

## **Our Spirit Within**

*Overcoming the Loneliest & Most  
Difficult Moments in Our Lives to  
Regain Resolution, Peace & Joy in Our  
Inner Spirit.*

**(Volume 1)**

**Inspirational Christian Non-Fiction  
Ebook Series**

**Inspirations for the Moment**

**By**

**Jacyee Aniagolu-Johnson, PhD**

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## **Dedication**

To God's Holy Spirit, the greatest inspirer of all creativity; to all who experience periods of wilderness and discouragement, and who sometimes feel like giving up; it is for you to know that God's power within us through Jesus Christ, "our spirit within", is greater than the challenges outside of us that we may face.

## **Preface**

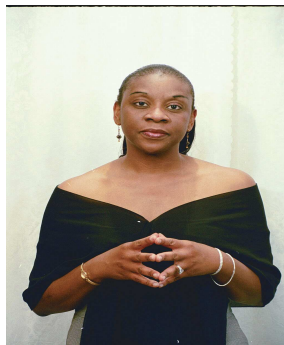
The journey through life as some have already realized by now, and perhaps, others are yet to learn, is not always an easy one. There are times when we are going through difficult periods and no encouragement from family, friends or loved ones could ever bring peace, resolution or joy to our spirit and soul. Such challenging times are sometimes one of the loneliest moments of our lives, when we may go through each day in a solemn mood or in complete reclusion and quietness. Periods like these should not always be seen or perceived as bad times, as these times could be when our spirit cries out for a break from the “bustles” and “hustles” of life, to seek answers and encouragement from within.

We hope that this ebook inspires you to take a few minutes from your busy daily schedule to reach within your spirit for encouragement and the fueling fire of hope that comes from God’s great purpose and destiny for your life.

We believe that the power to conquer life's challenges is mostly within us and remains a kindling fire that could ignite at any moment to propel us into our great destiny.

Welcome to "Our spirit within", which I hope will trigger within you a new beginning that will bring you closer to God's beautiful horizon for your life.

Best Wishes,



Jacyee Aniagolu-Johnson, PhD

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*His Grace is Sufficient for Us.*

(2 Corinthians 12:9)



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*Overcoming the Loneliest & Most Difficult Moments in Our Lives to  
Regain Resolution, Peace & Joy in Our Inner Spirit.*

**Inspirations for the Moment**

**Just for you!**

## Chapter One

### Serenity, Faith and Power



We are all a product of the miracle of conception and are born into this world pretty much in the same manner, either by natural or caesarean birth. A gentle slap on our buttocks immediately elicited a cry that could be a sign of our body's ability to feel and perceive pain, a signal processed in our brain, and perhaps, a subconscious knowledge that a tough journey through life has just began.

Our parents may or may not have made a conscious decision to bring us into this world, and we had absolutely no say in the process. Nonetheless,

we are here now and must deal with a complex and challenging world that often hands us difficult scenarios and situations, where we must survive and triumph to stay ahead of our problems.

Have you encountered a tough situation recently and felt as though you were stuck with no immediate or long-term solution? Have you tried your best to get a situation resolved and found that you have neither made a dent on the problem nor made reasonable progress in solving the problem? Do you experience times of frustration when you feel that life is closing in on you? If at any point in your life you have experienced any one of these situations, emotions or other scenarios, don't be alarmed for you are not alone. There are thousands, if not millions of others who can relate to your situation. In seeking a way out of their challenges, some may have become engulfed by their problems or remained static in them, while others may have in the process discovered that the answer lies primarily within them where serenity and faith yields the power to overcome their challenges. The answer lies in the secret place with God.

Whoever you are and wherever you are at this moment, if you are facing what seems like an insurmountable challenge, you need “time-out” from without and “time in” to your spirit within. You need peace and quietness to meditate on the only One who has the power to resolve your situation or problem. It is in the stillness of the moment that you will be drawn into the life cord connection with God’s Holy Spirit within you. It is the holy connection that God established through Jesus Christ for all of humanity. It is in quiet solitude that your own spirit is rejuvenated by your own faith in God’s omnipotent presence, ability and power.

Faith is the trust (assurance, confidence, reliance and conviction) that God’s power deep within your spirit is greater than the challenges that you currently face or will ever face (1 John 4:4). For many people, such faith seems unrealistic especially in the context of the glaring reality of their difficulties in a challenging world. Yet, faith in God’s omnipotent power is as real as the breath in your lungs that sustains your life that you cannot see.



Serenity and faith in God will fuel you with a refreshed spirit to pick yourself up and dust off life's debris, so that you can begin to proclaim:

◆ God's Holy Spirit dwells within me, so I can and will overcome my challenges to reach the glorious mountaintop of my life's success.

◆ I was born to succeed and not to fail.

◆ Failure is not an option that I should ever entertain or accept.

◆ I may fall several times, but I must get up each time and continue my journey through life.

◆ I must try, again and again, and keep trying until I succeed.

◆ Life may have bruised me a few times, but I have the healing power of God within me.

◆ I am determined to complete the race of life that I started, and I will and I must succeed.

◆ My life is worth the journey, for my triumph will some day become another person's pillar of hope.

◆ Serenity, faith and power lie within me!

## Chapter Two

### Negative and Unavailing Energy



So many people see less of themselves than they should. Many individuals experience feelings of worthlessness or unworthiness that often result in bouts of short or long standing depression. These feelings are part of a complex emotional web of negativity that also contributes or causes anxiety, which is when one feels vulnerable and insecure, feels or perceives to be, or expects to be in a state of danger. Yes, these are feelings of insecurity that millions of people, regardless of their gender, race, ethnicity, creed, or nationality, experience daily and often act upon to their own detriment or to that of others. None of these feelings truly

reflect who we are as living images of God Himself and the power of His Spirit that dwells in us permanently.

A feeling of insecurity or uncertainty is a negative and unavailing energy. Our mind and thoughts fall prey to the very devastating feelings of insecurity and its negative and overpowering forces, because either we do not believe, understand, accept or know who we really are in God, or we have rejected the concept of God entirely. Perhaps, we have embarked on our journey through life without making God the core of our life, or giving Him the rightful position as the most important Factor in our life.

Is it possible that we may have excluded God entirely from our lives or included Him without proper understanding of His purpose and will for our lives. Understanding our purpose in life gives us a healthier outlook on life and its challenges. Remember that we are not to seek our purpose in life, rather when we seek God with pure love and a diligent heart His purpose for our life finds us.

Did you know that you and I are beautifully and wonderfully made in God's own image and within us is His empowering Spirit? Do you believe that God has given us a spirit of power, love, and a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7), and not an unavailing spirit that smites us with feelings of insecurity? God actually pays attention to every minute, second and hour of your daily life, and wants you to be whole, healthy and successful, both spiritually and financially. His design and Master "Blue print" for your life is to live a happy, successful and secure life (Jeremiah 29:11).

Now, pause for a brief moment and ask yourself, "Am I really happy? Do I feel like my life has been fulfilling? When I wake up in the morning, do I feel confident that I can successfully take on my life's challenges? Daily, do I commune and connect with God to energize my spirit and soul with His powerful, conquering and unpolluted Spirit? Do I really believe that I am beautifully and wonderfully made in God's own image, and not a mere clutter of negative, drowning emotions and thoughts that steer me away from His Master "Blue print" for my life? Do I know who God

really says that I am or do I believe what my negative thoughts tell me or what others make me to think or believe that I am?”

Jot down your answers and share them with no one else except the One who gave you the very breath in your lungs, God Himself.

It is impossible to know and truly believe that you are made in God’s perfect image and love, and that His powerful Spirit lives inside of you, and at the same time feel unworthy, worthless or even hopeless in your daily life. Feelings of unworthiness, worthlessness and hopelessness stem from negative energy; they discourage you and dissipate your positive energy. They clutter your mind with unproductive thoughts that flash defeat rather than victory before your eyes. If you never knew this before, from this moment place an indelible mark on your mind that negative feelings and thoughts are contrary to God’s excellent plans for your life (Jeremiah 29:11).

Do you indulge in self-pity? If you do, it's time to put an end to them. Know that God does not attend your "pity parties" for His Holy Spirit in you conquers such negativity and does not accept defeat (Romans 8:37). So, now choose to denounce such feelings that sometimes drown you. Teach yourself to verbally reject the spirit of self-condemnation. In your mind reject negative thoughts as they emerge and replace them with positive thoughts. No matter the negative experiences that you have had in your life, they are equally as many positive experiences that you can recall. So, dwell on the positive experiences and not on the negative ones. This is a very important change in your mindset that will begin to steer you towards God's positive and enriching destiny, which would ultimately match his "Blue print" for your life.

Pause for another brief moment and ponder on what you have read so far. Stretch if you need to and may be even walk around for a few minutes wherever you are. Now, as you begin to re-map the direction of your daily thoughts, always remember these words:

◆ Feelings of insecurity are not only destructive to your person; they can also destroy others in your circle of influence or those you encounter in your life.

◆ Life may not always be easy, but God has empowered us to overcome our challenges and other difficulties of life.

◆ Your situation “today” will and must change “tomorrow”, if you tap into God’s powerful Spirit daily to energize your own spirit.

◆ Know that God does not attend “pity parties”; rather He empowers you to end such parties, and then invites you to the parties of conquerors and victorious warriors.

◆ Never worry about your “lack of success” or “stagnation” today, rather let your focal point become GOD Himself, who gives ALL and REAL



power for success. Remain focused and continue to work hard. Stay honest and diligent, success will eventually come your way.

◆ Know and believe that God NEVER created any worthless human being, so it is impossible for your own life or anyone else's life to be worthless or meaningless.

◆ Despite your challenges and circumstances today, I affirm to you that your life has been worth every challenge that you overcame or survived.

◆ Today, more than ever before, you so richly deserve to hold on tightly to God, and to see His beautifully lit chandeliers bring wholeness and success to all areas of your life.

◆ Yes, you are so richly blessed; indeed you are. Just believe it and act on that belief daily!

There is no room in your spirit and soul (mind, thoughts, emotions, will) or body (actions, behavior or attitude) and life as a whole for negative, unavailing energy.

## Chapter Three

### When Your Faith is Tested



Have you been through trials lately? Do you feel like your faith is being tested? Is the weight of that test threatening to swallow you in the sea of hopelessness, frustration, anger and perhaps bitterness? Have you asked the question lately, why me God?

Whoever you are and wherever you are right now, you are not alone. I too can relate to your query to God, because God's refining process of our faith is endurable but not easy to endure. Perhaps, you have heard people describe the experience as a time in the wilderness – “an extensive

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area, such as a desert that is barren or empty; a waste – an unsettled, uncultivated region left in its natural condition.” In the wilderness you barely have enough “bread” for the day. Forget about your heart’s desires in the wilderness; just pray for your daily need to be met.

Perhaps, if you met a group of nomads who often traverse the wilderness, they will tell you that their physical journey through the desert is never an easy one, no matter how many times they have been through it. They will probably tell you that you must be spiritually and mentally ready to journey through the dry, scorched and dusty land of the wilderness that has only patches of oasis here and there, if you find any. These nomads can testify to you and I that the journey through the desert wilderness is a tough physical journey. So is your journey through a spiritual wilderness. This is a journey that permeates your spirit and soul for refinement, and which then extends to the outside, your body, and it often translates into material lack in your physical environment.

It is a tiresome journey that sometimes threatens to swallow up your entire being. Still, you are not to give in to defeat. Don't lose faith or hope and don't let your spirit, soul or body faint in the process. It is only for a season. It is only for a while. Later, your journey through the wilderness will reflect a victorious comeback from the setback of the "wasteland" or "rough country". Okay, enough of what seems like a philosophical talk and back to the language that you and I better understand.

There are periods in our lives, which for no specific reason that we can pinpoint, we experience one setback, or another, or one negative event or another. In fact it usually happens either on short notice or without notice at all, and before then everything was going well, if not just splendid. It happens at different times in each of our lives – sometimes, it happens more or less frequently – there's no timetable that we know of or a predictable schedule that we can follow or at the very least anticipate. It is simply called the intricate journey of life with its "ups and downs", and "valleys and mountains".

During the “ups” and “mountain peak” experiences we glow and rejoice, and magnify the glory of God in our lives. However, during the “downs” and “valleys” we moan and groan and ask God, “Why me?” Yes, that’s our human nature – our flesh is weak and we hate pain, suffering and discomfort which is never fun. It doesn’t matter when the “downs” and “valleys” manifest in our lives, we simply don’t like it because it’s never a joyous occasion.

So what do we do? We know that not even the richest or the most powerful person on earth can avert the periods of “desert” wilderness that manifests in various ways. There is nothing that we can do but to endure our transient stay in the spiritual wilderness, where lack is abundant. It is meant to be a process of refinement of our spirit and soul, which reflects in and through our body. It is a process of deprivation, be it physical, emotional, or psychological. It is, nonetheless, for the

purification of our spirit and soul. It is a step closer to our Holy Father and Creator, God Himself.

If you prefer to believe that only some people experience the spiritual journey through the “desert” wilderness and others don’t, you are definitely entitled to your thinking and I respect it, but you may be deluding yourself, because no one is immune to it or protected from it. The experience is a must and so the most critical issue is what you choose to gain from your journey through the “desert” wilderness.

Firstly, one must understand the essence of this experience. Is it a form of punishment while you are still on earth, or is it a way for your faith in the power of the God Factor within your spirit to become renewed and strengthened? Does it make you humbler or does it increase your pride? Does it help you to believe in the infinite possibilities of greater things to happen and that you can successfully accomplish in your life or does it diminish your self-confidence? For example, if you were to go through a

period of multiple challenges and setbacks in your career, but persevered through sustained prayer, faith and hard work and later became the Chief Executive Company of a Fortune 500 company, did the challenges or setbacks refine or destroy your career? On the other hand, if during the challenges or setbacks that you experienced you resorted to drinking or using hard drugs to dull your emotional pain, and later became addicted and even lost the much that you had accomplished at the time, did the challenges or setback refine or destroy your career? Only you know best the answers.

You may have heard the saying that, “Faith in God that is not tested cannot be trusted.” A spirit that cannot endure challenges or setbacks and persevere through them is one that can be easily carried away by either the good or bad things in life. The wind never blows only in one direction. Its flow pattern changes often and nature accommodates the changes as they happen.



As we humans encounter challenges in our lives, our faith may be tested just as a goldsmith or silversmith refines metal by passing it through fire. This is done so that the final product becomes well refined after it has been through the fire (Zechariah 13:9; Malachi 3:2-3).

So, as we journey through the desert spiritual wilderness where our faith must be tested, let us hold on tight to the power of God within our spirit, knowing that He God has promised never to let us endure the spiritual “desert” wilderness any minute longer than He already knows we can endure (1 Corinthians 10:13). Ultimately, if we allow our negative experiences to refine us for the better, we become well equipped to reach for the mountaintops of higher faith in order to achieve greater things in our lives.

Don't give up in the wilderness, rather give in to the experiences that purifies your spirit, soul and body, and come out on the other side of the wilderness spiritually refreshed and renewed by God's awesome power,

for a fresh start and a new comeback from the old setback. For that is the essence of faith tested; to become faith magnified and faith manifested as powerful testimonies of greater success in our lives to the glory of none other but God our Father, our Creator. From now on, when the next period of spiritual “desert” wilderness experience comes don’t ask “God, why me”, rather embrace it by saying, “God, why not me?”

## Chapter Four

### The Power of the God Factor in Office Politics



During the earlier years of our lives we worked very hard to obtain our education and focused primarily and rightly so, on acquiring the knowledge and skills required to complete our schooling. During this arduous journey that entailed studying very hard to receive one certificate or another, no one ever told us that the process of obtaining this certificate, as hard as it may have been, was far easier than applying it in the real world. Yes, no one taught us that “book education” was by far easier than real life’s education, including life in the workplace where you

and I must start afresh to learn to deal with the intrigues and vile of the human nature, and often times, the misuse or abuse of human power.

So, what am I really getting at? I am talking about the reality of “Office Politics” in the workplace, such as a hospital or other healthcare environment, the corporate world in general, a government establishment or any other organization or association, where interaction with more than one person is needed, and where you and I must now work in a team or multi-disciplinary setting to accomplish our daily tasks and responsibilities.

In today’s workplace environment we find a convergence of so many different kinds of humans and their accompanying spirits of all races, nationality, ethnicity, creed and gender; humans of all personalities: some with a predictable personality, and others who may even have a dual or multiple personalities. Yet, you and I must find a way to work successfully with all human beings, while maintaining a centered and whole spirit that daily reflects God’s beautiful and excellent image; a

spirit that lives by God's expectation and not man's; and a spirit that stands for justice, fairness and equity. Wow! What an arduous task it is to successfully deal with our fellow human beings in the workplace or the world as a whole, and yet you and I thought that our academic certification had fully equipped us to face the world and to achieve great things in our career path. Wrong!

Needless to say, by now those of you who are working adults can fully appreciate what I am taking about. Our workplace environment is riddled with evil human intrigue, manipulations and negative power that daily we see controlling and changing lives, and in many ways destroying careers and lives of those with a vulnerable spirit.

I often wondered where the God that I believe exists were as the workplace engulfed souls in its "flames of fire". I have watched so-called "good" people turn "bad", as they try to survive the packs of "human pit bulls and venomous snakes" that dominate the workplace. At the same time, I have watched the "human pit bulls and snakes" deal ruthlessly

with the weak and vulnerable in spirit in a manner that make so many to feel the need to belong to “clubs” or “clicks” for fear that they would otherwise “perish”. Often, I ask the question, why are there fewer individuals who have the courage to stand against injustice or unfairness in the workplace or elsewhere? Why are there more people echoing the lingo “you’ve got to play the game to survive”. What game have the “human pit bulls and venomous snakes” convinced the rest of us that we must play in order to survive their harsh “animal planet” in the workplace? Could it be that more people do not believe in the power of God to let good dominate over evil, and so they choose to submit to evil? Does the workplace as humans have designed it foster principles that are directly opposing to God’s righteousness, fairness, justice and equity? Could this be why to “belong” in the workplace means doing what the so-called “mainstream” defines, regardless of whether it is right and godly? Could it be that God is waiting for you and I to positively intervene with the courage of His power that dwells within our own spirit (2 Timothy 1:7), and yet we stand aside or along with others waiting for God Himself to act?

We all echo the saying, “Life is not fair.” We have all accepted this harsh reality and we never stop to wonder, “Who made life unfair?” It is God or is it us humans? Is life unfair just because God made it unfair from the beginning or is it unfair because more people contribute unfairness to the world than fairness? This is something for each of us to think about next time we say, “Life is not fair.” If we each feed into the world more unfairness than fairness, how is it that we expect to receive more fairness than unfairness?

If you have a moment, you may pause and ask yourself the inevitable questions: am I part of the problem or the solution in my workplace, home, church, community, state, country or the world? Do I stand for what is fair and just, or do I simply play along to “survive” or to self-preserve? Would God approve of my stand on issues at work or elsewhere, or would He rattle my conscience to reveal to me that my fear rather than courage has dominated my thoughts, words and actions?

In the serenity of your meditation and communing with God, please pause for complete silence and wait to hear from Him through your own spirit that evokes His direction within your conscience. Then, act accordingly and make a change or remain as you have been, if that is what your conscience speaks to you.

Personally, as these questions went through my own mind, I realized that to even consider godly principles in the workplace or elsewhere, one has to first accept God and believe in Him, and then accept His principles, followed by a conscious choice to live by His guidance, instruction and direction. Only then would one be able to perceive His power in their life. His power as being the very source that gives us wisdom and guidance to survive the world, including the workplace. Thus, this enriching and illuminating revelation eliminates our perceived need to be forced to submit to any negative human power, intrigue, manipulations or evil, be it in our workplace or any other environment. No doubt for many, if not all, the workplace is a challenging environment to function or thrive, not to talk of being successful. This is simply because it does



not nurture our spirit and soul; rather in many ways it attacks our individual being, and demands of us all manner of unholy actions and unions just to survive. Still, there is hope and good news! God is the only divine Source who would never ask of us any unholy pre-requisites or maintenance dues.

You and I can make the choice to live and operate only by His rules, regulations and laws in the workplace and the world as a whole, rather than by the ways of humans. Remember that the rules, regulations and laws in the workplace should and must be subject to God's. You only need to obey what is right, just, fair, and holy. You can choose to reject evil, oppression and repression, unjust laws, or other evil ways. His, is the only real power that personally I have come to understand and depend upon to deal victoriously with the challenges of the workplace. Now, I know that God's supernatural power transcends every other "power" that I may encounter either in the workplace or in my daily life as a whole. He is the infinite love that is available to you and I, and to everyone, all of whom are His earthly human creations. So, I have come

to finally accept the liberating and exhilarating truth that I don't have to "belong" to any unholy click or group. I don't have to ever accept to lie, "cheat", "whitemail", "blackmail", "backstab", "destroy", "step on", "step over" or "consume" anyone in the workplace "flames of fire", in order to move up the so-called ladder of success.

I choose to "make it" (as we like to say) based on God's holiness and power, and not on transient and non-sustained human power. What about you? Have you made your choice? Do you or will you from henceforth go by God or human's way at your workplace or in the world at large? Do you choose to exercise the power of the God Factor in office politics? Take your time. Think about it carefully before you respond, because your response could become either your liberation or bondage.

## Chapter Five

### How to Deal with a Mean Boss



How can and should we really deal with a mean boss who has the power in the workplace to “make” or “break” our career? How can we tailor our spirit and soul to acquire the right guidance and wisdom to direct our mind, thoughts, attitude and actions, in order to deal victoriously with a mean boss? Having a mean boss in today’s workplace makes doing your daily tasks harder, and achieving your goals even more challenging, and sometimes close to unattainable. Daily, your boss may engineer new, improved and subtle methods to stifle your work, limit your exposure to senior management or the outside professional world, undermine your

daily efforts or even go as far as embarking on a covert character assassination or damaging campaign in order to limit the possibilities of your upward mobility within the company's organizational structure. Daily, you have no other choice than to face such a boss whom you report to and who has more organizational "power" and clout than you do in your work environment.

So what do you do? Should you "fight" your boss directly like a senseless person who faces a bull directly to try to take it by its horn? If you do, you may easily become a casualty of the vicious workplace? On the other hand, should you recoil into a hidden shell of depression, anxiety, hopelessness, worry or lonesome existence; sometimes or oftentimes exhibiting intermittent or continuous complaining bouts, in order to be able to cope with the daily acts of your mean boss? What is the right approach anyway and is there one? Is it really possible to deal victoriously with a mean boss in a manner that though you may lose some of the daily battles, you end up WINING the war?

Yes, there can be, and there is a victorious positioning and stand for a victorious win. This plan, however, is one that neither you nor I, or anyone else who has to face a mean boss can do on their own without the God Factor in their lives or strategy. What am I really saying? What I am getting at is that God is the only One who can give you complete victory over a mean, wicked and “powerful” boss in the workplace; for God is the Overseer of all things and all REAL POWER belongs only to Him. So, how then can you tap into this real power that belongs to and comes only from God who is your sole Creator? Are you ready to embrace this knowledge and put into practice? Okay, here we go!

✓ Take your case in prayer to God. Speak to God in your prayer as you would to a friend, family member or someone you believe can and will help you. In other words, when you present your case to God, you must trust that He can help you win the battle or war.

✓ Maintain nothing less than excellent work as you wait for God’s victory to manifest on your behalf. So, no matter what, do not slack on your job.

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Remember that God is your real Employer and both your boss and workplace are actually under God.

√ Restrain yourself from ever getting into a verbal confrontation with your boss or any other person in the workplace; just keep praying and trusting God to release to you the final victory.

√ As hard as it may seem, you must continue to respect your boss, no matter how mean he or she is to you, keeping in your mind and focus that your boss' mean attitude is a reflection of who they are and not you. Respecting your boss means that you are keeping in line with God's expectation of you, and the latter is all that really matters to you.

√ Have NO trust or faith at all in the system, which is your workplace. Have no faith or trust in your company to treat you fairly or render justice to you. If you put your faith in human beings to do right by you, you may end up being sorely disappointed and betrayed by many. Put all

of you faith and trust only in God who is and always will be a God who delivers justice and frees the oppressed from the clutches of the oppressor.

√When you pray and commune with God, ask for His peace that surpasses all understanding to take preeminence in your life; knowing that without the peace of God within you, you cannot achieve anything. God's peace gives a clearer thinking for the best strategy and approach to apply in difficult situations.

√Never think or believe that your promotion or upward mobility at work, your career success or ability to achieve great things depends on your boss, workplace or any thing else on the face of this earth. You must know and sustain the ONLY truth within your spirit that all things in your own life, including your job, depend on and come solely from God and He alone.

√The toughest thing to practice is to always pray for your mean boss and wish them well. I must tell you that this is not an easy thing to practice for it is more natural for us to pray to God to destroy wicked people than to pray to Him to help them to change. You require God's special grace to pray for your mean boss. Ask God for His special grace and He will grant it to you.

√Finally, know that no one, not even your mean boss, has the power to thwart God's purpose in your life, except you. The power for your success or failure is within you. It is your choice to reach out to God's power within you for a victorious and successful life rather than embrace negative thinking or believe in lies about your inherent inadequacy which opens the door of failure into your life. It is only if you believe that God is powerless in your life, or that you need to participate in unethical things in order to succeed at work, that your boss would have the power to destroy your job opportunities or career as a whole. Any belief that is contrary to God's real power in your life would make your mind succumb to human lies and intrigues. Be careful! Whatever a person



thinks or believes eventually sinks into their spirit, and settles within their mind to control their thoughts, words, attitude, actions and way of life.

The truth is and remains that no mere mortal has real power over your life. God is your sole Creator and only He has real power over your life. God asks you to believe in what seems to be a paradox, “believe what you cannot see and not what you can see.” Faith in God is unseen and yet has power. Another paradox that God asks us to believe is that what is seen is temporary and what is unseen is everlasting. Can you or I dispute this? Every thing that is material in this world is temporary in our lives, for our lives here on earth is only for a while before we eventually die. However, things that are unseen, about God, His Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ, are all everlasting. Even true love that we feel but cannot see is everlasting, and so is true forgiveness. Death does not and cannot destroy true love though we cannot see the force called love with our eyes.

Your mean boss may seem like the giant “Goliath” to you, but he or she is really less than a “Peon” to God. So, get your spiritual “sling” ready, pack into it a stone of faith, prayer and trust in God’s real power that will give you final victory over your mean boss. Pull back your sling now loaded with the God Factor and “fire” by the power of your faith within you. Then, stand and see the glory of God bring down what you once thought was a Goliath. Watch the giant removed from your way, and you set on a victorious path to continue achieving God’s excellent purpose in your life.

The Bible tells us that for many years King Saul sought to kill David who later succeeded him. Once, David had the opportunity to kill Saul but restrained himself. Be like King David; don’t fight your mean boss carnally. Rather, defeat him or her by the power of God in your life.

## Chapter 6

### Finding the Right Path Once Again



Life is hard, really hard, no matter which way we try to view it. This is the real truth and a fact that we human beings must face at some point or another in our lives. Life can take us through many turns, twists, up and downs or straight lines as we journey through to our individual paths and destinies. Life is and can be tough, and we can sometimes stray from the very path that God has ordained for us. No one is immune from straying from God's fashioned path for them. No one is above taking wrong detours that sometimes take us through winding and difficult circles, and if we stray for too long, may end up taking us into deeper paths of self-

destruction. Such detours delay our life's journey because they bring us back full circle once again to our starting point before we detoured.

What I am saying here is by no means intricate riddles but mere reality about what happens in our individual lives. Of the billions of people still living on the face of this earth they are far too many examples of such detours from the right path: a lovely young lady that suddenly takes to street prostitution; a young man who first plays around testing a drag of crack and ends up hooked on drugs; a teenage girl who just thinks that boys are fun but soon becomes a single mother of four children; a happy married couple, one of which explores the “fun” of dating others outside of their holy matrimony soon ending their once lovely nuptial in divorce; an honest young man employed by a respectable institution, but who is lured by the get-rich-quick scheme and soon loses his once cherished and honorable job and ends up behind prison bars; and a bright college student who suddenly thinks that four years is too long to study to obtain a degree when others are “making” it without one, and

soon after dropping out from college, stays on menial jobs longer than he or she had planned or anticipated. I could go on forever until I hear you scream stop! Perhaps, I have made my point. Regardless of who we are, we all can stray from the right path that God has ordained for each of us.

Now, the question is, “Can we make it right again, or are we doomed for life once we make that initial detour that spirals our lives down a dark, endless tunnel into unfruitful destinations?” The answer to this question is certainly, “Yes, we can.” Absolutely, yes, we can make it right again and get back on track, onto God’s own original path for our lives.

Still questions that come to my mind are: “If it is possible to get back onto the right path how come so many have not? How come so many appear trapped in the fast twirling waves that seem to spiral them down into the deeper and darker ends of the sea of life? How come so many human souls are drowning?” Again, the answer to this question is simple:

although anyone who deviates from God's right path for their lives can get back on track again, no one can do this successfully without embracing His grace. God's Holy Spirit who is the unseen and intangible Factor empowers us with God's grace to bring positive changes in our lives, no matter how far gone we think we have deviated from the right path. However, we must first make an inner decision to change our lives and stick to our resolve. We cannot go back to our old bad ways.

Also, we must remain cognizant of the reality that it is hard for us to change on our own, even little bad habits, let alone entrenched negative behaviors that have become a part of our life's pattern. For example, many of us may judge an alcoholic who lies sprawled in front of a liquor store after yet another dose of his or her addiction. Don't you think that they too abhor their addiction that appears to have ruined their lives? Why do they seem powerless to change what is obvious to you and I that they must change, in order to stage a come back to their real lives. Daily they take to the same bottle that leaves them in a state of stupor and

unable to work or conduct their normal daily lives. Many, sometimes including you and I, pass by them with disgust, showing them little empathy because we oftentimes blame them for the shame of their lives. Very few people understand their addiction; and few care to know what the real missing thing for their revival is. Do they even know how to begin to embrace God once again within their spirit? This is a silent act that would trigger the beginning of positive change and bring an end to their addiction.

It's no different for the young woman who takes to street prostitution for whatever her reasons may be, and soon finds herself trapped in a senseless lifestyle where she ceases to value her once priceless body, her once God's altar of grace. Yet, in her quiet moment she weeps from shame as Mary Magdalene once did, during those moments when she must face the only truth that the life of prostitution that she lives could not possibly have been God's awesome purpose for her life. She faces

such moments in loneliness and despair, while you and I pass by her and simply judge her undesirable lifestyle.

While the world judges many who deviate from their true path, God's boundless grace and mercy simply awaits them with open hands with His awesome love for the day they are ready within their spirit to cry out to Him in a quiet whisper, perhaps saying, "Father, help me...I can't live like this anymore, and I am unable to make the necessary change without your help." A whisper that is instantly heard and that triggers the flood lights of God's glorious rays of mercy, which like a laser-guided search beam finds the mouth that uttered the whisper, and the spirit and soul from where the silent whisper came.

Suddenly, the once seemingly insurmountable first step for change is taken by the once crushed and wounded soul, and a new beginning starts. As God's flood lights of His glorious mercy and amazing grace stays beamed on the once wretched soul that whispered "help" to him in quiet prayer, daily and step-by-step, the changes that started within begin to manifest without. The once drunkard discards the bottle and can now



look back to view their old life in disgust and shame. The young woman who once seemed stuck in street prostitution suddenly awakens from her “coma” and wonders how she could have ever sold her priceless body for money. The unmarried woman who was once lost in the world of low self esteem that made her vulnerable to the world suddenly decides that enough is enough, and so on. The power of God’s grace multiplies in an exponential manner triggering the necessary change that must happen for a return to the original true path of His excellent purpose for each of their lives. This is why it is said that God’s grace is more than sufficient (2 Corinthians 12:7-9) for each and every one of us to overcome all obstacles or challenges.

We must come to know and believe in the truth that there is always hope for a positive change and a new beginning, no matter how far we think that we have detoured from our right path. The power of God’s grace within our spirit which envelopes us in His ever boundless and faithful love is more than enough to set us on the right path again. No matter who you are, where you are at this point of your life, and how far you

may think that you have gone down the dark and deeper trails of life, don't ever believe that it is too late for a positive change and a fresh new beginning to take place in your life!

Give God a chance to help you to overcome your lonely and difficult moments. Let Him help you to regain your resolve to change in the positive direction. Let Him restore your once lost peace, happiness and joy in your inner spirit. Know that in the darkest moments of your life God's Holy Word lights up and becomes like a lamp onto your feet, *"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."* (Psalm 119:105)

During the weakest moments of your life, God becomes your strength, *"9But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. 10That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong"* (2 Corinthians 12:9-10 NKJV).

By your faith in Jesus Christ, believe that you can regain resolution, peace and joy in my inner spirit (Romans 5:1). And in all of your challenges, know and believe that you have become more than a conqueror through Him, Jesus Christ, who loves you (Romans 8:37), for *“38For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39nor 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 NKJV).

Finally, know that some of the darkest and loneliest moments of your life may be a prelude to the greatest and most joyous days of your life. The setbacks in your life are not the end of you. Your defeat and failure is not the end of your life. So, get up and dust yourself clean. Prepare for your comeback into God’s glorious victory for your life. You must believe that God’s Holy touch is able to fuel your comeback to victory!

**-- The End --**

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