

ZEE

DRIVEN
2021

21 DAY FAST





ZEAL LEAD PASTOR,
Kory Cassell

Hey ZEAL family! Thank you for joining us for 21 days of prayer and fasting to kickoff 2021! We are DRIVEN to see God's glory more than ever this year!

Prayer and fasting are never a last resort, they are our first response. As we start out this year together, after all we've been through last year, we want to put God first in every way to position ourselves for his blessing in our lives. We've provided a 21-day prayer guide; a devotional authored by your very own ZEAL family. Each day is written by a different person from ZEAL. Each devotional comes from the heart and is meant to jump start you to drive full speed into the day God has for you.

Along with prayer and reading scripture, we are inviting you to fast with us for this 21 days. Now fasting can look many different ways, but is traditionally where we give up food for a length of time to draw closer to God. You can fast from a type of food like in the Daniel Fast or you can fast from something entirely different like social media or television. The point is to give up something you regularly use in your life, and every time you want to go to that thing or substance, you go to God in prayer. For more information on fasting as well as ideas on different kinds of fasts go to zealjamaica.com/fast.

ZEAL Family, we are truly excited to journey into this year with each of you. I am personally praying that God will meet you and that He will be the force that guides you as we are driven into all that He has in store for us this year!



ZEAL Driven



K. Cassell

NAME

KORY CASSELL

BIBLE VERSE

PSALM 100:4 (ESV)
ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING, AND HIS
COURTS WITH PRAISE! GIVE THANKS TO HIM; BLESS
HIS NAME!

DAY 01

As we drive into this new year and begin this journey together I am reminded of one of my favorite verses in scripture.

Psalm 100:4 (ESV) says...Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

Whatever this next year looks like for you—maybe a smooth race track with twists and turns that you're ready to take on full speed—or perhaps it looks a bit more rugged, like a long off-road adventure that you're not even sure you can make it through. Either way, we can admit the journey is best driven in God's presence; in His vehicle so to speak. According to this verse, if God has a vehicle for us to drive, full of his presence and power, then the key to opening the door (the gates that is) is **THANKSGIVING**.

That's right. If you want to ride with God this year and drive down every road He has waiting for you, with all of His power, peace and purpose, the key to the door is Thanksgiving and the ignition is His praise.

Psalm 100 reminds us that it is with thanksgiving and praise that we enter into His presence. It's with thanksgiving and praise that we enter into His will. It is with thanksgiving and praise that we will enter into this new year.

ZEAL family, I know with all that has transpired this past year, it may be hard at times to be thankful. But when we lack gratitude it's because we lack altitude. Sometimes we just need to fly a little higher, get a bigger picture of our lives, and remember how God has looked out for us and blessed us throughout the years.

So, to start out our 21 days together, let's open the door of God's presence by taking hold of the key of gratitude and starting the ignition of praise. Pray this simple but powerful prayer with me and fill in as many of your own words as you can.

God today I am thankful for...

Today God I praise you because you are...

Amen.



ZAL Driven

NAME

OMAR AZAN

BIBLE VERSE

JOHN 16:33 (NIV)

I HAVE TOLD YOU THESE THINGS, SO THAT IN ME YOU
MAY HAVE PEACE. IN THIS WORLD YOU WILL HAVE
TROUBLE. BUT TAKE HEART! I HAVE OVERCOME THE
WORLD.



O. Azan

**DAY
02**

If you flip on the TV, go online or talk to some people, you see and hear lots of things that can bring fear, especially now with COVID. It is really easy to see all the horrible things happening in Jamaica and the world and begin to be afraid. No matter how crazy things get around us, God doesn't want us living our lives in fear.

Fear stops us, holds us back and keeps us from doing the things that God intended for us to do. Instead of being afraid and worrying, we should put our trust in Jesus. He will keep us safe. He is there to help us navigate through the troubles and the craziness that life brings.

So instead of worrying and being afraid of what is going on in and around us, we should take heart and realize that the God we serve has already conquered everything we're up against. We don't have to be fearful, we've got a great God on our side!

Spend more time in prayer and in his word.

Prayer:

"Lord we ask that you support us through all the challenges that we face, and help us to always know that you are always at our side holding our hands and that there is nothing you have not conquered. Help us to hear you more rather than what we hear from others or on the news stations, and give us that peace that surpasses all understanding.

We love you in Jesus name. Amen."

DAY 03



ZAL Driven

NAME

KIA MOSES

BIBLE VERSE

JOHN 14:5-6
THOMAS SAID TO HIM, "LORD, WE DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU ARE GOING, SO HOW CAN WE KNOW THE WAY?"
JESUS ANSWERED, "I AM THE WAY AND THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE. NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER EXCEPT THROUGH ME."



K. Moses

Before 2020, many of us were on autopilot. Caught up in the rat race.

Then, in 2020—in a (hopefully) once in a lifetime turn of events—a worldwide RED LIGHT forced everyone to stop at the same time.

Picture billions of people, all across the globe, sitting at red traffic lights or in their driveways with their cars in PARK.

2021 may be the year we all get the GREEN LIGHT to GO again. Or we may find that we're still on RED. The most important thing is not 'getting going again' but really stopping and thinking about where we're going before we put our cars back in 'DRIVE'.

Having to wait at the world's longest traffic light or sit in park for most of 2020 gave us a chance to stop and really look at the destination programmed into our GPS.

In fact, feel free to shake things up today and have your devotion in your car. Grab a cup of coffee and give the neighbours a casual wave as you walk to your car in furry slippers and pajama pants, with your bible in hand. Sit in park, look through the windscreen and think about what life destination you've been entering in your GPS up until this point.

Be brutally honest with yourself. Every day when you wake up – do you enter 'THE WORLD' as your GPS destination?

Or do you enter 'HEAVEN' as your destination? Is your GPS a 'GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM' or a 'GOD POSITIONING SYSTEM'? Are you letting the world — in the form of society, the media, social media, other people, money, success, fame, greed, ego etc. direct the path you take in life? Or are you letting God's word guide the way? The Bible is the best GPS we could ask for but it's up to us to power it up and enter destination 'heaven' in it every single morning before setting out on our daily journey. Without it, we are lost.

Another important question is to ask yourself who you'll be picking up along the way? It's not as rewarding to pull up to heaven in an empty car as it is to roll up in a hundred-seater car full of people you brought to Jesus.

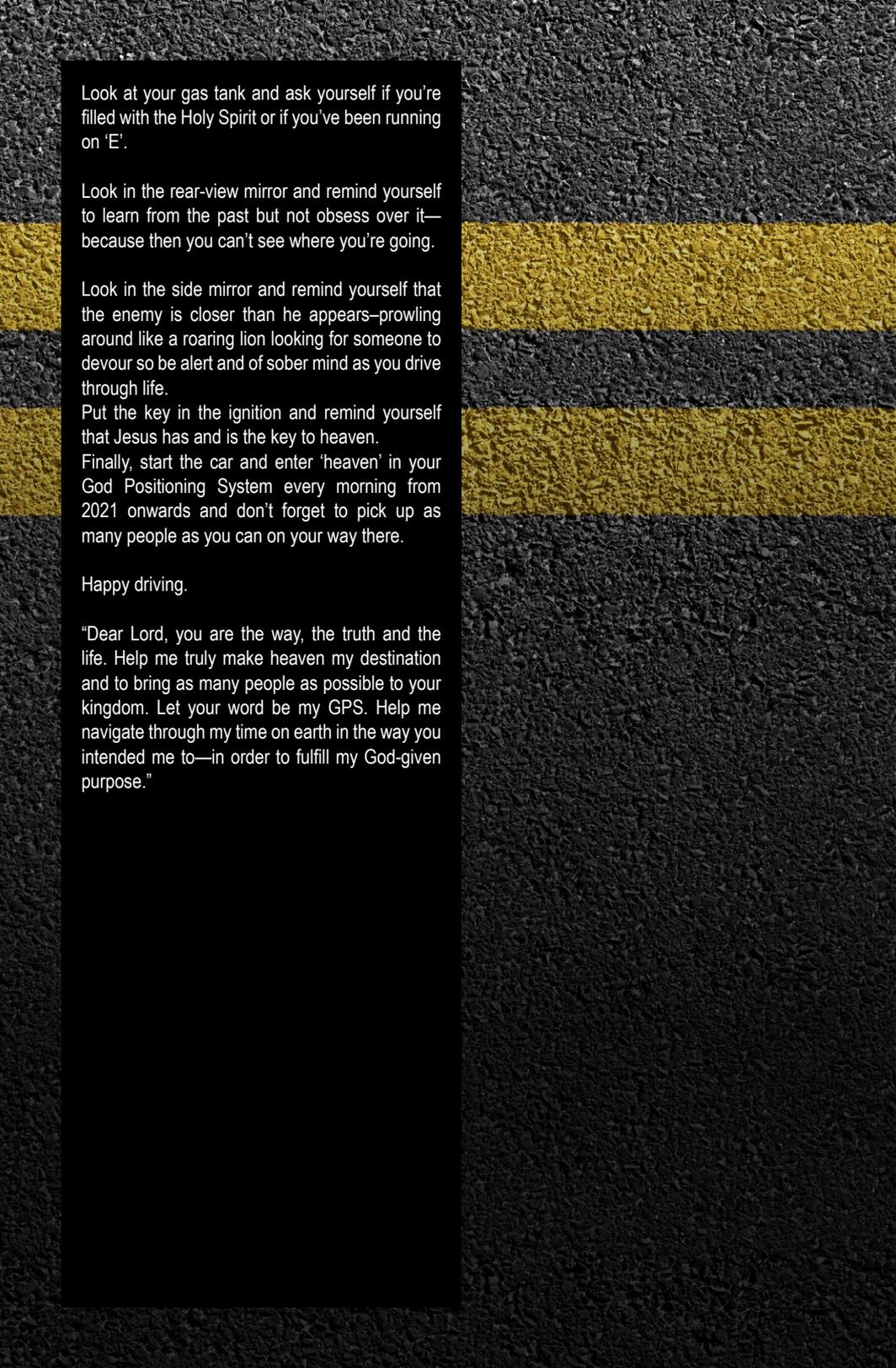
From today onwards, we can use the simple act of getting into our cars as a spiritual check.

As you open the car door—ask yourself what spiritual doors are open in your life.

As you close it, ask what doors you should close.

As you sit in the driver's seat remind yourself that even though you are the driver, God is in control and sits on the throne.

As you put on the seatbelt, amour up with the belt of truth buckled around your waist.



Look at your gas tank and ask yourself if you're filled with the Holy Spirit or if you've been running on 'E'.

Look in the rear-view mirror and remind yourself to learn from the past but not obsess over it—because then you can't see where you're going.

Look in the side mirror and remind yourself that the enemy is closer than he appears—prowling around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour so be alert and of sober mind as you drive through life.

Put the key in the ignition and remind yourself that Jesus has and is the key to heaven.

Finally, start the car and enter 'heaven' in your God Positioning System every morning from 2021 onwards and don't forget to pick up as many people as you can on your way there.

Happy driving.

"Dear Lord, you are the way, the truth and the life. Help me truly make heaven my destination and to bring as many people as possible to your kingdom. Let your word be my GPS. Help me navigate through my time on earth in the way you intended me to—in order to fulfill my God-given purpose."



ZEAL Driven

NAME

MARK-ANTHONY REID

BIBLE VERSE

JOHN 1:50

JESUS ASKED HIM, "DO YOU BELIEVE THIS JUST BECAUSE I TOLD YOU I HAD SEEN YOU UNDER THE FIG TREE? YOU WILL SEE GREATER THINGS THAN THIS."



M.A. Reid

**DAY
04**

Hey, glad you're here on this 'Zeal Driven' journey with us. As we've begun 2021, I'm reminded of just how capable Jesus is of blowing our minds. Have you ever prayed consistently for something and when it happens it still surprises you? Or, not even prayed for or expected something and it comes to fruition anyway and surprises you even more? John 1:35 tells us about a couple men who saw Jesus one day, heard he was the Saviour and decided to start following him. As they did, they told their friends about him and those friends also did the same. Eventually, a man named Nathanael heard and needed to see for himself whether it was true. Before he even spoke a word, Jesus said, regarding him, "...now here is a genuine son of Israel—a man of complete integrity." Amazed, Nathanael, who up to that point had never seen nor met him, asked Jesus how he knew him—to which Jesus replied, "I could see you under the fig tree before Philip found you." This is the part that made me smile—Nathanael then conceded that this was truly the great man everyone had been looking for and Jesus replied, "Do you believe this just because I told you I had seen you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than this." (NLT) This response can be applied to our lives.

Don't be surprised when God who knows every detail about us, responds and comes through for us in some amazing ways! It's well within His power to. Any situation that is seemingly a mountain, doesn't hold a candle to His power and love toward us. What's also great is that He actually wants to work in our favour! So for this year, add this to the list of things you're going to remember about Him; "You will see greater things than this." So whether your concern is a new job, a promotion, a car, family or just a need for some direction, allow God to reveal to you His will for your life and pray believing in His ability to act on your behalf. Thanks for reading guys. Pray this with us:

"Lord, thank you for being so intentional about everything concerning me. You are involved in every little detail—even the ones I think are too small for You. Today, I recommit all my wants, needs and plans to You because I know that whatever You have for me is greater than anything I could come up with. Let all my desires align with yours and your will for my life so I can clearly see the great things You are doing and getting ready to do through me. Let me not be surprised when You move, but let me praise You in response. Amen."

DAY 05



ZEAL Driven

NAME

STEPHANIE CASSELL

BIBLE VERSE

MATTHEW 6:34 ESV

"THEREFORE DO NOT BE ANXIOUS ABOUT TOMORROW,
FOR TOMORROW WILL BE ANXIOUS FOR ITSELF. SUFFICIENT FOR THE DAY IS ITS OWN TROUBLE."



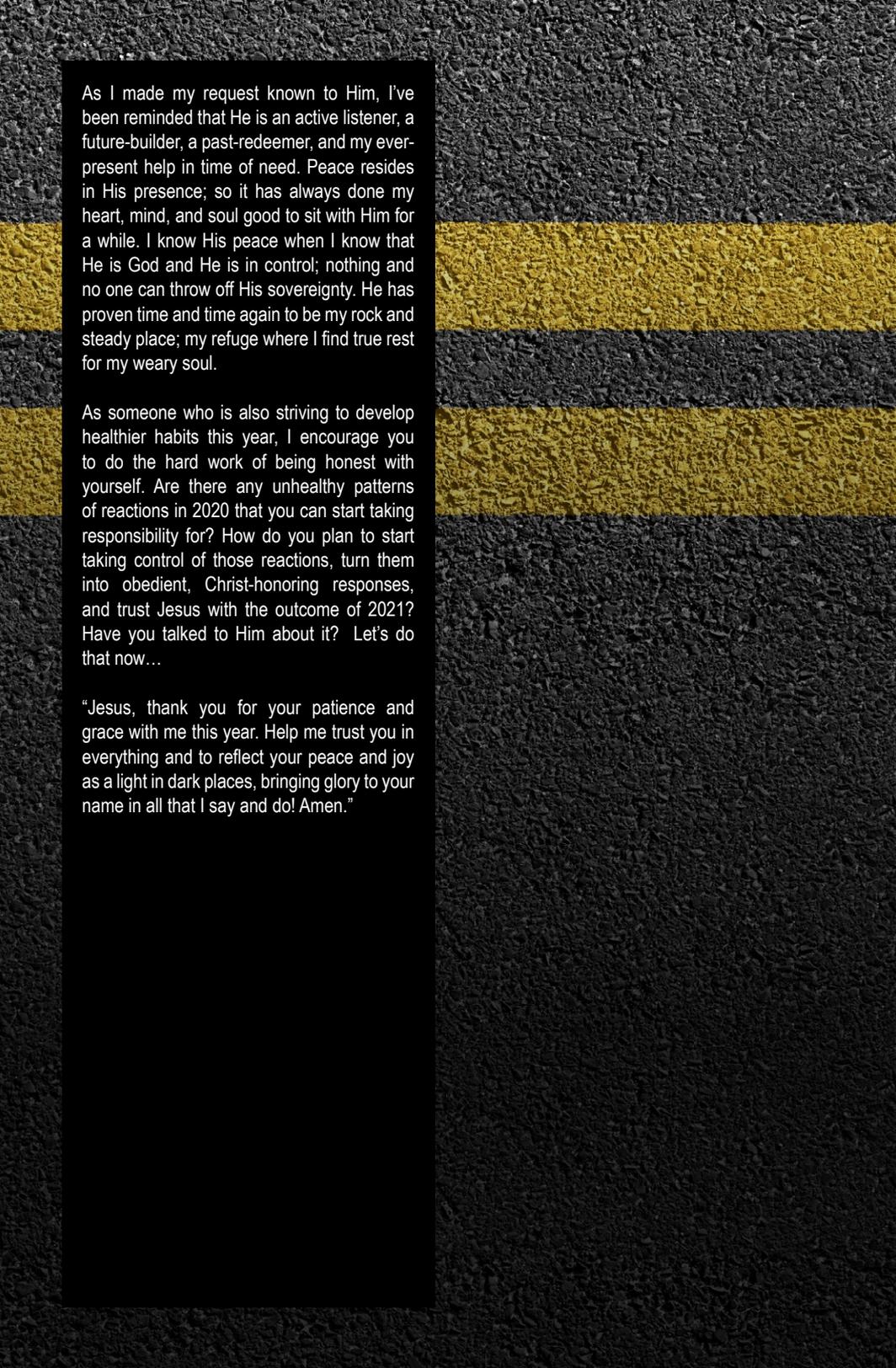
S. Cassell

As someone who manages anxiety daily, I have developed a heightened awareness of my mind's condition, along with intentional practices on how to prepare for foreseeable triggers and difficult days/seasons. I used to view my anxious thoughts as a weakness, a "thorn in my side" that would only bring me shame and discourage me with the lie that I could never be a "good" Christ-follower. I would read Matthew 6:34 and think, "I will never be able to obey this command." But it was in my honest, worry-filled thoughts that God met me in my discouragement. He guided me with all kindness towards the truth of who He is and who I am in His eyes. He revealed to me that He was neither surprised, nor disappointed with my limited knowledge of the future, or the range of human emotions I experience when I discover the extent of my control over it. The verse is actually meant to show us that He is well aware of our humanity, as it provides instruction on how to respond in the moments we encounter our weaknesses. Worry and anxiety may be an initial thought, but we have been given the ability to decide if they will control our perspective; will we make excuses for our limitations or build expectations upon the One who is limitless?

Just as pain in the body serves as a message to the brain that something is wrong, our worries can serve as a reminder to our soul that our sights may be off and need realignment. Many deemed 2020 to be a year of clarity and focus.

Despite the disappointment in the way things turned out, I believe it still was. It showed us how we would really respond to drastic change and extreme pressure. It certainly humbled me to take inventory of what was in my heart, because what came out of it surprised me at times!

I found myself challenging God, asking, "How can you expect me not to be anxious in a time like this?! How can I possibly find peace in this chaos?!" But as I turned to the Word, I realized my words were not new to Him. There were many before me who cried out in fear, doubt and desperation and His consistent response and command is to "follow me, lean on me, trust in me, talk to me; I am steady, I know what tomorrow will bring, I have never failed you." His credentials go on and on and He holds a perfect record of carrying us through the worst of times, yet, like a good Father consoling a distraught child, He comforts us with a reminder of His goodness.



As I made my request known to Him, I've been reminded that He is an active listener, a future-builder, a past-redeemer, and my ever-present help in time of need. Peace resides in His presence; so it has always done my heart, mind, and soul good to sit with Him for a while. I know His peace when I know that He is God and He is in control; nothing and no one can throw off His sovereignty. He has proven time and time again to be my rock and steady place; my refuge where I find true rest for my weary soul.

As someone who is also striving to develop healthier habits this year, I encourage you to do the hard work of being honest with yourself. Are there any unhealthy patterns of reactions in 2020 that you can start taking responsibility for? How do you plan to start taking control of those reactions, turn them into obedient, Christ-honoring responses, and trust Jesus with the outcome of 2021? Have you talked to Him about it? Let's do that now...

"Jesus, thank you for your patience and grace with me this year. Help me trust you in everything and to reflect your peace and joy as a light in dark places, bringing glory to your name in all that I say and do! Amen."



ZAL Driven

**DAY
06**

NAME

SAMANTHA BRANDT

BIBLE VERSE

ISAIAH 26:3-4
YOU WILL KEEP IN PERFECT PEACE
THOSE WHOSE MINDS ARE STEADFAST,
BECAUSE THEY TRUST IN YOU.
TRUST IN THE LORD FOREVER,
FOR THE LORD, THE LORD HIMSELF IS THE ROCK
ETERNAL



S. Brandt

In a time when so much is unknown, so much is at stake and so much pain is being felt by the entire world, I think about 'what drives me?' What keeps me going and makes me continue to live my life with hope and faithfulness to God? As we start this new year and commit to this 21 day fast, I'd like to share my answer with you. It comes from Isaiah 26:3-4 and it reads...

**You will keep in perfect peace
Those whose minds are steadfast,
Because they trust in you.
Trust in the Lord forever,
For the Lord, the Lord himself is the rock
eternal**

There's so much promise and security for me in these verses. It makes me think about how many times in my life I've experienced tough times, sad times and uncertain times. Through it all, nothing ever remained the same, but God has always had my back. The verse also inspires me to be steadfast by thinking about the positive things, and once I do that, I realize how much I am blessed and highly favored, even through these times. I have shelter, I have food to eat, I have a family, but most importantly I have God to turn to anytime. His grace and mercy remind me each day that without him, I am nothing, and it is through that I pray this prayer each day:

"Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for today. This is the day that you have made and I am glad in it. You have provided me with so much and, in these difficult times, I will focus on those things as I am truly grateful. Thank you, firstly, for health; thank you for waking me each day with the strength to care for my family and the ability to create new opportunities each day. Thank you for your unwavering guidance each day and your presence which I know keeps me safe. Thank you for the many blessings that you have bestowed onto me Lord, I know I am not worthy, however, you continue to love me each and every day. I pray for this country and specifically for those who are going through a tough time. I pray that they will find you Lord and come to know that you are Lord and Savior and that, in you, they will find comfort. Lord, I pray that you heal our nation and heal our world from all that is happening now and that we will learn that, through steadfastness and trust in you, we will all see and honor you for your greatness. In your name I pray, Amen."



ZION Christian Church
Driven

**DAY
07**

NAME

SHAUNA-GAYE HART

BIBLE VERSE

PHILIPPIANS 4:13

I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH HIM WHO
STRENGTHENS ME.



S. Hart

When I was asked to contribute a devotional, I kept thinking about the word “drive” and what it means to me. What motivates me? What gets me through those rough patches? What anchors my rappel rope at the top of the mountain when I need to make my way up from a valley? And what gives me the strength to pull myself up? And though I could answer these questions and say that it’s sheer willpower and determination, those are still not the root of it.

When we rely on our own strength, we deny ourselves the pleasure of resting on God. He longs to pour His grace into us when we ask. God never wanted us to experience life living in our own strength.

Have you ever been in a situation where you couldn’t see your way out or couldn’t imagine making it through to the other side of the problem? And we pray avidly for God to show us a way out? Whether the solution to the problem presented itself in the nick of time or you had to gruel through and just find a way to put the problem behind you—God showed up. We need to try to stop questioning God’s plan as we may never understand the reasoning behind it.

Speaking from personal experience—actually, several experiences—when I look back at any of these problematic situations I can always find the lesson or see God’s beautiful work in what I thought was a complete mess. It is especially at these times that we must remember to wholly rely on God and trust in His plans for us which may look NOTHING like the plans we have for ourselves.

Whatever we are called to do and whatever obstacle we come upon, He will guide us and give us the strength, love, and faith to get through.

Let us take time to say a prayer acknowledging our need and gratitude for God’s strength and let us, with open arms and hearts, receive His abounding grace.

“Father, I am choosing to rest in You. Fill me with peace and calm and the courage to face my challenges knowing You are by my side. While I am unsure how this can or will work out for my good, I say ‘NO’ to disappointment and despondence and ‘YES’ to hope, joy, and conquering it all in Your name. Amen.”



ZAL Driven

**DAY
08**

NAME

RUSTI ZACCA

BIBLE VERSE

MATTHEW 11:28-30
COME TO ME ALL YOU WHO ARE WEARY AND BURDENED,
AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST. TAKE MY YOKE UPON YOU
AND LEARN FROM ME, FOR I AM GENTLE AND HUMBLE IN
HEART AND YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS.
1 THESSALONIANS 5:18
IN EVERYTHING GIVE THANKS



S. Zacca

I have always been a “control freak!” I like to plan and anticipate the “what if’s” so I know how to respond and am prepared. In the last 5 years I have had to deal with unexpected illnesses, both in my family and my husbands, which resulted in numerous cancelled plans and disappointments.

Many times in life we face or experience unexpected disappointments, when things don’t go our way or as we planned, and the out-of-control feelings and despair can overwhelm us and lead to self-pity. There have been occasions where I have literally felt like I was drowning; and just as my head would make it above the water and I was reaching for a life ring, another wave of setbacks (in my eyes) would knock me down again. It was easier to dwell on the negative and sit in self-pity with a sorrow, woe-is-me attitude as I couldn’t control the outcome or fix the situation, feeling sorry for myself.

Despite my knowing that God is for me and not against me (Romans 8:31) and He has plans for me to prosper me and not harm me (Jeremiah 29:11), while struggling in the moment, it wasn’t enough.

What I have come to recognize on my journey, is that this is when the enemy gets a foothold and flies with his plan to defeat me and keep me in the pit. It is when I realize this and can see who my enemy really is and know that I can stand firm on God’s promise to never leave me nor forsake me (Hebrews 13:5). I can literally put on the full armour of God and stand firm against the attacks.

I can truly feel myself leaning into God and resting in Him, letting go of my burdens and allowing Him to carry me through.

The Lord often speaks to me in my situations with songs that encourage me and help me turn my focus upwards to Him and away from my situations. When I can find one thing, no matter how small, to be grateful for every day and walk with a grateful heart, He shines a light dispersing my darkness. It is a step-by-step approach that takes time but He doesn’t give up on me.

Each day I come to believe and know, more and more, that there is a God in heaven who pours down His love, mercy and compassion on each one of us. A God who heals us and lightens our loads if we will only reach out and ask Him and then trust Him to do just that.

Today, I ask you: when faced with disappointment, what do you do? Who or what do you turn to?

“Heavenly Father, we give you thanks that you so willingly take our burdens from us, if we will only let you. May we always keep our eyes fixed on you and your goodness and walk confidently trusting you and believing you. Open our eyes and our hearts to see your miracles and goodness every moment of every day and may we remember to always give you thanks.

Amen”



Z L Driven

NAME

MIKE BERKOWITZ

BIBLE VERSE

GALATIANS 6:9
AND LET US NOT GROW WEARY OF DOING GOOD, FOR IN DUE SEASON WE WILL REAP, IF WE DO NOT GIVE UP."
AS A CHRIST-FOLLOWER IT IS OUR DUTY TO CONTINUOUSLY HELP OTHERS. DONATE TO THE LESS FORTUNATE; INVEST IN PEOPLE AND PROGRAMS; COMPLIMENT A STRANGER; ASSIST A NEIGHBOR IN NEED; FILL AN EXPIRING PARKING METER; HOLD THE DOOR FOR A STRANGER. AND DO NOT STOP, AND NEVER GIVE UP. YOU NEVER KNOW HOW YOUR ONE, SMALL GESTURE CAN CHANGE SOMEONE'S LIFE, AND THE BENEFITS YOU WILL REAP FROM ONE SMALL GESTURE.



M. Berkowitz

**DAY
09**

Hebrews 13:16

"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

One Small Gesture...

While coaching a 13-year-old football team a few years back, a parent came to me in the final minute of our last game and asked if her son could play quarterback for one play. It had been his dream for seven years since he first started playing to play quarterback and no one had given him a chance. This young man had been struggling at home and in school due to different circumstances in his life.

Down by 6 points with the game on the line we put him in. The play was a pass. One perfect spiral later, and 56 yards, he threw a touchdown pass and brought our team to the playoffs.

I saw his mom recently. She gave me a big hug and thanked me. She told me that one small gesture gave him confidence that he never had, and helped change this young man's trajectory. He went on to be a high school quarterback, raised his grades, and now has a Division I college scholarship as a quarterback and has made great strides in his personal life.



ZAL Driven

**DAY
10**

NAME

MICHELLE CHIN

BIBLE VERSE

PSALM 118:24

THIS IS THE DAY THAT THE LORD HAS MADE; LET US
REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT.



M. Chin

The beginning of any journey is filled with excitement and when we reach the end we feel accomplished. What about the journeying? So we are on a fast, we are committed to this fast as we know the end result is a deeper closeness with God. 21 days isn't so long; that's so manageable. Then we reach day 9 and we start to not feel so thrilled as we are distracted and starting to feel a little less excited. By the midpoint we are not so excited anymore. But our God, knew we would need His encouragement along the journey.

Genesis is the beginning of the Bible. Revelations is the last book of the Bible. Ever tried reading the whole Bible in one year? By March there's some distraction and by June, mid-way through it, you think; hmm maybe this is too much for me.

God in His wisdom and love, gives us in the middle of our journey, whether it's a fast or reading the Bible in 365 days, this reminder in the middle of the bible, Psalm 118:24 - "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Right there when the newness has worn off and we are getting just a little weary, He tells us TODAY is the day He has made and we need to rejoice and be glad in it. That makes me just want to do a little dance and say, "Ok Lord, I'm baacck! You are giving me today to worship You, to praise You, to journey with You right by my side."

"Thank You Lord for today! I will rejoice and be glad in it."



ZETA Driven

DAY 11

NAME

LEZANNE AZAN

BIBLE VERSE

2 CORINTHIANS 10:5

WE DEMOLISH ARGUMENTS AND EVERY PRETENSION THAT SETS ITSELF UP AGAINST THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD, AND WE TAKE CAPTIVE EVERY THOUGHT TO MAKE IT OBEIDENT TO CHRIST.



L. Azan

This year, 2020, began with such high positive expectations. However, instead, it brought questions, confusion, disillusionment, sadness.

My thoughts many times began to spiral into negativity, and I had to pray and ask the Lord to take my thoughts captive, and replace them with His truth. I had to pay close attention to what I was focusing on.

Do you ever take the time to slow down and question your thoughts? What thoughts and negative thinking patterns might be taking a grip on you?

Especially during this past year, I realize that one of the biggest spiritual battles we are all in, is inside our minds. If we're not careful, if we continue to think negative thoughts and entertain them for too long, we may cross a very important spiritual threshold in which we actually begin to come into agreement with those thoughts. And if we come into agreement with something that it is untrue, it begins to shape our life, our beliefs, actions and behavior. Self-doubt, negativity, discouragement, and fear can take hold of our lives.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we can dismantle negative thoughts. If we repent of these thoughts as we become aware of them, and declare God's truth from the word of God to combat the lies, your thoughts will become captive to God, our creator, sustainer and provider.

Romans 12:2 (NIV) says "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

As we go through this fast, let us pay close attention to our thoughts and the truth of who God is.

Prayer

"Holy Spirit, what are the lies/false beliefs that have ingrained themselves in my mind? Please help me to take my thoughts captive and make them obedient to You. Transform and renew."



ZEL Driven

NAME

MARISOL SANCHEZ

BIBLE VERSE

PSALM 119:147

...I HAVE PUT MY HOPE IN YOUR WORD.



M. Sanchez

DAY
12

As we enter into 2021 we are a bit apprehensive due to the craziness of 2020, nevertheless, let me remind you of one very important detail: God is sitting on the throne, and Jesus is at his right hand interceding for us! We can have peace and comfort knowing that He sees us and cares for us, and even when we don't understand the 'why's' of our situation or circumstances, we can certainly trust God and put our hope in Him and His awesome word.

Luke 24:35 says: "the sky and the earth won't last forever, but my words will." God's word will last forever, and you know what? Hebrews 13:8 tells us that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever!" Tuck these truths, found in the Word of God, in your heart and mind to quiet your fears and anxiety when you see the world around you going through unpleasant changes. You and I don't know the future, but we can trust in our unchanging God and His word, when it says: ...the one going before you is the LORD; your rear guard is the God of Israel. (Isaiah 52:12).

I want to remind you today that when Jesus was in the wilderness being tempted, he defeated the enemy with 3 important and powerful words: IT IS WRITTEN.

Read Matthew 4:1-11. For each attack of the enemy, Jesus quoted scripture and the enemy too pulled scripture out of his bag of tricks and for that one Jesus replied: IT IS WRITTEN ALSO. Yeah, our enemy knows scripture too! He has no shame, and he will use both a lie and the truth to tempt us when we are weak!

The Word of God is a powerful weapon to defeat doubt, fear, anxiety and anything else the enemy throws our way. You want to know what the good, pleasing and perfect will of God is for your life this new year? Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind (Romans 12:2). How do we accomplish that? By reading and living the Word of truth.

The Word of God is our source of salvation, faith, hope, truth, and victory. Read it to become wise, believe it to be saved, and live it to glorify God! I want to share this cute acronym for the word BIBLE: **B**asic **I**nstructions **B**efore **L**eaving **E**arth.

"Dear Father, I thank you for your Word, your unfailing love, your faithfulness and your great mercy and compassions that are new every morning. Please help me to be more faithful to you and not doubt your love or care for me. In Jesus name I pray, Amen!"



ZAL Driven

NAME

ROUJ SHIRLEY

BIBLE VERSE

PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7
"BE ANXIOUS FOR NOTHING..."



R. Shirley

**DAY
13**

It has been 259 days since the first imported case of Covid-19 was discovered in Jamaica. To say that life has merely been challenging would not begin to sum up the varied experiences for many on our island. However, no matter how much our experiences differ, there seems to be one common variable for most: fear.

Due to the pandemic, many will be quick to admit that 2020 has been a year filled with fear and anxiety. In the capital, where majority of the cases seem to be concentrated, I, an emergency room physician who works in a public hospital located in said capital, have felt that same fear and anxiety knocking at my door; fear of our hospital being overwhelmed, fear of contracting the disease, fear of family and friends becoming ill, fear of fatality.

How did I tackle this, you ask?

I turned to the Word of God and His promises. The word in Phil 4:6-7 encouraged me to "Be anxious for nothing..."

Instead of worrying, I was reminded that, through prayer and giving thanks in spite of everything, I can always run to God with my cares and He will give me mind-blowing peace. This verse has been my staple during this time. My hope and prayer today is that you will refocus and rest on the promises of God for peace.

Prayer:

"Heavenly Father, I thank you that I am able to bring my cares to you. Please place Your peace in my heart. Amen."



ZETA Driven

**DAY
14**

NAME

LEVOY PAUL

BIBLE VERSE

PROVERBS 3:5

"TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND LEAN
NOT ON YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING."



L. Paul

As memories of the past year continue to resonate with us; the joys, sorrows, losses and gains were all a part of a year that will undoubtedly go down in history as one of the most eventful to have occurred. The mere fact that you're reading this, is proof that you have overcome one of the most testing periods in your life, and that is enough to be grateful about. Join me in expressing gratitude to the father for the numerous hurdles conquered and the journey that awaits us that will prove as even greater tests. In this 21-day devotional, let us be deliberate and persistent as we seek God's guidance, strength and grace. Let's GO!!!!

The theme for today's devotion comes from Proverbs 3:5 and it says, "**Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.**"

Question, how many times do you try to solve problems your way?

If I were to answer that, I would tell you that countless times I depend on my finite wisdom to guide me through some spiritual situations. As much as I ask God daily for his guidance, the moment that I'm faced with a situation I completely forget the prayer I prayed just moments before.

The thing is, us humans are so nurtured into consistently problem-solving and developing resolutions, that we often times 'lean' on our own understanding or earthly knowledge. But it's never until we are faced with a challenge that is regarded as beyond us, that we are reminded of the fact that our understanding and wisdom is nowhere compared to that of our Heavenly Father. To elaborate, it simply means that all of our degrees and accolades hold no weight in comparison to the knowledge and understanding of God.

In past times I have faced so many encounters that at the time had no solution, no resolve that I could think of, but the moment I decided to lean on the sovereignty and understanding of God was when the impractical manifested into the physical. So today I implore you, to put your trust in the Lord, become so reliant on him so that he directs your path.

As we pray:

"Heavenly Father, let me rely on you more and more each day, until the day comes that I am completely dependent on you. Order my steps, guide my thoughts and teach me your ways. From this moment onwards I will put my trust in you."



Z E A L Driven



K. Wong

DAY 15

NAME

KIMBERLY WONG

BIBLE VERSE

JAMES 5:13-14

IS ANYONE AMONG YOU IN TROUBLE? LET THEM PRAY.
IS ANYONE HAPPY? LET THEM SING SONGS OF PRAISE.
IS ANYONE AMONG YOU SICK? LET THEM CALL THE
ELDERS OF THE CHURCH TO PRAY OVER THEM WITH
OIL IN THE NAME OF THE LORD.

While you take the time throughout this fast to reflect on the past year and the major obstacles that you have had to overcome, think of others who may have had to overcome obstacles as well; those who have lost, endured and persevered throughout this time. While working on a better year for yourself, think of ways in which you can help and encourage others in their process. Ask yourself these questions which come from James 5:13-14.

Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them with oil in the name of the Lord.

During this time, while we look to the Lord for peace, understanding and deliverance from our troubles, let us not forget to PRAY for our brothers and sisters who are facing troubles alike. Let us also encourage those around us to pray through the highs and lows, reminding them of how faithful God is. Prayer is extremely powerful.

While we manifest and work on building a better year, let us not forget to give God thanks and PRAISE him for big and small mercies. Gather with friends and family and sings songs of praise to the Lord for all that he has done and for all that he will continue to do for us.

Think of and pray for the sick. If you know anyone currently struggling with an illness, whether minor or major, encourage them to seek COMMUNITY for support. Although we may not be able to gather in the traditional way as we continue to go through this pandemic, remember that where two or three gather, God will be present.

“Lord we are so thankful for life and for your continued mercies. I come before you today to say thank you for health, for shelter, for family. I think of those who have lost, those who are sick, those who are suffering. Lord I ask that you be a light during this dark time. I ask for healing and support for those in need, for a renewed faith, peace and understanding in your word. You are truly a good God, a faithful God. May we never forget that. For this new year I pray for optimism, assurance, for your support and motivation as we continue to grow closer to you. Amen.”



ZION Christian Church
Driven

NAME

HILARY WEHBY

BIBLE VERSE

ISAIAH 43:18-20
FORGET THE FORMER THINGS;
DO NOT DWELL ON THE PAST.
SEE, I AM DOING A NEW THING!
NOW IT SPRINGS UP; DO YOU NOT PERCEIVE IT?



H. Wehby

**DAY
16**

Have you ever wondered what God's purpose and plan for your life is? Or wondered if you'll ever find out or figure it out? Suppose you heard that you don't need to, because God has it all planned. Once you place God and His will for your life as first priority in your life and surrender yourself completely to Him, He will lead you into your God-given purpose, and equip and anoint you to walk in it. Every experience you have is preparing and shaping you to walk into that divine purpose. Walking in love and seeking God are our jobs. He does everything else. Make yourself available to Him. Listen to His voice and trust Him.

"Father God, I present myself to you as a living sacrifice today. All that I am and all that I have. I humbly ask Dear God, that you would take me, use me as an instrument of your love, to bring glory and honour to your holy name. I honour you Lord. I praise you. In Jesus precious name I pray. Amen."



ZETA
AL Driven

**DAY
17**

NAME

JASON MOSES

BIBLE VERSE

JOHN 14:27

PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU; MY PEACE I GIVE YOU. I DO NOT GIVE TO YOU AS THE WORLD GIVES. DO NOT LET YOUR HEARTS BE TROUBLED AND DO NOT BE AFRAID.



J. Moses

It's very easy to become consumed by worry and fear, especially during these times of great uncertainty facing the world today. These two emotions appear in many forms that cripple our ability to remain happy, focused and driven.

This crippling effect on our physical and mental state is a direct symptom or side effect of limitations we set on our overall faith as Christians.

One of my favorite sayings to date is...**Let Go and Let God**. I was introduced to these powerful words at a very young age by my mother. However, it was not until recently that I started to understand the true meaning of this message.

It's impossible for us, as human beings, to totally eliminate worry and fear. We do, however, have control over how these emotions impact our lives and overall well-being. This can definitely be achieved through our faith and by truly believing that our Lord and Savior will always have a plan for our future. A plan that is not for evil but for welfare and hope is a great place to start. This belief is one of the many tools we can use to conquer worry and fear daily.

Many of us, including myself, are guilty of putting limitations on our faith. Most of the time we don't even know we are doing it. I have learnt to eliminate most of my worries and fears by trusting in my renewed faith and acceptance of God's plan. This is what fuels me each and every day. Truly believing that we are a part of His great and holy plan gives us the confidence and motivation needed to maintain our happiness, focus and drive on a daily basis.

I challenge you during this fast to acknowledge and release any limitations that you might knowingly or unknowingly be putting on your overall faith. Let this challenge drive us further away from worry and fear and closer to Jesus.

"Lord, please reveal your plan for my life and give me the strength and determination needed to fully accept and trust it."

God Bless You!



ZEL Driven

NAME

JOSHUA AZAN

BIBLE VERSE

JEREMIAH 29:11
FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU...PLANS TO
PROSPER YOU AND NOT TO HARM YOU, PLANS TO GIVE
YOU HOPE AND A FUTURE.



J. Azan

**DAY
18**

God's Time Machine

I am convinced that God gives us a personal time machine. The best part about this time machine is that it is specifically designed to only allow us to step into our future.

In Jeremiah 29:11, an overused portion of scripture (in my opinion), we see the Lord declaring this: "for I know the plans I have for you...plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

What I want to point out here is that God has it marked on his Google calendar to give us a hope and future.

Simply put, when you believe in God, he gifts us with hope and provides us with a figurative time machine to allow us to step into our future.

Your future is the only place where hope can exist. No one hopes for something in the past. Your future and hope are interconnected and if you lose your sense of your future, you lose all hope. Worst of all, when you lose all hope, fear and doubt start to creep in.

No one wakes up and looks forward to a day of fear and doubt. Not that I am aware of at least.

Living in the present is great, but living a life that is aimed at seeking God now and in your future is extremely worth it.

Ask yourself this today: "Is what I'm doing filling me with hope and fueled by love?" If you can answer yes, you are stepping through God's time machine and stepping into your future: a future filled with faith, hope, and love.

"God, thank you for the gift of hope. I just ask that you allow me to trust you now and cling unto the beautiful future you have planned for me."

DAY 19



ZAL Driven

NAME

CATHERINE RADLEIN

BIBLE VERSE

HEBREWS 12:1-2

THEREFORE WE ALSO, SINCE WE ARE SURROUNDED BY SO GREAT A CLOUD OF WITNESSES, LET US LAY ASIDE EVERY WEIGHT, AND THE SIN WHICH SO EASILY ENSNARES US, AND LET US RUN WITH ENDURANCE THE RACE THAT IS SET BEFORE US, LOOKING UNTO JESUS, THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF OUR FAITH, WHO FOR THE JOY THAT WAS SET BEFORE HIM ENDURED THE CROSS, DESPISING THE SHAME, AND HAS SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE THRONE OF GOD.



C. Radlein

Born prematurely, in a family of 21 children, with little to no resources to sustain a professional sports career, Wilma Rudolph had to face an even bigger challenge when she was stricken with polio. Not to mention this was the 1950s, which made things even more complicated. But she had a fire burning inside her, an unstoppable strength that nothing, not even polio or social barriers, could stop her. By the time she was 12, she had overcome polio and started to walk again, and, to her doctor's surprise, took up athletics. Eight years later she was already an Olympic track champion.

"The triumph can't be had without the struggle"
—Wilma Rudolph.

In Hebrews 12:1 we see that each of us has a race that has been marked out for us individually which means we must not look to the other contestants. Rather, we are encouraged to fix our eyes on Jesus – to fix our eyes is to have a continual internal focus of our heart. In doing so we observe Jesus' example as He ran His race. He never lost sight of where He was headed or what His mission was, which was the cross. We too need to run the race of our Christian life with that same intentionality and focus to fulfill God's plan for our lives to impact earth.

It is easy to lose sight of the big picture when we face hardships and discouragements and we are likely to stumble if we fix our gaze on ourselves and the circumstances surrounding us.

In Numbers chapter 13 when the 12 spies were sent to scout out the Promised Land, 10 came back believing the circumstances and situation and that they were smaller and weaker than the inhabitants and so would be wiped out by them. However, Joshua and Caleb believed God's promise that they would overcome their enemies and live in the land. Faith in God's promises enabled Joshua and Caleb to enter the Promised Land while the 10 others died in the wilderness forfeiting their destiny because of unbelief.

This verse tells us that we have a 'stadium full of witnesses' who have gone before us cheering us on! So when we are lagging in our faith let's throw off everything that would hinder us and start running – never quitting until we reach the finish line of our individual race.

To Ponder:

- What or who has the majority of your focus?
- Is there an attitude or behavior that is hindering you that you need to discard?
- Where is there doubt and unbelief in your life? Ask Him to give you His truth/promise.
- Like Wilma Rudolph, do you have a fire burning within you for a particular vision/mission? Spend some quiet time asking the Lord to give you a glimpse of His vision for your life. Ask him to connect the dots of your life so it will reveal His plan.

"Lord, give me the unstoppable strength, courage and grace to finish my race well."



ZION
CHRISTIAN
CHURCH
Driven

**DAY
20**

NAME

DEBRA-ANN WILLIS

BIBLE VERSE

MATTHEW 5:14-16

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. A CITY SET ON A HILL CANNOT BE HIDDEN. NOR DO PEOPLE LIGHT A LAMP AND PUT IT UNDER A BASKET, BUT ON A STAND, AND IT GIVES LIGHT TO ALL IN THE HOUSE. IN THE SAME WAY, LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE BEFORE OTHERS, SO THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD WORKS AND GIVE GLORY TO YOUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN



DA. Willis

Light is used to symbolize God, faith, and holiness throughout scripture. As Christians, we are called to not only walk in the light but to be the light for others. Also read Ephesians 2:8-10

Scrolling through social media, watching the news, walking down the street... it seems all you can see and hear is darkness, anger, crime and different forms of perversions. It makes you want to ask God "Why? Why is all this is happening? Where are You in all this? Where is the peace, love, respect, brotherhood that you exude in your word?"

Well ladies and gents this is where our purpose lies; this is what gets me pumped in the mornings. It is what has kept me going through the hardships of life — I focus on being a light in this world. That is our job, our mandate. To not just pray about change but go out there and be the change we want to see. To make a difference and an impact.

It would've made sense for Jesus to say, "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your holiness" or "happiness" or "the gospel." But instead, He says "good works." So the question is: "What kind of good works is Jesus talking about?" The purpose of our good works is to glorify God. God created us to glorify Him, and this is why we do good works — not to be seen or praised (Matthew 6:1-17), but so that we and those around us will "give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

So here is a challenge, the next time you wake up in the morning instead of dreading the day ahead or being anxious due to uncertainty, forget about yourself and think, "what impact can I make today?"



ZEAL Driven

NAME

KORY CASSELL

BIBLE VERSE

ROMANS 12:11-12

"NEVER BE LACKING IN ZEAL, BUT KEEP YOUR SPIRITUAL FERVOR, SERVING THE LORD. BE JOYFUL IN HOPE, PATIENT IN AFFLICTION, FAITHFUL IN PRAYER."



K. Cassell

**DAY
21**

What a way to start the year! ZEAL Family thank you for journeying with us these past 21 days. I pray it has been a powerful time for you as God has challenged and grown you in new and fresh ways.

As we end our days of devotional together I want to encourage you, this is not the end of something, but rather just the beginning. I pray that after these 21 days you are like that little shiny, silver ball in a pinball machine that has been pulled all the way back onto that compressed spring, full of energy and potential, waiting to be released. Or like a powerful Formula 1 car, full of fuel, tuned up, revving its engine at the starting line. As we launch into the rest of this year, a poignant and familiar passage comes to mind; a charge the apostle Paul gives us out of Romans...

"Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." Romans 12:11-12

Paul reminds us – actually commands us – to never lose our ZEAL. He insists that no matter what we are facing we always have a reason for passion & enthusiasm when serving the Lord. No matter the problems or afflictions you're facing, there is hope.

No matter the bumps and turns you face in the road ahead, there is joy to be found in the journey. Why? Because our faith is in Jesus. He is the author and perfecter of our faith. He laid out the roadways of life and designed the best vehicle to traverse them... YOU. You are His design. You are His masterpiece. With Him and through Him, you are ready for the race.

Pray this prayer with me...

"Jesus, thank you for...

God I praise you because you are...

Father fill me with your peace, passion & purpose and may you be the ZEAL that drives me throughout this year."

Like that little shiny, silver pinball waiting on the spring to race into all that's ahead, like that Formula 1 car revving its engine at the starting line...

It's time to make the most of the days ahead...

Ready... Set... GO!



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