

Winners'

NOVEMBER 2020

# Lifeline

An e-Magazine of Winners' Chapel International Wynberg Johannesburg

## IN THIS ISSUE

**THE POWER OF  
THE MIND**

**3 SIGNS OF  
DESPERATION**

**SPECIAL FEATURE:  
GOD'S GRIP**

**Special Interview with  
Ms. Irene Bopape**



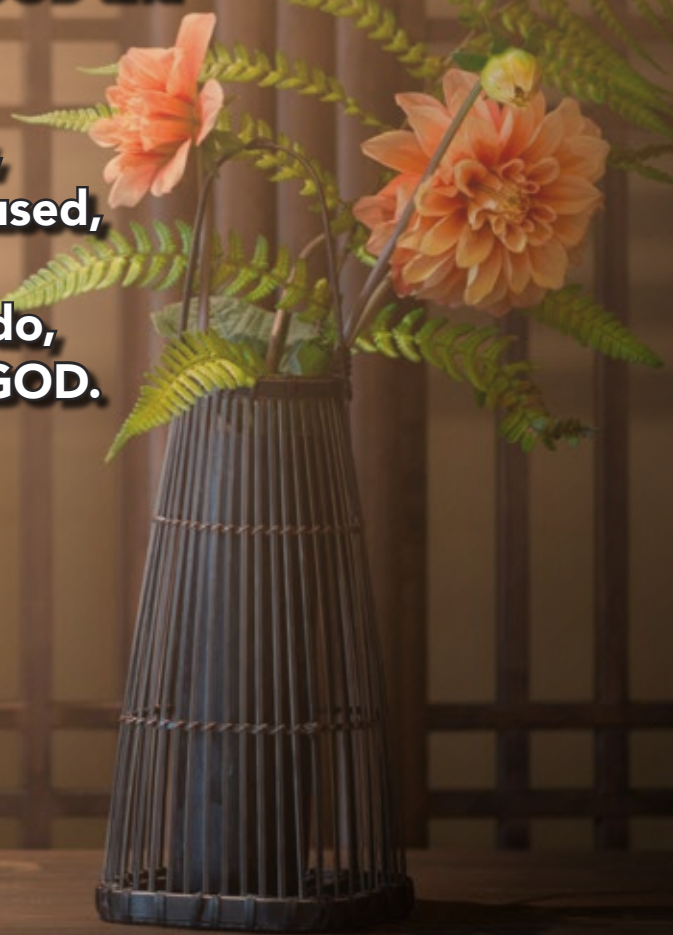
# EDITOR'S WELCOME

**The immeasurable love of GOD is beyond words, that is why we often experience them through the avenues of our human senses. It is no strange thing to wonder how much love one could summon or experience from the almighty but amidst the clammouring and the eventful dismay or displeasure, there is a place called HERE... When the dust settles and you curl up in the embracing hand of the father, who cares like a mother... HERE becomes HOME.**

**You are HOME... regardless which room you are in, the good news is you have not failed in the crucibles. God is al(l)ways, creatively, consistent in doing us GOOD and He has never disappointed.**

**Come and be amazed, come humbly, come boldly, come shyly, come confused, come as you are because GOD is no respecter of anyone. Whatever you do, just proceed towards the Lifeline... GOD.**

Tunde Ogundipe  
Winners' Chapel International, South Africa



# CONTENTS

NOVEMBER 2020

## WORD IN SEASON

**5 - The power of the mind**

## READY FOR MARRIAGE

**8 - 3 Signs of desperation**

## SPECIAL FEATURE

**11 - God's Grip: Special interview with Ms. Irene Bopape**

## LEAP OF JOY

**17 - Increasing levels of breakthroughs**

**18 - Delivered from autism**

## HEALTH UNCLUTTERED

**19 - Burnout**

## THE GENERATION NOW

**23 - Stand right to stand out**

**25 - How I want to grow well**

## MEDIA TECH TIPS

**28 - Cyber scam and safeguarding yourself**

## A SHORT STORY

**31 - A cup of joy**

## CATCHING LIGHT

**35 - Self, the 21st century and joy**



# Word in Season

*Practical guide to a profitable Christian Living*

And the light shineth in darkness:  
and the darkness comprehended it not.  
John 1:5

# The Power of the Mind



Pastor Greatman David Aideloje  
@ Winners' Chapel International, South Africa



When God created you and me, He gave us minds, to reason and choose. Of all God's creatures, man is the only one with the privilege of choice. What the engine is to a car, the mind is to a man. The mind is the engine room of a man. That is why every battle in life takes place in the mind. Every issue of life is first lost or in the mind before its physical manifestation.

Man is a triune being with a spirit, soul, and body. In other words, he is a Spirit, who has a soul (mind) and lives in a body. These three parts are distinct in their functions and qualities, yet are interrelated. The mind is the intellect and the central control valve of man. The Spirit cannot relate with the body without approval from the mind, nor can the body relate with the Spirit without approval from the mind.

### HOW POWERFUL IS YOUR MIND?

It is interesting to know that without your mind, God will not do anything.

"But without thy mind would I do nothing; that thy benefits should not be as it were of necessity, but willingly." Philemon 14

**Genesis 11:6** said nothing can tamper with whatever your mind has decided to do, for as a man thinks in his heart, so is he. (**Proverbs 23:7**) So, what Satan tries to do is to distort your thinking on any issue. He tells you that you are a failure, a good for nothing. He tells you that you will die and not make it in life. If you don't counter this line of thinking with the Word of God, you will have what you think per time.

### HOW DO YOU CONTROL YOUR MIND?

#### 1. BE SPIRITUAL

This gives you access to the deep things of God because only the spirit of man can gain access to the mind of God. (1 Corinthians 2:9-16) God is a spirit and it takes only the spiritual to walk with Him. If your Spirit is in tune with God, your mind will also be in tune. **John 4:24**





## 2. THE WORD OF GOD

God's Word is a weapon that's sure to disarm the devil. **(Romans 12:2; Psalm 119:9)**  
You can recreate your world by the Word of God. His word gives you faith for today and assurance of the future. By feeding on the Word, you can control your mind because what you have inside is what flows inside.

## 3. KEEP A RIGHT COMPANY

Walk with people who can positively challenge and motivate you. Enrich your mind with quality information about other people who have succeeded and have proofs. Associate more with people who are ahead of you than those you are ahead of.

**Proverbs 13:20; Hebrews 6:12**

## 4. THINK POSITIVE

By so doing, you are exercising your mind. The more you exercise your mind positively, the more you grow in all spheres of life. **Philippians 4:8; 1 Timothy 4:15**

You are what you think per time. You cannot be thinking of failure and end up a success. You cannot be thinking of poverty and end up rich. **Proverbs 23:7**

The power God gave man to be like Him, create like Him and influence like Him is in the mind. That's why you should guard your mind and use it positively to the glory of God.

See you at the top.





# Ready for Marriage



A column for the soon to be married

Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord  
Proverbs 18:22



# 3 SIGNS OF DESPERATION

Grace Greatman Aideloje  
Winners' Chapel International, South Africa

# 3 SIGNS OF DESPERATION

Honestly, I know how it feels and how you get when you are waiting for a breakthrough. I waited to be married. After three heart-wrenching heartbreaks; God answered. I waited for 15 years to have children; God answered.

In all those years of waiting, I can tell you, I lost strength. My faith wavered. I fasted, prayed, studied, memorized, and confessed the Word of God. I suffered mockery, shame and I cried many times, but I thank God because one thing I didn't get was desperate.

I had learned a long time ago that desperation leads you to error, and that was one thing I didn't want. If I had waited this long, I'd better get it right.

A desperate person wants something so badly he or she will go to extreme lengths to get it. Desperation is good if its directed at God giving us what we desire. Some notable miracles in the Bible happened because the people desperately called to God. *(Mark 9:24; Luke 18:3)*

But when your desperation drives you away from God into seeking your own ways and solutions, caution is required.

## Signs that you are getting too desperate

### 1. YOU COMPROMISE YOUR VALUES AND INTEGRITY

There are certain values you hold dear. For example, going to church, winning souls for Christ, staying close to family, not engaging in sex before marriage, etc.

The moment you are considering lowering your standards or compromising your integrity to make a man or woman marry you, you are becoming desperate.



### 2. YOU ARE UNREASONABLY COMPLIANT

Tolerating undesirable attitudes and situations to keep the relationship will land you in troubled waters. The relationship may have started so well, with him or her treating you well, but after some time, you notice it's degenerating. The moment you start being compliant, overlooking and downplaying wrong behaviour/attitude, tolerating demeaning, insulting, or even abusive words and actions, you are desperate.



### 3. YOU DON'T HAVE A LIFE ANYMORE

Allowing everything you do to revolve around your partner's life at the expense of other important relationships is a sign of desperation. Watch it when you are always available at the snap of his or her finger, you are free to go on a date at a moment's notice, or you have little or no time for the rest of your life – your friends, family, hobbies, business etc.

When you are desperate, you are prone to wrong judgment. You will be blind to your partner's fault and may end up in an unhappy marriage.

Most importantly, you may have to compromise on values you've held dear for life, thereby displeasing God and living with the guilt and regret.

While waiting to be married, to avoid being desperate, look unto God, and believe Him for guidance. Settle it in your heart that he will not deny you because He is too faithful to fail you. Remain sensitive to His leading and let His joy continually be your strength.

Very soon, we will be congratulating you in Jesus name.



SPECIAL FEATURE

# GOD'S GRIP

SPECIAL INTERVIEW WITH

*Ms.*  
*Irene Bopape*



## SPECIAL FEATURE

She grew up in Alexandra, a township in the Gauteng province of South Africa. Her father passed on when she was eight years old, leaving her mother to singlehandedly raise her, her three brothers, and two sisters.

With the death of two of her brothers 24 years ago, a failed marriage, and the responsibility of parenting her son and two daughters, Ms. Irene Bopape has had a fair share of life's tumble and rumble.

Svelte and graceful in appearance, gentle in demeanor, a woman helped by God, Ms. Irene's testimony inspires and we are excited to feature her in this edition to show that when you offer yourself to God, He makes all things beautiful.

Presently a portfolio manager with Standard Bank, this model of inner strength shares her life with us, her adventure with Christ, the struggles of being a single parent, and her plans for the future.

Get comfortable, enjoy the read, and glean some life nuggets.



Ms. Irene Bopape

### LET'S START WITH HOW YOU MET CHRIST.

I must say that before I gave my life to Christ, I had health issues having to raise my children all by myself, and having financial burdens. I gave my life in March 2017 when one of my clients, Pastor Agiri came to visit me in hospital. I think God was preparing me for an experience of a lifetime that I cannot begin to explain. I was so blessed in a way that even today; I will forever be grateful to the Almighty for what he has done in my life. The same year I gave my life to Christ, God blessed me with a seven-digit amount. I was able to renovate my mum's house and took my kids to good schools and varsity. Standard Bank gave me shares, I was able to buy a car and a property. I am praying and hoping to retire in two-three years.

### TELL US ABOUT YOUR CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE, THE ACTS OF GOD IN YOUR LIFE.

Financial stability for my retirement, vitality, and having the means to provide for my children's tertiary education. To be quite honest, I wouldn't have achieved what I have if God was not my pillar. Prayer and Praise keep me going.

I also read books and listen to different gospel preachers to keep me in check. The reason for saying this is, people always wonder how, as a single parent, I'm able to raise my children without the stress other parents are facing.

**I wouldn't have  
achieved what I  
have if God was  
not my pillar**



Yes, life is not smooth sailing and I face challenges sometimes, but I know who God is and very much aware that He is my only provider.

### **WHAT HAPPENED IN THE MARRIAGE AND HOW HAVE YOU COPEDED THUS FAR?**

I was married to a man who was not a Christian. His family was Christian but he had a different view of that. Though I was raised in a Christian home, tradition also played a part given my dad's beliefs.

The only way I was able to ride over my challenges as a single parent was by giving my life to Christ. Christianity gave me a different way of handling challenges, knowing well that there is a God that gives us a second chance.

I see marriage as a blessing from God and pray that my children will not fall into the same trap of getting married without a proper Christian foundation. My advice to young women out there is to know God, love yourselves, and appreciate who you are without having to look for someone to complete you. Make sure you have an open and honest relationship, especially when it comes to insecurities, finances, and your likes and dislikes.

My advice to married couples is to always be open about who you are. The main attribute is the fear of the Lord. We are all not perfect, however, we should remain truthful and humble to ourselves, that's what gives peace and joy. Never try to be someone else. Each person is an original of what God has created on earth.

**The only way I was able to ride over my challenges as a single parent was by giving my life to Christ.**

### **LET'S TALK ABOUT YOUR WORK. YOU ARE A PORTFOLIO MANAGER WITH STANDARD BANK, HOW AND WHY DID YOU CHOOSE THIS CAREER PATH?**

Being a portfolio manager is a roller coaster. It is only by God's grace that one remains positive and intact.

To be honest, I wanted to be a doctor. I was awarded two tertiary bursaries from high school to varsity, however, during the June uprising in South Africa, schooling was affected.



Ms. Irene Bopape



Yes, I passed my matric with varsity entrance but was not accepted to study medicine. By default, I found myself in the financial industry and never looked back.

### **HOW ARE YOU ABLE TO BALANCE YOUR KIND OF WORK WITH FAMILY AND CHURCH?**

It's not easy as a single parent having to be relevant in all spheres of life, however, God is in control. There are moments of weakness, I cry it out and the next day is better. One needs to be focused and always keep yourself abreast.



Ms. Irene's, her mother and two daughters



Ms. Irene's, her two daughters and her son

### **HOW DO YOU BALANCE YOUR WORK IN A MALE-DOMINATED INDUSTRY?**

I have a very strong, balanced personality to do what I am good at and not try to compete with male colleagues. After all, they cannot do without us. Remember that I am a mother and a father at the same time. I say things the way they are with respect and send a clear message of how I feel about certain issues, hence they call me Sheriff.

### **HOW WILL YOU COUNSEL YOUNG PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY YOUNG WOMEN, WHO WANT TO FOLLOW THIS CAREER PATH?**

It is a good industry to work for but the challenges are huge. One needs to always be a step ahead and keep informed and know what is happening globally. Be able to have a conversation without feeling less of yourself. It comes with lots of sacrifices. There are so many incentives that come with working for a bank and there is so much to learn and so many opportunities for black females.

### **YOU ALREADY HINTED THAT IN TWO TO THREE YEARS, YOU MAY BE RETIRING. WHAT NEXT AFTER THEN?**

I pray to God to give me two more years to make sure my little one completes her post-graduate, then I can retire. I will be focusing on giving back to the Alexandra community. I am involved with Banakaleleni Hospice and also see myself as part of an NGO that will focus on young South African girls.

**IT'S BEEN AN INTERESTING SESSION WITH YOU. BUT BEFORE WE LET YOU GO, LET'S GET A BIT PERSONAL WITH SOME FUN QUESTIONS.**

**• WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES?**

Reading, cooking and listening to good music.

**• YOUR SERVICE GROUP IN THE CHURCH**

I serve in the Crowd Control Unit and I'm also the chair of my Church's Finance Management Committee.

**• A BOOK YOU READ THAT IMPACTED YOU AND THAT YOU WOULD RECOMMEND**

Born to Win and No Guts No Glory

**• AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE**

Winning a seven-digit amount and flying my mum to Durban for the first time. That was an awesome experience ever.

**• FAVORITE GOSPEL SONG/ARTISTE**

Tasha Cobbs - For Your Glory

**• FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE AND WHY**

Jonah - We need to listen to God more often or else we will find ourselves in a belly. Thanks to God who gives second chances.

**• FAVORITE CITY AND WHY?**

It may be a holiday spot - Durban. It's so friendly, hot and not so expensive.

**It's been an inspiring time of learning with you. Thank you for your time with us and we wish you God's speed and favor in all your endeavor.**





A woman with her arms raised in a joyful leap, wearing a teal blazer over a black top. She is surrounded by a shower of colorful confetti against a light grey background. The title 'leap of JOY' is written in blue, with 'leap' in lowercase and 'JOY' in uppercase. Below it, the subtitle 'Amazing testimonies' is in a smaller, italicized font.

# leap of JOY

*Amazing testimonies*

The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul:  
the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the  
simple.

Psalm 19:7



# INCREASING LEVELS OF BREAKTHROUGH



My name is Olivia Marison Randriamady. I joined this church in 1998, along with my parents. My siblings and I were always forced to come to church. Even though we didn't like it, it became a lifestyle and a way of life for us. We were not allowed to miss any service during the week or on Sundays.

Although I lived and grew up in church, I did not have a practical and real relationship with Christ. This reflected in my poor results at school with me having an average of 36% for one of the easiest subjects. My parents were always called into the principal's office because my teachers were constantly complaining about me.

However, Shiloh 2010 changed everything. On 10th December 2010, I decided to have a personal relationship with Christ and it was my best decision ever. From the following year 2011 to 2014, my results sky rocketed! I graduated from high school with 6 distinctions and an honors award. A whole assembly was held just to honour me.

I got into the University of Cape Town to study Actuarial science. Throughout my varsity years, I continued to serve God and my appetite for His house never decreased. I was honored with a R200k bursary and a job offer two years before I graduated. I was so blessed to sign such an offer as many of my classmates didn't get any job offers till after graduation.

I started working as a Quantitative analyst in February 2019. I started with about twenty other recent graduates. Due to the coronavirus scourge, two of these graduates were retrenched. Our jobs were threatened, but my faith was energized daily through the Covenant hour of prayer.

In August 2020, a post opened up that was way beyond my qualifications. Despite this, I applied. Many of my friends who were more qualified than me also applied. I was surprisingly shortlisted for interviews. God's favor spoke for me because they didn't even ask me for a second interview, they just wanted me to start. I am so grateful to God because I am aware that many were better qualified than me, yet I was the only one chosen.



# DELIVERED FROM AUTISM

My name is Zoe Mbungu. I joined Winners Chapel Wynberg in 2018. Before then, my son Isaac Mbungu was not talking since birth.

We have been going to different doctors to know what the problem was. Everywhere we took him, they said he was autistic. It was not easy for my family, no school wanted to take him. The situation was very bad that we decided to take him to a special needs school, but that didn't help.



Then I joined the choir and I kept on serving God with all my heart. During the lockdown, God did what no man can do. My son, now four years old, started talking. He also started doing everything he was not able to do for himself, like going to the toilet.

I just want to thank God for what He's done in my life and that of my family as Isaac is now talking and can even read. All the Glory be to God almighty!

# HEALTH UNCLUTTERED



Healthy tips for Christian living

... but a faithful ambassador is health  
Proverbs 13:17



# BURNOUT

Dimpho Makgalemela  
@ Winners' Chapel International, South Africa



## BURNOUT

We live in a fast paced world where the phrase "Time is money," is widely used. People constantly push themselves to great limits when it comes to work or projects, juggling several things at a time. Faced with stressful situations they fail to manage, they eventually break down physically and mentally.

### WHAT IS BURNOUT?

According to the World Health Organization, it is an occupational phenomenon, "a syndrome conceptualized as resulting from chronic workplace stress that has not been successfully managed." Burnout can negatively impact every area of life including family and social life, making you feel helpless, cynical and less motivated.

### SIGNS OF BURNOUT

- Exhaustion.
- Isolation and detachment from others.
- Withdrawal from responsibility.
- Irritability and frustration.
- Frequent illness and weak immunity.
- Misuse of food, drugs and alcohol.
- Negative outlook to life.
- Procrastination and turning in projects late.
- Bad time management.

### CAUSES OF BURNOUT

- Working in a high pressure, demanding environment with high job expectations.
- Taking too much responsibility without delegation or help from others.
- Not getting enough sleep.
- Working with no time for a social life.

## HOW TO PREVENT BURNOUT

- Ask for help from colleagues, family or employer for assistance.
- Exercise because it is great way to de-stress and boost your mood.
- Practice good sleeping patterns.
- Eat a well balanced diet, decrease sugar and carbs intake and eat more omega.
- Schedule and plan your tasks.
- Meditation.

## SCRIPTURES TO MEDITATE ON WHEN YOU ARE STRESSED

**Isaiah 40:31** But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint (KJV).

**Isaiah 26:3** Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee (KJV).

**Psalms 32:8** I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye (KJV).

**James 1:5** If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him (KJV).

**Philippians 4:6** Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God (KJV).





THE GENERATION NOW!

# THE GENERATION NOW!

**The Teens Ministry unplugged!**

My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you  
Galatians 4:19



# STAND RIGHT TO STAND OUT

Omowunmi Longe  
Winners' Chapel International, South Africa

Where you are today is the result of the decisions you made yesterday, and where you will be tomorrow is the result of the decisions you make today. For you to stand out tomorrow, you must stand right today.

Bishop David Oyedepo said, *"If you don't stand for something, you will fall for anything."* Therefore, Stand Right to Stand Out.

Galatians 6:7-8 says: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." Beloved, we are in a generation with conflicting standards, but God's standard is always sure. **(2 Timothy 2:19)**

No one can stand and fall at the same time, therefore, you are either standing or falling for something at any given time. What you stand or fall for defines your values, reveals your worth, and determines your future.

**Ecclesiastes 12:1** admonishes, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth..."

Be a living example of how to stand right for other teenagers, "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." **1 Timothy 4:12**

You need to stand right in the following areas:

## 1. STAND RIGHT AT HOME

Charity begins at home. Therefore, your decision to stand right must begin from your home in how you observe your daily devotion in prayers and studying of God's word, witness to your family members, obey and respect your parents, show love to your siblings and others around, etc.



## **2. STAND RIGHT AT SCHOOL**

Don't see school as a place of freedom from parents and guardians. Therefore, you must stand upright in all your conduct at school. For example, not being involved in ungodly relationships, exam/test malpractices, bullying, racism, slothfulness in your academic work, disrespecting teachers, etc.

## **3. STAND RIGHT IN THE CHURCH**

Be a living example showing others how to conduct themselves acceptably to God in worship, service, giving, dressing, conduct, punctuality, etc.

## **4. STAND RIGHT IN SOCIETY**

Despite the diversity of our society, it is required for you to stand right for God unashamedly, everywhere. Remember the three Hebrew boys in Daniel 3:16-18: "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, ...., be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up."

Those who mock you now for chastity, diligence, truthfulness, decency, moderation, and other godly virtues will celebrate you in the future.

## **5. STAND RIGHT FOR GOD TO THE END**

Let your decision for God be deeply rooted in your heart and unconditional. Let it not be just because of your parents, siblings, or anyone else.

For you to stand right for God, you have to:

Be born again.

Be rooted in the Word of God.

Be prayerful.

Observe your daily devotion time.

Be filled and led by the Holy Spirit.

Keep godly companies

Delight in God's house

Serve God faithfully.

Some of the limitless benefits of standing right

You will make heaven gloriously

You will excel academically and in life

You will enjoy divine peace and joy in the Holy Ghost

You will enjoy divine favour before God and man

You will enjoy from glory to glory daily experiences

Supernatural health will be yours

You will live long

As a teenager, God wants you to stand right for Him everywhere and all the time till the end, and so shall it be for you in Jesus' Name.

# HOW I WANT TO GROW WELL

A parental guide from a teen's perspective

Tunde Ogundipe  
Winners' Chapel International, South Africa



It's awkward, hearing me (a teen), rant about how you (parent/ guardian) should relate with me. I hope to give you insights on what REALLY runs in my rapidly evolving brain.

Kindly follow me, as I share my biblical discoveries...

## **1 Corinthians 13:11-13 AMP**

### **In Verse 11**

*I trusted you Mum and Dad, you were my super heroes then, you always catch me when I jump... I was always and mostly at home.*

### **In Verse 12**

*I am getting more educated, I am growing taller (almost your height). You almost fell when I mistakenly bumped into you (so forgive me if I don't think you can catch me when I jump anymore).*

*I spend less time at home now and you often seem tired every time I want to talk. You said, "you are no longer a kid", so I guess I am doing what "no longer-kids" do. We both have many uncertainties but teach me about your FOCUS – God!*

### **In Verse 13**

*Oh! Mummy LOVE me. Daddy, LOVE me, it is not Mummies job, alone. You both made me...*

**NEVER GIVE UP ON ME**— My aspirations may trouble you and it may seem like a taboo! Regardless, I want you to never give up on me. It really doesn't give me the excuse to misbehave but you can and **MUST** never give up on training me! Everybody is training me, consciously and unconsciously, and many lie (including you) because their actions do not correlate with their words.



**YOU CANNOT PUT YOURSELF IN MY SHOES** – It's impossible for you to shrink back into a teenager, times are different, I am different. Joseph is different from Daniel (although they were both slaves at some point), Jesus, as a teenager, was guided by His parents (**Luke 2:49 KJV, Luke 2:50-52 The Voice**)

Tell me about your mistakes and adventures, allow me to deduce that information and if you really care... follow up. Remember, you requested me from GOD, would HE give you junk...?

Eli guided Samuel (**1 Samuel 3:9**), and what GOD said will happen has never occurred before (**1 Samuel 3:11**). Eli trusted that GOD can never lie or lead Samuel astray, don't micromanage me, TRUST GOD.

**YOU ARE MY CONFIDANT**– Don't be carried away or boast to other parents that you are my best friend or I tell you everything. NO! I really don't tell you everything, I can't, I tell my best friend – so get to know my best friend(s). Not because you want to question them but because you want to observe and eventually become our biggest fan (my biggest fan).

**BE ATTENTIVE** – Listen as I twist my words, you are not a detective, I am STILL your child, not a culprit. Pay attention and ask questions for clarity, not to respond immediately. My words should give you a glimpse to where my heart is... Take all in, go and think about it. Pray about it, you are more experienced in knowing GOD than I am. Consult GOD.

**STOP TAKING ME FOR COUNSELING** – Do not transfer your parental duty to our Pastor, he has his own kids, in fact the Pastor's "good baby girl" is my girlfriend. Be my mother and be my father, agree on decisions, your arguments over me confuses me. I want to have both my Parents as my favourite. And if it's only you (single mum or dad), I want to have you as my favourite, no one else. I will go for counseling myself when I become a (wo)man.

**TEACH ME WITH YOUR ACTIONS** – "Do what I say and not what I do", will never work Daddy. "Don't talk to boys, you are still a child", Mummy I am 16, you met Dad at 13! You have to REALLY be interested in my growth before you think of what is best for me. Truth is, I don't know what is best for me, I have many questions and I spend many times with my friends, teachers and less time with you. The further you think you are growing away from me, the more I think you should pray for me... and the more you should engage me in prayers, too. Show me that you made a mistake and correct it if you can, and if you cannot, let me see the consequences of your mistake(s). Don't hide it from me.

You are my first role model into parenthood...

Your overly complex, rapidly growing, teenager,  
Me.

# MEDIA TECH Tips

Relevant media and technology update

I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions  
Proverbs 8:12



# CYBER SCAM

## And Safeguarding Yourself

Adeola Abimbola

Winners' Chapel International, South Africa

Scammers are getting increasingly sophisticated in their attempts to get your money or personal details. Scams target people of all backgrounds, ages and income levels. There's no one group of people more likely to become a scam victim; everyone is vulnerable.

Cyber Scams or Internet fraud succeeds because they look like the real thing. Often times, they catch you off guard when you're not expecting it. In this age and time where personal information can easily be harvested especially from social media websites, scammers are getting smarter and taking advantage of new technology, new products or services and major events to create believable stories that will convince you to give them your money or personal details.

### **PROTECT YOURSELF**

**Crooks use clever schemes to defraud millions of people every year. They often combine new technology with old tricks to get people to send money or give out personal information. Here are some practical tips to help you stay a step ahead:**

### **BE ALERT TO THE FACT THAT SCAMS EXIST:**

When dealing with uninvited contacts from people or businesses, whether it's over the phone, by mail, email, in person or on a social networking site, always consider the possibility that the approach may be a scam. Remember, if it looks too good to be true, it probably is.

### **DO ONLINE SEARCHES:**

Type a company or product name into your favorite search engine with words like "review," "complaint" or "scam." Or search for a phrase that describes your situation, like "SARS call." You can even search for phone numbers to see if other people have reported them as scams.

### **DON'T BELIEVE YOUR CALLER ID:**

Technology makes it easy for scammers to fake caller ID information, so the name and number you see aren't always real. If someone calls asking for money or personal information, hang up. If you think the caller might be telling the truth, call back to a number you know is genuine.

Do not open suspicious texts, pop-up windows or click on links or attachments in emails – delete them: If unsure, verify the identity of the contact through an independent source such as a phone book or online search. Don't use the contact details provided in the message sent to you.

### **KEEP YOUR PERSONAL DETAILS SECURE:**

Keep your passwords and pin numbers in a safe place. Be very careful about how much personal information you share on social media sites. Scammers can use your information and pictures to create a fake identity or to target you with a scam.

### **CHOOSE YOUR PASSWORDS CAREFULLY:**

Choose passwords that would be difficult for others to guess and update them regularly. A strong password should include a mix of upper and lower case letters, numbers and symbols. Don't use the same password for every account/profile, and don't share your passwords with anyone.

### **REVIEW YOUR PRIVACY AND SECURITY SETTINGS ON SOCIAL MEDIA:**

If you use social networking sites, such as Facebook, be careful who you connect with and learn how to use your privacy and security settings to ensure you stay safe. If you recognize suspicious behavior, click on 'spam' or 'I've been scammed online.' Take steps to secure your account and be sure to report it.

### **DON'T PAY UPFRONT FOR A PROMISE:**

Someone might ask you to pay in advance for things like debt relief, credit and loan offers, mortgage assistance, or a job. They might even say you've won a prize, but first you have to pay taxes or fees. If you do, they will probably take the money and disappear.

### **CONSIDER HOW YOU PAY:**

Credit cards and bank cards have significant fraud protection built in, but some payment methods don't. Wiring money through services like Western Union or MoneyGram is risky because it's nearly impossible to get your money back. Government offices and honest companies won't require you to use these payment methods.

### **BE CAREFUL WHEN USING PUBLIC WI-FI:**

Always be cautious when using public Wi-Fi. You can use it for general browsing, but never use it for shopping or banking.

These are just a few of many safety tips that can help safeguard you against cyber fraud and scammers. Remember if it is too good to be true, often times, it's not true. Let's stay safe, God bless you.





A SHORT STORY

# A cup of Joy

Michele Fleming

[www.micheleflemingauthor.weebly.com](http://www.micheleflemingauthor.weebly.com)

Article: <http://www.faithwriters.com-CHRISTIAN WRITERS>



## A SHORT STORY

"You did what?" Mandy spun around and speared her roommate with a furious glare.

"I'm sorry. Really I am!" Karla pleaded her case as the tears began to well up in her eyes. "You've been using that chipped, worn out old teacup to hold your rings for ages. Never once did I think about it having sentimental value. I thought I was doing something nice for you, getting you this silver box for your rings and donating the cup. Please, forgive me!"

Seeing the devastation in Karla's eyes, Mandy's anger began to subside. "I appreciate the silver box, Karla, but that cup was a priceless heirloom . . . well, priceless to me, anyway." She then turned, made her way out of her bedroom and headed down the hall toward the front door.

"Where are you going?"

"The rummage sale doesn't start for another hour. I am hoping I can explain what happened and they will let me look for it."

Ten minutes later, Mandy made her way up the sidewalk toward the church's gymnasium. She stepped onto the porch at the same time as their song director, Landon.

"Good morning, Mandy."

"Hey, Landon."





## A SHORT STORY

"I was watching you come up the walk. You appear to be a woman on a mission."

"I guess you could say that." Mandy told Landon what had happened with her treasured cup. "Do you think there is any way I could look for it before the sale begins?"

"Sure, come on in. I will even help you look." He offered a tender smile and began unlocking the gym door.

Knee deep in rummage sale goodies, they looked as though they were searching for buried treasure. They worked quietly and swiftly, but every now and then, Mandy would catch Landon sneaking a peak her way.

Landon was about her age, single and a very good Christian man. He was also extremely good looking which had all the single ladies in church swooning. Mandy had been guilty of being caught up in the daydreams that such a wonderful man could induce, herself. Now, having him watching her caused her to go all light-headed and jelly-legged.

"So, what's so special about this teacup?" Landon asked as he began going through a box of dinnerware.

"It was my great-great-great grandmother's. My grandfather had bought her the whole service when they were married. The cup is all that is left of it. She was a full-blooded Cherokee Indian and married my grandfather to escape the Trail of Tears. Even though it started as a marriage of convenience, they quickly fell in love and had a wonderful life together."

"Wow, what an amazing story. I would actually love to hear more of it."

Mandy realized Landon had stopped working and stood looking at her. Slowly she raised her head to face him. When their eyes met, Mandy felt as though a million fireworks were going off inside of her. Never in her life had she had a man make her feel that way with just a look.





Landon's face began to flush and he gave her a nervous smile and went back to his search for her teacup. Mandy, thankfully, was able to compose herself and did the same. A few minutes later, Landon called out from across the room.

"Is this it?" He asked, holding up the delicate piece.

"My cup!" Mandy exclaimed, as she raced to his side. "Thank you for finding it. How can I ever repay you?"

"I'll tell you what. How about you let me buy you dinner and we'll call it even." He said with a wink and sweet smile.

"Done."

Flashbulbs lit up the room as the newly married couple stood behind the simple yet elegant wedding cake. Laughter filled the air as they each threatened the other with a bite of the sweet confection. Cake now eaten, the couple reached for their champagne glasses for the customary arms-entwined sip. Just as the glass reaches their lips, a voice cries out.

"Wait!" Karla rushed to Mandy and Landon's side. "Use this instead." She said as she placed the weathered teacup the bride's hand.

Tears filled Mandy's eyes as she turned to look at her husband. Landon smiled and placed a kiss on his wife's cheek. Karla then filled the cup with punch and rejoined the crowd. Tears and cheers flowed as they watched the happy couple each take a sip.



Refocusing our minds on the promises of GOD

# Catching Light

Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.

Psalm 42:5



# Self

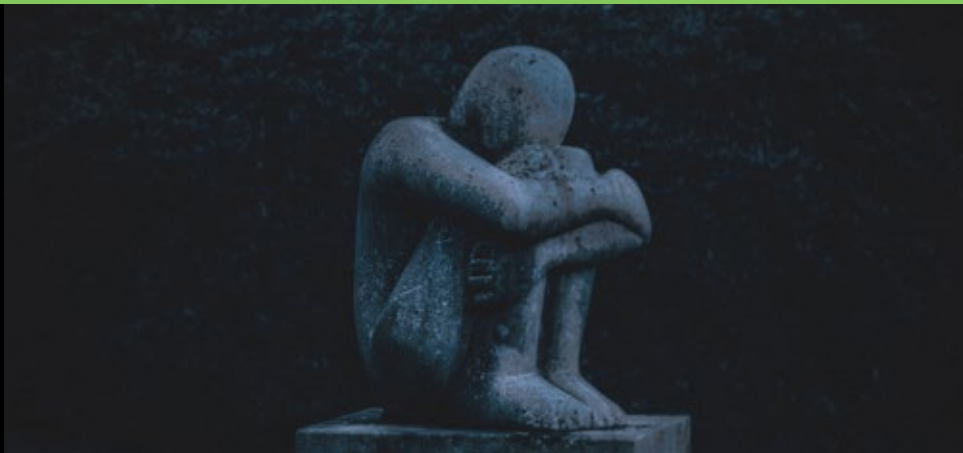
Chenai Chipfupa  
@ Winners' Chapel International, South Africa

## The 21st Century and Joy

### INSTANT, YOUTHFUL AND VERY FAST!

Nowadays, with regards to just about anything, all these are accepted as common norm. Folks want it prompt, efficient, and if it was easily attainable, with a dash of magic and stolen Wakanda vibranium! Instant umngqusho(samp), instant marriages, instant prophets, Uber – we have obtained it all...

It's astounding how the 21st century has birthed a robust creative generation that is highly learned and astute (this is my opinion of course, and if you have a different opinion on which generation astounds you, your arguments can always be sent via email in no less than 500 words.) Nonetheless, it is without a doubt that life in general, over the last few years has been simplified. We have watched with much uncertainty as words like "successful" and "achievers" have been thrown at crude individuals who fail at managing self.



In the midst of this fast-paced generation is a simultaneous disproportion in character traits, especially that of the millennials and middle aged of this generation. The "super heroes" of the 21st century are deemed addicts, lonely, depressed and just plain sad! This brilliant pioneering and self-motivated generation are proving with each day to harbour low self-esteem, unworthiness and general unhappiness particularly if their set targets are not met. The impatient generation -quick to attain it, quick to end it. **Instant, youthful and very fast.** These are the norms, right?



## CATCHING LIGHT

**JOY IS STRENGTH.** Any wise person knows it is wisdom to learn from the past and those who walk before us. In this fast century where the age of twenty-five is abruptly shoved into most young people's faces as the cut off age of achieving success; most have found themselves wallowing in disappointment and shame. Joy has vanished from most hearts and with its extinction comes sickness, indignity and feelings of unworthiness. Comparison has crept in, and hope and joy for better days has vanished. However, the Bible clearly states that we count it all joy when we fall into these lies of unworthiness because surely God will deliver us and we will become nicer human beings.

*'When the time is right, I the Lord will make it happen'*

**WHOLENESS** is knowing who you are, embracing your inherent worth, present circumstances or lack of accomplishments. Living in a state of **Wholeness** enables one to live a happy, contented and purpose-filled life.

As we strive to be the best we can be and to make a life for ourselves and our children, let us remember to stay real and true to our most desired human need - each other!

Let us smile more, help one another and be there for each other. Surely a life of Joy and peace is possible in the 21st Century.







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**Sunday - 7:00am(1st Service), 9:30am(2nd Service)**  
**Wednesday - 5:30p.m**



# SAY YES TO JESUS

**IF YOU ARE NOT SAVED, YOU ARE NOT SAFE!**

**Have you asked Jesus to come into your heart?  
That is, are you BORN AGAIN?**

**If your answer is 'NO',  
Or you are not sure,  
Or you have grown lukewarm in your fellowship with God  
Please pray this prayer aloud with all sincerity and confidence:**

***"Lord Jesus, I come to you today. I am a sinner. I cannot help myself. Forgive me my sins. Cleanse me with your precious blood. Deliver me from sin and satan, to serve the living God. Today Lord Jesus, I accept you as my Lord and Savior. Thank you Lord. Now I know I am born again."***

**If you prayed this prayer from your heart, you are BORN AGAIN. You are now a child of God. To grow more in the knowledge of God, call this number....**

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**Counselling Hours**

**Mon - Tues: 10am - 5pm**

**Wed - Tues: 10am - 3pm**

**Thurs - Fri: 10am - 5pm**