

TAAQA
MAGAZINE

ISSUE #7



Pastor Emelda Hairwadzi

**ON MINISTRY, BUSINESS, FAMILY
& THE LOVE OF HER LIFE**

A Kingdom That Will Never Fall

oooooooooooooooo

Where do we find
solace in times of
crisis?

Count It All Joy

oooooooooooooooo

What lessons can we
learn from the barren
wilderness?

And Whats For Dinner?

oooooooooooooooo

We taste some
Tandoori Chicken &
Lemon Coconut Slice

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Purpose:

At TAQA magazine, we are a family of God loving Christians who are excited about sharing testimonies of how God is still speaking today. The conventional pulpit has since evolved over the years and we are the product of that evolution. The WORD is and will always be solid and the same.

We will tackle issues from parenting to schooling to relationships to the covenant of marriage and issues that affect the life of the contemporary Christian. Our aim is to welcome you to our family and to have conversations with you on the goodness of God and encourage you in your everyday life. We hope as we embark on this journey we will move from Glory to Glory in the Lord.

Welcome to the praise world of TAQA

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CHRISTIAN MEDIA

Merry Christmas



and

A HAPPY NEW YEAR

To All Our Valued Readers

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ISSUE No. 7



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EDITOR'S *Note*



Stay The Course

We started Taqa in 2019. It started as just an idea then we moved on to fleshing out the content bit by bit. With only two volunteers on board, we jumped head first into creating the magazine. Launching our first Edition of the magazine in Easter 2020, the experience was faith-building, to say the least. I suffered from some insecurities because I thought I could not stir the magazine in the right direction. I also felt that to make the magazine more mainstream and appealing to a wider audience, I had to compromise on the “**GOD**” aspect. In the current age of inclusivity and multi-spiritual societies, where the name “**God**” is considered profanity and bleeped out of orthodox programming, I thought diluting the message would gain the magazine more followers. After some introspection, it took a lot of meditation on the **WORD** to refocus. The assignment was never about being popular but simply testifying to the goodness of **GOD**.

“They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony...” says the *Book of Revelations*. Taqa is declaring that **GOD** is still speaking today. I am glad I didn’t compromise and stayed true to the **TESTIMONY SPIRIT** of the magazine. *Galatians 6:9* advises that we should *“...not get weary of doing good.”* And by the Grace of the living **GOD**, we have stayed true to that. Lesson learnt: Never give up on dreams and stay the course.

Stay Blessed.

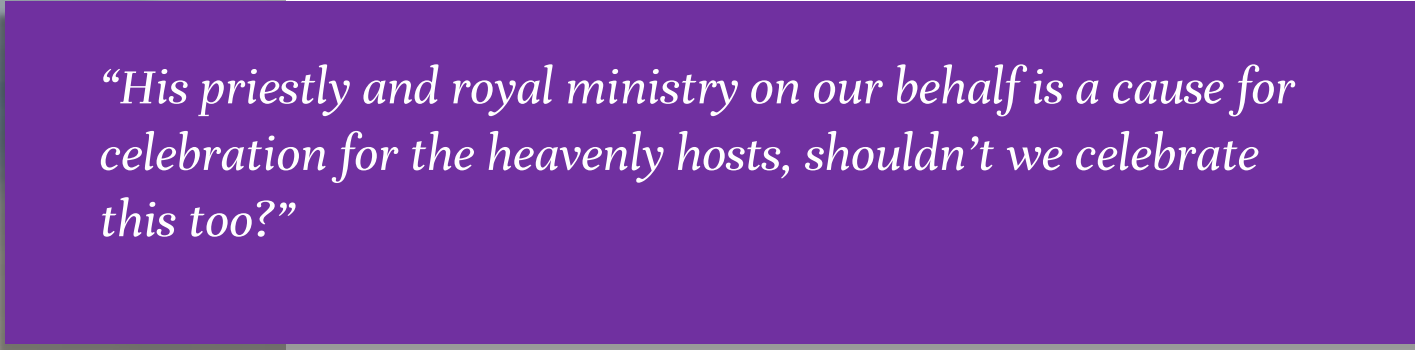
Lynn Mlambo
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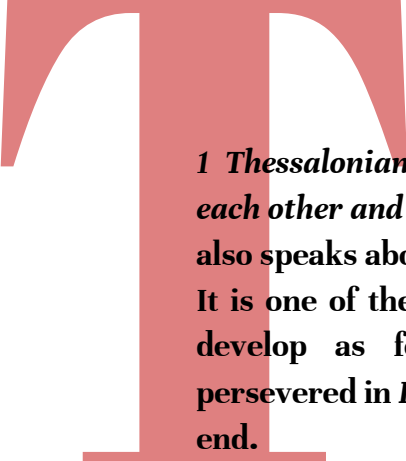
The Kingdom that Will Never Fall

By Miss Dee

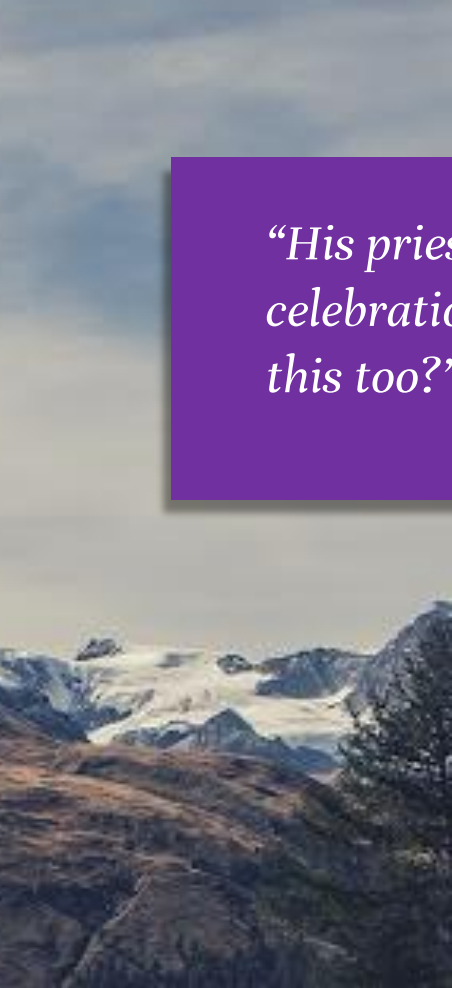
We are at the end of the year but doesn't it feel like 2022 has been 3 years long? With everything that's been happening and is still happening in the world, it is understandable that you can feel your faith waning a little, becoming weary and discouraged. It is in these times that we, as the body of Christ, need to strengthen each other.



“His priestly and royal ministry on our behalf is a cause for celebration for the heavenly hosts, shouldn’t we celebrate this too?”



T 1 Thessalonians 5:11 says *“Therefore encourage each other and build each other up”* The scripture also speaks about perseverance and persevering. It is one of the character traits that we need to develop as followers, just as *Jesus Christ* persevered in *His* challenging calling, right to the end.



So why should we persevere? Why should we continue on this path of righteousness when it could be easier to turn the other way? *Hebrews 12:18-29* states *“For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard it begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore. (For they could not endure what was commanded: “And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow.” And so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.”)*

But you have come to Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of

angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, to Jesus Christ the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel.

See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven, whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, “Yet once more I shake not only the earth but also heaven.” Now this, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain.

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. For our, God is a consuming fire.”

Now I refer to this scripture, not as a scare tactic but as a balm to our troubled minds. Jesus Christ is the mediator of the new covenant. His priestly and royal ministry on our behalf is a cause for celebration for the heavenly hosts, shouldn't we celebrate this too? The scripture states that we are the 'firstborn' because we share the inheritance of the Firstborn, *Jesus Christ (Hebrews 1:6)*.

Therefore, we are not guests at this celebration but citizens. After describing this festive gathering occurring in heaven, Paul warns the readers that they need to pay attention to God's voice because God will

shake “...yet *once more ... not only the earth but also the heavens*”

In the Old Testament, the shaking of the earth was a common metaphor for the presence of *God*, who shows up to deliver *His* people. (*Judges 5:4-5; Judges 5:20; Psalms 68:7-8; Psalms 60:2*) For Hebrews, the “shaking” of heaven and earth refers to the destruction of the enemies of *God*. This is what *God* promised at the enthronement of *Jesus Christ*. *God* said to *Him*: “*Sit at my right*

hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet” (Heb. 1:13). Thus, Jesus Christ has defeated the enemy (*Hebrews 2:14-16*) and been enthroned (*Hebrews 1:5-14*), but the enemies have not yet been destroyed (*Hebrews 10:11-14, 1 Corinthians 15:23-25*).

But *God* will destroy these enemies in the future when *God* will shake the heavens and the earth. The shaking of the heavens and the earth means, then, the destruction of the earthly powers that persecute *God's* people and, more importantly, the destruction of the evil powers (Satan and his angels) who stand

behind the earthly powers and control them.

Now comes the really good part. There are some things, however, that will not and cannot be shaken, and they include the righteous. They will

not be shaken because they trust in *God*. He sustains us and guarantees our survival.

The created heavens and earth are fleeting, temporary, not permanent like *God's* eternal Kingdom. Permanence and stability are associated with *Jesus Christ*. *Hebrews 1:10-12* says about *Him*: “*You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a*

But God will destroy these enemies in the future when God will shake the heavens and the earth

garment, like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end” (ESV). Hebrews also says that *Jesus Christ’s* priesthood remains forever (Hebrews 7:3, 24) as does also the inheritance of the redeemed (Hebrews 10:34). In the final judgment, those who hold fast “*in Jesus Christ*” will not be shaken (Psalms 46:5).

Hebrews 12 also states that we will receive a kingdom that cannot be shaken. This Kingdom belongs to the Son but *He* will share it with us. So family, let us be grateful even in the face of hardships. Let us continue to do what is pleasing to *Him*. Let us worship *Him* by offering sacrifices of praise, confession, thanksgiving and good works, which is the true worship that delights *Him*.

TQA
MAGAZINE

INSPIRE • ENGAGE • ENCOURAGE

**DID YOU
KNOW?**



Moses had a bad stutter but it did not stop him from negotiating the liberation of the entire nation of Israel from Egypt.

LESSON:

God can use anyone, under any circumstances to achieve his divine purposes.



*Wear Your Heart
on your*

SLEEVE

...literally



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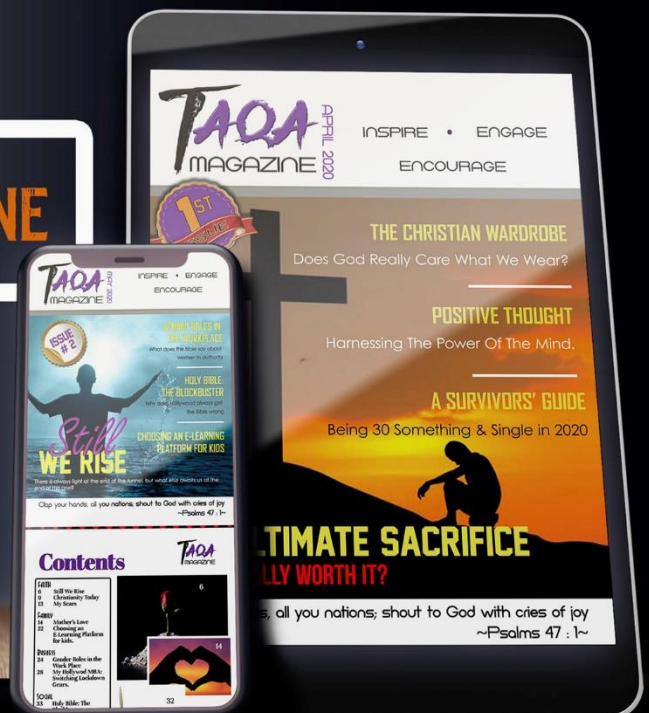
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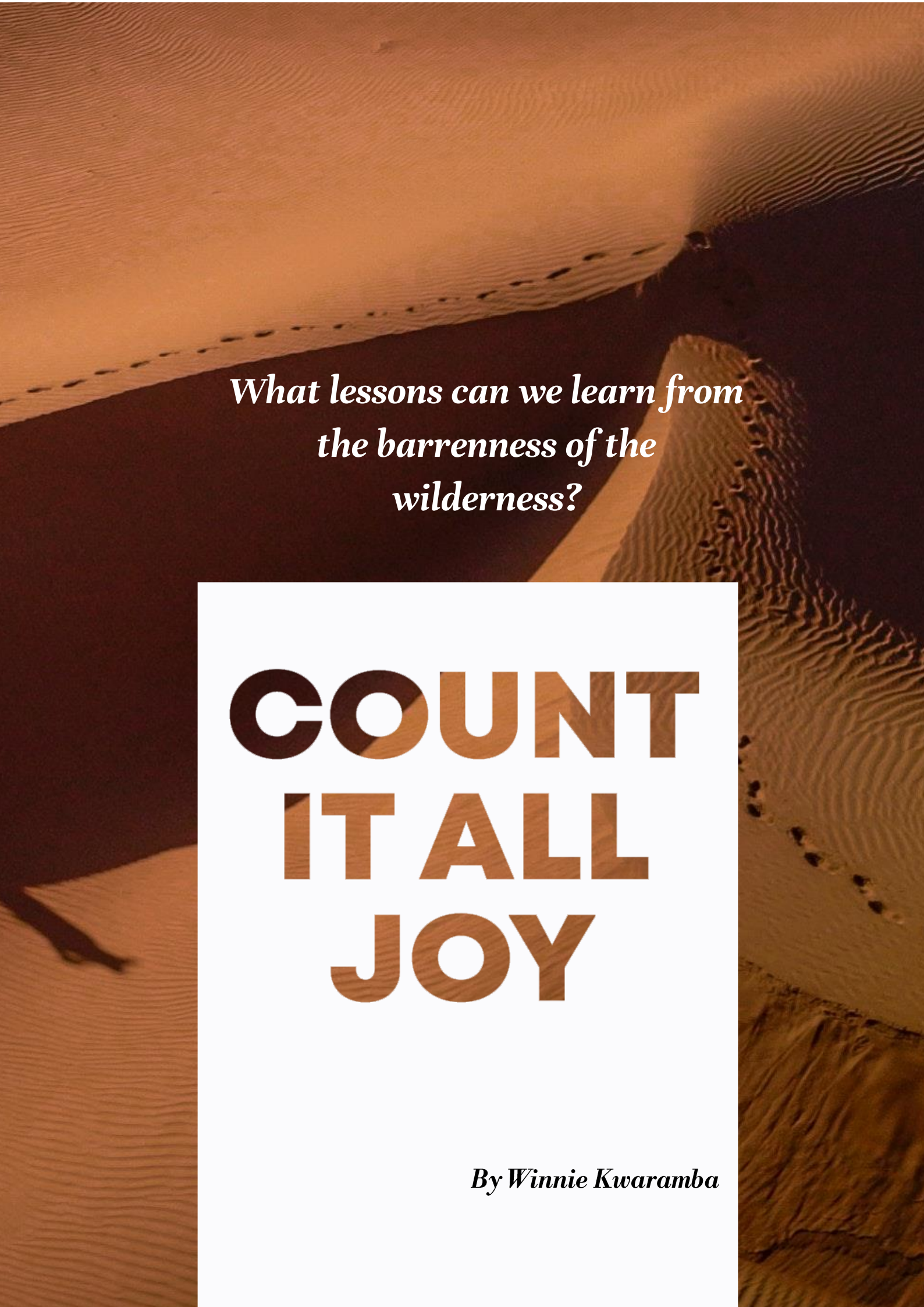
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Faith



Photo by Walid Ahmad



*What lessons can we learn from
the barrenness of the
wilderness?*

**COUNT
IT ALL
JOY**

By Winnie Kwaramba

We hate the wilderness. It is an unproductive, dry, unyielding, and usually painful time in our lives. We want to go through a wilderness period as quickly as possible. In most instances, wildernesses usually extend unnecessarily in part, due to our actions or behaviour and most times because God wants us there so that we can learn one or two things before we go to the next level in our lives.

Let us take the Children of Israel on their way to the Promised Land for example. A few days' journey turned into 40 years. Yes, you heard me, 40 years of pain and suffering. Why the Lord would want people to take a long time travelling such a short distance, you may ask. The Lord needed that time to work on the children of Israel's unbelief and rebelliousness. In my personal life, I have had some traumatic wilderness experiences, both as an individual and as a collective with my family. These experiences have left me emotionally and psychologically scarred. However, the lessons I take from these experiences are that they leave me vulnerable and less dependent on my human capabilities.

Instead, I realize that I need ***Elohim*** the great and mighty ***God*** more every day.

To be honest, I never really understood the wilderness concept. Every time I went through adverse conditions, I automatically pulled out my arsenal of prayer points and went into spiritual warfare. Every time something negative happened, I was quick to fire warfare prayer points and fight tooth and nail against the enemy. This was the only way I knew how. I did not know that sometimes challenges were sent my way to grow me from a baby who drinks milk to an adult who eats meat and bones solid food *Hebrews 5:13*. Can you imagine the children of Israel rebuking the devil in the desert because of the challenges they faced? Sometimes ***God*** takes us through some of these challenges/difficulties for our good so that we can grow, expand and become better people. Also, to fit into his plans and purposes.

For our benefit, I would like us to look at a young man in the Bible. Joseph, who we are all familiar with from *Genesis 37-50*, was a favourite son. He had the gift of dreams. Something that did not put him in good standing with his brothers. From my perspective, I think the way Israel favoured Joseph somewhat displaced his elder sons. Gifting him the coat of many colours was probably a way of elevating Joseph to the position of being his heir. Israel perpetuated the acrimony between his sons through his actions. Inheritances

Every time something negative happened, I was quick to fire warfare prayer points and fight tooth and nail against the enemy.

were serious business in the Middle East cultures as they still are in today's modern society.

Joseph was a spoilt brat, daddy's favourite and was a tattle tell. He was bossy to his big brothers and arrogant knowing that he was a special child who had a bright future according to his dreams. His brothers connive to kill him but one of them suggests that it is better to sell him to traders instead.

Joseph is subsequently sold into slavery and here starts problems or rather his wilderness. (Kindly read the full story in the Bible) He goes from a favoured child to a slave. This must have been a very traumatic experience for young Joseph. One day you are free to go about your business without any cause for worry, then the next you are a slave belonging to someone else.

However, the Lord has Joseph in his favour. He soon rises to become a head slave in Potiphar's house. But with this favour comes a whole new set of problems. Potiphar's wife has her Jezebel eyes on the young man. When he turns down her

advances, she accuses him of trying to violate her. Joseph is soon cast into prison for something he did not do. His situation goes from bad to worse.

While in prison, he finds favour with the prison keeper, but that is cold comfort since it makes very little difference to his position. He is a slave who is in prison

despite being in charge of the prisoners and running the prison affairs. At the end of the day, he is confined to a single location. He cannot drive down to the mall, read a book or have a cup of tea whenever he wants to. Prisoners' lives are strictly regimented. Where, how much and what time you eat, sleep, and whom you talk to are all decided by the overlords of the prison. What I am trying to say is that Joseph was restricted, he could only do a certain thing at certain times.

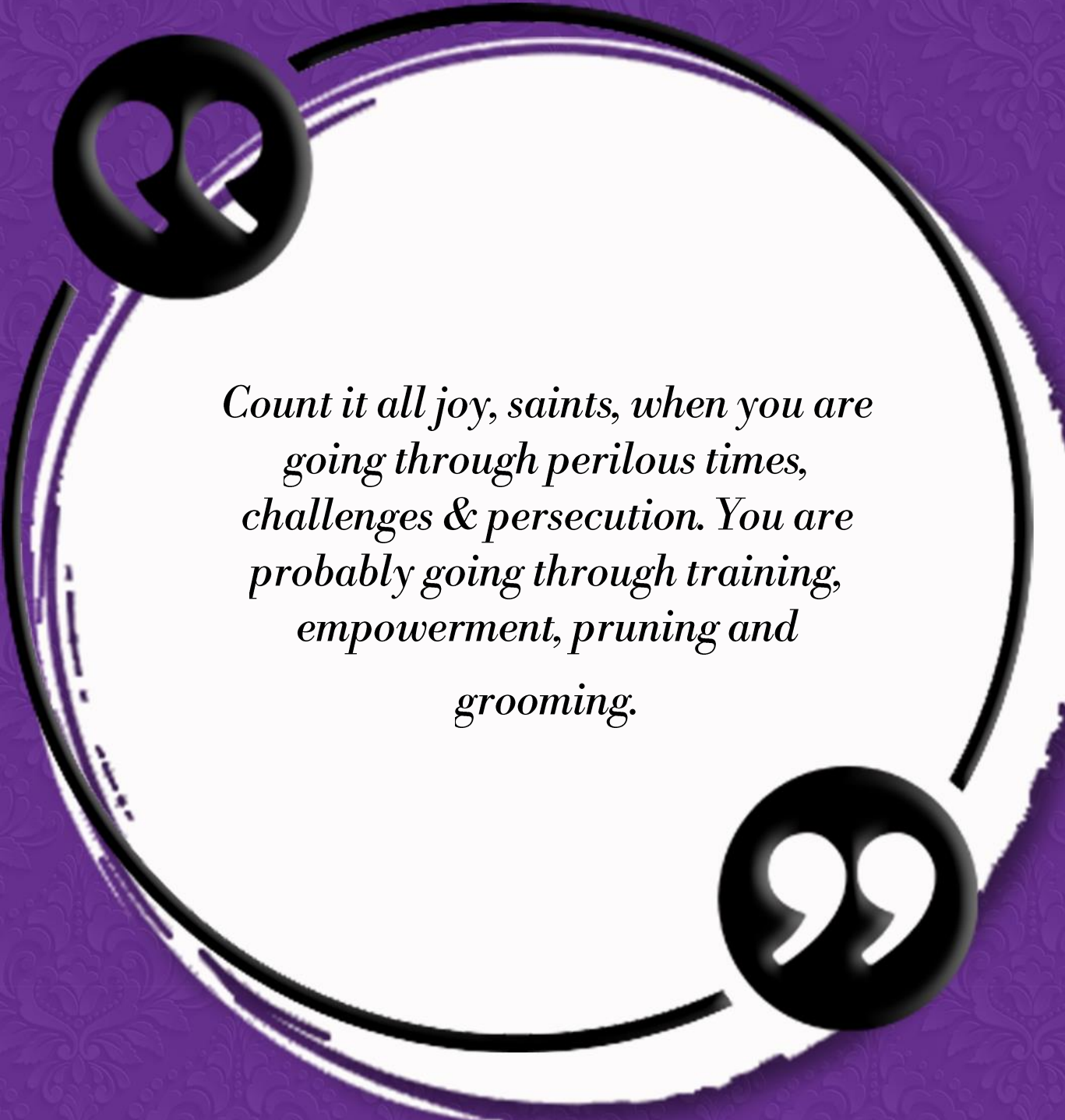
A chance to get out of prison presents itself when he interprets the kings' prisoners' dreams but two years pass before the chief butler remembers Joseph. He is in this wilderness for 13 years, a long time given the circumstances. Does he still have dreams of being a great man? Has **God** forsaken him? Does he think about his own family?

These 13 years shape and mould Joseph from being a spoilt and petulant young man to a man who is dependent fully on **God**. The painful years made him a man who could be trusted with a country and the affairs of the region. The arrogance

and pride he held before soon vanished. When he is presented to Pharaoh after a hard and gruelling 13 years on the back side of the world we see a mature and wise young man who credits everything to **God**, *Genesis 42:16*.

What happens next seems to play out like a movie. Joseph sat next to Pharaoh as the

Not only that, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance.



*Count it all joy, saints, when you are
going through perilous times,
challenges & persecution. You are
probably going through training,
empowerment, pruning and
grooming.*

second in command of the land of Egypt. These days Egypt is a superpower like China and the USA today. Can you stop to consider Joseph when he was younger in Canaan? His arrogance? The way he treated his brothers? Do you think that arrogant young man would have made a good ruler? That young man could have probably refused to help other nations that needed grain and food.

God saw it fit that Joseph should go through a metamorphosis. The young man who entered the house of Potiphar was different from the young man who stood before Pharaoh. Joseph had gone through dramatic changes. He was so changed from the proud and arrogant young man who was so full of himself to a well-rounded character who harboured

no malice. He gave all the glory to the Almighty when he interpreted Pharaoh's dreams. He elevated the **Lord God** and put all his trust in the Lord.

Now let us fast forward to another young man. Years later in the time of Samuel the great Prophet we see yet another young man. In *1 Samuel 9* – we meet Saul, tall and shy who is sent to look for his father's donkeys. Whilst searching

for the donkeys his life changes when he is anointed King. Saul to me seems to be an idyllic young man. He is described as shy and when he is called up to take his place or his position of being King he is nowhere to be found instead he is found hiding. I imagine Saul as someone who had an easy life without any pressure compared to David or even some Kings in history. In fact, we are not told much about young Saul's life before the donkey incident.

When he is made King, we see a different kind of man. Impatient, self-absorbed, jealous and desperate for attention. He eventually loses his kingdom



and here we notice a stark difference between Joseph and Saul. One was coached on the barren grounds of a foreign land going through adversity, slavery and imprisonment until he was transformed. The other (Saul) had one leg in and one leg out. We never hear of any challenges Saul faced. We never hear of what he faced in his life apart from the problems he created for himself through his bad decisions and bad choices.

Please dear reader do not misconstrue what I am saying, some people are lucky or rather blessed they go through life free of challenges like our dear King Saul of old. Whilst some people attract challenges and persecutions like moths to a flame. From my end, I think Saul was immature. Look at the way he handled his affairs. When he was told to do something, he did the opposite. He was worried about what people said about him. Instead of worrying about what **God** would do? Do you remember when he decided to take on the priestly role and sacrificed instead of waiting for Samuel? We see Saul making one bad decision after another. From my perspective, I think Saul was a bad King who lacked clout. He suffered from a bad case of inferiority complex and imposter syndrome. Had he experienced a bit of the wilderness he would have never made some of the decisions he made he would have learnt to wait on **God**.

Are you currently going through a wilderness? Do you feel forgotten? Are your prayers hitting a ceiling and not getting to **God**? Are you stagnant? Is nothing happening in your neck of the world? Let me implore you to listen to Apostle James *“Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.” James 1:2.* Joseph was tested for 13 hard years where he suffered, he was mistreated and taken advantage of. He thought he was forgotten and had resigned himself to a life in prison. At that moment **God** rose and showed up

“I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.”

-Isaiah 43:19-

in all his glory. Joseph was elevated from being a lowly and dirty prisoner, he was washed, shaved and arraigned before a King and immediately given a position that was created specifically for him as there was no one in the land qualified for it other than himself. I cannot emphasize enough, precious people of **God** that it took Joseph 13 years in an unimaginable difficult situation we now call a wilderness to be whom Pharaoh decided to share his power with and elevate.

Count it all joy saints when you are going through perilous times, challenges, persecution etc. You are probably going through training, empowerment, pruning and grooming. *“Not only that, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance.” Romans 5:3.* Perseverance was something King Saul did not have. He could not wait one more day. I pray for you to have the grace to endure the wilderness season or whatever you are facing at the moment. Count it all joy in the belief that **God** is training, pruning and cultivating you for one of *His* many grand plans.



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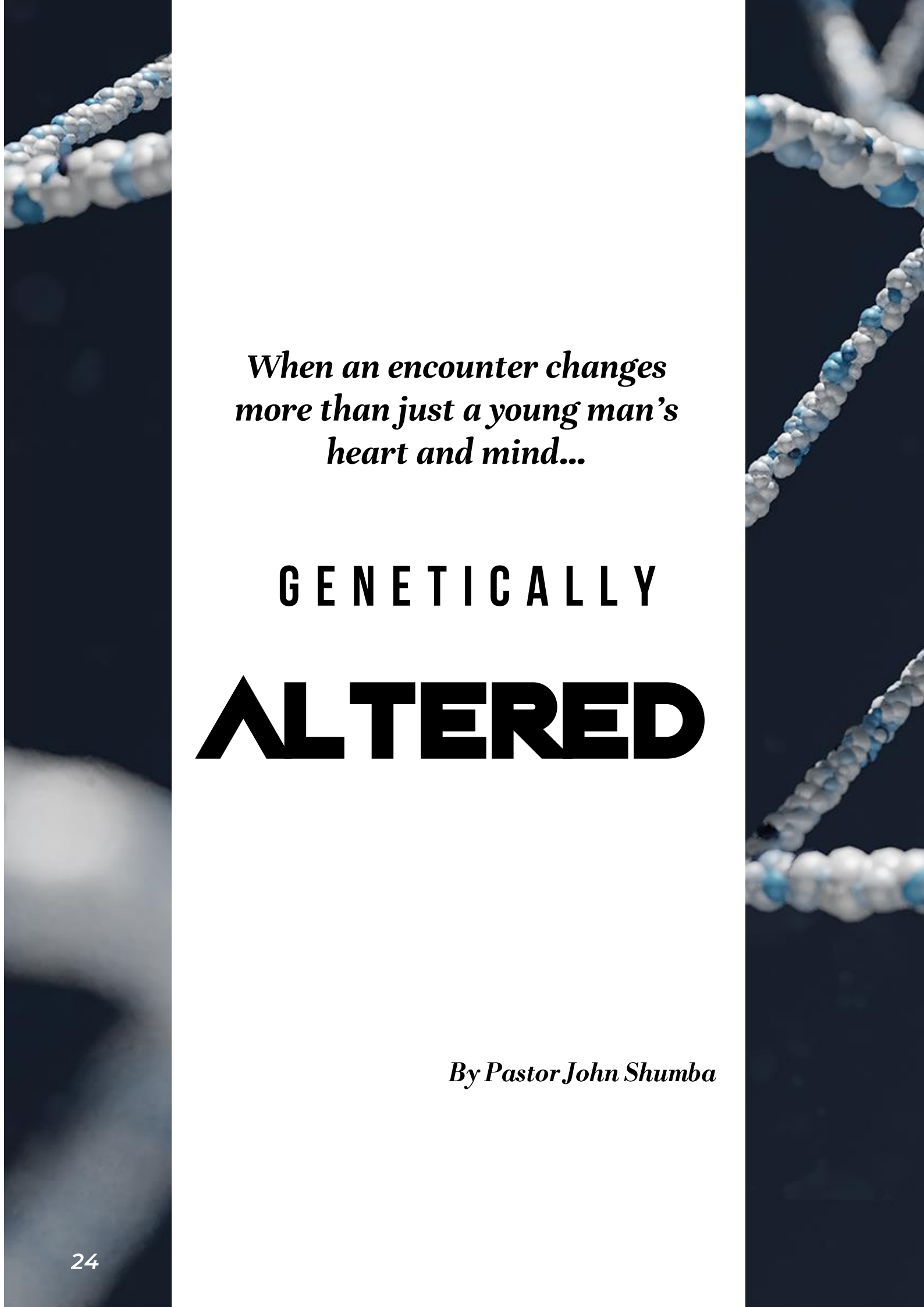
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*When an encounter changes
more than just a young man's
heart and mind...*

GENETICALLY
ALTERED

By Pastor John Shumba



Photo by Warren Umoh

Vears ago when I was about 16 or 17 years old. I was so concerned about my future and the trends of events that took place in my family. In my heart, I would always ask God to help me, so that I should not get involved with girls and illicit sins. I strongly disliked these things, but my family males had a history of sleeping around and having children from a young age. So at this age, I knew that if God didn't step in to help me, I may find myself following the trend of all Shumba Tazviwana males. I prayed every day for the longest time, saying "Lord help me not to go this way". This issue was firmly rooted in my heart.

One day I was coming from a youth meeting around 8 pm, when suddenly a bright light came from heaven in a bodily form, engulfing me. In that instant, I somehow knew and understood that I would never fall into that pit. God Had delivered me. I continued walking in amazement at what **God** can do. He answered my simple prayer in such a dramatic supernatural way. That encounter has kept me from sexual immorality, a generational mark of my family, until the age of 31 when I got married. I am still married to the same lady today and I have to admit, it has not been an easy road. **God** altered my genotype and cleansed my DNA

from the devil's programming. I am incapable of sexual immorality, or sex outside wedlock. No matter how tempted



I may be, **God** causes me to come out of any such situation. Like Paul, I can say "...reckon ye yourself to be dead to sin..." Romans 6:11

I'm not ashamed to testify and shame the devil, it's by **God's** Grace that I'm saved. God answers a strong desire and a persistent, hold-on prayer. Isaac told Esau "If you shall become restless, you will break his yoke from off your shoulder" (*Genesis 27:40*). So if you too will be restless, tired of the burdensome situation, you will seek **God** persistently, and it will Break.

So whatever family sin that has run amok in your family for generations, you can put an end to it. Have a strong desire to change it and speak **God's** word against such an issue, **God** will surely transform you and make you see how messy that condition is. But keep meditating on the victory **Christ Jesus** gave to you, surely you will not die in that sin.

Even science can prove that something done for a long time gets a genotype in one's DNA.

God can change any generational sin. Others may say, "Well I'm born again and that's all I need". True, but if you don't appropriate what **Jesus Christ** did for you, you remain a weak giant. Just like ministering healing to someone with an ailment which is common in their family line. The spirit is regenerated at the new birth and in it is the

power to make alive (quicken Spirit). One has to yield to the working of the Holy Spirit in us to undo the devil's work and put on the "New Man".

Even science can prove that something done for a long time gets a genotype in one's DNA. Whether it's an ailment gene, behaviour gene, pigmentation, etc., it just gets stronger in future generations. Now, this is an insight into natural things, spiritual things or rather things in the natural that have

spiritual consequences, like sexual sins. Could these not be sins that cause habitations of demons? These are definitely not in our regenerated spirit but can affect our soul and our body. Without the desire to change, things don't change by themselves. Your genotype can be changed by the power of the **Holy Ghost**.

I'm not ashamed to testify and shame the devil, it's by God's Grace that I'm saved. God answers a strong desire and a persistent, "hold-on" prayer.

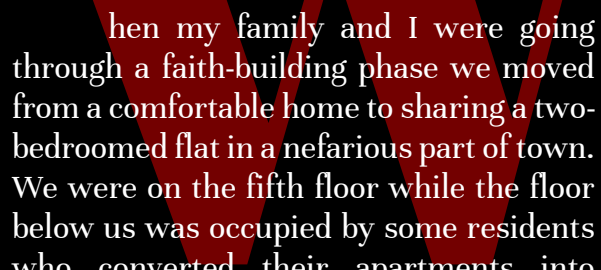


Healing Heart Conditions

By Lynnett Mlambo



Photo by Nothing Ahead



When my family and I were going through a faith-building phase we moved from a comfortable home to sharing a two-bedroomed flat in a nefarious part of town. We were on the fifth floor while the floor below us was occupied by some residents who converted their apartments into brothels and party spots. Even the people we shared the apartment with were of questionable character. I will admit that I had an air of superiority when I compared myself to my sisters in **Christ** who partook in the oldest profession. They were women of easy virtue, overnight companions, prostitutes, and I was not. I never made a single friend, did not evangelise at all and receded to staying indoors at all times. Despite all the tests **God** gave me to humble myself, I would always feel and think that I was better than all of those ladies. 3 years later, **God** blessed us and we left that place moving to suburbia. It was like Heaven for me and I greatly appreciated it, life was good again. I made a concerted effort to scrub my memory clean of those days and assimilate back into my familiar suburban life.

As one of my hobbies, I make an effort to look for movies or stories with Christian content or lessons, especially for my kids. I make it a point that they watch that instead of the usual cartoon drivel on TV. One day I found the story of HOSEA. I watched it with my kids and they asked as many questions as possible. I found myself feeling quite irritated by the people of Israel. In my head, I kept asking myself why these ancient people would keep disrespecting **God** like that. I

mean really! I even went on to read the book of HOSEA and I felt more resentment towards them. As children of **God**, how can we prostitute ourselves to other spirits? We can never do such unbecoming things, right? WAIT what did the scripture say “...**they consult a wooden idol and are answered by a stick of wood. A spirit of prostitution leads them astray they are unfaithful to their GOD**” - **Hosea 4:12**. I took a minute to evaluate the meaning of Prostitution in **God's** eyes. I began to reflect.

No scripture states the Israelites performed the conventional method of prostitution that we are all aware of, The **Lord** was distressed about the condition of their heart and what they were choosing to

worship when they turned away from the **Lord**. So indeed people these days have moved away from worshipping the wooden idols of old, but today's idols have since evolved and are way more advanced. Think of all the times you are on any social media platforms whilst in church, or opted to skip service because you were chasing a deal that could give you money. Watched a movie instead of praying or meditating on the word. Please do not misunderstand me I am not advocating that people should not have fun or enjoy their activities. I am highlighting that when you leave the activities that nourish your SPIRIT in pursuit of things that poison it, you are prostituting yourself. I created PRIDE and made that my idol and in effect prostituted my Spirit to Pride.

When we lived above a brothel, I had time to speak a word or two into their lives but I chose not to, I justified my actions by saying they would not listen to me or it's a waste of time. When I watched the story of *Hosea* I told myself that I have neither worshipped idols nor have I created a wooden god of any sort. I was wrong. I did something worse; I carved them with my heart. I created pride, self-righteousness, arrogance and judgement and placed them in my heart. I listened to them and not the voice of love that was from my **God**. In those moments, I prostituted the most precious part of me and that was my spirit to all these gods I created. It was not my finest moment. I did ask for forgiveness and repented now I always take every opportunity to speak to someone about the **Word of God** to anyone I come across, depending on his or her response I go all out or sow a seed. Either way, everyone needs to know and hear of the good news, the word of **God**.

We have experienced some awesome testimonies from evangelising that have greatly boosted our business. Even connecting us to divine helpers that we still talk to today.

When one is called to minister, it's not your choice to decide where or to whom you minister to. I played Jonah and it was only by Grace that I didn't get swallowed by the whale. Whether it is to minister to people that want or don't want to hear the WORD, we are destined to share it. So my fellow brothers and sisters I hope you learn from my experience and always share the word of **GOD**.

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*Cover
Feature*



From

GRASS

to

Grace

From a humble background to being a mighty warrior of God, fighting for the sanctity of marriage and the sacrifice of the cross. We sit down to discover the loves, passions and motivations of

Pastor Emelda Hairwadzi.



Good day and thank you so much for your time. Please give us an introduction to who Pastor Emelda Hairwadzi is.

Well I am a mother, a student, a Pastor and a pastor's wife. I have been married for 20 glorious years and blessed with four beautiful children, two girls and two boys. I am a holder of a BBA Degree as well as a BSc degree in Internal Auditing, both obtained from the University of South Africa. Since I got married in 2002, I have been a mother, an employee, a student, and a pastor's wife. I feel proud as a woman, because others may see the many challenges as obstacles to growth. I took this experience as a motivator that would increase my value as a suitable helper to my husband.

I am grateful to **God**, who gave me my husband, Bonie who is my mentor, wisdom tank, cheerleader, motivator, and more importantly my companion. He took me when I was just a village girl, who could hardly speak English. Due to some of life's difficult circumstances, I did not have a complete O' level certificate. I knew very little about city life, it and it can only be by the Grace of **God** that I am who I am today. My husband is a jack of all trades. He is a qualified Electrician who ventured into sales and Marketing. He holds a BBA Marketing degree and an Executive MBA from ESAMI Africa and is currently studying Theology with SATS. I remember enrolling for night school to supplement my O levels after we

had a lengthy conversation with my husband, which was the turning point in my life. My husband emphasised that we needed balance as a couple, and he has supported my education and career development until today.

With such a storied history, I'm intrigued about where you are now. Please tell us more about your work and business.

I have worked for several companies in Finance, and I am currently employed by a very successful Airline as an accountant since 2009. When I was in my final year of my BSc Internal Auditing and left with only 10 modules, I fell pregnant with my fourth baby. My husband reminded me that it was another chance for me to defy the odds. Quoting his words, *"...a pregnancy is not in the head, tell me how I can support you to complete this program."*

To cut a long story short I passed all modules in two sittings. With four children to fend for, I realised that we needed to generate more income to help my husband to support the family. I started doing network marketing as a side hustle and I must admit that I learnt a lot in this field. Through recruiting for business, I saw **God** training me for evangelism. I prayed to **God**, asking for a venture that would give me time to do **His** work and be there for my family at the same time. I value family time more than money because it is great to spend money creating fantastic memories with a solid family than spend money on bills to fix a broken family.



So, I started on a journey with Cryptocurrency trading, and I am enjoying it peacefully learning while training others along the way.

From my experience so far, there are two sides to you, Emelda the business person and Pastor Emelda. Now would you care to tell us about your journey in ministry?

I have experienced the favour and the grace of **God**. Every path that I have walked has taught me that if God has a mandate for you, he will see it through. I held on to (*Gal 6:9*) until today that no matter what one can go through never stop doing good. It got so tough at some point that I was ready to give up. If you know who you are in **Christ**, you bend a little and bounce back. I have fought many battles in ministry and I came out with scars and stars.

I have conquered some and for some, I chose to walk away. The beauty of it is that, concerning my family and marriage, it made me stronger and stretched me to discover the capacity I never knew I had. I have now come to realise that this was all training and preparation. My journey has been tough but by the grace of **God**, I am still standing.

Children today are faced with a seriously hazardous environment spiritually. Our neighborhoods, schools, and even our own homes present threats to them. How do you

handle external non-Christian influences on your children?

Social influences on children will always be a challenge in society because of the diversity of culture. We believe that children belong to **God** and only **He** can give us the wisdom to nurture them. Exposure to both worlds is important for them to distinguish between right and wrong. It helps to build their character and as parents, we continue to give them the Word of **God** through daily teachings. The moment you needlessly shield children, you indirectly promote curiosity in them that may cause them to become wild. With our children, we ensure that we teach them Godly principles daily through our family devotion, usually every evening.

We have a very open relationship with them, and we discuss issues openly with them. They are part of the family decision-making process on matters that impact them. One thing that we will not compromise is their quality of education and Christian life. Selecting schools for them is very important to us as it brings a good balance to their lives.



The power of mentorship cannot be overstated in business, ministry and even personal development. Do you have a mentor and are you mentoring anyone now?

The word of **God** is my first mentor because everything I do, I base it on what it teaches me. My husband mentors me through life and I have different mentors who help me in different aspects like self-development, finances, ministry, marriage and parenting. I believe that people are given differently; hence, I will not short-change myself by sticking to one mentor. Yes, I am mentoring a few people through the ministry of marriage.

This has given rise to the conception of WANANO where my passion lies. This is a platform where my husband and I teach the foundational biblical principles of marriage. WANANO started as a WhatsApp group with a few individuals and we saw the need to extend it to family and friends.





*Our children are part of
the family decision-
making process on
matters that impact
them.*

How do you balance your personal life, work and ministry? How do you detox, relax and unwind?

It is not easy at all to balance everything yet it is all doable. Once the mind conceives it, naturally it creates the capacity to achieve the set goals. I attend to everything according to priorities. My relationship with **God**, my marriage and my family always come first, because if I fail to minister to them with my time and deeds then I do not qualify to minister to anyone else. I can delegate other things except for my **God**, my husband and my children; I am very active in their daily routine.

I adequately spread my attention though out the day which feeds into weeks and months. **God** has blessed me with a beautiful family and to unwind we usually play games in our house or backyard, dance to music, talk and laugh a night away, cook and eat or go away on vacations. I also love serene environments like visiting spas for treatments, dinner dates with my husband, prayer retreats and shopping.

As a parting shot, what pearls of wisdom can you give our readers?

Seek **God** in everything that you do and commit your works into His capable hands (*Proverbs 3:1-2*) “Do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you peace and prosperity.” Never limit yourself to what you can see, extend your vision to the horizon. Do not compare your life to anyone else but pick motivation and inspiration that you can also

do it. Time and chance happen to us all and your time will surely come.

*It is important to
enjoy every moment
life presents to you so
that you do not live a
life of regret.*





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other
The Power
^
of
Association



By Alvin Mlambo

When I googled “The Power of Association”, I received 2 020 000 000 results in 0,41 seconds. This simply adds weight to the vast interest that this topic has. Most of those search results speak to how, by osmosis, one becomes the sum of the five or so people one hangs out with. We are taught that good relations motivate and inspire us towards fruitful views, productive activities and fruitful skills to advance our standards of knowledge and expertise. Most of the search results I came across have an external focus, mainly centring on how the people and circles we relate to influence us. I would like to take a different approach though. How many of us ask ourselves how much value WE actually add to our circles? Just how much value can we reap from our allies and associates by actually adding value to them ourselves?

While asking myself these questions, I thought of the foremost example of this concept from the bible. To provide some context, **God** made similar promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and they all had the same faith. *Jacob* was no stranger to clashes, and he was driven by a desire to obtain what he wanted for himself. Unlike his grandfather Abraham, Jacob used his cunning and deception to gain an advantage. Abraham's work was inseparably linked to his sense of purpose, which stemmed from his relationship with **God**. To some extent, Jacob was ignorant of this. His first notable act of self-serving behaviour was when he tricked a hungry Esau into selling him his birth right (*Genesis 25:29-34*). His second was when, with the help of his mother Rebekah, he deceived his blind father into giving him the blessing meant for his brother Esau (*Genesis 27:1–30*.) True, it was always **God's** intention for Jacob to succeed Isaac, but he chose to take matters into his own hands and rise the ranks by relying on his wits. This is an example of getting the proper result while employing the wrong methods. The animosity caused within the family due to these “wrong means” led Jacob to flee to his mother’s brother, Laban. This is where the other power of association is fully realised.

Jacob toiled for 20 exasperating years on Laban's farm, during which time he amassed his fortune. Even though Laban had broken many of his promises to him, Jacob was successful in marrying Leah and Rachel further than his vast wealth. Jacob wanted to go home, but Laban persuaded him to stay and work for him, promising

him the ability to “...name his wages...” (*Genesis 30 Vs 28*). Clearly, Jacob had been a hard worker and Laban had reaped the benefits of his association with Jacob. So apart from the skulduggery that occurred between them, they both benefited from their two decades together. Jacob mastered the art of livestock breeding in addition to the shelter and protection he received from living under Laban's roof. Due to Jacob’s blessing and skill as a worker, Laban’s stock and wealth were greatly enlarged. The relationship was mutually beneficial.

Apart from the adverse health and economic impact, COVID-19 introduced us to a whole new vocabulary. Now we know of things such as Flattening the curve, Essential needs, Quarantine, Asymptomatic, Isolation and Social

But even today, instead of asking how much value your associations provide to you, very few ask themselves the potent question, ask “How much value do I add?”

Distancing. The latter for the longest time robbed us of our usual gatherings and meetings. Even after the lockdown restrictions were relaxed, meetings are now taken online with apps such as Zoom, Skype, Microsoft Teams and Google Meet becoming the norm. We are now in the era of “self”, looking out for you and yours. When normalcy returned, well the version of normalcy that emerged from the ashes, we were then able to get together again with our acquaintances once again. But even today, instead of asking how much value



your associations provide to you, very few ask themselves the potent question, “*How much value do I add?*”. Do you add ambience and life to your surroundings or are you there to selfishly leach the light out of them for self-enrichment?

Though motivational speaker Jim Rohn’s quote “*You are the average of the five people you spend the most time with.*” may be true it does not fully appreciate the gravity of association from a spiritual point of view. *God’s* covenantal blessings are gifts to be received, not grabbed. They bear the responsibility of ensuring that they are used for the benefit of others rather than being hoarded. Like Jacob who wrestled the mysterious man in whom he “*...saw God face to face...*” (*Gen. 32:24, 30*), let us wrestle for *God’s* blessing in faith and be transformed by grace, not for ourselves but for the enrichment of those around us. I take nothing away from the argument that there

is a great deal of wealth in the “*Right*” associations. However as much as they upgrade and develop us, the relationship must be symbiotic.

I pose a challenge to you now dear reader, to take it a step further. Next time you find yourself in a room where you are the smartest person, do not leave to find another one. Seek ways to add value and upgrade the room before you leave it. Instead of leaning on our wit and understanding, let us rely on *God’s* wisdom to upgrade one and all. Not that I’m saying you must suffer mediocrity and negativity in that endeavour, but a positive attitude and teachable spirit are vital for both sides of the equation.





Fighting with
MYSELF

*Feeling imprisoned by her own body, **Charity Moyo** lights a fire within and takes back her life and liberty. Taqa reached out to her to get some insight into the highs, lows and awe-inspiring trials of her journey back to fitness.*

Thank you so much for your time Charity. Please give our readers an introduction to who you are.

My full name is Charity Moyo. I am a 40-year-old married mother of 3 beautiful children. I describe myself as a warm, loving, self-motivated and driven individual.

Tell us a bit about how you occupy yourself professionally.

Apart from being a wife and a mother, I am employed in the Gold sector, primarily in the Development Finance sector wherein I work with small-scale miners in particular women. My husband and I also have a mining operation specialising in base metals such as manganese, chrome, tin and copper.

We have followed your journey in fitness and your transformation is nothing less than phenomenal. Can you give us some insight on how the journey was? What were some of the highs and lows?

My journey started on the 3rd of February 2021 with my fitness trainer. At that time, I lacked self-motivation and zeal, but I had to lose weight not only for myself but for my family as well. I was 104 kgs then. I could barely walk 500 metres without feeling aches and pains in my joints, ankles and so on. I then realised that for my journey to be a success, I needed help. Often as



women, we think that asking for help is a show of weakness. I got in touch with a trainer on the 31st of January 2021 and he told me he was available to start training me on the 3rd of February 2021. My sessions would start at 5 in the morning and it was very hard, especially the first week. Every part of my body was painful and most times I would cry because of it.

A very close friend of mine called me and said “*Charity you were made in*

the image of God meaning there are 3 of you in 1 i.e. Mind, Soul & Body. The body was crying in pain. The mind was telling me to give up because this pain was unnecessary and besides I hadn't even lost any weight in the 7 days that had passed. The Soul was yelling,



'You can do it Charity, this pain won't last forever, this is hard for your body because you last exercised back when you were in school over 2 decades ago.' So she was telling me to listen to the 'Inner Man' and to ignore what the body and the mind were saying'. My trainer had told me that if I continued training until the 10th of February 2021 I would have passed the test. I woke up in the morning on the 10th and the pain had disappeared. We continued training and I was advised to

stay away from the scale. The trainer would come Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays only. Meanwhile Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays I would walk for 5km. We continued in that fashion until the 22nd of June when he decided to wean me off. At that time, I was now 85kg and it appeared I had stopped losing weight. I stopped training for almost 2 months and then resumed in August when I started buying small equipment at home like dumbbells, step run, barbells, weights, and skipping rope. On my own, I managed to slim down further to 75kg and have successfully maintained it.

Proverbs 11 vs 25 basically talks about the concept of Paying it Forward."

So, after your enriching experience, is there anyone

you are training at the moment?

Well I am not training anyone at the moment as am not certified, but I am a mentor. I encourage fellow women who are battling weight challenges that it can be done. With a great deal of commitment, anyone can shed excess weight and lead a healthy life.

The fashionable phrase these days in business and personal circles is “*Achieving a work/life balance*”. How do you juggle your personal life, work and fitness routine?

I take my fitness routine as a normal chore like making your bed, washing dishes and so on. The minute you consider it as something else it becomes difficult. At work I run up the stairs, I try to be as active as possible when I am at work. Now I can play fetch with my dogs. In terms of the actual exercise, it's three times a week. I allow my family, dogs included, to sit and watch. And trust me they enjoy doing it, even taking videos and complimenting me and so on.

Tell us how do you detox, relax & unwind?

Taking a walk early Sunday morning is a breath of fresh air. I get to relax, I get to listen.



*You can do anything, as
God has given you the
power to do so. Happiness
is a choice and not a
result of anything - choose
to be happy regardless of
any circumstance.*

THE WRITER'S BLOCK

In our continuing efforts to evangelise and share the gospel and how God is working in our lives, we invite you to share your talents and experiences with other readers through the medium of storytelling and poetry. If you are an aspiring, budding or experienced author or poet, please read through our submission guidelines below and in addition we advise that you subscribe to our social media feeds. We regularly update them with the sort of work we are looking for and give writing prompts for story ideas. Please note that all submissions are made on speculation; we cannot guarantee publication.

How to Prepare Your Manuscript

- ***Taqa Magazine*** is a free offering and all of its staff are volunteers, therefore ***Taqa does not pay for Short Fiction, Flash or poetry contributions.*** However as circulation increases we have plans to change the policy. For now credit the author with a profile on our website and social media feeds.
 - Poetry should be 1,000 words or less.
 - Non Fiction anecdotes must be up to 500 words.
 - Short story prose should be between 1 000 – 1 200 words, no more.
- We are a Christian magazine so submitted content, has to have to have a Christian theme. The main requirement however, is that the content should enlighten the reader. An enlightening story does not suggest that difficult and trying events do not occur in a story. Challenging subjects can be dealt with, but there must be an optimistic purpose and conclusion in its telling. With our eclectic audience I believe it goes without saying that all submissions contain - no graphic violence, crude language including curse words, or explicit sex.
- Please familiarise yourself with the content of our previous issues and our website (www.taqamagazine.online). You will get to appreciate the motivation and mission of the magazine.
- Short fiction submitted to the magazine must be original and previously unpublished. ***Taqa*** considers work that has appeared online (including on blogs

and Facebook) to be previously published. Simultaneous submissions to other publications are acceptable. However, if your work is accepted elsewhere first, please withdraw your submission.

- All manuscripts must be typed in English, Double-spaced and sent as Microsoft Word (.doc, .docx) or Open Document Text (.odt) attachment:
 - Set font size to 12 and use Ariel font.
 - Include the author's name, Email address, phone number, short bio (200 words or less), written in 3rd person. You can include a personal high-resolution colour photo (1–5 megabytes is sufficient), but this is optional.
 - Approximate word count at the top of the first page, and numbered throughout.
- We do not accept novel excerpts.
- There are no submission deadlines, unless there is a specifically stated deadline for a themed issue. We receive submissions on a rolling basis and notify on a rolling basis.
- As previously stated, at this time, there is no payment due to the author for acceptance/publication. Contributors will receive credit in the magazine and may be promoted on our social media and website.

If your work has already been accepted, we will send you an e-mail when we publish the issue that contains your work. If you haven't heard from us yet, don't worry. We will read your work and get back to you.

How to Submit

- Email your manuscript as an attached file to lynnett@taqamagazine.online
- The editor may request revisions to the submission to better fit the goals of the particular issue and the interest of our readers.
- Please allow 2 weeks for a response to submissions or queries

NB: Taqa Magazine Reserves the right to make minor copy editing changes to the manuscript. Any major editorial changes will require author's approval prior to

**Film:*****The Book of Eli*****Director:**

Allen and Albert Hughes

Producers:

Joel Silver, Susan Downey, Andrew Kosove, Broderick Johnson

Writer:

Gary Whitta

Starring:

Denzel Washington, Gary Oldman, Mila Kunis, Ray Stevenson

Release date:

January 15, 2010

Run Time:

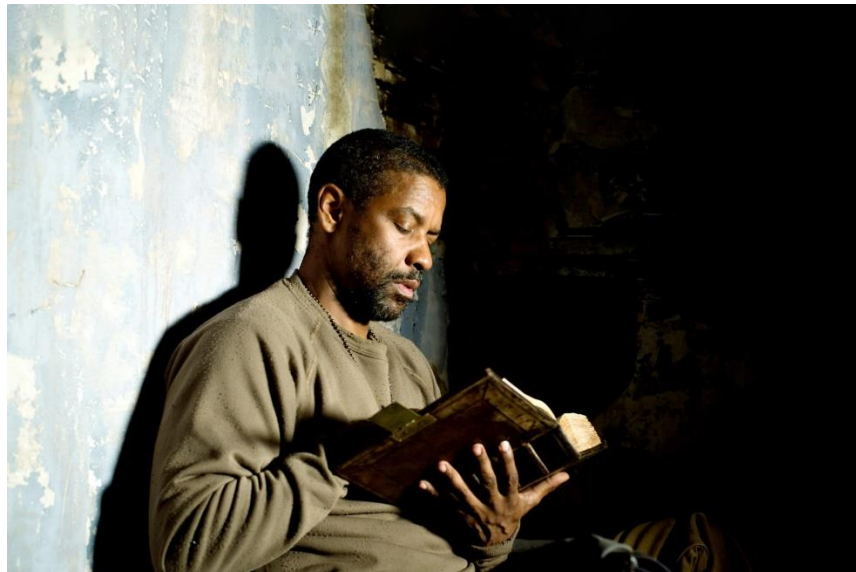
118 minutes

Denzel Washington is one of the most celebrated actors in Hollywood. He's good-looking, has truckloads of charisma and has had a well-storied career. So recently I decided to have a marathon of all my favourite Denzel vehicles which included, ***Malcolm X (1992)***, ***Out of Time (2003)***, ***Courage Under Fire (1996)***, ***Ricochet (1991)*** and one that I found a greater appreciation for on the second watch, ***The Book of Eli***. In fact, I enjoyed it so much that I decided to review it for this month's issue. Released in 2010, ***The Book of Eli*** was written by Gary Whitta and directed by the duo of Albert and Allen Hughes known together professionally as the Hughes brothers. The twin brothers are recognised for previously helming violent films such as ***Menace II Society (1993)***, ***Dead Presidents (1995)***, and ***From Hell (2001)***.



In this post-apocalyptic thriller, Denzel Washington plays *Eli*, a man who believes he has been called to transport the final copy of a book across the country. In the vein of previous dystopian movies such as the *Mad Max Series (1979-1985)* and *The Road (2009)*, we are introduced to a world ravaged by a vaguely described war, where food, shelter, and clean drinking water are all precious luxuries. This is the post-apocalyptic world that the protagonist has trekked his way through over the past 30 years, fighting off bloodthirsty gangs that rule the roads of this lawless civilization. *Eli* is a Godly man, who is guided by his faith and call to protect and preserve the only copy of the Bible that survived the war. As he journeys across the desolate wasteland that is now the western United States, *Carnegie* (Gary Oldman), the power-hungry despot who rules over a makeshift town, apprehends him. Carnegie wishes to seize the last copy of the *Bible* to misuse *God's* Word and gain ideological control over this war-torn society. *Eli* and *Solara* (Mila Kunis), a young woman from the town, protect the Bible from Carnegie, as they attempt to transport it into the hands of people who will respect and revere this sacred text, which holds the key to saving humanity.

“*The Book of Eli*” has an incredible Biblical message, which tells the story of *Eli's* unwavering faith as he honours *God* with his life and follows *God's* will no matter how hard the journey may be. We see *Eli's* faith remain steadfast as he faces many trials and tribulations, including gangs of bloodthirsty criminals, the power-hungry *Carnegie*, and a lack of basic necessities, such as fresh water, food, and decent shelter. *Solara* was born into this post-war civilization and is unaware of the *Bible* or *Christ's* teachings. *Solara* can't read so *Eli* guides and instructs her in prayer. *Solara* asks *Eli* about life before the war and he describes how wasteful people were, tossing things away that people now would fight to save. He also explains to her that his devotion to carrying out *God's* plan has kept him strong and that he walks by faith.



One of the strongest messages I got from “*The Book of Eli*” was a warning to individuals and societies who desire to get rid of Christian principles from our current culture. A 2017 report released by the Pew Research Institute based in the USA found that government restrictions on religion have increased markedly in many places around the world, not just in authoritarian countries, but also in many democracies.

According to the report, “...over the decade from 2007 to 2017, government restrictions on religion (laws, policies and actions by state officials that restrict religious beliefs and practices) increased markedly around the world. And social hostilities involving religion – including violence and harassment by private

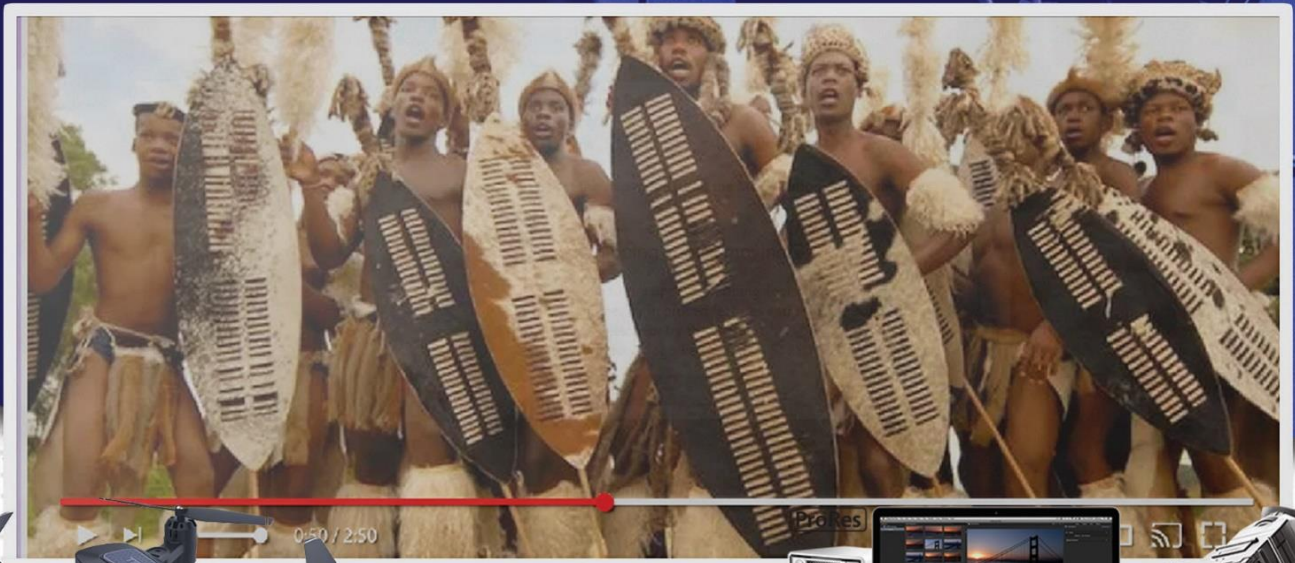


individuals, organizations or groups – also have risen since 2007. The study covered 52 governments that imposed either “high” or “very high” levels of restrictions on religion, up from 40 in 2007. And the number of countries where people are experiencing the highest levels of social hostilities involving religion has risen from 39 to 56 over the course of the study.” Though I have to admit, the current levels of government limits on religious activities are a far cry from the perversity and anarchy that prevails in Eli’s ungodly environment, I can’t help but see a disturbing trend in the research.

If you are a sensitive viewer, the graphic violence in the film may be disturbing to you. Though it may not be much of a consolation, Eli only uses violence as a tool for self-defence. I found this movie to be action-packed, moving, and thought-provoking and if you can get past the violence and occasional profanity you will find an intimate study of a man whose steadfast faith leads him to relentlessly swim upstream against a tide of Godlessness. As a final note though I have to add I did notice the movie’s not-so-subtle dig at how religion can be used to enslave rather than free. Carnegie wanted the bible for himself so he could corrupt the masses and use them to his own ends. Though the main theme of the film is that of faith, this revelation had me reflecting on just how much religion has been misused to subjugate minds over the ages.



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In a former life, I worked for a South Indian restaurant that had a rather life-threatening initiation ritual. Each new member of the team was required to have two spoonfuls of **Vindaloo sauce**. To those unfamiliar with it, this is a feat only to be attempted in the presence of a trained fire marshal and a healthy supply of adult diapers. However, not all dishes were prepared with molten lava. I developed a taste for the **Tandoori Chicken** & even looked for recipes of how I could prepare it myself without a tandoori oven. Here's one I found...

Oven-Baked Tandoori Chicken

You can use a regular home oven to make tandoori chicken. It comes out wonderfully juicy and flavourful.



Prep Time 15 mins
Cook Time 30 mins
Marinating 1 hr
Total Time 1 hr 45 mins



Servings: 4 servings
Course: Main Course
Cuisine: Indian
Calories: 284kcal

INGREDIENTS

1 teaspoon
1/8 teaspoon

Ground cumin
Cayenne pepper

Chicken:

8 large
Avocado oil spray

Chicken drumsticks about 3 lb. total weight

Garnish:

1 tablespoon
1 lemon

Chopped cilantro or parsley
Cut into wedges

INSTRUCTIONS

- In a large bowl, mix the yogurt, lemon juice, garlic, ginger, kosher salt, black pepper, paprika, garam masala, turmeric, cumin, and cayenne pepper.
- Using a sharp knife, cut three slashes in each drumstick. Add the drumsticks to the bowl and rub the spiced yoghurt onto them. Marinate for 1 hour in the fridge
- Preheat your oven to 245 degrees C. Line a rimmed baking sheet with foil for easy clean-up, fit it with a roasting rack and spray the rack with non-stick spray.

You can Serve it With...

Lemon Rice



Garlic Butter Naan



Potato Samosas



So after cranking the oven for the *Tandoori Chicken* I'm sure you would want to give it rest, energy costs aren't a joke these days. So for the dessert I suggest this quick and easy no bake *Lemon Coconut Slice* recipe I found scouring the internet and quite enjoyed. It's rich and creamy from the coconut, with a lemony tang too to compliment.

No Bake Lemon Coconut Slice



Prep Time: 10 mins
Set Time Base: 10 mins
Set Time Top: 20mins
Total Time: 40 mins



Servings: 24 Slices
Course: Dessert
Cuisine: Australian
Calories: 284kcal

INGREDIENTS:

Biscuit Base

125g	Coconut oil (Solid, chopped)
250g	Arnott's Milk Coffee Biscuits
80g	Desiccated coconut
160g	Sweetened condensed milk

Lemon Topping

185g	Coconut oil, chopped
110g	White chocolate melts
200g	Sweetened condensed milk
250g	Tub sour cream
60ml	Lemon juice
2 teaspoons	Finely grated lemon rind



40g Desiccated coconut, extra
1 teaspoon Finely grated lemon rind, extra

Method:

BISCUIT BASE

- Grease and line a 20cm x 30cm slice tin.
- Make sure the paper has a 2cm overhang
- Melt the Coconut oil in a microwave on high or in a saucepan until fully melted.
- Using a food processor process the biscuits and coconut until they resemble fine breadcrumbs
- Add the melted Coconut oil and sweetened condensed milk and mix.
- Press the biscuit mixture firmly into the tin, using the back of a spoon. Put in the fridge to set for 10 minutes

LEMON TOPPING

- Melt the Coconut oil and chocolate in a microwave on high or in a saucepan over low heat until fully melted and combined
- Place sweetened condensed milk, sour cream, lemon juice and rind in a large bowl and mix to combine.
- Add the Coconut oil chocolate mixture and mix until smooth
- Pour over the base and smooth the top.
- Put in the fridge to set for 20 minutes



Enjoy

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Family

Sons

of the

Most High

The background of the page features a silhouette of a man standing on the right, looking towards the left. In the foreground, the silhouettes of two children are visible, one on the left and one in the center, both looking towards the man. The background is a soft, golden sunset over a range of mountains.

By Sherita Naransamy

I hold on tight to my pillow, clutching it tighter to cover my face as tears just roll down my face. I quiz myself... *What is this that I feel? A void, an emptiness, a broken heart? I am letting my children down. Could I have said more? Done more? Could I have...*

We are parents of three boys aged Tyrique, Tyresse and Kaiden aged 18, 17 and 11 respectively. Seeing them grow from boys into young men of stature, valour and honour has been a life-affirming journey. As my husband and I walk through life, we leave footprints in the sand knowing we have three more walking in the same steps right behind us. As parents and leaders, we need to be mindful of each other, mindful of our words and actions, as three little birdies are watching and absorbing everything.

I love the poem by *Kahlil Gibran*- on Children- ***You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth. The archer sees the mark upon the path of the infinite, and He bends you with His might that His arrows may go swift and far.***

We are the archers of our children's lives and our aim is higher than ourselves. The target is ultimate excellence in thoughts, words, actions and the pursuit of perfection of **God's** will. For **God** alone is perfect. There is no greater feeling than seeing the success of our children. Being overcomers, strong and mighty full as they go into the world. We will walk to the ends of this earth to ensure their well-being, hearts desires and longings are met. I love what my husband says to the boys: ***"Don't be me, be greater than me! Don't ever let anyone say to you, you can't, for you were born great men."***

In the same vein, I am overwhelmed as I reflect on how much **The Father** loves us. I felt compelled to pen a letter to my sons:

To my young warriors

*Desires of the flesh, anything the hand can touch, the eyes can see and ears that can hear in the world, are only temporary. Yes, I would love to give you fancy cars, fat bank accounts, and designer clothes but what will this mean to you? From the day of your birth up until today, you have been set apart. You shine with **God's** splendour and grace. Do you know who you are? Do you know whose son you are?*

*The hardest part is trying to keep it all together, but by **God's** grace, I got this. It is difficult, to remain focused on the many aspects of all the roles I juggle. I have made many sacrifices just to see you to this point in your lives. Sacrifices I will gladly continue to make, so you can continue to prosper and be all you can be. I wake up each morning, sometimes riddled with pain from the previous day, just for you to want for nothing. Not once have I ever complained. I am strongest when I look at you three. As your mum, I will move heaven and earth.*

*Soon I must let you walk your journeys, the path is clear. Even though I was the vessel you came into this world through, you are not from me. You are from the **Father**, the Alpha and the Omega, the living word. **He** moulded you, **His** spirit is in you, you are His masterpieces! I believe in you, I love you, I honour who you are and thank **God** for allowing me to be your parent.*

Eternal Love...

Mom



*“He will be great and will be called
Son of the **Most High** and the Lord
God will give him the throne of David
his father, and he will rule over the
house of Jacob forever, and of his
kingdom there will be no end.”*

Luke 1 : 32-33



The habit of saving is itself an *education*; it fosters every *virtue*, teaches *self-denial*, cultivates the *sense of order*, trains to forethought, and so

Broadens the Mind.

• *Theodore T. Munger* •

“Enough Said!”



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