



The Life Transforming WORD

Devotions on 1st and 2nd Kings

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Devotion # 1



What Does God Think of Me?

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here - [What Does God Think of Me?](#)

The Lord's testimony about David in just one verse. *"David did what was right in the eyes of the Lord and had not turned aside from anything He commanded all the days of his life, except in the matter of Uriah the Hittite."* **1 Kings 15: 5**

No one is perfect. We all make mistakes, commit sin and mess up sometimes, but the question is, 'Are we, in our everyday life seeking to do what is right in the eyes of the Lord, walking in obedience to Him and desiring to follow His Word no matter how hard it is?'

If the Lord were to give a testimony about me, I wonder what it would be?

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [What Does God Think of Me?](#)

Devotion # 2



Is it Okay to Feel Down Sometimes?

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [Is it OK to Feel Down Sometimes?](#)

“But he, (Elijah) went a day’s journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he prayed that he might die, and said, “It is enough! Now, Lord, take my life, for I am no better than my fathers!” - 1 Kings 19:4

Are you surprised that a man of God who is considered one of the greatest prophets in the Bible, could actually be feeling lonely, discouraged, depressed, and despair even of living- that too after a great mountain-top experience at Carmel? Many of us may have passed through such a season or maybe, some of us are even going through one such phase.

We may have walked in obedience to the Lord, given all we can, and now we are at the end of the rope. **Read 1 Kings 19** to see how the Lord encourages the man of God with loving care, and His gentle voice. It’s perfectly fine if we are where Elijah was. The best thing is that the Lord perfectly understands. He cares so much that He comes to encourage and lift us up when we are really down.

Let us never forget that in our lowest and most difficult moments the Lord is closest to us.

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [Is it OK to Feel Down Sometimes?](#)

Devotion # 3



We Are All Influencers

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [We Are All Influencers](#)

“But there was no one like Ahab who sold himself to do wickedness in the sight of the Lord, because Jezebel his wife stirred him up.” 1 Kings 21:25

If we were to pause and think about it, we would realise that we are influencing someone all the time - our spouse, our children, a friend, a colleague and the list goes on. We influence people by our thoughts, words, actions (behaviour), attitudes, values, priorities, and the roles or positions we have. Most importantly, the kind of relationship we have with God will definitely influence us personally, and most certainly those around us. Also, the closer we are to someone, the greater the influence we exert on them.

Jezebel is an example of the kind of influence one should never have on anyone.

Jesus said, *“You are the salt of the earth.”* Wherever we are, we should seek to influence others in godly ways. Jesus was the perfect example for that.

Let’s remember what **Hebrews 10:24** says, *“Let us consider how we may spur (motivate, challenge, influence) one another on toward love and good deeds.”*

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [We Are All Influencers](#)

Devotion # 4



Be That Voice

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [Be That Voice](#)

And Micaiah said. "As the Lord lives, whatever the Lord says to me, that I will speak." **1 Kings 22: 14**

(Read 1 Kings 22: 1-40 for the entire account)

A little background to this verse - King Ahab and King Jehoshaphat were in alliance to fight against the King of Syria. King Ahab sought the counsel of 400 prophets, who spoke favourably, and encouraged the Kings to go to war. There was one Prophet of God, Micaiah - the only true prophet, who prophesied otherwise and predicted destruction for King Ahab. Guess who Ahab and Jehoshaphat listened to – the majority, and the end, as predicted, was death and destruction.

We live in a time where it's becoming more and more difficult to hear and obey the voice of the Lord. The voices in the world are so loud, and very often, in total contradiction to God, and His word. It's so much easier to compromise, and blend in with the crowd, than to take a stand, and be that lone voice. There's an old saying that says, *'Only dead fish go with the flow.'*

In **John 10: 27** Jesus said, *"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."*

If we want to be that voice for the Lord, then we need to tune in to listen to His voice and obey it, no matter what.

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [Be That Voice](#)

*Humour is
laughing with
other.....*

*....not at
others.*



Jokes Aside – Let's Be Sensitive

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [Jokes Aside - Let's Be Sensitive](#)

"Then he (Elisha) went up from there to Bethel; and as he was going up the road, some youths came from the city and mocked him..." 2 Kings 2:23

(2 Kings 2:23-24 gives a detailed account)

Joking and humour are good things, if used well and within limits. Laughter is God's gift to us, but the flip side of this is, sometimes humour can be used at someone else's expense. When our jokes target people (especially their appearance or abilities) it very often causes deep, emotional hurts in people.

We live in a hurting world. If we look around us, there are so many who are already struggling with their own difficulties and personal challenges. What they need is our love and acceptance. Each of us (irrespective of how we look or what our challenges maybe), are made in the image and likeness of God. We need to teach our children and youth that jokes should never be on other people, and that humour should always be accompanied with love.

One is not sure why those 42 young men who mocked Elisha faced such a consequence, but it is evident that the prophet was hurt deeply and God was not pleased either.

Let's joke and laugh, but let our laughter bring joy - not hurt to someone else.

"Treat others as you want them to treat you. This is what the Law and Prophets are all about." **Matthew 7: 12 (CEV)**

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [Jokes Aside - Let's Be Sensitive](#)

Devotion # 6



God's Mysterious Ways

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [God's Mysterious Ways](#)

And he (Elisha) said. *“Thus says the Lord: ‘Make this valley full of ditches.’ For thus says the Lord: ‘You shall not see wind, nor shall you see rain; yet that valley shall be filled with water, so that you, your cattle and your animals may drink. And this is a simple matter in the sight of the Lord;”* **2 Kings 3: 16-18**

(Read 2 Kings Chapter 3 for the entire account)

For a little background to this verse, three kings of Israel, Judah and Edom were going to war against the King of Moab. These 3 armies, with all the animals took a roundabout route in the wilderness for 7 days, and were faced with a crisis – they have no water. In desperation they turn to Elisha, and the Lord intervened with this unexplainable solution - not only did water rush in the next day and fill the land; it was also instrumental in bringing victory to God's people.

When faced with any problem or difficulty, our finite minds start working overtime looking up options, and solutions instead of simply believing and entrusting our situation into the Hands of a mighty God who can work in inexplicable ways.

The Bible is full of extraordinary ways of God's dealings and deliverances. To name a few, He could part the sea, rain down manna, stop the sun from shining, save from a blazing furnace, shut the mouth of hungry lions, make a donkey speak, calm a raging storm, raise the dead and heal any sickness. The same God is at work even today.

The next time we face that impossible situation, let's commit it to Him and trust Him completely. The Lord says, *“My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts, and my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine.”* **Isaiah 55: 8 (NLT)**

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [God's Mysterious Ways](#)

Devotion # 7



Whom Can I Bless Today?

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [Whom Can I Bless Today?](#)

She (a young captive girl) said to her mistress, *“If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.”* **2 Kings 5:3**

(Read 2 Kings 5:1-19 for the entire account)

The story of Naaman, the Syrian commander who was healed of leprosy is a familiar one to most of us. However, I would like to focus on a young girl who was instrumental in Naaman’s healing and restoration. She was an Israelite, captured by the Syrians, and brought into captivity to be a slave, working as a maid for Naaman’s wife. It was definitely not the best of situations for this young girl; but her concern for her master and her willingness to introduce Naaman to Elisha is totally commendable. Her little introduction was such a blessing, that it brought about a miraculous healing for Naaman from his leprosy, and made him a worshipper of God. **2 Kings 5:17**

Each one of us are called and chosen by the Lord to be a blessing to others. Here are a few ways in which we can bless someone. Share our resources, our time, our energy, give a word of encouragement or introduction, call someone, visit someone who is ill, lonely or disabled, lend a sympathetic ear, just sit down with someone who is grieving or sincerely pray for somebody.

Most of the time we get so caught up with our own lives, our families, our cares and worries that we don’t even stop to think if there is someone whom we can bless. Every day let’s ask the Lord, and keep our eyes open, to be a blessing to someone. We’ll be surprised to see how many people we can bless in a day. Let’s count the untold blessings of God in our lives and remind ourselves that we are blessed only to bless others.

God’s promise in **Proverbs 11:25** - *“The one who blesses others is abundantly blessed; those who help others are helped.”* (MSG)

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [Whom Can I Bless Today?](#)

Devotion # 8



Simply Believe

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [Simply Believe](#)

“Naaman’s servants went to him and said, ‘My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, ‘Wash and be cleansed’!” **2 Kings 5:13**

(Read 2 Kings 5:1-19 for the entire account)

Have you ever wondered why we often find it easier to do the complicated, rather than believe the simple? Let me explain - Jesus offers the world salvation which is totally free - free for us, though He paid for it with His precious sinless life. The gospel of Jesus Christ is the good news that anyone who believes in His finished work on the cross (His death, burial and resurrection on our behalf) and repents, will be cleansed of all their sins, be freed from the bondage to sin and receive the abundant life that Jesus offers – one that goes on into eternity. Yet sadly, most people are unwilling to accept this great gift because the means to receive it seems too simple.

Naaman was washed and cleansed only because he gave heed to the wise counsel of his servants. Just imagine if he did not believe and obey this simple instruction from Elisha to wash in the river Jordan. He probably would have gone down in history as a man who was never cleansed of his leprosy.

Many people are in bondage to sin only because they are not willing to simply believe this life-transforming message. Let’s use every opportunity to share this wonderful news with those around us. So let’s...*“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.”* **Acts 16:31**

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [Simply Believe](#)

Devotion # 9



It's Absolutely Free

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [It's Absolutely Free](#)

“But he (Elisha) said, ‘As the Lord lives, before whom I stand, I will receive nothing.’ And he (Naaman) urged him to take it, but he refused.” 2 Kings 5:16

But Gehazi, the servant of Elisha, the man of God, said, *“... as the Lord lives, I will run after him (Naaman) and take something from him.” 2 Kings 5:20*

(Read 2 Kings 5:14-27 for the entire account)

A complete contrast between the man of God (Elisha) and his servant (Gehazi). The Lord performed the miracle through Elisha, and yet the man of God wanted nothing in return from Naaman, but his servant Gehazi did the exact opposite. The outcome was serious – Gehazi forfeited the favour of a man of God and instead contracted the leprosy of Naaman **(2 Kings 5:27)**.

Just think of all those things in our life that are priceless – salvation, grace, love, joy, peace, forgiveness, hope, health, healing and eternal life. All of these are given to us freely by our Almighty God. There's no way anyone can pay for, and purchase them. Since God has freely lavished his gracious gifts on us, let us never put a price tag on the services we render to others in His name.

When Jesus sent out the 12 disciples to minister, here's what He said, *“And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.’ Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.” Matthew 10:7-8*

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [It's Absolutely Free](#)

Devotion # 10



When Greed Overtakes Need

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [When Greed Overtakes Need](#)

Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said to himself, *“My master was too easy on Naaman, this Aramean, by not accepting from him what he brought. As surely as the Lord lives, I will run after him and get something from him.”* **2 Kings 5:20**

(Read 2 Kings 5:20-27 for the entire account)

Gehazi, the servant of Elisha was suddenly blinded by greed, when he saw the attractive gifts that Naaman offered Elisha. As a servant of the Prophet Elisha, he must have been well-taken care of and provided for. He had also just witnessed the miraculous provision to the widow and her 2 sons through the prophet. The Lord used a small jar of oil in her hands, and made her debt free. **(2 Kings 4: 1-7)**

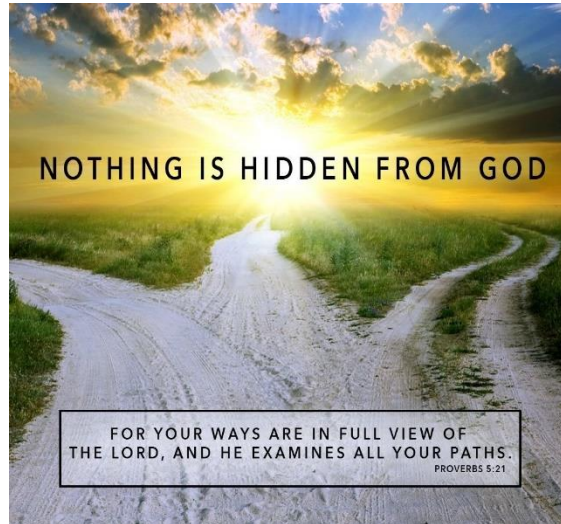
We live in a world where materialism and consumerism have taken such a toll, that if we don't watch out, we will all get caught in this whirlwind. To meet this overwhelming desire for things and money, many have plunged themselves neck deep in debt. Ever so often greed entices people to lie, cheat and covet like Gehazi did.

When someone in the crowd requested Jesus to ask his brother to divide his inheritance, Jesus' response to him, and those around was, *“Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”* **Luke 12:15**

There's an amazing equation that Paul shares with Timothy: Godliness + Contentment = Great Gain, and he also gives the reason why, *“For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it.”* **1 Timothy 6:6-7**

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [When Greed Overtakes Need](#)

Devotion # 11



Nothing is Hidden from God

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [Nothing is Hidden from God](#)

“None of us, my lord the king,” said one of his officers, “but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the very words you speak in your bedroom.” 2 Kings 6:12

(Read 2 Kings 6:8-12 for the entire account)

The King of Syria was in a big dilemma. Every secret plan he made with his officers against the King of Israel was divulged to him. He now speculated that there was a traitor in his team. That’s when one of the officers told the King of Syria about Elisha. God was revealing to Elisha all the plans of the King of Syria, and he in turn was forewarning the King of Israel.

Isn’t it an incredible thought that the Lord knows everything about every one of us? **Psalm 139** says the Lord actually perceives our thoughts, words and all our ways. In a positive sense it fills us with a sense of security that the eyes of the Lord are watching us, He cares for us and is mindful of all that we go through. On the other hand, it also reminds us that every thought, word and deed that is not glorifying the Lord, and demeans others is also being recorded by the Lord.

Jesus’ exhortation to his disciples in **Luke 12:2-3** is a good admonition for us too. *“For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, nor hidden that will not be known. Therefore whatever you have spoken in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have spoken in the ear in inner rooms will be proclaimed on the housetops.”*

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [Nothing is Hidden from God](#)

Devotion # 12



When God Is On Our Side

The Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [When God is On Our Side](#)

“So he (Elisha) answered, ‘Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.’ And Elisha prayed, and said, “Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.”... 2 Kings 6: 16-17

(Read about this amazing deliverance in 2 Kings 6:13-23)

The King of Syria now decided that the one he wanted to capture was Elisha and so he sent, his horses, chariots and a great army to surround the city where Elisha was. When Elisha’s servant woke up the next morning and looked outside he was in total shock – the entire city was surrounded. When all he could see was the Syrian army, Elisha saw the Lord’s army. He asked the Lord to open the eyes of the young servant, and behold he saw the mountain full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. The incredible army of the Lord was standing guard for Elisha.

How often have we found ourselves in situations that are overwhelming? When faced with what seems like an unconquerable difficulty, we are overcome with the thought that we are alone or that we are just a minority. If we could let the Lord open our eyes for a moment, we will be astounded as was the servant of Elisha, to realize that with the Lord on our side we are always a majority and there is no situation that’s too hard for the Lord to handle. **1 John 4:4** says it beautifully, *“You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.”*

I recall a little boy aged about 4 or 5 going home after my Sunday School class, and his Mom asked him *“What did you learn today?”* and I loved the way he paraphrased **Romans 8: 31** to her. He said, *“I learnt that, if God is on my side, nobody can be on the other side.”*

The Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [When God is On Our Side](#)

Devotion # 13



Let's Share the Good News

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [Let's Share The Good News](#)

Then they (4 men with leprosy) said to one another. *“We are not doing right. This day is a day of good news, and we remain silent. If we wait until morning light, some punishment will come upon us. Now therefore, come, let us go and tell the king’s household.”* **2 Kings 7: 9**

(Read 2 Kings 7, for the entire account)

A brief summary of this incident: Israel was in severe famine and Elisha prophesied that the Lord would provide for His people in a miraculous way. The next day at twilight, the Lord caused the Syrians to hear the thunderous noise of horses and chariots, and they fled, leaving behind all of their food and belongings. Four men with leprosy from Israel who were starving to death, were the first ones to notice that the Syrian camp has been abandoned. Initially they ate and drank to their full, and carried off the silver, gold and clothes. But suddenly they were struck in their conscience. That’s when they say the words in the verse mentioned above. They suddenly realized that they had no right to withhold the good news of God’s intervention and provision from the people of Israel.

We live in times where social media is used to advertise almost everything. Some of it is genuine, and some of it fake but still the messages do their rounds. We are liberal to pass on all the messages (good or bad) but how often do we think of sharing the good news we have received from God with others - the news that Jesus is the Saviour and that He came to save this world from their sins; give them an abundant life here and eternal life in heaven? A news that will transform people both for now and for eternity.

When was the last time we shared this good news with somebody. Like the men with leprosy, all of us were hopeless and helpless. Only the Lord by His grace and mercy saved us. Like them, we too must realize that we have no right to hold back this good news from those around us.

Then he (Jesus) said, *“Go into the world. Go everywhere and announce the message of God’s good news to one and all...”* **Mark 16:15 (MSG)**

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click here: [Let's Share The Good News](#)

Devotion # 14



Let's Make Our Lives Count

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click: [Let's Make Our Lives Count](#)

"Thus says the Lord, the God of David your father: I have heard your prayers, I have seen your tears; surely I will heal you. On the third day you shall go up to the house of the Lord. And I will add to your days fifteen years..." 2 Kings 20:5-6

(Read 2 Kings 20: 1-11 for the entire account)

King Hezekiah was terminally ill and the word of the Lord came to him through Isaiah the prophet saying, *"Thus says the Lord: Set your house in order, for you shall die and not live."* Hezekiah was heartbroken at the news. He was one of the few kings of Israel who walked faithfully with the Lord. He recounted this and wept bitterly to the Lord. The Lord relented and sent the good news through Isaiah as recorded in the verse mentioned above, and gave him an extension of fifteen years.

As the Lord adds each New Year to our lives, I am sure we can all recall the numerous times the Lord has mercifully healed, protected and kept us from various perils. The question on my mind is, *'Why has the Lord kept us alive, and what does He expect from each one of us who are His children?'*

With the added blessing of each New Year we can do somethings that I believe are in line with God's will and plan for us. We can love God more, delve deeper into His word, learn to pray more, value and grow deeper in our relationships with one another, look for ways to be a blessing to others, encourage those around us and share the gospel with those around us, so that we are truly the light and salt that God intends for us to be.

I wonder what we would do, if like Hezekiah, we got to know that we were given an extension. Would we buck up and start fulfilling God's purposes for our lives with greater urgency, or continue our lives unfazed?

Psalm 90 which is referred to as the prayer of Moses gives a practical perspective to us on life. **Verse 12** goes like this, *"So teach us to number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom."*

For the Audio Version of this devotion, click: [Let's Make Our Lives Count](#)

In the Bible, the books 1st and 2nd Kings record for us in detail, the life and times of the kings and prophets of Israel. It is indeed amazing that there is so much we can learn from their lives and experiences. These are 14 short devotions on a few of these incidents dealing with issues like depression, belief, influence, compromise, contentment and also about some of the mysterious ways and dealing of God in their lives which interestingly, is applicable to us today. God's word is alive and relevant to us as it was to them so many hundreds of years ago.

First and foremost, I would like to give all the glory to the Lord Jesus for enabling me to share these devotions with you. May the Word of God encourage our hearts and transform us to become more like Him.

My heartfelt love and thanks to my dear husband Michael Collins, for his constant support, encouragement and motivation to press on. Through the year he patiently helped me with all the editing, recording of the audios and worked on the designing of this booklet.

A special thanks to our good friend Pastor Andrew Dixon from **Good News Friends**, Ooty, for his kind partnership, in uploading and sharing the Audio Versions of these devotions through his YouTube Channel. *Click here to visit his channel* - **Good News Friends**

We pray these devotions will be a blessing to you.

You're most welcome to share this booklet with others.

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