Inspiration today

COME TO ME Matt. 11v28

"Come to Me, all you who Labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."" Matthew 11:28-30 NKJV

Since the fall in the garden of Eden, man has struggled to feed, to stay healthy, provide shelter, accommodation and to enjoy good life. Those who have acquired much or inherited fortunes have no inner rest. The rate of suicide has continued to increase, especially among the youths and teenagers. Drug use is a ragging wildfire, ravaging homes and nations. There is no peace of mind in the rat race of this world system.

In the scripture above, the Lord Jesus is offering the solution to this demise. He is the only answer. All other solutions are but temporary at the best. Is your life full of struggles, emotional distresses and hopelessness? Do you work two jobs and long hours and your income cannot meet your outgoings and you feel like throwing in the towel. This invite is to you. Maybe your pay is handsome but you spend impulsively or there's no peace in your home and in your life please respond to this invite.

Years ago I was cheated and literally pushed out of a business in which I invested everything I ever owned. I couldn't pay bills and care for my family and I was on the verge of depression and then I answered this call and God turned my life around. Some years ago, I encouraged the CEO of a thriving company who was suffering from insomnia to answer this call and he did and that was the end of his illness.

There is the story of the woman with the issue of blood in the bible. She spent all she had to get well but she got worse instead. When she answered the call, she received instant healing and rest from the pain of the illness. She had rest from going from one doctor to another and no more financial losses. Jesus is inviting you to exchange your grief, weariness, pain and anxiety for His peace. His name is the Prince of peace and when you respond to His call, you will receive rest for your soul.

Abundant blessings.

November Birthdays

1 Naomi Agbonghile 4th, 2 Ifeoluwa Dele-Ajayi 6^{th,} 3 Nichalas Silver Smith 6th, 4 Joanna Ezenekwe 8th, 5 Anayo Kenkwo 20th, 6 Claire Holding 22nd, 7 Immanuel Kenkwo 22nd, 8 Ujunwa Onuora 23rd 9 Christopher Kenkwo 27th



Vision/Mission Statement

- To Make Heaven
 To take as many people as possible with us
- 3. Committed to Spiritual revival in the Merseyside region and the United Kingdom
- 4. To make Holiness our lifestyle
- 5. Helping members grow into the fullness of the stature of Christ through the Word, Prayer & Evangelism
- To be relevant in our community through helping the elderly, the homeless & the vulnerable
- 7. We will pursue these objectives until spiritual revival comes to our Nation & the world is reached for Jesus Christ our Lord

Services Sundays

Prayer meeting 9.30am

Church Service 11.00am—1.30pm

Evening Service 6pm—7pm

Holy communion Services First & Third Sundays Last Thursdays every month

Thursdays Bible Study 6pm—7.30pm

Prayer Meeting 5pm daily except Thursdays

Notices

Children aged 7 and below MUST be accompanied to the restrooms at all times

• Use of disabled toilet

Male Children, 12 and under are no longer allowed to use the male toilets. Henceforth, they should use the disabled toilet

b Evangelism Every Saturday 10.30am at Tuebrook. 11am City Centre

• Water Baptism

If you are born again and want to be water baptised by immersion, please see Pastor Christiana Ikeri

Today's Sunday School—Lesson 12 MEDITATING ON THE WORD OF GOD

Memory Verse: "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee" Ps.

119v11

Lesson text: Lk. 8v4 — 15

A. THE MEANING OF MEDITATION

1. Meditation means "the act of focusing one's thoughts: to ponder, think on, and muse. It is a component of many religious practices for ages — Ps. 63v6; Ps. 77v11

2. Meditation consists of reflective thinking or contemplation, usually on a specific subject to discern its meaning or significance or a plan of action. Ps. 119v103

3. Synonyms of meditation include: i. Rumination ii. Deep thinking iii. Remembering in an attempt to keep in focus iv. Calling something to mind for the purpose of consideration v. reflection or meditation Ps. 143v5; Rom. 10v8; Jer. 15v16; Ps. 19v10; Prov. 8v11

B. GOALS OF SCRIPTUAL MEDITATION

Worship — your mind is focused on the Lord and His works Ps. 27v4; Ps. 77v12. It is a place and space in our lives for communion with God Ps. 16v11; Acts 2v25—28. It is a means of elevating the spiritual over the material world. It is bringing your body, soul and

spirit out the realm of the world of activities, the world of hustling and bustling and coming and going to place of rest in Him.

- 1. Instruction Meditation improves our understanding of the Word and God's way as it applies to our lives, Ps. 49v3. Understanding comes from the meditations on His word in our heart Ps. 119v27,97. In meditation, we exchange our thoughts with God's.
- 2. Motivation or Encouragement Quality time of meditation on God's words motivate and inspire us in service. It gives faith and courage for the works God has called us to do. Josh. 1v7-8
- 3. Transformation—it is designed to transform and change our lives. This would apply to all the above. Ps. 4v4; 19v14; 119v15; Rom. 12v2; Col. 3v1-10

CONCLUSION

In Josh. 1v8, God promised Joshua success as part of the fruit of his meditation on the Word. It is different from the prosperity mentality based on the power of positive thinking. Biblical meditation leads to understanding the revelation of His Will. It guides one to obedience and godly living which is the key to unending prosperity and good success. Transcendental meditation is not biblical meditation. It opens up one's mind to satanic attack.

Open Heaven for today AN ALTAR OF MEMORIAL

Memorize: After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, this cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. 1st Corinthians 11:25

Read: Exodus 17:14-16 (KJV)

An altar could mean a lot of things depending on who built it and the purpose for which it was built. Here in today's Bible reading, we realize that an altar might be built not only to worship and sacrifice to the Almighty God, but also to serve as a memorial. Man is susceptible e to forgetting what the Lord has done in times past, and for this reason, an altar can be built as a means of remembering God's works and faithfulness. Many times, God commanded the children of Israel to never forget Him, His ways and His works (Deuteronomy 8:18, Exodus 20:8, Psalm 105:5-6). May you and your children never forget God or what He has done for you in Jesus' Name. Not only do altars of memorial bring us to remember what God has done in the past, they also bring God to remember His promises and covenant with His people, especially when they are at crossroads. After securing victory over the Amalekites, Moses built an altar for the peculiar reason stated in Exodus 17:15-16: "And Moses built an altar; and called the name of it Jehovah Nissi: For he said, Because the LORD hath sworn that the LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation."

Generations after, we see God remembering what He had sworn to do against the Amalekites. 1st Samuel 15:2 says "Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I remember that which Amalek did to Israel, how he laid wait for him in the way, when he came up from Egypt. Now g0 and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass."

I pray that God will remember His covenant and promises to you today in Jesus' Name.

Beloved, as Christians, we need to build memorial altars. One classic example of a memorial altar is the altar of the Holy Communion. Our Lord Jesus Christ instructed us to continually partake of it in remembrance of Him. When we do this, we remind Him of His finished work on the cross of Calvary, and this activates His power against anything that negates this finished work in our lives. Do you partake of this meal? Do you call to remembrance the death and resurrection of our Lord in your home by sharing this meal with your family? If you have not been doing so, begin to do it from today and watch God arise to enforce His covenant over your life.

Action point: Call God to remembrance over anything in your life and family that negates the benefit of the sacrifice that Jesus Christ offered with His Body and Blood.

Open Heavens Daily Devotional Lessons was written by Pastor E.A. Adeboye, the General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian Church of God