

**LET THE  
WEAK  
SAY:**



**“I AM  
STRONG”**

**JOB MOTHIBA**



Job Mothiba

**Let The Weak Say:**

«Tektime S.r.l.s.»

## **Mothiba J.**

Let The Weak Say: / J. Mothiba — «Tektime S.r.l.s.»,

If you are struggling with a sense of weakness whether physical, emotional, or spiritual in your life, I hope to encourage you with these words.

Let the weak say I am strong...! If you are struggling with a sense of weakness whether physical, emotional, or spiritual in your life, I hope to encourage you with these words. Let the weak say I am strong...! The Lord knows that we are “but dust” (Psalm 103:14). He also knows the effects of trauma, pain, loss, fear, suffering, and the emotional ups and downs of life. And most importantly, He is the only One who can give us all that we need in these moments. You don’t have to seek momentary comforts and solutions to temporarily drown out your pain, rather than throw ourselves down at his feet in dependence on his mercy, grace, provision, and strength. You will learn IN THIS BOOK on a deeper level that, even when you are an absolute mess inside, you can still be fully accepted and depend on our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. “Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off.” (Proverbs 23:18)

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# Job Motihba

## Let the weak say: «I Am Strong»

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*This book is dedicated to all nations of the earth, my family, friends who are downtrodden and my spiritual leaders in the body of Christ.*

*Make your plows into swords. Make spears from your hooks for trimming trees. Let the weak say, “I am strong.”*

**Joel 3:10**

## Foreword



**I am strong..!**

## Preface

As much as I have grieved for the loss of my wife, ached, cried, and sat alone in silence, I have experienced a sweet, satisfying dependence on Christ that no words can sufficiently describe. While (*me and my children*) we have been blown away by the love that others have sacrificially shown us, ultimately it is Christ Himself who has sustained us, provided what we need, and carried us through this darkness. There is a strange sense of freedom that comes with knowing that God alone is big enough to save us.

Thus, the moment we realise that we were not created to take on life's difficulties alone, we will then recognize the power of each weakness. What is so beautiful about being weak is how we allow ourselves to remove our walls. Our walls are that which contain what we do not want others to see; our flaws, sins, failures, lies, and personal struggles. Often when we allow this to happen, we find strengths we didn't realize we had and faith stronger than we knew.

*“Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually!”(1 Chronicles 16:11).*

So, if you have something kind, uplifting, or empowering to say, say it. Don't be afraid of being judged. Most of us doesn't live an authentic life for fear of judgement by others. You have to speak up when you have something to say. Don't hide your thoughts and feelings, especially when your voice can make a difference.

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# 1

## INTRODUCTION

Have you ever been asked in the interview about your weakness? You would find yourself in the situation that on one hand, you don't want to mention your weakness thinking it will make you lose out on the job. On the other hand, you're still expected to deliver an answer and you end up saying you don't have any. Being asked about your weaknesses in an interview may be intimidating. After all, you're there to show them how capable you are, not to talk about what you're bad at.

Everyone who is born of flesh and blood has some weakness, but not everyone is aware of his or her weakness. Many of us believe we are weak only when we suffer defeat and sin. Far from it, that is not the reason. The reason is that we are not aware of our weaknesses, and so we are not crying out to God in our need before we fall. We do not present ourselves before the throne of grace to seek our great and compassionate High Priest. *“For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. (Hebrews 4:15).*

He calls us in our weakness, even when He knows we will do it wrong. He puts His priceless treasure in (these earthen vessels of ours) our body because He delights in doing the impossible with nothing. His strength is perfected in our weakness. *“We are like clay jars in which this treasure is stored. The real power comes from God and not from us.” (2 Corinthians 4:7)*

**“So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.” (Hebrews 4:16)**

## 1.1. DEFINING WEAKNESS

The Gospel writers often use the word “*weakness*” to describe many illnesses Jesus healed. If there were one broad explanation for weakness, it would be *to lack*. Weakness means we don’t have what it takes as humans. It means we are neither sovereign nor omniscient, nor invincible. We are not in control, we don’t know everything, and we can be stopped. We are limited and inadequate.

**“There is one weakness in people for which there is no remedy**

**It is the universal weakness of lack of ambition”**

**– Napoleon Hill**

But, with me one of my ambitions in life is to be a great teacher of the word, sharing my knowledge and experiences of Christ to the world. However, in my walk with God there are some moments when I do feel weak, when I do feel inadequate and in need of strength. “*Have compassion on me, LORD, for I am weak...*” (*Psalms 6:2*)

Becoming weak or vulnerable is something we can experience daily and some days it may even feel worse. This shows how much we need God in our weaknesses. “*But the Lord can be trusted to make you strong and protect you from harm*” (*2 Thessalonians 3:3*)

\**Jesus Christ* himself was considered weak by the Romans, because he went to the cross “*like a lamb to the slaughter.*” Likewise, as Christians we can be considered weak, because of God’s humility working in us, in fact we are also considered as sheep to be slaughtered (*Romans 8:36*)

### 1.1.1. The weak moments

These are moments which can affect everyone negatively, furthermore these are moments that needs one to speak or declare God’s words into and over his or her life to change the whole course for good, such as when you feel weak, sick, oppressed etc., speak: “*Be strong in the Lord and power of His might*”(Ephesians 6:10)

The word of God should be the first place we go to for diagnosis, direction, strength and comfort when these moments arises. For it is His words and spirit that defines how battles are to be fought. Hence, God is everything the word says He is. He will do everything the word says He will do. We are what the word says we are. If God says we are strong, we are. If He says we are healed, we are. So, “*...by His stripes you are healed*” (*Isaiah 53:5*)

\**Elijah* experienced this weak moment at one point, he was so discouraged that he desired to die: “*And he asked that he might die, saying, It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my fathers*” (*1 Kings 19:4*). In response, the Lord sent an angel to bring the prophet food and drink both before and after he slept. After the rest and nourishment, *Elijah* took a forty-day journey to Mount Horeb to meet with the Lord (*1 Kings 19:6–8*).

## Jesus said:

**“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.**

**(Matthew 11: 28)**

\**King David* did have moments of weakness. The bible explains what He did when he and his companions were hungry, how he entered the house of God and they ate the sacred bread, which was against the law for him or his companions to eat, but only for the priests. (*1 Samuel 21:4-6*)

\**Samson* also had his moments of weakness, despite his supernatural strength given to him by God, he was acceded to his weakness and lust for pagan women by consciously visiting harlots and prostitutes- an act of blasphemy and blatant profanation of his honour as a Nazarite and Israelites, for non-Israelite were forbidden fruit.

The Book of Romans (*Romans 5:8*) also tells us that \**Jesus* died for us while we were still weak, that is, while we were ungodly and lacked any possibility of deserving the slightest good.

However, many Christians say and believe that we are strongest when we are on our knees in prayer. This seems totally erroneous and contradictory to unbelievers, and yet when we turn things over to God in prayer our lives are strengthened and refreshed.

Just as *Samson* prayed, because he was very thirsty, he cried out to the LORD... (*Judges 15:18*). Again, he called out to the Lord in (*Judges 16:28*) saying: “... ‘O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me just this time...”

His prayer for the return of his strength is answered and he destroyed Israel’s enemies. At the same time he became martyred and honoured in his death.

In the end the God of Israel destroyed His enemies and Samson was redeemed to his faith while he died praying.

### 1.1.2. Weakness in Prayer

Sometimes we are getting weak when we pray, we lack the words or know-how. “*Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.*” (*Romans 8:26*)

I might not be able to fully understand or describe how the Spirit strengthens us in our weakness because it is beyond what my limited mind can comprehend. However, I know that I have experienced it. Just as we can’t see the wind with our eyes, yet see evidence of its presence, we can’t see or always feel the strength of Christ flowing through us, yet see evidence of his power.

As much as I have grieved for the loss of my wife, ached, cried, and sat alone in silence, I have experienced a sweet, satisfying dependence on Christ that no words can sufficiently describe. While (*me and my children*) we have been blown away by the love that others have sacrificially shown us, ultimately it is Christ Himself who has sustained us, provided what we need, and carried us through this darkness. There is a strange sense of freedom that comes with knowing that God alone is big enough to save us.

Thus, the moment we realise that we were not created to take on life’s difficulties alone, we will then recognize the power of each weakness. What is so beautiful about being weak is how we allow ourselves to remove our walls. Our walls are that which contain what we do not want others to see; our flaws, sins, failures, lies, and personal struggles. Often when we allow this to happen, we find

strengths we didn't realize we had and faith stronger than we knew. *"Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually!" (1 Chronicles 16:11).*

So, if you have something kind, uplifting, or empowering to say, say it. Don't be afraid of being judged. Most of us doesn't live an authentic life for fear of judgement by others. You have to speak up when you have something to say. Don't hide your thoughts and feelings, especially when your voice can make a difference.

We have grown in a society that says, *"If you need people, it's a sign of weakness"*, when God calls us to confess to one another... *(James 5:16)*. You can't just do it by yourself, *"everybody"* needs *"somebody"*, don't suffer in silence, but talk to somebody. Don't keep your pain all to yourself, you will feel a lot better when you have someone to share it with, someone you can trust.

Above all, you need to pray and speak God's inspired words through the Holy Spirit into your life and build yourself up in God. For the bible says *"He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless." (Isaiah 40: 29)*. This power is not just for preachers, evangelists, or people who work in special ministry; rather, it is available to every believer who willingly surrenders in submission and obedience to the Holy Spirit.

*Jesus* was actually filled with the power of God when he submitted his will to that of the Father, and that is the same for us. When *Jesus* lives in us, we can live by the power of God. *"For he was crucified in weakness, but lives by the power of God. For we also are weak in him, but in dealing with you we will live with him by the power of God."* (2 Corinthians 13:4)

### **1.1.3. Weakness in communities (widows, orphans and the poor)**

With this in mind, there is more we can do to address this weaknesses in our communities. As Apostle Paul wrote to the church in Thessalonica (*1 Thessalonians 5:14*) that they must warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak and be patient with everyone. We can also help in our communities (*the weak, the widows, and the orphans*) but even in that, it must be with love, patience and never forget we depend on God in our weakness. For when we are weak, then we are strong.

***"For I assisted the poor in their need and the orphans who required help. I helped those without hope, and they blessed me. And I caused the widows' hearts to sing for joy" (Job 29:12-13)***

Even with the Israelite community, it was understood that care and protections be given towards those on the margins of their society. In the *Old Testament* God gives various commands about how to live in community with one another. These are not commands to be acted upon haphazardly when we are convicted or feel passion, but rather it outlines the plans for a just and merciful community where all may flourish.

These *Old Testament* commands include insights into equality of opportunity (*the year of Jubilee*) and opportunities for the poor to provide for themselves (*gleaning*). *"When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Leave them for the poor and the alien. I am the LORD your God."* (Leviticus 23:22)

***"Happy are those who pay close attention to the poor, The LORD rescues them during troubling times."* (Psalm 41:1)**

### 1.1.4. Weakness in faith

And, when addressing the issues of weakness, Apostle Paul specifically identified two areas of concern: food and holy days. For instance, one person believes it's all right to eat anything. But another believer whose faith is weak (*with a sensitive conscience*) will eat only vegetables. Similarly, some are very concerned about observing special holy days, while others consider each day alike. (*Romans 14:2- 5*).

Those who consider issues like this very important, with regard to the Kingdom are regarded as weak "*whose faith is weak*" (*Romans 14:1*) while those who does not are strong. He further address the issue as follows. "*But food does not bring us near to God; we are no worse if we do not eat, and no better if we do. (1 Corinthians 8:8)*

So, the food and observance of holy days have nothing at all to do with salvation. We are no better off for partaking or abstaining, because these things are of no significance to the kingdom of God.

Instead, those who feel free to eat anything must not look down on those who don't. And those who don't eat certain foods must not condemn those who do, for God has accepted them. "*Because God is the Creator of all things, nothing is unclean in and of itself...*" (*Romans 14:14*)

**“Accept other believers who are weak in faith, and don’t argue with them about what they think is right or wrong. (Romans 14:1)**

Prophet Micah proclaims: "*No, O people, the LORD has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.*" (*Micah 6:8*)

So, part of our walk with the Lord is our dedication to "*stop doing wrong and learn to do what is right,*" which Prophet Isaiah confirms: "*Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless...*" (*Isaiah 1:17 NIV*)

**“Don’t let the downtrodden be humiliated again. Instead, let the poor and needy praise your name.”(Psalm 74:21)**

### 1.1.5. Weakness of the strong

It is for this reason that Apostle Paul identifies with the strong and that they must be careful, that the exercise of their rights does not become a stumbling block to the weak. For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? So this weak brother or sister, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge. (*1 Corinthians 8: 9-11*)

**“Once more the humble will rejoice in the LORD; the needy will rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.”(Isaiah 29:19)**

### 1.1.6. Weakness of the pride

Don't enter into helping or serving another because of obligation or expectation. We must be careful to remain humble when walking alongside those who suffer. For it is so easy to slip into

the trap of thinking more highly of yourself than you should when you are surrounded by another's shortcomings. *“Live in harmony with each other. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all!” (Romans 12:16).*

When you are in the midst of these feelings, go to God in prayer now and allow Him to transform your heart.

**Lord, thank you that your grace is enough to cover my weaknesses. I pray that your power would rest on me, strengthening me in my weaknesses, transform my heart and bring glory to Your name. In Jesus' name, amen**

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*\*Jesus Christ- Christ comes from Christos, a Greek word that means “the anointed one,” or “the chosen one.” Bible often refers to Jesus by name as “Jesus Christ,” just as we do in modern usage (see Matthew 1:1, 18; Mark 1:1; John 1:17; 17:3; Acts 3:6; Romans 3:24, etc.). When Jesus asked His disciples who they thought He was, Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God” (Matthew 16:16).*

*\*Elijah-Elijah's name means “Yahweh is my God” and is spelled Elias in some versions of the Bible. The story of his prophetic career in the northern kingdom of Israel during the reigns of Kings Ahab and Ahaziah is told in 1 Kings 17–19 and 2 Kings 1–2 in the Old Testament.*

*\*Samson- a member of the tribe of Dan, was one of the Judges of Israel. He Judged Israel for 20 years.*

## 2

# BATTLES, CHALLENGES AND STRUGGLES OF LIFE

Beloved, have you realised that when the only tool you own is a hammer, every problem begins to resemble a nail. It is even harder to go out there and get into action when you never sat down long enough to plan. So, do not go out charging into the battle without a plan. Above all if you get a Godly advice or counsel you will surely succeed. For plans are established by seeking advice; so *“if you wage war, obtain guidance.” (Proverbs 20:18)*

When you are in war, if you are not attacking you will be attacked by the enemy. When the enemy wants to devour you that is when you need to get more determined. Keep your faith in God, and look unto Him; because if you cannot take it then you would not make it. We usually have a remarkable ability to keep fighting, as long as we do not lose sight of what we are fighting for. *“Blessed be the LORD, my rock, who trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle;” (Psalm 144:1)*

There comes a point in time where you stop feeling sorry for yourself and get up and do something about your situation. Tell that mountain to move. If you avoid the battle you were born for, you often end up facing battles not meant for you. You are never too small or old to move mountains, you are never too lost to be found.

You are never too sick to be healed, when faith in your life is abound everything possible. Being scared would not help, but being prepared does. Face your fear and prepare yourself for whatever task ahead. Much happens when you focus on the greatness of God rather than the problem in front of you. *“For the LORD your God is the One who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies to give you victory.” (Deuteronomy 20:4)*

It also depends on who are you turning to when troubles come. For it is not always God’s will to remove our troubles but, to teach us how to turn to Him instead of others. Thus, if your walk with Him was easy or without any challenges then how you would get stronger. So, God is not going to move every mountain... there are times when you will need to put your faith to work and start climbing.

God is not always going to put everything in your hands. Sometimes, He will put it three steps away to see if you are willing to go get it.

He does not always just give you things, sometimes He makes you notice things, change your state of mind and overall gives you the opportunity. He want you to grow through everything that you go through. There may be complexities and difficulties that may exist in life but you have been created, or made for them. When life struggles make us weary or weak we can find rest in God alone. Just believe... *“The Lord has made everything for its purpose, even the wicked for the day of trouble.” (Proverbs 16:4)*

**He has placed provision, not where you stand, but in the place you are about to tread. He is working it out. You can only see part of the big picture, but God sees the whole picture, and He knows how to complete it. Do not worry, just breathe. If it is meant to be, it will find its way**

**I declare that “Every place on which the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours.” (Deuteronomy 11:24)**

Sometimes you just have to choose your battles wisely. No one changes the world by turning their attention to every *“big”* problem they encounter. Do not be distracted by focusing on bad

experiences and missing out on peace, joy and love. Do not get your feelings hurt so easily. One who is easily offended stirs up much trouble for their life. Be bigger than that and forgive those who hurt you. God has a greater good in His plans for you. *“Doing what is right and fair pleases the Lord...” (Proverbs 21:3)*

If you see life as a battle, then a battle is what you will get, the struggle ends when you let go to seek peace instead. Sometimes you have to give up the fight and walk away, and move on to something that is more productive. Reach your full potential and maximise your life, by chasing after *\*The Giver* of every good and perfect gift. *(James 1:17)*

We are so sensitive about meaningless things that do not even concern us. Seek the peace of God that surpasses all human understanding and pursue it. People that do not value peace will always seek to disrupt yours. Do not let your peace, joy and hope walk away simply because they did. Know when to shut up and stop trying to prove a point even if you are right.

People who need to prove their point usually do not have one. They are always out to prove something to other people. You do not have to worry about impressing others. Prove things only to yourself. At times when all seems wrong, and makes no sense, feelings will tell you to prove your point but, faith will tell you to protect your peace. In chaos, stay focused- remember the big picture. God loves you. You do not have to react or respond to everything. Practice the art of observation.

Just watch and pray. You will learn so much. Self-control is a strength and an action that must be practiced daily.

If you keep finding yourself in the same battle, it is time to do something different. Taste your words before you spit them out. What you say to others in anger or sarcastically, may bite you back later. No one has ever made himself great by showing how small someone else is. Remember, words only hurt when you allow yourself to believe them. *“The more words you speak, then less they mean. So what good are they?” (Ecclesiastes 6:11)*

There are some things you would not understand until later but, you have to live now to get to later. Even though life may seem like it is in perpetual winter, yet season pass and rejuvenation takes growth in the sorrows of yesterday. You cannot live out your life in the sand, just because you started in the sand. Your struggle is not your identity, how you deal with it is. Do not look at things the way they are, believe God for how they could be. You may not understand today or tomorrow, but eventually God will reveal why you went through everything you did. Delay does not necessarily mean denial.

Though we identify the immediate cause of our delays, like a traffic light or the long checkout line but, the Lord is in control. Keep your hopes high, but do not let them become a substitute for your efforts. Most of us have far more courage than we ever dreamed we possessed. Character is always revealed when we are under pressure. *“Let your hope keep you joyful, be patient in your troubles, and pray at all times.” (Romans 12:12)*

Sometimes you may face difficulties in life, not because you are doing something wrong but, because you are doing something right. *Job* was not tested because he did anything wrong. He was tested because he lived a life of righteousness before God. Although this may be a hard pill to swallow for some, the reason you are being attacked is due to your decision to obey God. As tough as things got, God never allowed the enemy to have the victory over *Job*.

And, He will not allow the enemy to be victorious in your situation either. For the Bible says *“If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully keep all his commands..., the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the world” (Deuteronomy 28:1).*

By the way, have you ever had a door of opportunity slam in your face? A job application...that you did not get; a loan...that was turned down; a friendship or relationship...that ended; a proposal... where the answer was no. Well, when all these happen, do not be afraid to get back up and try again, love again, live again, and dream again. Do not let a hard lesson harden your heart. Life's best lessons are often learned at the worst times and from the worst situations. Yes, there will be times when it

seems like everything is going wrong and you might feel like you will be stuck in this rut forever, but you would not.

When you feel like quitting, remember sometimes things have to go wrong before they can be right. Sometimes you have to go through the worst, to arrive at your best. Yes, life is tough, but you must be tougher. Do not stress over things you cannot change. *“And let the peace of God rule in your heart...” (Colossians 3:15)*

At some point in life the load just seems too heavy to bear anymore. But, thankfully that is when *Jesus* steps in. As you just had a door of opportunity slammed in your face. A job that you did not get, a loan application that was turned down; a friendship or relationship that has just ended, and all these has made you hate endings, goodbyes and changes.

But, the endings you are going through right now bring about the beginnings you have been waiting for. No matter how great the anxiety of starting over becomes, the joy of finally getting it right will supersede the frustration of the moment. One of the best feelings is finally being able to say *“I am over it.”* For promotion comes neither from east nor from west nor from the south. But, God is the judge. May, *“the Lord raise up the standard for you when the enemy comes in like floods.” (Isaiah 59:19)*

Wherever you are, whatever struggle that you are walking through, know you are not alone, and there is grace, every step along the way. The beginnings are usually scary but, endings are usually better. Do not look back and wonder why things went wrong. It happened for a reason. Your better days are ahead of you. Do not regret for not doing more. It is not the strength of the body that counts, but the strength of the spirit. Do not be stressed as you endure your test. God is yet on the throne and He is working it out for your good. *“Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life” (James 1:12)*

If you cannot see clearly while the mist of confusion surrounds, let it settle, then decide your plan of action.

**“May your soul wait quietly upon God, for  
your hope is from him alone.”(Psalm 62:5)**

When you lack or have nothing, it seem okay to want things other people have; it is quite natural that we should want good things for ourselves. But, the bible says *“do not covet”*, meaning to desire (*someone or something*) obsessively, wrongfully, and/or without due regard for the rights/feelings of others. It is a strong emotion, to be avoided. So, we should not fool ourselves into thinking that other people have picture-perfect lives.

Everyone struggles, everyone hurts, and everyone is enduring something that they probably would not tell you about. Whatever picture people paint their life as, rest assured that any one’s life in all its parts is beautiful and ugly, hopeful and weary, a blessing and an everyday battle.

Focus on the good parts of your life and do not be ashamed for your own set of problems because if you knew what everyone else was going through, you would probably still choose your own life and stop comparing yourself to anyone.

And; while we are at it, let us be a little kinder to each other along the way. Understanding that people do not have to be nice to you, give their time to you. They do not have to believe in you. So, once somebody does, take it, cherish it, reciprocate it. In a nutshell be your brother’s or sister’s keeper.

Beloved, do not hesitate to come to your Heavenly Father. God, who is full of goodness and supply, is always willing to bless and heal you. So, never underestimate what God can do for you even this day. *“...you shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.” (Matthew 19:29)*

For as I mentioned earlier, everyone struggles but, not everyone knows God. Do not be ashamed to ask for directions, God is waiting on your humble spirit so He can take you higher. God does not just point the way. He leads the way. His love is beyond what words can describe. He got His children

in the palm of his hand. You are not alone, lean on the One who leads you. As the book of (*Isaiah 58:11*) said “*The LORD will always lead you, satisfy you in a parched land, and strengthen your bones. You will be like a watered garden and like a spring whose waters never run dry.*”

**“...There is nothing to fear here. I know you are looking for Jesus, the One they nailed to the cross...” (Matthew 28:5)**

Sometimes it is hard to move forward in life when you do not have anything to look forward to. Ask yourself what your life would look like if you direct it instead of drifting through it. When you have your life pleases God, everything else will fall into place. He is the One who goes before you and make the crooked way straight. Rest in that assurance knowing that He is ahead of you on your journey. Nobody can determine your end, because God is in full control of your life. In fact how your life turns out depends on who you agree with. God or the devil.

You cannot expect God's best if you are planning for the worst. God has placed the control of all things in your control. Take charge. Everything is under your feet including the devil. You have the final say and, God has promised to back you up if you call upon Him. For God does not move in your life when you struggle; He moves when you pray. “*The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.*” (*Psalms 145:18*)

No person, no sickness, no disappointment can stop God's plan for your life. What He promised will come to pass. It is not where you are in life, it is who you have by your side that matters. No earthly situation has the power to put you outside God's care. As long as you know that God is for you, it does not matter who is against you. “*If God is for us, who can be against us?*” (*Romans 8:31*)

The fact that you have a difficult time doing things that other people can complete with ease does not make you inadequate. It does not make you incapable or weak. And it does not make you a failure. It makes you human. The truth is that everyone struggles with something. No matter how happy or well-adjusted a person may seem, we all have fears that hold us back. Despite how put together someone may seem on the outside, no one is perfect, and that is okay.

Whether you have a difficult time being social, talking on the phone, becoming independent, using your voice, entering a relationship, connecting with others, finding a job, or getting out of bed each morning to face the world. Know that it is okay. And know that despite your struggle, you are capable, you are talented, you are important, and you are enough.

You know life is worth the struggle when you look back on what you lost and realize what you have now is way better. Sometimes it is hard to realize that right where you are, is where you are supposed to be. The truth is every time you thought you were missing out on something important, you were given the opportunity to experience something valuable in its own right. Every time life's obstacles rejected you from something good, you were being redirected to something, or someone, equally wonderful.

You may not have ended up where you intended to go, but trust, for once, that you have ended up where you need to be. Trust that you are in the right place at the right time. Trust that every experience has something to offer you. Trust that something that feels like a curse in the moment can blossom into a blessing. Above all trust in the Lord. “*For everything comes from him and exists by his power and is intended for his glory. All glory to him forever! Amen.*” (*Romans 11:36*)

Many of us are looking for the right things but, we are looking for them in the wrong places. Real peace comes from within you not outside of you. Things, assets and people cannot bring you lasting peace they can only bring you limited pleasures. Thus, all of the things that will give you enduring happiness, and eternal joy, will all come from God not from man including a good wife or husband. That is why you need the favour of the Lord not luck. Moreover, a good woman is not hard to find but, a virtuous one is (*Proverbs 31:10*). And, a good man is not hard to find but, a faithful one is. (*Proverbs 20:6*)

### **I declare that “May God single you out for uncommon favour this season in Jesus name.”**

Perhaps you are looking for a job or promotion and you have been attending interviews and waiting for the results. Tension does not have to mean something is wrong, it could just be something is happening. There can be no movement without tension. It tells us that we are close to something in the purpose of God. When you are right at the door of breakthrough, Satan will send something to get you out of the way. Then, you know you are walking with God especially when the devil keeps getting in the way. The arrival of an enemy is an indicator that you have been or are about to be promoted. So, *“Do not fear, for you will not be ashamed; neither be disgraced, for you will not be put to shame...” (Isaiah 54:4).*

### **I declare that “You shall be promoted in the name of Jesus”**

No matter what has happened or taken place some weeks ago. No matter how rough it is been. No matter what did not make sense. God’s faithful. Go to bed tonight believing God will have it all worked out in the morning. Sometimes what you need is not a prophetic word, but a more consistent exercise of your faith. I do not know about you, but I believe there is a shift in the atmosphere; some things that I have been praying for will be answered soon. So, I am at peace.

No matter how life has been, there will always be opportunities to experience more goodness. So, we should thank God for all He does for us which we do not deserve. Impatience is the root of most of our problems. You cannot always force life to give you answers now, but you must let them unfold before you with time. For it is not often that you sow and reap in the same day.” *Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord.” (Psalm 27:14)*

Even though life is full of disappointments, failures and setbacks. None of these things can permanently stop you. But, you are the only person who can do so. You may be growing weary but do not give up, refuse to quit, or to back down. God’s about to open some doors for you and your situation will change. God saw your end before your beginning. He is not indifferent to what is happening with you. He knows your struggles. He will put the pieces back together if you will let Him. It is not too late.

You might have messed up, made some mistakes, been abused, or have been broken-hearted due to circumstances in life. But, you are still alive. You might be broken, but you are unstoppable. You might not be who or where you want to be. But, you are not going down. Where there is a will there is a way. Have courage to stand up, make some adjustments and keep moving forward. God will see you through. You may be *“hard-pressed on every side, but you are not crushed...” (2 Corinthians 4:8)*

If you are suffering or walking in the realm of not enough it is not Gods fault that is not his will for your life. Your seasons of struggle are not caused by God. So, stop blaming God, for most of the problems you see are man-made, whether it be personal or global, the solution is down to you. Some problems can only be overcome by growing up in the Lord. And, no one ever grows in God by waiting around and saying I do not have time. Rather, you must grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *“All glory to him, both now and forever! Amen.” (2 Peter 3:18)*

Everyone has ups and downs, self-doubt, and negative thoughts. So, whenever your perspective on something creates pain, it is because you have yet to see all the good it will make possible. Just because you are struggling does not mean you are failing. Besides, how can you fail if you have not stopped trying? How can you lose something if you are still capable of giving? The same boiling water that softens the potato hardens the egg. Thus, the same heat that melts the candle, hardens the clay. So is the circumstances around you reveals the true character within you.

And, every great success requires some kind of struggle to get there. So, do not submit or quit. I declare that you are victorious, for the things you have been struggling with are coming to an end this season in Jesus name. God is going to do a new thing. (*Isaiah 42:9-10*)

The challenge you are facing, it is not happening to you; it is happening for you. God is going to use it to your advantage. You may not know when or how long it will take to be victorious, but like *Job*, there is something better on the other side of your ordeal. So, embrace the possibility that the best is yet to come, and you just may discover that it is. God will make a way just as He did with the Israelites. "*By faith they passed through the Red Sea as though they were passing through dry land...*" (*Hebrews 3:11*)

Life is not a fairy-tale. Not everything is a bed of roses and sunshine. There are so much mountains of problems in life to overcome. Some mountains are not meant to be moved but, they are meant to be climbed. You need to work hard, endure pain and pressure all the way. As some would say pressure only makes you stronger. Well, do not forget that burnouts and breakdowns are also real. Sometimes you cannot be "*real*" until you can relate. Some things are better said than done.

So, it is important to nurture yourself when under duress. And when a mountain look too hard to climb, remember the one who made the mountains. He knows the way to the top and has the power to take you up there. For the Bible says "*Before the mountains were formed or the earth and the world were brought forth, you are God from eternity to eternity.*" (*Psalms 90:2*)

You may be going through a difficult time, but be encouraged that you are not alone. Always remember, no matter how many problems you have, there is always someone who has more. I have never met a person who was not weighed down by some kind of problem or burden. So, whatever has thrown you off course, know that the loving arms of God and His endless grace are there to put you back.

For God has promised to give you double for your trouble, if you return to Him. He will give you beauty for all those ashes. As He said "*When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, The Holy One of Israel, your Saviour...*" (*Isaiah 43:2-3*)

Even though life is not always easy for everyone, just remember that you are not the only one with problems. There is a battle which is going on every day, fight through it. Bear in mind that everyone is not going to be in your corner but, that does not mean you are doing the wrong thing. God holds tomorrow not people. He is already in your next season, holding open the door and waiting for you to arrive. Yes, there will be obstacles. Yes, there will be doubts. Yes, there will be mistakes. But be strong and just keep moving forward. So, I declare that all obstacles and hindrances to your financial prosperity are dissolved in Jesus Name. For, "*It is the blessing of the LORD that makes rich, and He adds no sorrow to it.*" (*Proverbs. 10:22*)

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**Let us pray:**

**“Almighty God I pray that you touch us in a very special way as you visit everyone of us and let this month be our month of Laughter**

**May all our cares and burdens be rolled unto you**

**May the Holy Spirit take control as we have faith that everything will change for better”. Amen!**

### 3

## SITUATIONS AND CONDITIONS

Few situations in life are not as bad as we make them, as frightening as we report them. We tend to make good things bad and bad things worse. Yes, things can be so bad in one area, yet so good in another however, it might take a year, it may take a day...but, what is meant to be will always find a way. *“So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded.” (Hebrews 10:35)*

If you trust and never doubt, He will surely bring you out of that situation, take your burden to the Lord and leave it there through prayer. Pray and forgive yourself, appreciate others, listen to your gut, and remind yourself that we are all loved and connected by grace to the Lord. *“So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you have to endure many trials for a little while” (1 Peter 1:6)*

Throughout our lives, there are times when God allows us to go through situations that will cause us to realize our insufficiency and make us depend on Him. No wonder you have dealt with so much and done the best you can in this life. You have been knocked down in the process but, still not out. Take this moment to thank God and appreciate the fact you are still alive. God is in control. No matter how many times you have been disappointed or whatever you have gone through, you are capable of finding peace. He saw you when you cry yourself to sleep.

He always sees your faithfulness. When you stopped running to all sorts of things in trying to find relief from pain and choose to run to Him. If your hope is in Christ alone, you shall never be shaken. From this moment onward you shall never lack again. Never again shall he withhold anything good from you *“For the Scripture says, “Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed.” (Romans 10:11)*

We all go through unfair situations. Even when we choose God’s way to life, we still face both blessings and troubles, joy and grief. The sudden and unexpected loss of a loved one may raise many unanswerable questions, and as always, tests the depths of our faith and trust. But, believe that God is at your side through it all. *“For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:38-39)*

When dealing with things that appear to be stuck, issues and problems that keep recurring with a firm grip, you should move with boldness and perseverance and command them to move in Jesus name. Stumbling blocks are placed in our way by our adversary to cause us to trip and give up the good fight of faith. With the authority you have in Christ, you can order mountains to move out of your path, and mulberry trees to be pulled up by the roots and planted in the sea.

It means that you can order spiritual wickedness, harassing spirits, deeply rooted stumbling blocks, and every hindrance to the works of Christ to go where it can never grow again. It is more than rebuking it; it is bringing its life to nothing because it cannot be planted anywhere else.

What seems immovable can be moved, in Jesus name! What appears to be stuck can be unstuck, in Jesus name! What looks impossible is possible, in Jesus name! So as the Lord said, *“If you have faith as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be pulled up by the roots and be planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you. (Luke 17:6)*

Every situation you are going through is the stage for God’s glory to be put on display. You do not always have to know what is next, but trust God that He has a plan and purpose for every situation in your life. You do not have to wait for someone else to tell you that you can do it. You should know that God created you for something special. Every now and again, remind yourself that God has not changed his mind towards you. For He is the same yesterday, today and forever.

As you know there'd always be oxygen, just know things will work out for good. As you just know there'd always be day and night, just know that there is God who provides all our needs. May God provides you with everything you need now and forever. May, *“the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Grace be with you all. Amen! (2 Timothy 4:22)*

Sometimes, you may want God to change the situation, but God wants the situation to change you. Some of us, our lives are being shaken up. And as you are crying out to God asking Him to help you, only to learn He is the one doing the shaking. Some of us have people and things attached to us that are hindering our ability to move to the next level in our relationship with God.

And, God is shaking things up to remove all that must go in order to preserve what must remain. So, stop trying to hold on to what God is removing. Do nothing on to what you know God is telling you to walk away from. Go ahead and follow your heart, but do not leave your mind too far behind. Let it go and trust Him. Whatever God removes, He replaces with something better. Sometimes God will literally shake everything up, in order to determine if you will still trust Him. Just like (*Job 13:15*) when he said *“Even if he slay me, yet I will continue trust in him..!”*

In troubling times, you may think that God is not watching over you, you could not be more wrong. It could be as simple as you looking in the wrong direction. So, turn and fix your eyes on the Lord. He is the author and finisher our faith. Instead of running to God as an afterthought, you can start with Him right away. We are His creation and He knows what we need. No matter what situation you find yourself in, no matter what is going on in your life right now.

Whenever you find tears in your eyes, especially unexpected ones because of that situation. God sees all the good in it, and will bring the good out of it or is just plain good in spite of it. It is all good. It is well. So, *“Is it well with you” Is it well with your wife or husband” Is it well with the child” All is well. (1 Kings 4:26).*

The rainbow would not be without first the rain. No matter what is going on in your life, never forget that each new day you get to see is a blessing from God. Get closer to Him and be thankful. For the Lord honours those who look to Him constantly in prayer. *“I am Yahweh that is my name. I will not give my glory to another or My praise to idols” (Isaiah 42:8)*

It is in the midst of anguish and terror that we realize who really God is and the marvel of what He can do. Your situation may look impossible, but do not ever rule out the favour of God. Things do not have to go your way in order for them to work out in your favour. When you stop seeing things the way they are and begin to see them the way they can be with the eye of faith, everything can be all good. God will restore what is broken and change it to something amazing. Be blessed and refreshed this day, sending love and prayers your way. Expect God's full restoration in your life. (*Joel 2: 25*)

On a stormy day it is easy to forget that the sun is still shining behind all of those thick clouds. The same is true for problems we face in our lives. It can look dark and gloomy when we peer out into the future, but we have to remember that just behind those clouds, rain, lightning, and thunder is an abundance of sunshine and clear skies. It is just a matter of time it is so pretty after a storm; that is when stillness speaks the most. So be still and know that He is God.

So, do not give up. There is a huge difference between giving up and starting over. Everyone has a choice to do something about their situation. If you want something different, you must do something different than what you are currently doing. It does not matter who you used to be.

What matters is who you have become. Settle down. Take a deep breath. Pick up courage. For you can handle any challenge one day at a time with the help of God. Embrace, engage, and deal with those challenges in your life. Be optimistic, and do not avoid difficult things. This is your life.

Why should you be surprised when problems arise? If not you, then who? If not now, then when. Your value is not in what you own, but to *“Whom”* you belong. Your setback may have amused your enemies but your comeback is going to be even greater.

So, do not face the day until you have faced God in prayer. There is nothing wrong with asking people to pray for you but you have power to speak into your own situation. God knows your heart

desires and He will work on it, with time he shall deliver on your request. For, *“The Lord is on [your] my side, he will help [you] me. Let those who hate [you] me beware”*. (Psalm 118:7)

God does not always send messages or signs directly. Sometimes it is through others. It may be through your boss, a taxi driver somewhere or even a stranger like me. That situation you are facing, whoever or whatever you are worrying about; God has a plan for it. For He is bigger than your fear and He is stronger than your obstacle. His understanding is un-searchable. With Him there is hope for the hopeless. He makes a way through impossible situations. May He see you through, for you turned back to Him and ask for help, and He will answer your prayers (Jeremiah 29:12)

It is very easy for people to take sides especially when they only know one of the incumbent. However, if you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have already chosen the side of the oppressor. The world will not be destroyed by those who do evil, but by those who watch them without doing anything. You can stand there thinking, *“if only”*, or you can go and take charge and change it. Never hesitate to do God’s will because of fear or what it costs. In the long run, it does not cost anything to do the will of God. It pays.

People generally see what they look for, and hear what they listen to. For some folks, even your best would not be good enough, that is their problem, not yours. Once you have been in the flame, you will never be satisfied in the smoke. It often requires more courage to dare to do right than to fear to do wrong. Never allow the pressure of the moment to force you to do something that is not right. Do not diminish, reduce and limit your God and expectations to fit your experience. A God small enough in your mind, is not big enough for your needs.

So, put God in His rightful place. For the problems you encounter in your life on a daily basis will appear as insignificant as they really are. For nothing is ever as bad as it seems. Simply say to Him without holding back, *“I am a human and you are God. “Do not be rash with your mouth or hasty in your heart to bring up a matter before God, for God is in heaven and you are on earth! Therefore, let your words be few.”* (Ecclesiastes 5:2)

You may not control all the events that happen to you, but you can decide not to be reduced by them. When circumstances challenge you, you must remain true to who you are and what you desire to become. Do not bow to the evil change. Sometimes it is not what happens to us that causes us to suffer, but it is what we say to ourselves after and before what happens. Let every situation be what it is instead of what you think it should be, and make the best of it.

You do not define life by the problems encountered. Define your life by the nature of God that is being released and being revealed to you. For into every man and women God breathes His love and commitment, because purpose lies within that breath. He has given everybody dreams and calling. You are not a mistake. We all pass through unfair situations in life. Do not let that become an excuse to stop you from moving forward. Do not waste time on your past mistakes. And stop allowing the enemy to condemn you of something God already forgave and forgot.

It is time to move forward. Stand up and stir up what you have on the inside. Give yourself a chance to hear something good, say something good, and do something good. That is exactly why Jesus died for you. Open your mind and see what God has in store for you this day. For a closed mind will never recognise an open door. *“See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up, do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland”*, that says the Lord. (Isaiah 43:19)

Life is too ironic. It takes sadness to know what happiness is, noise to appreciate silence and absence to value presence. If you do not do anything stupid when you are young, you would not remember something funny when you are old. When we are holding a baby we use *“baby talk”* to get a smile. But as you grow in wisdom, you also outgrow many of life’s problems. *“Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.* (Proverbs 20:11)

## 4

### DO NOT GIVE UP

Do not settle where you are in life. You may think you have got a long way to go, but sometimes you need to look back at how far you have already come. You are closer to your miracle than you think. One small step is all it takes for anything to happen. Just making that step can be harder than you think. You just need a little push to realize your potential and it is that push that can kick-start everything. Remember, what comes easy, would not always last. And what will last, would not always come easy. So, get ready. *“Ask of Me,” and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, And the very ends of the earth as Your possession.” (Psalm 2:8)*

So many of us give up on things before they have the time to become great. If you give up every time things do not go according to plan, guess what, you are training your body and your brain. Whatever you think about, creates new patterns in your brain. When you give up on yourself you are also giving up on potentially millions of people who need your success for their own inspiration. Whatever you do not quit. If you cannot fly, then run. If you cannot run, then walk. If you cannot walk, then crawl.

Whatever you do, keep moving forward. Remember that struggle and hard work makes it all the sweeter at the end. Let God remove some things you thought you needed but do not. He will make a way where there seems to be no way. Have confidence in Him. He is our sufficiency and strength. We are never alone in the time of need. *“Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth” (Luke 3.5)*

Don't you dare give up because of the way things looked yesterday? Do not even think about it. Remember, nothing is as bad as it seems. There is a benefit and a blessing hidden in the folds of every experience and every outcome. Every day is a new day to try again. Your “Yes” is out there. Do not stop trying. I do not care how many No's you have got. One “Yes” from God is all it takes. In almost every situation, a little more willingness to acknowledge that there may be something you do not know could change everything. Your past disappointments does not justify your un-belief. Your best days are ahead of you so stop looking backwards.

God is a very present help in times of trouble. So, be present in the present, not in the frantic future of *“what if?”* For the biggest enemy of the present moment is worrying. It does nothing but steal your joy and keep you very busy doing absolutely nothing at all. But the one whose mind is focused on the Lord, will keep in perfect peace *(Isaiah 26:3)*

Sometimes what does not happen paves the way for the very best things that will ever happen to you. I know sometimes you can get discouraged but do not give up because God knows exactly what you need and when you need it. He will provide. Even that what man took away unjustly from you God will restore, when He gives back He always gives so much more. It may appear you are going backwards but it is only an appearance. God is setting you up for forward mobility.

He will use your situation to inspire others. Remember, someone else is watching your endurance. Just know that you are not strong just for yourself. Your strength will inspire others. For, *“Each time he said, “My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness. “So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. (2 Corinthians 12:9)*

Sometimes life can be so difficult, cruel and bitter. However, the life's struggles often touches a denied weakness we all have, for all of us have areas of weakness yet, still within us it is a reserve of inner hidden strength. Having strength is also knowing that you cannot be strong all the time and it is okay. You were born to make mistakes, not to fake perfection. You do not have to pretend you have it all together.

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