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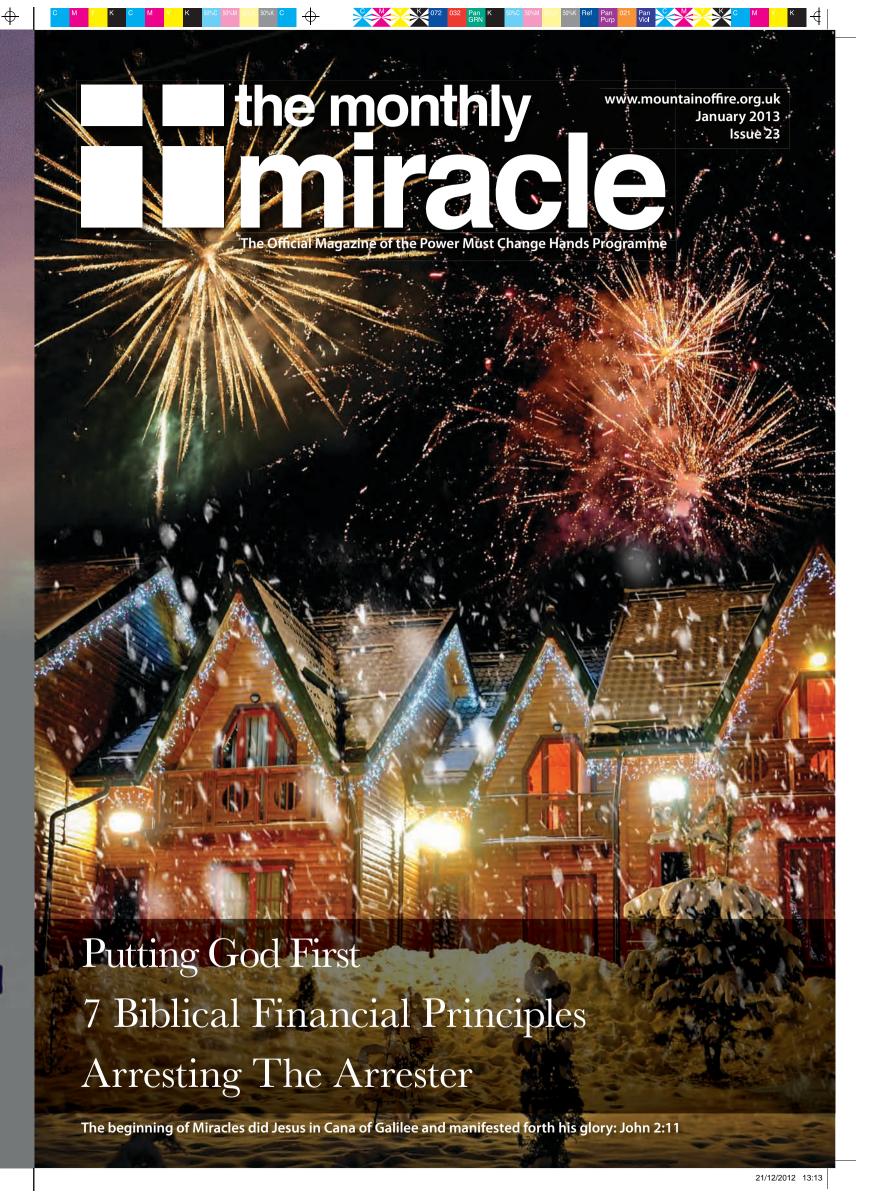
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## From The Editor's Lounge

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Have you ever felt so sad and angry and tired that you just want to shout to God and ask why? "Am I the only one? Money problems marriage problems, death of a loved one, sickness... "the list seems endless, and yo sit there, wondering, hoping, asking God for answers. And then, one day, God says, 'son, daughter, just trust me'. How can you trust God when things are so difficult?

Beloved, let me introduce you to Fanny J Crosby. Frances Jane "Fanny" Crosby (1820 1915) known by her pen name Fanny J. Crosby, was born at South East, Putnam County, New York, March 24,1820. When six weeks old she lost her sight, through the negligence of the attending physician, but in spite of this severe affliction has always been noted for her choorful and happy dispersion. When her cheerful and happy disposition. When asked how she became blind, Fanny Crosby replied: "When I was six weeks old a slight cocaused inflammation of the eyes. Our usual doctor was away from home, so a stranger was called in. He recommended the use of hot poultices, which practically destroyed my sight. When this sad calamity became known, the unfortunate man thought it best to leave the neighbourhood, and we never heard of him again." "But," she added, "I have not, for a moment, in more than eighty-five years, felt a spark of resentment against him; for l have always believed that the good Lord, ir His infinite mercy, by this means consecrated me to the work that I am still permitted to do. When I remember how I have been blessed, how can I repine?" What a marvellou illustration we have here of the way in which God can enable us to rise above our trials, and can "make all things work together for good to those who love Him." In 1858, Fanny married a fellow teacher at the. Their only child, a daughter named Frances, died as an infant. Fanny and Van had been married 44 years when he died in 1902. In her life time, Fanny Crosby wrote over 8,000 Hymns; to name only a few, what immortal glory belongs to the author of "Pass me not, O gentle Saviour," "I am Thine, O Lord," "Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine," "Jesus, keep me near the cross," "'Tis the blessed hour of prayer," "Safe in the arms of Jesus," "Some day the silver cord will break," "Thou, my everlasting portion," and many others. One time a preacher sympathetically remarked, "I think it is a great pity that the Master did not give you sight when He showered so many other gifts upon you."

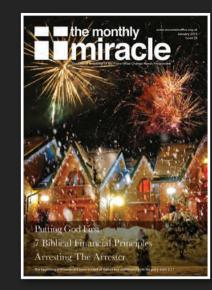
She replied quickly, "Do you know that if at birth I had been able to make one petition, would have been that I should be be blind?" "Why?" asked the surprised clergyman "Because when I get to heaven, the first face that shall ever gladden my sight will be that o my Savior!" And so she did, when she passed on in 1915, at the age of 95. Beloved, here is a woman who lost her sight at the age of 6, lost her daughter and married a blind man, yet she worked for God constantly, many of her works full of praise. Sometimes, you cant even find the words or the strength to trust God... just try. When things are so difficult, even the next broath some like it might kill you. breath seems like it might kill you... trust him. He is aware of what is happening to you, and He will work even the most unfavorable situation to your good. And before you know it, He will lift you up and make you great, just as he did for Aust Fanny, one of the greatest as he did for Aunt Fanny... one of the greates song writers that ever lived.

Remain blessed by our articles this month, and from the team on the Monthly Miracle Magazines, we wish you a blessed Christma break and a happy and prosperous new yea

See you in 2013...by His grace!



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From the A.G.O:

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

4 The Monthly Miracle Magazine

Please note that when you are coming for the January 2013 Power Must Change Hands programme,
Please come with anything that will represent your instrument of labour( trade, job, business, etc). Come and be blessed.
Invite a friend or two and experience as God explodes your income with supernatural increase in Jesus name. Amen
God bless you.

2) Please refer to the HYMN for this month in the print out's handed to you.

## Programme of Events

09.00 am - 09.10 amOpening Prayers10.05am - 10.10amOpening Hymn09.10 am - 09.35amPraise and Worship10.10am - 10.25 amChoir Ministration09.35am - 09.55 amTestimonies10.25am - 11.25amMessage09.55am - 10.05 amHour of Intercession11.25am - 12.00pmOffering and Closing

## Why Advertise in the Monthly Miracle?







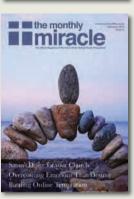














The Monthly Miracle Magazine 21

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### Announcements

Mfm prayer city Type of Deliverance is now in the UK 3rd week of every month - Mon to Fri from 9pm to 1pm Weekend Deliverance Every first week of every month that is power must Change hand

Please note that participant will be required to sleep in the church. Premises and registration prior to attending is a must

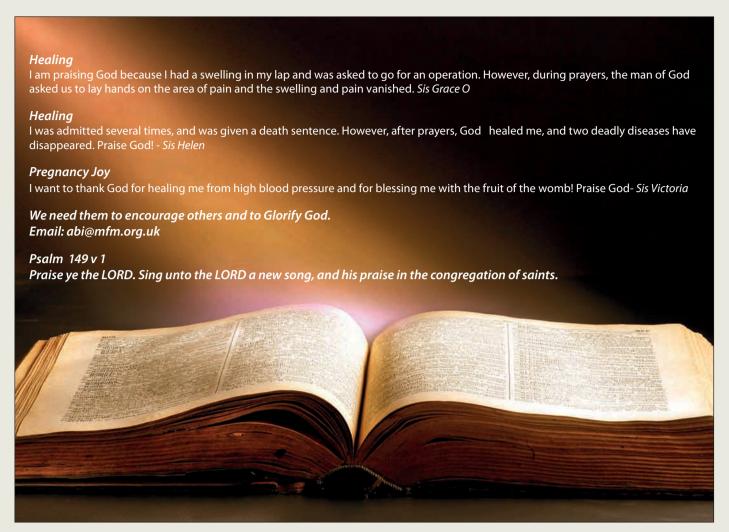
Venue: Mfm Hackney Wick - 25 Rothbury Rd, E9 5NH.

For more information and registration:

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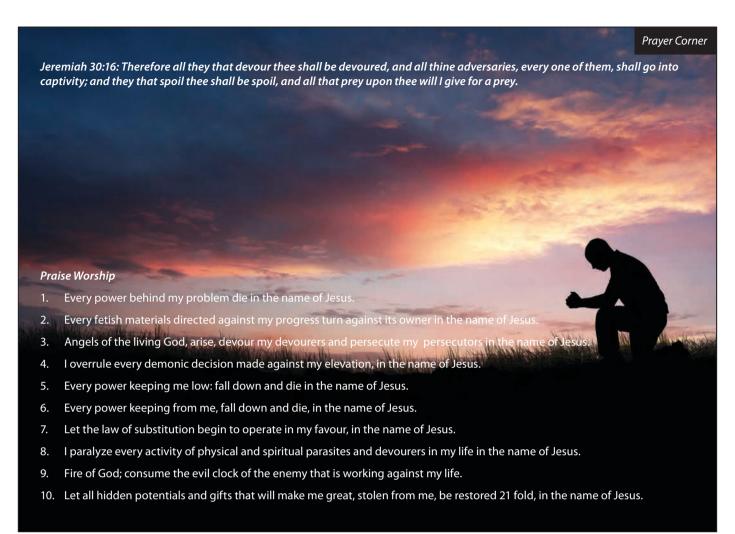
15th day of each month.

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## Putting God First

Many people miss out on living the "blessed life" because they fail to put God first. How about you? Is God first in your life? But seek first the kingdom of God and His

"First's" are important to God. Remember, in the First Commandment, God said, "You shall have no other gods before me" (Exodus 20:3). Put simply, He wants to be first in everything.

In order for your life to be blessed, God must come first. He wants you to put Him before your church, your job, your money, your "things," even your spouse and children. He wants to be your number one

Not putting God first is like buttoning your coat incorrectly. If you get the first button wrong, all the others will be wrong. But when you get the first button right, all the others will line up. When you put God first, everything else in your life will line up, too.

#### First Things First

God has a wonderful benefits package prepared for all who will put Him first. It is designed to cover all of our daily needs and keep us free from anxiety, as Jesus described in Matthew 6:25-33:

"Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father

knows that you need all these things.

righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

Jesus isn't saying that it's wrong to work for food, shelter and clothing; He just wants us to keep our priorities straight. He wants our hearts to be set on the spiritual (eternal) rather than on the physical (temporary). When we put His kingdom and eternal things first, God assures us that we will have the other things that we need.

Time, Treasure and Talents

Everything we have comes from God. He created the heavens and the earth. He made us and breathed life into our lungs. He gave each of us time, treasure and talents to use while living on earth, and He will bless whatever we dedicate to Him.

The devil, however, does not want you to experience a blessed life. In fact, John 10:10 tells us that the devil comes to steal, kill, and destroy. He will try to do whatever he can to keep you from using your time, treasures and talents first and foremost for God. But Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly." If you and I truly want to live blessed lives, the devil cannot stop us!

It's important for each of us to evaluate our

priorities from time to time to avoid being distracted from putting God first. If you are not seeing God's blessing in action, then

it is especially important to consider what you are doing with your time, treasure and talents. If you are already putting God first, then let this article simply be an encouragement to keep it up!

God created everything - even time. Solomon, the wisest man who ever lived, made it very clear in Ecclesiastes that, from being born to dying, there is a time for

The Apostle Paul wrote about our use of time in Ephesians 5:15-17. He said, "Look carefully then how you walk! Live purposefully and worthily and accurately, not as the unwise and witless, but as wise (sensible, intelligent people), making the very most of the time [buying up each opportunity], because the days are evil. Therefore do not be vague and thoughtless and foolish, but understanding and firmly grasping what the will of the Lord is" (Amplified).

When was the last time you stopped and reflected on how you are using your time the time God has given you? Think about it: are you putting God first with your time by spending it on things that honour Him? For example, do you dedicate time each day

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## Mountain Of Fire

1989 at the home of Dr. D. K. Olukova with 25 people at the first service. The Church later moved to No. 60, Old Yaba Road, Alagomeii, and finally to the present Headquarters site on 24th April 1994. Mountain of Fire and Miracles Ministries is a • To bring together children of God who full gospel ministry devoted to the Revival of Apostolic Signs, Holy Ghost fireworks and the unlimited demonstration of the power of God to deliver to the uttermost. Absolute holiness within and without as the greatest spiritual insecticide, and a prerequisite for heaven is taught openly. MFM is a do-it-yourself Gospel ministry where your hands are trained to wage war and your fingers to do battle (Blessed be the Lord my strength, which teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight: - Psalms 144:1 (KJV)). • To turn the joy of our enemies to sorrow. It is this kind of disposition that birthed the establishment of 25 ministry groups under the umbrella of the MFM Ministries, namely:

- 1. Prayer Warriors
- 2. God's Violent Army
- 3. Territorial Intercessors 4. Watchmen Group
- 5. Prophetic Group
- 6. Evangelism Team
- 7. Ministry to Drug Addicts
- 8. Ministry to Glorious Children
- 9. Ministry to School
- 10. Mission Outreach
- 11. Drama Evangelical Group
- 12. Music Ministry
- 13. We Care Ministry
- 14. Visitation Team
- 15. Christian Tentmakers
- 16. Interpreters
- 17. Tracts and Publications
- 18. The Counselling Group
- 19. The Ushering Team
- 20. Ministry to French Speaking Countries
- 21. Ministry to other African Countries
- 22. Tapes and Testimonies
- 23. Praise and Worship Team
- 24. Technical Crew
- 25. Hospital /Healing Ministry

#### **Vision And Mission Statement**

The following are the goals and aims of the Mountain of Fire and Miracles Ministries, as handed to the General Overseer.

- To propagate the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ all over the world.
- To promote the revival of Apostolic signs, wonders and miracles.
- are lost in dead churches.
- To train believers in the art and science of spiritual warfare; thus making them an aggressive and victorious army for
- To train believers to receive Holy Ghost baptism and fire as well as a daily walk and relationship with the Holy Spirit.
- That is why we would always have a deliverance ministry wherever we are. If you do not believe in deliverance, you are not supposed to be in MFM.
- To build an aggressive end-time army for the Lord. MFM is an end-time church where we build an aggressive end-time army for the Lord.

#### What Is An End-Time Church?

- An end-time church: is a church where a sinner enters with two options. He either repents or does not come back, contrary to the present day Church where sinners are comfortable and find things so easy and convenient.
- To deliver those who have become slaves to Pastors, Prophets and Apostles.
- To build up heavenly-bound and aggressive Christians. The priority in MFM is for people to make heaven. It is not a worldly Church.
- · To build up prayer eagles.
- To purify the Pentecostal dirtiness of

#### Statements Of Belief

1. The Scriptures are the inspired

Word of God; the only basis for our faith and fellowship.

2. The One True God, ETERNAL EXISTENT in three Persons, God The Father, God The Son and The Holy Spirit.

- 3. The fall and deprivation of mankind, necessitating redemption through the Blood of Jesus Christ.
- 4. The Salvation of Mankind is through the Redeeming Work of Jesus Christ and the Regenerative Work of the Holy Spirit. Sanctification is seen as an act of separation from that which is evil.
- 5. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit - Acts 2:4; 10:44 and 19:1-6.
- 6. We believe in Restitution for past wrongs where possible.
- 7. The Ordinance of the Church, ego the Lord's Supper and Water Baptism.
- 8. The Church Universal, both visible and invisible.
- 9. The Ministry, divinely called and scripturally ordained as that approved of Almighty God.
- 10. Divine healing as provided by the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 11. The Rapture ushering all believers into the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, and the second advent of the Lord Jesus Christ when He will physically land on
- 12. The Millennial Reign of Christ.
- 13. The Fire Judgment.
- 14. The New Heaven and Earth.

The Mountain of Fire and Miracles Ministries' Headquarters is the largest single Christian congregation in Africa with attendance of over 200,000 in single

to scripture reading and prayer, or do you watch your favourite TV programs instead? Do you spend "quality" time with your spouse and children, encouraging them in the Lord? Do you spend more time talking about weather and sports or talking about what Jesus has done for you?

#### Treasure

The Bible has a lot to say about money and material possessions. Sixteen of Jesus' parables (and one out of every ten New Testament verses) deal with money, so it is apparent that how we feel about money - and what we do with it - is important to

Jesus said, "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:19-21). Earthly treasures are temporary, but the money you spend on eternal things like preaching the gospel, giving to help people, etc. makes an impact that will last forever!

Think about how you use the money God has entrusted you with. Are you faithful in giving God the first ten percent? Are you using a portion of it to take good care of your family? Do you show your thanks to

God by giving cheerfully and generously to the things that are on His heart, or do you give Him what is left over after most of your money is spent?

The Israelites dedicated the first and the best of their produce, cattle, birds, etc. to the Lord and then lived on the rest. Are you giving God your "first fruits" or your "last fruits"?

#### **Talents**

1 Corinthians 12:18 tells us that, "God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased." He has given every person talents and abilities that should be used to honor Him and be a blessing to others.

Too often, people use their talents only for their own personal gratification, to make a living, or to impress others. It is good to ask yourself, "Am I using my talents for the Lord? Am I doing what God wants me to do? Am I making a difference in the kingdom of

Remember, life on earth is temporary. God has given us all we are and all we have—our time, treasure and talents - to invest for His kingdom and glory.

As you "seek first the kingdom of God" with your time, your treasure and your talents, you will experience the blessed life God

has planned for you. You'll see His power actively working in you, through you, and for you. His blessing will affect every area of your life including your marriage, your family, your relationships, your health, and your finances.

By Duane Vander Klok

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#### **Dear Editor.**

#### What sort of New Year's Resolution should a Christian make? - Interested member

L he practice of making New Year's resolutions goes back over 3,000 years to the ancient Babylonians. There is just something about the start of a new year that gives us the feeling of a fresh start and a new beginning. In reality, there is no difference between December 31 and January 1. Nothing mystical occurs at midnight on December 31. The Bible does not speak for or against the concept of New Year's resolutions. However, if a Christian determines to make a New Year's resolution, what kind of resolution should he or she make?

Common New Year's resolutions are commitments to guit smoking, to stop drinking, to manage money more wisely, and to spend more time with family. By far, the most common New Year's resolution is to lose weight, in conjunction with exercising more and eating more healthily. These are all good goals to set. However, 1 Timothy 4:8 instructs us to keep exercise in perspective: "For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come." The vast majority of New Year's resolutions, even among Christians, are in relation to physical things. This should not be.

Many Christians make New Year's resolutions to pray more, to read the Bible every day, and to attend church more regularly. These are fantastic goals. However, these New Year's resolutions fail just as often as the non-spiritual resolutions, because there is no power in a New Year's resolution. Resolving to start or stop doing a certain activity has no value unless you have the proper motivation for stopping or starting that activity. For example, why do you want to read the Bible every day? Is it to honor God and grow spiritually, or is it because you have just heard that it is a good thing to do? Why do you want to lose weight? Is it to honor God with your body, or is it for vanity, to honor yourself?

Philippians 4:13 tells us, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." John 15:5 declares, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." If God is the center of your New Year's resolution, it has chance for success, depending on your commitment to it. If it is God's will for something to

be fulfilled, He will enable you to fulfill it. If a resolution is not God honoring and/ or is not in agreement in God's Word, we will not receive God's help in fulfilling the resolution.

So, what sort of New Year's resolution should a Christian make? Here are some suggestions: (1) pray to the Lord for wisdom (James 1:5) in regards to what resolutions, if any, He would have you make; (2) pray for wisdom as to how to fulfill the goals God gives you; (3) rely on God's strength to help you; (4) find an accountability partner who will help you and encourage you; (5) don't become discouraged with occasional failures; instead, allow them to motivate you further; (6) don't become proud or vain, but give God the glory. Psalm 37:5-6 says, "Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun."

Yours, editor

Culled from gotanswers.net

Mark 1:35-1:37

he shortening of private devotions starves the soul, William Wilberforce, Christian statesman of Great Britain in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, once said, "I must secure more time for private devotions." Following a failure in Parliament, he stated that his problems may have been due to the fact that he spent less and less time in his private devotions in which he could earnestly seek the will of God. He concluded, "God allowed me to stumble."

If we do not earnestly seek for the will of God in our lives, He will let us stumble. The morning is an excellent time for devotions. If you schedule to do it during your day or in the evening, what happens when your day or evening become so hectic that your devotion time gets pushed out of the line

By having communion with God the Father in the morning, we are saying, "God, you are most important in my priorities and I will give you the first fruit of my day." If we allow time for God first thing in the morning, He will bring together the rest of your day. You will be full spiritually and will not be hungry for this world. If you wait until later to have devotions with your Father, it most likely gets pushed out of the line up and never gets done, sometimes going days without talking with God or reading His Word. You will fill yourself up with the world and be to stuffed to eat spiritually when you get home.

1. Jesus even wanted to show us the importance of morning devotions with God. Even though Jesus kept a very busy schedule, He always put communion with His Heavenly Father first as a priority before everything else in His day. We also should put God first in the mornings as He then programs our thinking toward thinking above rather than the cares of this earth. "Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory" (Colossians 3:1-4).

2. Jesus wants us to seek first His Kingdom and righteousness and this begins with how we set our mind, emotions, and behavioral direction during the first part of each day. What we think about, we become. If we start each day with worship, praise, and abiding with the Vine (God) we will bear much fruit. Apart from Him, we can do nothing. (John 15:5-7)

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3. Jesus awoke before daybreak because he wanted to avoid the distractions that would come from people, events, and duties. We should also set an appointment with the Lord that we will not miss or put off. A good time is in the morning before all of the distractions of this world. Give God the rights to your schedule and He will help you maximize your contributions in all areas or your relationships, activities, and ministries. Do not be choked out by the worries, pleasures, and troubles of this life. (Mark 4:1-22)

4. Jesus did not mind the criticism from peo ple who did not understand the urgency of what He was doing. The disciples said, "Everyone is looking for you." Jesus did not give into the sense of urgency that others wanted to project on Him. He focused on the Father and accomplishing God's will. When and if we are focused on God's will, we will not fear what people think of us. We need to learn how to have a reverence and fear of God more than we do people. In the fear of the Lord is riches, honor, and life. Blessed is the man who fears the Lord and keeps His commandments. He will not fear when the evil day comes because his heart will be steadfast, trusting in the Lord. (Psalm of like: omnipotence, wisdom, love, peace,

5. Jesus' example encouraged other great men to make morning devotions a key place where they would find direction, inspiration, and comfort in times of need. The only way to find true direction is through close communion times with the Lord.

6. Jesus followed the Word of God in giving the Father first place in His thoughts, prayers and activities. David writes, "Let me hear your loving kindness in the morning for I trust in You. Make me to know the way in which I should walk for to You I lift my soul" (Psalm 143:8-11). By having our

would recommend that you spend at least

devote ourselves to the Lord and His Word every morning, He restores our soul. He makes us walk in the path of righteousness

8. Jesus also prayed for others in His early morning devotions. We should learn to not only look at our own interest, but also to the interest of others when we intercede for their needs. You can develop a prayer book where you record prayer requests that you can systematically pray over.

riches, and power supplied through a born faith in Jesus Christ. We should also pray for others to have the wisdom to find greater

utes during your communion with Him.

Conclusion: David wrote, "Let me hear your loving kindness in the morning for I trust in You. Make me to know the paths in which I should walk, for to You lift up my soul" (Psalm 143:8). If morning devotions were important to Jesus and David, they should also be important to us, if not more vital to our spiritual sustenance.

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## The Bible and Money 7 Biblical Financial Principles By Dr Daniel Olukoya

#### Principle #1

God owns EVERYTHING.

The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him. Psalm 24:1

So, if God owns everything, it's obvious then that you own anything. You are merely a steward of God's possessions. Begin to change your thinking today from me and mine, to God's.

Side bar, you don't even own yourself. You were brought with the blood of the Lamb. Your life is not your own.

#### Principle #2

As an overseer of God's property, He requires you to be a good steward over what He gives you.

shaken together to make room for more, and running over. Whatever measure you use in giving--large or small--it will be used to measure what is given back to you." Luke

#### Principle #4

Don't seek money or things, seek to do the will of God and in doing so He will take care

"Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew 6:31-33

The world is influenced and governed by the spirit of mammon [money], but as a child of God you should be governed by the spirit of God.

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." Romans 8:14

Scriptures about Money

1. Proverbs 13:22 "A good man leaves an inheritance to his childrens' children" indicating that God wants us to make a difference, financially, in our family tree.

2. Proverbs 21:20 "In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil, but a foolish man devours all he has." This gives us an idea of how God wants us to save for a rainy day, to set something back for safekeeping.

#### Principle #3

The world operates under the law of buying and selling, but Heaven operates under the law of sowing and reaping or giving and receiving. This means there is no blessing in being stingy.

God doesn't bless you with things including money so that you can hold on to it as some sign of accomplishment. But instead, your blessings should flow through you to others. Always be willing to give to those in need as well as give offerings to the church. When you give more will be given to you.

"Do not be misled. Remember that you can't ignore God and get away with it. You will always reap what you sow." Galatians

"If you give, you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full measure, pressed down,

#### Principle #5

Your Job is not your source, God is your source. Your place of employment is merely the channel God uses to supply your needs. Because God owns everything, he is still your source, not the job. So keep your hope in God not in your job.

The Love of money will cause you to misplace your priorities and fall into sin.

"For the love of money is at the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows." 1 Timothy 6:10

3. Proverbs 22:7 states that "The rich rule over the poor, And the borrower is servant to the lender." Really? The Bible discourages debt? Does God really want me to pay my debts off and avoid debt? Yes.

4. Luke 14:28 "For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it." Does Jesus really want me to save up and pay for the things I buy?

5. Matt. 6:24 "You cannot serve both God and money".

"Kill me!" I hear Dayo scream. "Good for nothing idiot. Womaniser of the century!"

Whoa. Momentarily, I am unable to move. My hand hovers in the air.

Dull thuds, muffled screams. Dennis curses. "I warned you never to serve me stew that is not freshly cooked!"

"Am I your slave?" Dayo yells back. "If you want fresh stew, get your PA to cook it for you. Or you think I don't know about her? You think..."

Davo's words are silenced by another thump. My hands fall to my side as a flurry of blows stifle her cries.

I want call the police, do something... anything. But I cannot move. And so I shut my eyes tight and listen as my friend is pummelled by her husband.

The beating stops. I should dash to my car, but something holds me back. "I am sorry I got you upset darling," Dayo finally says. Her voice is laced with pain. "It is my fault. I should have cooked for you. I...Toni wouldn't let me get off the phone...it's her fault."

"Next time you talk to me like that, I will tattoo a punch on your forehead," Dennis growls. "Get into the kitchen and make me fresh stew. And do something about that leech you call a friend."

That is enough for me. I sprint back to my car and drive home.

A knock sounds on the window. Biyi. I wind down and he gives me a smile. "Head clear now?" he asks. "Leave me alone." I mutter. Davo's wonderful Denis beats her up? And she never mentioned?

"I will leave you alone in two seconds," Biyi says. There is a twinkle in his eyes. "But first, get out of the car." I oblige, grudgingly. "What?" He reaches under the car seat and pulls out a small basket. "I didn't come home straight from the interview. I stopped over at the Perfume shop to get

He hands the basket over. Inside is a range of exotic feminine perfumes and a small card. I pull the card open, read the words: "Thank you for your support during the hardest times of my life! I love you."

"That's why I was late," he explains as he pulls me into a warm embrace. "You have been so good to me, Toni. I couldn't have asked for a better wife."

I can't reply. My throat is lumpy. God please, forgive me.

"I got an email from the recruiter." he says with a beam. "God answers prayers. I got a job offer. It's package you won't believe. Let's go in. I'll tuck you into bed and you can tell me what's bothering you?"

I awaken to a text message from Dayo. "Denis is flying me to Seychelles this weekend. This is what you get when you stand your ground. You have to be a no nonsense girl! Ciao sweetheart xxx."

I type a quick response back: "Ciao!"

And then I promptly delete her number from my phone.

> Written by Abimbola Dare. First published on bellanaija.com. All rights reserved. 2012

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## Short story: The No-Nonsense Wife By Abjimbola Date

"Biyi hasn't worked for that long?" Dayo's Ride. Dignity. Moneybag. Ouch. "But he's a voice drips with resentment, "For real?"

"He's been trying," I say in feeble attempt to defend my husband, "You know how the economy is." My husband and I had vowed never to bring in a third party into our relationship but with a bank account screaming for revival, I need to share my burden with someone else. I grip the phone. Dayo is unusually quiet. "You still there?" I ask. "Hello?"

"I am here," she says. "I just didn't know things were this bad. And all this while, I thought Biyi was providing for the home."

But he is, I argue silently. Well, maybe not financially for now, but in every way else, Biyi is a rock. "It's not that bad." My words sound frail.

Dayo clucks her tongue. "You might as well be a widow."

The words hit me like a fist. "Na you I blame," she continues, oblivious to the damage her words have caused.

"Me? Why?" She is blaming me for this? Seriously?

"Why do you keep paying the bills?"

"Because there is no one else to do it," I protest, upset.

"For real? He drives your car too?"

"He needs it," I mutter. "To attend job interviews and stuff. He gets back late sometimes."

"How late are you talking? "Nine, ten...ish." Dayo pauses for a second. "I hate to say this gurl, but your husband spending your money on another woman."

Whoa! Hang on. Where did that come from? "Haba, Dayo. Biyi would never—"

"Look, I know men," she slices in. "You are his moneybag and he will take you for a ride as long as it takes. Where is your dignity,

good guy," I manage. Can my husband be using me? It had never crossed my mind in the past, but I now wonder if Biyi is actually having an affair. "I trust my wonderful Dennis..." Dayo is saving. I barely listen. My eves are on the clock. It's almost midnight and Biyi isn't home. I force myself to hear what Dayo is saying about Dennis Ono, her multimillionaire-oil- company-goldenhusband. Gosh I envy her life, her perfect marriage.

"My marriage is wonderful," Dayo says, as if in affirmation to my undeclared words. "But only because I show Dennis who the boss is. He cannot try nonsense with me. Abi, you think it's easy to get ten thousand pounds a month as pocket money?"

She really gets ten grand a month? That's like, my entire annual salary in my crappy job plus bonuses. Life is unfair. Honestly. "I am Biyi's wife," I say. "I cannot just desert him." Or can I? At this rate...

"In that case," there is an edge to her voice now, "give him an ultimatum. He gets a job in two weeks or you are out of that marriage."

"Look, I know his type," she says with conviction. "He conveniently won't get a job as long as you keep dishing out your

"But—" "Starve him," she adds. "Make life hell. You are not an ATM machine."

Keys jangle in the hallway. Biyi is home. "Talk later," I say to Dayo. "He's back."

"Stand your ground," Dayo whispers menacingly. "Ultimatum. Two weeks."

I hang up with a sigh. My husband is leaning against the door frame. For a second my heart falters. He looks tired, drawn. But Dayo's words punctuate my compassion. "Where have you been?"

Biyi gives me a side smile. "No hug?" I jerk my head at the wall clock." Its midnight." "I had a job interview in Birmingham," he says. "I called you tell you I was stuck in traffic but I kept getting your voicemail. What's wrong?" I cock my head. Is that a whiff of female perfume? It is. Dayo is right. He has been with another woman. With my car. Spending my money, My head spins, "Bivi," I glare at him, "Where are you coming from?"

He steps back, surprised. "I went to Birmingham—"

"Did you get it?" I screech. "The job?"

Biyi shakes his head. "I didn't—"

This is the last straw. I wrench my hand out. "My car keys."

He gives me a hard level stare. "What is wrong with you, Toni? Did I offend you?"

"Pass my keys!" He thrusts the car keys to into my palm. I push past him, grab my duffel bag and stuff my overnight things into it. I know I am acting crazy but I have to show him that I would not be taken for a ride. That I am not a moneybag. That I have dignity. I zip the bag up and spin around. My husband is staring at me. "Is everything all right with you, sweetheart?"

"Get out of my way." "Where are you going with that bag?"

"I need to clear my head." I am still yelling. "Can we talk first?" Biyi suggests.

"I don't want to talk. Get out of my way." He moves out of my path. I swipe a hand across my face, smearing my cheeks with 'mascara. "Don't look for me. I will be back when my head clears." I rush out of the house, jump into my car. My rage doubles as the feminine scent permeates the car. He has been with a woman in my car. I feel like

I pull up in front of Dayo's mansion. Her husband's Porsche is in the driveway, and the porch lights illuminate my dreary form as I reach the door. I ball my fists to knock, but a scream freezes the motion.

## A New Year

By Robert Moment from christianinspirational.org

## to Get in Agreement with God

When the ball drops at midnight, millions of us make promises. We promise that this will be the year we will quit smoking, lose 50 pounds, write that novel, get out of debt, eat healthy, take that dream vacation along with other New Year Resolutions. Memberships skyrocket in gyms all over the country.

By March of each year, the gyms are empty again. These promises are too easy to make, and too easy to fail to keep. We fail to follow through, in part, because we set these lofty goals, and we don't get organized. Goals are difficult to achieve if we don't make a plan. Failing to plan is planning to fail, right?

What if this was your year to get right with God? This year, don't just say it – make a

Baby steps get you where you where you need to go. So, what might those baby steps be? It depends on where you are in your walk with God. If you feel like you're about a mile off the path, consider simply stepping onto the path. The easiest way to do this is to simply pray. You don't need a form prayer; you don't need to "know how to pray." Just simply talk to God, as if He were your friend. Maybe make a resolution to spend five minutes a day talking to God. This could be done on your commute to work, or in the shower, or when you walk the dog. Or, make a commitment to begin each day in prayer. After you hit the snooze button, spend the next few minutes talking to God, as you prepare to face your day.

If you already pray regularly, consider aiming your resolution at the Bible. Many people resolve to read the Bible in a year. This is an achievable goal, if you go at it with a plan. Divide the Bible into 365 sections. There are many books, devotionals, and websites to help you do this. Or, you could simply resolve to spend 5 minutes, or 30 minutes, in the Word each day. Promise yourself that you will read one chapter every morning, or one chapter each night, before you go to bed.

Maybe you feel that your walk with God is lacking in service? If that is the case, vow to spend more of your time in service to others, and therefore in service to God. Find a volunteer organization, or speak to a pastor about where your gifts could be best used. Ephesians 2:10 tells us that we are God's workmanship, that we are created in Christ Jesus to do good works,

which God prepared in advance for us to do. Maybe this is your year to find out what it is that God has prepared for you to do.

Maybe you feel convicted to get right with God financially? If this is the case, vow to give a percentage of your budget back to God. Maybe there's something in your life that is standing between you and God? Maybe this is the right time to get rid of that

Whatever you choose to do, take baby steps. God doesn't want you to fail at your walk with Him, so He will help you, if you open yourself up to His help, and ask Him for it. Ask Him to point you in the right direction and then to guide your (baby)

through him who gives me strength." Make this your year. Make this God's year. It is never too late to get in agreement with your Lord. God will give you the strength you need to follow through. Get in agreement with God and make this year your

Philippians 4:13 says, "I can do everything The Monthly Miracle Magazine 11

## Arresting The Arrester

Texts for reference: 2 Kings 2:11, Mark 4: 35 to the end, 2 Timothy 3:1

When a person is arrested, three things take place. He loses his freedom, his plans will be cut off and he comes under the dominion of others.

In the spiritual realm, there are powers, spirits and personalities who specialize in arresting unguarded Christians. When spiritual arrests take place, there will be strange manifestations in the physical realm.

For Christians who believe in and practice spiritual warfare, below are 30 forces they must have victory over:

- 1. Negative thinking.
- 2. Mind blockage.
- Spirit of the world.
- 4. Anointing of the tail that brings backwardness.
- 5. Curse of the vagabond that leads to aimlessness.
- 6. Spirit of blindness which prevents discernment and heavenly visions.
- 7. Satanic caterers who feed their victims in the dream.
- 8. Destiny haters who oppose breakthroughs and progress.
- 9. Poverty activators.
- 10. Tragedy activators.
- 11. Marriage killers.
- 12. Dream manipulators.
- 13. Arrows fired into the head which introduces insanity.
- 14. Ancestral powers.
- 15. Night hunters who go after the souls

of men.

- 16. The spirit of Delilah.
- 17. Witchcraft Spirits.
- 18. Strange children that introduce chaos and confusion into homes.
- 19. Name catchers who invoke the names of people for destructive purposes.
- 20. Environmental strong man that controls towns, cities, communities etc.
- 21. Marine powers.
- 22. Spirit of sodomy.
- 23. Demon of anger.
- 24. Palm and star readers.
- 25. Pursuing serpents.
- 26. Spirit of religion that blinds a person to the truth of the gospel.
- 27. Modern day witch doctors.
- 28. Satanic priests and evil altars.
- 29. Coffin spirits that bring death
- 30. Evil birds on evil altars which are dark instruments on satanic errands.

#### How to Arrest the Arrester

The ultimate agenda of arresters is to take children of God to the final prison house which is hell fire.

In life, if you don't exercise spiritual power and authority, you will end up being a victim.

- 1. Be in the camp of Christ, for he that believes not the son is condemned already.
- 2. Get rid of fear. Never be afraid and never descend to the level of being afraid of the enemy.
- 3. Arise from spiritual slumber, laziness and lukewarmness.
- 4. Learn how to pray the prayer of

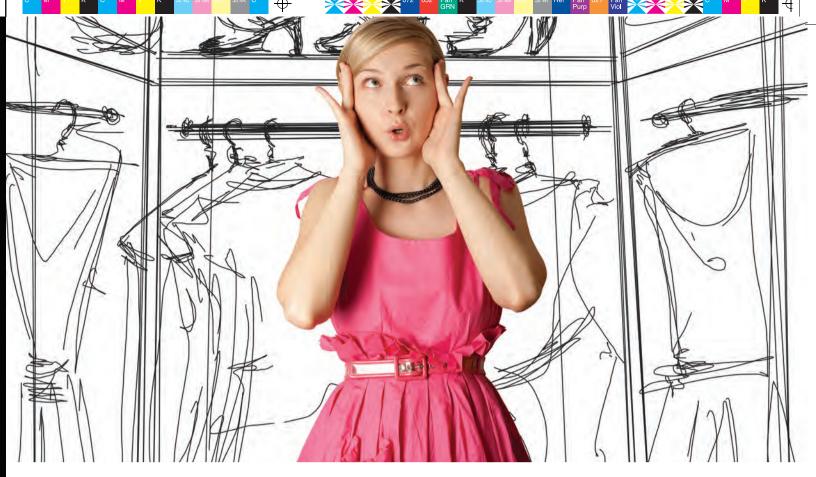
binding and loosing.

5. Speak and release the victorious power of God into the camp of arresters such as blindness, over running floods, thunder, lightning, hail, brim stones

By Pastor Kehinde Adegbolahan

#### Warfare Prayers to Pray

- 1. Every power from my place of birth arresting my star, die in Jesus name.
- 2. Arresting power of my father and mother's house, die in Jesus name.
- 3. Every good thing that has been arrested in my life, be released in Jesus name.
- 4. Satanic plantations in my body, come out in Jesus name.
- 5. The chain manufactured to hold my hands and my legs, break in Jesus name.
- 6. Thou arrester of my head, die in Jesus name.
- 7. I move in the fire of God to destroy my arresters in Jesus name.
- 8. I receive the fire of God to destroy my arresters in Jesus name.
- 9. I throw fire into the camp of my arresters in Jesus name.
- 10. Dark powers from the waters, release my virtues in Jesus name.
- 11. Satanic champions assigned against my life, die in Jesus name.
- 12. The Almighty God, take over my battles in Jesus name.
- 13. Satanic armies sent to arrest me, scatter in Jesus name.
- 14. Arresters, I arrest you by the power of Jesus Christ.
- 15. The evil agenda to drag my name on the floor, fail in Jesus name.



## Be careful for Nothing

erhaps in 2012 you asked the question "What shall we eat, what shall we drink, what shall we wear?" because you were caught up in the web of anxiety.

Well, in the New Year, the wisdom of Jesus Christ is speaking to you in Matthew 6:25-34, and it is saying ten significant things.

#1 Is life not more than food, and the body more than clothes? #2 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?

#3 Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?

#4 And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labour or spin.

#5 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these.

#6 But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much

more clothe you, O men of little faith?

#7 So do not worry saying, "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?"

#8 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly father knows that you need them.

#9 But seek first his kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

#10 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself.
Each day has enough trouble of its own.

So in 2013, here are a few things to do so you can disentangle yourself from the web of anxiety.

- \* Change the thoughts of your mind and set higher values for you and your household.
- \* Look up to the heavens where the Father dwells, and stop engaging in worry, which brings no solution.
- \* God is not oblivious of your situation,

so open your eyes and feel his presence around you, because of a truth, you are not alone.

- \* Accept that your human effort is not enough, so humbly ask Jesus Christ for help. Let him hold your hand as you both walk on the water of your anxieties.
- \* Constantly remind yourself of bible promises and practise the attitude of thanksgiving.

Prayers that bring rest of mind

- \* Holy Spirit, come like rain and refresh me in Jesus name.
- \* The Prince of Peace, make a triumphal entry into my life in 2013 in Jesus name.
- \* The strength of Israel, wrap me in your everlasting arms in Jesus name.
- \* The anointing of ease, overshadow my life in Jesus name.
- \* Power to achieve effortless results; enter into my life in Jesus name.

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