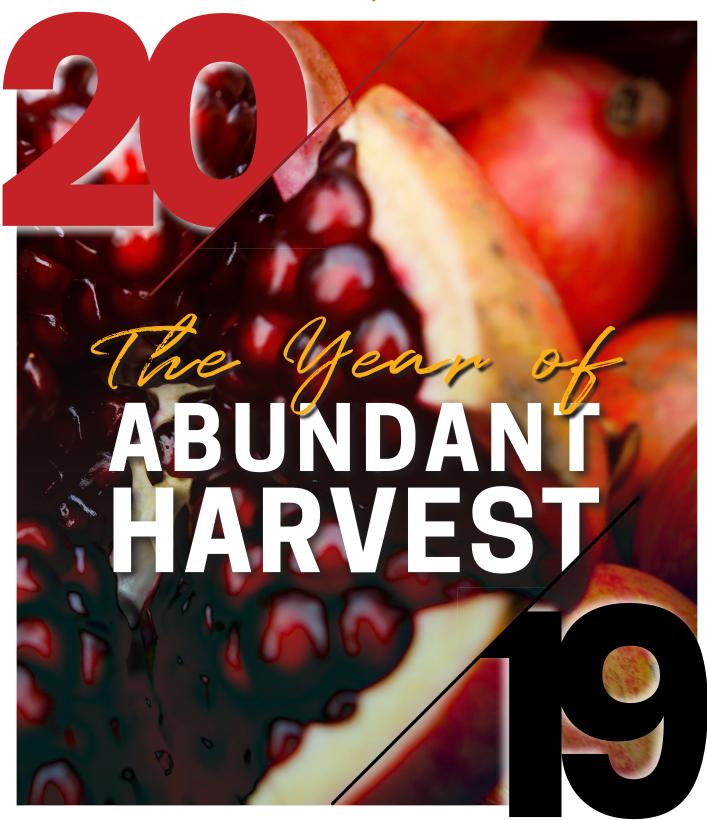


**JANUARY 2019** 



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# **WALDO MALAN**

Well, here we stand again, at the doorway to another year. The days of last year are now safely filed in our archives, and as we stand on the pages of the first day of a new year we are ready to start writing our story.

For many of us it is a continuing story, while for others it will be the start of a brand new story. If you are anything like me, it is simply a continuing story but with new twists and turns developing in the plot. The metaphor of our life as a novel is certainly not a new one, but still provides a valuable consideration as we approach unexplored territories, unique situations, people we have never met before, and as we are confronted with expectations.

With this said, I can appreciate the futility of making a "New Year's Resolution" just for the sake of making one. Rather, our lives are full of resolutions we make daily, and not only on the first day of a new year! The resolutions we often come up with on this first day are superficial and have nothing to back them up, which is why they are vapors in the wind a week down the line. However, those resolutions that have been made, and worked on consistently and diligently, take on a substance that will lead to real results.

For the sake of this short discussion, let us rename 'resolution' to 'vision', or even 'purpose.' When a resolution has a purpose, it will also have a strategy, and ultimately our goal will be reached. To simply make a resolution, "I must lose weight" in the aftermath of a holiday season spent eating too much, and then not to strategize effectively how to put it in place will be futile. These resolutions simply get piled on the heap of unfulfilled hopes and wishes.

Let us, this year, make our daily resolutions an active strategy to a desired outcome! Let the resolutions become an integral part of our story, the plot of our novel, and in its discovery the beautiful shaping of our character!





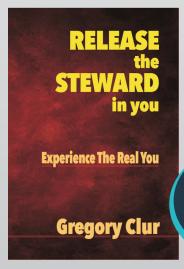
# The Greatest Spiritual Law

In this teaching we will learn how our thoughts; words; attitudes and actions all play a vital role in establishing God's blessing in our lives. May this message inspire you to take God's word to heart and actively apply His kingdom principles to your every day life.

# Stand Strong

In this compelling message, Pastor Jenny encourages us to Stand Strong in the Lord and the power of His might! You will learn about the explosive, supernatural power that is inside every believer to withstand any attack from the enemy.





## Release the Steward in You

For the most part, humanity is preoccupied with "self-service" as opposed to "selflessly serving"..... reflects a mindset influenced by society, politics, education and peer pressure, is fundamentally ignorant to the purposes of God. The truth is that there is an extraordinary life experience literally moments away, accessed by a decision to follow Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour of your life, characterized by a life of stewardship over everything that He has made available. It is about kingdom living, it is a journey where the experience is breathtaking. The best news of all is that you are exactly the right person for the position, are you interested?

Gregory Clur is a qualified Chartered Accountant (B.Com CA (S.A.)). He has practiced for 13 years as a public accountant and tax practitioner and joined the River Group in 2003. He is currently the Chief Financial Officer of the group and oversees the group's financial and administrative affairs, which comprises 7 major divisions.

R150



# In The Beginning God...

In this inspiring teaching, you will learn through the scriptures not only what the name God means, but you will discover His will and His ways.



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Do you live life with an eternal perspective? Scripture teaches that every moment we spend here on earth counts towards our eternity.



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online orders go to river-media.co.za

# Working with the Healer

# **ANDRÉ & JENNY ROEBERT**

Is there anyone on this earth who doesn't need the healing touch of God in some area of their lives? Would anyone willingly not choose to live in divine health? I think the answer is obvious, don't you? We all need the healing power of God to not only bring healing, but sustain the wholeness it brings. Because of the shed blood of Jesus, and the presence of the Precious Holy Spirit in our lives, we can experience this! Now, contrary to what some Christians may think, I wholeheartedly agree with the Word of God that clearly tells us Jesus suffered the severest flogging prior to His crucifixion so that we can be healed and made whole in this life. The Word declares that God is our healer; that He is impartial on this matter and not a respecter of persons when it comes to His will for ALL people to be healed and made whole. God is the Divine Healer and it is His divine will that every one of His creation walks healed and whole!

Jesus Christ went to the cross and endured so much suffering so that we could receive healing from every disease. 1 Peter 2: 24 says, "He personally bore our sins in His [own] body on the tree [as on an altar and offered Himself on it], that we might die (cease to exist) to sin and live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed." Matthew 10:1 says, "And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal ALL kinds of sickness and ALL kinds of disease."

# We will experience a shift in our mindsets

Isaiah 53:5 says, "He was wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our guilt and iniquities; and the chastisement [needful to obtain] peace and well-being for us was upon Him, and with the stripes [that wounded] Him, we are healed and made whole." The Hebrew word for healed here specifically means physical as well as mental and emotional healing. Jesus died for the complete healing of our bodies, souls and spirits.

Now, having said that, since the Word of God tells us His Spirit lives on the inside of us - and that His power to heal is alive and active in Him - we can expect that healing power to be alive and active in us too. I understand that this may be a bit of a mind bender for some. But the time has come for the church to see God's Word for what it says and what it is, and acknowledge it as the ultimate truth concerning us. When we agree with the Word, believe it and begin to appropriate it as the final authority for all things, we will experience a shift in our mindsets where we begin to see and believe things as God does. This shift is where faith in God's Word becomes the dominating influence in our lives, instead of the natural circumstances that seem to limit us.



# The Fruitful vs. the Frustrated Life

# JOYCE MEYER

Have you ever spent your time running around all day long but at the end of it, you didn't know what you actually accomplished? It's so frustrating when you realize you were busy, going from one thing to the next, but you didn't get around to doing anything you intended, or needed, to do.

It's easy to live this way in our world today with so much going on all the time. But I can't find any scripture in the Bible where God commands us, or even suggests to us, that we be busy. However, it does talk a lot about being fruitful, bearing good fruit in our lives.

There are two ways we bear good fruit. One is by displaying the fruit of the Spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). And the second way is by getting out in the world where God has planted us and being good to people.

I'm talking about helping people who are hard to love or don't seem to deserve it. Or giving to the poor and getting involved with people so you can make a difference and help make their lives better, rather than spending all of your time trying to make yourself happy.

I've discovered that being selfish and self-centered never makes anyone happy. Living for God is really just the opposite of that. God does want to bless us and give us the things we need, but when we give our lives to Him, our purpose is to serve Him.

# Who Do People Think You Are?

In Matthew 12:33 (AMP) Jesus says, "...The tree is known by its fruit." And this is how people know who we are. Just as you recognize an orange tree by the oranges it produces, you recognize a Christian by the fruit of their lifestyle.

I've said often that you won't be recognized as a Christian just because you have a Christian bumper sticker on your car or you wear Christian jewelry or go to church every week. Most of the time people won't care what you have to say if your behavior doesn't back it up.

The fruit of our lives is seen in our behavior - what we do to help others and our attitudes - as well as what we say. It's the visible expression of the invisible work that God is doing in us.

Jesus says in John 15:8, "My Father is glorified and honored by this, when you bear much fruit, and prove yourselves to be My [true] disciples." In other words, we're not proving anything to anyone simply by what we say. It's the fruit of our lives that proves who we really are.



So it's good for us to frequently ask ourselves: Who am I helping in my life? How am I making a difference or making someone else's life better?

## **How to Bear Good Fruit Every Day**

The key to bearing good fruit is found in John 15:5, which says, "I am the Vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in Me and I in him bears much fruit, for [otherwise] apart from Me [that is, cut off from vital union from Me] you can do nothing."

Jesus is telling us that as we spend time with Him in prayer and by studying the Bible, His Spirit is working in us, changing us little by little (2 Corinthians 3:18), causing us to reflect His image or characteristics more and more. It's a progressive transformation that takes time and requires a consistent commitment throughout our lifetime.

If you aren't spending regular time with Jesus and growing in your relationship with Him through prayer and Bible study, I want to challenge you to reevaluate your priorities and put first things first. The truth is we put our time into what we really want to do. And if something is truly important to you, you will find time to do it.

# God's Gift to You

God created you because He loves you, He wants to have a personal relationship with you, and He wants to do amazing things in you and through you. Every day is a gift from God and it's so precious!

Ephesians 3:20 says that God "is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly more than all that we dare ask or think [infinitely beyond our greatest

# The tree is known by its fruit

prayers, hopes, or dreams], according to His power that is at work within us." He has a plan for you and He will give you everything you need to fulfill your destiny as you seek Him and grow stronger in your faith in Him.

I want to encourage you to focus on Jesus and live by the wisdom He reveals to you in His Word. Choose to do today what you will be happy with later on, and no matter what the cost, you'll find that the good fruit it brings is more satisfying and fulfilling than just being busy any day of the week!

For more on this topic, order Joyce's three-CD series Busy Going Nowhere. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, Enjoying Everyday Life, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org.

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored more than 100 books, including BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND and HEALING THE SOUL OF A WOMAN(FaithWords). She hosts the Enjoying Everyday Life radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.

Please note: The views and opinions expressed throughout this publication and/or website are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Joyce Meyer Ministries.

# Hold Lightly To the Things of This World

# **ANGUS BUCHAN**

If we read in the Gospel of Luke 12:13-21, we will see that one of the people in the crowd asked Jesus to please tell his brother to divide the inheritance with him. We see Jesus' response to the man in verse 14-15: "But He said to him, "Man, who made Me a judge or an arbitrator over you?" And He said to them, "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses."

Jesus went on to tell a very interesting parable and I, being a farmer, can fully appreciate and understand the point the Lord made. He said there was a rich farmer who had a very bountiful crop, and his store rooms were already full of grain. The farmer said to himself: I have got no room to store this new crop, so I will build greater barns that will store all my crops. In verse 19 he says, "And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry." Then, verse 20: "But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?" The Lord reminds us to lay up treasure in Heaven and not on earth.

I heard such a sad story not so long ago of an extremely rich man that was seriously sick. When he had come out of his coma, the first thing he asked for was not his family

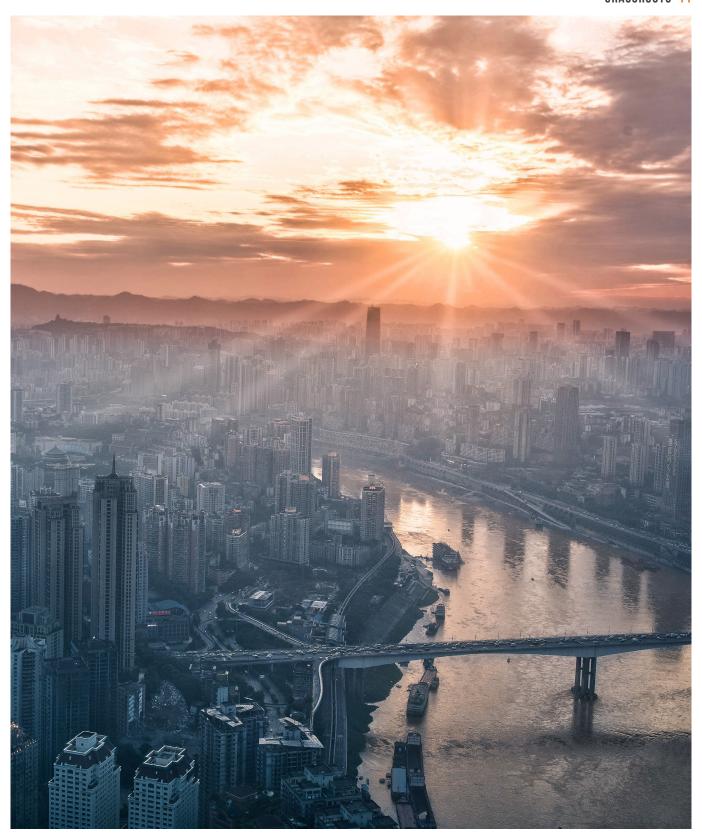
but his laptop. He wanted to see how the figures were doing. How tragic is that! The man subsequently died a few weeks later and he went to eternal damnation, because he did not acknowledge Jesus Christ as Sovereign Lord of his life.

We need to prioritize our lives and we need to put God first, then we need to put our family second, and then we need to put our business or our ministry thereafter. I encourage that while God is still giving us time on earth, we need to get our priorities in order.

As we have just been through the Christmas season, we remember that very famous story written by Charles Dickens: "Scrooge". The story of a rich man, who wouldn't give anybody anything and on Christmas Eve he went to bed and had a dream that he died and went to hell. When he woke up he realized how he had been wasting his life on earth and started to put things right by paying staff good wages, looking after the poor and the needy, and started to live life to the full.

My dear friend, we cannot take anything with us when we leave this world. We will leave this world the same way we came in. Therefore let us not strive for things which are temporal, but rather start striving for things which have eternal value.

Steve Jobs, a multi-billionaire, died at the young age of 50 years. While lying on his death bed, in a dark room



# Start striving for things which have eternal value

with green lights flickering on and off, indicating that the machines were keeping him alive, he said: "What is the point of all the fame and all the riches that I have

worked for all these years. I can get a man to drive my car, or to run my empire, but I cannot get a man to lie in this bed and take my sickness. The only thing worth living for is for family, and to help others." I'm not sure whether he was a Christian or not, but he realized - maybe too late - what the most important things in life are.

Jesus very distinctly, through the parable of the rich farmer, has shown us... "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?" (Mark 8:36). Let us take heed and let us change our ways.



THE MOST EXTREME LEADERSHIP GAP YEAR OF YOUR LIFE

FULL & HALF YEAR OPTIONS
NOW AVAILABLE!

JANUARY - JUNE | JULY - NOVEMBER

THE CONCEPT OF 'EXTREME EDUCATION' WAS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO DISCOVER AND DEVELOP THEIR LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL

# What makes your programme extreme and adventurous?

We offer students a wide range of extreme activities to participate in such as: sky diving, bungee jumping, scuba diving, mountain biking, abseiling, kayaking etc.

## What is the value of a gap year programme?

A gap year gives young people time to reflect on what they think would be the college/varsity or career choice best suited to their needs. It allows them to clarify their interests and become aware of their strengths and weaknesses.

We also believe a gap year allows them to take advantage of learning that takes place outside the classroom and apply these skills in real life situations, within a protected environment. It is imperative that youths experience life in communities different from those in which they have been living and our extreme gap year programme offers them this experience. We further believe that gap years allow students to learn about a variety of careers before making a critical decision and to gain maturity, initiative and resourcefulness, all valuable life skills.

# What outcome do you hope is achieved in every student's life once completing your programme?

Our programme is designed to meet, challenge and grow the complete individual, body, soul and spirit, as we train tomorrow's leaders today. Our desire is for the young person to have fun and 'discover themselves' as they are developed into a person with vision and purpose. We endeavour to take boys and girls and to mould them into young men and women that will have a positive influence on our society and the world.

# Describe how the programme works - when is your intake, how long does it last and how much does it cost?

The Beyond Adventure Extreme Leadership Gap Year Programme was launched in 2001. We are located 100 kilometres north east of Port Elizabeth in Alicedale. We are situated close to some of the great game reserves such as Addo Elephant Park and Shamwari. Our programme runs from the last week in January till the middle of November. The students are accommodated in rooms where they will learn to live with three other students. Cost enquires and further info can be obtained from our offices as well as our website www. beyondadventure.co.za, under the download section.

# What makes your programme unique as opposed to other Gap year courses?

We believe the Beyond Adventure concept to be unique in South Africa. The concept of 'Extreme Education' was designed to provide a challenging environment for young people to discover and develop their leadership potential. Leadership deals with direction, vision, purpose and principles and our leadership programme focuses on building the students up, making them aware of other cultures, helping them with emotional bank account building and strengthening them as individuals functioning in a group context.

Most importantly, we run a programme that is founded on Biblical principles with Jesus Christ as the foundation stone.



For more info contact us on T: 042 231 8051 • F: 086 618 4803 • E: baregistrations@myriver.com Beyond Adventure Campus • Bushman Sands Lodge & Golf Estate • Alicedale • Eastern Cape



# Come on: Is It Time To Fix Your Social Media Addiction?

# PHIL COOKE

Admit it – while you might not consider yourself "addicted" to social media, you've probably caught yourself so focused on checking it you often stop and wonder. While we're probably not deleting our social media accounts tomorrow, we're all getting worried that we're losing ourselves in that giant black sucking hole. For instance, how many times have you:

- Been the passenger in the car and totally ignored your spouse or friends because you can't take your eyes off your phone?
- Caught yourself checking social media while you wait for your meal in a restaurant (even when you're with friends)?
- Started meetings by setting your phone on the table just in case you get an important text message?
- Had a few minutes to wait before a movie starts so you pull out your phone, totally ignoring your friend sitting next to you?

The list goes on and on, but you get it. And in case you still refuse to believe the addictive nature of social media, I'd encourage you to read "Irresistible: The Rise of Addictive Technology and the Business of Keeping Us Hooked."

I'm not a therapist, but here's something I've started doing to get my life back from the constant social media pull: Start carrying a small book around. I'm serious about "small" because it should easily fit in a purse, man-bag, briefcase or even a pocket or you won't use it. There are

thousands of books that fit that size requirement, and my recommendation is to purchase a handful that will help you move to the next level in whatever area you're focusing on right now. It may be your career, leadership, creativity, family, relationships, etc. A short read that you can digest quickly and easily.

One thing I've done is purchase a fantastic boxed set published in the United Kingdom called "The Pocket Canons." It's the King James Bible, with each book printed as a small separate paperback all in a boxed set. I leave it on my desk, and whenever I run out for a meeting, doctor visit, video shoot, or anything else, I grab one of the paperbacks. Then when a few minutes free up or things get boring, instead of reaching for my phone, I read a chapter of the Bible from one of the Pocket Canons. Each is slim enough to fit into my pocket, so it's easy to carry and read.

Whatever your preference for reading might be, I'd encourage you to try a small paperback book instead of constantly reaching for the phone.

It may not seem like much, but since the average adult checks his or her phone more than 110 times a day – by at least occasionally substituting that for a book, think of how much you'll read in a year.

And chances are you probably don't need to see another cat video.



# What Christians Aren't Doing on Sunday Morning

# PHIL COOKE

Every year, our team at Cooke Pictures has the incredible opportunity to work with churches around the world. In that process, we're regularly on location visiting wonderful Sunday services of all kinds – traditional, contemporary, and everything in between. However, one big area of concern I see is how few church members bring their Bibles on Sunday morning. I'm looking for any format – print, phone, iPad – but I'm amazed at how many long-time church members show up with no Bible whatsoever.

It was such a concern that Jonathan Bock and I included some interesting statistics in our recent book "The Way Back: How Christians Blew Our Credibility and How We Get it Back." In the book we site results from some of the largest research firms in the country and found:

- Only 19% of churchgoing Christians read the Bible daily.
- Only 25% of churchgoing Christians read the Bible "a few times" a week.
- And 40% of churchgoing Christians read the Bible "once a month, rarely or never."

# As we say in the book:

That last number: ouch! Can you imagine those statistics applying to other fields? Executives who don't care to know the data on their business, car mechanics who don't read manuals, teachers who don't read textbooks or doctors who rarely consult the medical literature? We would be horrified.

Yet when it comes to the primary book informing us about the God of the universe, His remarkable and unfolding plan for our lives, and our eternal destiny, Christians think so little of it that we read it only when it's convenient.

We wonder why Christianity continues to lose credibility in the world, and one of the biggest reasons appears every Sunday morning when Christians don't even value scripture enough to bring it, read it and study it.

I encourage you to try it. Research from the Center for Bible Engagement revealed that regular Bible reading actually causes visual behavioural changes in your life. And while you're at it – pick up a copy of our book "The Way Back." It will give you even more insight on why Christianity continues to lose ground, and hopefully inspire you to start making a difference.

# Letting Go

# **SARA TRUPPO**

"Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; He's the one who will keep you on track" (Proverbs 3:5 MSG).

God, what is happening? What have I done wrong? Have I wandered off course? These questions bombarded my mind as I pondered the current state of my life, which felt like it was falling apart. It was 2016 and I was struggling with feelings of rejection, anxiety, and depression. My business was in debt. I was still single (with no prospects) and about to turn 30 years old. I felt stuck and isolated as my friends celebrated weddings and baby showers and received book deals and grad school diplomas. I felt like a failure and the more I tried to change my circumstances, the worse off they became.

Change came the moment I surrendered my deepest desires to the Lord. This doesn't mean I gave up on my dreams - it means I relinquished the need to be in control of them. I shifted from doing things my own way and trusted God to do things His way. From this vantage point, I no longer felt like I was being buried alive - I was being planted.

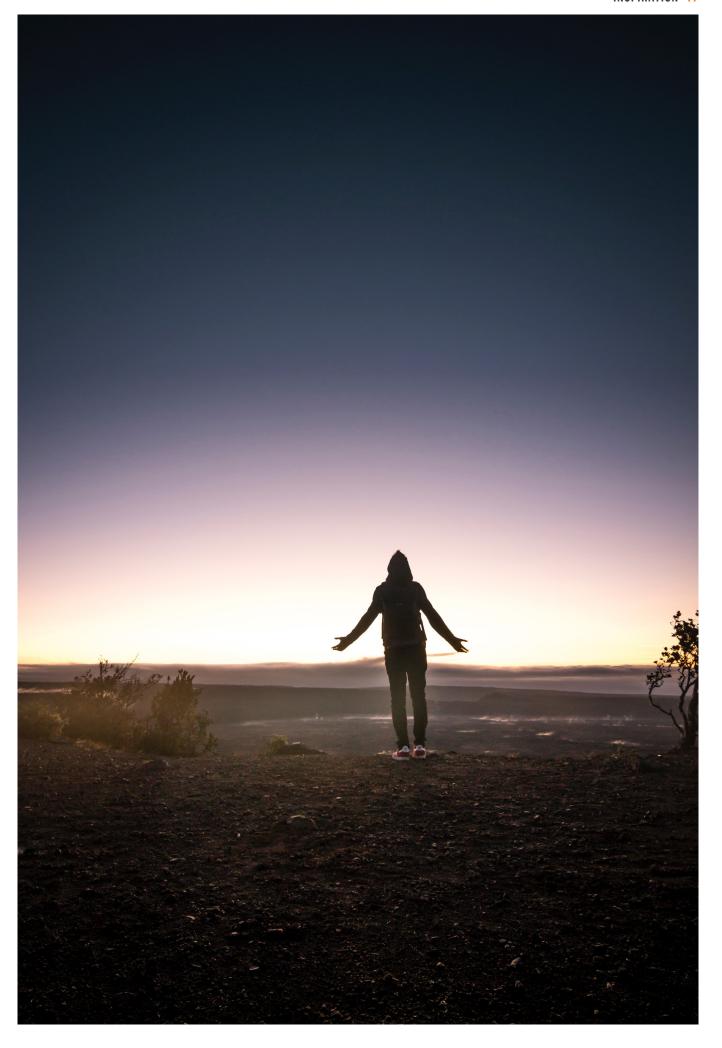
Anyone who is serious about following God's plan for their life will experience seasons where it feels like your dream is dying or even dead. At this juncture, we discover where our trust is placed - in God or ourselves?

# I surrendered my deepest desires to the Lord

From the moment of inception to the moment of completion, it's never really about the dream- it's about our heart. What God originates, He will orchestrate. God is responsible for watering the soil of our lives and producing the dreams and goals He has planted. Our responsibility is to obey Him as He leads.

Remember, you're not in the driver's seat - He is! God doesn't give us the map - He invites us into the journey. Many visions and dreams die in the time between "what" and "how" and understandably so. It takes courage to set your hopes, dreams, and plans free. Faith requires that you release the timelines and outcomes of your deepest desires. Although it is wise to plan and to take steps in the direction of your dream, it's up to God to fulfil the dream He's given you. I know this first-hand!

So, what dream or desire do you need to surrender control of today? Are you following God on your terms? Let go of the need to be in control and let God do what only He can do, because with Him all things are possible!



# Ready Player One

# LISA BEVERE

"There's an amazing door of opportunity standing wide open for me to minister here, even though there are many who oppose and stand against me" (1 Corinthians 16:9 TPT).

Opportunity attracts opposition. When you advance to a new level, you will be opposed by a new devil. To illustrate this point, imagine a virtual video game. With any good video game, it is necessary to complete multiple levels before ultimately completing the game. Each level consists of unique battles requiring specific battle strategies. The advancement to a new level always includes a stronger enemy.

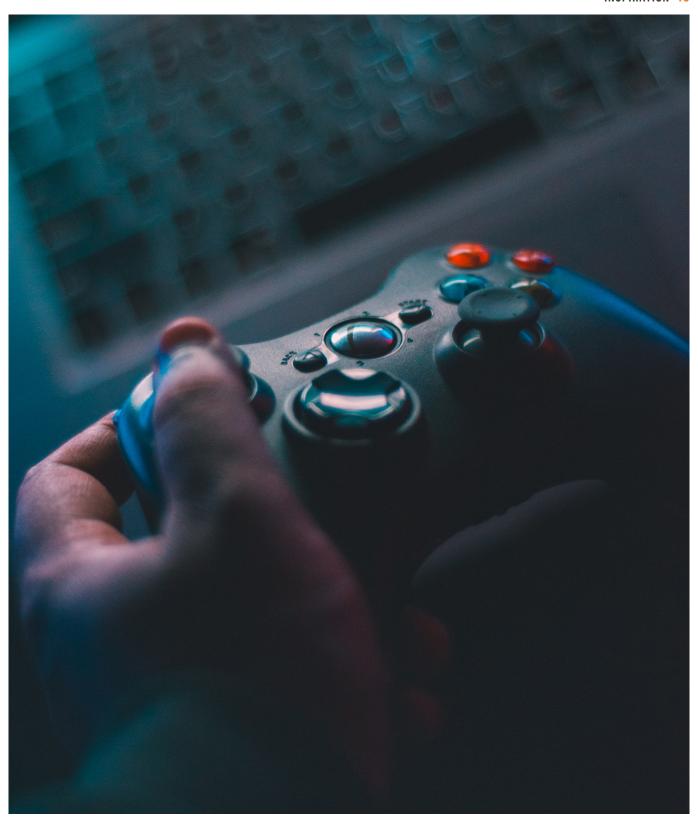
According to my sons - who have achieved a level of mastery when it comes to video games - each level is important. The goal is not to get through a level as quickly as possible - a player with that mindset will not fare very well or last in the game for very long. As I watch my boys manoeuvre and take risks to get certain articles hidden within the confines of the course at any given level, I've observed that each of these items has a unique value, but the need for these items is not usually immediate. More

often than not, they are collected for future use. What is obtained at one level, may be needed at the next.

Drawing from this analogy, it is crucial that we do the small things well. Never doubt that what may seem like a small or insignificant decision or gesture now may very well open a passageway or even empower you in the future. Be assured, it isn't just our actions that move ahead with us into the future; the lessons we learn on each level journey with us as well.

As the Israelites were poised to possess their Promised Land, the Lord's strategy was for them to conquer the land incrementally. Moses disclosed, "And the LORD your God will drive out those nations before you little by little; you will be unable to destroy them at once, lest the beasts of the field become too numerous for you" (Deuteronomy 7:22 NKJV).

The reason God refused to remove their enemies instantly was because they would inherit a land they couldn't manage. By removing their enemies little by little, God was allowing them to gradually grow in their capacity to rule and reign in their Promised Land. If God gave us everything promised all at once, we wouldn't be able to handle it.



Life is all about seasons, phases, and stages. Lean into every level and season of life and extract the lessons God is teaching you. God is preparing you for what He has prepared for you. You're not just going through this season; you're growing through it.

Our goal should be to win each battle we face with the understanding that we are engaged in an ancient war between darkness and light - God versus Satan. Although we fight from a place of victory; that victory must be enforced. This is done gradually - little by little.

Lean into every level and season of life and extract the lessons God is teaching you

# Letters from a Messenger

# DAMIAM VINCENT HENRY

# BEING ONE FOR CHRIST If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you?

Forgiveness itself goes beyond being a kind act. The world might not understand the true meaning of the term 'forgiveness' but it's not worldly. You see forgiveness would mean the end of all wars if people actually forgave one another. But the world looks at forgiveness unfavorably because it's not understood as doing the right thing. To the world it remains a foolish act. But everything you do on earth will only be remembered for a short while through the eyes of man, and it doesn't matter how important it seems at the time. It will not be remembered forever. Now that's foolish.

But if you forgive everyone who has ever wronged you, no matter how pointless or foolish it seems to man. God remembers it forever! Forgiveness is out of love, and cannot be defined by mere words.

# FORGIVE AND YOU WILL BE FORGIVEN

# **Never forget to forgive**

Paul said that we should at all times forgive. And although you'll struggle

'You see forgiveness would mean the end of all wars if people actually forgave one another.'

with forgetting what the person did...you should at all times remind yourself that you forgave the person in your heart.

What I've noticed is how people don't even consider forgiveness an act of love. It's not considered anything to the world these days.

I heard someone once say: "forgiveness never sticks." But if I may introduce to you an illustration of why we should forgive, I'd say: A moth is considered nothing compared to a butterfly. The moth is

misunderstood and considered dirty to some, but isn't it amazing how it's the moth who clings to the light and not the butterfly. Since the butterfly is considered 'perfect' it is free to go where it wishes. But just as the moth persistently fly round the light, so must we persistently forgive. So that we might be forgiven.

The moth never forgets the light!

# **LOVE YOUR ENEMIES**

Forgiveness is rain that nourishes the earth, and although we tend to think we struggle alone with forgiving others. There's a whole world struggling to forgive. But the only way to truly forgive someone is with the help of God! This should be a daily reminder to us, the purpose of forgiveness. (LUKE 6: 27)

'But I say to you who hear; Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you.'



For more than ten years Faith Cares (formerly known as Siyanceda Africa) has been devoted to providing food, clothing, shelter, medicine and other daily necessities to the economically disadvantaged and victims of disasters on this continent. Faith Cares cuts across cultural barriers, travelling to rural areas, spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Be a part of what God is doing through this Relief ministry.

" As we care for the needy, we honour the Lord "



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# Only Forty Percent?

# Perseverance Always Wins

# SAMANTHA MALAN

Has anyone ever told you 'perseverance always wins' in a time where you were highly stressed and would rather just give up, and let's be honest, you really wanted to kindly shove that person somewhere else? Well I have... But there may actually be some truth behind those words...

I've personally always been someone who has attempted keeping a balanced lifestyle. I've always tried keeping my spiritual, physical, mental, and social lifestyle blocks running at an equal, successful, and growing pace. But there have been days, sometimes weeks or months, where I could honestly and truthfully say one or more of those areas have suffered tremendous deterioration and failure.

For years, I've been interested in how the mind works from a psychological point of view and I've spent time considering the development and structure of the mind, studying how to push past our initial mind blocks and reach our full potential. David Goggins, an ex-Navy SEAL and extreme athlete (currently holding the top record for the most pull-ups done in a 24-hour period), put it this way: "When you think you are done, you are into forty percent of what your body is capable of doing." In other words, at the point when you feel as though you have reached your breaking point, and you cannot go another centimetre, whether it's in the spiritual, physical, mental, or social arena, you have probably only reached around forty percent of your true potential.

Yup, life gets crazy - and trying to reach your full potential every single day can get a little tough - but on those days

We are fearfully and wonderfully made in His image

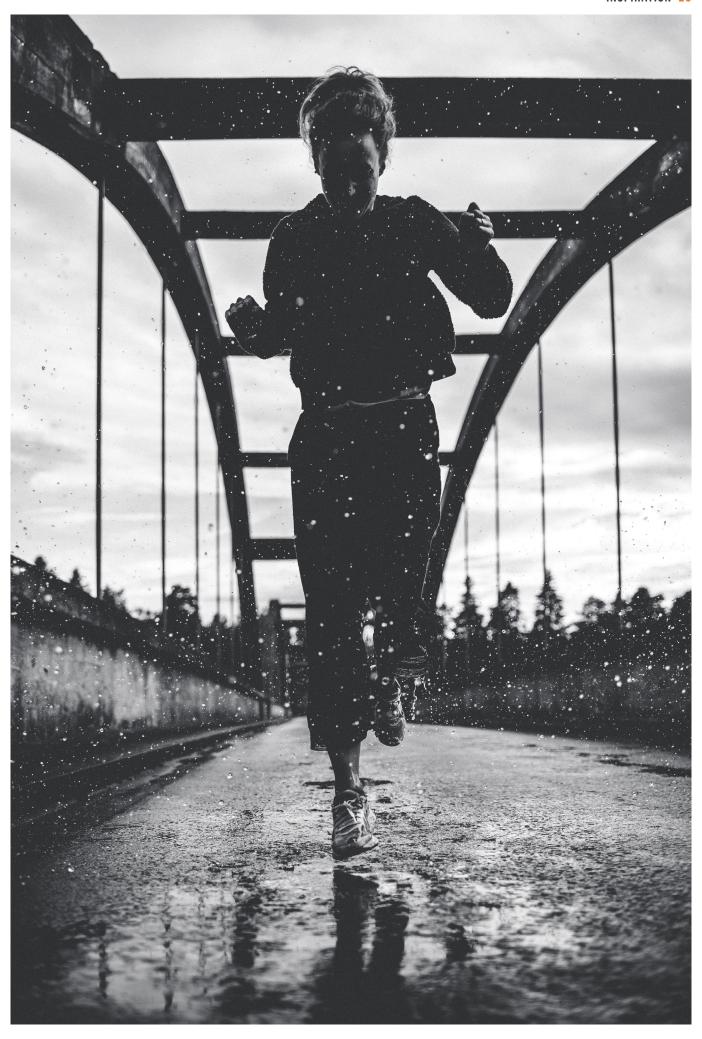
where I have probably only reached my forty-percentile bracket, I remind myself who my Saviour is and the promises He has given me. He has mounted me (and you) on wings like eagles, giving us joy unspeakable, and we are fearfully and wonderfully made in His image to conquer the tasks and tribulations that come our way; for He is a light for our path, guiding and leading us in His will and ways; and He has set a table for us in the presence of our enemies to bring Him glory in everything we do.

So, my dear friend, it's okay to feel down; but it's up to you as an individual to stand up, push past that initial stumbling block, and head into the one hundred percentile bracket. You are capable, and have the potential of reaching and accomplishing so much! Never stop running your race the race and story God has uniquely given each and every one of us.

As always don't forget to LIVE - LOVE - LAUGH - AND LEAVE A LEGACY!

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# Why Christians are heeding the call to Homeschool

# ADÈLE BREEDT

More and more Christians are heeding the call to homeschool as they realize that it's not just about academics but rather about discipleship! They are choosing not to delegate their parental responsibilities to third parties, but instead to take up the challenge to parent purposefully and to nurture the whole child in spirit, soul & body. They are intent on developing a child with strong self esteem; a child who knows who he is in Christ and knows the Truth to be the truth, because he is being taught from a Christian worldview.

Formal schools as we know them today are a rather new phenomenon, they were established during the industrial revolution and compulsory school attendance was only introduced in the mid 1800's. Up until then most children were educated at home. God instituted families to train up children in the way that they should go; politicians introduced schools to gain social control.

Yes, it is a bold step to homeschool, but then as Christians we are not called to conform to the world! Jesus didn't send his disciples to the synagogues to be taught by the Rabbi's & Pharisees. Instead, he lived with them day in and day out so that they could develop meaningful relationships and they could learn from his example in real-world situations. And these are the keys to successful homeschooling: meaningful relationships or intimacy

# Train up children in the way that they should go

with each other and with God; being imitators of Christ knowing that character and habits are caught not taught and allowing our children to learn real, worthwhile life skills in the real world! The academic excellence that is achieved due to the one-on-one tutoring is just an added benefit.

If you know that you are being called to homeschool, then know that you are equipped to do this too! He that created them for a plan and a purpose knows exactly where they are heading and will guide you step by step. Obedience is better than sacrifice...

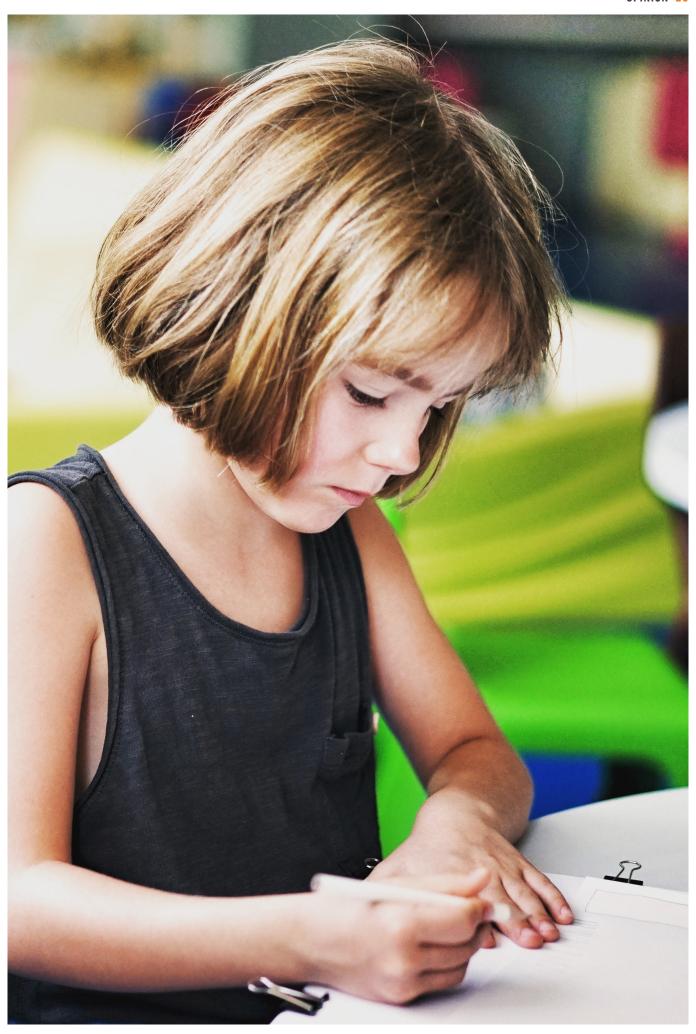
## About the author:

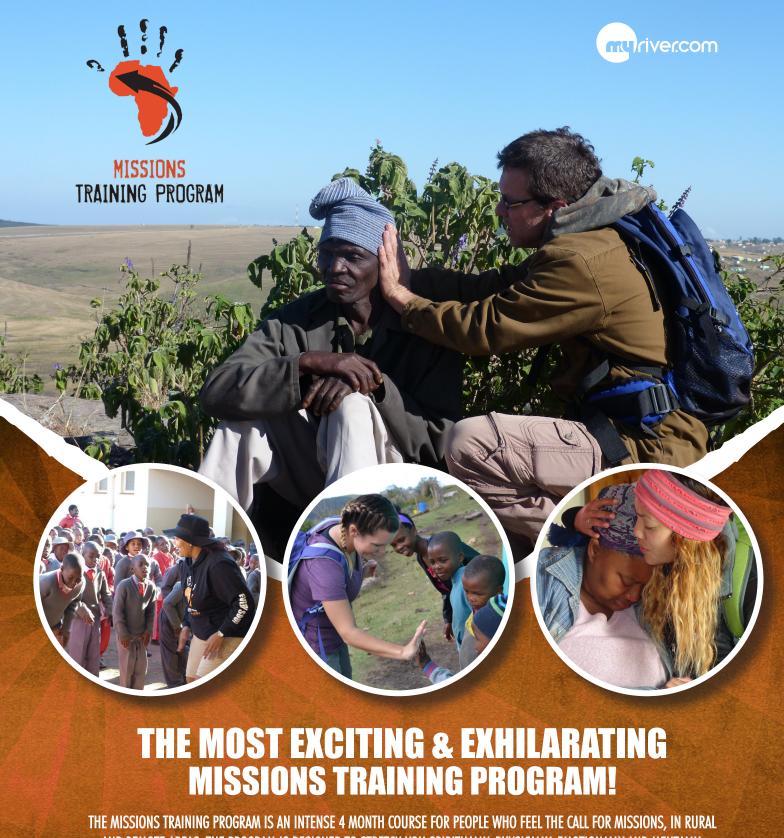
Adèle is a small business owner, national winning cat breeder and homeschool mom to 3 sons entering their teens. She is married to Connie and they have home educated the boys since toddlerhood. The family live on 4 acres on the forest verge in Stutterheim. Connie & Adèle have chaired the Eastern Cape Home Schooling Association for the last 4 years.

# Some further reading:

The Christian Home School by Gregg Harris (father to Joshua Harris the author of I Kissed Dating Goodbye)

When You Rise Up: A Covenantal Approach to Home Schooling by R.C Sproul





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"You were born for a purpose the world cannot do without. Your opportunity has come. Seize the day. Make it happen! Do it now!" Glen McQuirk

"Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step." Martin Luther King Jr.

"When God speaks, oftentimes His voice will call for an act of courage on our part." Charles Stanley

"I've read the last page of the Bible.

It's all going to turn out all right." Billy Graham

"Having collected instructions from the Word of God, meditation is the next process to embark upon. Meditation is the process of reasoning, pondering or thinking through."

# Faith Abiola Oyedepo

"Humility is simply accepting the reality of who God is and who you are."

John Townsend

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in Me." **Jesus (John 14:1)** 





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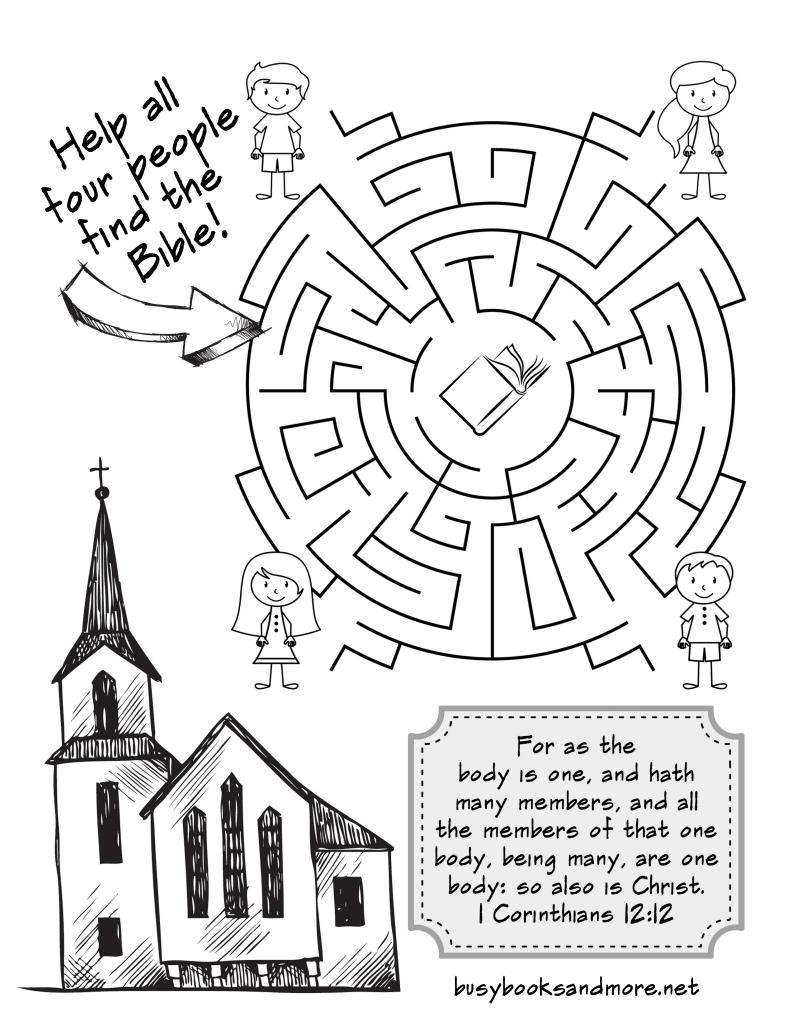
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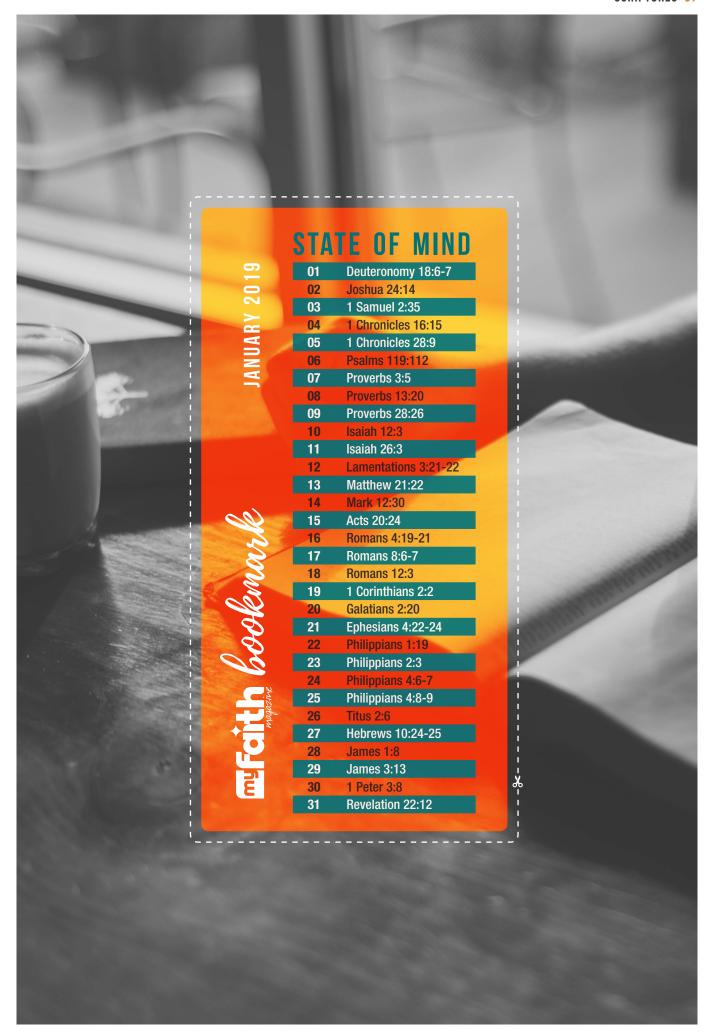
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