
RESET

A THIRTY-ONE DAY DEVOTIONAL FROM THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

MIMI AJALA MINISTRIES





IT IS TIME TO RESET

The New Year is starting and many are eager to leave 2020 behind. Some are apprehensive about 2021 but my hope is that after you journey through this thirty-one day devotional, you will arise hopeful, determined and equipped to face 2021 head on.

Reading the book of Proverbs on a daily basis has always been beneficial to me especially in the mornings as there is so much wisdom to glean from it for the day ahead. I believe strongly in my heart that as you engage on this journey through the book of Proverbs that the Holy Spirit will impart you spiritually to rise as a wise warrior, succeeding in all your endeavours this year.

Remember to keep your eyes on the possibilities of the year, lean on the ability of your heavenly Father to keep you. Trust in what He has deposited within you and do it all to the glory of God and the expansion of His Kingdom.

I am praying for you that God will send you every help you need in this year and He will use your life to inspire many in Jesus name.

I am cheering you on and I love you deeply.

Mimi Ajala

DAY ONE
GET IT RIGHT

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction"

Proverbs 1:7

The first day is always an opportunity to start afresh, to build again but this time around you have to decide to build the right way otherwise you will encounter the same frustrations that you have experienced before. When it comes to building well and building correctly, especially at the beginning of the year, many will fill up on books, podcasts, seminars and conferences to acquire as much knowledge as possible. This is great but if there is one thing that 2020 has taught us, it is that human knowledge and wisdom is limited.

Human knowledge and wisdom were blindsided by COVID-19; who knows what the New Year holds? Therefore, if you don't want to be blindsided like those who only acquire human knowledge and earthly wisdom then Proverbs 1:7 tells you where your starting point must be to begin. Yes, you need knowledge and you definitely need wisdom to reach your goals and fulfil the dreams you have for the year but don't go for the earthly kind. There is a wisdom that is from above and that wisdom is above all wisdom and will cause you to soar no matter what the year holds in it. There is a knowledge that cannot be blindsided and knows what to do in every situation. However, to gain access to divine wisdom and knowledge, you must start by embarking on a journey of fearing God.

There are many Christians that wonder why the calamity of the world is also their experience; well may I suggest that as Christians we must refuse to live this year without the fear of God. How many Christians still fear God today? How many of us reverence Him or are we those that will enjoy His grace and mercy, abuse it and live our lives however we want, knowing that God will forgive us? While we may enjoy the forgiveness of God, we would have robbed ourselves from being filled with God's wisdom which is crucial especially in uncertain times. Before you make resolutions to read more and to attend more conferences, make a commitment to live a life that fears God and then you would have positioned yourself to receive true wisdom and knowledge that will guide you all through the year ensuring that God's good promises become your reality this year.

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DAY TWO
INTEGRITY IS VITAL

"For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. He stores up success for the upright; He is a shield for those who live with integrity"

Proverbs 2:6-7

You cannot get divine wisdom without God. Many are like those who were building the tower of Babel in Genesis 11, trying to reach heaven and all its blessing without going through God. Today many want to experience the supernatural Hand of God without doing what God says you need to do to gain access to it. Do not allow the ignorance of past years make you foolishly sweat for what God would easily give to you if you would simply position yourself. What have you put down as your goals? What are you praying that you will succeed at? The Bible tells you that there is a key requirement needed from you that will make you eligible for success. The key requirement is *integrity!*

You may have seen some become crafty, step on others to climb up and it may be tempting to do certain questionable things in an attempt to reach your goals but refuse to fall for the devil's oldest trick. You may end up getting to your goal but it will be short-lived because where integrity does not take you, will soon be snatched from you. There is a success that comes from God, stored up for all who live with integrity. That success is defended, meaning nothing can steal a promotion that God will give you when you choose the way of integrity.

So today choose to work on your character, to ensure that your yes truly means yes and if there is a temptation to take advantage of someone, refuse it! Know with all assurance that God will honour those who walk in integrity.

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DAY THREE
GOD IS YOUR CONFIDENCE

"Don't fear sudden danger or the ruin of the wicked when it comes, for the Lord will be your confidence and will keep your foot from a snare."

Proverbs 3:25-26

One of the things we can find ourselves doing as Christians is observing what is happening in the world and then allowing fear and anxiety to grip our hearts and minds because we expect the same to happen to us. Yes, you will hear that many businesses will close, you will hear that people will lose their jobs and that people are losing their loved ones, their lives and their health. As the world keeps rejecting God, Satan will seize the opportunity to fill the world with evil that causes those who see it to tremble but God tells you to trust that not one of his evil plans will come near you.

God is your confidence in the midst of the storm because you are hidden in Christ in God. Though the storm rages, it cannot overwhelm God so it is impossible for the storm to destroy you if you are in Him. The story of the children of Israel in the land of Goshen is a perfect reminder that God keeps those who are His away from harm when harm is present (Exodus 8:22-32 and 9:4). This year let God be your confidence. Do not allow what you observe to allow fear to change your expectation. Instead let your expectations be based on the breathtaking power of your God and Heavenly Father.

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DAY FOUR
THERE IS ONE THING YOU NEED

"Wisdom is supreme—so get wisdom. And whatever else you get, get understanding."

Proverbs 4:7

Have you ever understood the necessity of wisdom? Have you ever cried out to God to make you wise?

Many of us have spent days and months praying to God for jobs, husbands, wives, wealth to name a few. We have cried with desperation to the Lord our God to grant our requests. Have you cried in prayers and fasting for wisdom? Have you been desperate for wisdom before as you have been for other things? If the answer is no, this is a problem because you have not understood that wisdom will get you most of the things on your prayer request list. Yet many are okay with living simply with common sense (some might even argue that common sense is not as common as we would like to think).

Proverbs 4:7 tells you that if you are going to be what God has in mind for you, wisdom must be a desperate desire of yours. You must chase wisdom more than you are chasing the promotion, man, woman or lifestyle. You've lived on the shallow end of life for way too long, you surely must be dissatisfied by it. Go on a search for something of greater depth. What is your job? Do not just do it like someone with average intellect but search for wisdom so that your work reflects the wisdom of God. The same goes if you are in business, in a marriage, raising children or studying at a university. This year go on a search for divine wisdom until you find it because once you find wisdom and add understanding to it, then the Bible says in Proverbs 4:12 nothing will be able to hinder your progress in life.

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DAY FIVE
IT IS GOOD TO BE CORRECTED

"And you will say, "How I hated discipline, and how my heart despised correction."

Proverbs 5:12

Do you remember a time when you were being told off by a parent, teacher or someone you looked up to? There is nothing enjoyable about that moment and so there are those who without knowing, have grown to despise correction. We hide from people who discipline us and from those who will tell us truths that cut deep while running to those that flatter us with words we enjoy hearing yet set a trap under our feet. Verse 11 of Proverbs 5 speaks of the regrets of the one who despised the arm of correction.

While it is a common attitude in this generation to hate any correction it has allowed pride to rule many hearts; you must choose a better path. Understand that God uses the avenue of discipline and correction to protect our destinies. The Bible says in Hebrew 12:6 "*For the Lord disciplines the one He loves and chastens everyone He accepts as His son.*" Rather than running from people who will speak truth to you and correct you when needed, surround yourself with these kinds of people knowing that in their midst there is safety.

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DAY SIX
LAZINESS IS A THIEF

"A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the arms to rest, and your poverty will come like a robber, your need, like a bandit."

Proverbs 6:10-11

Laziness is one of your greatest enemies and it creeps in unnoticed. Take a moment to reflect on some the plans you had last year that you did not accomplish and no matter the excuse you may be able to find, if you examine a little closer, procrastination and laziness may be found. Most of us are not outright lazy in that we lay in bed three hundred and sixty-five days of the year doing nothing; but most are lazy in the simple fact that we are not driven. Proverbs 6:6-9 speaks of the focused drive of the ant that because it has something to accomplish, gets to work consistently without the need of any leader to push it.

What are the things that you want to accomplish this year? Is it to start a business, get a new job or buy a house? Whatever it may be, today write those goals and also write the plan of how you will get there, putting deadlines to it and then be like the ant, meeting those deadline without needing someone to check on you. Be driven this year, take responsibility of your dreams and put in the consistent work required to ensure that those dreams do not die in your mind. If you allow yourself to miss the deadline today, and another one tomorrow by the time you know it, all your dreams will push you into frustration because it will seem like you have not accomplished anything with your life whereas the truth is that laziness would have stolen the glory God put in your life.

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DAY SEVEN
DESTINY DESTROYERS

"Don't let your heart turn aside to her ways; don't stray onto her paths."

Proverbs 7:25

A prayer that is a must for you is that God will keep your path from crossing with certain people. There are those who will be sent your way to entice you with glamorous lifestyles and with great pleasures but also with all that contradicts your faith. Do well to run as far from such people as possible. Friendship is great but when you keep friendships with people that lead you away from Christ and your faith, before you know it, you would have laid your bed in the house of destruction. Maybe there is a friend that mocks how you honour God and keeps pushing you to cool it a little or pressuring you to get involved in things that contradict what you stand for. It is therefore important for you not to allow yourself to walk into the house of one sent to destroy you. Yes, just as God sends people who are destiny helpers and push you forward, the devil sends destiny destroyers.

A good habit to do is to take stock of your friendships and if anyone has been leading you away from Christ and from following His ways, make a decision to remove yourself from such relationships as a way to guard your relationship with God thereby protecting your own destiny.

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DAY EIGHT
GET SKILLS

"I was a skilled craftsman beside him."

Proverbs 8:30

There is a notion among Christians that your work does not need to be great because as long as you have prayed, God will elevate you. Nothing could be further from the truth. If God in creation needed to build skilfully, then we His children must realise that we are to follow the blueprint laid out by our Heavenly Father. If you intend on putting anything out this year, whether it is at your job or for your own business, acquire the skill necessary for your work to be outstanding. God is a skilful builder and you must be also.

Who are the best workers in the office, or the best businesses in the industry? Find them and develop yourself until your work outshines them. Being a Christian is not an excuse to put out unskilled work but a calling to show the world what the human mind can do through partnership with God.

Daniel was so amazing at what he did that there was no one that would be compared to him or any of his friends. In the same vein, if there is an unbeliever who is able to put out amazing work without the mind of God, you have to believe that you can do so much more. Ask God to show you how to better your craft, how to become great at what you do. Pray for God to pour His mind on your work because you want to show the world what is possible when a human mind partners with God.

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DAY NINE
YOU KNOW BETTER

"To the one who lacks sense, she says, "Stolen water is sweet, and bread eaten secretly is tasty!"

Proverbs 9:16b-17

Never allow someone to convince you to engage in what you know is wrong and never allow anyone to convince you to turn your back on what you know is right. There are those who are great with their mouth and know how to sell a matter well but when you find yourself in the company of such a person and they want you to engage in what you know is wrong, do not be foolish.

To engage in what you know is wrong, the Bible says that you have become like one who has lost their senses, basically a fool. This year choose to hold on tight to your values even though you may be mocked for doing so. As you hold onto the values of the faith, they will lead you in the way of life.

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DAY TEN
DIVINELY SUPPLIED

"The Lord will not let the righteous go hungry, but he denies the wicked what they crave."

Proverbs 10:3

The psalmist says something so powerful that we must all emulate; I will look to the hills from where comes my help, my help comes from the Lord (Psalms 121:1). Abraham called God, Jehovah Jireh; God who provides. These people had come to realise that only one person could be relied on when it came to meeting one's needs, if you did not want to be disappointed.

God our provider! God is able to meet all your needs even in times of scarcity but we must look to Him and stop relying on man because they are limited. The atmosphere, when we observe it, has the ability to frighten you but you have to hold on to the truth that you serve a God who guarantees that He will provide for you. You see, your needs are not met by your job, the government or your spouse. Your needs are met by an unlimited God who has unlimited resources because He owns everything. So if your circumstances have changed or do change, do not be shaken, God will open up a window from which you will be fed.

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DAY ELEVEN
WHEN SAVIOURS ARISE

"A city is built up by the blessing of the upright, but it is torn down by the mouth of the wicked."

Proverbs 11:11

There is no greater backdrop for light to shine than darkness. There is no greater time for you as a Christian to rise and be a saviour than when the world faces crisis. One of the reasons that God separates His children from experiencing disaster when it hits the earth is so that we can rise up and offer help and hope to a world dying and in need. The world may be struggling in this season, people may have lost loved ones and lost jobs and children may be without food. Rather than hiding, see yourself as one of God's builders kept alive in this season to bring back the beauty in the lives of those who may have been stripped of it.

Take a moment to remember the saints of old who saw the desperate needs of people around the world in times of crisis and allowed God to use them to meet those needs. Some started schools that children in an entire community could attend while others simply did shopping for a helpless neighbour, each one according to what God enabled them to do. Each one knew that when darkness or trouble hits the world, they could be a source of light.

Today and this year, seek an opportunity for God to roll away some darkness in this world by being a contributor to society, a builder in the city and hope to those who may be losing all hope right now.

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DAY TWELVE
THE PERFECT PARTNERS

"A person will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth, and the work of a person's hands will reward him."
Proverbs 12:14

Two powerful tools have been given to you by God to determine the type of life you live; your mouth and your hands. While there are those who are extremely hard workers, what they say with their own mouths destroys what they are building with their hands. Then there are those who use their mouths to speak positive things, decreeing and declaring all the things that must manifest in their lives while refusing to put their hands to work to bring to pass the things they have declared.

Now there are those who use their mouths every hour to speak God's promises over their lives, their jobs, their children, their relationships, regardless of what they see. They use their mouths to speak what God said concerning each area of their lives. As these set of people speak God's promises, they use their hands to partner with their speech, knowing that as their hands are labouring, it is pulling God's promises from the heavens into their reality. If you want to have the leading business in the country or in your industry, do not use your mouth to keep calling your business small otherwise it will remain small. Labour like you are running the leading business in the country. Do not run your business like a market stall or kiosk, working pleasurable hours and not being consistent while declaring that you will have the leading business in the country. It just does not work like that. God says He will satisfy your life by the words you speak so speak as big as would satisfy you and let how you work reflect how big you want your reward to be.

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DAY THIRTEEN
NO DAY DREAMERS HERE

"The slacker craves, yet has nothing, but the diligent is fully satisfied."

Proverbs 13:4

Have you seen a daydreamer in action before? Probably not because their usual stature is to be sitting at a table somewhere, head in hands and lost in thought dreaming about what they will never have. While you may not be stuck at a table somewhere you have to ensure that you do not become one of the millions of daydreamers that are frustrated with life, disheartened by the lifestyle of others on social media and the testimonies of the accomplishment of their peers. They desire to succeed but refuse to do anything to make their dreams a reality. Many will spend time trying to discover their purpose in life, desperate for God to unveil their Vision. When something clicks, a dream is birthed and the excitement of possibilities for what could be is conceived in the mind. However just as Gideon's army dropped from tens of thousands to 300 men, only a few out of the millions who conceive great visions in their heart are diligent with their dream to see it come to pass.

Being diligent is not a gift that God gives to a few but a habit that must be cultivated by those who want to see their dreams come to pass. Today, start the journey to cultivate that habit. Pick a task and start chipping away at it until you finish, then move to the next task in your life and refuse to move on from it until you finish. This is how you develop the skill to stick at something until you accomplish what you intended.

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DAY FOURTEEN
ORDER MY STEPS

"There is a way that seems right to a person, but its end is the way to death."

Proverbs 14:12

Have you tried to navigate a maze before? You take steps based on what you can see until you get to a roadblock and then you try again in another direction and all your assumptions on the correct way fails because although you can see straight ahead, your view is limited to a certain distance and you cannot see roadblocks ahead. However, if one were to be directed by someone else with a bird's eyes view, their navigation will end successfully with ease. Even if the person was leading you in a way that doesn't makes sense, their ability to see the whole view from above puts them at optimal position to make a judgement and you would do well to follow their guidance.

The same goes with God guiding us through the maze of life. Some have left their jobs where they had peace to take a job with better pay only to find that they had jumped in the lion's den with no angels to help them. Some have married men who said the right things only to end up bonded to who they call the son of the devil. Others have jumped into an opportunity that looked like it could not fail only to lose all their investments. Your view is limited but God's view is not. This year you will have to make decisions about opportunities that will be presented to you but you cannot make these decisions on natural logic. You have to place these decisions before God in prayer who knows all things and He will guide you onto the right path.

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DAY FIFTEEN
IT TAKES A VILLAGE

"Plans fail when there is no counsel, but with many advisers they succeed."

Proverbs 15:22

When you stand on the shoulders of people that have gone before you, you go further because you see further. However, so many are too proud to submit themselves under the guidance of others and some even try to disguise their pride by saying that they are looking to God alone. The truth is that without surrounding yourself with godly advisers, you may spend weeks, months and sometimes years trying to figure out how to do what someone around you has already overcome and would have been glad to share their wisdom with you.

Great visions come to pass because many people held up the visioner with their counsel and advice. If you want the vision that God has given you to see the light of day, take a moment to pray about who would be your advisers. These people are not your friends but those who have gone ahead of you and therefore you can glean from their knowledge and insight. You also have to allow these people to advise you freely without fear that they will offend you because their aim should be to protect the vision until it is birthed and not to protect your emotions. What you plan has great potential and can be accomplished but the Bible says that failure is almost guaranteed if you don't surround yourself with many advisors.

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DAY SIXTEEN

SILENCING THE STORM

"Patience is better than power, and controlling one's emotions, than capturing a city."

Proverbs 16:32

Recognise the importance of learning to control your emotions and then using each day to practice controlling your emotions. Engage the help of the Holy Spirit because without Him you will not get too far. Speak to yourself and tell yourself to calm down when you feel your emotions is about to take over and make the decision to calm down. Practice the act of not reacting while you are emotional (address the matter when you have calmed down). I bet that there were many times last year where you allowed your emotions to get the better of you and led you to moments of regret and disappointment. We rage when our spouse does or says the wrong things, when our manager wrongly accuses us, when a friend lies about something and when we have the wrong assumptions on a matter.

We may not all explode in the same way, some start an all-out war of words, which has the capability of ending in a physical fight and others allow their anger to rage within them without uttering a word. We are all vulnerable to the storm of our emotions and learning how to harness the wind of your raging emotions will put you in command in life.

How do you do that?

- Recognise the importance of learning to control your emotions and then use each day to practice controlling your emotions.
- Engage the help of the Holy Spirit because without him you will not get too far.
- Speak to yourself and tell yourself to calm down when you feel your emotions are about to take over. Make the decision to calm down.
- Practice the act of not reacting when you are emotional (address the matter when you have calmed down)

Many have thrown away relationships that were sent to be a blessing to them because they refused to be patient with their spouses, pastor, friends to name a few. They then allow their mouth to say things that they later regret only to find that it is too late. Learning to control your anger and showing patience will silence the storm sent to destroy you.

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DAY SEVENTEEN
DOCTOR'S ORDERS

"A joyful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit dries up the bones."

Proverbs 17:22

There is so much information about mental health in today's world because we are living in a generation that has allowed various things to rob them of their joy. We have given too much power to our ambitions, our jobs, social media and to the opinions of others. All this has become a weight that is too heavy to bear.

What have you allowed to weigh so heavy on your spirit? What is causing you to worry so much that it is stealing your joy? If you allow yourself to continue like this, you will destroy yourself. This year, refuse to allow anything to steal your joy. Find ways to fill your joy tank on a daily basis. Put yourself in environments that will cause you to be joyful. When I say joy, I am not talking about happiness but joy. Joy comes from the Holy Spirit and fills your heart with peace even when your circumstances are not the way you want it to be. Joy comes from drawing closer to God, knowing His character and learning to trust His intentions. That joy in your life will nourish your minds and settle you in perfect peace.

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DAY EIGHTEEN
OPEN YOUR GIFT

"A person's gift opens doors for him and brings him before the great."

Proverbs 18:16

What is your gift? Before you say you do not have one, it is vital that you know that every human being is sent to the earth with a gift put inside them by God. Your gift is what allows you to add beauty to the world and to humanity. So, the question I will ask you again is have you discovered your gift; because you definitely have one.

If you have not, this is a perfect opportunity to analyse yourself, asking God to open your eyes to know what your gift is. What is it that you do with ease not realising that the same is not so easy for others? Before you jump to a conclusion to count yourself out, a gift is not simply just singing and preaching or anything that requires you standing before a crowd. Your gift can be anything. Some are blessed with great wisdom to discern problems before they arise; others easily find solutions to hard problems while many find it so easy to put smiles on the faces of others. Discover your gift and once you have discovered it, harness and develop it until you are the best, because the gift you develop will open so many great doors for you.

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DAY NINETEEN
WHO IS IN CHARGE?

"Many plans are in a person's heart, but the Lord's decree will prevail."

Proverbs 19:21

It is the common practice at the end of one year and the beginning of the New Year for many to pen down all their plans. We become passionate and excited by the possibilities that we have mapped out in our newly purchased journals. Our spirits are filled with tremendous hope but we cannot become consumed with our will that we forget to lay our plans at the feet of Jesus, for Him to direct us and establish His will for us. There are many whose bubbles of hope are burst midyear because all that they have planned to accomplished seems further than at the beginning of the year and by the end of year they settle, losing the drive needed for the next year simply because they tried to bring to pass something that God had no intention in accomplishing.

We all have a will but it is important that we submit our will to God and pick up God's will for our lives. It is our pursuit of accomplishing God's will that causes us to enjoy the backing and resources of heaven. Jesus displayed this in the garden the night before He would be crucified when he desperately wanted to avoid the cross but dropped His desires down before the throne of God and declared "not my will but Yours be done". You may have made your plans but today declare that you will allow God's plans to consume yours.

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DAY TWENTY
STOP BEING A VIGILANTE

"Don't say, "I will avenge this evil!" Wait on the Lord, and he will rescue you."

Proverbs 20:22

Many people take matters into their own hands and end up making things worse. They try to bring the justice that is due them by themselves only to create a greater mess. This is because we fail to realise that there is a judge in heaven who is just and true. We must learn to bring our worries to Him and let Him handle the things and people that trouble us.

It is a sign of trust in God for you to refrain from taking matters into your own hands, believing that God will make the best judgement on how to repay the things that have caused you pain. We also show doubt in God's ability to judge correctly when we decide to take over His role. God is not incapable and His judgement will always be way better than yours. So this year, learn to take a back seat and allow God to handle those who harm you.

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DAY TWENTY-ONE THE FINISHER

"The plans of the diligent certainly lead to profit, but anyone who is reckless certainly becomes poor."

Proverbs 21:5

There are many plans people write for the year that are not even worth the paper it is written on because though they have made plans they will not even follow those plans through. If they manage to start they will not keep at it until what they wrote comes to pass. But the plans of the diligent are not just written on a paper to make them feel productive but it is woven into their daily lives for continuous action to occur. Each day they take a stab at the mountain of that big dream that at first seemed impossible to subdue and each day a little rock of the mountain falls off. They keep at it all through the year and at the end of the year, everyone comes around to marvel at what the diligent have accomplished, which at one point seemed impossible.

Nothing is impossible for a person that will keep at what they are trying to achieve. The key is to refuse to leave what you have started when the latest fad tempts you to abandon your mission especially mid-way when what you are doing is in the boring and tedious stage. Close your eyes to all distractions and refuse to leave what you have started until you finish. The truth is that starting is pretty easy but being diligent enough to finish is where the reward is. What plans have you written down to accomplish this year? Put it on your wall as a daily reminder of what you must accomplish. Commit yourself to those plans by telling people about it. Finally keep your eyes on the reward ahead until the reward is in place in your hand.

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DAY TWENTY-TWO
STOP WITH THE EXCUSES

"The slacker says, "There's a lion outside! I'll be killed in the public square!"

Proverbs 22:13

Excuses, excuses, excuses! Those who keep finding excuses will one day find destruction and complete frustration, so this year make a decision to get rid of every excuse that you have created in your mind as to why you cannot pursue things that God wants you to experience.

Some people keep going from one failed relationship to another and when asked, they have every excuse in the world except from anything that will cause them to look in the mirror and make changes because of lessons they should have learnt from past failures. Some people will blame discrimination of their race, religion and gender as the reason why they have not reached their goal and why there is no point in making an effort. It may be true that there is a lion in the street, that there are people who have hurt you and that there are those that have put hindrances in your path; however, you can jump above every hurdle if you will try. Nothing has the ability to hold you from the glorious destiny God designed for you except the excuses you allow to deter you from rising. What excuses have you come up with already? Though they may be justified refuse to allow them to hold you in prison. Shred them and pursue the possibilities that are ahead of you.

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DAY TWENTY-THREE
OWN MONEY. DO NOT LET MONEY OWN YOU

"Don't wear yourself out to get rich; because you know better, stop!!"

Proverbs 23:4

The Bible does not tell us that money is evil but the love of money that has filled the hearts of multitudes is evil. When you ask some people why they do what they do, or why they want to embark on a career path, their response is disheartening.

"Money!"

Some have a dream of showing off on social media one day with designer clothes, a detached house and a luxury car to pose in front of. In today's world, everyone wants to be a social media influencer but not because they believe that is what God has put them on the earth to do but because it is a path to get rich. People have worn themselves out not just physically but emotionally trying to lay their hands of wealth.

The Bible says STOP IT! Do not be one of those who fall for the trap to rob them of their joy and peace. Instead, choose the path of purpose, where you pour your life out to enhance the world. That can be done through your job, your ministry and more. In pursuit of purpose comes fulfilment which no amount of money can buy.

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DAY TWENTY-FOUR
WORKING SMARTER NOT JUST HARDER

"A wise warrior is better than a strong one, and a man of knowledge than one of strength"

Proverbs 24:5

Someone who has learnt to work smarter will always accomplish far more than the person that only works hard. Have you noticed that the work a CEO is different from the work of lower-level workers? With all of the manual labour that the lower-level worker puts in, at times filled with sweat, aches and pains, no one can deny that hard work is present, yet the money they bring into the company would be at best a couple of thousand a day. However, a CEO or senior manager engaging their mind not using as much physical effort as their staff, is able to sign a deal for their company worth millions or even billions of pounds.

This year look at your goals and restructure how you exert your efforts. See how you can become wiser in your pursuit. Just because you are running around at every minute does not mean that you are being effective and productive. Take time to become wiser in how you try to accomplish your goals. To do this, you need to acquire knowledge that relates to what you are trying to accomplish. Daniel showed us how he continued to grow in wisdom in Daniel 9:2 "*Daniel understood by books.*"

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DAY TWENTY-FIVE
FIND SOLUTIONS NOT PROBLEMS

"It is the glory of God to conceal a matter and the glory of kings to investigate a matter."

Proverbs 25:2

One of the most bothersome people to be around are those who are so quick to spot a problem, whine about what is wrong in their organisation, their church, their family but not offer a single solution on how to correct what they have identified as an issue. Such people have the ability to drain the life out things. Then there are those who spot a problem, sometimes outside of their remit but go on a search to find how that problem can be resolved and how the situation can be improved without anyone asking them to do so. These kinds of people are assets and have everyone falling over themselves to try and get them to be a part of whatever it is they intend to build. Your glory is embedded in the matter that you are able to solve. Every solution for humanity's crises has already been hidden here on earth waiting to be discovered by us.

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DAY TWENTY-SIX
TIME TO ADVANCE

"As a dog returns to its vomit, so also a fool repeats his foolishness."

Proverbs 26:11

You may have heard the statement that it is insanity to keep doing the same thing over and over expecting a different result. There would have been things that you wished you did better last year and goals you wished you accomplished. However, we made certain choices that meant our desires remained a daydream rather than our reality. For some, it was procrastination. Knowing that they were ideas we wanted to birth, we kept saying we would do it tomorrow, next week, next month until it has now become next year. For others we said we wanted to grow in our relationship with God by engaging in daily prayer time but never did. Others wanted to break free from toxic relationships that drained them emotionally but were too nervous and kept suffering from emotional fatigue.

If you experienced any failures or regrets or learned any lessons last year, do not be like a fool and repeat them again this year. However, if you fail to make intentional changes, you will find yourself having the same regrets and learning the same lessons at the end of this year. What are the changes you need to implement to avoid repeating the same mistakes you made last year? Note them down and commit to them because you cannot keep going around the same mountain for the rest of your life.

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DAY TWENTY-SEVEN
WHO IS YOUR SQUAD?

"Iron sharpens iron, and one person sharpens another."

Proverbs 27:17

Imagine a full cup surrounded by empty cups, someone picks up the full cup and pours a little into all the empty cups. The cup that started out full, will soon find that it is now empty surrounded by cups with barely anything in them as the cups that were empty cannot pour anything out themselves because they are waiting for someone to pour more into them. In another scenario, there is a full cup surrounded by other full cups. The cup that is full shares some of what is in it with another full cup. The others in turn also share some of the fullness of their cups. No one ends up empty but rather delighted in being able to taste of the fullness of the cups that surround it.

In life there are those that have surrounded themselves with people that drain them. Nothing about that relationship, which takes so much from them, ever adds to them on any level. Then there are those who have surrounded themselves with people that they sharpen and who sharpen them in return. This means that these relationships push and inspire you while you do the same to them. What type of friendships and relationships do you have? Pray that God brings you into friendships and relationships that will sharpen you and that you will sharpen also this year.

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DAY TWENTY-EIGHT
THE SOWER GETS THE SEED

"The one who gives to the poor will not be in need, but one who turns his eyes away will receive many curses."
Proverbs 28:27

I remember when I kept praying for God to bless me with something. I prayed about it frequently because having it would bring me so much joy and comfort. It remained a prayer point until one day my eyes opened and I moved from desiring this one thing for my comfort to seeing it as an opportunity to be a blessing to someone less fortunate than I.

Before I knew it, what I had been praying for was given to me in a blink of an eye. I quickly learned that God had no problem blessing His children if only His children would place great importance of taking care of the needs of the less fortunate.

When we tie our success and increase to meeting the needs of others, God sends angels to ensure that all our needs are continuously met. When our success and increase is simply for our comfort then God leaves us to try and get that success on our own.

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DAY TWENTY-NINE
NOBODY'S FOOL

"A fool gives full vent to his anger, but a wise person holds it in check."

Proverbs 29:11

Learning to control what flows from your mind to your mouth is one of the greatest disciplines you could develop in life, especially in the moments when you are angry. We all get angry but some have seen the benefit of holding their mouths when they are angry, while others have lost so much to a loose tongue in moments of anger. The Bible says it is only a fool that says everything that is in their mind because they are angry and allows that anger to have full expression. However, the Bible also says, a wise person has developed the incredible habit of holding back when they are angry.

Have you seen an argument erupt between two people before? As the two people engage in a screaming match of harsh words, passers-by shake their heads unable to tell who the foolish one is. However, if you walk past two people, where one is screaming and the other is quietly walking away, immediately without hearing the facts of their story, you would come to the conclusion that the one unable to control themselves is crazy.

This year, if you have not already, embark on a journey of learning to hold your mouth when you are angry. You may not be successful on the first try but if you will keep trying, one day you will have mastered how to control your anger instead of your anger being the master over you.

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DAY THIRTY
FRESH AND CLEAN

"There is a generation that is pure in its own eyes, yet is not washed from its filth."

Proverbs 30:12

Do you remember the message that Jesus preached in Matthew 7 when He spoke about a friend trying to remove the speck from his friend's eye meanwhile they had a log in theirs? How it seems like Jesus was talking to our generation. Looking at the rate in which cancel culture is growing, it is amazing that the standards we hold people to is not the same standards we expect from ourselves. Why is that?

When we spend so much time looking at what is wrong in others but do not spend that same effort putting ourselves under the perfecting Hand of God, we will end up becoming detestable before God while pushing others towards perfection. God does not require us to perfect anyone. He does not expect us to change people but He does expect us to change ourselves, improving each day and moving closer to becoming the image of Christ. However, the spirit of pride is a hindrance to one coming to God asking for His washing, which removes all our filthiness, because it makes you believe that you are already doing everything correctly. Do not allow pride to keep you smelling before God while you try to clean others up. Instead let humility rule your heart and let humility make you like clay in God's hands. If you will let humility reign in your life then Jesus Christ will wash you so clean and make you as beautiful as a bride on her wedding day. Your beauty and glory lies in your ability to be open to God for Him to wash you clean.

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DAY THIRTY-ONE
KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE PRIZE

"Give her the reward of her labour, and let her works praise her at the city gates."

Proverbs 31:31

The year is filled with so many possibilities regardless of what you may observe in the news. God has kept you alive in this New Year for a reason and that reason is good regardless of what you may see. Keeping your eyes set on the truth that God will honour your labour and efforts, will keep you from giving up when things get difficult. God is the one that rewards you. As you apply yourself diligently this year to the truth you have discovered, God will give you your reward. That reward does not come from man and so cannot be stopped by the happenings on the earth.

Therefore, if God says He will reward you for your labour then He will. We all like to be inspired by others but this year the world is waiting to be inspired by you. Keep your eyes focused on your reward as you labour towards your destiny.

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ABOUT US

Mimi Ajala Ministries has a divine assignment to empower Christians around the world to live in the inheritance God has set for them. We have been mandated to:

- Equip Christians in the understanding of all God has made available
- Empower All Christians in the various walks of life
- Encourage Christians to begin to live in the fullness of Christ.

We do this through Annual conferences and seminars held throughout the United Kingdom. Sharing the undiluted Word of God (Gospel). We believe that there is a special life a Christian is to live and it is our job to help you get there. As you engage in all the ministry's resources online and at our conferences, we believe that you will begin to live the life God has in mind for you. Please connect with us on any of our following handles.



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