs!
Wouldst thou not rather
Come down to my heart,
And there, O my Father,
Be what thou art?”*

George MacDonald

FATHER reminds me of...

F : Faithful, Firm, Fellowship, Friendly

A : Affection, Attention, Acceptance, Authority

T : Trust, Time, Talk

H : Holy, Home, Human, Happy, Honor

E : Ear (listening), Empathy, Enthusiastic

R : Reliable, Refuge, Restful, Radiant

Have I said and can I say:

“Father, I have sinned...”

“Father, forgive me...”

“Father, thank You for giving Jesus...”

“Father, thank You for giving Your Spirit...”

“Father, thank You for loving me...”

“Father, I love You...”

*“Father, I’ll obey You...
please help me.”*

SATAN'S STRATEGIES *to hinder the work of God*

- *As revealed in the books of **Ezra** and **Nehemiah**, during the rebuilding of the house of God and the walls of Jerusalem.*

- ♦ **Compromise**: “Let us help you build...” (Ezra 4:2). The devil will come as a “friend” or a “brother” or “sister” or as an angel of the light and pretend to want to help you, when his main aim is to hinder you. Unholy alliances lead to unholy lives and unfinished tasks the Lord gave us to do.
- ♦ **Discouragement** (4:4) is one of Satan’s choice weapons. Watch you thoughts and your feelings! Don’t allow discouragement to set in and overpower (and smother) you.
- ♦ **Fear** (4:4) of others or of failure or of the unknown or of the devil is not from God, but from our enemy.
- ♦ **Counselors** against them; counselors who were not from God (4:5). The devil often uses other Christians or people to counsel someone in need in a humanistic way. This either cause the working of the Spirit of God to be quenched in them, or to mislead them—away from the way of the Cross.
- ♦ **False accusations** (4:6) are to be expected and not taken to heart.
- ♦ **A letter** (4:7) may be written by the devil (through someone else, even a relative or a “friend”) that will stop God’s work in you.
- ♦ **Official orders** (a decree, a court order) to stop (4:21) may sometimes be used, especially in the work or school settings.
- ♦ **Force** (4:23) may be verbal or legal or physical or spiritual (through witchcraft).

**“Thus the work on the house of God...
came to a standstill” (4:24)**

- ♦ **Mocking** and **ridicule** (Nehemiah 2:19; 4:1) can only be overcome when I am dead to the world and have died to myself.
- ♦ Wanting to make one **feel inferior** and unable to do the work (4:2)
- ♦ **Doubt** (4:2) can paralyze any Christian and stop him/her from working for God. It is one of the tools of the devil.

- ♦ **Insults** (4:5) can make one focus on one self or cause bitterness, which will both effectively bind one's hands and feet and tongue...
- ♦ Plots to fight and **stir up trouble** (4:8) are to be expected
- ♦ **Death threads** (4:11) from others or from Satan (in your mind) can bring a person to a standstill in God's work.
- ♦ **Interpersonal conflicts** and dissatisfactions and tension and unhappiness amongst the brethren (5:1-5) - internal strife - is one of the most common problems on the mission field (and in churches). It can be devastating if not dealt with through the Cross, through dying to yourself...
- ♦ **Compromise** (6:2) - repeated invitations and temptations (6:4) to compromise (in the area of music, relationships, clothing, hair-styles, etc.) are common.
- ♦ **Lies** written/reported about the children of God (6:5,6) are to be taken as nothing strange for Satan to instigate.
- ♦ Trying to **frighten** them (6:9) and spreading **slander** are further strategies of unclean spirit (and their allies).
- ♦ **Temptation to sin** by a brother (6:10) or a sister can be a devastating demonic device - if not recognized and ruthlessly rejected.
- ♦ **False prophecies** by "brothers" (6:12) and "personal prophets" can come from the devil and lead me on a side-track (even to sin).
- ♦ **Intimidation** by a "brother" (6:13) needs to be dealt with by the Cross through dying to myself and to the other person and just be alive for God and His will.
- ♦ Wanting to give a **bad name**, to **discredit** (6:13); even treachery can be very hurting, if I'm not dead to myself.
- ♦ **Intimidating letters** by an enemy (6:19), even in the newspapers, must be ignored in Jesus Name.



***...seeking
to devour!***

"So the wall was completed..." (6:15) !!
**"They realized that this work had been done with the help of
our God"** (6:16)

14 June: Loving Diligence

Pray “Father-God, may we all serve You with loving diligence”

Read Ezra 6-8 and John 21

Think + write The following two very interesting and important truths are revealed in Ezra:

⇒ **Diligence in doing God’s work**. I read in Ezra 5:8 that “the work is being carried on withand is making rapid progress”. Also Tattenai and his associated carried out the decree “with” (6:13). “***Whatever the God of heaven has prescribed, let it be done with diligence...***”(7:23)!!

⇒ The need for and the blessing of having **the hand of the Lord on you**. See Ezra 7:9; 8:28; 8:18; and 8:22. I read that this was true of Ezra **because** he “devoted himself to (1) the study and (2) observance of the Law of the Lord, and to (3) teaching its decrees and laws in Israel” (7:10). He “prepared and set his heart to seek the Law of the Lord ...and to do and teach” it (*Ampl*). From this I learn that I too should (in this order)

1. ***Seek and study*** the Word of God
2. ***Do*** it (practice it)
3. ***Teach*** it to others (iow: “feed My sheep” - John 21)

After Peter had denied the Lord Jesus three times, and then repented deeply, the Lord asked him: “Simon (*put my own name.....*) **do you truly love Me** more than these?” (John 21:15). When a person truly loves Jesus, it is shown by the following:

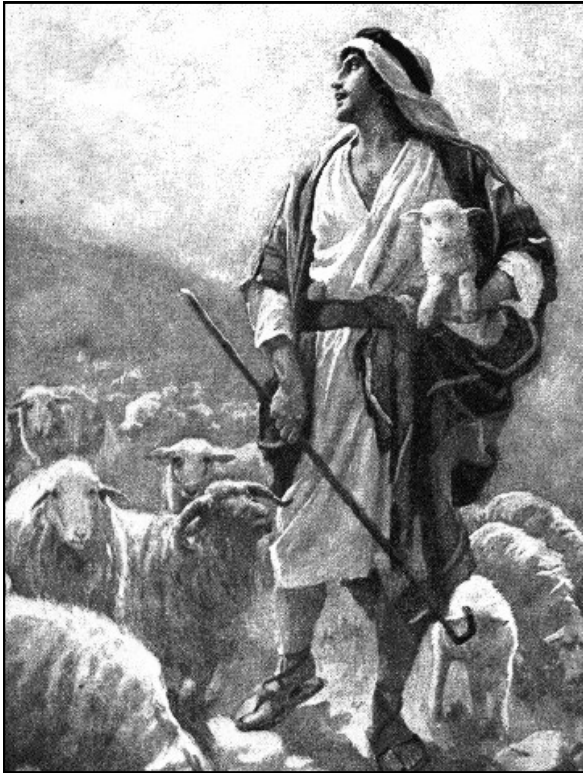
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➤ See John 14:15; Song of Songs 2:14; 1 Peter 2:2; & 2 Co 5:14,15
By God’s grace I now love Jesus more than Possessions, People, Peers, Parents, Plans, Personal Preferences, my Profession. Oh, may He help me to keep on loving Him more and more! Amy Carmichael said: “***He that loveth leaneth, he that leaneth resteth, and to him shall be given the ministry of love***” (See John 21:20, 15,16). According to AW Tozer, “Feeding sheep is not something you do once for all. It is a loving act you repeat regularly as long as the sheep live”!!

Pray “Lord, please help me to feed Your lambs” (John 21:15)

Go + Do what Jesus told Peter (v15) and John (v22) and me to do!

“Do you truly love Me?”



“Feed My lambs” (John 21:15)

“Take care of My sheep” (v16)

“Feed My sheep” (v17)

15 June: Be baptized in the Holy Spirit

Pray “Lord, may Your children always be separate from the world”

Read Ezra 9,10 and Acts 1

Think + write God commanded the Israelites NOT to seek friendship or a treaty with the ungodly people of the land (Ezra 9:12), and NOT to mingle with them and marry them, but they disobeyed and were unfaithful to God (9:2). When Ezra heard this, he tore his clothes, pulled out hair from his head and beard (9:3), threw himself down before the people, prayed, confessed their sins and wept. When all the men had gathered, he said (Ezra 10:11):

- **Now** - not later, but NOW
- **Make confession to the Lord** - acknowledging and telling everything wrong you’ve done
- **and Do His will** - do the opposite of your sins
- **Separate yourselves** from the people around you - separate yourselves from the world and worldly people...
- Separate yourselves from your foreign wives - “cut off” all unholy relationships. This is a command of God. They did it. They now obeyed, even if they felt they “loved” these women & children (v44)

Because they sinned greatly in this matter (v13), this matter could not be dealt with quickly and in a superficial way. They had to deal with it thoroughly and properly and completely. From this I learn that.....

.....

As far as male/female relationships are concerned, I learn that.....

.....

The Lord Jesus commanded His disciples to “wait for the gift my Father promised” (Acts 1:4). This was not the Gift of the Indwelling Spirit of God, because they have already received Him (John 20:22), ...but **the Gift of being baptized with/in the Holy Spirit** (v5). He said (Acts 1:8) that when the Holy Spirit comes *upon* you (not *in* you),

- ➔ you will receive **power** (ability; *dunamis*)
- ➔ you will **be** My **witnesses** - (1) in Jerusalem, and (2) in all Judea and (3) Samaria, and (4) to the ends of the earth.

Pray “Father, may Your children experience what it is to be baptized in the Holy Spirit and to be witnesses - to Your glory.”

Go + Do what is Jesus and Ezra told us to do.

Breath of God



*Breathe on me, Breath of God
Fill me with life anew,
That I may love what thou dost love,
And do what thou wouldst do.*

*Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Until my heart is pure:
Until with thee I have one will
To do and to endure.*

*Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Till I am wholly thine,
Until this earthly part of me
Glows with thy fire divine.*

*Breathe on me, Breath of God,
So shall I never die,
But live with thee the perfect life
Of thine eternity.*

Edwin Hatch (1835-1889)

Come Holy Ghost

*Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire
And lighten with celestial fire;
Thou the anointing Spirit art,
Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.*

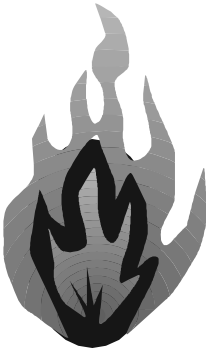
*Thy blessed unction from above
Is comfort, life, and fire of love;
Enable with perpetual light
The dullness of our blinded sight...*

(etc)

Anonymous (9th century)

*O for a passionate passion for souls,
O for a pity that yearns!
O for the love that loves unto death,
O for the **fire** that burns!
O for the pure prayer-power that prevails,
That pours itself out for the lost!
Victorious prayer in the Conqueror's Name,
O for a PENTECOST!*

Amy Carmichael



*“The sign of Christianity is not a cross,
but a tongue of **Fire**”*

Samuel Chadwick

*To make my weak heart strong and brave,
Send the fire.
To live a dying world to save, **send the fire.**
Oh, see me on Thy altar lay
My life, my all, this very day;
To crown the offering now, I pray:
Send the fire!*

F. Booth-Tucker

16 June: Pentecost!

Pray *“Lord, we need Your Blood and Fire...”*

Read Nehemiah 1-3 and Acts 2:1-13

Think + write The **Cross** leads to Pentecost. Someone said, “There’s no Pentecost without plenty cost.” It cost Christ His blood and life to enable me (and each one of us) to experience Pentecost - when the Holy Spirit comes on us in power. **Before “all of them were filled with the Holy Spirit”** (Acts 2:4),...

- ➡ They were all together in one place; “they were all with one accord in one place” (KJV) - they were **ONE** (2:1)
- ➡ The **WIND OF GOD** blew violently (v2), removing the rubbish out of every corner
- ➡ The **FIRE OF GOD** came and rested on all of them (v3)...

In the same way, I need to go through the Cross, become one with those who walk with God, let the Wind of God blow violently through my life (to clean out and blow away all dirt), and let the Fire of God start His fire in me. ***As the Cross leads to Pentecost, Pentecost leads to the Cross***... This means:.....

.....
.....
.....
Nehemiah was used by God to lead the people to rebuild the walls around Jerusalem. The golden threads that run through the book of Nehemiah are ...

- **The fear of God!** See Neh 5:9, 5:15, and 7:2.
- **Prayer!** See Neh 1:4,6,11; 2:4; 5:10,11.

When the walls of the city (of my life and soul) are broken down and the gates gone (Neh 1:3), it means that.....

.....
.....
.....
To rebuild the walls of the city (of my life and soul) means that I.....

.....
.....
Each one had to take part in the work of rebuilding the walls, I too!!

Pray *“Father, I weep, because the walls of so many people’s lives are broken down and destroyed. Please help us to rebuild!”*

Go + Do what is needed for the walls to be rebuilt.

17 June: Repent & Work!

Pray “Lord, may my work blossom as the fruit of my repentance.”

Read Nehemiah 4-6 and Acts 2:14-47

Think + write After Peter was baptized in the Holy Spirit, he stood up and preached Jesus with power. As he spoke the truth, the Spirit of God used it effectively, ...with the result that the people who heard it “were cut to the heart” (Acts 2:37) and asked: “Brothers, what shall we do?” Peter replied:

- **Repent** and be baptized every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the
- **Remission** (the forgiveness) of your sins. And you will
- **Receive** the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off...(Acts 2:38,39).

F.B. Meyer told how God spoke the following words to him:

“As you took forgiveness from the hand of the dying Christ, take the Holy Spirit from the hand of the living Christ”!!

The baptism in the Holy Spirit results in a person experiencing

- ✍ Power in Preaching
- ✍ Power in Praying
- ✍ Power in Personal witnessing and in *being* a witness, and a
- ✍ Personal Passion for Jesus

In the book of Nehemiah **I learn how to work:**

- I need to work in front of my own house (ch 3:10,28)
- I need to be willing to also work elsewhere (as God may lead)
- I need to work zealously, like Baruch (3:20)
- I need to work with all my heart (4:6)
- I need to remember the Lord, as I work (4:14)
- I need to work being armed and watchful! (4:17,18)
- I need to work from first light of dawn till the stars come out (4:21)
- I need to continue the work (4:21)
- I need to devote myself to the work, like Nehemiah did (5:16)
- I need to recognize and overcome all the strategies of Satan to hinder the work...
- I need to work with much prayer (6:9)
- I need to do the work with the help of God (6:16) and to His glory!

Pray “Father, may Your work be my work.”

Go + Do *what* and *how* He wants me to work.

18 June: Refreshing Revival...

Pray “Lord, please bring Your Reviving Presence again!”

Read Nehemiah 7,8 and Acts 3

Think + write A summary of the book of Nehemiah:

- The **Remembrance** of Nehemiah (Ch 1-2)
- The **Rebuilding** of the walls (Ch 3-7)
- The **Revival** among the people (Ch 8-13)

Another way of looking at the book of Nehemiah is:

- **Wake up**: hear, look and see the state of affairs (1:3; 2:13)
- **Weep and pray** (1:4,6; 2:12)
- **Wait upon the Lord**
- **Work**
- **Watch** (4:9,16)
- **Warfare prayer** (4:17,23)
- **Word of God** (Ch 8)

Hanani was put in charge of Jerusalem because

1. He was a man of(7:2)
2. HeGod more than most men do (7:2)

As far as **the reading of God’s Word** is concerned, I learn that:

- ✓ It was read aloud (8:3)
- ✓ They listened attentively (8:3)
- ✓ They wept as they listened to God’s Word (8:9)
- ✓ They respected the Word and stood up when it was read (8:5)
- ✓ It was explained and made clear to them (8:7,8) and they understood it, with joy (8:12)
- ✓ They obeyed it immediately (8:16) and joyfully (8:17)
- ✓ They read it day after day (8:18)

Times of refreshing (revival) may come from the Lord when I

- ✠ **Repent** and turn to God (Acts 3:19), and
- ✠ **Receive forgiveness** of my sins & they are “wiped out”

Many people are confused about **what it means to be “blessed”**. Some think it is when you are rich or healthy or prosperous. These may indeed be blessings from God, but in Acts 3:26 I read that **Jesus was sent to bless them “by turning each of you from your wicked ways.”**

Pray “Father, may we all experience *THIS* blessing from You.”

Go + Do what will bring God’s true Refreshing again...

“Will You not **REVIVE** us again?”

Psalm 85:6

Dr A.W. Tozer, who was a man of God and a true prophet of righteousness and revival, said:

I have previously shown that any Christian who desires to may at any time experience a radical spiritual renaissance, and this altogether independent of the attitude of his fellow Christians.

The important question now is, **HOW?** Well, here are some suggestions which anyone can follow and which, I am convinced, will result in a wonderfully improved Christian life.

1. **Get thoroughly dissatisfied with yourself.** Complacency is the deadly enemy of spiritual progress. The contented soul is the stagnant soul. When speaking of earthly goods Paul could say, “I have learned. . . to be content”; but when referring to his spiritual life he testified, “I press toward the mark.” So stir up the gift of God that is in thee.
2. **Set your face like a flint toward a sweeping transformation of your life.** Timid experimenters are tagged for failure before they start. We must throw our whole soul into our desire for God. “The kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.”
3. **Put yourself in the way of the blessing.** It is a mistake to look for grace to visit us as a kind of benign magic, or to expect God’s help to come as a windfall apart from conditions known and met. There are plainly marked paths which lead straight to the green pastures; let us walk in them. *To desire revival, for instance, and at the same time to neglect prayer and devotion is to wish one way and walk another.*
4. **Do a thorough job of repenting.** Do not hurry to get it over with. Hasty repentance means

*Do a
thorough
job of
repenting*

shallow spiritual experience and lack of certainty in the whole life. Let godly sorrow do her healing work. Until we allow the consciousness of sin to wound us we will never develop a fear of evil. It is our wretched habit of tolerating sin that keeps us in our half-dead condition.

5. **Make restitution wherever possible.** If you owe a debt, pay it, or at least have a frank understanding with your creditor about your intentions to pay, so your honesty will be above question. If you have quarreled with anyone, go as far as you can in an effort to achieve reconciliation. As fully as possible make the crooked things straight.
6. **Bring your life into accord with the Sermon on the Mount and such other New Testament Scriptures as are designed to instruct us in the way of righteousness.** *An honest man with an open Bible and a pad and pencil is sure to find out what is wrong with him very quickly.* I recommend that the self-examination be made on our knees, rising to obey God's commandments as they are revealed to us from the Word. There is nothing romantic or colorful about this plain downright way of dealing with ourselves, but it gets the work done. Isaac's workmen did not look like heroic figures as they dug in the valley, but they got the wells open, and that was what they had set out to do.
7. **Be serious-minded.** You can well afford to see fewer comedy shows on TV. Unless you break away from the funny boys, every spiritual impression will continue to be lost to your heart, and that right in your own living room, the people of the world used to go to the movies to escape serious thinking about God and religion. You would not join them there, but you now enjoy spiritual communion with them in your own home. The devil's ideals, moral standards and mental attitudes are being accepted by you without your knowing it. And you wonder why you can make no progress in your Christian life. Your interior climate is not favor-

*An honest man
with an
open Bible
and a pad and
pencil is sure to
find out what is
wrong with him
very quickly*

able to the growth of spiritual graces. *There must be a radical change in your habits or there will not be any permanent improvement in your interior life.*

8. **Deliberately narrow your interests.** The Jack-of-all-trades is the master of none. The Christian life requires that we be specialists. Too many projects use up time and energy without bringing us nearer to God. If you will narrow your interests God will enlarge your heart. “Jesus only” seems to be the unconverted man to be the motto of death, but a great company of happy men and women can testify that it became to them a way into a world infinitely wider and richer than anything they had ever known before. Christ is the essence of all wisdom, beauty and virtue. To know Him in growing intimacy is to increase in appreciation of all things good and beautiful. The mansions of the heart will become larger when their doors are thrown open to Christ and closed against the world and sin. Try it.

9. **Begin to witness.** Find something to do for God and your fellow men. *Refuse to rust out.* Make yourself available to your pastor and do anything you are asked to do. Do not insist upon a place of leadership. *Learn to obey. Take the low place* until such time as God sees fit to set you in a higher one. Back your new intentions with your money and your gifts, such as they are.
10. **Have faith in God.** Begin to expect. Look up toward the throne where your Advocate sits at the right hand of God. All heaven is on your side. God will not disappoint you.

*If you will
follow these
suggestions
you will most
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REVIVAL
in your
own heart*

If you will follow these suggestions you will most surely experience REVIVAL in your own heart. And who can tell how far it may spread? God knows how desperately the church needs a spiritual resurrection. And it can only come through the **revived individual.**

Dr Andrew Murray, who experienced God-sent revival in his life and ministry, said:

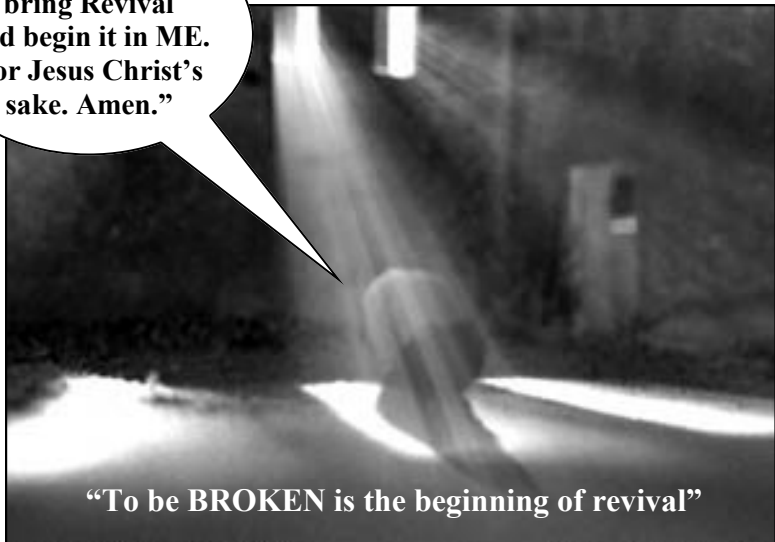
“A revival of holiness is what we need.” Then, there will be

- ✠ such preaching of the claims of Christ on us, that it will “lead us to live entirely **FOR HIM and His Kingdom**;
- ✠ such **an attachment of love to Him** as shall make **His fellowship our highest joy**;
- ✠ such **a faith in His freeing us from the dominion of sin** as shall **enable us in all things to obey** His commandments;
- ✠ such **a yielding to the Holy Spirit** as to be **led by Him in all our daily walk**; -
- ✠ these will be some of the elements of the revival of true holiness for which the Church must learn to **seek** as for the **Pearl of great price**.

And how is it to be found? **It will cost much prayer. It will cost more than that—much sacrifice of self and of the world. It will need a surrender to Christ Jesus to follow Him as closely as God is able to work it in us...**

**“Lord,
bring Revival
and begin it in ME.
For Jesus Christ’s
sake. Amen.”**

*“REVIVAL is the life of the Lord
Jesus poured into human hearts.”*



“To be BROKEN is the beginning of revival”

19 June: They had been with Jesus

Pray “Lord, may Your sweet Presence be stamped on our lives”

Read Nehemiah 9-11 and Acts 4:1-22

Think + write I read in God’s Word (Acts 4:10,12) that “It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth... that this man stands before you healed... Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.” In this wonderful verse I see that

- We MUST be saved; it is a MUST!
- We are saved by JESUS’ NAME, Jesus’ Person.
- There is NO OTHER name, NO OTHER person that can save us!

When the church leaders “saw the boldness (the courage - NIV) and unfettered eloquence of Peter and John and perceived that they were unlearned and untrained in the schools [*common men with no educational advantages*], they marveled; and they recognized that they had been with Jesus” (Acts 4:13; Ampl). I can recognize when someone had been with Jesus by...

1. The way they speak and behave.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Someone said:

“Oh, that it might be said of me

‘Surely, thy speech betrayeth thee -

Thou hast been with Jesus of Galilee”

To me, “these men had been with Jesus” means:

.....

.....

As the Israelites heard and listened to the Word of God, they were touched. They (1) fasted, (2) mourned for their sins, (3) separated themselves from the foreigners (as God commanded), and (4) confessed their sins and (5) the wickedness of their fathers (Neh 9:1-3). From this I learn that.....

.....

.....

Pray “Father, thank You for Your Spirit’s convicting of sin.”

Go + Do what is He instructs and admonishes me to do (9:20,30)

20 June: My language...

Pray “Lord, may I learn to speak like You.”

Read Nehemiah 12,13 and Acts 4:23-37

Think + write The children of God disobeyed him and compromised by marrying foreign, unbelieving women (13:23-27). This is NOT allowed by God (See 2 Corinthians 6:14). As a result...

- The house of God was neglected (13:11)
- Other compromises and sins were also allowed (13:15-22)
- Half of their children did not know how to speak the language of Judah, but spoke the language of Ashdod or of the other peoples who did not love and fear the Living God (v24)

I need to ask myself:

“What language do I speak? Do I always speak the language of the people of God or do I sometimes speak the language of the people of the world?!”

According to Ephesians 4:15 & 29, Colossians 4:6, and Phil 3:20, the language of the people of God is recognized by the following:

- ☺
- ☺
- ☺
- ☺
- ☺

According to James 4:11 & 12, Ps 50:20, 2 Peter 3:3, Col 3:9, Eph 4:29 (and other verses), the language of the people of the world is typified by the following:

- ☹
- ☹
- ☹
- ☹
- ☹

I need to remember that, according to the Lord Jesus, I will be acquitted by my words or condemned by my words (Matt 12:37), for “the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart”! (Matt 15:18).

My heart is revealed by my talk!

Pray “Father, may my words be always pleasing to You.”

Go + Do what will spread the fragrance of Jesus, also through my words.

21 June: They LIED and DIED...

Pray “Lord, please expose every lie in my life and in our midst...”

Read Esther 1-3 and Acts 5:1-16

Think + write Matthew Henry, the well-known Bible commentator and contemporary to John Bunyan, said that though the name of God is not in the book of Esther, His finger is! Esther means “star”. **Esther was a “star”** in the following areas:

- ✱ She was **beautiful and modest** (2:7,15). She was
- ✱ **Winsome** and “won the favor of everyone who saw her” (2:15)
- ✱ She was **obedient** to her uncle, Mordecai (2:10).
- ✱ She was **serious in her relationship with God** and willing to fully fast for 3 days (4:16), seeking His blessing on her efforts to save the people of God.
- ✱ She **asked for prayer** (4:16) and was
- ✱ Willing to sacrifice herself, **willing to DIE, doing God’s will** (16)
- ✱ She was **courageous** (4:10,11 and 5:1-3). She had
- ✱ **A sense of destiny and of God’s purpose for her life** (4:14b)
- ✱ She showed **no mercy to the “adversary”** (the enemy) to the people of God (7:6)

The sin that caused the instant death of both Ananias and his wife, Sapphira, was **the sin of LYING**. Peter said: “Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have LIED to the Holy Spirit...?”(Acts 5:3) “What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied to men but to God”(v4). Sapphira also lied and died (v8). One of her last deeds on earth was **the sin of COVERING UP** for her husband, which was a double sin...(v2,8). Some of the **“reasons” why people tell lies** are:

- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....
- 4.....

According to the Lord Jesus (Rev 22:15) the people who tell lies will be.....the Holy City, the new Jerusalem (21:2). **“But...all liars - their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur”**, in hell...(21:8)!!!

Pray “Lord Jesus, I want nothing to do with the ‘father of lies’ ...”

Go + Do what God showed me through Esther, the “star”!

22 June: We must Obey!

Pray “Lord, may Your Good Gospel spread all over the earth...”

Read Esther 4-6 and Acts 5:17-42

Think + write The book of Acts show the acts of the Holy Spirit - through men and women filled by Him and fulfilling God’s purposes on earth. It can be summarized with 3 words:

UP... DOWN... OUT...!!!

When Jesus went **UP** into heaven, the Holy Spirit came **DOWN** in power on the disciples, and they went **OUT** into the world, proclaiming the Good News about salvation through Jesus Christ. In his book “*Missionary Ideals*” Thomas Walker (a missionary who served and died in Tamil Nadu, South India) says: “From the very first, strenuous opposition was offered to the progress of the Gospel” He mentions 5 special devices the devil uses to frustrate God’s missionary purpose:

1. **Opposition** (Ch 4) from outside
2. **Deception** (Ch 5:1-11) from within
3. **Persecution** (Ch 5:17-42) from outside
4. **Division** (Ch 6:1-8) from within
5. **Martyrdom** (Ch 7:54-60) from without

The apostles were told (Acts 5:20) to “Go...stand...tell the people the full message of this new life”. Note, not the “new religion”, but the “new life”, the “new relationship” with Jesus! The “full message” of *this new life* is:.....

.....
.....
.....

The motto of the early Christians was: “We must obey God rather than men!” (Acts 5:29). God gave the Holy Spirit to those who obeyed Him (5:32) and as a result (despite the devil’s devices) “*they never stopped* teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ” (5:42), and *they filled* Jerusalem with their teaching (5:28)!

In the same way that the Adversary (the Opponent) withstood the Gospel, as recorded in Acts, he tried to “destroy, kill and annihilate all the Jews” (3:13; see John 10:10) in the time of Esther - through **Haman**, who was Haughty (Esther 3:1,2), Hateful (v3-5) and Heartless (v6-15).

Pray “Father, may the schemes of Satan be destroyed!”

Go + Do what **God** tells me and not just what *people* say.

George MacDonald on:

OBEEDIENCE

“**Obedience** is the opener of the eyes”

“**Obedience** is the road to all things—
the only way on which to grow able to trust him.
Love and faith and **obedience** are sides of the same prism.”

“**Obedience** is the one key of life.”

“**Do** the thing that lies next to you. That is all our business.”

“**Obedience** is the one condition of progress”

“**Obedience** is the soul of knowledge”

“Until a man begins to **obey**, the light that is in him is darkness”

“Faith is **obedience**, not confidence”

“**Obedience** is the only service”

“Real love is **obedience** and all things beside”

“A time comes to every man when he must **obey**,
or make such refusal—and know it”

“Get up, and **do** something the Master tells you;
so make yourself his disciple at once”

“To him who **obeys**, and thus opens the door of his heart
to receive the eternal gift, God gives the Spirit of his Son”

“He only who **obeys** Him, does or can know Him;
he who **obeys** Him cannot fail to know Him”

“By **obeying** one learns to **obey**”

“The only way to know what is true is to **do** what is true”

23 June: The Adversary

Pray “*Lord, You are the Victor!*”

Read Esther 7-10 and Acts 6

Think + write A key message in Esther is about “*the adversary and enemy*”, Haman (Esther 7:6), who is a picture of Satan and his schemes to destroy and kill the children of God (John 10:10; 1 Peter 5:8). *The adversary* Haman (we can also say: Satan)...

- ♦ Wants to be honored and bowed down to (3:5)
- ♦ Wants to “destroy, kill and annihilate” (3:13)
- ♦ Is an enemy (7:6 and 9:24)
- ♦ Is vile, wicked and evil (7:6)
- ♦ Plots, schemes and devises evil against God’s people (9:24,25)
- ♦ Uses witchcraft to secure his evil purposes (“cast the *pur*”; 9:24)
- ♦ Was and is conquered and killed by his own device. Haman was hanged on the gallows he prepared for Mordecai (7:10) and Satan was conquered on and through the Cross of Christ (Col 2:15)! In God’s hands and through His working, what was meant as a curse can be turned into a blessing! Also see Gen 50:20, Num 22:12 and 23:11. *Satan’s victims can become victors* (through Christ)!

I learn from the above-mentioned that.....

.....

In the next few pages a summary is given of our adversary (the devil and the demons) - who they are, how they are, what they do, how they work, when they work and their evil hierarchy...

The apostles realized the *priority* of

1.and
2.(Acts 6:2,4)

Prayer and **the Word of God** should also be priority in my life. I can secure it as such by.....

.....

Practical service was also a priority (6:1,3) that needed men who were “known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom”(v3)...!! I need to ask myself: “Would I have qualified or not?!”

Pray “*Father, may more of Your children be full of the Spirit*”

Go + Do what they prioritized to do: Pray, Read, Serve...

The Adversary : DEMONS

In his autobiography, “*Soldier*”, General Matthew B. Ridgeway says, “There are two kinds of information that no commander can do without – information pertaining to **the enemy** ... and information on **the terrain**. Both are vital.” In this section we’ll briefly look at the information pertaining to the enemy.

“Mankind is demonized to the extent that it believes the demons do not exist.”

Hermann Bezzel

“There are two equal and opposite errors
into which our race can fall about the devils.

One is to disbelieve in their existence.

The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive
and unhealthy interest in them.

They themselves are equally pleased by both errors
and hail a materialist or a magician with the same delight.”

C.S. Lewis

“The great dragon was hurled down –
That ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan,
Who leads the whole world astray.

He was hurled to the earth,
And his angels (a third of the stars – *the demons*) with him”

Rev 12:9,4 NIV

“To be effective in spiritual warfare,
to be balanced and free from fear,
we must be *aware* of the enemy,
but *impressed* with God.

It should never be the other way around.”

Dean Sherman

“...the Christian Church must recognize that
the existence of deceiving, lying spirits,
is as real in the twentieth century as in the time of Christ,
and their attitude to the human race unchanged.”

Jessie Penn-Lewis

“There is much truth that needs to be learned about the devil, and no age needs the plain, unvarnished truth about him more than this generation”

E.M. Bounds

“He who is ignorant of the wiles and artifices of the enemy, only beats the air, and the devil is not afraid of him.”

Pastor Blumhardt

1. WHO they are

The demons are created spirit beings, fallen angels-turned-evil-spirits, who have rebelled against the Living God. Their instigator and rebel leader is Satan, the originator of sin and the father of lies. His pride led to his fall. The facts of his and their fall and final destination are recorded in Ezekiel 28:11-19, Isaiah 24 & 14:12-20, Luke 10:18, Revelation 12:7-9, Col 1:16, Rev 12:3, 1 Pet 3:19, Jude 6, 2 Pet 2:4, Matt 25:41, and Rev 20:10.

2. HOW they are

The demons are evil spirits. A spirit is a created being that can think and act without a body. Though it is immaterial and invisible, it has character, it has a mind of its own, it has a will, and it can do things. They can act and operate in their own right - whether a person believes in their existence or not. They are not human spirits, nor impersonal forces, but actual (spiritual) personages.

These spirits (and Satan) are like cruel, cowardly, merciless, treacherous, dirty, stinking, scavenging **hyenas**, attacking the tired, weak, wounded, sick strugglers - who lag behind (Deut 25:17-19). They love and crave the flesh. They are like **vultures** that seek and are attracted by rotten flesh. They find their satisfaction in *the flesh*, and are nourished and given strength and life through the flesh (Matt 24:28). Like **lions**, they track down, attack, pounce on, rip to pieces, mutilate, kill and devour their prey (1 Pet 5:8; Gen 4:7). Like **flies** they gather around any form of filth. Like **snakes** they hide and slide secretly - and strike suddenly, injecting their vile venom.

The nature, character and activities of Satan are revealed through his different **names**. He is called Satan (“adversary or opposer”), the Devil (“slanderer, malignant accuser”), Beelzebub (“lord of the flies”),

the Serpent (symbol of deceit and hypocrisy), Lucifer (the shining one), the Murderer from the beginning, the Roaring Lion, the Liar, the Tempter, the Dragon, the Evil One, the Accuser of the brethren, the Prince of the power of the air, the Prince of the aerial host, the Deceiver of the world, Abaddon or Apollyon (“Destroyer”), the Enemy, the god of this world (or age), the Beast of the Abyss, Belial (the worthless, reckless, lawless one), the Thief, the Killer, the Destroyer, the Lawless One, the Strong Man, the Masquerader, Diabolus (Separator, Slanderer)... But, we should never forget that he often comes as ...an angel of the light! Satan’s smile is more dangerous than his frown.

Satan and the demons are: *Crooked* (perverted, depraved, wicked and evil), *Cruel*, *Contaminating* all they touch, *Clever*, *Cunning*, *Cowardly*, *Craving* (sin, the flesh, worship, a body), *Ceaseless* in their efforts to rape and ruin, *Crouching* (to attack like a wild beast of prey), *Crippling* (with delight), *Counterfeiting* (deceiving, lying), *Clandestine* (hidden), *Continuous Criminals*. But, at the same time, it’s important to realize and remember that they are: *Created* beings (Col 1:16), *Confined* in space and time and power, *Curtailed* in their activities, *Conquered* by Christ on the Cross (Col 2:15), *Cursed* (Gen 3:14,15), and *Condemned* (eternally)!

3. WHAT they do

Who and **how** they determine **what** they do. Their deeds are the fruits of the roots of their wicked beings. “Their one ceaseless aim is to **deceive** every human being.... They are given up to wickedness all day long, and all night long, and ...they are ceaselessly, and actively pouring a stream of wickedness (**darkness**) into the world, and are satisfied only when they succeed in their wicked plans to deceive, and ruin men”(Jessie Penn-Lewis, or JPL).

4. HOW they work

Since each person is created by God as a physical, psychological and spiritual being (“spirit, soul and body”- 1 Thess 5:23), and lives in a certain environment (in relation to God and others), Satan and these spirits seek to attack us in one, or more, or all of these four aspects of our existence (Watchman Nee, or WN):

.(1) Satan's attack on the PSYCHOLOGICAL aspect of my being
- my "MIND".

Satan can suddenly or stealthily *suggest* (inject/plant) a thought or idea or imagination or reasoning in our mind. It can be an evil, or negative, or even a seemingly good thought. "All temptations are offered us in the form of thoughts" (WN). If we do not realize it, recognize, refuse, reject, resist and ignore it, ...we'll accept it as our own thoughts (or worse, as God's thoughts), and give Satan a foothold in our mind – which may become a stronghold (or strong *hold*). This is how **temptation** and **deception** start. ***The mind is the battlefield. SUGGESTION is the tool the devil uses!*** To live in Victory, we must learn to wage and win this battle in and for the mind, capturing every thought and making it obedient to Christ (2 Co.10:4-5). This is very important.

(2) Satan's attack on the PHYSICAL aspect of my being
- my "BODY".

According to the Word of God many physical **diseases** are caused by evil spirits and/or Satan. See Luke 4:39; Mark 9:25; Luke 13:10-16; Job 2:7. Many people consider themselves so "enlightened" that they are in the dark about this evil reality.

(3) Satan's attack on the SPIRITUAL aspect of my being
- my "CONSCIENCE".

Satan is "the accuser of our brothers...day and night." (Rev 12:10) He is first the Tempter and then the Tormentor. This work of Satan is carried out in man's conscience. He counterfeits the convicting work of the Holy Spirit by his constant, nagging condemnation (or **accusation**), which, if yielded to, does not bring peace or strength or faith or growth, but leads to nowhere - to a self-centered paralysis in our walk and work for the Lord.

(4) Satan's attack on and through my ENVIRONMENT
- animate and inanimate.

Many things in our environment, though permitted by God, are the result of Satan's direct and active instigation and work. He may work in and through our living (*animate*) environment of people, animals, organisms, and evil spirits, or in and through our non-living

(*inanimate*) environment of water, air, and soil. We see it clearly in the life of Job and Jesus (Matt 8). This type of Satanic attack is often not recognized for what it really is – the work of the enemy.

5. WHEN they work

Demons cannot do whatever, whenever, where ever, however, on whoever or whatever they want. **They work when certain conditions are fulfilled.** This is very important to remember.

6. Their evil HIERARCHY

The evil spirits are organized in different groups. Some of them are weak, some are strong, some are clever, some not; some are leaders, some are laborers (foot soldiers) – though all are desperately evil. Satan has set up a **kingdom** of *darkness* and *deception*, with an organized occult **government**, as well as a **religion** (any one, even “Christianity”, as long as it omits the true Gospel of Calvary) with its different systems of idolatry, including the sometimes more subtle form of “I”-dolatry. According to Ephesians 6, the grouping or hierarchy of evil spirits is as follows:

Principalities. These evil spirits may be **princes** (or “MPs” – members of parliament) in Satan’s kingdom. Some refer to them as “territorial spirits”.

Powers. They give expression to the above-mentioned spirit powers, like demonic **generals** with military might. They may also be called “strongholds”.

Rulers (sovereigns or world rulers of the present darkness). In the original, it is a very powerful word that conjures up the notion of **power to govern and to rule.**

Hosts / Spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenlies. These spirits can be described as “**spiritual bands of evil**”, or “spiritual cohorts (battalions, legions, myriads) of evil”; “**common demons**” or “**foot soldiers**” or **bandits** in Satan’s mutinous army.

King. Their “king” is called Apollyon (Destroyer; Rev 9:11) – Satan himself.

7. TYPES of evil spirits

Within the hierarchy of evil spirits, there seems to be different types or classes of demons (with different characters and areas of activity).

While guarding against excesses in such a classification, the following types can be referred to (briefly):

Familial spirits are familiar with (and attached to) certain families.

Religious spirits specialize in religiosity (even “Christian”).

Deceiving (seducing/lying) spirits are very prominent in the last days (1 Tim 4:1)

“Dead people’s spirits” are not the spirits of the dead people, but those demons that take the form of the people who have died.

Idol spirits are linked with idols (1 Cor 10:20, Ps 106:36-38, Deut 32:16,17).

Witchcraft spirits are those demons that are active in the casting of spells, the bringing of curses, and/or the “protection” against or the reversal of such.

Unclean (impure) spirits thrive on any impurities (Mark 7:25; Zech 13:2).

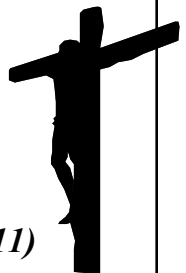
Sexually seductive spirits are rampant today. Some are “male” spirits (incubus), while others are “female” spirits (succubus). The “Jezebel spirit” is one example. The reference to the present age as “the age of Kali” seems Biblical, for the woman on the beast (in Rev 17), who is called “the great prostitute”, exactly (literally) fits the description of Kali. “She” is behind the feminist (women’s “liberation”) movement, as well as behind much of the immorality in the world and church today.

Homosexual spirits are also prominent in these last days. Revelation 9 refers to Apollyon, the “destroyer”, also known as Siva – who is an effeminate bi-sexual “male” “god”, who is the main driving force behind the worldwide homosexual movement. “He” inspires men to, for instance, wear earrings and ponytails - which is a dishonor, a disgrace (1 Cor 11:14).

Disease spirits (or spirits of infirmity) who cause disease (Luke 5:15; 8:2; 13:11).

Spirits of divination (Acts 16:16) are involved in the practice of divination (in its many forms, including water divination). Etc.

***“They overcame him (Satan)
by the blood of the Lamb
and by the word of their testimony;
they did not love their lives
so much as to shrink from death” (Rev 12:11)***



24 June: Shine like Stephen

Pray “Lord, may Your Life shine through us like through Stephen”

Read Job 1-3 and Acts 7:1-19

Think + write Acts 7 describes the *Message* and *Martyrdom* of Stephen*. In his message he says that

- ♦ Israel was *favoured by God* before possessing its tabernacle or temples (v1-38), as illustrated by the lives of Abraham, Joseph and Moses; but...
- ♦ Israel was *faithless to God* after possessing it (v39-53).

STEPHEN was

- Full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom (6:3,10)
- Full of God’s grace and power (6:8)
- His face was like the face of an angel (6:15)
- A man (6:8), not a mouse or a “moffie”, or a “sissy” (a homosexual)
- Boldly speaking the truth and standing - not for himself, but for God’s Gospel (7:2)
- Praying for himself (7:59) and for his enemies (7:60)
- Forgiving (v60)
- Faithful to Jesus unto death (v60)

The main message from his life and death to me is

.....

.....

.....

.....

God said there was no one on earth like JOB:

- ♦ He wasand(1:8)
- ♦ HeGod andevil (v8)
- ♦ Despite the tragedies that struck, he.....God (1:20)
- ♦ He did not blame God (1:22); He did not sin in what he said (2:10b)
- ♦ He endured (James 5:11)
- ♦ God had put a hedge around him (1:10) & us (Ps 34:7; Is 5:2; Zec 2:5)

In “*What the Bible is all about*” Henrietta Mears described Job as a

- **Perfect** man (1:1)
- **Prosperous** man (1:2-4)
- **Praying** man (1:5)
- **Popular** man (29:21,25)
- **Proven** man (42:10,12) with a *Personal relationship with God*.

Pray “Father, may we live and **Do** and die like Stephen”

25 June: Baffled to Fight Better

Pray “Lord, may the plans of Satan be scattered...”

Read Job 4-6 and Acts 7:20-43

Think + write In the book of Job I see:

- (1) Job in the hands of Satan (Ch1-2:10), under God;
- (2) Job in the hands of his friends (Ch 2:11-31:40), and
- (3) Job in the hands of God... (Ch 32-42).

Oswald Chambers summarized the meaning of the book of Job in the words: “**Baffled to Fight Better**”! Often, the question is asked: “Why do the righteous suffer?”. There is no easy answer to this question, but Job teaches me that there is an Answer - God Himself ...and a renewed Revelation of and Relationship with Him. Wilford Brinton wrote:

“Jesus, Whose lot with us was cast,
Who saw it out, from first to last...
Would I could win and keep and feel
That heart of love, that spirit of steel.

I would not to Thy bosom fly
To slink off till the storms go by,
If you are like the man you were
You’d turn with scorn from such a prayer.”

Moses, like Job, went through God’s school of discipleship - in the desert. His life can be seen as in 3 phases of 40 years each:

- ➔ The 1st 40 years: He was **SOMETHING**
Brought up as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter (Acts 7:21)
Educated in all the wisdom of Egypt (v22)
Powerful in speech and action (v22)
“He decided”⁹v23), he “thought” (v25), “he tried” (v26)
- ➔ The 2nd 40 years: He was **NOTHING**
He failed and fled (v29)
He could not speak well any more (Ex 4:10)
He looked after sheep in the desert (Ex 3:1)
- ➔ The 3rd 40 years: **WHAT GOD CAN DO** with a **NOTHING**
See Acts 7:34 (sent by God), 7:36,38,44 (used by God).

Pray “Father, may we become less and You more.”

Go + Do whatever God engineers for my life - to His glory.

26 June: Blood & Seed

Pray “Lord Jesus, thank You for being at Father’s right hand.”

Read Job 7-9 and Acts 7:44-60

Think + write In his last sermon, and shining for Jesus, Stephen said that the religious people were

- ⇒ Stiff-necked
- ⇒ With uncircumcised hearts and ears
- ⇒ Just like their fathers
- ⇒ Always resisting the Holy Spirit
- ⇒ They betrayed and murdered Jesus, and
- ⇒ Have not obeyed (7:51-53)

STEPHEN became the first Christian to be killed for the sake of Jesus Christ; he was the first Christian martyr. In “*The Applied New Testament Commentary*” Dr Thomas Hale says that “even in the midst of intense suffering, Stephen didn’t look at his persecutors; **he looked to God**. When trouble comes upon us, what do we see? Do we see our enemies, our bad circumstances? Or, like Stephen, **do we see God?**” It is often said that **the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church...** This became true in Stephen and Saul’s lives! In Acts 1:8 Jesus said: “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my *witnesses...*”, my *martyrs* (as it is in the Greek). This means that **the Holy Spirit will empower me to suffer and die (if need be) for Christ**, like Stephen did. The situations in which I am privileged (James 1:2) to suffer for Jesus are the following:

-
-
-

In his intense suffering, **JOB** (amongst many other things) said:

- I do not have power to help myself (6:13)
- My life is but a breath (7:7)
- You (God) examine me every morning
- You test me every moment (7:18) and put me under guard (v12)
- I have no concern for myself (9:21)

From this I learn that.....
.....

Pray “Father, I trust You.”

Go + Do what God unfolds before me and in my life...

27 June: Lord, do Your work in me!

Pray “Lord, please purify my motives and my trust in You.”

Read Job 10-12 and Acts 8:1-25

Think + write In Acts 8 Simon Peter and Simon Magnus are compared and contrasted. Simon Magnus was a sorcerer who became an unsaved “believer” (8:13). I see that

- ✕ He wanted the ability to lay hands on people to receive the Holy Spirit (8:19) - possibly for selfish reasons, for his own glory;
- ✕ He thought God’s gifts can be bought with money (v18,20)
- ✕ His heart was not right before God (v21)
- ✕ He was full of bitterness (v23), possibly through jealousy;
- ✕ He was captive to sin (v23), “a prisoner of sin” (GNB),
- ✕ BUT, when confronted with the truth by Simon Peter, and told to repent (v22), he asked for prayer (v24). This unfortunately does not mean that he repented. Many people may ask for prayer, but without actually repenting of their sins. To repent means:

1.
2.
3.
4.

Zophar, one of the 3 friends of Job, said:

- If you **Prepare your heart** (KJV), if you devote your heart to Him
- If you **Pray** (“stretch out your hands to Him”)
- If you **Put away the sin** in your hand and house (Job 11:13,14)

Then... you’ll lift up your face without shame, you’ll stand firm and without fear, you’ll forget your trouble, your life will be bright, you’ll be secure, you’ll rest in safety and lie down without fear (v15-19). *While this seems right, God does **NOT** always work like this. He is God, He rules, He decides in wisdom and love and sometimes even IF a child of His does all the above-mentioned, life may still be full of troubles and shame and suffering!* Also see Isaiah 50:10. George MacDonald, after going through much suffering, said:

I have not knowledge, wisdom, insight, thought,
Or understanding, fit to justify
Thee in thy work, O Perfect. Thou hast brought
Me up to this—and, lo! What thou hast wrought,
I cannot call it good. But I can cry—
“O enemy, the maker hath not done:
One day thou shalt behold, and from the sight wilt run.”

Pray “Father, please continue to do Your work in me!”

28 June: Trust God!

Pray *“Lord, teach me to trust You.”*

Read Job 13-15 and Acts 8:26-40

Think + write Job called his friends “worthless physicians”, (13:4) because he felt that (1) they were making the **wrong diagnosis** all the time, and (2) they were prescribing the **wrong medicine** (or treatment). For instance, we can say they effectively said:

- ⊗ “You are being punished because you’ve done wrong”
- ⊗ “You’re suffering because you needed to be corrected and perfected”
- ⊗ “You do not have faith”
- ⊗ “You experience difficulties because God is angry with you”
- ⊗ “You are suffering because you’ve sinned”
- ⊗ “You are sick because you sinned”
- ⊗ “You are sick because you don’t have faith”
- ⊗ “Your loved ones died because of something wrong in you”
- ⊗ “The problems you encountered are because of YOU”
- ⊗ “There’s an explanation for everything”
- ⊗ “We understand your problem!”
- ⊗ “Let me explain to you...”
- ⊗ His wife was the worst “friend” of all, for she said: “Curse God and die!”. This literally means: “Say good-bye to God”...!

From all of this I learn that:.....
.....
.....
.....

If I try to “diagnose” and “treat” every person I meet, I’ll be a “worthless physician”. I read in the Good News Bible that Job said to his friends: “You cover up your ignorance with lies; you are like doctors who can’t heal anyone”; ... “you are all physicians of no value and have no remedy to offer” (Ampl); ... “You graffiti my life with lies. You’re a bunch of pompous quacks!” (MSG). In response to his suffering AND his friends’ sick diagnosis and suggested treatment, Job said (13:15;KJV):

“Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him”!

Pray *“Father, even when I can’t understand I can trust You”*

Go + Do it - trust God, no matter what comes my way...

29 June: Saul Saved!

Pray “Lord, please open my eyes to see You and to see myself.”

Read Job 16-18 and Acts 9:1-22

Think + write Saul was an educated man (Acts 22::3), but an enemy of Christ and His disciples (9:1). He witnessed and approved the stoning to death of brother Stephen (8:1). He “persecuted the followers of this Way to their death” (22:4). On his way to Damascus to arrest any person “who belonged to the Way” and take them to Jerusalem as prisoners (9:2), he encountered Jesus in all His resurrection glory! I can see that Saul truly met the Lord Jesus, because:

- ✓ The Lord Jesus appeared to him; he saw Jesus (v3,17,27)
- ✓ Saul said: “**Lord, what do You want me to DO?**” (Acts 9:6;KJV). According to George MacDonald, God’s answer (generally) to that question is: “*Give yourself to Me... to **DO** what I tell you...*”. That is what Saul did. Jesus became LORD in his life. He surrendered his own will and sought God’s will now. He set himself to **DO** the will of the Master, to **DO** the word of Christ. Andrew Murray said: “*True conversion is nothing but a surrender (not just a decision) to live only to **DO** the will of God.*”
- ✓ He became **OBEDIENT**; he did what he was told to do (v6-8).
- ✓ He became **blind to the world** (v8,9)
- ✓ He was **humbled** and led around by others (v8b)
- ✓ He was found **praying** (v11) ; he became a praying man.
- ✓ He **submitted himself** to Ananias, an elder brother-follower of the Lord Jesus. Ananias was an obedient man, a “Yes, Lord”-man. From him I learn (as someone said): “Selective obedience is not obedience, but convenience”; and “Always obey without delay...and don’t cry why...” (v10-17).
- ✓ His **sins were washed away** (Acts 22:16)
- ✓ He became “**Brother Saul**” (v17)
- ✓ He was **filled with the Holy Spirit** (v17b)
- ✓ He got up and was **baptized** (v18)
- ✓ He spent time with the disciples and began to **preach**! (v19,20,27)
- ✓ **His whole life was changed!** He became a new man, a new creation! (2 Co 5:17). His personality and name changed from Saul to Paul, from “to demand” to “little”...

WHAT ABOUT MY LIFE? HAVE I TRULY MET THE LORD JESUS?

Pray “Lord, I surrender to You! What do You want me to **Do** ?!”

30 June: Let's Grow in Him *and* Glow!

Pray “Lord, may we grow because of You in us...”

Read Job 19,20 and Acts 9:23-43

Think + write After his conversion, Saul himself was persecuted and sometimes not accepted by fellow believers, but through it all, *he “grew more and more powerful”* (Acts 9:22). The *church also grew* strong and in numbers (v31), as they lived in the fear of the Lord and were encouraged by the Holy Spirit (v31). *To grow spiritually* I also need “G.R.O.W.T.H.”:

GROWTH		
G	Go to God in prayer	Matt 6:6; Eph 6:18; Dan 6:10; 1 Thes 5:17
R	Read His Word	2 Tim 3:16; Is 34:16a; Jer 15:16; 1 Peter 2:1,2
O	O bey God	John 2:5;4:34; Matt 7:21; John 8:11.
W	W itness and Work for Jesus and <i>be a witness</i>	Is 43:10; Acts 5:20; 2 Co 3:2.
T	T rust in the Lord!	Proverbs 3:5,6; Is 32:15.
H	H oly Spirit - be always filled with Him	Eph 5:18; 1 Co 3:16;6:19; John 7:37-39.
<i>Grow to God's glory!</i>		

Job said: “I know that my Redeemer lives... and after my skin has been destroyed... I will see God; I myself will see Him with my own eyes” (Job 19:25-27). How wonderful that will be! He also said: “The lamp of the wicked is snuffed out; the flame of his fire stops burning...” (Job 18:5). Instead of growing, it goes out!! ***To keep God's Fire burning in me and growing***, I need to.....

Pray “Lord, please let the flame of Your Fire grow to Your glory.”

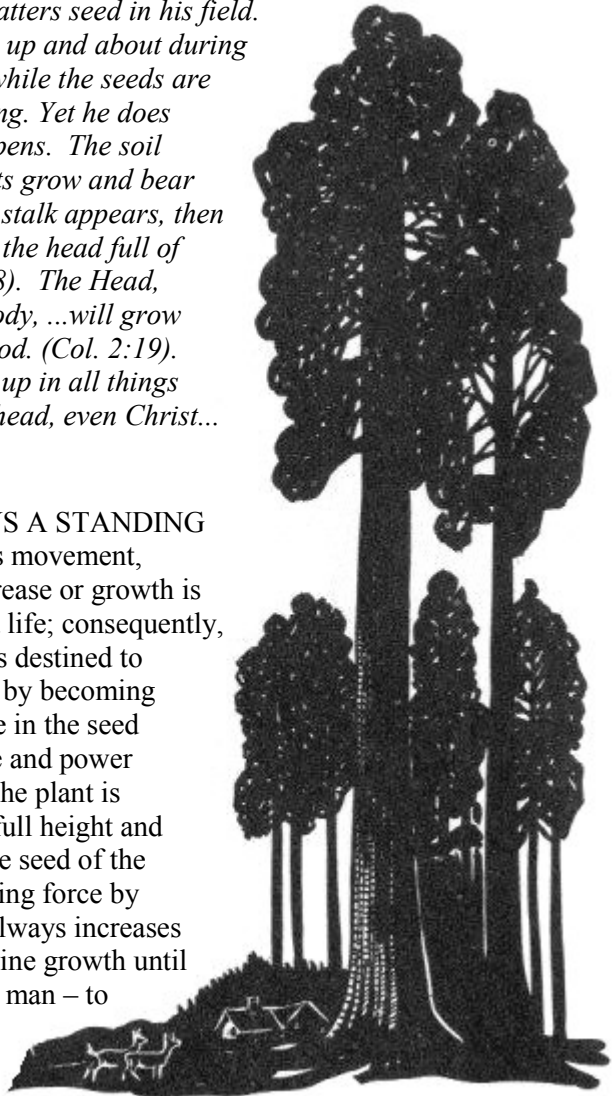
Go + Do what will make it grow...

The following is an extract from “*The New Life*,” written by Dr Andrew Murray, which is one of the best books I have ever read on the “New Life” in Christ:

GROWTH

Jesus went on to say, "The Kingdom of God is like this. A man scatters seed in his field. He sleeps at night, is up and about during the day, and all the while the seeds are sprouting and growing. Yet he does not know how it happens. The soil itself makes the plants grow and bear fruit; first the tender stalk appears, then the head, and finally the head full of grain. (Mark 4:26-28). The Head, from whom all the body, ...will grow with the growth of God. (Col. 2:19). [That we] may grow up in all things into him, who is the head, even Christ... (Eph. 4:15,16).

DEATH IS ALWAYS A STANDING STILL; life is always movement, progressiveness. Increase or growth is the law of all created life; consequently, the new life in man is destined to increase, and always by becoming stronger. As there are in the seed and in the earth a life and power of growth by which the plant is impelled to have its full height and fruit, so is there in the seed of the eternal life an impelling force by which also that life always increases and grows with a divine growth until we come to a perfect man – to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.



In this parable of the seed that springs up of itself and becomes great and bears fruit, the Lord teaches us two of the most important lessons on the increase of the spiritual life. The one is that of its *self-sufficiency* and the other of its *gradualness*.

The first lesson of *self-sufficiency* is for those who ask what they are to do in order to grow and advance more in grace. As the Lord said of the body, “Which of you by being anxious can add one cubit unto his stature? Consider the lilies of the field how they grow”; so He says to us here that we can do nothing, and need do nothing, to make the spiritual life grow. Do you not see how, while man slept, the seed sprang up and became high (he knew not how) and how the earth brought forth fruit of itself? When man has once sowed, he must reckon that God cares for the growth. He has not to care; he must trust and rest.

And must man then do nothing? He can do nothing. It is from within that the power of life must come – from the life, **from the Spirit**, implanted in him. **To the growth itself he can contribute nothing; it shall be given him to grow.**

All that he can do is to let the life grow. All that can hinder the life, he must take away and keep away. If there are thorns and thistles that take away place and power in the soil which the plant should have, he can take them away. The plant must have its place in the earth alone and undivided. For this the husbandman can care; then it grows further of *itself*. So must the Christian take away what can hinder the growth of the new life. He must surrender the heart entire and undivided for the new life, to hold it alone in possession and to fill it, so that it may grow free and unhindered.

The husbandman can also bring forward what the plant requires in the way of food or drink; he can manure or moisten the soil as it may be needful. So must the believer see that for the new life there is brought forward nourishment out of the Word, the living water of the Spirit, by prayer. It is in Christ that the new life is planted; from Him it increases with divine increase. Abide rooted on Him by the exercise of faith; the life will grow of itself. **Give it what it must have; take away what can hinder it. The life will grow and increase of itself.**

The second lesson of the parable is the *gradualness* of the growth:

“first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear.” **Do not expect everything at once. Give God time.** By faith and endurance we inherit the promise – the faith that knows that it has everything in Christ; the endurance that expects everything in its time according to the rule and the order of the divine government. **Give God time. Give the new life time.** It is by continued abiding in the earth that the plant grows; it is by continuous standing in grace, in Christ himself in whom God has planted us, that the new life grows.

*“Give it
what it must have;
take away
what can hinder it.
The life will grow
and increase
of itself”
(through God)*

Yes, give the new life only sufficient time – **time in prayer; time in fellowship with God; time in continuous exercise of faith; time in persistent separation from the world.** Give it time. Slow but sure, hidden but real, in apparent weakness but with heavenly power, is the divine growth with which the life of God in the soul grows up to the perfect man in Christ.

Lord God, graciously strengthen the faith of Thy children that their growth and progress are in Thy hands. Enable them to see what a precious, powerful life was implanted in them by thyself, a life that increases with a divine increase. Enable them by faith and patience to inherit the promise. And teach them in that faith to take away all that can further it, so that Thou mayest make Thy work in them glorious. Amen.

For a plant, the principal thing is **the sun** in which it stands and out of which it draws its strength. For the Christian, this also is the principal thing: he is in Christ. Christ is all. He must grow up in Him, for out of Him the body obtains its increase.

To abide in Christ by faith – that is the main thing.

Remember that **faith** must set itself towards a silent restfulness, that growth is just like that of the lilies in God’s hands, and that He will see that we increase and grow strong.

By this firm and joyful faith, we become “strengthened with all power according to the might of his glory, unto all patience and long-suffering with joy” (Col. 1:11).

This faith – that God cares for our growth – takes away all anxiety and gives courage for **doing the two things that we have to do: the taking away of what may be obstructive to the new life, the bringing forward of what may be serviceable to it.**

Observe well the distinction between planting and growing. Planting is the work of a moment – in a moment the earth receives the seed; after that comes the slow growth. Without delay – immediately – the sinner must receive the word; before conversion there is no delay. Then with time follows the growth of the seed.

The main thing is Christ; from Him and in Him is our growth.

He is the soil that itself brings forth fruit – we know not how. **Hold daily communion with Him.**



Grow in God!

*How to
have a*

Happy Holy Holiday!



**The correct spelling of
“holi-day”
is
“HOLY-DAY”...!!!**

The PURPOSE of a holiday is:

- 1.....James 4:8
- 2.....1 Co 10:31
- 3.....Psalm 37:7
- 4.....Matt 28:19
- 5.....

**Many people fall into sin
(and even go to hell)
during holiday times...**

AW Tozer said that:

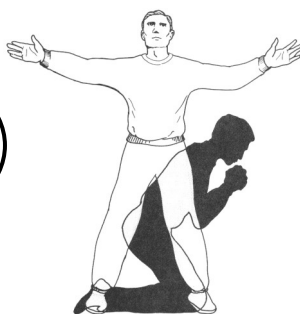
- “...a strange restlessness comes... a kind of madness grips the populace... an irresistible impulse picks most of us up...”
- “the vacation habit is a craze and a curse...”
- “It is an ironic fact that in the very months of the year

“What better recreation than the re-creating of the Holy Fire?” (Amy Carmichael)

- **when Satan is the busiest the children of God are the laziest**... Sunday School classes are closed during holidays, Cell-groups often discontinue during holidays, and people travel around a lot...
- It is a kind of “**mid-summer madness**” that comes over people...
- “The army of the Lord is the only army on earth where the soldiers expect a ...furlough (**holiday**) in time of war...”
- “... we are in grave danger of becoming a generation of **pleasure lovers**...”

HOW TO

Have a Holy Happy Holiday?!



- ⇒ Seek to **BE** a BLESSING...
- ⇒ Choose to NOT SIN in any way this holiday...
- ⇒ Decide to get up early every day to have TIME ALONE with God!
- ⇒ Reject LAZINESS in any form...
- ⇒ Beware the PEOPLE I meet... even relatives, or old “friends,” or strangers...
- ⇒ Carefully guard my heart against COVETOUSNESS
- ⇒ Don't let the BUY Bug Bite me!
- ⇒ Shun PASSIVITY... Be ACTIVE!
- ⇒ Flee worldly MUSIC, especially in my “free” time.
- ⇒ Watch & GUARD my emotions, my thoughts...

- ⇒ Beware IDLENESS
- ⇒ NO playing with Cell-phones or “just surfing” on the internet...
- ⇒ NO time for TV, or worldly DVDs, or videos, or films
- ⇒ READ good godly books!
- ⇒ Be DEAD to the WORLD and whatever the world does during this heathen festival time...
- ⇒ Specific TASKS, goals, chores...
- ⇒ Times of PRAYER & personal intercession & fasting
- ⇒ Seek to LEAD PEOPLE to the Lord Jesus CHRIST
- ⇒ Seek to BE a BLESSING to my parents and others...



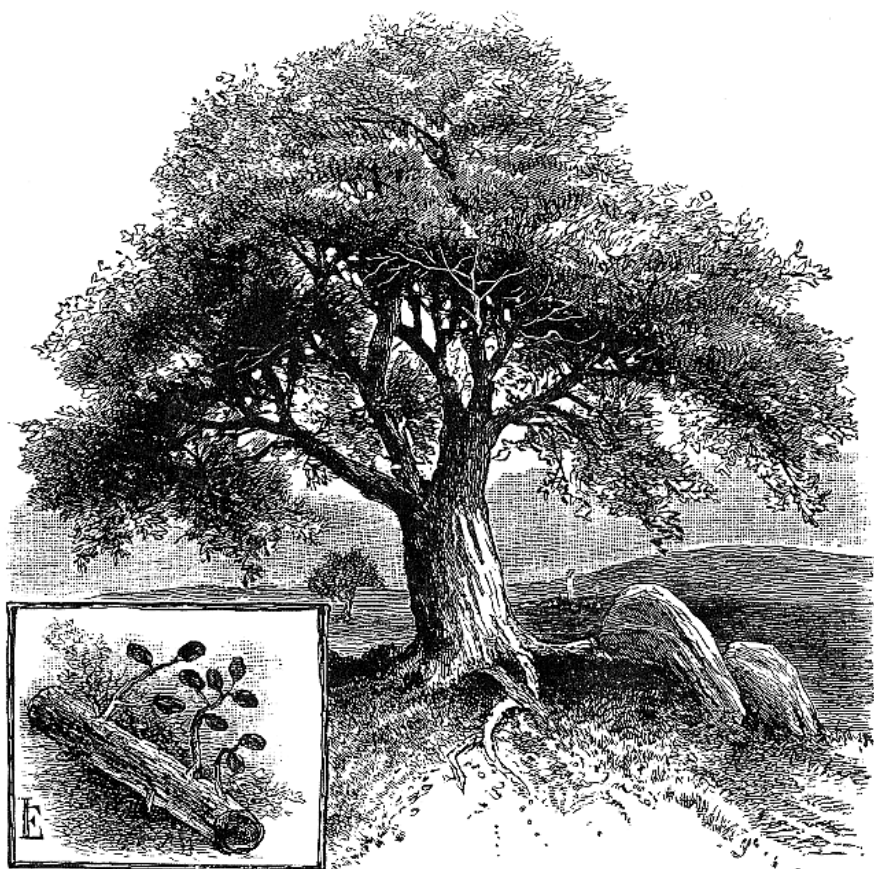
**Have a Happy,
Holy Holiday!!!**

My times are in Your hands, O God...



My LIFE is in Your hands, O God!

**“The righteous will flourish like palm trees;
they will GROW
like the cedars of Lebanon”**
Psalm 92:12





DIE



to multiply