

STREAMGLOBE DEVOTIONAL

Broadcast 3622 - Broadcast 3713 Aprx 3 months

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About us

Streamglobe World Outreach is a nondenominational ministry with the vision of Streaming the world with the knowledge of God through the media and every other medium possible.

Streamglobe Devotional is an interdenominational and nondenominational ministry to the body of Christ and to the world in general. Our desire is to keep you in God's presence as you spend time reading or listening to our Devotional. We are also focused on helping Christians grow spiritually by teaching in brief and direct methods the truths of God's word.

You may not be able to pack a bag and go to the mission field right now, but you can surely share God's word every day on WhatsApp, Facebook, Telegram, Instagram, etc. Jesus has given us the command to go into the world, preach the Gospel, and make disciples (see <u>Mark 16:15</u>, <u>Matt 28:19</u>).

Today, many people wake up to check their smartphones for updates. Our vision at Streamglobe Outreach is to take the word of God in Devotional and Bible reading to such people every day. You can join in the campaign by sharing Streamglobe Devotional with your contacts every day.

Here's a list of Our Directors: <u>Abraham Damilola Arigi (President)</u> Emmanuel Mayowa James (Vice President) Ubokudom Utuokon (Vice President) Ikechukwu Mpama (Executive Director of Publishing and Finance) George Evuarherhe Djorhogba(Executive Director Missions/ Prayer) Kenechukwu Ibekwe (Director) Victor Okelewu (Director) You can get more Streamglobe resources and learn more about us in our websites:

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Broadcast 3622 FILLED WITH THE FULLNESS OF GOD

Eph 3:18 (NET)... you may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth,19 and thus to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.

After Terna graduated from the university and embarked on the compulsory one-year youth service in his country, he didn't get a job immediately. During this period of waiting, he had a lot of free time. He decided to spend that time seeking the face of the Lord and building his relationship with the Lord. He bought some spiritual books he decided to read while doing this. As Terna sought God and developed more intimacy with the Lord, he started understanding the dimensions of God's love. He realized that every fresh encounter he had with the Lord was preceded by a fresh revelation of God's love.

The most domineering attribute of God is love. Today's Bible text tells us that we will be filled up to all the fullness of God if we can comprehend the dimensions of God's love. This is facilitated by the Spirit of Christ in us. One of the major deceptions the devil uses is to create a perception of God in our minds that is not true.

It is the revelation of God's love that empowers us to love Him and walk in His love and grace (see 1 John 4:19).

Go into today meditating on God's love. Ask Christ to reveal it more to you.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: <u>Judges 17-21</u>

LEAD A LIFE WORTHY OF HIS CALLING

Ephesians 4:1 (AMP) Therefore, the prisoner for the Lord, appeal to and beg you to walk (lead a life) worthy of the calling to which you have been called [with behavior that is a credit to the summons to God's service].

When Andrew told his colleagues that he was a born-again Christian, many of them were confused, because there was nothing about his life that proved he was a Christian. Just the previous month, they secretly shared some money that should have been returned to the office, and Andrew was scrambling for his portion.

Unfortunately, today, there are many Christians like Bill. They do not live lives worthy of their calling in Christ. They have been compromisers and have been liars. They know deep down in their hearts that something is wrong, but they have found themselves preachers that make them comfortable in their sins.

Listen, child of God, you are not of this world. You have been empowered by God to live for Him in this world.

Christians should be just and honest people. We should be people of integrity and love. This is how we bring glory to our father in heaven. This is how we walk in His nature and grow in glory.

Go into today asking the Lord to help you properly represent Him in this world.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi Bible In One Year: <u>Psalms 24-26</u>

THE SECRET OF SUCCESS

Job 22:21 (KJV) Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at peace: thereby good shall come unto thee.

Bola had desired many beautiful things and had trusted the Lord from childhood for these things, but he achieved very little. This vexed him so much that he blamed the government of his country, his parents, and everything around him for his poor achievements.

One day as he studied the Bible, he came across a passage; one of his favorite memory verses, but it came with a different meaning this time. He found in this passage that the way to success had been spelled out. It was after this revelation that he exclaimed 'I have been responsible for my own setback!'

After confessing his ignorance, Bola has since followed that revelation into great success in life.

Here is the verse that changed Bola's life: Joshua 1:8

- This Book of the Law (God's word) shall not depart from your mouth.

(What are your confessions about yourself and your situations?)

- You shall meditate in it day and night.

(How much of God's word do you have? Which have you done best, meditating on God's word or worrying?)

- Observe to do according to all that is written in it.

(Are you true to God's word or have you adjusted it to soothe you?) - For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

Go into today, making up your mind to:

Speak the Word, think upon the Word and do the Word. When you do these, your testimonies will be inexhaustible in Jesus' name. Amen

Prayer: confess your ignorance and ask for grace to do as prescribed. Not born again?

—Dr. James Emmanuel.

YBP: <u>Job 17-18</u>

Broadcast 3625 A THOUGHT ON WORSHIP

Psalms 95:6(KJV) "O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker." (Read Psalm 95:1-11)

By thanksgiving, we acknowledge God's goodness and kindness. By praise, we acknowledge God's greatness. By worship, we acknowledge God's holiness. God's holiness is an attribute that is unique to God alone. His creatures can possess some of His other attributes in small measures like goodness, beauty, faithfulness, love, patience, etc. But God's holiness is unique. Until you come into a relationship with God, you have no concept of holiness. Anyone who has not met God can't be holy. This is different from righteousness. Isaiah and Job were righteous, but when they met God's holiness they declared their dirtiness.

In Psalms 95:1-5, the psalmist described accessing God's presence. We come into His presence with songs of joy and thanksgiving. Dear believer, always offer up your prayers with thanksgiving (see Phil 4:6). After you have gone through the processes in verses 1-5 and you come into His presence, what do you do? Worship! The whole essence of accessing His presence is to worship. In the place of worship, the key is - your total involvement. Every part of your being must be involved. You hear His voice when you worship. We need to hear the voice of God.

As you go into today, determine to make worship your lifestyle, knowing that the center of worship is the throne and it expands to the ends of the earth.

ON YOUR FACE BEFORE GOD

Genesis 17:3 (KJV) "And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying,"

Falling prostrate on your face before God is the most used description for worship in the whole bible. The problem of man has always been independence from God. The old man does not need repentance or refurbishing. The only solution to the old man is execution. God's remedy for the old man is the cross. The good news is that our old man was crucified with Christ more than 2000 years ago. Prostrating before God means total dependence on God. For you to be totally dependent on God, the cross of Jesus must be part of your daily experience (see Luke 9:23).

In the words of Derek Prince "I feel secure on my face, cause I know I can't go lower. There is only one way I can go from there, and that is up." It was John Bunyan who said, "He that is down needs fear no fall, he that is low no pride, he that is humble ever shall have God to be his guide." God requires us to humble ourselves before Him. I believe that one of the ways to practically humble ourselves before God is going on our faces before Him. That action has a way of humbling your heart. If you check the Bible, the great men of God at some point in their lives went on their faces before God. That's the way to greatness.

As you go into today, consider making it your practice to prostrate before God in worship. It can be in the quietness of your bedroom or in the midst of other saints in public worship. Doing this can help influence your heart accordingly. Humble yourself before God and watch Him lift you up.

—Otuokon, Ubokudom.

YBP: Matthew 23-25

KEEP THE UNITY OF THE SPIRIT

Ephesians 4:3 (AMP) Be eager and strive earnestly to guard and keep the harmony and oneness of the Spirit in the binding power of peace.

Mrs. Anderson started behaving in a way that it appeared she didn't want the brethren coming to her house any longer for their weekly Bible study cell group meeting. Chloe went around telling people that Mrs. Anderson was now tired of hosting them, that it was because Mrs. Anderson had backslidden. Amos was fast to stop Chloe from spreading this. He said: 'Yes, Mrs. Anderson has suddenly changed, but do you know what she has been going through? I heard she is even having issues at work and may lose her job.'

Mrs. Anderson was later restored when the brethren refused to react to her strange behavior. It happened that during that period, she was so depressed that she was even contemplating suicide. But the Lord delivered her through the love and prayers of the brethren.

What Amos did is a good example of how to guard and keep the harmony and oneness of the Spirit in the binding power of peace.

Where many people with different levels of spiritual understanding have to deal with each other, there has to be conscious effort put into keeping the unity of the Spirit and avoiding strife and negative emotions.

Unity in the body is very important because it engenders the flow of God's blessing (see Psalm 133:1-3)

Go into today knowing that your Christian brethren should be the closest people in your life. Ask the Lord to help you always keep the unity of the Spirit in the binding power of peace.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: I Corinthians 3-4

YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN POWER & AUTHORITY 1

Matt 28:18-19 (KJV) And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

There was a day my friend and I was praying for two young ladies possessed with the spirit of witchcraft. When the power of God came upon them, they started confessing and saying things that they could do with witchcraft powers. I marveled greatly because as a believer, I did not operate in the dimension of mysteries they talked about. But still, they submitted themselves to me, showing that I truly have spiritual authority that is superior to theirs.

It was then that I realized that they had great knowledge of the little power that they have but I had little knowledge of the superior great power I have in Christ Jesus.

This is the case with most believers, many of us have little knowledge of the Spirit that dwells within us, and because of this limited knowledge, we can do only little exploits (see Dan 11:32).

Many believers are ignorant of who they are and what they have. As a child of God, you have power and authority. It was given to you as part of your inheritance in Christ Jesus. Jesus secured all power by going to the cross, dying a horrible death, suffering the penalty of sin, and defeating Satan in hell.

Go into the world today knowing that Jesus has given you authority. Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world.

—Lanre Tobi

YBP: Genesis 36-39

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ONE BODY, ONE SPIRIT, ONE HOPE

Ephesians 4:4 (AMP) One body and one Spirit--just as there is also one hope to the calling you received.

The calling we have received in being children of God has one hope, which is the adoption- the redemption of our bodies. This is what will [physically] reveal our true nature as sons of God (see Rom 8:23 in AMP). This is when we will be able to walk in the fullness of the riches of God's power that we have access to. We would have bodies that cannot be killed or grow old, bodies that cannot get sick or weary – bodies that can participate in the divine realm naturally.

If our bodies will not be redeemed and our hope is limited to this world, we are of all men most miserable (see 1 Cor 15:19). But thanks to God, we have the guarantee and proof of this already with us: the Holy Spirit of promise that empowers us to walk in a foretaste of the powers to come.

Because we have this common hope, we are not bound by what binds the world. What moves the world does not affect our reality. We are seen as aliens in this world because we are not moved by what moves them.

This is what makes us able to appreciate our oneness as Christians, no matter how physically different we may be. We have been made one by the blood of Jesus. We are different from others and the same with one another because we have the same hope and are members of the same body.

Go into today knowing that you have more in common with a believer in Christ than your kinsman who is still an unbeliever.

Ask the Lord to help you discern His body appropriately. —Abraham Damilola Arigi YBP: <u>Ruth</u> Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.ly/aud3629</u> Broadcast 3630 ONE LORD, ONE FAITH, ONE BAPTISM

Ephesians 4:5 (NKJV) One Lord, one faith, one baptism

I have heard some people say that all Roman Catholics will not go to heaven. I want to advise Christians reading this devotional to desist from such divisive talk.

There are over one thousand Christian denominations in the world, and there is nothing wrong with denominations, as long as they don't divide us but help make us individually stronger. People have different temperaments and appeals, and that's why we don't all fit into one single denomination.

What makes a person a Christian is his faith in Christ Jesus. Does he believe that Jesus is Lord? Has he accepted Christ as his savior and Lord? Is his faith for salvation in Jesus alone?

The next very important thing to consider is his baptism. Every Christian should receive the water baptism of repentance, and the Holy Ghost baptism of power (see Luke 3:16). Water baptism is the [spiritual] public announcement of your new status as a disciple of Christ. Baptism in the Holy Ghost is your initiation into the power of God. The Holy Spirit is the one who administers the grace of God to your spirit.

When I see Christians who are still struggling with their old lifestyle of sin, one of the first questions I ask is 'has he been baptized in the Holy Ghost?' because I know that without the power of the Holy Ghost, no one can conquer the power of the flesh.

Go into today knowing that your faith in Christ Jesus, and your baptism in His Spirit, makes you a member of His body. Ask the Lord to help you live a life that is filled with His Spirit.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Psalms 27-29

Broadcast 3631 REVELATION OF THE FATHER

John 14:6 (KJV) Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

There was a time I fasted and prayed for many days because I wanted more revelation of God. My prayer was that God the Father should reveal Himself to me. I had spent many days praying this prayer until one day, I got a revelation from John 14:6. There Jesus says HE IS THE WAY. This means if you want to see the Father, you must go after the Son (Jesus).

In Matthew 11:27, Jesus says "All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; NEITHER KNOWETH ANY MAN THE FATHER, SAVE THE SON, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal Him".

As mighty and powerful as the Old Testament saints were, they did not know God as father. They did not reveal the father to us, only Jesus the Son did.

No man under the law had a (perfect) revelation of The Father (God). You cannot look at the Old Testament saints and prophets to get a picture of The Father. Where you must look is the SON. He is the express image of God's person (see Heb 1:3).

Readers, go after Jesus and let Him reveal The Father to you. Grace is multiplied to you more as God is revealed to you more(see 2 Pet 1:2). Jesus makes this possible: For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ(John 1:17).

FATHER OF ALL, IN US ALL

Ephesians 4:6 (NKJV) One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

Some people claim to believe in God. But they don't believe in Him as Father. They also don't believe in His indwelling spirit within His people.

What makes us Christians is our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and our relationship with God as our father, through Christ Jesus. Also, Christians do not go about believing that Satan has power that is relevant to them. We know there are gods and powers in this world, but they are dead gods when compared to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who has all power (see Matt 28:18). God is our father that loves us. He loves us so much that He has sent His Holy Spirit to dwell in us permanently. He is indeed above all and dwells in us all (who believe in the son).

Go into today knowing that a true Christian has the spirit of God dwelling in Him. Every Christian on the face of the earth has the same Holy Spirit dwelling in them. This is God's way of uniting us. Also, know that the devil has no power over you because God that now fills you is the one who created him.

Pray that God will make the reality of His presence in your life more evident from this day.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Isaiah 51-55

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Broadcast 3633 GRACE ACCORDING TO ASSIGNMENTS

Ephesians 4:7 (AMP) Yet grace was given to each of us individually in proportion to the measure of Christ's gift.

Cordelia noticed that from when her son was a little boy, he would dream and accurately predict the future. She also noticed that he easily saw visions and discerned spirits at work in people. She later found out that he was a prophet by divine ordination.

The word grace is the New Testament could be interpreted to a number of meanings. One is God's divine favor, another is God's divine influence upon the heart; this connotes the power of God at work within a person. Grace is therefore used in two broad contexts. Grace means God's divine favor, and grace means God's power at work in the heart of men.

Ephesians 4:7-11 tells us that grace (God's power) has been given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. And it goes on to explain some of Christ's gifts. They are Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, and teachers.

If by divine ordination, you are any one of those mentioned above, you are a gift to the body of Christ.

Grace is given to individuals according to the measure of Christ's gift. This means those with any of the above-mentioned ordinations have received special grace for it.

Go into today knowing that God will make adequate provisions for his assignment in your life.

Thank the Lord for His loving grace. He doesn't send us without giving us the resources to do the work.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Matthew 26-28

Broadcast 3634 HE GAVE GIFTS TO MEN

Ephesians 4:8 (NET) Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he captured captives; he gave gifts to men."

Gifts and callings usually go together (see Rom 11:29). God gives us gifts to help us fulfill our calling or assignment. For example, there are prophetic gifts, and any child of God could have them. But anyone with the calling to be a prophet will definitely have certain prophetic gifts operating in his life consistently.

What then is the assignment of a prophet? It is to profess, declare and allow the counsel and will of God over people and territories. The ability to tell the future is a gift that a prophet usually possesses, but that is not the primary calling or assignment of a prophet. A prophet brings deliverance to people and to territories, and a prophet ushers in the agenda of God into territories. It is possible to have the calling of a prophet and not walk in all of the popular prophetic gifts. A calling is an assignment, but gifts are simply given to help you fulfill your assignment. Notice that John the Baptist, the great prophet of the old covenant, never walked in many of the prophetic gifts some would expect (see John 10:41). But he was the great prophet because he fulfilled one of the greatest assignments in the Old Covenant. This calling was to make way for Christ the Lord- The greatest (see Matt 3:1-3).

What is most important in life is that you fulfill your kingdom assignment. Your assignment should direct the use of your gifts, and not the other way round.

Go into today knowing that for your calling in life, God gives gifts that will help you fulfill it.

Ask the Lord to help you fulfill your calling and assignment in this side of eternity. Ask Him to help you activate the gifts that may be lying dormant in you (see 1 Tim 4:14).

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: <u>I Corinthians 5-6</u>

Broadcast 3635 GOD RESISTS THE PROUD

1 Pet 5:5 (KJV) Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

Daniel had served God for years, but there came a serious challenge in his life that seemed to defy all prayers. When he discussed it with his friend, his friend suggested that the problem was caused by some strong demonic power somewhere. But Daniel knew better, he knew that Satan didn't have that kind of authority in his life. He knew it was time to seek the Lord to know what exactly was going on. He had done this twice already, but this time, he chose to simply spend time listening to the word of God. He found a sermon by a pastor he despised and felt he knew much more than. But something made him play the sermon. As Daniel listened, he broke down in tears because he realized that he had been walking in pride for a very long time without even knowing. He now knew his pride was the reason heaven seemed not to respond to him. Daniel received answers to all his prayers one week after he repented.

God is so true to His word that He exalts it above even His name (see Psa 138:2). That is why God was about to kill Moses, even though Moses was going on God's mission (see Exo 4:24-26), but Moses had disobeyed a clear word from God concerning his children's circumcision.

If the Bible says the Lord resists the proud, it means the Lord will resist the person consistently walking in pride, no matter who he is.

JESUS WILL FILL ALL THINGS

Ephesians 4:10 (KJV) He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.

Because Sunday was sensitive in the Spirit, when he arrived at the city of his new posting, he sensed that there was a demonic principality in that territory. And he also sensed that that principality was one that propagated its nature of immortality. Because of this, even the little children in that city were given to immorality in a very unusual way. Sunday knew it was time to displace that principality because he knew God sent him to that territory.

Territories usually exhibit the nature of the principalities that rule them in the Spirit realm. These principalities control the heaven (spirit realm) above such territories. They do this with the aid of their human agents on the ground.

Jesus has ascended above all heavens so that he might fill all things with himself. We are His agents on the ground. We take authority over territories by preaching the gospel and promoting the kingdom culture and righteousness of God. That's why we pray "thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven". Prayers by human beings give spirit beings license to operate in the physical territory of the people who pray.

We are agents for the propagation of God's kingdom. We live for this. Because there can be no vacuum in the Spirit realm, when the rightful kingdom [of God] has not yet dominated a territory, it will still be under the control of the kingdom of darkness.

Go Into today knowing that you are an agent for the propagation of God's kingdom and righteousness.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: <u>I Samuel 1-5</u>

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Broadcast 3637 KNOWING YOUR CALLING

Ephesians 4:11 (AMP) And His gifts were some to be apostles (special messengers), some prophets (inspired preachers and expounders), some evangelists (preachers of the Gospel, traveling missionaries), some pastors (shepherds of His flock) and teachers.

Eze realized that he had the ability and the anointing to teach God's word. But he didn't want to rush to be a teacher because he wanted to be sure he was called to do so. He now knew he was called when he became restless and felt unfulfilled because he was not teaching. He also had encounters with God and sensed the Lord instructing him to teach His people.

Any student that has been properly taught will also be able to teach. If you grow up under a prophet, his prophetic gifts might rub on you. This is because of a transfer of grace, and because you will naturally desire to walk in the gifts you see in the life of your teacher. And we can receive spiritual gifts by simply desiring them and asking God. But the fact that a Christian has prophetic gifts does not mean he is a prophet. The fact that he is well-taught and can also teach does not mean he is called to be a teacher.

One of the ways you discern your calling is by discerning the grace of God upon you to operate in a particular office. This grace will come with a conviction and a knowing that you are to operate there. And you may become restless and feel unfulfilled if you don't. The gifts accompanying that calling will also be present in your life consistently.

A man with a calling is hardly persuaded and encouraged to do the work. The fire burns in his bones to do the work. He creates opportunities if the opportunity has not been created for him.

Go Into today asking the Lord to help you fulfill your calling in Him. Not yet saved? Visit I http://streamglobe.org/33 —Abraham Damilola Arigi YBP: <u>Psalms 30-32</u> Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.ly/aud3637</u> Broadcast 3638 GIFTS AND CALLING

Ephesians 4:12 (AMP) His intention was the perfecting and the full equipping of the saints (His consecrated people), the work of ministering toward building up Christ's body (the church)

Daramola realized that she had the ability to make a business grow where others have failed. She also realized that no matter what she did, she would prosper financially. She used to think that she was just a lucky person, but as she grew in God, she realized that her unusual ability to make huge honest financial profits was the manifestation of a gift of Christ.

Because she was well taught, she knew that her gift was supposed to be for the edification of the body of Christ. So she started making definite commitments to further the cause of God's kingdom with her financial resources.

She realized that as she became committed to using her resources for the furtherance of the Gospel, God increased her in ways she never imagined.

Whatever gift you have, know that it was given by the Lord, and you have a mandate from the Lord to 'do [kingdom] business with it till He comes' (see Luke 19:13). Let your gifts be used for the furtherance of the kingdom of God on this earth.

Go into today deciding to use your gift more than ever before for the furtherance of God's kingdom on earth. If you have not discovered your gift, that does not mean you don't have one. Every child of God has been given a gift. Ask the Lord to help you walk in the fullness of His gifts and grace in your life.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Job 21-22

Broadcast 3639 ADVANCING THE KINGDOM IN THIS WORLD

Romans 14:17 (AMP) The kingdom of God is not a matter of food and drink, but instead it is righteousness (that state which makes a person acceptable to God) and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Because of her remarkable business management success, Daramola was appointed to a very coveted political office in her country. She was foretold about this through prophecy. The first question she asked herself when God told her she would be appointed was 'how can I use this influential position for kingdom advancement? '

Daramola learned that one way you can advance the agenda of the kingdom of God is by advancing righteousness and justice, peace and harmony, and doing everything within your power to make people within your influence joyful and fulfilled. Righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost are signs that the kingdom of God is reigning in a place. As time passes, people will realize that the greatest improvement they see is because a child of God is in charge.

Christians should always ask this question: 'how can I use the influence I have right now for the advancement and the agenda of the kingdom?' Many times, Christians unknowingly separate themselves from God's kingdom agenda because they do not realize that they have been called to be co-owners of the kingdom (see Rom 8:17). They do not understand that they have a portion in God's kingdom that increases with their faithfulness (see Luke 16:10).

When we have this mindset of seeking the advancement of God's kingdom above our fleshly interests, we will find that the things that the world runs after will now run after us (see Mat 6:33).

Go into today knowing that you are an agent for the advancement of God's kingdom. Ask the Lord to help you do this in every place you find yourself.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Isaiah 56-61

ADVANCING THE KINGDOM IN THIS WORLD 2

Romans 14:17 (AMP) The kingdom of God is not a matter of food and drink, but instead it is righteousness (that state which makes a person acceptable to God) and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Because of her very influential and powerful political office, Daramola knew she could greatly advance the cause of God's kingdom and righteousness. She knew that Insisting that everyone under her prays Christian prayers is not the way to advance the kingdom unless you are led to do so.

As a kingdom agent of righteousness, Daramola made sure that the many government organizations under her influence were rid of all traces of corruption. She did this because she understood the principle of righteousness and prosperity (Prov 14:34), and she herself was blameless.

The next thing she did was to instill justice and equity. She did this because she realized this was the key to lasting peace in any society. She fought for pensioners who had no one to fight for them in the former corrupt system.

Thirdly, she went out of her way to make the people happy and contented. She introduced programs to better the lives of the lower class in the community. She did all these while excellently executing other administrative duties.

Even though Daramola didn't do anything that seemed spiritual to many, her tenure advanced the kingdom of God in that territory greatly.

Tomorrow, we shall look at the spiritual implications of the things she did.

Go into today knowing that righteousness is a product of the advancement of God's kingdom. And unrighteousness and corruption is a product of the advancement of darkness. Ask the Lord to empower you to be an agent of righteousness.

---Abraham Damilola Arigi YBP: <u>Mark 1-2</u> Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.ly/aud3640</u>

ADVANCING GOD'S KINGDOM IN THIS WORLD 3

Romans 14:17(AMP) The kingdom of God is not a matter of food and drink, but instead it is righteousness (that state which makes a person acceptable to God) and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

(Continued)

Now, what Daramola did had far-reaching spiritual consequences, even though it didn't appear she was doing much spiritual kingdom work. But she actually displaced territorial principalities with her spiritual and physical authority.

You see, whenever it appears that the people in a territory are given to certain kinds of iniquity, it is influenced by the spiritual principality or principalities governing the heaven (spirit realm) above that territory. If the people in a territory seem to be given to corruption and greed, it is because of the spiritual principalities governing the territory.

It takes a kingdom prince to displace a demonic prince. Christians are princes in God's kingdom. But just as in the physical, there is ranking in the kingdom of God. Those who are great in the kingdom of God are those who have walked consistently with God in obedience and faithfulness and have grown in God's might. These are those who displace strong territorial spirits and enthrone the kingdom of Christ in territories.

Displacing rooted unrighteousness and corruption in any territory is more spiritual than physical. If you can successfully do so physically, it means you have successfully displaced the powers spiritually responsible. The potential spiritual power a physical ruler has over his territory is great. That is why the devil contends to control those in authority.

Go into today knowing that if God appoints you as a physical prince over a territory, it is because he has given you grace to displace the spiritual demonic prince there. Ask the Lord to help you to be faithful in the work He has entrusted you for this season.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: I Corinthians 7-8

GIFTS AND CALLING 2

Ephesians 4:12 (AMP) His intention was the perfecting and the full equipping of the saints (His consecrated people), the work of ministering toward building up Christ's body (the church).

We see in today's Bible text that the reason Jesus gave gifts to the body (the Church) was because he wanted the saints to be fully equipped and made perfect. Perfection is the degree to which we are conformed to the image and stature of Christ.

People with the callings to be Apostles, prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and teachers, are given to the body (the Church) for the edification of the body. They are the established channels through which the body receives from the Lord directly.

The purpose of your calling is not for personal edification [and enrichment]; it is for the edification of the body. If you have a gift and your goal is not to edify the body with it, you will end up dividing the body with it.

There are many gifts (people) that have not started walking in their calling because they have not started to edify the body. They are only directly edifying themselves and dividing the body as a result.

If you have gifts corresponding to the calling in the kingdom. The purpose of your gift is for the edification of the body.

Go into today knowing that God's gifts in your life are to help you fulfill His calling to build up the church.

Pray that the Lord will help you be a profitable servant. That you will not cooperate with Satan to hide your gift.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Genesis 44-47

UNITY OF FAITH

Ephesians 4:13 (AMP) Until we all attain oneness in the faith and in the comprehension of the knowledge of the Son of God, that at really mature manhood (the completeness of personality which is nothing less than the standard height of Christ's own perfection), the measure of the stature of the fullness of the Christ and the completeness found in Him.

Lara and Bidemi were friends, but their understanding of the faith was very different. And because of this, they would argue. Lara believed that preachers should not call out sins and insist that people leave them, that Christianity is about faith and not works, that preachers who called out sins were not preaching the real gospel. On the other hand, Bidemi believed that faith without works is dead. That if a person claims to be saved, it should show in his lifestyle. That if his salvation doesn't show in his lifestyle, it only proves that he has not been truly saved. Therefore preachers should call out sins and let people understand what is expected. Because of these divergent views and many more like it, Bedemi and Lara could never achieve unity of the faith.

We have created niches and segments in the body of Christ because of varying understanding of the faith. One sign of spiritual infancy is narrow mindedness and not having the ability to accept that someone who does not see the faith the way you see it is also serving and worshiping God, even though he believes and professes Christ as Lord and savior.

Go into today knowing that as we all grow into the fullness of Christ, we will become more united, open-hearted and closed-mouthed (un-judgmental). Ask the Lord to help you grow into the fullness of Christ.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: <u>I Samuel 6-10</u>

THAT WE SHOULD NO LONGER BE CHILDREN

Eph 4:14 (NKJV) That we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting

Also Read Eph 4:11-14

When Mrs. Ekubo realized that she was still a baby in the faith, she had been a Christian for over 15 years. The problem has been that since the day she believed, she had only received from the ministry of her pastor and no one else. She couldn't grow into the fullness of Christ because her spirit wasn't feeding on a balanced spiritual diet.

According to God's plan, every Christian will have to receive from the ministry of at least two people for him to grow into the fullness of Christ.

One person usually occupies a single ministry office in the kingdom. He is either an apostle, a pastor and teacher, a prophet, or an evangelist. He cannot be two of these at the same time. But you would need to receive from all the dimensions [of Christ's gift] at some point in your walk with God.

We see from today's Bible text that Apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers, were given to equip and edify the church so that Christians can grow from being children tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine. One sign that a person has not really grown spiritually is that he will still be tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine.

Go into today knowing that God did not plan for you to receive all your spiritual nutrition from one source. One way you can gain from someone's ministry is by reading his book or listening to his tape.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Psalms 33-35

GIFTS TO THE BODY

Ephesians 4:8, 11 (NET) Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he captured captives; he gave gifts to men." It was he who gave some as apostles, some as prophets, some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers.

Previously, we saw that God didn't plan for Christians to receive all their spiritual nutrition from only one source. We got feedback from different people and it has become necessary to address the question of whether a single person cannot occupy more than one ministry office.

From today's Bible text, we see that if you are an apostle or prophet or evangelist or pastor/and teacher, you are a gift to the body of Christ. These are callings that Christians may or may not fulfill. Paul was called to be an apostle. He fulfilled his calling.

Anyone can desire and may receive spiritual gifts he desires, but a ministry calling or office (the ones mentioned above) cannot be received that way. It is a divine eternal ordination.

Spiritual gifts are given to help people fulfill their calling to the body. Please don't confuse a gift with a calling. A calling is an assignment.

From the New Testament, we haven't seen any single person with more than one ministry calling. He may have various manifestations through which he fulfills this call or assignment. This concept of ministry gifts becomes easier to understand when we see them as assignments for which we have been equipped.

An apostle has the grace to operate in several gifts. But his calling is to be an apostle. One would have called Paul a pastor, a teacher, an evangelist, or even a prophet because he operated in gifts corresponding to all these assignments, but his calling was to be an apostle (see 1 Cor 1:1). All he did was in the fulfillment of his calling to be an apostle.

Go into today remembering that your Calling is your assignment in the kingdom. Gifts help you fulfill your assignment.

Ask the Lord to help you fulfill your calling in the kingdom.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Job 23-24
Broadcast 3646 EXPRESSING TRUTH

Ephesians 4:15 (AMP) Rather, let our lives lovingly express truth. Enfolded in love, let us grow up in every way and in all things into Him Who is the Head, Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).

Derek Prince was in the British forces when he first came in contact with Christians whose lives expressed truth. He knew that they had something he did not have, something he could not explain. And this was what pushed him to seek the Lord in desperation.

That great evangelist was converted not because someone preached to him, but because he could see truth in the lives of certain people and wanted to know their God.

Sometime last month, we talked about how Grace and truth came through Jesus Christ (see John 1:17). Grace empowers us to walk in truth.

Today's Bible text is part of a thought, in it we see that the reason the Lord gave gifts was so that that the church will be edified and grow into the fullness of the stature of Christ. Christians who have reached this will walk this earth full of grace the way Jesus was. They are those who bring light to their world. Their lives will also be full of truth. They will be completely blameless as Jesus was.

It is through the ministry of Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and teachers that Christians can grow into spiritual maturity. As this happens, they will be able to live lives that lovingly expresses truth; the reality of God.

Go into today knowing that sound teaching and ministry is the key to spiritual growth.

Ask the Lord to lead you to materials and resources that will boost your spiritual growth this season.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Isaiah 62-66

YOUR COMPANY MATTERS

2 Corinthians 6:15 (NKJV) And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever?

Jake really loved to serve the Lord with his life. But he found it unusually difficult and almost impossible to live a life worthy of his calling in God. He tried to convince himself that God didn't care about the things he did. But he found that he couldn't have fellowship with God because of his unholy lifestyle.

One day, he decided he'd had enough with the unending struggles with the flesh. He spent two hours narrating his spiritual ordeal to his pastor. His pastor asked him one question and found out where the problem was. The question was: 'who are your friends?'

The pastor realized that Jake kept constant fellowship with his old unbeliever friends. He even still maintained their old outing schedule.

When a believer constantly mingles with unbelievers, he is exposing his [precious] faith to negative forces that seek to quench it (because unbelief is not benign, it is a toxic force against faith). Because his faith has been weakened through negative communication, he will realize he is unable to overcome the smallest temptations.

As you go into today, ask the Lord to help you fight the good fight of faith and guard your precious faith jealously.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Mark 3-4

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Broadcast 3648 COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM

2 Corinthians 6:17-18 (NKJV) Therefore "Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you." 18 "I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the Lord Almighty."

Janose had a robust relationship with God. He related to God like his daddy, and the results of this were evident for all to see. Lange wondered why he did not have a robust relationship with the Lord like Janose did. This made Lange spend a lot of time seeking the Lord and asking why. It wasn't long before he realized that Janose lived a life separated to God, but he lived a divided life. He wanted the best of both worlds, but Janose wanted only the best of God's kingdom.

Looking at today's Bible text critically, it appears God's acceptance of you is conditional. It appears there is a part you have to play.

God's love for you is unconditional, but the degree of His relationship with you is conditional. Many Christians are not enjoying the evident fatherhood of God in their lives because they have not started to live lives separated unto God alone. God is too big to share you. His grace empowers you to live for Him alone.

Go into today knowing that your life now belongs to the Lord. He has bought you with a price. This also means He is now responsible for your needs and security.

Ask the Lord to help you walk under His Lordship by prioritizing His kingdom and righteousness in your life.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: I Corinthians 9-10

Broadcast 3649 ACCORDING TO WHAT EACH PART SUPPLIES

Ephesians 4:16 (AMP) For because of Him the whole body (the church, in all its various parts), closely joined and firmly knit together by the joints and ligaments with which it is supplied, when each part is working properly, grows to full maturity, building itself up in love.

Debo was gifted with technical and media skills. Because of him, the sound system of their church auditorium was excellent. Sometimes, he would have to arrive 3 hours before church service to make things work properly. And he would have to wait till after everyone leaves.

But because he was not recognized and honored like the singer who would 'work for just seven minutes on stage', he started getting offended and started to draw back in commitment. Because of this, the sound system of the auditorium progressively went bad. There were service days that Debo wouldn't even show up, or he would come very late.

A time came when almost half of the church congregation found it difficult to hear the preacher due to bad sound. Even though the church kept spending so much, very little was achieved in that regard because the person gifted to help in that area was now offended. But unknown to Debo, it was the work of God that he neglected. Work for which he would be eternally rewarded.

We see from today's Bible text that it is as everyone in the body does his part that the church grows to full maturity. No matter how unappreciated your assignment is in the body, God recognizes your labor of love, and He will reward you (see Heb 6:10).

Go into today knowing that you have an important role to play in contributing to the growth of the church. Ask the Lord to help you do this accordingly.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Genesis 48-50

Broadcast 3650 THE WAY OF FRUITFULNESS

Ephesians 4:17 (AMP) So this I say and solemnly testify in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the heathen (the Gentiles) do in their perverseness of their minds.

Even though Drake believed in the gospel and accepted the forgiveness of sins through faith in Christ Jesus, he was still living the way he lived when he was an atheist. With time, he found that his faith in Christ was now fading away, and he was back to struggling with thoughts about the existence of God.

No one can believe the gospel and receive the Holy Spirit except by faith. The problem with walking constantly in the old nature of sin is that sin extinguishes faith by deadening spiritual sensitivity (see Eph 4:18).

Apart from being born with a spirit that cannot partake in the divine nature, what makes people sinners is the sinful and [spiritually] perverse mindset that they inevitably receive from the world.

We see in today's Bible text that we must no longer live in the perverseness of the mind. When a person becomes born again, he must allow the word of God to change the way he thinks; this is the remedy for the perverse mind. The word of Christ cleanses our minds (see John 15:3).

It is by the hearing of God's word that we received the [initial] faith that made us believe unto salvation (see Rom 10:17), it is by continuing in it that we will be transformed by the renewing of our minds. This is when we can become fruitful children of God. For God has ordained us into fruitfulness (see John 15:16).

Go into today knowing that the way to fruitfulness in the kingdom of God is by allowing the Holy Spirit change the way you think. Ask the Lord to help you build your life on His word (see Mat 7:24)

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: <u>I Samuel 11-15</u>

Broadcast 3651 RENEW THE MIND

Ephesians 4:17 (AMP) So this I say and solemnly testify in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the heathen (the Gentiles) do in their perverseness of their minds.

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—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Psalms 36-38

Broadcast 3652 WE HAVE POWER FOR TRANSFORMATION

Ephesians 4:22 (AMP) Strip yourselves of your former nature which characterized your previous manner of life and becomes corrupt through lusts and desires that spring from delusion

When you become born again, so much power and spiritual authority is now available to you (see John 1:12). You now have the power to strip off your former nature of sin. The power to do this cannot be understood by the unbeliever because it is only available to those who believe (see Eph 1:19-20). The unbeliever may have the power for external transformation, but not the power for true transformation from the heart. The power for true transformation is only available to them that believe.

One very popular deception of the devil is to make a Christian think that he does not have this power and is still a slave to sin. If a Christian agrees with the devil, he will indeed be continually held bound by the power of sin. But if a Christian knows that he is now free from sin, and has the power to strip off the old nature and walk in his new righteous nature, he will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord and please Him in all respects (see Eph 1:17-18).

Go into today knowing that all power in heaven and on earth has been given to Christ. You have access to this power because you are now a member of His body (see 1 Cor 12:27).

Prayer: thank the Lord for saving you and giving you His mighty power Ask Him to help you walk in His power in every aspect of life. —Abraham Damilola Arigi YBP: Job 25-26

Broadcast 3653 CONSTANTLY RENEWED BY THE WORD

Ephesians 4:23 (AMP) And be constantly renewed in the spirit of your mind

Bankole was once a thief, a liar, a fraud, and a drug addict. He had nine girlfriends, and each of them thought she was his only girlfriend. He was so bad and deceptive that even he did not believe it was possible for him to change and become an upright good person.

When he received the gospel, the first thing that exited him was how the gospel had the power to make him become good from within(see Rom 1:16). And this became his experience after he accepted Christ. He now became an honest businessman who was faithful to his one wife. He was now free from all drug addiction too.

One thing Bankole realized as he walked with the Lord was that he constantly needed to keep renewing his mind with the word of God. He experienced the word of God as the water that washed away the filth that ever so often tried to dwell in his mind.

Many Christians fall because they don't realize that they have to constantly consciously use the word of God to remove thoughts and imaginations that are contrary to the righteousness of God.

Every sin that a man commits is the product of a seed of unrighteousness that was allowed to grow in his heart. Every fruit of righteousness a man produces is the harvest of the seed of God's word allowed to grow in his heart.

We are to watch over the garden of our hearts and use the sword of the spirit (the word of God) to cut off and uproot the weeds of fear, anxiety, anger, hatred, malice, lust, and pride.

Go into today remembering to be constantly renewed in the attitude of your mind. Ask the Lord to fill your heart with His word.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Jeremiah 1-6

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PUT ON THE NEW NATURE

Ephesians 4:24 (AMP) And put on the new nature (the regenerate self) created in God's image, in true righteousness and holiness.

Bankole did not just stop being bad, he started being good. He could now put off his old bad nature and put on his new good nature because he now had the power to do so.

Many Christians don't realize that they have the power to put on their new righteous nature. Many fail because they try to do this without first putting off the old nature of unrighteousness. They try to be good without calling sin what it is (confessing their sins and renouncing them). They try to justify what they know is a sin.

You cannot be a person of integrity if you still tell lies. You have to first decide to stop telling lies (putting off the old nature), and now decide to start walking in your new nature of integrity which you have received as a gift from God.

You cannot truly start walking in mountain-moving faith if you don't first put off the old nature of fear and unbelief.

Go into today knowing that you now have the power to put off the sinful, disobedient nature and put on the nature of righteousness and Holiness that you have received as a gift from God. Ask the Lord to help you do this.

-Abraham Damilola Arigi YBP: <u>Mark 5-6</u> Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.lv/aud3654</u> Broadcast 3655 WHY MUST WE PUT ON THE NEW NATURE?

Ephesians 4:24 (AMP) And put on the new nature (the regenerate self) created in God's image, in true righteousness and holiness.

Before a person can go to space, he has to put off his regular clothes and put on a space suit. No responsible person will take you to space without you putting on a space suit because your body in regular clothes will not survive the pressure of space.

God is our responsible father. He wants us to partake in His divine nature and glory. As a result of Jesus' sacrifice, He has given us this freely. And we have received the righteousness of God in our spirits. It is only the nature of God that can withstand and express the glory of God. The sinful nature can never express God's glory, it is too weak to transmit such glory.

When a Christian puts off the old nature of sin and puts on his new righteous nature, his life will now be able to express God's love, righteousness, glory, wisdom, power, might, etc.

The new righteous nature is the one that can give expression to the light and glory of God within us. It is walking in this nature that lets our light shine before men and bring glory to our Father in heaven (see Mat 5:16).

Go into today knowing that God has given you the power to strip off the old nature and put on His divine nature.

Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you to do this. —Abraham Damilola Arigi YBP: <u>I Corinthians 11-12</u> Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.ly/aud3655</u>

THE MOST IMPORTANT PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFE

Eph 4:25 (AMP) Therefore, rejecting all falsity and being done now with it, let everyone express the truth with his neighbor, for we are all parts of one body and members one of another.

Dozie had some embarrassing financial challenges. For some reason, he did not want his brethren at church to know about this. He felt more comfortable sharing his challenges with his siblings.

But because they worked in the same place, Dozie had to confide in a Church brother called Kenny. Kenny was so concerned because he knew how much stress Dozie was going through. He decided to take out time to pray about Dozie's problems. The solution to Dozie's problem came through Kenny.

Your Christian brothers and sisters should be the closest persons to you because we are all parts of one body. We have died to the flesh and our new life is in Christ, the head of our body. Our relationship with one another as brethren should be characterized by truth and love.

There is so much power available when Christian brethren agree on an issue in prayer (see Mat 18:19).

One of the greatest hindrances to unity in the body is falsity. It is so dangerous that God had to aggressively purge it out of the first Church congregation in Jerusalem. Ananias and Sapphira lost their lives because of this (see Acts 5:1-11).

Go into today knowing that the most important people in your life are your Christian brothers and sisters. They are also very influential because they can influence heaven on your behalf the most (see Mat 18:18).

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Exodus 1-4

Broadcast 3657 GIVE NO ROOM FOR THE DEVIL

Eph 4:26-27 (AMP) When angry, do not sin; do not ever let your wrath (your exasperation, your fury or indignation) last until the sun goes down. Leave no [such] room or foothold for the devil [give no opportunity to him]

Kenny discussed Dozie's problem with his wife. His wife told Mrs. Anderson, and Mrs. Anderson told sis Kemi. After a very short while, the entire church knew of Dozie's problems.

Dozie was very angry because he felt Kenny had betrayed his trust and confidence. When Dozie called Kenny to ask how everyone in the Church knew about something he told only him, Kenny didn't seem to understand the gravity of the situation. Dozie became angrier.

He went home and deleted Kenny's number from his phone and blocked him on all social media platforms. He composed a very toxic text message to send to Kenny, but then he remembered that he was now tending towards sin. He knew that if he didn't deal with the way he felt, he would end up sinning against God by saying and doing hurtful things against his brother, or worse, he would start hating his brother.

One way people give the devil room is by nursing anger and rage in their hearts. This is what the devil uses to deceive people into hatred, and a man that hates his brother cannot have fellowship with God.

Go into today remembering that when you hate your brother, you are saying you don't appreciate what God did in saving you through the death of His son. There is nothing anyone can do to you that is as bad as your sin for which Jesus had to die. A person who hates his brother is seen as a murderer in the kingdom of heaven (see 1 John 3:15). Ask the Lord to help you walk in true love.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: <u>I Samuel 16-20</u>

LET THE THIEF STEAL NO MORE

Eph 4:28 (AMP) Let the thief steal no more, but rather let him be industrious, making an honest living with his own hands, so that he may be able to give to those in need.

When Daniel first started stealing, he did this because he needed the things he stole. But as time went on, he realized that he would even steal things he did not need. He now knew he was in bondage to stealing when he couldn't help but steal.

When he accepted Christ, for the first time in his life, he knew someone important looked out for him and he didn't have to steal anymore. He also realized he now had the power to stop stealing.

I know of people who are in bondage to stealing, they cannot help it. This is a spiritual problem. They are bound by an unclean spirit that makes them steal compulsively. Unfortunately, without Christ, they would not know permanent freedom from such an unclean spirit.

When the Lord says through the apostle that 'let the thief steal no more', it is because He knows that anyone in Christ has the power to stop stealing.

Go into today knowing that he that has been set free by Christ cannot be bound by anything he does not want. He is the one to choose whether to enter his freedom or remain bound. Who the son sets free is free indeed (see John 8:36).

Prayer: I am free to serve the Lord and prosper in my calling. Jesus has set me free, I cannot be bound.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Psalms 39-41

Broadcast 3659 LET NO WORTHLESS TALK

Eph 4:29 (AMP) Let no foul or polluting language, nor evil word nor unwholesome or worthless talk [ever] come out of your mouth, but only such [speech] as is good and beneficial to the spiritual progress of others, as is fitting to the need and the occasion, that it may be a blessing and give grace (God's favor) to those who hear it.

Terna noticed that each time he and Tim discussed, he would feel dry and drained spiritually. He wondered why this was the case. He later observed that each time he was with Tim, they gossiped and said things that did not edify. Yet they were Christians.

Many Christians play with foul language and unwholesome speaking. They do not realize that such is not pleasing to the Lord, it grieves the Holy Spirit (see Eph 4:29-30).

Everything we say as Christians should be beneficial for the spiritual progress of our hearers. Now you may be wondering that how possible is that? Does this mean that every conversation we have as Christians should be an attempt to preach? It doesn't mean that every conversation we have as Christians should be an attempt to preach, but it means that every conversation we have should be for the benefit and edification of our hearers. Christians don't just talk because they love to hear the sound of their voices. Christians are people with an active agenda to advance the Kingdom of God. One way we do this is by propagating righteousness and peace. Everything we do and say should have an underlining goal of drawing our hearers closer to God, and to promote peace and righteousness. Christians should never be involved in spreading panic.

Go into today remembering that your tongue belongs to the Lord. Ask Him to help you be faithful in the use of your tongue.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: <u>Job 27-28</u>

Broadcast 3660 DO NOT GRIEVE THE HOLY SPIRIT

Eph 4:30 (AMP) And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God [do not offend or vex or sadden Him], by Whom you were sealed (marked, branded as God's own, secured) for the day of redemption (of final deliverance through Christ from evil and the consequences of sin).

There was a time in my life that I was walking in suspicion and fear. I would simply conjecture something in my mind about a particular person and start suspecting the person, not even wanting to shake hands with the person or get close. I noticed that each time I did this, the Holy was grieved and it affected my experience of His grace. It took long for me to accept that walking in such suspicion was a sin. It was a sin because it was not born out of faith but out of fear (see Rom 14:23). Acknowledging that my suspicion was a sin meant that I confessed that sin.

Many of the sins Christians fall into are a result of weakening faith. The righteousness of God in us is revealed as we walk from faith to faith. When we walk outside of faith, we are bound to walk in unrighteousness and the Holy Spirit is displeased. Remember that without faith, it is impossible to please God (Heb 11:6).

When a Christian confesses his sin, he is not informing God about his sin (God already knows); he is acknowledging that what he did is wrong, and is repenting from doing it. If your son keeps doing a particular wrong thing that grieves you, you will stop being grieved when he acknowledges that that thing he does is wrong, and repents from doing it.

Go into today knowing that the Holy Spirit is pleased with your faith. Ask the Lord to help you always walk in faith and please Him in all regards (see Col 1:10).

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Jeremiah 7-11

FORGIVE

Eph 4:31 (AMP) Let all bitterness and indignation and wrath (passion, rage, bad temper) and resentment (anger, animosity) and quarreling (brawling, clamor, contention) and slander (evil-speaking, abusive or blasphemous language) be banished from you, with all malice (spite, ill will, or baseness of any kind).

Nkechi was deeply offended by what Amaka did. Because of this, she kept malice with her and started nursing hatred in her heart towards Amaka. Even though they were members of the same subgroup in the Church, Nkechi made sure that she never had to have anything to do with Amaka, even though Amaka had apologized. No evil intentions were behind Amaka's actions; she was just acting foolishly. But Nkechi blamed Amaka for her ended courtship with bro Fidelis. Amaka had told Fidelis some things about Nkechi that Nkechi was still summoning the courage to tell him.

What Nkechi did not know was that her latent hatred for Amaka was now affecting her fellowship with God. Because of this, she couldn't pray, and things in her life only got worse. She even lost her job.

Because of all her challenges, she took out some time to seek the face of the Lord in prayer and fasting. This was when she realized that she needed to forgive Amaka. As soon as she did, she realized that she could now pray with more grace and power. The Lord answered her prayers and gave her a better job. She also got engaged to someone who loved her more than Fidelis did.

Many times, Christians walk in a fraction of their glory because they allow strife, contention, and malice to grow in their midst. Christians should be the most forgiving people because we are the ones who have been forgiven the most. We should understand mercy and forgiveness because God in Christ Jesus forgave us and wiped our record of transgression. Go into today remembering that it is contrary to your divine nature to nurse malice and hatred against anyone. You have been given the ability to walk above these.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Mark 7-8

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FORGIVE 2

Eph 4:32 (AMP) And become useful and helpful and kind to one another, tenderhearted (compassionate, understanding, loving-hearted), forgiving one another [readily and freely], as God in Christ forgave you.

Bimbo had six siblings. They were all living outside the country. She was the only one in the country. This meant that she was particularly expected to check on her parents from time to time.

But each time she went to visit her parents, her mother would say things to make her feel inferior to her younger ones who are outside the country. This really offended Bimbo, but she would always find a way to forgive her mother and still show her love.

I've found that it is easy for us to forgive our family members who offend us, but many of us find it more difficult to forgive members of our eternal family– members of the body of Christ. Could it be because we have not understood that what joins us as brethren in Christ is even stronger than flesh and blood that joins us to our earthly family members?

Jesus makes it quite clear that many will be rejected because they did not love their Christian brothers and sisters (his brethren). See Matt 25:31-46. Those truly born of God would love His children (see 1 John 4:7-8).

Go into today knowing that you have one body, one spirit, one hope, one calling, one Lord, and one eternal destination with your Christian brothers and sisters.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: I Corinthians 13-14

Broadcast 3663 WALK IN THE LIGHT

1 John 2:11 (NKJV) But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

In the spirit realm, there are two kingdoms seeking to dominate men. The first is the kingdom of light, and the second is the kingdom of darkness.

Anyone walking in the light is under the control and influence of Jesus the Light of the world. Anyone walking in the light is walking in constant fellowship with God because God is light (see 1 John 1:5), this also means the person is walking in God's nature. The most domineering attribute of God is love. God is love (see 1 John 4:8). He that walks in the light walks in love.

Anyone walking under the influence of the kingdom of darkness is still subject to the control of Satan and the spiritual rulers of the darkness of this world. Such a person does not walk in God's nature because his life is not ruled by God. One of the domineering attributes of Satan is hatred. When hatred has fully matured, it produces murder. That is why he who hates his brother is a potential murderer (see 1 John 3:16). Satan was a murderer from the beginning because he is filled with hatred (see John 8:44).

Many Christians are still partly under the influence and dominion of darkness because they have not allowed the love of God to take root in their hearts. They have not accepted their Christian brethren as their family but still have the ability to nurse hatred toward them. Walking in love ensures that we walk in the light.

Go into today knowing that anyone that is born of God and knows God walks in love for God's children.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Exodus 5-8

Broadcast 3664 SPIRITUAL MATURITY

1 John 2:12-13 (NKJV) I write to you, little children, Because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake. 13 I write to you, fathers, Because you have known Him who is from the beginning.

Dare thought he knew his father when he was a child, but as he grew to become a man, he realized that he didn't really know his father when he was a child. As an adult, he could now relate to his father on a higher level, and he now could say that he knows his father.

Children do not have the ability to fully know their parents until they have grown to maturity. A baby thinks he knows his daddy, but there is so much about his daddy he cannot know as a baby.

In the first stage of our walk with God, we are little children. We became God's children because our sins were forgiven through the sacrifice of Jesus.

As we grow in our walk with God, we grow into maturity and grow to know God. Those who have grown to know God are those referred to in today's Bible text as fathers.

Knowledge of God is not just knowledge about God. Knowledge of God is born from experience of Him and constant fellowship and dealings with him.

The spiritually mature are those who know His voice. They can differentiate it from that of the devil because their senses have been developed. They are now sheep and no more lambs.

Jesus says His sheep knows His voice (see John 10:27), but we see that He also has lambs (John 21:15). Lambs grow to become sheep.

Go into today desiring to know God and grow into spiritual maturity. It is only the mature that can wield his mighty power.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: <u>I Samuel 21-25</u>

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SPIRITUAL GROWTH

1 John 2:13 (NKJV) I write to you, fathers, Because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, Because you have overcome the wicked one.

I write to you, little children, Because you have known the Father.

Yesterday, we saw that proper knowledge of God can only be experienced as we grow more and more into the fullness of the stature of His nature (see Eph 4:13-14).

A little child may not know much about his father, but he knows his father as "daddy". His father may be a lot of great things like a king, a great inventor, or a great artist, but the child simply knows him as 'daddy'.

There are so many aspects of God that we can only access as we know Him in those dimensions. Some have come to know the Lord as their healer, but have not come to know Him as their provider. So even though they have enjoyed divine health for years, they still owe their landlord house rent and cannot pay essential bills. This is not God's will.

The first revelation of God every Christian must grasp is that God is Father. He is our source and provider. He takes responsibility for us.

As we grow in our walk with God, we discover that He has empowered us to overcome the wicked one. We no longer come crying to daddy every time the wicked one raises his ugly head, but we resist and overcome him. We know we have been given the power to take kingdom responsibility and increase our kingdom's territory, overcoming the wicked one every step of the way.

Go into today knowing that God is your Father who empowers you to become like Him in this world.

Ask the Lord to help you continually grow in your walk with Him.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Psalms 42-44

Download Today's Audio Here ret http://bit.ly/aud3665

Broadcast 3666 LOVE NOT THE WORLD

1 John 2:15-17 (NLT) Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. 16 For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world.

Bankole wanted to love God and serve Him with his life. But he also loved the world. And this made it impossible for him to love God. He loved the world because he lived his life for this world and not for God. He was controlled by cravings for physical pleasure, greed, and the need to prove to people that he was not a failure.

What does it mean to love the world? It means your pursuit in life is to get the things of this world. It means your first priority in life is not the kingdom of God.

If we spend our lives trying to get only what the world offers, it means we love the world. But if we spend our lives living for the kingdom of God, it means we Love God. God will then cause all the things we need to come to us.

It may seem that a man who does not spend his life pursuing after the things of this world is losing out. It may appear that he is unambitious and even foolish. But the man who seeks first the kingdom of God is a very wise man. He has chosen to seek eternal riches rather than temporal earthly riches that are worthless in eternity. God will also take responsibility for the needs of such a man. Remember, money can fail, but God never fails.

WALKING IN THE BLESSING

Ps 1:1 (NKJV) Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful

From when Kalu was a teenager, he had become born again. He was very committed

to youth fellowship from his teenage years.

When he was now married many years later, he noticed that he did not enjoy the blessing of God like he should. He found out through prophecy that it was because He was not living his life according to Psalm 1.

He wondered because he did not have any unbeliever friend, nor could he recall ever sitting with sinners to discuss.

But as he examined his life closely under the light of God's word, he realized that even though he never consulted ungodly people for counsel, he was now living his life according to their counsel and judgments.

When a Christian has the same value system and worldview as that of the ungodly, he is walking in their counsel.

For example, the world believes that getting money is the most important thing in life, that a man's life is defined by the abundance of the things he has. If a Christian believes this too, that Christian is living his life according to the counsel of the ungodly, whether he sits with them or not.

Having the same mindset as that of the ungodly is a hindrance to the manifestation of your blessing.

Go into today asking the Lord to deliver you from every mindset and outlook to life that is contrary to His will.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Jeremiah 12-16 Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.ly/aud3667</u> Broadcast 3668 WALKING IN THE BLESSING 2

Ps 1:1-3(NKJV) Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night. 3 He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.

Blessing is spiritual, but the manifestation should be physical for all to see.

There are many Christians who know that they are blessed, but they have not started seeing the manifestations of the blessing.

When we became born again, it happened literally to our spirits. But it is as we allow the Holy Spirit use God's word to change the way we think that there will be the physical manifestation of the righteous nature we received in our spirits when we became born again.

In the same way, the blessings we have received are spiritual blessings in heavenly places (see Eph 1:3). It is as we allow the Holy Spirit change our outlook on life (from that of the ungodly), and let Him change our thinking patterns through His word (as we meditate on it day and night), that we will see the physical manifestation of our spiritual blessing.

Ps 1:3 describes these manifestations:

When there is economic recession, we will not be affected because we are like trees planted by the rivers of water, and whatever we do shall prosper. These are manifestations of the blessing. These manifestations come as we allow the word of God change the way we think and see life.

Go into today knowing that you are blessed with ALL spiritual blessing in heavenly places where Satan has no power to steal.

Confession: I am constantly transformed by the renewing of my mind. Everything I do shall prosper in Jesus' name. Amen.

---Abraham Damilola Arigi YBP: <u>Mark 9-10</u> Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.ly/aud3668</u>

RUNNING TO WIN

2 Timothy 2:5 (NLT) And athletes cannot win the prize unless they follow the rules.

Back in my university days, a very bright student who was the best in his class was expelled. He was expelled because he was caught cheating in an examination. He was a very hard-working and dedicated student but he did not graduate because he did not follow the school's examination guidelines.

Every man who has confessed Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior is in a race. To win in this race, the rules must be followed. What then is this rule? Jesus said, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me (see Matt 16:24, 2 Tim 2:4)

Our duty is to seek to please the Lord in all we do and He will help us follow Him. As Christians, we have the Holy Spirit, who, when allowed, helps us to live lives pleasing to the Lord. By trying to be holy or righteous on your own, you will fall into self-righteousness and that is not the God kind of righteousness.

Go into today determined to allow the Holy Spirit help you please the Lord and win in this race.

Prayer: Father, I thank you for the Holy Spirit that empowers me to deny myself and take up my cross daily. I ask that you help me always yield to Him, in Jesus' name. Amen.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: I Corinthians 15-16

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TRUE SECURITY

Luke 12:15-20 (NLT) Then he said, "Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own." Then he told them a story: "A rich man had a fertile farm that produced fine crops. 17 He said to himself, 'What should I do? I don't have room for all my crops.' Then he said, 'I know! I'll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. Then I'll have room enough to store all my wheat and other goods. And I'll sit back and say to myself, "My friend, you have enough stored away for years to come. Now take it easy! Eat, drink, and be merry!" "But God said to him, 'You foo!! You will die this very night. Then who will get everything you worked for?'

In the story above, the rich man believed that if he could store up enough resources, he would have all he needs for years to come. But he was not wise because he failed to realize that life is not just about money, there is more to life than what money can buy. If it wasn't clear to him before, it was clear that night his money could not save his life.

It is very offensive to God when someone begins to think that because of his savings, he has what it takes to sustain him for a season of his life. Many Christians have been plagued with incurable diseases when they got the point in their lives where they started to feel secure because of some money they have saved up somewhere. This mindset shifted their security from the covering of the Lord to the covering of mammon. But there are so many things money cannot protect you from. Any Christian that does not yet understand this truth cannot be free from covetousness.

Go into today remembering that there is more to life than money. It is God who keeps you alive, protects you, and meets your every need. Let your hope and security be in God alone.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Exodus 9-12

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Broadcast 3671 ESTEEMED IN HEAVEN

1 Cor 8:2-3 (KJV) And if any man think that he knoweth anything, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know.3 But if any man love God, the same is known of him.

Dare was very impressed with himself because of his profound knowledge of the things of God. Indeed, he knew much more than the people around him.

He felt that because he had more understanding than the people around him, he was more regarded in heaven. But experience showed him that some of them were more intimate with God than he was.

He knew this because there was a situation they were praying to God about for instant results. As soon as bro Gideon showed up, it was as if the whole of heaven stood at attention to honor him.

Because of Dare's diligence in gathering knowledge, it wasn't long for him to realize that Gideon commanded more spiritual authority than he did. Whereas he was filled with wisdom and knowledge, Gideon was filled with love, and was more known and esteemed in heaven.

Wisdom and understanding are very good and powerful in the realm of the spirit. God wants us His children to be filled with all spiritual wisdom and understanding (Col 1:9). But never forget that what impresses God is when wisdom helps us walk in His nature of love. God is more interested in our fruits than in our leaves.

Go into today knowing that the knowledge and understanding of the love of God fill us with it and causes us to walk in it. A man's kingdom ranking increases as he sows more to the spirit by walking in love. —Abraham Damilola Arigi YBP: <u>I Samuel 26-31</u> Download Today's Audio Here http://bit.ly/aud3671

NOT UNDER ANY GODS

1 Cor 8:5-6 (KJV) For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and lords many,) But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.

Odogwu was very afraid of the demons and gods in his village. Even though he was now a Christian, he found it difficult to believe that his village gods no longer had power over him. This belief in his heart made it very difficult for him to walk in spiritual liberty. He was indeed still under the fear of demons, and this gave them power over him.

What you believe is very important. Even your salvation is received because of what you believe: you believe that Jesus is Lord, and you confess this.

In today's Bible text, Apostle Paul acknowledges that many gods and demons exist. Some of them operate from this earth, and some of them operate from the heavenly bodies. But what Paul is saying is that to us Christians, there is but one God.

A god is a being people revere as heaving great spiritual power and physical influence through their power. We Christians are gods (see Ps 82:6), and are not under any god, nor do we fear any gods. We only have one God above us; He is the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our Lord has authority over all gods, and we share in this authority as members of His body.

Go into today knowing that you are not under the authority of any god if you are a Christian living under the authority of Christ.

Thank God for His divine nature that he has given you through Christ.
Ask God to bring you into the revelation of who you are in Christ.
—Abraham Damilola Arigi
YBP: Psalms 45-47
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NOT UNDER ANY GODS 2

1 Cor 8:6 (KJV) But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.

Many Christians don't know that they actually have more spiritual authority than gods in their village. The village principalities are gods, but we too are gods.

Even among gods, there is ranking. They are ranked according to their spiritual elevation. We have been elevated by Christ. We are seated with Christ in the highest heaven, far above principalities and powers(see Eph 2:6, 1:21).

When our bodies have been redeemed, then our real nature as sons of God will be revealed (see Rom 8:23). For now that we are still in this limiting body of flesh, the only way we can walk above its limitation and manifest the first fruits of the glory to come is by walking in the Spirit. The Holy Spirit quickens our mortal bodies and empowers us to walk in the divine nature while in this body of flesh.

The reason why many Christians do not walk in the authority of the sons of God that gives them power over demons and gods is because they have not separated themselves unto God. They are still mingling with unbelievers and are still like unbelievers, even though they are now born again with a different nature on the inside. Because of this, they do not walk in their higher divine nature as sons of God and thus do not experience the fatherhood of God like they should (read 2 Cor 6:17-18).

Go into today asking the Lord to help you separate yourself unto Him and walk in His divine nature.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi YBP: <u>Job 31-32</u>

Broadcast 3674 LIVING FOR THE CALL

2 Pet 1:10 (NET) Therefore, brothers and sisters, make every effort to be sure of your calling and election. For by doing this you will never stumble into sin.

Uche knew that he had the calling of God upon his life. But he was not sure of what it was and didn't care much about it. He, therefore, lived as if he had no calling. He wasn't careful to walk in the divine nature and please God in all respects because he didn't live with the consciousness of God's call upon his life. This was the reason it appeared he could never conquer his sins.

Everyone born again has been called by God into His divine kingdom. Our calling as children of God is for us to become saints; conformed to the image of Christ and walking in the divine nature.

Apart from this general calling, every Christian has a specific call to do the work of ministry. We are all ministers of the grace and life of God. Some have been called to minister to the body of Christ. These are the apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers. Their primary job is to equip the saints for the work of the ministry (see Eph 4:11-12).

The remaining saints have been called to minister the reality and glory of God to the world. Some of them are empowered by God to build very large multinational companies, using kingdom principles, and having the agenda to be agents for the advancement of Christ's kingdom. Others have smaller businesses or ventures. Some are in politics and governance, others in the medical field, or in academia, or anywhere they find decent jobs. All working as agents for the furtherance of the kingdom of God; establishing righteousness and exalting the name of Christ in their respective designations.

Go into today knowing that when you always live your life for the purpose of fulfilling God's calling in the place He has placed you, you will be strong and never stumble into sin. —Abraham Damilola Arigi
YBP: Jeremiah 17-21
Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.ly/aud3674</u>

LIVING FOR THE CALL 2

2 Pet 1:10 (NET) Therefore, brothers and sisters, make every effort to be sure of your calling and election. For by doing this you will never stumble into sin.

Lara's mother was an anointed gospel singer. Lare learned to play the piano at age 5. She also had an exceptionally beautiful singing voice.

When Lara started walking with the Lord and growing, she was concerned to know her kingdom assignment because she did not want to waste her time doing what didn't correspond to her calling. As she grew in her knowledge of the Lord, her spiritual understanding increased and she realized that it wasn't a coincidence that she was born with singing skills into a family where she learned music from a tender age. She now knew that God planned the family she would be born into from before the foundation of the world. It was now clear that God used the circumstances of her life to equip her for her kingdom assignment of being a music minister.

Many believers want to serve the Lord, but don't know what exactly their assignment in the kingdom is. "Am I an apostle, or am I a prophet? Maybe God is not even calling me to the fivefold ministry. Maybe he wants me to minister his reality to the world through my business". These are questions serious Christians may ask at some point in their walk with God.

As a Christian grows spiritually, he would grow into his calling. As this happens, you will find out that your renewed mind loves and desires to do what God is calling you to do. The problem is differentiating the desires of the renewed mind from that of the flesh. This is where spiritual growth comes in.

Go into today desiring to grow in the knowledge of the Lord daily. As this happens, the Holy Spirit will guide you into all truth; He will guide you into your calling.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Mark 11-12

LIVING FOR THE CALL 3

2 Pet 1:10 (NET) Therefore, brothers and sisters, make every effort to be sure of your calling and election. For by doing this you will never stumble into sin.

Many Christians do not believe that it is possible for them to go for many years without ever backsliding. The reason they believe this is because of their experience. Many Christians have unstable spiritual lives because they have not started living their lives according to God's calling for them. Every Christian has a call upon his life, but it is those who live their lives consciously fulfilling their kingdom calling and assignment that will walk in the path of grace that keeps them from stumbling.

Someone may ask: I don't know my call, how do I walk in it?

As you walk with the Lord and know Him more, you will realize that he leads you on the path of righteousness. This path is the path of destiny; it is the right path for you- the path of righteousness. But if you have no clarity on the particular call and assignment God has given you, ask the Lord for clarity and be faithful with what your hands finds to do right now; do it as unto the Lord. Never be idle, but let your hands always be busy doing something for the edification of the people around you.

Go into today knowing that there is abundant grace and glory on the path of your destiny. Ask the Lord to help you walk in that path. —Abraham Damilola Arigi YBP: <u>II Corinthians 1-3</u> Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.ly/aud3676</u>

A WAY OUT

1 Cor 10:12-13 (NLT) If you think you are standing strong, be careful not to fall. 13 The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure.

Femi: Pastor, you don't understand. My father had the same problem. All my brothers have the same problem. This kind of temptation is impossible for me to overcome.

Pastor John: this is the thinking that has made it impossible for you to conquer your temptations. You feel because you tried and failed a couple of times, it is impossible to overcome. God doesn't feel that way. His word says you can overcome and so it is. You are now a new creation in Christ. You are not bound by the limitation of your family anymore.

Many Christians have been deceived to think that their temptations were tailored for them such that it is impossible to overcome. They keep falling into the same sins because they have not truly believed that they now have the power to overcome the temptations. Many others have fallen because of overconfidence that makes them careless with sin.

Today's Bible text shows us that God will not allow us face temptations that we cannot handle. He will always provide a way out.

Go into today knowing that you have the power from God to walk in the divine nature and overcome every temptation. What you believe is very important, it is time to start believing that you have God's power.

Ask the Lord to open your eyes to see the escape from every temptation you will face in the future.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Exodus 13-16
LIVING FOR GOD

Mark 12:15-17 (NLT) Should we pay them, or shouldn't we?" Jesus saw through their hypocrisy and said, "Why are you trying to trap me? Show me a Roman coin, and I'll tell you." 16 When they handed it to him, he asked, "Whose picture and title are stamped on it?" "Caesar's," they replied.17 "Well, then," Jesus said, "give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and give to God what belongs to God." His reply completely amazed them.

Jesus said 'give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar'. Caesar's image was on the coin in question.

We know that we have been created in the image of God. This means we she should give ourselves to God because we belong to Him. God's image and seal is on us (see Eph 1:13).

The most important thing in life is to serve the Lord. The way life is, if you're not serving God with your life, you are serving mammon. Those who serve mammon will end up under the control of Satan, but those who serve God are ruled by God and are known by Him.

It is very important for Christians to know their calling and know what their assignment in the kingdom of God is. Your assignment doesn't have to be something pertaining to preaching from a pulpit (and it could be), it could be to build a business and influence your clients and workers with the righteousness of God. It could be to raise your children to know and serve the Lord. In whatever you do, make sure you are spending your life for the purpose of Christ and the advancement of His kingdom. Do all things in the name of the Lord, because you are His representative here on earth (see Col 3:17).

Go into today remembering that your greatest joy and fulfillment will be realized when you are found in the center of God's will. Ask the Lord to help you serve Him and please Him with your life.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: II Samuel 1-4

Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.ly/aud3678</u>

BE CAREFUL NOT TO FALL

1 Cor 10:12 (NLT) If you think you are standing strong, be careful not to fall.

Demola was very confident in his ability to withstand temptations. He did not know that he was now confident in his own strength and no more in the grace of God. Because of this self-confidence, he walked out of the leading of the Holy Spirit and started to fraternize with his old friends who were unbelievers. He would follow them to the club (but wouldn't drink). It was just a matter of time before he fell into sin all over again(see 11 Cor 6:14-18).

We can learn from today's Bible text that when a Christian is overconfident, he is likely to fall. An overconfident Christian is so because he has been deceived to think it is impossible for him to fall. So he tends to be careless with things he shouldn't be careless with.

Every Christian must have the assurance that he is saved and has right standing (righteousness) with God. This assurance is the basis for spiritual stability and might. This assurance actually keeps us from all appearances of sin, because we love our purity so much that we don't want to take any chances.

Go into today remembering that depending on God's grace and being sure of your salvation keeps you from playing with sins and exposing yourself to temptations. Self-confidence is what makes a Christian play with sin and think he cannot fall.

Ask the Lord to help you to always walk in His grace and grow.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Psalms 48-50

GET-RICH-QUICK SCHEMES 1

Luke 16:11 (KJV) If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?

I believe there is something about money that made Jesus call it mammon of unrighteousness (also see Luke 16:9). Let's take a look at the history of money.

Before money was invented (around 1500 BC), humankind did business by barter. People exchanged goods for goods, goods for services, or services for services. But in the day of money, people exchange goods for money and services for money, etc. The problem with money is that as long as a person has it, he can have its value in goods or services, regardless of how he got the money. Money, therefore, provided accommodation for unrighteousness in the world more than ever before. Unproductive ways of getting money like Get-rich-quick schemes: Ponzi schemes, gambling, etc. became possible or easier because money now existed.

Any system that generates money without any form of productivity is an unrighteous system. Such a system will have to generate money by robbing some people to pay some people. Satan loves such thieving systems, he is the thief (see John 10:10).

A person who gambles hopes to generate money not by being productive, but by taking advantage of other people's loss. Ponzi schemes and pyramid schemes also fall into this category. Online betting is a form of gambling. These are unrighteous ways of making money because they are thieving methods sanctioned by the prince of this world. They are fueled by greed and nothing else. We know that greed (lust of the eyes) is of the world and not from God (see 1 John 2:16). Nothing of the world should be found in a Christian because they give the prince of this world sway (see John 14:30, 1 John 2:15-16).

Go into today remembering what God says in Proverbs 13:11 (NLT): Wealth from get-rich-quick schemes quickly disappears; wealth from hard work grows over time.

---Abraham Damilola Arigi YBP: <u>Psalms 48-50</u> Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.ly/aud3680</u> Broadcast 3681 GET-RICH-QUICK SCHEMES 2

Proverbs 13:11 (NLT) Wealth from get-rich-quick schemes quickly disappears; wealth from hard work grows over time.

The smartphone or device with which you are reading or listening to this devotional was bought because it meets your needs of communication and entertainment. The manufacturer has made a lot of money because he has met a need.

Christians are righteous and just people. God blesses us by giving us ideas that help us solve problems. Wealth is generated when problems are solved. Unproductive forms of making money include schemes that promise to produce gain but have no productivity. They include gambling and Ponzi schemes.

As attractive as unproductive forms of making money may look, they are what the Bible calls get-rich-quick schemes. They ultimately bring every society to its knees economically. Imagine that everyone in the world was only involved in such schemes to make money; there would be no more food to eat, no new clothes to wear and no machines to use. The world will shut down because there would no more be productivity but only greed.

A Ponzi scheme is one that promises to provide money and help, yet it has no form of productivity. The only thing a Ponzi scheme does is to use the money new people bring in to pay those who have already brought in money. When there are no more new people in the system, it is bound to crash and produce great loss and pain to the investors; people who invested with the expectation to make gains.

Everyone who makes a profit through a Ponzi scheme makes money from the potential loss of someone else. I believe one of the demonic assignments of Ponzi schemes (and its brothers) is to take the power to make real wealth from the people of God.

Go into today knowing that as a Christian, it is not everything the world does to make money that you can do. God empowers you to make

enduring wealth according to His principles of righteousness and justice.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Jeremiah 22-26

GET-RICH-QUICK SCHEMES 3

Proverbs 13:11 (NLT) Wealth from get-rich-quick schemes quickly disappears; wealth from hard work grows over time.

Kemi and Grace were best friends who both decided to be entrepreneurs. Kemi got seriously involved with a get-rich-quick scheme. She invested all her money into it and started making huge gains. She was now an evangelist for that scheme and would hold large workshops to get people to join. She was indeed very successful in it. She bought a brand new car in months.

Kemi was very displeased with Grace because Grace refused to join her. Grace was not led to join but insisted she would rather spend her time and effort learning to be an excellent tailor and starting her own clothing brand. For the first two years, things were not easy for Grace, and Kemi would laugh at her but never help.

After the period Grace spent to build her skill, she started producing and marketing very nice clothes, and things started picking up. Her business became profitable and continued to grow steadily. By this time, the Ponzi scheme Kemi joined had crashed. She was no more making the huge sums she once made.

Because money initially came so easily to Kemi, she squandered everything she had saved, and every effort she put into starting a profitable business failed because she had lost the power to make wealth. In five years, Kemi was now poor and wished she could be one of Grace's many employees.

When a person is used to get-rich-quick schemes, he loses the ability to settle down and get wealth through honest gain. He must always have to find another such scheme in order to stay afloat financially. People who embezzle public funds to become rich have the same fate.

Life is spiritual, and power to get wealth is spiritually given by God, it can be squandered (see Deut 8:18).

Go into today knowing that it is God who gives you the power to get wealth.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Mark 13-14

Broadcast 3683 GET-RICH-QUICK SCHEMES 4

Jeremiah 17:11(NLT) Like a partridge that hatches eggs she has not laid, so are those who get their wealth by unjust means. At midlife they will lose their riches; in the end, they will become poor old fools.

Making money from Ponzi schemes, gambling, or embezzling public funds (if you are in government) are common unjust ways people make money today.

Any business transaction in which both parties do not gain something is an unjust transaction. For example, if I sell you a commodity, I will lose it but will have gained the money. You will lose your money but will have gained the commodity. We both gained something. But Something is wrong if I alone gained.

When you buy shares of a productive company, you make a profit because the company makes a profit and is becoming more valuable, not because people are losing their money. That is a just way to make gains.

There is nothing as dangerous as ignorance for Christians. Unfortunately, in the spirit realm, ignorance is not an excuse. When a Christian gets involved in businesses that only generate profit from other people's loss, he has participated in a business that thrives only on greed. Such businesses are really not different in spiritual principle from gambling.

There is nothing that scares the devil like when real Christians are controlling real wealth in this world. He understands that this means greater influence for God's kingdom on the earth. He wants Christians to be lured into Get-rich-quick schemes so that they will lose their power to make real enduring wealth.

Go into today asking the Lord to empower you to walk in His spiritual wisdom and understanding in all things. Ask Him to deliver you from

the Love of money and help you love righteousness and hate wickedness (see Heb 1:9).

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: II Corinthians 4-5

GREATNESS IN THE KINGDOM

Romans 6:16 (NLT) Don't you realize that whatever you choose to obey becomes your master? You can choose sin, which leads to death, or you can choose to obey God and receive his approval.

Sis Alice was afflicted and was being ministered to by Bro Ameh and Sis Faith. But it appeared that their prayers had no effect. They sent for Bro Henry. When Henry arrived, he knew what was going on (by word of knowledge) and gave Alice some instructions about things she had to change in her life. He then said a simple prayer, and Alice was immediately healed.

Your salvation is not just about missing hell fire and going to heaven, it is about serving God here on earth and increasing your rank in His kingdom. Any man still controlled by sin will be hindered from serving God in his full capacity. He will ultimately be hindered from making heaven if he continues to live a life of sin (1 Cor 6:9-10).

In this world, people are not all at the same level. There are great people and there are small people. In the kingdom of heaven, people are not all on the same level. There are great people and there are small people (see Matt 5:19). Your greatness in the kingdom of heaven is determined by your compliance to the will of God and your faithfulness in serving Him. As you are faithful in little, more will be entrusted to you and your rank is increased.

Greatness in the kingdom of God begins here and now while you are still in this body of flesh. A person who is great in the kingdom can wield more spiritual authority. That is why Henry could heal Alice and others could not.

Go into today knowing that the greatest hindrance to serving God is being a slave of sin. You cannot be a servant of sin and a servant of God at the same time.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Exodus 17-20

Broadcast 3685 RECEIVING FROM GOD 1

Matt 7:7 (KJV) Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you

Victory and his wife needed a new car because their car was now old. He discussed this with his wife Ella:

Victory: I think we need a new car, this one is old. I think we should sell it and add our savings to raise the money for the new car.

Ella: why don't we rather sell this old car and sow the money as a seed for another car, then we won't have to touch our savings.

Victory: That's a lovely idea.

Victory and Ella sold their old car, packaged the money in an envelope and dropped it in the offering bowl as 'seed' for a new car. Months went by but they did not get a new car.

As children of God, the way to receive from God our father is by asking him. It is very good to give to the Lord, and we reap when we sow to the work of God in love, but we must never think that the reason we receive from God is that we have given him something first. No, having this mindset shows we do not understand the grace of God. We love God because He first loved us. We can receive from God and give to His work because He first gave us all things (in Christ) even before we ever realized we needed anything.

As important as giving is, it is not the primary way to receive from God. The way to receive from God is by asking. God did not say 'ye have not, because ye give not', He says 'ye have not, because ye ask not' (see James 4:3. Also read James 1:6).

Go into today knowing that giving is good. But the first key to receiving from God is asking. Ask God in the name of Jesus for your needs today and watch God supply them through His riches in Christ.

—Dr. James Emmanuel

YBP: II Samuel 5-9

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RECEIVING FROM GOD 2

Matt 7:7 (KJV) Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

Victory and Ella couldn't understand why their seed did not work. Many Christians are in that category today.

Yesterday we saw that the primary way to receive from God is by asking.

So, am I saying giving is not good? No. To give is good; it shows you are like your father in heaven. However, when we give we should do it remembering that all that we need now and will ever need has been given in Christ Jesus, and nothing we do can add to it. Jesus is the reason God blesses us.

Go into today knowing what God said we should do in order to receive from Him is to ask Him. When the only reason we give is because we want to receive more from God, we are not really giving to Him but giving to our needs or greed. Let our giving be inspired by love all the time, this is when it becomes sowing to the spirit (Gal 6:8).

-Dr. James Emmanuel

YBP: Psalms 51-53

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Broadcast 3687 WHAT THE LAW COULD NOT DO

Romans 8:3 (AMP) For God has done what the Law could not do, [its power] being weakened by the flesh [the entire nature of man without the Holy Spirit]. Sending His own Son in the guise of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, [God] condemned sin in the flesh [subdued, overcame, deprived it of its power over all who accept that sacrifice]

Ade had a computer he used for his daily business. But one day the computer got infected with a terrible virus and he did not know. He only noticed that it was now impossible for his computer to establish a connection with the internet. He thought the problem was with his internet service provider so he subscribed to another provider, but his computer still would not connect. Because of the virus, Ade couldn't do business that day and lost a lot of money.

What was the purpose of the law? It was to subdue the power of sin over people. Sin is like a spiritual virus that makes it impossible for man to connect with God and have fellowship with Him. Man was not designed to function without fellowship with God. We were designed to live from the reality and resources of God, but sin is the virus that hinders this. The law could not subdue the power of sin because it was weakened by the flesh.

Because of sin, humankind could no longer have the vital connection with God that made us divine and not mere mortals. Jesus came to cleanse us from the power of sin and restore that connection with God.

If you are a Christian, you should now have fellowship with God through the Lord Jesus Christ. This is why the Holy Spirit was sent to come and dwell within us who are born again.

Go into today knowing that your salvation is free. Jesus has paid for it. Thank the Lord for the privilege to have fellowship with Him.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Job 35-36

THE RIGHTEOUS REQUIREMENT OF THE LAW

Rom 8:4 (AMP) So that the righteous and just requirement of the Law might be fully met in us who live and move not in the ways of the flesh but in the ways of the Spirit [our lives governed not by the standards and according to the dictates of the flesh, but controlled by the Holy Spirit].

Just imagine that someone is required to travel from his village to the city, but the only way he knows to do so is by trekking. He begins to trek. His master who loves him buys him brand-new shoes with which to trek. But as it becomes clear that he can't make it to the city by trekking, his master buys him a car and teaches him to drive. He gets to his destination because of this.

The law can be likened to the pair of shoes given to the person to aid him. But God knows that even with the law, it was impossible for man to meet the requirements of His truth and reality. The ultimate purpose of these requirements was that man should walk in love for God and love for his neighbors. This physical conformity to God's nature of love was the only way that man could accommodate God's glory in his fallen nature. We see in the old testament that a little willingness to conform to the righteousness of God brought great prosperity to the people of Israel. But it was ultimately impossible for man to do this in truth. Therefore God sent Christ to help us through His Spirit.

Go into today remembering that anyone who is in Christ will be free from the power of sin and free to walk in the Spirit. When a person walks in the spirit, he is walking in the righteousness of God, he is walking in love, he is walking in the blessing. Ask the Lord to help you walk in the Spirit always.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Jeremiah 27-31

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Broadcast 3689 HOW IS YOUR OUTLOOK SHAPED?

Romans 8:5 (NET) For those who live according to the flesh have their outlook shaped by the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit have their outlook shaped by the things of the Spirit.

After Onuh became born again, he knew God had great plans for him, and he loved the idea of living his life for God. But this was his problem: his life's ambition which he forged while an unbeliever did not change. This ambition was based on a worldly philosophy. This was the reason Onuh never walked in the Spirit and grow spiritually.

What does it mean to have your outlook shaped by the things of the spirit? it means the things that appeal to you and please you are things that also please the Holy Spirit.

A Christian whose outlook is shaped by the things of the flesh is Carnal. It is only things of this world that appeal to him and he cares very little about pleasing the Lord. He lives for himself and only thinks about himself. A Christian whose outlook is shaped by the things of the spirit is spiritual and cares a lot about pleasing the Lord. He lives for Christ and thinks about Christ all the time.

Many Christians desire to walk in the spirit but have not redefined their philosophy in life. They still lead their lives according to the standards of this world, and they wonder why walking in the Spirit is only a theoretical concept to them.

Go into today knowing that a person who still lives for this world cannot walk in the spirit. A person who walks in the Spirit lives for Christ and spends his days pleasing Christ. This person's life would manifest the life and peace of God (see Rom 8:6).

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Mark 15-16

LIVING TO PLEASE GOD

Rom 8:7-8 (MSG) Focusing on the self is the opposite of focusing on God. Anyone completely absorbed in self ignores God, ends up thinking more about self than God. That person ignores who God is and what He is doing. 8 And God isn't pleased at being ignored.

After Chioma believed, her biggest struggle was with changing her way of life. Chioma found it particularly difficult to stop walking in the flesh and start walking in the Spirit because she was not ready to give up anything for the sake of the gospel. She still wanted to have the best of both worlds, and that was where her problem was. As Chioma grew in spiritual understanding, it became clear to her that it was impossible for her to be like this and please God at the same time. She had to choose who she wanted to please with her life.

The outlook of the flesh is one that seeks to hold on to things and focus on you. It is selfish and self-centered. The outlook of the spirit is one that is very willing to give up things for the sake of Christ and the gospel. It is God-centered.

A person walking in the spirit can give up anything for the sake of Christ because he understands that what he gains in the kingdom of God cannot be measured in time and space. This knowing is furnished by the Holy Spirit within him. A person walking in the flesh only thinks about this life and how he can get more.

Go into today knowing that the most important thing in this world is less than the least important thing in God's kingdom. Nothing is too big to give up for the sake of Christ's glorious kingdom.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: II Corinthians 6-8

THE SPIRIT GIVES LIFE

Rom 8:10-11 (NLT) And Christ lives within you, so even though your body will die because of sin, the Spirit gives you life because you have been made right with God. 11 The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you.

What the flesh produces is death. What the spirit produces is lifeeternal, because your spirit has been born again and made right with God. The Holy Spirit dwells in your spirit and dominates your whole being from there (if you let Him). He brings you into the reality of the divine life and you become someone who transmits this life wherever you go. The Holy Spirit quickens your mortal body and makes you walk the earth no more like a mere mortal but as a supernatural being. This is the reason you can now cast out demons, lay your hand on the sick and heal them, etc (see Mark 16:16).

Even though you may die because you have a body of flesh that has tasted sin, your body will be quickened and you will be resurrected with the glorified body just like Jesus was resurrected because it is the same Holy Spirit that raised Christ from the dead that now dwells in you.

Go into today knowing that Christ lives in you by the Holy Spirit. This makes it possible for you to have intimate fellowship with Him and grow in His grace.

Ask the Lord to help you prioritize your fellowship with Him and always live to please Him.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Exodus 21-24

Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.ly/aud3691</u>

Broadcast 3692 OVERCOMING BY THE SPIRIT

Rom 8:12-13 (AMP) So then, brethren, we are debtors, but not to the flesh [we are not obligated to our carnal nature], to live [a life ruled by the standards set up by the dictates] of the flesh. 13 For if you live according to [the dictates of] the flesh, you will surely die. But if through the power of the [Holy] Spirit you are [habitually] putting to death (making extinct, deadening) the [evil] deeds prompted by the body, you shall [really and genuinely] live forever.

Deji knew that by his willpower it was impossible for him to put to death the deeds of the flesh because he had tried many times and failed. He decided that he was now going to do this by the power of the Spirit. This now became his priority prayer, and he asked the Holy Spirit to supply grace to help him overcome. This was how Deji overcame.

Many people try to overcome the deeds of the flesh by keeping certain rules and regulations. The only way to overcome the deeds of the flesh is by the power of the Spirit. Any other way does not lead to real transformation.

The power of the Holy Spirit to overcome the deeds of the flesh is present when you walk in the Spirit. You walk in the Spirit when you are filled with the Holy Spirit.

Go into today remembering that your life should be controlled by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit controls you by the living word of God that you obey.

Ask the Lord to help you build your life according to His word; pleasing Him in all respects and fruitful in every good work.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: II Samuel 10-14

LED BY THE SPIRIT

Rom 8:14 (AMP) For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

Chioma started walking closely with the Lord and grew greatly. She realized that her life was now led by the Holy Spirit.

There was a day she received a word of prophecy from a brother in the Church. He instructed her to go to her village and fast for three days and bind the powers determined to hinder her success in business.

Blessing, Chioma's friend, was surprised that Chioma didn't immediately run to the village to do what the prophet instructed. When she asked Chioma, their conversation went thus:

Blessing: why haven't you gone to the village?

Chioma: I have not been led to go.

Blessing: but the prophet said you should go. What are you waiting for?

Chioma: The Spirit of God is the one who leads my life. I only follow such instructions when they confirm what the Spirit leads. They that are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. The Bible didn't say they that are led by prophets, are sons of God.

Chioma was right. In the new covenant, God leads His children by His Spirit within them. Prophecies should only confirm what the Lord has said to you, or you should receive an inward witness in your spirit that confirms a leading by prophecy.

If you receive a prophecy and you have no inward witness, wait until you get one before acting upon it. If you do not know the experience of being led by the spirit of God within you, it means you need to grow Spiritually. Give God more time[in prayer] and focus more on being filled with the Holy Spirit. Go into today knowing that your life must always be led by the Holy Spirit if you are a child of God.

Ask the Lord to bring you to this reality.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Psalms 54-56

Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.ly/aud3693</u>

THE SPIRIT OF SONSHIP

Rom 8:15 (AMP) For [the Spirit which] you have now received [is] not a spirit of slavery to put you once more in bondage to fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption [the Spirit producing sonship] in [the bliss of] which we cry, Abba (Father)! Father!

Many people say they are children of God because it is the popular thing to say. But there are people that know that they are children of God. These are people who have the Spirit of God living in them.

The Spirit of God within you produces love for God and a feeling of intimacy with Him.

The Holy Spirit brings us into the reality of sonship with God. He is the one who ministers the reality of God [as Father] to us.

Any 'Christian' who does not have the Holy Spirit is not a Christian but simply a religious person. It is the Holy Spirit that administers the grace of God to our spirits. It is this grace that empowers us to walk in the divine nature and please God in all respects.

The Holy Spirit is our ally. He is our greatest ally in the Spirit realm. When Satan sends accusations against us, it is the Holy Spirit that affirms to our spirits that we are sons of God. He convicts us of our right standing with God and this comforts us.

THE COMING GLORY

Rom 8:18-19 (NLT) Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later. 19 For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are.

One day, Theo's boss was to make recommendations for someone in the department to be promoted, and Theo was the most qualified, but his boss refused to recommend him. Theo had prayed and prayed, but it appeared the Lord was doing nothing about the persecution he faced at work because he was a Christian. Theo eventually stopped complaining and started thanking God daily when he realized that a time will come when he would be exalted above all earthly rulers and be glorified as ruler and judge of this earth with Christ Jesus (see 1 Cor 6:2-3).

Child of God, there is no suffering you can face here on earth that is compared to the glory that the Lord will bring to you if you continue to follow Him.

The devil understands this and he knows that if you lose hope and start complaining and grumbling, you will end up like the Israelites who didn't make it to the Promised Land(see 1 Cor 10:10). There are demons specially commissioned to constantly send thoughts of depression and despondency to Christians so that they would lose hope and begin to grumble against God in their hearts because of the [temporary] hard situations and trials they may be facing.

As you go into today, ask the Lord to open your eyes to see the riches of His inheritance for you [who believe in Him]. When this happens, you will have nothing but thanksgiving in your heart, no matter what trials you face in this time where everything is temporary. Don't forget that God is able and willing to bring us the first-fruits of this glory, even in this time and age.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Jeremiah 32-36

SONS OF GOD 1

Special prayer for the sick in today's Devotional Audio http://bit.ly/2fkZ34l

Rom 8:20-21 (AMP) For the creation (nature) was subjected to frailty (to futility, condemned to frustration), not because of some intentional fault on its part, but by the will of Him Who so subjected it — [yet] with the hope [Eccl 1:2.] 21 That nature (creation) itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and corruption [and gain an entrance] into the glorious freedom of God's children.

In order for man to be able to rule God's creation, God created man in His image and after His likeness. Man was not created in man's own image but in God's image. This means man was never designed to be autonomous and self-governing. Man was designed to always live from the resources and the reality of God. Man was to be an extension of God in this dimension of existence. But this process was truncated when man ate the fruit that gave him the ability to rebel against God and seek his own autonomy. This meant a separation from the life and reality of God [which is death] (see Gen 2:17).

Man lost the divine nature that made him able to rule over creation. This meant the serpent was going to take advantage and take his place as ruler of creation. So God cursed creation, but with the hope that His sons will arise and bring creation back into liberty. In the fullness of time, God sent His only begotten son to be the firstborn among many sons who will do this.

Go into today knowing that it is the sons of God [like you] that have the authority to bring liberty and deliverance everywhere they go. Thank God for making you His son.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: <u>Luke 1-2</u>

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SONS OF GOD 2

Rom 8:22-23 (AMP) We know that the whole creation [of irrational creatures] has been moaning together in the pains of labor until now. [Jer 12:4,11.] 23 And not only the creation, but we ourselves too, who have and enjoy the firstfruits of the [Holy] Spirit [a foretaste of the blissful things to come] groan inwardly as we wait for the redemption of our bodies [from sensuality and the grave, which will reveal] our adoption (our manifestation as God's sons).

Danjuma's Father insisted that Danjuma was no longer going to have access to the family's great wealth because he was now born again. His father thought he could sway him with money and make him change his mind. Unknown to Danjuma's father, Danjuma had received the full gospel message and understood that true riches have been reserved for the sons of God. Danjuma once told his sister this: "in the fullness of time, you and the entire family will understand that I did not choose poverty, I chose true riches. When that time comes, you will see what true wealth is when you see me in glory."

It is the redemption of our bodies that will reveal our true nature as sons of God.

When the rapture happens and our bodies are redeemed, we shall be like the Lord and shall be glorified. We shall no longer be subject to the forces of corruption but will be fully incorruptible. In this glorified state, we will be very powerful and super intelligent. We will come back to this earth with our Lord and take over the government of this world for one thousand years (see Rev 20:6). Other humans who are not sons of God will still have this corruptible body of flesh. The greatest among them will less than the least among us.

Go into today looking forward to the redemption of our bodies. Anyone who has this hope keeps himself pure as He is pure(see 1John 3:3). —Abraham Damilola Arigi YBP: <u>II Corinthians 9-10</u> Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.ly/aud3697</u>

THE HOPE

Rom 8:24 (AMP) For in [this] hope we were saved. But hope [the object of] which is seen is not hope. For how can one hope for what he already sees?

Have you ever lost a loved one? If that loved one died in Christ, know that someday, you will see him or her again. You will not just see him [in the spirit] but you will be able to shake hands, hold and embrace each other. This is because everyone who dies in Christ will be resurrected with a glorified body. Life in that body is as real as life in this body, actually, it is more real than life in this body.

From Rom 8:22-24, we see that the hope [of our calling] is the resurrection of the dead: we will be given new glorified indestructible bodies that will live forever: enjoying God's [visible] presence and glory for all eternity.

Jesus saves and transforms the total man: spirit, soul, and body. Your spirit has been transformed (born again), your soul is being transformed by the renewing of your mind through God's living word, and your body will be transformed during the resurrection.

Go into today thanking the Lord that life for you does not end here on this earth [if you are in Christ]. You will live forever in a body that cannot die.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Exodus 25-28

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FAITH AND HOPE

Rom 8:25-26 (NET) But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with endurance.26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how we should pray, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with inexpressible groanings.

Danjuma's sister saw that her brother wasn't enjoying the wealth of the family any longer because their father persecuted him for accepting Christ. He could no longer afford to live in his expensive apartment and had to move to a flat in a neighborhood far away from the city center. But something kept Zain perplexed for days: when her brother told her that he had chosen real wealth by following Christ, she saw that he was very sure of what he was saying. As if he had already seen the wealth and glory he talked about.

She decided to ask him why he was so sure of something he has never seen.

Zain: the other day, you talked about true wealth that you will now have because you are in Christ. What makes you so sure of this?

Danjuma: I am very sure because the Holy Spirit within me assures me and shows me proof of this wealth daily.

The faith of a Christian is based on hope. For faith is the substance of things hoped for. As Christians, our hope is the resurrection and the kingdom of God, but the evidence that we have now of this is our faith. Our faith is evidence because it brings the reality of God's eternal kingdom into our present world right now.

Weakness is always a sign of weakening faith, and the solution to this is prayer. The Holy Spirit helps us in this; He intercedes for us with groanings that cannot be expressed with words.

Go into today remembering that the fastest solution to spiritual weakness is praying in the Spirit.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: II Samuel 15-19

Broadcast 3700 EFFECTIVE PRAYING

Rom 8:27 (NLT) And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will.

There was a time I was asking the Lord to do something very important for me. While asking I gave a reason I felt was a very good one for me to receive this thing from the Lord. But I remember that the Holy Spirit immediately made me understand that my reason was not valid. The Holy Spirit made me understand that even though I really needed this thing, and God wanted to give it to me (because God loves giving good gifts to His children), the reason I was presenting for needing my request was not acceptable before God because it was [latently] based on pride of life.

There are many times Christians spend a lot of time praying but do not receive answers from God because their prayers are not in accordance with the will of God, and because of that, they receive nothing from the Lord (see James 4:3). Those who know how to depend on the Holy Spirit in the place of prayer will never have this problem. The Holy Spirit intercedes for us and uses the right words for us [when we pray in tongues]. He also leads us to use the right words [and motives] in the place of prayer.

Go into today knowing that the most effective way to pray is to pray in the Spirit. This means praying in partnership with the Holy Spirit. —Abraham Damilola Arigi YBP: <u>Psalms 57-59</u> Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.ly/aud3700</u>

LIVING FOR THE CALL

Rom 8:28 (NLT) And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

Dele was very happy when he understood the message of the gospel. He was so glad to know that someone loves him the way Christ loves him because he had never been loved in his life. His mother abandoned him in an orphanage when he was a baby.

When Dele became a Christian, he realized that the more of God's love he understood, the more he too loved God. This love manifested in the way he lived his life. He never wanted to do anything that would displease the Lord. Anytime he did something that did not please the Lord, he would be very unhappy and repent immediately.

The next thing Dele realized as he grew in his love for God was that he wanted to live according to God's call for him and fulfill his calling from God.

As Dele started living his life to please and serve the Lord, he saw that even the circumstance of his birth that was his biggest disadvantage in life ended up becoming an advantage. His ministry was based on helping children who grew up like he did. He understood them more and could minister to them more effectively.

God loves every human being, but those who will enjoy His fatherhood are those who love Him. The result of love for God is that you will obey His commandment (see 1 John 3:23) and seek to fulfill His calling.

Many Christians quote today's Bible verse but do not stop to think if they fall into the category of those talked about in the verse.

Go into today knowing that when you love God, you will obey Him and seek to please Him in all things. You would also want to live your life according to His calling and purpose (see Rom 8:28).

---Abraham Damilola Arigi YBP: Job 39-40 Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.ly/aud3701</u>

Broadcast 3702 PREDESTINED FOR GREATNESS

Rom 8:29-30 (NET) because those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.30 And those he predestined, he also called; and those he called, he also justified; and those he justified, he also glorified.

President-elect Donald Trump is currently in the process of setting up his Government. He has already announced some of the people he would appoint to his cabinet. But apart from his cabinet members, he has over four thousand appointments to make for positions ranging from board members to heads of several federal government agencies and departments.

It is the people he knew beforehand that he [most likely] called to join his campaign. Those who responded to the call are those who supported him and campaigned for him. These are the ones he would appoint into his government.

God has a glorious kingdom that He has prepared for His children. It is those who He foreknew that He has also called to be conformed to the image of Christ Jesus. Anyone that will be counted worthy to inherit the kingdom of God must be conformed to the image of Christ Jesus. Many have been called into this journey of conformity. Those who respond to this call are the one who will ultimately be glorified. One way we campaign for Christ is by preaching the gospel.

Go into today remembering that your salvation journey wasn't started by you but by Christ. He is the one who will finish what He started; He is the author and finisher of our faith. As long as you are willing and obedient, you will make it by His grace.

Ask the Lord to deliver you from all disobedience and ignorance.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Jeremiah 37-41

Broadcast 3703 GOD IS ON YOUR SIDE

Rom 8:31-32 (NLT) What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us?

When Fela moved to the city, he knew that the demonic forces in that city were working overtime to frustrate him. But it was the Lord that instructed him to move to the city for certain assignments there.

It appeared to Fela that nothing he attempted to do made headway; as if there was a closed door against him in every direction. After some months of struggling to be established in the city, Fela started getting discouraged and angry. But one morning, as he was going through his Bible, Rom 8:31 caught his attention. He started to meditate on this word and realized that there was no power anywhere that could successfully hinder him if he walks in the revelation that God is on his side. As he went to face the day with this renewed revelation, he saw that all his doors that were closed began to open for him one by one.

The verses preceding Rom 8:31 prove that your walk with God is not a coincidence or product of chance. God ordained it from before the foundation of the world. This is one of the truths to let you know that God is fully on your side, and there is nothing that the enemy can do about it. Because God [the creator and sustainer of all things] is on your side, there are more physical and spiritual forces working for you than there are forces working against you. They that are on your side are more than they that are against you (see 2 Kings 6:16).

Go into today with a renewed victor's mentality because God is on your side.

-Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Luke 3-4

Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.ly/aud3703</u>

Broadcast 3704 THE RIGHT PRIORITY

Rom 8:32-33 (NLT) Since he did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't he also give us everything else?

Fela realized that he did not have the ability to know to ask God for all the things he would need before the needs show up. He found out that there was a way to live life without having to ask God for things before God supplies them.

Many people think God finds it difficult to bless them and give things to them because of their imperfections. That doctrine is not correct. If God could give us Christ Jesus while we were hopeless sinners, He would give us anything if we ask by faith in Christ Jesus. The most important thing you need in this life is grace to empower you to live a life pleasing to the father. Focusing on this is what it means to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness. You would not need to ask for things before God supplies them if you live for Christ.

Anyone that has faith in Christ has right standing with God. This right-standing is not based on his works but on the person of Christ. Walking in righteousness means you are walking in God's divine nature of love and holiness. This is the fruit that God expects to see from all who have obtained right standing with Him through faith in Christ.

When a person focuses on the more important things in life [like manifesting holiness], God would see to it that the less important things [like money] come to him without him asking or even thinking about it.

Go into today asking the Lord to help you always get your priorities right.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: II Corinthians 11-13

WHO DARES ACCUSE

Rom 8:33-34 (NLT) Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own? No one—for God himself has given us right standing with himself. 34 Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God's right hand, pleading for us.

If you read the book of Job you will understand that Satan accuses people so that he can afflict them. Satan does not have the license to afflict God's people unless he has successfully accused them before the throne of God. He loves to send his accusations against our consciences so that we can feel condemned. He also accuses people before the throne of God so that he can receive a license to afflict them because of their iniquity.

If the devil can succeed in making you feel condemned before God, then he has succeeded in one step of his program to afflict. He knows he cannot condemn you any longer before God because Jesus Christ is sitting there speaking for you. Because of the sacrifice of Christ, Satan can no longer do anything to cause God to withdraw His protection, mercy, grace and blessings from us.

Since Satan cannot stop God from blessing us, he tries to stop us from accessing God's grace and blessing. He understands that no one approaches God's throne without confidence and boldness, so he tries to accuse us to the extent that we lose our confidence to access God's throne of grace and mercy where we continually obtain mercy and grace to overcome his wiles.

As you go into today, know that Satan cannot successfully accuse you before God, the only thing he can do now is to send his accusations to your conscience to make you feel guilty and unable to access God's glorious resources that are available to you at the expense of Christ Jesus. Don't let that happen.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: Exodus 29-32

HIS LOVE ENDURES FOREVER

Rom 8:35-36(NLT) Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death?

Phillip: pastor, are you sure God still loves me? Because all these situations I have been facing for the past year does not prove to me that God still loves me.

PST John: Yes, I know God still loves you. God's love for you is eternal, it does not change.

Phillip: but what if I may have done something really bad that has made God withdraw His love for me?

PST John: when you were still dead in your sins and didn't care about God, didn't God love you then? What makes you think He will stop loving you now that you care about Him?

God's love for us is eternal and unending- it endures forever (see Psa 100:5). If we are not enjoying the love and grace of God as we should, the problem is not with God but with us.

Think of the sun that shines every day without fail. If you hide from the light of the sun, does it mean the sun did not shine? That is how God's love and grace is. People who 'lose it' are the ones who rejected it, not that Christ rejected them.

Go into today asking the Lord to help you always be properly positioned to experience the undeniable manifestation of His love and grace. Know that no matter what you are going through, God's love for you has not changed.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

YBP: II Samuel 20-24

Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.ly/aud3706</u>

Broadcast 3707 VICTORY THROUGH HIM WHO LOVED US

Rom 8:36-37 (AMP) Even as it is written, For Thy sake we are put to death all the day long; we are regarded and counted as sheep for the slaughter. [Ps 44:22.] 37 Yet amid all these things we are more than conquerors and gain a surpassing victory through Him Who loved us.

One of the devil's biggest lies to Christians is that God does not love them as much as much as they think. But the truth is that God loves us more than we think.

The devil understands that if he can get a Christian to doubt the reality of God's love for him, that Christian's faith will be unstable. The devil's ultimate goal is to make a believer's faith fail (see Luke 22:31). But we don't let this happen by persistently using God's word to resist his lies and wiles. We fight the good fight of faith.

Amid persecutions or trials, when a Christian's confidence in God's love does not waver, he will conquer because his faith will only grow stronger and not fail.

The most precious thing you have is your faith, and the devil does everything to make you lose it because he knows that your salvation is received [and sustained] through faith. Satan's biggest weapon against your faith is sin. When a Christian continues to willfully walk in sin and does not fight it, he is tampering with his good [healthy] conscience and playing with the likelihood of shipwrecking his faith (see 1 Tim 1:18-19). Sin ultimately produces spiritual death (separation from God). See James 1:15. Your relationship with God is through your faith. Walking in sin causes spiritual death because it gradually erodes your faith (see Rom 8:13, Rom 6:23).

Go into today knowing that Christians who chose to live by the word of God will not fall for Satan's traps calculated to make them lose their faith.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

Psalms 60-62

Download Today's Audio Here r http://bit.ly/aud3707

CAN A PERSON LOSE HIS SALVATION?

Rom 8:38-39 (NET) For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor heavenly rulers, nor things that are present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Nobody loses his salvation because Jesus stopped loving him and withdrew His salvation. Jesus never stops loving people, and Jesus does not withdraw His salvation from people. It is people who willfully reject the salvation of Christ.

It was an act of your will that brought you to believe in Christ. Those who reject Christ do this by an act of their will. God does not interfere with people's free will.

Question: But how is it possible for a person to willfully reject Christ after experiencing him(Heb 6:4-6)? Were such people really saved in the first place?

Answer: Yes they were really saved. 2 Peter 2:20-21 talks about such people who were once genuinely saved: 20 For if after they have escaped the filthy things of the world through the rich knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they again get entangled in them and succumb to them, their last state has become worse for them than their first. 21 For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than, having known it, to turn back from the holy commandment that had been delivered to them.

No one can know the Lord unless he is born again.

Satan's ultimate goal in continually tempting believers is to bring them to the point where they draw back in faith and [practically] renounce Christ. It usually starts when people give the devil more and more room in their lives through continual iniquity and rebellion against Christ's authority. Go into today knowing that there is nothing in all eternity that can make God stop loving you. He will not reject anyone who comes to Him.

Prayer: Father, lead me not into temptation, and deliver me from [doing] evil. In Jesus' name. Amen.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

<u>Job 41-42</u>

GOD'S MERCY

Romans 9:14-16 (NET) What shall we say then? Is there injustice with God? Absolutely not! 15 For he says to Moses: "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."So then, it does not depend on human desire or exertion, but on God who shows mercy.

Jide was deeply disturbed because he had prayed for several years for his sister to be saved and she was not saved. It got to a time that he stopped praying because he started to think that 'maybe she was not predestined for salvation'. But Jide couldn't be more wrong. That was a call that only God could make concerning a person. His job was to continue to pray and preach until he sees results.

There is so much about the divine nature that our minds do not have the capacity to understand. If we think our salvation is based on our desire for truth alone, then we would be sorely wrong. There is much more at play when it comes to the salvation of a soul. We must never forget that it is a product of God's mercy and grace. And we can influence this for our loved ones and neighbors by interceding for them before the throne of grace. Because we have eternal life, we too can influence things that can only be influenced from the realm of eternity.

If you have a loved one who has not received Christ, do not cease in prayer and supplication for him or her. Pray more for mercy than anything else when praying for such a person to be saved.

Go into today remembering that all of your friends and relatives in Christ would spend eternity in the presence of God, and you will be together.

Broadcast 3710 VICTORY OVER SIN 1

Rom 6:14 (KJV) For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

When I was a teenager, I used to be overly afraid of snakes, and this made it very difficult for me to be able to kill even a very small snake when I had to. My fear of snakes was because I was too conscious that snakes could bite and kill me. I observed that people who could kill even very big snakes were not overly conscious of the snake's power to kill, and were not afraid of them. They could kill snakes because snakes had no power over them.

When a person walks under the law, it means in his heart, his right standing with God is dependent on his ability not to commit sin. Whenever he commits any sin, there is a process in him that seeks to atone for the sin by himself because he has failed himself in establishing a righteousness of his own. Because of this, he does not feel worthy to approach God, and therefore distances himself more from the grace of God that would have made him victorious. The sin now becomes a stronghold in his mind, and he keeps falling and rising for a lifetime if he does not get saved from the law.

When a person walks under grace, he knows that his right standing with God is not based on his ability not to sin, but is based on the righteousness of Jesus. So he knows that even if he misses it, he is not condemned and can still approach God's throne of Grace to obtain mercy and grace to help him overcome that sin. Because of this understanding of grace, sin loses its power over him. Because he is born of God, he does not continue in sin because his regenerated spirit is deathly allergic to it.

Go into today remembering that the key to living a victorious life above the power of sin is to understand the grace of God and live by it. —Abraham Damilola Arigi

Luke 5-6

Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.ly/aud3710</u>

Broadcast 3711 VICTORY OVER SIN 2

Rom 6:14 (KJV) For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

Denis was still under the dominion of sin and he knew it. It appeared that the more he tried to live above sin, the more powerful sin appeared to be. One day as he read Rom 6:14, it dawned on him that he was not yet free from the dominion of sin because he was not yet under grace. You see, you are either under grace or under the law. If sin still has dominion over you, it is because you are not yet walking under grace.

Grace is the ability that God gives us to walk in His divine nature. Grace is empowerment from the Lord, and this empowerment is available because our spirits have been renewed and the Spirit of Christ now dwells within us. The Holy Spirit is the one who administers grace to our spirits. This means a person who is not baptized in the Holy Spirit will not walk in the fullness of God's grace for him.

Anyone who begins to think that he has enough discipline and strength to obey God and walk above sin is beginning to experiment walking outside of Grace.

Go into today knowing that the only way a person still in flesh and blood can walk above the limitation of the flesh is to walk under grace. Ask God to fill you with the Holy Spirit afresh.

-Abraham Damilola Arigi

Galatians 1-3

Download Today's Audio Here <u>http://bit.ly/aud3711</u>

Broadcast 3712 THE CHURCH BRINGS LIGHT

Rev 1:20 (AMP) As to the hidden meaning (the mystery) of the seven stars which you saw on My right hand and the seven lampstands of gold: the seven stars are the seven angels (messengers) of the seven assemblies (churches) and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Terna's village was in thick spiritual darkness. Witches and sorcerers ruled the village, and they oppressed everyone and kept them in bondage.

The deliverance of that village came when some missionaries visited. They organized a crusade and ministered the gospel to many who were oppressed. Several sick people were healed and many others delivered from demonic oppression. Some of the missionaries remained in the village and established a church for the new believers. Light came to that village through the church.

From today's Bible text the lampstands represent church assemblies.

Every church assembly is placed in their location by the Lord to shine His light (the knowledge of the glory of God) and judge darkness there.

The light provided by the church is because the church (lampstand) does its physical and spiritual part to keep the fire burning.

When Jesus said 'you are the light of the world' He was referring to the Church. You along with your brethren in your local church assembly bring great spiritual illumination to that locality. Every Christian should be part of a Christian fellowship; by so doing he is fulfilling his calling of being a territorial light bringer.

Go into today knowing that as a member of a church assembly, you have a part to play in keeping the fire burning.

If you are a Christian and you are not committed to any Christian fellowship assembly, ask the Lord to lead you to the one for you.

—Abraham Damilola Arigi

Exodus 33-36

I KNOW THY WORKS

Rev 2:2 (NET) 'I know your works as well as your labor and steadfast endurance, and that you cannot tolerate evil. You have even put to the tests those who refer to themselves as apostles (but are not), and have discovered that they are false.

Many of the missionaries that went to preach the gospel in Terna's village were professionals in the city. They would plan their vacations together and use the time for mission work. Many of them were medical doctors, some lawyers, some accountants, some engineers, etc.

When their colleagues would plan vacation trips to some of the most luxurious international destinations, they would spend their vacation time, money and skills for the furtherance of the gospel in some place where there is still spiritual darkness. They did this because their hearts were fixed on the kingdom of God and His righteousness. Many of them did not know the extent of reward that was being stored up for them in heaven.

The word of the Lord for someone today is 'I know your works, your labor, and your patience'. You may have forgotten some of your labor in the kingdom, but Jesus has not forgotten, and your reward has been stored up for you. Your reward is eternal. It will not only manifest in this life but will manifest for all eternity.

The wisest thing any Christian can do is to sow his resources for the advancement of the kingdom of God here on earth. This is how to store up eternal treasure (Mat 6:20).

Go into today remembering that God is not unjust to forget your labor of love (see Heb 6:10).