

SHAKEISHA C. McKENZIE

FOREWORD by
ANTONIA G.M. LIGHTBOURNE



100
DAYS
OF

Singleness

the journey of healing into wholeness

100 DAYS
OF
SINGLENES

SHAKEISHA MCKENZIE

ISBN: 978-1-483-57772-2

Dedication

I must firstly commit this book to the Lord that He alone may get the glory. I would like to dedicate this book to my mentor, Antonia G. Lightbourne. There are a great many people like my family and friends who have added to my life, but she stretched me beyond what I conceived as my potential and for that reason, among many others, I am grateful.

Antonia, you encouraged me and pushed me. You did more for me than I could ever repay you for or adequately acknowledge. I believe now that there are God ordained relationships that are catalysts into divine destiny.

Again, to you Antonia and my entire eNue family, especially Quisha and Jae, I dedicate my first book. It is because of you that I strongly believe it will not be my last!

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Acknowledgements

Mother, thank you for being an inspiration and source of strength and courage to stand for what I believe in even if I stood alone. Thank you for your support and for marrying the very first man I have ever loved, who just happens to be the most amazing and giving person I know – my daddy John Pierre.

Thank you to my family who supported me even when they did not fully understand what I was doing. Those of you that supported my work and read like everything I have written; Kevra, Bianka, Aunt Tabby, Uncle Dillon, Jessica, Shiecko, Kenya and Christin – I appreciate you all!

Thank you to Pastor Kellin and Lady Charlene Russell of Dunamis Outreach Ministry for accepting me into the fold of fellowship and continually cultivating my spiritual growth and development. To my church family, thank you all for being wonderful examples of God's love.

Rosmery Bethel of Epic Church, prophesied into my life months before the challenge and it sparked a spiritual awakening like I had never experienced before. I am grateful for your obedience in speaking life to my dead situation. I love you!

I must acknowledge Caron Smith, my amazing editor who comforted and guided me through this process and who helped me to feel completely comfortable; you are amazing!

Thank you to everyone that has taken the challenge thus far, your triumphs have inspired me to carry on and to take this challenge to the world! I am excited that the family of challenge warriors is growing!

Finally, to the undisputed loves of my life; my daughter Keyanuh and the amazing man in my life Anterio – thank you for always making me feel like I can conquer the world. I hope you guys are ready for the next challenge, I have this sneaky suspicion that there is more to come.

Introduction

This book is not some magic system or quick fix guide to all your issues with being single. However, if you are willing to consistently and purposefully examine who you are through the scope of the Holy Spirit and face yourself then by all means, continue. This divinely downloaded series was a personal time of introspection and self-realization that God took me through to bring me to the reality that I was not okay. I was functioning from a place of hurt for years and sadly took everyone close to me for the ride. Now I was good at hiding the sense of rejection with humour. I hid the fact that I was severely depressed by going into seclusion and citing “alone time”, but what I am sharing with you in this book is the process that made me whole.

Though privy to the name, you may gather the impression that this is solely about being single and free but let me clarify; being completely single was only the beginning. The reason most of us are never alone is because we cannot stand the person we have to face, we have a disdain for alone time because nobody is there to drown out the terror of our own thoughts.

I did not believe I deserved love; not even from God, especially not from Him. He was perfect and me?...I was a mess. I just happened to be so good at hiding it that nobody else knew it. I faced feelings of rejection from childhood by a father I hadn't known. This created a domino effect of feelings of inadequacy and insecurity that made me feel I had to go out and earn love because if anyone ever really got close enough, they would see how undeserving of love I truly was. I could not wrap my

mind around anyone truly loving me, so I created a person that was lovable. I hid away all my sadness and I smiled. I gave whatever was asked of me and when I was left empty, I would withdraw and weep until it hurt. Once I was done, I would dry my eyes and walk out with a smile so bright that even I believed I was okay. I wasn't...but I am now. God showed me who I am, He showed me the kind of love I deserved by firstly opening my eyes to the love He was offering me all along. I became free to love when I did not depend on the approval of those around me because I had now learned to love myself. This healing that God released to me and guided me through, came and changed everything. Yes, there were times I wanted to give up and run to the familiar, but God constantly reminded me that He had a greater plan for my process.

That greater plan is you. God healed my heart and processed me so that I can share it with as many women as His will allotted and in obedience and love I seal this book with prayer and declarations of your success. Don't abort your purpose because the healing hurts, I'm so happy I didn't.

Be encouraged, happy processing!

DAY 1

THE CLEAN TEXTING CHALLENGE...KEEP IT FRIENDLY!

Okay turn off the love songs, put the ice cream back in the freezer and **DO NOT** text him! He's not the one and you know it -- he wasn't even a good one to begin with. Don't let your loneliness commit you to another moment in the wrong relationship!

For the next 7 days we will aim to rid ourselves of every romantic attachment that God has convicted us about --No, you aren't the one that can help him get saved and no, going to church every Sunday does not mean he is close to getting there. We are going to get so wrapped up in Christ and in our purpose as believers that God Himself will begin to do the process of elimination for us without all of the wasted time and effort.

It is not okay to keep someone around just to stroke your ego, and there is no room for God to work in your heart and mind if it is cluttered with yesterday's boyfriend and Mr. Maybe.

If you are taking the 100 Days of Singleness Challenge here are the guidelines:

No kissing

No sexual contact of any nature

No cuddling with the opposite sex

No massages or back-rubs

The reason I spelled it out is because some of us tend to put ourselves in compromising positions with the mind-set that we are strong enough to

withstand the temptation, but even this can be an unnecessary hindrance to us. We are seeking the face of God and using the next 100 days to fully come to a place where we are not only content as single women, but are also completely healed of all our past hurts. It is only through the spirit of God that we are able to do this.

Today's Challenge

Establish clear boundaries of friendship

Are you up for the Challenge?

We must begin by releasing those we know will only hinder our progress spiritually. And yes it does get hard, but God would not lead you to do something you cannot handle. As long as He is your strength, you can and will complete the 100 Days of Singleness Challenge. You will end better, stronger and wiser than you were when you began.

DAY 2

SOCIAL SWEEPING

Today we are going to clean up the area we spend most of our free time scrolling...

Social networks.

The object is to unfollow, delete, and remove everything that subjects you to content that is deemed outright lewd, ungodly, sexually explicit or profane. It is not about judging people by what they post, but is instead about guarding your heart from things that distract you from your purpose.

During this time of focusing on Christ and removing ungodly influences, the enemy will begin to come at you from every angle and you need to be prepared. We are strong and capable women that can and will live godly lives that are acceptable and pleasing in His sight.

“What we allow into our hearts is a direct reflection of how much we value ourselves”

Today's Challenge

Fill yourself with what you want to produce

Be sure that what you are taking in is in line with who you want to be

Meditate on this scripture throughout your day:

“Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life. Put away from you a deceitful mouth and put devious speech far from you. Let your eyes look directly ahead and let your gaze be fixed

straight in front of you.” (Proverbs 4:23-25 NASB)

DAY 3

REVIEW, RESTORE & RELEASE YOUR WAY TO YOUR BREAKTHROUGH

As I contemplated on what to write for day three, these words came to mind: review, restore, release. We have been clean texting and have done our social media sweep, so the next step is applying those same concepts to the people we speak to daily.

1. REVIEW

Take a step back and reflect upon those you speak to daily. Evaluate your relationships and ask yourself these questions about each one:

- Are they bringing me closer to God?
- Has God assigned me to bring them closer to Him?
- Is the relationship solely superficial?
- Am I holding on simply because I'm afraid to let go and be alone?

“You can't expect to chill near the trash and not smell like garbage, watch your company!”

-Antonia Light bourne
(CEO & Founder – eNue
Global)

Chances are, as you read those questions there are people that popped into your mind -- I know that's what happened to me.

2. RESTORE

I know this seems out of sorts for this time of release and cleansing, but there are those that God assigned to your life that you need to reconnect with. These are the people that correct you in love, that look out for you, and tell you the truth when you really don't want to hear it. You need

them. Allow God to show you the relationships that need restoring; whether it is family, a friend or a colleague you have gotten close to, your relationships are important.

3. RELEASE

Some of us spend the majority of our lives waiting to exhale. We spend so much time being suffocated in relationships that no longer serve us and sometimes outright hurt us because we are too afraid to let go -- but you need to let go! Release every negative influence and everyone that either openly or secretly pulls you away from your God given purpose. As you seek God, He will begin to expose the false fellowships we are a part of and join us to those that build us up.

Keep up the clean texting, keep guarding what you meditate on in your heart, and remain conscious of those you spend your time with. If you are spending large amounts of your time with someone you'd never want to be like...Something is terribly wrong!

Today's Challenge: Review, Restore and Release -- then watch God move!

DAY 4

WHISPER A PRAYER IN THE EVENING, KEEP YOUR HEART IN TUNE!

You've made it to day four, you should be so proud.

God was able to complete His creation of the material universe in four days. Though this may not seem like much, it is a significant amount of time.

By now, every ex-boyfriend, why-boyfriend and 'that' boyfriend has probably begun showing you an extra bit of attention. This is where it starts to get hard. You have probably started to feel like this challenge isn't going to work -- so many rules to adhere to....

Maybe you don't know if you're ready...

You are!

We have spent way too much time sleeping with the enemy, literally.

Don't let the pain of letting go distract you from the joy of holding onto God's promises to you.

You are the beloved of Christ, don't you dare pass that up to be loved by a man that cannot fully appreciate your worth. Better yet, don't spend another moment of your time trying to give away the unfinished you!

Today's Challenge

Pray a little, Pray A lot

Recite this prayer each evening before bed for the next 96 days

Praise to you, lover of my soul

*Cleanse my heart from all desires that I have set above you and my mind
from all thoughts that are not ordained by you.*

As I wait, give me the patience to know that you grant the desires of my

heart according to your will. Give me satisfaction that I may be content in your presence. Hide my heart so deep in you that all who seek me will be divinely appointed. Remove every ill scheme against my mind and my heart and give your daughter the peace in her soul, love in her heart and might in her spirit to overcome.

In the name of your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

Remember: You don't have to be afraid to reach out if you need someone to pray with you or for you. Don't hesitate to ask for help if you face any challenges.

DAY 5

LISTEN HONEY YOU'VE GOT THIS, THROUGH CHRIST!

Today, you've begun to adjust to clean texting and social media filtering. You've begun looking at relationships differently and this is good, but I have two warnings for you as we proceed:

Do not get scared and DO NOT get comfortable!

Before we get into that, let me share an experience with you that happened to me. As I began filtering my social network accounts, I unfriended and unfollowed a guy that I used to talk to. As a result, he sent me an extremely hateful message. I mean, he straight up cursed me out! He couldn't understand why I didn't want him in my life anymore and couldn't handle being cut loose. I'm sharing my own experience to prepare you:

Expect to be attacked from those you walk away from..

Know that in the process of moving on you will have to detach yourself from some people and they don't all leave in peace. Some will be left behind kicking, screaming and clawing at you but run! Run away from them and don't let their anger cause you to lose sight of what you are trying to accomplish. Sometimes distance allows you to see people more clearly for who they are and not who you desire them to be.

Don't get scared

The more you seek God, the more the enemy seeks to destroy you.

Every level will bring forth new attacks, but with each new attack comes forth a new level of strength that God reveals in you. Listen honey, you've definitely got this! The God we serve is greater than any attack; we are never destroyed by the enemy. Our battle has already been won. The wars we fight are overcome in the spirit and we just have to be diligent, stay prayed up and in the word of God.

Don't get comfortable

I know it feels good resisting temptation and your confidence is boosted every time you say no. But don't get cocky and don't you think for a minute that the obstacles you have overcome have been on your own strength. Without God we are nothing. We are made strong through His spirit alone and the minute we begin to believe our own righteousness, we run the risk of falling flat on our faces into sin. Remain humble, remain diligent, and remain dependent on God.

New levels mean we pray more not less.

Today's Challenge

Read your Bible, Pray Every Day

Read your bible more frequently and seek Him more earnestly than you did before. In order to reach new levels of intimacy with Christ we must first reach a new level of commitment to seeking His face.

DAY 6

THERE'S NEVER A RIGHT TIME TO SAY GOODBYE...

I don't like losing -- anything! So it's needless to say that I hate saying goodbye to those that mean something to me.

I tried that whole 'not caring' thing -- never love and never get hurt right? Wrong. *The fact that we are consciously moving into relationships with a mind-set to hold back a great portion of our affection only shows how damaged we truly are.* I haven't been able to trust anyone to love me fully and have honestly never felt that anyone would love me enough to stick around. It is only now that God has brought me to a place where I have begun to feel worthy of love; let alone allowing someone to love me. There has always been this fear in me that someday I would trust someone to love me and they would realize how unworthy of love I truly felt I was, and agree.

I spent years breaking my own heart and taking the men I called boyfriends along for the ride. God changed my heart. Sometimes God will have to bring you to the end of yourself for you to get to the beginning of your breakthrough. I was broken; so broken that I could not even trust God fully because true love was a concept I just could not grasp. My experience taught me of love that was limited and conditional, love that was spoken but never practiced. So, I had to learn what love was. Jesus is the best teacher you can ever ask for.

My soul leaps with joy when I think of how much He loves me and how special I truly am.

My eyes were opened when I learned the truth about ME.

After you've experienced this kind of love, the half-hearted, sometimes kind of love that you had once been accustomed to accepting, begins to feel like an insult. There are people that simply cannot love you the way you need to be loved; and I don't mean solely romantic love either.

There are family members and friends that will constantly hurt you while showering you with praises and claims of love, all because just

like you ~~are~~ **were**...they are broken.

You have to learn to let go and distance yourself because hurt people, hurt people. Don't put it off and don't keep them around on the off chance that they will change. If you are waiting on the right time to let them go...There's never a right time to say goodbye. Do it now.

Today's Challenge

Let Go and Let God

There is a name that was placed on your heart; there is someone hindering your healing, your growth, and your progress. You may even find that there is more than one person.

Let them go today!

DAY 7

TO CLEAVE OR NOT TO CLEAVE? THAT IS THE QUESTION

One night while I was petitioning God, the word cleave rested on my spirit. So I did what we all do when we really want to grasp the definition of a word...*Go to Google.*

Cleave can either mean to cut off or cut away from; or it can mean to stick or stay close to. It is so ironic that God would give me a word with a double meaning -- who says God doesn't have a sense of humour?

These last few days have been all about cleaving; cutting away this, cutting off that. If you are anything like me you will wonder, "My gosh! What's next?" God never removes what He won't replace or replenish. God is not removing you from certain relationships because He's bored up there watching over the universe. He isn't picking on you and He certainly isn't punishing you for getting into a wrong relationship in the first place. He just wants you to focus your attention where it should have been in the first place.

"God only removes your connections to replace them with the right ones"

Today's Challenge

Be Encouraged

Today's challenge is not necessarily a challenge but is instead an encouragement to pursue the one relationship that will change your life for the better -- Forever!

DAY 8

I WOKE UP LIKE THIS – YOU SHOULD TOO!

Listen...

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:6-7 NASB).

Can I get an Amen?

Ladies, it is imperative that we begin each day seeking not only what we want from God, but also what He wants from us. We were not created to bear the burden of our doubts and fears. God has got you!

Today’s Challenge

A Little Thanks Goes a Long Way

Today’s challenge is simple.

Begin each day by:

- Seeking God
- Thanking Him for what He’s done
- Praising Him for who He is

It doesn’t have to be some elaborate, Holy Ghost filled prayer to bring down the heavens each morning -- just talk to Him as you would a friend. His desire is for intimacy with us and for us to worship Him “in spirit and in truth.” Most of us seem to have the spirit part down, but it is

the *truth* that we tend to have a problem with.

We have somehow drawn the conclusion that God can't handle when we doubt Him and when we become frustrated. We act as though His feelings will be hurt when we are angry but God knows your heart -- whether you speak it or not. He will not heal what you do not give Him. Give Him every bit of you each morning and watch Him work in your heart!

DAY 9

STAND STILL AND KNOW...HE'S GOT THIS!

This has to be one of the hardest things for me personally.

Sometimes we make the mistake of trying to keep pace with other people's progress and end up missing the point of it all...*Our purpose*.

Seeking to remain busy because you are feeling insecure about your current position leaves you busy and barren. You cannot give birth to that which you have not conceived. Your visions, goals and God-given purpose are knitted together in secret when you seek God. The hardest thing for most of us to do is wait, and second to that is shutting up!

Let's break that mold and seek God so we avoid the wasted time spent "looking busy" in order to seem more successful to others. Your purpose far outweighs any task you perform out of obligation or desperation -- and believe me, your purpose is much bigger than you are!

Today's Challenge

Shut up, Keep Still and Listen

Yes, that's it. Take 30 minutes out of your day and silence yourself to hear from God. Listen to His voice and move only when He leads you to. Keep still when you're led to, because resting in God is much more progressive than actively moving in the wrong direction.

DAY 10

THEY DON'T KNOW!

One of my very favourite songs has to be 'Stand Still' by Deitrick Haddon. My favourite lyric is "Your enemies don't know what they do, when they declare war on you. You think by now they would have figured out the Lord will always see you through."

Doesn't it make sense? Just as Jesus said those that persecuted and mistreated Him didn't know what they were doing, your enemies are equally as foolish!

Your enemies at this point can be classified as:

- Anyone that hinders your walk with Christ
- Anyone that desires to see you fall from grace
- Those that remind you constantly of your past
- Those people that always find fault no matter what
- Those that think to themselves "who does she think she is?"

You may wonder why these people act this way -- now you know why... They don't know! You can't very well blame them because up to this point you didn't know either. You don't know who you truly are! And up until you learn and fully understand this you are as much of an enemy to yourself as those who actively seek to destroy you!

People that don't understand your purpose, don't understand how to encourage you in it. That's okay, God will reposition you as you seek Him, and bring you to the people that can and will celebrate your gifts and draw out your full potential. So, don't be mad at those that speak against you -- **They don't know!** It's only a matter of time before God shows them by showing off through you!

Today's Challenge

You may not Forget...But you have to Forgive

The challenge today is to forgive them, whoever they may be and forgive yourself for the mistakes you've made on the quest to find the true you.

DAY 11

ONLY THE LONELY...

By now, some of you may have fallen back into some old habits and relationships. Don't worry, I had challenges letting go too; but I did it. You haven't failed until you've given up, and working through your shortcomings is proof that you are stronger than you give yourself credit for.

You have finally let go. Now you realize just how much of your time was taken up by people that added nothing to your purpose. *Now you see that they were toxic, and unnecessary but...they fed your ego.* The good morning texts have gone, the late night conversations and being bombarded with compliments -- all gone. You keep checking your phone for messages that never come and have to remind yourself why you are doing this.

Only the lonely can relate. Though it's different and may be a big change, don't let anyone invalidate your feelings because they don't share the experience. Begin to ask yourself why it is that you depended so much on conversation with people you know didn't belong in your life. *Why is it you need constant communication? What internal void are you trying to fill with outside sources?*

I am not here to tell you that it is going to get easy overnight! I am here to remind you that your healing process is only just beginning, and the temporary discomfort is nothing compared to your permanent healing! Yes, it hurts sometimes, but we have to get to a place where we are fully satisfied in Christ alone. Seasons of loneliness teach us to be fully dependent on God; it is a requirement.

Are you ready for the challenge?

Today's Challenge

Turn Down the Volume...

No Social, Just Silence

For 24 hours you DO NOT sign into any social media sites; no Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or anything else you frequent. Realize that God is speaking through the silence. You may choose the 24 hour period, but it has to be a full 24 hours. Allow God's voice to be heard as you silence the world around you.

DAY 12

DON'T FOLLOW YOUR HEART!

It won't always feel good to serve God but everything works out for your good! That is a promise from God Himself. God's vision of our situation isn't clouded by emotions, doubt or fear. God is the only one that sees our situation clearly!

“The heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick; who can understand it?”

(Jeremiah 17:9 NASB)

Trusting our heart is equivalent to trusting our hurt. Our heart, as stated in the scripture above, is deceptive. We must remember that God is not the only one seeking to fulfil the desires of our heart; So is satan. That thing you may desire above all else, that seems to be an answer to your prayers, may just be another form of distraction. We have to remain in the presence of God and remain vigilant to realize the plans of the enemy. As it pertains to relationships, let me give you a scenario:

You ended your relationship because you felt it wasn't healthy and you turned to God. Now your ex comes around and seems to have changed so much and you're sure, until somewhere down the line things are even worse than before.

Do not let the enemy use your heart against you and do not let your heart speak louder than the spirit of God. If a situation isn't scripturally aligned, it is not of God – it's as simple as that. God will not warn you against being unequally yoked and then connect you with someone that is going to disconnect you from Him! Believe the promises He has spoken to you. Believe that it is worth waiting on Him for the true

purpose of your life and your relationships to unfold. Believe that following God's plan is much more fulfilling than following your heart or more accurately – your hurt!

Today's Challenge

Pour it all out...

As most of you are still on the 24 hour fast from social media, the only challenge today is to continue pouring out your heart to God so He can fill you with His spirit!

Today's Declarations:

I am guided by the undeniable voice of God.

I control my emotions and I command them so submit to the truth of God's word.

My heart is being repaired and prepared to love as Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it.

I am greater than past hurt and pain, I am past the past.

I am healed, whole and prepared to love and be loved.

DAY 13

SACRED SPEECH...OR SECRET SABOTAGE?

“...For I have heard the whispering of many, ‘Terror on every side! Denounce him; yes, let us denounce him!’ All my trusted friends, watching for my fall, say: ‘Perhaps he will be deceived, so that we may prevail against him and take our revenge on him’” (Jeremiah 20:9, 10 NASB).

There are many that look at you and think you are unworthy; you may even feel that way --you're right! You are not worthy. None of us are -- but, we have been redeemed and as long as we are under the covering of our saviour, we are a royal priesthood. Don't let the noise in the marketplace silence you or confuse you! That is what most people are hoping for. Not everyone will be on your side but what does that matter? God is!

Today's Challenge

Pray

For approximately 15-20 minutes, repeat this prayer and remain in silence before The Lord. Allow Him to reveal His plans to you.

Most Holy and gracious God, creator of heaven and earth and all who inhabit it; search my heart. Bring to light everything hidden in the dark places, and heal all that I have hidden from myself -- for nothing is hidden from you. Help me to examine my motives and the meditation of my heart, and show me the error in my ways that I may correct them. Show me the heart of those that surround me. Give me your eyes that I may see beyond smiles and pleasantries into the hearts of men, that I may know who lay in wait for my demise and, that I may effectively seek

*your protection! Keep me in perfect peace as I keep my heart on you;
make your ways plain to your servant, your lamb, your child. Open my
ears that I may hear, my eyes that I may see, my spirit that I may know,
and my heart that I may understand. Discernment and wisdom are my
prized possessions and I thank you for them now.*

In the name of your precious son Jesus Christ I pray.

Amen.

DAY 14

WHAT IS PERFECT ANYWAY?

Hi, I'm a 25 year old single mother with fears of abandonment, trust issues and a father complex. What's your name?

Wouldn't it be splendid if we LITERALLY had to wear our hearts on our sleeves? In a world where we spend most of our time concealing our faults and shortcomings, it is quite a shock to have anyone honest enough to divulge their own issues. And even when they do, we don't believe them.

Here are three extreme personality types; exaggerated but relatable nonetheless. Identify which one best suits you.

1. Perfect Patty

You would give your right and left leg to look like the good guy. Heaven forbid, someone sees you as human -- like those "sinners" with their fornicating and rap music. Your need to be viewed as always having it together is the main reason you so frequently fall apart in secret. The facade only makes you unappealing to us mere mortals that look for someone we can relate to. Perfect Patty, that glass house you are constantly throwing stones from, will eventually be shattered!

People judge by what they see, but you see the heart...Lord, if only we had your eyes...

2. Doubting Debbie

"I'll never..." "I wish I..." "Nobody will ever pick me to..."

Quit counting on people to fill a God sized hole!

We get it Debbie. You're insecure. Not everything good that happens for

someone else needs to remind you of that. If you'd spend less time doubting your abilities and more time trusting in God's, then you'd be so much more tolerable. Nobody wants to be bombarded with your self-doubt. Even the most patient people can only encourage you so much before just avoiding you altogether. Take your doubts and insecurities before God so He can heal you. You will never find the validation you are looking for in any other source. No human can carry that burden for you. When God is done with you, you will look back and think: "Man I would have never imagined ME!"

3. Open Olive

You are just a bit *too* honest...

The spirit of discernment is essential; especially when it comes to disclosing delicate information about yourself. I'm not saying to be secretive, but be smart about who you share yourself with and allow God to lead you in this regard. You may be well liked, but you are also taken advantage of. You are equally as generous with your belongings as you are with your secrets. That's not the best idea. Everything is to be done according to God's plan. You are continually heartbroken and feel used up because you give too much of yourself without discerning the spirits you are attaching yourself to.

Today's Challenge

Acknowledge, Accept, and Adjust

Are you ***Perfect Patty***, ***Doubting Debbie***, or ***Open Olive***? Your challenge for today is to identify which personality best fits you. As you do this, remember the three A's: Acknowledge, Accept, and Adjust.

If you are Perfect Patty:

You need to chill! Nobody is perfect and the sooner you acknowledge

your weaknesses, the sooner God can begin working in you. The only perfect man that walked this earth was also the most humble, remember that Patty!

Scripture: *“Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted” (Matthew 23:12 NASB).*

If you are Doubting Debbie:

You need to realize that it is not about you. What God has planned to do, has little to do with your ability and everything to do with His ability to use you and to complete that which He predestined you to accomplish. Greatness is in you!

Scripture: *“Thus says the LORD, ‘Cursed is the man who trusts in mankind And makes flesh his strength, And whose heart turns away from the LORD” (Jeremiah 17:5 NASB).*

“Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD And whose trust is the LORD” (Jeremiah 17: 7 NASB).

If you are Open Olive:

Hush! You need to quiet yourself. Let God be your moral compass and let Him reveal to you those who are truly *for* you.

Scripture: *“Watch over your heart with all diligence, For from it flows the springs of life” (Proverbs 4:23 NASB).*

DAY 15

EXPRESS YOURSELF...10 THINGS YOU LOVE ABOUT YOU

Yes, we are still seeking Christ. We are still pursuing intimacy with Him, but on our quest to finding who we are in Christ, He has also laid it on my heart for us to find out and celebrate who we are at this point in our lives!

Express yourself!

All those little things you love about you, let's hear them! Keep them as a reminder of how fabulous you are and how highly God thinks of you for those days when you feel anything but fabulous!

Here is my list:

1. I am way too emotional. I love it even though it works against me at times. I love being so in tune with what I'm feeling and being able to express it.
2. I have really full eyes. They used to be something I loathed until I got a good glimpse of the beauty God had made me to be.
3. My huge heart. Yes sometimes I get taken advantage of, but no matter what I have always been empathetic and have always been sensitive to the needs of others.
4. My family. I know this list is about me, but my family is a part of me. I love that I can see parts of myself in each of them and that they accept me fully, despite our many differences.

5. My friends. They are just like my family and have been the glue that holds me together on so many occasions! I absolutely adore them and they have proven that the feeling is mutual.

6. My “Let’s do it” attitude. This is one of the things I have learned to embrace as a strength rather than a weakness. I love my innate desire to try new things and my flexibility when it comes to changing plans. Maybe I could be a little less impulsive, but...*Nah!* I’m sure that this desire to get up and go is directly tied to God’s ultimate plan for my life -- so I celebrate it!

7. My nurturing nature. This has to be one of my favourite traits, simply because I hadn’t noticed it until those around me began to comment on it. I am a person who loves taking care of those around me and meeting their needs. I am a servant at heart.

8. I am ***Crazy***. This is a description that I have gotten way too many times and I love it! Maybe I’m a little hyper occasionally and more random than I need to be -- but there is nothing wrong with a little crazy, is there?

9. My Adaptability. I am more likely to go with the flow than most. I have realized that some battles are just not worth fighting so I choose them wisely. If it won’t matter after this moment, why should I allow it to cloud my mental space now?

10. Jesus, Jesus, Jesus. The thing I love most about myself is the person I am continuously becoming through Christ. Jesus is the BEST thing that has ever happened to me! Allowing Him full access, has limited the access that less important and even volatile things have had to my heart and mind. Jesus if you’re all I ever have, I’ll always have more than enough!

Today's Challenge

Embrace You...Celebrate You...Express You!

Jesus comes to change your character not your personality. The quirky little things about you are what will make you effective in the place where He's sending you. You were born for this! So get to writing your lists!

Take it with you wherever you may go to remind yourself just how wonderful you truly are.

DAY 16

LOVE YOURSELF, FOR CHRIST'S SAKE!

You cannot ask someone to love you more than you love yourself. Only God can do that. His love teaches you to love yourself. God's love forces us to love ourselves by virtue of His plans for us. It is not His will that we be self-loathing and miserable.

Why don't you love you?

Your relationships and the way you respond to others is a clear indication of how you feel about yourself. If the God that orchestrates the heavenly realm has seen fit to be in relationship and in covenant with you, you no longer have the right NOT to love you! The more we love ourselves, the more we can love God. Our openness and honesty translates in our relationship with God and brings forth true intimacy. Love yourself, for Christ's sake!

Today's Challenge

Know who you are

You are the beloved of Christ. Seek His face continually to learn to love yourself and others fully.

“But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His

workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them” (Ephesians 2:4-10 NASB).

DAY 17

BITTER, BETTER OR BACKWARDS?

You have three choices moving forward: **Remain bitter, get better or go backwards.**

So it hurt, tore you apart and hurt you to your very soul...What are you going to do about it?

Remain bitter?

Will you continue to let your past keep you in the chokehold of regret and fear and allow it to change who you are? You can remain bitter and build up walls so nobody gets in. You will never fail because you'll never try! What are you going to do? Play it safe? Go ahead and remain bitter, at least nobody will ever hurt you again. I mean what could you possibly be missing by closing up your heart and living in total fear of what could happen?

Maybe regret isn't for you. Do you want get better?

Use your last experience as a stepping stone into your destiny. Quit waiting to exhale, holding your breath and waiting for things to change. Change the one thing that makes all the difference...YOU! You can make all the difference and use your pain to bring healing to those that have faced similar situations. Release the hurt and breathe again. Realize that the God you serve is the author of time and is fully capable of restoring those years the locusts ate (Joel 2:25)! Use your newfound alone time to pursue God in all His splendour! Go on, be better!

What did you say? They need to pay for what they've done to you?

Aren't you tired moving backwards? God has got the whole world in His hands, including your situation. He would turn it in your favour, but you

are too busy trying to prove to those who walked out of your life what they're missing out on. You spend all of your time reliving the past and none enjoying the present or planning for the future. Even worse, you slip back into that which was comfortable, though it was detrimental, because you can't stand the thought of being alone. If you can't enjoy alone time with you, how can you expect anyone else to? Your state of recidivism is working against you. You will always be a day late and a dollar short living in your past with all of its regrets and woes!

Today's Challenge

Make the Choice!

*Are you going to be bitter, get better or go backwards? I'll take better --
I hope you do too!*

How have you handled hurt in the past?

Which of the three have you noticed in your past?

How do you intend to move forward?

DAY 18

WHAT DOES A BETTER YOU LOOK LIKE?

We all have a choice to be better daily. The key to moving toward a goal is knowing what the desired result actually looks like! It's one thing to decide on a better you, but how will you get there without knowing what a better you actually looks like?

It's time to seek God, to get into His face and to find out what it is that He desires for you. Knowing God's direction for you specifically, streamlines everything you do and allows you to concentrate your efforts on being a better you rather than just trying to be "better". Think about the things that you want to change most, the areas you need to improve on, and see what God's word has to say regarding it.

Today's Challenge

On your mark...Get set...FAST!

For the next 7 hours you are going to starve your flesh in order to gain permanent spiritual growth. You can choose the type of fast you will complete. Prayer is essential to any fast, without it you are just starving yourself. You can do this! Use this time to meditate on the areas you desire to see changes in. By meditate, I mean to plan mentally. You must plan your improvements mentally as you get to work making them happen! Find scriptures that support and guide you on your journey to a better you. This requires a bit of work on your behalf, but so will any improvement you decide to make.

Believe God for the changes you wish to see and be obedient to His instructions. You can't lose with Him!

Faith it until you make it!

DAY 19

DRAW ME CLOSER!

The closer we get to God, the further we get from our former selves. We need to be so desperate for God that we are willing to abandon all else. There is so much in store for you if you totally surrender to God and allow Him to have His way! What you want and what God has in store for you are two entirely different things. What you want is not necessarily going to do much more than provide temporary happiness but what God has in store is a destiny that will transform your life and the lives and souls of those assigned to you. The minute you understand that your destiny is bigger than you, you will understand that you need to seek God for you and for the souls that need your testimony!

Today's Challenge

Pray Smarter...

Dedicate a full 30 minutes of your time to getting into God's presence. Whether you're lead to pray, praise, worship or be silent, just spend the time with Him. He is longing for a relationship with you!

Tonight's Prayer:

Dear gracious and Heavenly Father

We beseech you for a greater dispensation of your presence. We seek your love and your anointing, not just for our personal lives, but for the souls tied to our destiny! We call forth the angels of heaven to take charge of every area that has yet to come under divine submission and we give you total control. We surrender and we ask for a greater love, greater desire, and a greater need for your presence. We thank you for

*the work being done now in our hearts and minds to draw us closer to
you, in Jesus' name.*

Amen.

DAY 20

CREATIVE CATALYST

*Stranger to my mind, kin to my heart
An all too familiar hurt
Lurking, waiting in the folds of your arms to suffocate me
I have surrendered willingly to a slow death
An agonizing pursuit of that which never was and will never be
Slowly, life eases out of its unit and leaves me limp
At the mercy of a man that never knew, never loved, never wanted me
Dying to feel something
Even this pain is better than the nothing I am without you
Break me apart, I am at your mercy
You are yesterday's sorrow reincarnated
Today's joy dare not exist in your presence
One day the lover of my soul will release me from your clench
But until then, I will lie here dripping my life slowly into you until I am
no more...*

I have a love for poetry and sometimes I write it. The poem above is one I wrote to describe being in an ungodly relationship. We all have talents that God would like us to use for His kingdom, but we have to make the first step! Trust your instincts. God placed your abilities in you and He will perfect them as you begin to use them for Him.

Today's Challenge

Follow your passion into your destiny!

Begin to use your gifts, your talents and your testimony as a tool to bring people to Christ. God will take it from there! Trust your instinct; God is the one who gave it to you in the first place!

DAY 21

SHHH...

One night, I was feeling a bit discouraged so I began speaking to the Lord and asking Him if He was sure about what He had told me to do. I felt a disconnect and needed to be refreshed spiritually. Though I read my bible and pray daily, I recognized that I was missing a key element. Silence. I forgot to just rest in His presence and allow Him to minister to my heart and speak to me through the Holy Spirit; this was my earnest plea. God spoke to my heart and refreshed me just as I needed, but I still wasn't satisfied – which I don't think we ever should be. We can always go deeper, get closer and seek God more earnestly.

Today's Challenge

Embrace the Silence

Sometimes we need to embrace the silence. Allow the calm to soothe your spirit. Who knows, God may be speaking through the silence. In the moments when you are seeking God and you can't seem to hear from Him or feel Him, just rest in the silence and pay attention to what it teaches you.

DAY 22

I DON'T MIND WAITING ON THE LORD...WELL KINDA!

Though many of us may say we don't mind waiting on the Lord, in actuality we really do. We tell ourselves that we don't mind because we feel it is what we should feel. We cannot patronize God. We have to get real, we have to get honest about our feelings with Him even when those feelings are ungodly – only He can change them!

Today's Challenge

Patience is always a Virtue

Today I just want to encourage you to be patient as you wait in The Lord. But moreover, I want you to cry out to Him from that place of desperation and anguish and allow Him to pull you out! You are not the first to become anxious and doubt God's timing! You are not the first to get weary trying to please Him!

“But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, and they shall walk and not faint.” (Isaiah 40:31 KJV)

Renewal means to give strength to, or restore once interrupted. God knows us. He knows that we will reach points where we feel like giving up. Tell Him that you are weary and ask Him to renew your strength. Ask God to restore and revive like only He can because everything we do is dependent on trusting in His strength, especially when ours fail. Most of all, Ask God to forgive your unbelief and to help you to trust His timing -- for real this time. You won't mind waiting on the Lord when you are waiting in His presence and when you are trusting in His strength and not your own.

DAY 23

LEAVE YOUR HEART ALONE!

You know he is not what God has in store for you, but you pursue him anyway...

We get into a cycle of breaking our own hearts because “this man is so fine, I have to make him mine!” Trust me I understand -- I’ve done it too. We get so caught up in the feelings and attraction that we forget one key thing: Don’t follow your heart. Remember? We covered this on Day 12. It is important that we are led by the spirit and not our feelings of attraction.

During my season of seeking God and being content in my own singleness, I had to quench many advances from seemingly well-meaning men. I had to come to the conclusion that the timing was more of a distraction than anything else and had to accept that I could not make any choices until God prompted me to.

Taking the time to allow God to prepare you before allowing a man into your life and heart, does not mean that you are against relationships or are bashing men. It actually speaks to your love for them. Many people hear the word ‘single’ and go into a frenzy; but this season of your life is a beautiful, simple time that teaches you, through trial and error, who you really are.

God has been doing so much healing and stripping away that eventually you will barely recognize the heart He is giving you! I can only pray that He is moving in you and that He will prepare your hearts to fully love Him and others.

Today’s Challenge

Leave your heart alone and let God finish what He’s doing

Do not be against spending time alone with yourself and with the lover of your soul. Do not shut off your heart, but at the same time, don't give it away before it is fully prepared to accommodate what you are seeking.

Take time today to learn the incomparable value of being alone.

DAY 24

S'MORE PLEASE!

God I need:

- *S'more money*
- *S'more friends*
- *S'more faith*
- *S'more God*

We make all these requests, but what are we willing to give in order to gain what we are seeking? Are we willing to go through the trials that build our faith? Are we willing to put aside distractions to get more of God? Are we willing to be obedient in order to open ourselves up to God's ample provision? Or are we stuck screaming s'more until our throats are sore?

In order to get the results we desire, we have to lay down the desires of our flesh and allow God full control.

Think of an actual s'more; the ingredients are combined together, heat is applied, and then they are manipulated into something new altogether. It is nearly impossible to remove any one ingredient because they are all fused together.

Today's Challenge

S'more of this, S'more of that...

God wants you to become a s'more and not just ask for it. When you are perfectly fused and melted together with Him, through the pressures and melting pot that is this world, you will become a new thing altogether! It is great to want more, but becoming *more* is what really matters. Though

many of you may struggle with this feeling of helplessness, your challenge is to relinquish control in order to allow God to show up for you. Instead of babbling on about “s’more of this and s’more of that,” ask yourself if you are really ready to commit to getting it.

DAY 25

WHEN I MISS YOU...

It is inevitable— you are going to miss the very people that hurt you. You will find yourself missing the ones that God removed from your life and that's okay. Despite what they may have done, you were attached to them so you are going to miss them eventually.

Do you...

Feel stupid for missing them?

Feel like you should know better?

Don't beat yourself up for feeling something that is a natural part of the moving on process. It is what we do in these moments that makes or breaks our progress. Will you turn back to that which is familiar, or will you turn to your Heavenly Father? Will you leave God for your unhealthy relationship, or will you forsake your feelings and move forward?

Today's Challenge

Move on and Move forward

Here's what we are going to do to avoid those late night text, calls, emails, DM's and whatever else take us four steps backward after the two we took forward.

1. Sharing means caring

Find someone to hold you accountable. Someone who is there that you can text instead of Mr. Wrong.

2. List it or quit it

Create a hard list of qualities you absolutely must have in your future spouse. Being saved should be at the top of your list when looking for a partner. Before you allow yourself to slide backward, think about what you deserve versus what you are about to accept.

3. Jesus...Seek Him, Praise Him, Follow Him

Just get more of Him and watch Him work fully on your heart. As God continually fills your heart, there will soon be no room for the emotions that plague you. Don't beat yourself up! The feelings are natural but don't let them control you.

DAY 26

NO MORE LOCKED DOORS – PURSUING PURITY

I know he's no good for me but...

Stop right there! Anything that follows this phrase is a sorry excuse of a reason to stay and you know it. I get it! I have experienced the pleasure of sin—and its consequences, so for all of us that have, let's take a look at this:

“Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body” (1 Corinthians 6:18-20 NASB).

This is the first time we have addressed sexual immorality, only because establishing a relationship with God was paramount and of utmost importance. A part of committing to God is relinquishing our former ways that are displeasing to our saviour. We are connected to those we allow into our bodies. It is more than a physical exchange of pleasure; it is a spiritual fusing of spirits that was designated for marriage. We have to commit to purity and living up to the standard of Christ. It doesn't matter if you have had 1 or 1,000 partners! All that matters is repentance and seeking God's deliverance from the sin itself and from those our souls are tied to. Sexual sins go against God and our own bodies, and no matter how the media may portray it as some frivolous act, it is not! It should not be taken lightly and we shouldn't be taking part in it outside of marriage.

“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?”

Today's Challenge

Do you not know?

We cannot give our spirits to God and our bodies to the world. It won't work.

Take some time out today to declare this over your life

We declare release from immorality! We come against the lust of this flesh and heed to the spirit of God and we WILL answer God's call to holiness and be sustained by His Holy Spirit. We declare freedom! We declare holiness! In the name of Jesus!

DAY 27

STOP MAKING A BIG DEAL OUT OF THE LITTLE THINGS!

We hold on to the little things so tight that we haven't had a hand free to grab hold of the BIG things God has for us.

Our comfort zone is where purpose goes to die comfort zone is where purpose goes to die. Nobody ever said, "I only became successful after years of remaining where I was and doing the same thing everyday" because that's not reality. We are so caught up on feeling good and never risking anything that we never get anything better than what we have always known. This is true in every area of our lives! Look at someone that won't leave a relationship that no longer serves them or allows them to grow, simply because they are used to it. I guarantee they take the same approach in everything else they do. The same old job, the same old habits, and the same old anointing won't get you God's best. The moment you let go of what is comfortable and place your desires at God's feet, the sooner he can pluck you out of the ordinary and catapult you into the extraordinary!

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

(Hebrews 11:1 NASB)

This scripture is one that is quoted often, but I prefer to use the NASB version which replaces the word *substance* with the word *assurance* because that's what faith is -- assurance that God will! We may not know His plan and it may be frustrating to follow sometimes, but we are to trust Him with ALL of our heart and NOT lean on our own understanding (Proverbs 3:5). Therefore, it is irrelevant whether or not we understand what God is doing. The only thing that is important is

that we trust Him. Another noteworthy difference in this translation is the use of the word conviction as opposed to evidence. A conviction implies that it is a firm belief. That is what God desires, that we firmly believe in what He is doing even when we do not understand.

Today's Challenge

All the little things...

Stop making a big deal about letting go of your little things! Let God show you the amazing things He has in store for you outside of your comfort zone.

You can do this!

DAY 28

YOUR TESTIMONY IS YOUR MINISTRY...

Everything you have been through is preparation for God to use you...

No pain you have endured will be wasted...

You are a ministry...

Your ability to articulate who God is to you and how He has worked on your heart, is what will change lives...

We will not go into a long sermon or go over all that you have heard before. You are to move on from your past, but not forget it. Move on without losing the gift of experience -- sometimes she is life's best teacher.

Today's Challenge

When in doubt, make a list...

As females we are all too familiar with making lists – why we should stay with him; why we shouldn't. We make lists about EVERYTHING from groceries to all the things we want in a man. So take some time today to put that skill to good use!

Make a list of all your pain and then write down what promises have been borne because of it.

Use this as a reminder of the way God transforms pain into purpose.

DAY 29

THE PURPOSE IN MY PAIN...

We discussed the purpose in our pain on Day 28 and we were supposed to write a list.

So, here is mine:

Pain: Strained relationship with my biological father

Promise: Through it all, God began to show me that seeking my worth through anyone but Him would lead me to frustration. It is not that the people in our lives are bad, they are just human. God should be the basis of our identities. Our bloodlines should be secondary to His bloodline (Christ) who reconciled us to himself.

Pain: Physical Abuse

Promise: Pain won't last forever but God's love will.

Pain: Rejection

Promise: Once we are accepted by God, no other approval is mandatory.

Pain: Self-Inflicted

Promise: God even cleans the messes we put ourselves in -- no matter what they are. Though my life was not and never will be without pain, I will also never be without God's peace.

The whole point of this is that no matter the pain, there is a promise from God in it. He will use every experience to better you and allow you to use it as a tool to bring others to Him.

Today's Challenge

Promise and Purpose

*And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.
(Romans 8:28 NASB)*

When God says ALL He means it! Even what was meant to destroy you will be used to your advantage when you are walking in purpose. Reflect on all the promises that God has revealed to you from your pain. Use these as a guide to find both healing and your purpose in your walk with Him. *The greater the pain, the greater the promise!*

DAY 30

SHUT UP AND LISTEN!

Sometimes we are so quick to speak, to act, to get frustrated....

Sometimes we work ourselves into a frenzy when God is in the background speaking peace into our situation. Sometimes we just need to listen

My sheep, hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; (John 10:27 NASB).

How can we hear from God when we are never silent? When our prayer life consists of nothing but desperate petitions for what WE want, what WE are missing and what WE think God needs to do. We drown out His voice with our own!

In order to trust God, we must know Him...
To know Him we must listen when He speaks...
To listen we must be quiet...

Reflection and meditation on the word of God are just as essential as prayers of petition and of warfare. There are things that God needs to relay to you that you are missing because you won't shut up long enough to hear Him. We must know Him, listen to Him and follow Him; and when it seems that He is absent, He is speaking through the silence.

Today's Challenge

Encouragement in Silence

Take a moment and encourage yourself with the word of God. Play your favourite song or just sing praises to the God of your salvation who

desires intimacy with you.

DAY 31

WHEN YOU BELIEVE...

We have an unlimited supply of power, available to each of us.

When you believe:

- You prove God's infinite power to be supreme by being a testament of His faithfulness
- You draw others near to God through the example they see in you
- You begin to look more like God because you are intimate with the creator of the universe

Your belief allows the possibilities that you once could not fathom to manifest themselves in the natural by way of your supernatural acquaintance! Doors that the world have welded shut begin to melt at the hinges before your feet! We are missing out on so much simply because we are viewing our possibilities through the narrow scope of our own limitations. We have boxed God into our idea of possible and have not allowed Him to fully unleash His glory in our lives. How about we forget what we are capable of and allow God to show us what wonders He has in store...

Today's Challenge

Tap into the Possible

Forget what you are capable of and allow God to show you what wonders He has in store. Take some time today and meditate on your hopes and dreams. For just a few moments live out your wildest dreams

in your mind then declare them! Speak those seemingly impossible dreams God has placed on your heart into existence.

DAY 32

EMOTIONAL ROLLER COASTERS AND OTHER CRAZY RIDES...

If you're anything like me your stomach sinks just looking at a roller coaster...My goodness!

Some of us would never in a million years take a risk on something like that, yet we risk our hearts without a second thought. Smart right?

“Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life” (Proverbs 4:23 NASB).

Playing with your heart, is the same as playing with your life.

Some risks are not worth taking and some battles aren't worth fighting. We have to choose wisely and avoid plummeting into death defying situations. Aside from prayer and seeking God you should have some outlet, something that soothes you enough to talk you out of taking a nose dive into emotional turmoil. Mine happens to be poetry, here's a very short piece I did:

*If I were a bird I would fly to your window
and serenade you with a song of promise each morning
I would chirp until my beak grew sore each day until alas I could chirp
no more*

*If I were a bird I would forfeit my wings to walk next to your feet
What does it profit me to fly when it keeps me out of your reach?*

Today's Challenge

Here's where you get off...

Guard your heart and get off that emotional roller-coaster you've been

frequenting. Don't be so concerned about finding the one, when you haven't even become the one God destined you to be yet. Until you are content being single, you won't be content in a relationship.

DAY 33

HIT ME BABY ONE MORE TIME!

Unless you are a 90's baby, you won't even grasp the Britney Spears reference...

In the 90's Britney put out a hit single called "...Baby One More Time" and though she spent the majority of the video dancing at a high school in pig tails, the song's lyrics were far from an educational message. The lyrics of the song expressed her pining away after some guy she was no longer in a relationship with, but was very hopeful of reclaiming; especially since her loneliness was "killing her".

I know you're wondering what in the world a silly teenage song from the 90's has to do with you, your singleness or your spiritual development -- Well...Everything!

I know you miss him! Whoever it was you thought of when you read that sentence, is exactly who I'm talking about. There may just be someone you haven't completely let go of, though you know for sure the relationship has run its course, crashed a few times, exploded and been blown to smithereens!

At some point you have to say, that's enough. You may not dramatically break out into a hip-hop dance routine in your finest school uniform and fluffy feather scrunchies, but you look even more ridiculous than Britney Spears did. I mean, who really goes to school like that? Well that's beside the point... You make a mockery of your heart and life, a giant spectacle of the plans God has for you when you spend your days longing for a man that was never meant to be yours to begin with.

Today's Challenge

My loneliness is killing me...

Before you spend another night crying trying to figure out how to get him back, that feeling back or whatever it is you think you want...
Let it go. Seek God. Love God. Love you. I promise loneliness won't kill you but living a life outside of God's plan, will!
Don't let your loneliness write a check your heart can't afford to cash.

DAY 34

I CAN SMILE TODAY!

If you had asked me a few months ago how I felt about being single, I would have given you some generic “Christian-approved” answer.

I can smile today!

I am so happy to share with you what God has done in my heart! He has transformed it and given me a joy that exudes from the depths of my soul, where only brokenness once resided. My mourning has been traded for dancing, knowing that the lover of my soul is always with me; that I am one with Him and that all I am is all He wants me to be. I will never stop improving and He will never stop improving me. This brings me more joy than you can imagine.

You can smile with me today!

Our period of singleness is when God perfects us! It is when He is able to break us without our mess affecting another person’s destiny as drastically as it would if we were their spouse. People will always be affected by our shortcomings, but God uses the time that we are single to keep us set apart as much as possible, so He can fully work in us. Today, I smiled. Not because of anyone or anything; I smiled knowing that in my present state I am content (Philippians 4:11).

You aren’t just single, you are set apart!

Don’t seek so earnestly to be attached before you are perfected. Let God complete His work in you rather than you looking for another incomplete person to complete you. Nobody is the missing piece to your puzzle, God is!

Will you smile with me? Will you revel in being single, saved and satisfied?

Today's Challenge

Smile

Here's the challenge...Post a picture of your smile with the has Single Saved Satisfied and a caption stating why you are. I'm sure there is someone out there who would love to see you smile! Someone will be encouraged by your transparency and openness.

DAY 35

SOMEBODY IS WATCHING!

You are the reason someone keeps going!

It's easy to grow weary, feel ineffective or get discouraged when you are pursuing God's plan for your life. It's not easy! But God has this beautiful way of showing up right when you are about to throw in the towel...Isn't God awesome?

You don't have to be perfect to be inspiring!

Otherwise none of us would qualify. Someone is watching you, someone out there admires the ministry that is YOU, even when you feel like you are not doing anything of significance.

*“...and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified. What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things”
(Romans 8:30-32 NASB).*

When God predestined you, you were already called, justified and glorified in Him!

Your shortcomings don't make you less eligible, they just give Him a greater canvas to show forth His glory! God has souls assigned to you and tied to the gifts He has placed in you. Forget those that may speak against you, even if when it's YOU. If God is for you, not even you can extinguish the fire of purpose burning on the inside of you!

Today's Challenge

Shine bright like a...

It is a blessing to know that there are those whose lives are attached to your purpose and that God saw it fit to use you! For your challenge today, let the love of God continually shine through you. Continue to be who God called you to be! You are your brother's keeper!

DAY 36

CURSE WHO?

You have not come to this point in your life without being attacked. Your character has probably been attacked more than anything and you have watched as negative words spoken over you have manifested. You have sat back and taken too much for too long!

“How shall I curse whom God has not cursed? And how can I denounce whom the LORD has not denounced?” (Numbers 23:8 NASB)

The enemy only has the power we give him over us! Nobody can speak curses over God’s anointed, nobody! However, words hold more power than most of us seem to realize. We cannot let them live in the atmosphere and become a part of our destiny!

Today we scream: *“Curse who?! “Do not touch My anointed ones, And do My prophets no harm” (Psalms 105:15 NASB)* We are not afraid!

Today’s Challenge

Decree and Declare...

Shout this Declaration as LOUD as you can!

Today, we declare victory over the curses spoken over us. We declare peace in every painful situation. We declare that every curse and word spoken against us is null and void and holds no power. We declare every curse be returned to the enemy and will not manifest! We declare God’s will and favour. We declare supernatural transformation in every area of our lives. We declare that only God’s mandate will stand and only God’s plans for our lives will come to pass! The curse is broken, the blessing

will stand. We are whole, complete and walking in purpose!

DAY 38

THE KISS GOODBYE

It hurts. Sometimes it hurts more than you will ever want to admit to yourself -- let alone anyone else. God knows. God can deliver you from it.

The kiss goodbye...

Endearing, an ever lingering reminder of love once felt, an experience that rarely does any good and is usually a futile attempt at holding onto the past.

It isn't always a kiss is it? It's that message you had no business sending. That call because you got lonely. That email because you just needed to know someone cared. It's that moment you reached into your past to quench the pain of the present. It's a mistake!

“Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

(Philippians 3:13-14 NASB)

Let it go! Nothing God has for you will escape your grasp. If you are following the will of God and you don't have it, it's not for you...let it go.

Just because someone desires you, doesn't mean they value you....
There's a difference!

Today's Challenge

Blow me one last kiss...

Wherever you are, Stop!

Blow that last kiss into the wind, Take a deep breath, Exhale, Walk away, Stop and smell the roses, now Repeat ×... (as many times as you need to).

You aren't anybody's other choice. Do not put your life on hold waiting for someone to appreciate you. The one God has for you will love you the way He intended. God is waiting for you to seek Him fully so that He can show you what true love really looks like! To the past, to the hurt, to the pain, to being disrespected, unappreciated, and used; to being abused, to being loved any less than our Father in heaven intended – we have just one word....

Smooches!

DAY 39

DOUBLE TROUBLE

*“Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take away the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? May it never be!”
(1 Corinthians 6:15 NASB)*

We often see this scripture quoted in regard to preaching on sexual immorality...But let's take another spin on it!

Many times the Bible speaks on the darkness and the light; two can't walk together lest they agree and even tells us that a mind-set to the flesh is hostile toward God (Romans 8:7). So it's safe to say that there are no grey areas.

“There is no way to please our God and our flesh.”

There's no middle ground that God will meet you on!

Every ungodly desire is a prostitute! Everything that you have made an idol is the harlot that will bring you to ruin and steal your youth! Do not take for granted the time you have; it is not going to last forever.

Shall we then praise God with our lips and curse our neighbours? Shall we put our hands to the plough and walk away to put our hands on another man's possessions? Shall we incline our ears to His voice and also to the things that grieve the Holy Spirit? Shall we then have a threesome with our flesh and our spirit? Detestable isn't it? So is a double minded person in God's sight.

You can decide to be almost saved as long as you want, but realize you

can *ALMOST* get into heaven too.

Today's Challenge
Sinless? Or Sin-LESS?

Deciding to fully be devoted to Christ doesn't mean you will be sinless, but you will definitely sin-LESS! When you are in Christ you are a new creature; you are God's beloved. You have been set apart and called to a higher standard, so decide today whom you will please.

Choose!

DAY 40

HEY...UP HERE!

I was cooking the other day in a total panic because it seemed I had run out of my favourite seasonings. I'm a Bahamian and one thing we do not tolerate in The Bahamas is bland food – so I was naturally distraught! After all my crazed pacing the kitchen, for some reason I decided to take another look in the cupboard; only this time I used a chair. Imagine my shock and happiness when I found two unopened spices and was able to finish my meal with all the flavour I had set out to enjoy it with!

My question is...What are you looking for?

Whatever it is, worrying won't help you find it. You have to look a little higher! You just can't see because you are looking at it from the wrong angle. Your point of view is all off. Be elevated and you will be able to see the provision that was there all along!

Today's Challenge

Get on up a little bit higher

What is your daily routine for seeking God? Don't have one? Start one!

Spend an extra five minutes in prayer and meditation. Show God just how valuable He is to you and how much you love Him! You already know how much He loves you -- He thinks you are to die for!

DAY 41

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

Most of us are in a perpetual waiting game; one that never allows us to fully enjoy where we are. Don't be so anxious about what may happen that you neglect to enjoy what's happening!

Do you need:

- *More money?*
- *A better job?*
- *To finish school?*
- *A spouse?*
- *A new car?*
- *A degree?*
- *A new house?*
- *Healing?*

None of these things will fulfil you. As soon as you acquire one, you will be waiting for the next thing that will complete your life and miss out on enjoying the wonder that is the present! Where you are now is precisely where God predestined you to be. As long as you are following God's will for your life, all things work together for your good and every experience is meant to build, not break you!

“But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. “So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.” (Matthew 6:33-34 NASB)

But ALL these THINGS should not be your focus.

Today's Challenge

Shift your Focus

Today you need to begin shifting your focus from the supplies to the supplier. There is no good thing God will withhold from you when you serve Him, but understand that nothing in this earth was meant to fulfil you! Only the presence of God can do that!

DAY 42

SNAP OUT OF IT!

Snap out of it!

Most of us have two paces in romantic relationships:

All-consuming obsession and utter disinterest...

There's rarely a middle ground. I've been trying to find mine for years, believe me!

I know part of the reason God called me aside to be single was because of my innate ability to be fully consumed by the men I have dated. What made it even worse was that none of them were at a level of spiritual maturity that could bring me closer to Christ. So, each new relationship meant that I was slipping just a bit further away from God's purpose for my life – by my own fault, of course.

It's okay to get to know someone without being consumed by them. The moment you find yourself having to scale back on your relationship with Christ, you know it has gotten out of hand. If you are going to be in the twilight zone with anyone, obsessed with any magnificent being, make it the Father who created you, the Son who saved you, and the Holy Spirit who comforts you. We tend to forget that we are all flawed and build up impossible standards that we ourselves can't even live up to. Chill!

Today's Challenge

Walk Away...

Any relationship that does not strengthen your relationship with Christ, weakens it. It's as simple as that! Be vigilant about any distractions that are placed in your path – although they may look like everything you

have ever wanted. Remember, every godly man you encounter is not your future spouse, so give God time to bring him, before you going chasing after who was never meant for you! If Jesus isn't the center, walk away.

DAY 43

IF YOU THINK YOU'RE LONELY NOW...

Maybe it sucks not having someone to call your own, watching everyone get married and you can't find anyone worth a second date. Maybe you think it is much too lonely and God should just send you someone so you can finally be happy.

Newsflash!

If you're miserable now, a spouse won't change that. You will just spend your time being lonely and miserable with someone else around! If you think you are lonely now, imagine if God gives you exactly what you *think* you're ready for! God does not make mistakes, but you do. So, why wouldn't you trust Him with the decision you haven't had very much luck with your entire life? Whether you want to face it or not, you are the common factor in all of your failed relationships, and even if they were all complete jerks...YOU picked them all! You have been attracting the same broken person *you* are, that's why God has you single...you're not ready!

If you think that being single is lonely, try being in the wrong relationship and having your energy drained just for the sake of having *someone*! God does not want *you* to ensure unnecessary heartache when He can hide you in His presence until the one He has appointed for you arrives.

Today's Challenge

Think again...

Ask yourself how you would react to any of the possible situations God *could* put you in. What if God never sends you a spouse...period?

Would you still serve Him? If you find that you have any doubt to that question, put your energy into developing a stronger relationship with Christ and not being in hot pursuit of Mr. Right. You are in company and beautiful intimacy with the most perfect being you have ever, or will ever have the pleasure of knowing. You are the beloved of Christ. You are the apple of His eye, the one He yearns for a relationship with. He pursues you. He laid down His very life for you -- what greater love can there be?

DAY 44

WELL...WHO AM I?

*“What is man that you take thought of him, and the son of man that You care for him? Yet you have made him a little lower than God, And You crown him with glory and majesty!”
(Psalms 8:4-5 NASB)*

Wow, what a boost of confidence in that passage of scripture!

We will be better off having no faith in who we are, but every confidence in who God is! Think of our sinful nature and how often we grieve the Holy Spirit. It is no wonder the question was asked “What is man that you take thought of him?” Our very nature, since sin entered the world, has fought against who God truly created us to be. Despite ourselves, we are cared for by God and every little detail concerning us, concerns Him. If for a moment you thought that you were insignificant in the grand scope of things –*think again!* Realize this verse does not specify any race, sex, social position or other prerequisite to be crowned with glory and majesty – just that we are human. God has great plans for us and thinks more highly of us than we think of ourselves.

Today’s Challenge

Ask, Act, Believe

Ask yourself this question:

If God Himself thinks so highly of you, don’t you think it’s a slap in the face for you or anyone else to undermine His decision that you are valuable?

I rest my case. You are important and you need to start acting like it. You’re a child of God and you need to behave like it. You are the apple

of God's eyes and you need to start believing it. Determine today, that you will live up to the standard of the God who celebrates and cherishes you by treating yourself in the same manner. Refuse to accept any less from those around you!

DAY 45

BROKEN HALLELUJAH

One of my favourite songs is Jeff Buckley's rendition of "Hallelujah". I discovered that the original writer was Leonard Cohen and after fully inspecting the lyrics I got curious about the reason he wrote it. Cohen said that the song: *"...explains that many kinds of hallelujahs do exist, and all the perfect and broken hallelujahs have equal value."*

Very rarely do you hear it said: "My life was going perfectly, then I decided to give my life to Christ." Most of us reach a point of desperation that leads us to the perfectly broken state to be mended by Christ's love. Hallelujah means "praise Yah"-- so whether you scream it through brokenness or sing it in a beautiful melody, our praise is the doorway to our breakthrough. In your desperation and eager desire for Christ...*Hallelujah*. In your quiet, peaceful moments of refuge...*Hallelujah*. In your joyous, happy moments...*Hallelujah!*

Today's Challenge

Hallelujah!

No matter how broken you are, there is a hallelujah in your soul that needs to be released to take you to your next plateau. Release it! Even if it is through tears of loneliness and pain, even if it is through gritted teeth of anger and heartache...*Hallelujah!*

DAY 46

PRESSING MATTERS!

Pressing Matters: You can deduce two different ideas from this statement.

1. Matters of Great Importance

Chances are, at this very moment there is something occupying your mind and clouding your spirit that is irrelevant to your purpose. *Do not allow what is irrelevant to your purpose to be prevalent in your thoughts!* The only pressing matters are those imprinted by God, concerning His purpose for your life; all else is irrelevant. So that thing you are worrying about, just let it go; because in the cosmic enigma of your existence, there is NOTHING pressing about that matter. Whatever it may be that is worrying you! Let it be.

2. Pressing is Important

So, you thought that when you called on Jesustrouble would forget your address? No ma'am! Trouble will still come. But now you are not home alone and the one who inhabits your spirit is well equipped to keep you in all matters. You are in good hands!

For if you live according to [the dictates of] the flesh, you will surely die. But if through the power of the [Holy] Spirit you are [habitually] putting to death (making extinct, deadening) the [evil] deeds prompted by the body, you shall [really and genuinely] live forever.
(Romans 8:13 AMP)

I was led to this scripture and got stuck at this verse. The Amplified Bible is the only bible that effectively portrays this particular scripture in its vast significance. Do you know how hard it is to perpetually put something to death? It is difficult to constantly be at war against our

natural desires, but that is exactly what we are called to do as we die to self and live for Christ -- we may be pressed, but we are never crushed. God keeps us in all things when we lay our cares at His feet and our burdens were never meant to be carried on our own feeble shoulders. He is faithful and just to forgive us and to sustain us through trials and tests of our faith.

Today's Challenge

You cannot have great faith without enduring great distress

You have to get to the point where trusting God *is* your nature. Those moments when you have no other option but to trust God, give Him all the glory because it is a testimony of His ability to do the impossible! Remember: The pressing matters! It will build your character and teach you to trust God with total abandon!

DAY 47

FROM MY HEART TO YOURS...

We can only give to others that which is within us.

We cannot pass on joy we haven't found, peace we do not know, or wisdom we haven't sought and received. Anytime God moves us to a place of Ministry, it is preceded by a season of seclusion so that He can remove who we were, and release who we need to be to fulfill His plan.

I love writing but I made a promise to God and myself to remain authentic by never writing about that which I haven't experienced. For this reason God has been processing me; moulding, breaking, and reshaping me into the woman of God He requires to reach His beloved people.

From My Heart to Yours

*I speak of joy because depression once overwhelmed me
I speak of peace because when everything is falling apart, God Himself
has held me together
I speak of spiritual healing because where I was once broken, there is
wholeness
I speak of love, because I know Him and He is love and in Him I have
become love
I speak of wisdom, because in my pursuit He has granted me
discernment
I speak of pain, because I know it serves a purpose and is temporal
I speak of Christ because I know Him, personally and intimately, and it
is my desire for as many that see me... To see only Him in me
I speak of humility because I know that all that is beautiful in me is of
God and not myself
So from my heart to yours, I speak healing because He has and is
continually healing me!*

Today's Challenge

What is in you?

Use today to find out what outlet God has chosen for you to reach his beloved people. I want you to write a list (yes, again). On one side write down your talents, gifting and passions; on the other write down how you can use each of them to be an effective witness of God's love.

DAY 48

DON'T DOUBT IN THE DARK!

Aren't you excited about what God is doing in your life?

I am. It is amazing to see the lengths the enemy will go to in order to block you from your assignment but you shouldn't be so surprised.

God works everything out for your good, so there is no need to worry about anything!

You are currently on the brink of a breakthrough, I have no doubt that the enemy is fighting you. I have no doubt that everything in your life is in direct opposition to what God has spoken concerning you. But can I tell you it's all an illusion? Mind battles are a distraction and a tactic that the enemy uses to keep us in bondage and keep us from the promise of liberty in Christ.

If satan can keep you believing that you are broken – you will continue to operate from a place of brokenness and see yourself through the lens of hurt and pain. It is the desire of the enemy to create a smokescreen of doubt to cloud your vision of the promise!

Today's Challenge

Speak it!

All those things God promised in His word and to you personally, speak them! Combat the lies of the enemy with truth until truth is all you hear and it becomes a conviction that you live by.

Today – Declare war by declaring truth!

DAY 49

BUT I WANT IT MY WAY!

God, why can't you just give me things the way I want them?

Why is it always so difficult?

Why, why, why?

How many tantrums have you thrown because God's plan didn't line up with what you thought should happen? We all have thrown them and it is okay.

I can go to great lengths to explain just why you should shut up and listen; but why go through all the trouble? I'll just give you 3 really good reasons to forget your will and follow God's.

- 1. You don't know what's best.**
- 2. God knows what's best.**
- 3. You deserve the best!**

There you have it folks, fix that pout and let your last sigh out. Be obedient and leave the tantrums to that annoying kid in the supermarket crying over cereal.

Today's Challenge

Shut up!

Quit praying what you want and hoping that it happens. Submit your will and desires and let your prayer be that His perfect will be done in your life.

Dear Lord, I have no idea what I am doing but you know me better than

I do. I have tried it my way and messed it all up. I commit my life to you, my desires, my hopes, my dreams and aspirations are all subject to your plan because I understand the importance of doing your will. Unlike Jonah, I would like to go directly into my Nineveh experience no matter how unpleasant because Romans 8:28 tells me that all things work together for my good.

DAY 50

ACKNOWLEDGMENT, ACCEPTANCE & ACTION

Acknowledgement

Most of the hurt we struggle with is due to the fact that we have yet to acknowledge it. Buried pain usually comes from a place so dark and painful that we dare not face it alone. God is ready and willing to heal our hearts, if only we are honest enough with Him to hand them over. You cannot heal the hurt you don't know exists, that is why a truly intimate relationship with Christ is essential.

By seeking God, we find ourselves.

Acceptance

Once we have allowed God to dig deep into our hearts, we have to accept the fact that we are indeed broken in order for Him to fix us. If you could have fixed yourself you would not have spent your life sabotaging your relationships by unconscious predispositions.

There is a promise in your pain.

Action

Once you have been saved, seek deliverance; once you have been delivered, seek anointing; once you have gotten the anointing, seek more of it. Never stop seeking more of God and once He has filled you with His presence, eventually all of the pain you were filled with will have no room. By staying desperate for more of God, you are dependent and will receive an abundance of His grace and deliverance.

Your pain cannot stay where God resides.

Today's Challenge

Acknowledgement, Acceptance and Action

It's as simple as google. Search the definition of acknowledgement, acceptance and action. Determine if you have applied these principles during this experience and if you haven't, be intentional in how you intend to move forward and change that.

DAY 51

WHAT ARE YOU WEARING?

Each morning you wake up, a conscious decision is made to dress yourself appropriately. You don't just put on the first thing that comes to your hand. You dress according to the weather and where you are going, and then choose something that's flattering.

Do we spend as much time on adorning our Spirits appropriately as we do on our bodies?

Let's look at it this way, you wouldn't wear your bikini to the office right? There is no way you would be caught dead in your wool turtleneck sweater when it scorching outside? And how many of us look for clothes that make us less appealing as we go about our day?

Climate

We have to be spiritually prepared for the season. We can only be aware when we are connected to Christ. What is the weather like in the season of your development? What is God instructing you to dress yourself in? The garment of praise is always appropriate attire -- don't leave home without it!

Location

If you are going on a trip to the beach, your work suit and brief case just may not be the best idea. You cannot remain in yesterday's garments en route to today's location! When there is a shift in your spiritual direction, there is always a shift in what you can take with you and what must be left behind. You cannot pack for the pit when God is taking you to the palace! Change your clothes!

What suits you

Don't get caught in your bikini at the office! There are places God is ready to take you, but you don't look like where you are going. You are not letting His glory shine through as it ought to because you are stuck wearing bad habits and connections that no longer suit you. The glory of God should be written all over your face!

Today's Challenge

Dress Appropriately

Before you make another step today, consider the state of your spirit. Are you dressed appropriately? Go into the nearest restroom and remove an essential article of clothing i.e. Shirt, pants, shoes and then go about your day. Sounds ridiculous right?

So is going about your day not spiritually clothed in righteousness and an understanding of God's love and desire for relationship with us. View spiritual adornment the way you do your clothing to bring things into perspective. Don't get caught in your bikini at the office!

DAY 52

YOU DON'T HAVE TO CALL...

When God is processing you, there will be change. Some changes will be harder than others and some you never saw coming and aren't prepared for.

One of the most common changes we undergo when God is moving in our lives is a rearrangement of our relationships. People begin to walk out of our lives, sometimes without explanation or reason. This can be trying and emotional since it leaves us feeling as if we have done something wrong. Please understand that unless you have wronged the person that walks away from you, you don't have to call. You don't have to inquire and beg for reasons to rationalize their absence. You don't have to justify yourself by their reasoning when it is God who justifies you! Another person should not have the power to put a value on you. We are open to give and receive love but our main source of acceptance needs to be our Heavenly Father and He has to be the one we ultimately aim to please and be accepted by. If someone wants to leave your life, let them. Don't mistake a divine dismissal with a loss. When you follow God, ALL things work together for your good.

Your destiny is not tied up in anyone not anchored in Christ and pushing you into purpose.

Today's Challenge

You don't have to call, you don't need any answers...

Resist the temptation to seek an explanation or explain yourself to anyone that God has taken out of your life. You don't need to talk yourself back into a situation God brought you out of. Shut your phone

off for an hour. Just remain in the calm of silence for an hour and before you turn your phone back on, ask God's guidance in responding to messages and use the self-control He has allotted you to leave the past behind!

DAY 53

FEAR DOESN'T FIT!

Do not run from your anointing.

I know it sounds strange that anyone would be afraid of what God has in store for them, but I was! Even as it pertains to relationships. I wasn't afraid that God would not place me in better ones, I was afraid I was not good enough for the ones He wanted for me. We spend so much time and energy doubting ourselves when all God really wants is our obedience; because after all, we cannot earn His love.

This excerpt written by Marianne Williamson sums it all up beautifully:

*“...Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate.
Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.
It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us.
We ask ourselves, who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous?
Actually, who are you not to be?
You are a child of God.
Your playing small does not serve the world.
There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't
feel insecure around you.
We are all meant to shine, as children do.
We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us.
It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone.
And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people
permission to do the same.
As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically
liberates others.”*

Today's Challenge

Live without Limits

Do not limit God. What He has in store is essential, not just for your growth but for the development of the Kingdom. It is your duty as a believer to follow Christ in faith and to believe that in Him you are made adequate. Everything you need to fulfil your destiny is already in you.
Don't let fear hide it away!

DAY 54

TALK THAT TALK!

I was under the impression that simply not speaking negatively was an adequate testament of my faith. I had not realized however, that the tapestry I was weaving was one of complacency and silent surrender. In everything, we must be intentional and proactive to pursue the purpose of Christ. It is a beautiful wonder when our souls are in full surrender to The Lord and our words reflect His spirit and our faith in Him. My heart has been pressed on a particular scripture that I feel obligated to share with you.

However, we possess this precious treasure [the divine Light of the Gospel] in [frail, human] vessels of earth that the grandeur and exceeding greatness of the power may be shown to be from God and not from ourselves. (2 Corinthians 4:7 AMP)

This treasure that is spoken of does not come by great acts of service, but by faith activated and shown by conscious acts of obedience. When we are intentional with our faith, walking upright in the plans of God for us, we begin to speak manifestation of the things He promised because in His presence we begin to believe in who He is and live accordingly.

What does your tapestry look like? Are you weaving a life of God-ordained prosperity, or are you silently surrendering to the lies the enemy has fed you?

Today's Challenge
Weave your Tapestry

Your tapestry is being woven -- determine today who will be doing the weaving. You must speak the plans of God into existence and realign that which the enemy set against you. You must declare and decree as if your life depends on it -- because it does! If you are not creating the tapestry that God desires for you, your complacency or outright disobedience is painting an entirely different picture. Your thoughts, your words, your life all need to be intentionally aligned with your God ordained purpose. Make sure they all weave a tapestry that leaves you satisfied with the final picture!

Choose the colours that would make up your tapestry from the list below:

Black – anger

Purple – hurt

Pink – pain

Yellow – lust

Brown – joy

Red – sadness

Orange – jealousy

Green – contentment

Blue – love

White – peace

Choose what applies, change what you don't like and start weaving a new tapestry – one you'd want to show the world!

DAY 55

THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY...

The one you miss, the one you were sure was the one, if only you had...

Ring any bells?

Well it does for me. It sounds a loud alarm that lets me know that I am not quite as over it as I would like to believe. The alarm sounds, and I know that though I am content and God is transforming me, there are just some feelings I have to face and turn over to Him.

You may miss him, but that is no reason to lose one ounce of your peace of mind or beat yourself up...It is a part of the process.

What we have to begin to realize is that even a good choice isn't right until it is also God's choice for you.

Let us go through a list of requirements for your potential spouse. If he doesn't meet **ALL** the requirements on this list, he is not the one for you and you **NEED** to move on!

1. Single – If he is married, engaged, or in a committed relationship...
RUN!

2. Attractive – The person for you will be attractive to you and attracted to you.

3. Interested – You'd think this goes without saying, but the person that is meant for you will actually like you and want to be with you.

4. SAVED – You do not want to start a life with someone that hasn't at least started their walk with Christ. How will he lead you if he hasn't learned to follow Christ? How will he love you as Christ loves the church if he is not acquainted with God's love.

Today's Challenge
Don't cry, Blue Skies

You cannot spend your time crying over yesterday's losses when today is here to be conquered. Embrace your destiny and remember **YOU ARE** the one that got away!!! You are the treasure worth finding and God will bring along someone who appreciates it in His timing and in the meantime you get unlimited access to a limitless God who adores you above all else!

Don't take for granted the freedom of this season, the total abandon you get to enjoy and the deep level of intimacy with your creator.

DAY 56

SAME PATH – DIFFERENT SHOES

We walk the narrow path that few dare venture on, in hopes of being undeniably pleasing to the master of all creation and creativity. Yet, somehow we get side-tracked by emulating the beauty of another and not fully appreciating the intricate and glorious beings that we are. In essence, we waste our time trying to be someone else when that is a perfectly good waste of who we were created to be.

Though we are all aiming to please Christ, we must all do it in the manner unique to us. You were created with unique traits and abilities that make you perfect for the purpose God created you to fulfil. There is no normality in Christianity; you follow the Holy Spirit without apology.

Today's Challenge

We walk the same path, but have on different shoes

Embrace who you are, celebrate those around you and fulfil your God given purpose – every little bit of it!

DAY 57

BEAUTIFULLY BROKEN...A LITTLE DEEPER

I speak to you, not as a spotless woman of virtue. I speak to you as a broken vessel; repaired and redeemed by the one true living God who saw it fit to love me when I had deemed myself unlovable.

When I gave my heart to God, I was so broken and confused that I didn't even expect Him to love me fully. After all, who could love a mess like me?

They don't know how messed up I am!

Some nights I pictured the world without me and envisioned it to be better that way. There were days I hated everyone around me only because they reminded me that I existed. And even when I was foolish enough to *like* me, along came a reminder of how unworthy I was of love.

But God had a plan for me when I didn't even want to exist! God kept me—in times when I should have and would have been dead. Times I spent pleading for a life that I wasn't really sure I wanted. God loved me so much that He forced me to love myself! My intimate moments with Him left no room for my self-loathing.

Every detail of your life is important to your creator and there is no room for you to continue to hate the beautiful being He created you to be!

Today's Challenge

Let Love Reign!

I know, the pain won't go away right this moment. But I am a living testament that it will go away, in His presence there is fullness of joy and the more time you spend with Him...The less time you spend in despair. Try Him, try the saviour that will change you; try the God that will love you into loving yourself; try the Holy Spirit that will comfort you and lead you --Just try.

DAY 58

BUT WHAT IF I FAIL?

In pursuit of purpose you have to lay down your life and all your fears with it to cling wholeheartedly to the task before you – pleasing God. Do you believe God would place a vision in you and not equip you with the tools needed to complete it? The only way to fail is to stop.

A Toyota cannot fail at being a Toyota, but if it seeks to fulfil the demands of a Mercedes – the Toyota will continuously fail. You cannot succeed at what you weren't created to do. Even if you have succeeded in mastering a craft outside of your purpose – at what cost? I would rather serve God and fail everyone else's expectations of who I ought to be, than to fail God trying to please humans that cannot bring salvation to my soul. The problem is that you haven't realized that the vision God placed in you is NOT about you! Your fear of failure comes from a deep rooted desire to please people. Uproot it and send it back to the enemy! There is no failure in Christ. By following Him, you have already won.

The vision God has for you and His plans to prosper you will blow your mind. You cannot view the processing phase as failure! You cannot get caught up in preliminary struggles and walk away before you ever reach your destiny. Pursue YOUR purpose. The passion that God placed in you doesn't need confirmation or agreement from a third party. All you need is the faith to get up and do what God has called you to do.

If you are following Christ and you fail, look at it again through the eyes of God and where you once saw failure you will see redirection!

Today's Challenge

Avoiding Failure

3 ways to avoid failure:

- Know your purpose
- Trust His plan
- Stick with God

Follow these three instructions and you will never fail because all you would have done was please your creator. You are single -- this is the season God looks forward to crazy intimacy with you while perfecting His vision!

DAY 59

DON'T LET THE BREAKUP, BREAK YOU!

But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, (Philippians 3:7-8 NASB)

So... You broke up.

In comparison to Christ, how big of a loss was it? This excerpt of scripture is a perfect example of what our perception of all things should be when held in comparison to Christ. Nothing can compare.

Losing a relationship that God had not intended you to have in the first place, isn't a loss at all. You have to learn to lay all things before Christ and count it all a loss for His sake. Don't let the breakup break you.

Don't let the things or people that leave your life distract you from the only one who never will – Christ. Even marriage is 'til death do us part,' but your relationship with The Lord transcends time and space; it is eternal and everlasting.

You are still the marvellous creation of purpose and love that God created you to be. No matter who walks out of your life or who God urges you to leave behind, **no being of flesh defines you or should have the ability to break you.** When you sever ties it can be God's way of unleashing His favour in your life. Sometimes we are so tied up in people that we lose grip of God. Cling to Christ.

Today's Challenge

Silence your Emotions

Don't allow your emotions to dictate your next move. Emotions are fickle and are sure to toss you back and forth in a flurry of confusion. You cannot follow your heart or your emotions, only the Holy Spirit can truly lead you.

You can't leave God out of your love life and expect Him to direct it
–*“In ALL your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths”*
(Proverbs 3:6 NKJV)

DAY 60

AND SHE BECAME THE LOVE SHE SOUGHT...

Day 60 – been at this a minute huh? (Pun intended)

At this point you have probably done a lot of soul searching, crying, and feeling. God has been working on your heart and putting up a mirror to your soul, revealing that which you had only previously heard described by onlookers. You are (hopefully) at a point of self-awareness that enables you to be the very thing that you are seeking. God created every person uniquely to perform the task predestined before their existence.

Everything that you are seeking is a reflection of a void in yourself that can be filled in the presence of your creator. Just as you consult an owner's manual for the purpose of a thing, you must consult your creator for the purpose you were designed to fulfil.

We all have a basic need for love and acceptance. Once we have opened our hearts to receive it from God, we have to become loving and accepting beings in and of ourselves.

Become the hope you seek, the love you crave and the change you wish to see

Today's Challenge

Accept that you are Love

God is love, and as sure as you are created in His image – it is fair to say you are also love. You need not search external supplements for that which you already are. The more time you spend with God. The more you begin to be like Him and the closer you are to becoming the love that you so earnestly seek! Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. You cannot remain in His presence without learning the truth about you, and

releasing the light of holiness that emanates from His presence. You are your Father's child. Be holy as He is holy. Be righteous as He is righteous. Be love as He is love.

And she became the love she sought because the giver of love was with her. The lover of her soul taught her to love her soul beyond emotion, with an intentional love that transformed her forever.

DAY 61

WHO SAID YOU'LL NEVER BE ROYAL?

Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. (1 John 2 :15 NASB)

Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul. (1 Peter 2 :11 NASB)

Your season of separation is not from people, it is from the mind-sets and desires of the flesh that go against the standard of Christ. Part of the phenomenon of being born again is the fact that just like your natural birth, it is a process that begins long before the evidence is visible.

When we are born again, we are born into a new family and new way of thinking and carrying ourselves. For now we are royal and must conduct ourselves with diplomacy and exceptional decorum. In this same manner, our connections are primarily of our kingdom, and our new heritage gives us favour that warrants respect in every state because all who encounter us know whom we represent. You cannot reside in the kingdom of Christ and follow the will of the rest of the world. You must make a choice as to whom you will represent. Our natural lust for worldly things needs to be relinquished and they will be, through fervent prayer and constant submission. You will be convicted and that which was once acceptable will become strange and despicable. All the things that once pleased you will be washed away because it is not conducive to your calling into the kingdom of light. You won't be comfortable smoking, drinking, and being around obnoxious people that carry themselves with no regard for your God. Your ear will become sensitive to cursing, and your eyes will burn at the sight of lewdness -- sin will grieve your heart. You will go to places you once frequented and feel like a complete alien -- because you are! You are no longer of this world.

Today's Challenge

Separation isn't Optional...

It is required to fulfil the purpose of Christ

Commit your heart and mind fully to Christ so that your connection to the things that you still want to cling to naturally, will be fully released. Your desire to hold onto that relationship based on physical attraction, when you know it's outside of God's will, requires you to actively choose between His will and yours. Every part of you needs to be open to His transforming love.

We must be processed and purged into purpose!

DAY 62

SWEET DREAMS, BEAUTIFUL NIGHTMARES, MY BELOVED...

It could be a sweet dream or a beautiful nightmare...

For every new level there is a new devil and chances are, he is going to be fine! Looking good and smelling better, each new devil will be the epitome of everything you've ever dreamed of having, and in all your dreaming you'll stop praying God's will in your love life assuming that "he" is THE ONE!

You can fall into a spell from his fragrance. You can look at that smile and want to stare into those eyes forever; but, if it is not God's will, you are jeopardizing your destiny.

"Put me like a seal over your heart, Like a seal on your arm. For love is as strong as death, Jealousy is as severe as Sheol; Its flashes are flashes of fire, The very flame of the LORD. (Song of Solomon 8 :6 NASB)

This all-consuming love that Solomon spoke of is not to be entered into lightly. We are not to take on love of this magnitude with a being that has not sought the creator. He who doesn't know God, doesn't know love. Being equally yoked is more than about being saved, it is about loving someone that takes on your dreams as their own and shares your joys and failures. This love improves your life and makes you a better person without ever nagging or urging you to. Being in proximity to someone you admire so greatly, forces you to change for the better.

As singles, we tend to shy away from talking about love for fear that it will remind us of what we are missing; but I believe the opposite. There is hope, you can still have love. We know that when God is about to do something major, there's a waiting period. We know that God has us waiting for a purpose and His timing is perfect. We know that who He is

shaping us for and shaping for us will be our divine destiny. Our union will be one that causes God to dance around His throne. We will be a ministry of divine love and the manifestation of His glory. So with that to look forward to, who cares about a few lonely nights? It is worth the wait. God's will is always worth the wait and always exceeds our expectations!

Today's Challenge

Treat yourself

Wait, you're worth it and so is the spouse God is preparing for you. Take yourself on a date today, treat yourself to everything you want and show yourself the love you've been waiting on a man to give you. Yes, I do mean go out alone and actually enjoy it. You won't die from embarrassment and though it will feel strange at first, I assure you you will enjoy it.

DAY 63

HARLOT TO HELP MEET

“And behold, a woman comes to meet him, Dressed as a harlot and cunning of heart. She is boisterous and rebellious, Her feet do not remain at home” (Proverbs 7:10-11)

“With her many persuasions she entices him; With her flattering lips she seduces him. Suddenly he follows her as an ox goes to the slaughter, Or as one in fetters to the discipline of a fool” (Proverbs 7:21-22)

Before the Proverbs 31 woman that we all would love to think we are, Solomon was adamant in warnings of the harlot. I do not expect many women to like this message, but in obedience – I will paint the picture through divine vision. Just as the virtuous woman is a “good thing” to the man who finds her, the harlot of Proverbs 7 is the woman that can be a fool’s demise. She seduces you and entices you with lips of honey and words of soothing jasmine, her hips sway to the rhythm of your heart and you lose your mind.

As women, we must seek healing. We cannot continuously walk around broken, using men as a pacifier for souls that are in turmoil. Your thirst for love and acceptance will never be quenched by a man, a few men or many men. No matter how many beds you are welcomed into, you will always be alone. Your soul is lost. Tangled in those bed sheets you allowed your worth to be stripped away with that last piece of clothing. You feel that a better man is the remedy, but you cannot seek from a man what only God can offer.

“I have wiped out your transgressions like a thick cloud And your sins like a heavy mist. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you.” (Isaiah 44:22 NASB)

Today's Challenge

Return to God

Ladies, God does not care about your body count. He is not concerned with the labels the world has attached to you based on decisions you made from pain. Today is a new day! Let God heal, deliver and transform you. It is He that can bring you from the Proverbs 7 warning, to the Proverbs 31 blessing you were born to be.

DAY 64

YOU'RE SO FULL OF IT!

My grandfather has this saying, “Junk in, junk out” that irritated me for the better part of my childhood. As an adult however, I have come to appreciate the phrase and found it more helpful than it was annoying.

You are what you eat!

What you fill yourself with, or consume, makes you. You have to begin to consciously make choices to fill yourself with what is relevant to the person you want to be. Everything you allow to continuously penetrate you, eventually seeps into your character and shows evidence of what you have encountered. When you consciously set your mind on beneficial matters that shape you into the image of Christ, that is what you will be filled with. In the same manner, if you fill yourself with the concerns of this world, you will undoubtedly be filled with fear and doubt.

Pressure squeezes the stuffing out of you!

When trials come, the very same thing you have been feeding your spirit will burst out into identifiable traits of your character. New attitudes aren't made during tough times; there is just evidence of that which was already planted. When the pressures of life inevitably squeeze the stuffing out of you, what will come forth? Sometimes God allows pressure because He needs you to see what you are filled with and make changes. Pressure isn't the worst thing that can happen to you. Seeing what you are made of and not being satisfied yet still remaining

complacent – *that is the worst thing you can do.*

Today's Challenge

Bring it on

Welcome the challenges. They show you what you are made of. Only after passing your threshold do you know how far you can truly go.

Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, we praise you now for who you are. We ask that you cleanse us from all unrighteousness and empty us. Remove all that does not please you and flush us out with your Holy Spirit until nothing else has space to inhabit our spirit. We come against every distraction and plan of the enemy and declare victory. Fill us with you. Fill us with your grace and mercy. Give us guidance. These things we ask in the name of your son Jesus Christ. Amen.

DAY 65

TO MY SISTERS...

Fall in love they said...It will make you happy they said...Men will be men they said...Just give it time they said...

They lied!

We have been fed lies about love and relationships from the very first “Once upon a Time.” Then we get into elementary school and are told boys are only mean to us because they like us. We get to high school and are told to keep our virginity while boys are coached to deflower as many of us as possible. As we get older we base our value on the opinions of the men we attract and as men are pushed to chase careers, we are pushed to find a man. See the problem here? We have been programmed wrong!

My dear sisters, you beautiful and majestic visions of beauty. Embrace your purpose first and foremost and align yourself with the lover of your soul before seeking the love of your life. Mistreatment is not the usual. Every man doesn't cheat, you are not ““getting up there,” and there is no rush. Why should you spend your whole life giving yourself away when you haven't even figured out who you are?

Forgetting Fiction

The reason most of us haven't found the love we desire is because it doesn't exist. A spouse should complement and not complete you. No person deserves to be held responsible for that burden when the Bible tells us that flesh will fail us. We are humans and any ideal notion that has clouded our judgement needs to be expelled from our minds. As

long as we hold onto fairy tale notions of love, our satisfaction with relationships will be as real as they are.

Damsels in distress

I get the appeal of a big hero coming to rescue us from our demise and remaining in love with us forever. But guess what? That love story is real for us all. Jesus gave His life for you, remains with you, and will love you for all eternity!

Today's Challenge **Forget the Fairy Tales**

Forget the fairy tales ladies and instead accept the scriptural definition of love.

Find and Read 1 Corinthians? 13:4-7, 13 NASB.

DAY 66

Waiting for the night...

What if I told you that the night you've been waiting on, has been yours to receive this whole time....

We have such an earnest desire for affection, sometimes we wonder where it came from and why it so incessantly haunts us. It's simple -- we were created in the image and likeness of God, our God who adores praise and adoration, and desires love and intimacy from us all. Our desire for love is no sin; however, our perversion of this desire lent to us by warped images and false hopes of love and affection are what has distanced us from the one true love who was there all along.

I get it, you want a love that's tangible, one you can feel and one that's there for real. But how real have your relationships been? How real is the love from men who have left you and hurt you? How real is the love from those who abandon and betray us? How real is the love we seek, that fails us over and over again?

Most of us wouldn't know real love if it came from the right hand of the Father and suffered on the earth for 33 years, took 39 lashes and persecution just to prove it. You don't know love until you know God's. He will not bring you a quasi-god for you to cater to and worship above Him, when you have not even accepted His pure and unconditional love. Not many of us would have even given serving God a second thought if we had the kind of love we wanted.

Today's Challenge

“Give God your heart and give people your love”

– Apostle Raymond Wells

More specifically, ask God to hide your heart in His unfailing love and to condition you to understand what true love really looks like. In your prayer time today, ask God to reveal what love means to you and for Him to show you how to firstly accept His unfailing love, and then to extend it to others.

DAY 67

BEYOUTIFUL MASTERPIECE!

God is the greatest artist there will ever be. There are approximately 7 billion people alive at this very moment; all with unique features, talents, gifts and inclinations.

For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb (Psalms 139:13). My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth; Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; And in Your book were all written The days that were ordained for me, When as yet there was not one of them. How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How vast is the sum of them! If I should count them, they would outnumber the sand. When I awake, I am still with You. (Psalms 139: 15-18 NASB)

Everything about you was planned and meticulously thought out. What your parents didn't plan, God did! You were far from accidental so allow God to perfect His work in you!

God thinks about you all the time. He is constantly planning blessings that you need only to speak into this realm. We cannot fully understand the works of God or His plans, but we ought to give Him more credit than we do. We limit God to our imaginations and circumstances. Do not allow your lack of faith to insinuate that God has a lack of power or provision.

We assume that our unique traits are flaws. We assume that because we haven't taken the road we watched others take to be successful, we are on the wrong path.

As long as you are following God, there are no wrong turns! Just as

you are unique, so is your purpose. Don't worry about who may do it better, who has more support, or who has more resources; you are the only *you* this world will get and we need you to release those gifts in you. You are a masterpiece, not limited by any circumstance or flaw. Miracles are being birthed in your life and God is about to throw an outburst your way that will leave no doubt that ALL the glory belongs to Him.

Today's Challenge

Be You

Be so lost in purpose that the spouse who finds you, will have to be equally wrapped up in Him. God will never bring a person your way that removes you from His purpose. So, if they don't bring you closer to Him, they are a distraction pulling you away from Him. Don't allow the enemy to blanket the masterpiece you are with heartbreak and confusion caused by disobedience.

DAY 68

IPHONE OR IDOL?

What is your source?

At the end of the day, when the world has forgotten us and we have to face all that we are, we have to ask ourselves “why do we keep going?”

If we are pursuing things to gain the love and recognition of men, we have failed. If God is not whom we are aiming to please, we have missed the point.

“For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God? Or am I striving to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a bond-servant of Christ” (Galatians 1:10 NASB)

Whose favour are we seeking? Are we so concerned with likes on social media and praises of those around us that we fail to fully follow Christ? Are we now so caught up in trying to be the next big thing that we miss the big picture? Have we become so social that we have neglected the spiritual? We cannot! We have to be firm in following the mandate of Christ and pursuing the saving of souls above all else. We ought to be beings of love that aim to please our creator.

Is your iPhone your idol?

Our phones can do wonderful things and social media can be such a blessing when used to the glory and honour of God. But what happens when our tool becomes our idol? We break the heart of God when we put things before Him and we have to begin to allow Him to strip away what has stolen our attention from Him. No amount of attention is worth

your soul.

God is our source and the longer we remain unplugged, the less power we have. We need constant recharging. We cannot go more than a few hours without recharging our phones, but we can go days without getting into God's presence. We have to change that. If it is not God that is our source, we are plugged into other sources that can never do what He can.

Today's Challenge

Plug in

God is our supply and He never runs low on love, grace and mercy. His acceptance isn't conditional. God is the only source that lasts forever, so don't neglect to plug in!

DAY 69

I'M JUST BEING HONEST...

Be transparent, be open, and be honest --these are the promises I made as I began this challenge and I kept it.

The closer I got to the end, the more challenges came forth. However, just as the word states:

“the ending of a thing is greater than the beginning and patience better than pride” (Ecclesiastes 7:8) --and my obedience served a purpose. The enemy will do all that he can to distract you and make you feel that God has forgotten you. You will watch your exes that broke your heart get married, you will see everyone getting married all of a sudden and think “really?” Well, that’s what I thought anyway. It’s not that I am not content, it’s just that it seemed like everyone around me was getting what they desired and I wasn’t, until God began to show me things as they were and not how I had perceived them to be.

I was seeing wedding bells and happy smiles, Facebook posts and pictures that seemed to portray all I thought I wanted. I spoke to the lover of my soul and asked Him “why does everyone but me seem to be so happy?” Strangely, I was still happy for them and saw it as a promise that God would do for me what He did for them; yet, I was still questioning His timing. Why are we so concerned with time? As precious a commodity as it is, it pales in comparison to the one true living God. His timing is perfect and the longer we look at the seasons in the natural, the more frustrated we will become.

Yes, it will be frustrating because what is going on around us gives no indication of fulfilling what God has placed in us. You have gotten words of prosperity, but your bank account is even emptier than it was

before. You have gotten words of impending marriage with no prospective suitors; words of change in your family for the better but they are all like strangers to each other. Did you not know that the enemy will directly attack the area that holds your greatest blessing? God allows things to get bleak so that when He brings you what He has promised, it will be evident that it is not of your own doing. God is bringing an “all-at-once” blessing your way, and the reason it doesn’t look like that, is because it is not supposed to! Do not doubt what is coming because you cannot see where it is coming from.

Today’s Challenge:

Keep sowing, keep praying, keep believing, keep loving

Your outpouring is about to be ridiculous! In the meantime, stay single, saved and satisfied. As much as you loved the wrong ones, the right one is going to blow your mind when God delivers him in His perfect timing!

DAY 70

DO IT ANYWAY!

What God tells you to do usually seems impossible – do it anyway!

I work at a school, and not one where there are paid summers. So, when God instructed me to put on an event smack dab in the middle of the summer, I started to panic. I had not realized that I placed more confidence in my bank account than I did in God. Why is it that I panicked when my balance got lower when He is my provider?

Naturally, everything went wrong. The week of the event my host fell through, as did one of my performers and the DJ I had my heart set on couldn't come until an hour after the event started. I wanted to cancel. But I looked up at my Father and said, "You told me to do this. You have to make provisions." He did. The money for the DJ was due -- my dad called and told me he sent the exact amount to my bank account. I needed to get some other things done, with no ride to get around and no money to get it done -- my best friend called and told me she had a car rental that weekend, then another friend accompanied me and paid for almost everything I needed. I thanked them but thanked God twice as much for coming through! I had no resources, but I decided that I would do it anyway! This is not some testimony of my obedience, but of God's faithfulness.

God knows your situation will look impossible to you and that you won't have what it takes to fulfil what He asks of you. That's the point. He just needs you to follow His instructions and trust Him to provide. I hate not having money, so this experience was especially trying for me but it was an opportunity for God to show up and show me that He cannot fail. I don't know what it is God is leading you to do, but I know that more than likely the circumstances look bleak -- DO IT ANYWAY! God will not begin a work in you and not complete it.

“For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 1:6 NASB)

God will do what He said, your dreams are supposed to scare you. His plans for your life are supposed to be miraculous, despite your circumstances.

“But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves.” (2 Corinthians 4:7 NASB)

Today’s Challenge

God wants it evident that all we accomplish is of Him and not of ourselves. Whatever He is leading you to do, forget your circumstances and what you don’t have – Do it anyway!

DAY 71

TRUTH ABOUT ME!

God is speaking to you. You are getting closer to Him and the intimacy you have felt with Him surpasses all you have ever previously experienced. This is a beautiful thing I wish everyone could experience.

“My soul longed and even yearned for the courts of the LORD; My heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.” (Psalms 84:2)

“For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand outside. I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness. For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD gives grace and glory; No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.” (Psalms 84:10-11 NASB)

I kneeled before God, in total abandonment crying out because I was just so tired of being depressed for no reason. I let the tears flow this time without trying to get it together and I told God I would not move until He spoke to me. I was desperate, I needed something, I needed peace and I needed it now because I was about to break. I went to church week after week yet still felt empty and alone and I was tired of it. I needed a real encounter with God, something between us that let me know He knew me and really loved me. I got it!

In my hour of desperation, God spoke to me and released a partial vision of what was to come, so I went with it. With all my doubts and fears, I remained obedient. Trying my hardest to have faith where I had always let fear prevail. I wept. I spoke to Him honestly for the first time. I told God I was lonely. I didn't understand what was going on in my life or why I was here. I began to speak the matters of my heart, and He knew

me. My issues were not too big for Him because He had already known me and loved me. He just needed an invitation.

Today's Challenge

Invite Him in

Yes, you are lonely and you have never known what true love feels like. You are scared that nobody, not even God can love you completely. You just want to feel loved, to feel accepted and to feel like you truly matter and have a purpose. You do! But we cannot come to God with empty words and regurgitated prayers that we have rehearsed. God wants all the real, messy ugly parts of you so that He can love you into promise! No excuses for your past, and no apologies for your present. God wants repentance and confession but not for you to carry the weight of guilt around. What's the sense in repenting if you still try to fix and make up for your sins? You are forgiven!

The more honest you are with God, the better He can move in you. I promise you, you won't regret an outpouring before God; you will leave His presence filled with a peace you can't even fathom! Tell God what you really feel and the issues you truly face. Spend time with Him as you would your spouse, and grow close to Him so you can know true intimacy and true love before you accept some fabricated version of it. God is the ultimate source of love, outside of Him...No love exists.

DAY 72

A HEART LIKE YOURS!

“Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me.” (Psalms 51:5 NASB)

Being born again, means a rebirthing from our old sinful nature into a glorious and majestic being of love. We cannot serve Christ until we learn to love like Him.

*“Hide Your face from my sins And blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me.”
(Psalms 51: 9-10 NASB)*

God will not withhold anything we request. If we seek God for a clean heart we will undoubtedly receive it. We need the heart of Christ, a heart that never wavers in its pursuit to love. Sometimes I talk to God because I need to -- I just need Him. Sometimes we won't get the words right, we won't know what to say – just talk. God doesn't care how eloquent you are. He just wants to hear from you!

Today's Challenge

Be Pure and Full of Love

Tonight we pray, for a heart like God's. One like Christ, one that is pure and full of love.

*Dear God,
Gracious and everlasting Holy and one true God, I cry out to you. From the depths of my heart I ask for a heart like yours. Give me a heart that is willing to sacrifice like Abraham did. Give me a heart that is obedient and trusts you above all else like Moses did. May I take on a heart like*

Job, that believes in you through the testing, though all of my possessions, my own family and body are in conflict against me. Give me a heart of repentance and praise. Give me a heart like yours and a hunger and thirst for your presence. You are the God who always was and always will be; the God that created me in His image of love and I ask now that you perfect your love in me. In Jesus name, amen.

DAY 73

IMPERFECT INSPIRATION

If being perfect was a requirement, none of us would be able to serve God.

“For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.”

(Ephesians 2:8-9 NASB)

You cannot earn your way into God’s favour -- and you don’t have to. You have already been justified according to Romans 8. It is the will of God that we seek Him with our whole heart, with all our might and we surely will find Him. You need only be available to be a blessing. Before you ask God “Why me?” You need to ask “Why not me?” You are just as much of a sinner saved by grace than anyone else, and you are no less valuable in His sight. Everything about you was planned to carry out a special purpose. Darling, you are special!

Don’t you dare waste your anointing because you think you don’t measure up. You weren’t created to emulate anyone but Christ. Your hurt and pain serves as the perfect platform for your ministry of imperfect inspiration. All of the mess and shame that God has redeemed you from was so that you will be able to have an authentic testimony that is can touch the hearts of those that God places in your path. Your imperfections make you relatable. Your unique experiences will inspire those with similar struggles because you are now an example of change. You show the world that redemption is possible and that God can use anybody!

“Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies

*ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God
in Christ Jesus.”
(Philippians 3:13-14 NASB)*

Today's Challenge

Keep Pressing, Keep Striving

Share your struggles when God leads you to, because maybe, just maybe, you can lighten the load of someone who is struggling. If we spend all of our time hiding our faults and pretending to be perfect, when will we truly heal and overcome them? You are not perfect, yet. On our pilgrimage to perfection, it is our mandate to gather as many as we can to take the journey with us. Be the inspiration you are looking for, be honest with yourself and with others. You don't have to be perfect to be an inspiration -- you just have to be you! All God wants is you, you'll be surprised soon with the wonder He has done in your heart!

DAY 74

HEART CHECK – ONE TWO, ONE TWO!

Our ideas of dating and relationships have been warped by what we allow into our minds on a daily basis.

I know we thought it ridiculous when our grandmothers used to go into a craze when we listen to certain types of music and our number one rebuttal was always “it’s only music”. Is it? Modern psychology suggests that when something is repeated to you 3 times, it is committed to your permanent memory. Just think about how you can riddle off the lyrics of your favourite songs without ever having to intentionally study the lyrics. Still think it has no effect on us?

What are you speaking into the atmosphere concerning your relationships?

The common stance lately has been to have no expectations whatsoever and to just date and hope someone proves you wrong.

Here is what’s wrong with that:

We cannot speak distrust and hurt and expect to yield a healthy and functional relationship. We will reap the benefits of the spoken word.

Stop talking yourself into dysfunction!

The longer you give into what the world says about your impending relationship and marriage, the worse it will be. My favourite scripture calls the man “blessed” who does not take counsel from the ungodly (*Psalms 1:1*). But we have to be discerning, even when it comes to believers. Some of us have bitter views on love and relationships that God has to fix in us. So, if you are too bitter to believe in love, stop

spewing that poison at your sister or brother who believes God has a beautiful marriage in store for them. As long as you have God, you have hope. You have to prepare for your blessing as if it is coming tomorrow. If God has spoken to you about a spouse in the near future, you should already be laying the foundation to maintain a healthy relationship and quit holding on to the ghost of exes past.

Today's Challenge

What does your heart sound like today?

Go before God for at least fifteen minutes and ask Him to reveal the true matters of your heart. When faced with all the world tells you, believe God. Speak His promises into your life and into your relationships, then watch God change things.

DAY 75

CHEATING IS FOR THE WEAK!

Ladies...

Please stop praising weak men and allowing them to cause you to question your worth.

What is a weak man?

Much like all of us at some point, he does not know who he is. He preys on the vulnerable and bases his self-worth on the opinions and ideals of others. Some of the weakest men you know are the most arrogant and boast about what they have more than who they are. Men that cheat constantly, usually do so because at some basic level they feel inadequate and need the approval of multiple women -- same as most women that are promiscuous. Weak people are those that can only find their strength in the weaknesses of others.

Why did he cheat?

He cheated -- so you begin to question whether you are pretty enough or smart enough. Was it something you did? Maybe you nagged him too much or got too clingy. Question is, why are YOU the one trying to rationalize something HE did to you? This is because you based your value on what he thought of you. When you don't know who you are, there are always people around waiting to tell you just who they think you are. Don't let them. Don't put up with bad treatment just to prove you can get someone to love you or stay with you. That man who is treating you like dirt probably has a better idea of your worth than you

do and is breaking you down in hopes that you don't figure it out. He knows that if you ever realized what a blessing you are, you'd never put up with him.

Today's Challenge

Be Beautiful

Today's Challenge is to love yourself the way God does. Let Him show you how. Compliment yourself, grab some post-it notes and fill them with all the wonderful things about you. Stick them on your mirrors, desk at work – anywhere you will see them to serve as a reminder that you are amazing!

DAY 76

I GET LONELY TOO...

Don't surrender your loneliness so quickly. Let it cut you more deep. Let it ferment and season you as few humans and even divine ingredients can. Something missing in my heart tonight has made my eyes so soft, my voice so tender, my need for God absolutely clear. – Hafiz

It is not so much our loneliness that frightens us, but the despair it awakens when we view it as a permanent state of being rather than a fleeting season like any other emotional state. We run from loneliness and like cowards we hide away in the crowd in hopes of escaping it. We dare not feel it, for at that point it will cause us to face the truth of the matter.

In case I haven't mentioned this previously, I am far from perfect. I have experienced the feeling of waking up cuddled with a warm body and that of being cuddled with nothing but a pillow and a memory. I am not here to tell you that you shouldn't feel lonely because God is with you, the Bible tells you enough that He will never leave. I am here to tell you to embrace your loneliness, feel it and allow it to melt you into a desperation for the lover of your soul, a longing that is hard to experience in constant companionship with others.

Something missing in my heart tonight has made my eyes so soft, my voice so tender, my need for God absolutely clear.

This experience isn't as sad and solemn as it may seem to be, not when your loneliness leads you to the need of yourself and into the presence of a higher being. There is a purity, a solemn aching that births purpose in our hearts when we feel alone. As the hearts and mouths of those around you are shut, your eyes and ears are open to hear and see all that God has been trying to show you!

Let my loneliness cut ever so deep, may I bleed despair and be

transfused with the oil of redemption. May my cup run over in your secret place so that when I have once again surpassed this rest stop of loneliness, I would have had my fill of your glory and seek this beautiful loneliness ever more!

Today's Challenge

Separate what you desire from what you require.

For every thought that enters your mind today regarding loneliness; ask yourself "Is this a desire or requirement?" For example: Desire: Someone to take you on a date and tell you how pretty you are. Requirement: Relationships that affirm and speak to who God created you to be. (You don't need a spouse for this)

DAY 77

BLOWING KISSES TO THE WIND...

Butterfly kisses, Eskimo kisses, French kisses...

All kisses make us feel loved in some manner and the endearing forehead kiss or kiss on the cheek are no exceptions. **But are you blowing kisses to the wind?** A kiss seals the marital covenant before all at the wedding until the couple consummates in private. A kiss, also serves as a casual greeting or gesture. A kiss, *also* served as a signal Judas used to betray Jesus. Most of the kisses in the Bible were mentioned during times of reconciliation or departure.

“Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But deceitful are the kisses of an enemy.” (Proverbs 27:6NASB)

Not every hurt is from an enemy and not every pleasantry is from a friend. A kiss is not always as innocent and endearing or as beautiful as when Mary washed and kissed Jesus’ feet. It is quite ironic that the same gesture that showed Mary’s love, showed Judas’ betrayal.

Are you blowing kisses to the wind?

We have to be able to identify what Proverbs calls deceitful kisses of an enemy.

In every season of our lives we have to be vigilant and discerning. As we cling to Christ and those we thought to have been a confidante fall away, we must rejoice at the Holy Spirit saving us from blowing kisses to the wind. I know you may wonder why I am referring to those who may be

against you as the wind, so here is why:

Much like the wind, those against you will always be around. They rarely pose any real threat and are fairly easy to ignore. They are invisible when our eyes are focused on Christ. They can only sway us if we are unstable. If we continue in friendships and relationships that do not allow us to grow, inspire or challenge us in some way, what's the point of it? Why must we allow those around us to suck us dry? We are to live and walk in love, but we must also be wise in choosing who we spend the majority of our time with as it shapes our lives.

Stop blowing kisses to the wind!

Today's Challenge

Be Alert, Be Wise, Be Proactive

Ask The Lord to show you which connections are genuine and to reveal anyone that has planted kisses of the enemy, so that you can pray diligently and purposefully. We must protect our visions from distractions and the plans of the enemy. Only those close to us can hurt us!

DAY 78

DON'T WORRY HONEY!

Don't get your knickers in a bunch over your relationship status. Every stage in your life was designed for you to glorify God, even this one!

“But I want you to be free from concern. One who is unmarried is concerned about the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord; but one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how he may please his wife, and his interests are divided. The woman who is unmarried, and the virgin, is concerned about the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and spirit; but one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how she may please her husband.” (1 Corinthians 7:32-34 NASB)

Your focus as a single woman, regardless of age, creed, nationality or social background, is to please The Lord. If you spend all of your time as singles being concerned about a spouse, you are losing the pleasures and purpose of this season. You will have lots of time to be concerned about a husband or wife when you actually have one. So in the meantime, continue to grow into the you that God created you to be!

Today's Challenge

Grow into the you that God wants you to be

Don't forfeit the blessings of this season. Stop worrying about what's to come! Silence your doubts with scriptures! Every thought you have that's not purposeful or edifying, take it captive today and speak the word of God. I suggest you compile a short list of about five scriptures

that encourage and keep them with you at all times.

DAY 79

UNASHAMED!

A very presumptuous young man asked me for a shower pic when I told him I needed to get ready and would talk to him later. So I gave him what he asked for -- a really hot, steamy picture of my...Shower head. He didn't seem to be as amused as I was of course. We didn't speak after that, since he thought I was being ridiculous by not fulfilling his simple request.

“Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways.” (Psalm 119:37 ESV)

Now, if I had gone ahead and sent him a nude photo, wouldn't that be classified as a “worthless thing” when we consider it in the light of God's word? He didn't realize I was helping him to keep his eyes from viewing what held no value to him. I'm not his. As the temple of God how could I then turn over my body to be nothing but a subject of lust?

“For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honour, not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God” (1 Thessalonians 4:3-5 ESV)

Abstaining is more than about not having sex. As this scripture points out, we must control our bodies in holiness and honour. Anything we do to dishonour our bodies, we do to the dishonour of God. I know many of us are young, and fighting these desires seems to be a constant struggle but we can do it!

Before you even ask...

“How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments!” (Psalm 119:9-10 ESV)

Today's Challenge

Pursue Purity

I am unapologetic and unashamed in pursuing purity! You do not have to justify your decisions to remain chaste for the glory of God to anybody. If you are dating someone that compromises your integrity, end that relationship -- your soul depends on it. The enemy will seek to cloud your judgement with your own desires, but we have to continually seek Christ and His righteousness!

Be unapologetic, be unashamed, and be set apart.

DAY 80

TRUST THE PROCESS, TRUST THE POTTER!

It is lonely, dark, and you feel empty. You feel like you have been stripped of everything and you begin to wonder if God remembers you. After all, you have done what He's asked --What is happening?

It's the process...

"So I went to the potter's house, and sure enough, the potter was there, working away at his wheel. Whenever the pot the potter was working on turned out badly, as sometimes happens when you are working with clay, the potter would simply start over and use the same clay to make another pot." (Jeremiah 18 :3-4 MSG)

The lives we led before our salvation, turned out badly. We had taken on a form that God could not use in the state it was presented, so He had to reshape us. We came with baggage, soul ties and generational curses that needed to be broken. There are habits and mind-sets that we carry forward that need a shift through divine direction of the Holy Spirit and it is going to hurt.

If you can imagine the actual process of a piece of clay, you would quit wincing and realize that the pain of the process never exceeds the beauty of the creation. Your circumstances now, pale in comparison to the glory God will reveal in you. Though your physical may seemingly be falling apart, your eternal gifts are being stirred and brought from the heavenly realm into the earth by your submission. Do not lose heart when your spirit is being renewed daily; all else will pass! (2 Corinthians 4:17-18)

Your body and possessions are fleeting. The more value you place on them, the longer the process of stripping will take. God needs you to understand that He is all that matters and the source of all you require.

Today's Challenge

Do not Yield...

Do not yield to temptations and lusts that are temporarily pleasurable and eternally punishable. In the same manner, do not flee temporary sufferings that will yield eternal rewards.

In case you haven't heard, everything works out for your good! Don't believe me? Romans 8:28! Read the whole chapter while you're at it.

DAY 81

THEY ARE WHAT YOU WANT...HE IS WHAT YOU NEED!

Looking good, smelling better...But living in sin? You can do much better! No you are not judging anyone, but if someone is pursuing you as their potential spouse you have every right to “know them by their fruit.” If they are speaking oranges and producing apples, it is a clear sign that you need to move on. The word of God tells us that a double minded man is unstable in all His ways and you do not want to connect your destiny to that person.

Now before you get ahead of yourself and start tearing down someone who is legitimately seeking God but has flaws (as if you don't) let me clarify:

An unsaved person, though they may wish you well and encourage you in your faith, cannot fully grasp the needs, desires and benefits thereof. If the person you are with or considering doesn't actively inspire you to get closer to Christ (in word and deed) they are not His plan. I promise you that in your pursuit of purity there will be those that encourage you with their lips yet still try to get you into compromising positions, don't fall into that trap.

Better yet, let God's word speak for itself:

“Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness?” (2 Corinthians 6:14 ESV)

Case closed!

It doesn't matter how you try to justify it, the word of God is clear. We have to uphold the standard of holiness in all aspects and commit every area to Him wholeheartedly. We must be willing to walk away from anyone and anything at any time at the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

Are they worth your soul?

Today's Challenge

Write a list of the people you're willing to go to hell for. Once you're done, you can serve God notice that you'll no longer be serving Him because you need those persons way more.

If your list is empty – walk away. You have nothing to explain or justify, as I'm sure you have tried in the past. Just leave.

DAY 82

HOW COULD THEY BE SO HEARTLESS?

Sometimes you wonder why those who once loved you dearly, have seemed to become cold toward you. On more than one occasion in God's word He hardened a group of people's hearts to fulfil His plan.

“But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart and he would not listen to Moses and Aaron, just as the LORD had said to Moses.” (Exodus 9:12 NASB)

In this case, the Pharaoh's heart was hardened to give God a platform to show His glory through miracles. If Pharaoh had complied, it is possible that he would have been revered as the one who “set the captives free,” but God does not share His glory.

For it was of the Lord to harden their hearts that they should come against Israel in battle, that [Israel] might destroy them utterly, and that without favour and mercy, as the Lord commanded Moses. (Joshua 11 :20 AMP)

God's chosen people were predestined to win the victory, so the hearts of those who opposed them had to be stubborn toward them to ensure that they would be engaged in battle.

Now what does this have to do with me? I'll assume that most of us aren't waging actual war in the earth realm, but as Ephesians 6 tells us, our battle is against principalities and wickedness in high places. Who better to be an adversary than those who know our weaknesses? It is for this reason that we are betrayed and hurt by those we love. Nobody else

has the power to hurt us to the extent they can. The power is yours to come against those spirits, not the people. Begin to pray for your enemies and those that spit on your name. Pray blessings on those who curse you, prosperity for those who wish the worst for you. Pray for the lives of those that prey on yours. The same God that hardened their hearts has the ability to give you favour in the hearts of those tied to your purpose.

Today's Challenge

Pray and Intercede

Actively pray and intercede on behalf of those who may have wronged you. Ask forgiveness from those you may have wronged. Petition God for the needs of those who have hurt you and ask that His perfect love be made evident so that you do not become bitter. You cannot hate who you pray for, allow God to show you them the way He sees them.

Remember, they're His child too.

DAY 83

DON'T PICK THAT GUY!

Don't settle for the guy whose lips commend your spirituality, but whose hands and everything else venture into the nature of carnality. Do not speak of righteousness then limit it to accommodate your "urges" and justify it with empty excuses. If you can't control your lust now, you won't be able to when you're married.

We will reap the benefits of what we practice. Marriage is not the time to begin refraining from sex or trying to get a handle on bringing our bodies under submission.

Ladies think of it this way...

If he claims he cannot control himself because you're so beautiful; what happens when your marriage is shaky and another beautiful woman is around him? What self-control has he demonstrated to indicate he will have the capacity to be faithful? Men of God it's time to stand up. For those of you that have answered the call to holiness, be encouraged and for the rest of you...Pick up! Let our kings and queens present their bodies as a living sacrifice to God, as is our reasonable service according to Romans.

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body....You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honour God with your body. (1 Corinthians 6:18, 20)

Every other sin imaginable happens outwardly but sexual sin hits home. It's as if we are tossing our bodies into an open flame, yet we are

shocked when it consumes us. We must protect our hearts and minds, our hearts lead us (Proverbs 4:23). The ability to remain chaste is not beyond us, it is a requirement. It may be more difficult for some of us but it is possible for us all through Christ, as are ALL things. A mouth that sings praises yet devises perversion?

Don't be that guy! Making excuses for carnality? "A man has needs"

Don't be that guy! One who desires a woman spiritual enough to pray with him, yet carnal enough to allow him access? Don't be that guy!

Today's Challenge

Set your standards before you start dating or courting. Even if you do not write them, know what your limitations are and will be once you start dating and have a clear understanding of what you will and will not do. Take time today to actively consider this.

DAY 84

MOURNING AFTER THE MORNING AFTER...

I've been there, you wake up and look next to you -- he's there sleeping soundly while everything in you is burning with regret. You have failed! How are you ever going to make it through this time? You are such a hypocrite! You have failed God and everyone you have spoken to about Him. Guilt overrides everything and you shrink into obscurity because just as Adam and Eve did, you are now ashamed of your nakedness. You are hiding and you don't want God to see you. You are dirty now and He deserves someone better, someone who won't do what you have done. Your mind tells you that you are now so unworthy, that you may as well go back to doing it cause you won't change anyway. No church for a while; you have repented over and over but you just can't shake it. And in all your anguish, you have believed the lies of the enemy. You have believed Satan when he told you that you are unlovable, he has convinced you that God will never love someone as filthy as you. You lose yourself in a state of recidivism that allows the enemy to have victory over you. In all of your mess, God wants me to tell you these few things:

I still want you.

I still love you.

You're still worth it to me.

I forgive you.

I can change you.

Let me love you, the way you deserve to be loved.

Will you let Him?

“Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace.” (Romans 6 :12-14 NASB)

Sin does not have dominion over you, neither do your emotions, or soul ties, or misplaced feelings of longing! I am not here today to tell you that God loves you in spite of your mess, I am here to tell you He loves you too much to leave you there! Yes, while we were yet sinners, God reconciled us to himself and extended grace to us; therefore, now that we have established a relationship with Him, shall we go on as we have before? Should we not aim to please the one who loves our soul in all completeness?

You are not a victim of fornication my love! You have just not tapped into the power that sets you free. You are not a victim of pornography or homosexuality! You have just not given them over to the powers that have defeated them. You are free! As a woman that has been in a position of bondage and been in a place where she tried to shower away the guilt of lust fulfilled, I am here to tell you there is hope. You do not have to concede. You are victorious and the power that abounded when God was, also abounds as God is and will always be! You are underestimating the power that has been made available to you before

you even know it. You gave your heart to God and He gave you the keys to the kingdom! The problem for most of us is, we don't want to work! We want to treat God as a hobby when He is a lifestyle kind of God; a relationship kind of God! He wants all of you and the closer you get to Him, the further you will be from your sin.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. (James 4:7 ESV)

Satan is a coward. You need only to resist him for him to flee from you. He knows he has no power outside of what you relinquish to him.

Today's Challenge

Forgive Yourself

Submit to God fully and watch the devil flee. Be patient with yourself but never to the point of being spiritually stagnant. Pray constantly, praise authentically, and fight diligently.

Watch God Work!

Let the last time, be the last time you find yourself mourning the morning after!

God has more in store than what you're settling for!

DAY 85

BE HOLY, FOR CHRIST'S SAKE!

Being pure is about so much more than what you are not doing. It means nothing to refrain from sex if you are still refraining from prayer and filling yourself with the word. The Bible tells us we have been saved by grace and not by works, so none of us have grounds to boast.

No matter how many ministries you are a part of or how many people you help or how much sex you are not having --your salvation is free! God wants more than sacrifice -- He wants you! God wants for you to love Him so very much that pleasing Him becomes what you desire most. You do not have to earn what has been freely given; what God took pleasure in giving to you!

“For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?” (1 John 5:3-5 ESV)

We do not earn God's love by keeping His commandments. We show our love for Him by doing so. As long as you are seeking to earn love, aren't you following the same cycle you were before? You have been trained inadvertently to seek approval by good behaviour, that is not what your relationship with God is about.

Romans 5:20-21[MSG] All that passing laws against sin did was produce more lawbreakers. But sin didn't, and doesn't, have a chance in competition with the aggressive forgiveness we call grace. When it's sin versus grace, grace wins hands down. All sin can do is threaten us with

death, and that's the end of it. Grace, because God is putting everything together again through the Messiah, invites us into life—a life that goes on and on and on, world without end.

Jesus is inviting you to live with Him and love Him forever. Your connection with Him and pursuit of deeper intimacy will remove your sin much more effectively than “fighting it” on your own ever could.

Today's Challenge

Love somebody.

The basic principle of our walk with God is to love Him and to love others. Find a special way today to show your love for someone in your life in an unexpected way.

DAY 86

WHO'S YOUR DADDY?

Depending on where you are mentally, the title of this post caught your attention for a variety of reasons. For me however, this takes on a very literal meaning – a source of great pain that I had previously hidden under the guise of humour and disinterest.

It hurt.

Up until I was 18 I hadn't met my biological father and it really hurt more than I ever wanted to admit. I felt unlovable because somehow when you *feel* rejected by a parent it can yield enormous obstacles in developing a true sense of self early on. This is by no means a bashing of either of my parents who did their best with the situation they were put in. I love them both dearly and have released it all into my Heavenly Father's hands. I know this series is on singleness, so why am I telling you this right?

Here's why:

Rejection ruled my relationships.

I was so busy proving that I was deserving of love, and needing someone to stay and love me that I never got to know me.

I didn't believe the hype.

Academics came to me naturally and I did well in school with little to no effort and every report card day I was applauded and revered for being so smart. I didn't buy it for a second. If I was so smart and such a good girl, why didn't he want me? Why wouldn't he come and find me and

tell me that he really does love me?

My brain and my mouth disagreed.

Throughout all of my dysfunctional relationships, I maintained a stance at the very end that I deserved better and I deserved to be loved. The problem? I didn't believe it. Not for one second did I actually believe I deserved to be loved.

Then Jesus.

I wish I could say that Christ came into my life and everything changed forever, but our love story has a few more twists and turns than that. Firstly, I gave my life to Christ -- most of it -- and still didn't fully believe that this perfect God could love someone like me. I believed it for everyone else and spoke it with great conviction to my friends but I didn't do it for me? No way could He love me. Aside from my sins, there just wasn't much to me. What was there to love?

Christ was relentless

In all my searching for love, God gave me over to what I thought I needed and I ran to the end of myself. I came to a point of desperation for Christ that forced me to look where I had never looked before...into me. I asked God to show me what He saw; to show me for who I really was and to change me -- for real this time. The process had been rough, I have been broken and stripped and I've cried more than I have in my entire life and something beautiful happened...I fell in love with God... then I fell in love with me.

I wasn't just some girl with daddy issues. I wasn't going to be "loose just like..." God had plans for me that exceeded my expectations and

even though they haven't come full circle just yet, my heart is at peace and I know that the same God that restored me and beautifully broke me into a masterpiece for His purpose, will never leave me. He loves me for real, more than I ever knew I could be loved. Now, I can say what I've always been able to say to everyone else with the very same conviction - I deserve better. I deserve true love.

I pray, as in I've prayed for all of you that are reading this – that God brings you to the very same knowledge of who you are in Him.

Today's Challenge

1. Ask yourself “Who am I?”
2. Write down everything that comes to mind
- 3 Forget everything you listed in the last step that doesn't stem directly from God. You are His, only He can tell you who you are and what you're made of.

DAY 87

DANCE WITH ME OH LOVER OF MY SOUL!

Dancing is intimate. It requires unison, and attention to detail and harmony. It must be felt from within to move throughout our limbs. I have danced in a church ministry and the bonds created far exceeded ministry at church, because dancing together brought us closer and forged a great bond.

Who is your dancing partner?

*“Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.” (Jeremiah 31:13
ESV)*

This declaration to Israel was a turning point, God was gathering them from where they were scattered in their disobedience. He would turn their mourning into gladness. When we dance with The Lord and before His presence, there is a freedom that it implies. We are aware that we are called to worship Him in spirit and in truth; therefore, when we make Christ our dancing partner, we are in unison with Him. We move to the same rhythm, as one. You will know who your dancing partner is based on who your movements reflect. It is impossible to dance with the Lord and move to the rhythm of the enemy. They are conflicting and there must be a choice as to whom you will latch onto. When you are dancing with the lover of your soul, He whispers into your ear the direction you are to follow. You are near to His heart and everything that seeks to come against you doesn't stand a chance when you are wrapped in His embrace.

Rhythm-less creation....

When you dance with the devil. You are out of sync with God's original design. You subject your body to iniquity and sway to and fro, bombarded with voices that speak against God's design for you.

“Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.” (Romans 6:13 ESV)

It will feel good for a time to dance with the enemy. He will allow you to have a sense of freedom in feeling like you are directing your own moves. You will feel elated at the grace of your own movements; but as a puppet on a string, he has held you and allowed you to dangle only so far. You have been twirling in ignorance and gyrating to the melody of your own demise. You haven't been in control -- he has. The enemy has tricked you into destroying yourself.

Switch partners.

You no longer have to twirl your way to death when Jesus is waiting to cut in and give you everlasting life.

“You have turned my mourning into dancing; you took off my sackcloth and clothed me with a garment of joy.”

Only He can.

Today's Challenge

Dance with me

Won't you dance now, with the lover of your soul? He who comforts and adores you. He who gives you rest when your spirit is weary and water that you shall thirst no more. Is He not who you seek to be in perfect unison with?

Dance with me, oh lover of my soul to the song of all songs, and believe that as long as you keep dancing with The Lord, when the time is right the love of your life will join in to the very same melody.

DAY 88

TALK LIKE THAT BUT CAN YOU BACK IT UP?

It is wonderful when someone is able to deliver a message that was a direct download from Heaven and changes lives! After all, faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God right? But, the last thing we need is another sermon when there is no correlation between the pulpit and the population.

What's the point of a good word without a good life to back it up?

We have to be doers of the word and not just hearers. We have to be the living example of the love Christ speaks about. Loving our neighbour as ourselves is a lot more practical than we have treated it. If you are hungry, do you pray for the hunger to subside -- Or do you eat? Therefore if your neighbour is hungry and you have the means -- Why not feed them?

If someone has a need and you've got the means to assist them and be a blessing...Do it!" *But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him? Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth."* (1 John 3:17-18 NASB)

Even in your times of intimacy, as God is speaking to you and moulding you to be more like Him, ask Him to place people in your surroundings that you can be a blessing to. As much as we all like receiving, there is a freedom in giving. There is a release from our spirit that brings utter joy and contentment. God will urge you to give when you barely have the means. He will prompt you to encourage even in your despair. God is

love. Love is giving. To be like Him, you must give of yourself when it is necessary, not when it is convenient. There is a joy in giving that surpasses the joy of anything you can receive outside of the presence of God.

Today's Challenge

Let your hands be Loose

Begin to intercede when you are in the pit. Begin putting a smile on someone's face when you can't muster one on your own. Begin sowing when you are in lack, and meeting the needs of others even from the little you have acquired. God will not forget your generosity. He will not forget your selflessness. Those around you will be blessed and so will you. Ask God to give you a genuine heart for giving, for serving and of humility. Change the world around you; one deed, one heart, one encouraging word at a time. Sometimes you are the only example of God's love that people will see.

DAY 89

I WILL WAIT FOR YOU...

I want to love you like the dew loves the leaves in the morning, consistently resting daily to assure you of my care. I want to love you like Christ loves the church and though His cup was bitter, He drank of it so that you may thirst no more. I want you to love me like Esther was loved by the king; she found favour so great that it not only spared her life and the lives of her people, but gave her more than she imagined.

And...I will wait for you.

Because all things lovely and beautiful are wrought with special care by our creator. I know that our union will be ordained and purposed by Him. Even as He knit us in our mothers' wombs, our destinies were meant to collide in an explosion of divine purpose so glorious that the angels look on in awe.

And I will wait for you...

Because you are worth it. Because I am worth it. Because we deserve the best and for us, it gets no better than the two of us together. Until then I will be pressed and shaped and moulded into His divine image. When our paths cross, they will veer down the narrow path He has set out for us and we will please Him with our union.

I will love you in purpose, on purpose, and for His purpose. You haven't come for me yet. I have no idea who you may be, but I am blissfully awaiting your arrival.

I will wait for you....

Today's Challenge

Write a letter...

Write a letter to your beloved, to the spouse you are (hopefully) patiently waiting for at this point. Include the kind of spouse you want to be, include how you want to love him and how your union will glorify God.

DAY 90

HOW MY DAUGHTER RUINED LOVE FOR ME....

Did I mention I'm a single mother?

I thought I knew what love was, then she was born and ruined everything!

Ugh kids!

She totally ruined my ideal notion of love; that love meant you would always know the right thing to say and how to make the person you love feel better. Sometimes you can't do anything but be present, and sometimes because they are hurting so much – you can't even do that!

You know what else she ruined? My selfishness. I thought love was all about me. I thought that it would make me happy; that love would fulfil me and love would mean I would never be alone. Love -- She ruined that alright. She taught me what love was really about -- the object of your affection.

I found true love in my daughter's eyes. They glow anytime I get near her and it draws me in that much more. She believes in me for no reason other than the fact that I am her mom. She loves me, once again – for no reason! I would give up everything I desire if it meant that she could have everything she desires. She taught me how to love.

Here is what my daughter has taught me:

Love is selfless.

There are no prerequisites to loving someone.

Love everybody, even when they don't deserve it because that is when they need it the most.

Believe in the people you love; it helps them to believe in themselves.

Today's Challenge

Love – It's not about you...

“Love one another with brotherly affection [as members of one family], giving precedence and showing honour to one another.” (Romans 12:10 AMP)

Be verbal about how much the people in your life mean to you today. Express gratitude, love and appreciation to all those that make your life that much more amazing and do it without the expectation of anything in return.

DAY 91

DON'T SWEAT THE SMALL STUFF

Some days are harder than others -- like those days when your newsfeed looks like the latest issue of a bridal magazine...

There is something about receiving prophecies when you are minding your own business that is unsettling. This may sound strange, but hearing God say He will deliver certain things made me a little more anxious than I was previously, because now **I KNEW** it was coming but...When? I know prophecies are supposed to give me peace, knowing that my prayers have been answered, but being the irrational person that I am, it only brought on more questions.

But God gives us peace when we seek Him...

I have had to ask God to silence the voices of my heart and logic so that only the voice of the Holy Spirit remains. It is still a process. I don't want to paint a picture of overnight bliss for you. There are good days, great days and those that just kind of blow by with little to no incident. I have learned to embrace them all. *Peace and joy are my portion, they never leave me.* I have always got the joy of The Lord and His peace that surpasses understanding, but I am still me. I still have emotions and must process them and turn them over to The Lord.

You do not become a robotic, lack-luster version of yourself through Christ. Our minds and hearts are changed to remove sinful nature but not who we were initially created to be.

Some days are harder than others, I just want you to remember that all days lead up to the best days of your life!

Today's Challenge

Every little thing...

...is gonna be alright. Don't sweat the small stuff! Meditate on the following scripture throughout your day and look for practical ways to apply it to your life.

“We are assured and know that [God being a partner in their labour] all things work together and are [fitting into a plan] for good to and for those who love God and are called according to [His] design and purpose.” (Romans 8 :28 AMP)

DAY 92

DO YOU WANT COMFORTABLE OR DO YOU WANT PHENOMENAL?

If you have grown weary of waiting on the right one to come along; If you're just not sure you will find anything better than what you've had; If you just don't want to be alone...

This one is for you.

I am single, but not repulsive, so naturally there are those that try their hand. At this point nobody has shown the right hand for me yet. My problem hasn't been so much that I am anxious for a spouse. I just hate not knowing who he will be. I am that person who will literally get upset at you for saying "I have something to tell you" or any similar phrase that leaves me in suspense.

"He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end."
(Ecclesiastes 3:11 ESV)

Ouch!

There goes my need to know everything that is going on! I love The Lord and He has a way of revealing truth to us over and over again until we accept it! It is impossible to know what God is up to all the time. He wants us to trust Him with our whole heart which means there is no room for an anxious spirit! I can't claim to trust God and then keep spazzing out because I don't know what He's up to -- now can I?

“But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.” (2 Peter 3:8 ESV)

We often have to remember that God’s timing is not like ours. He has a bird’s eye view of the situation, while we only have our “perspective.” His timing is perfect and when everything around you points to doubt, clothe yourself in faith that you may not be naked and afraid in the presence of the enemy.

“For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end—it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.” (Habakkuk 2:3 ESV)

Whatever the vision is, wait for it. God’s promises are not like that of men and He cannot lie, but *you* can hinder His divine provision with your doubt. God has reproved me and called me to pray against the spirit of pride.

We must be careful of pride masked as doubt and uncertainty! Does the clay say to the potter, “what are you making?” Should we now say to God, “what are you doing” or “when are you doing it?” I think not. We must get our spirits under submission, and acknowledge God as the creator and ruler of heaven and earth.

Today’s Challenge

God has bigger plans for you than just finding you a spouse!

Trust His plan and allow Him to perfect His work in you. Do not settle because you cannot wait. After all, do you want comfortable or do you

want phenomenal?

*I have had love, love that left a scar, and love that has left its mark. But
God's love is so different because it never "left" at all!*

DAY 93

AHH, FIRE!

When I think about the broken, unstable young woman that began this journey – it brings tears to my eyes. I was facing hurt that I hadn't even acknowledged yet, but it was showing in every area of my life. I was broken; beyond repair...Or so I thought...

I have been so open lately; so aware of every emotion and why I am feeling it. I am able to speak to God about it and to feel peace even when there is nothing I can do about certain situations. There is so much that I still don't understand and don't have to -- that is where faith comes in. I often feel like I'm not doing enough, I'm not reaching enough people, I'm not making a big enough contribution or I'm not giving enough. I brought all these concerns to God and He began to remind me where I was just a few short months ago and I was released to celebrate my progress. *We can be so focused on where we are going, we never enjoy where we are.*

I have been in an intense season. It has been a season of breaking, prodding, and pushing; pain and hurt; and revealing and digging. It has been treacherous, and I have never felt better! There is a peace that I've never had before because even in the midst of it all, I knew God was there. I didn't "feel" He was there all the time -- but I knew!

You are not meant to produce in the fire!

The furnace is meant for refining; for preparing. Nothing is ever created there. You are frustrated because you don't see as much progress as you would like to see, but this isn't the season of production – it is the season of preparation. We have to be vigilant and communicate with God to know which season we are in so that we know how we are to move

forward.

“In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 1 :6-7 NASB)

Today's Challenge

Don't perish in the fire, Come out Better than ever!

Let it burn, let it destroy all you thought you wanted, let it consume your desires...Let it engulf you and refine you into a masterpiece of the creator.

DAY 94

“PLEASE DON’T JUDGE ME!”...WHAT A SILLY THING TO SAY

My only concern about a judgmental nature is making sure I don’t have one. Too many times we mistake accountability for judgment. What you really want to say is...Please don’t hold me to a standard or expect me to be any better than I am now because I have no intention of improving – right?

So yeah...Quit looking for people that make you feel comfortable in your mess. If you aren’t uncomfortable in mediocrity then you are in the perfect place to remain stagnant and ineffective. Yes, some people will attack you and be mean to you, and after you have forgiven them and moved on, you are still better off because you are stronger than you once were. Even the worst people in your life are a blessing; when they did everything they could to curse you, God turned it around for you!

“Be honest in your judgment and do not decide at a glance (superficially and by appearances); but judge fairly and righteously.” (John 7 :24 AMP)

The problem isn’t that we are “judging,” so to speak, it is that we are condemning others based on the superficial standards of what we believe to be righteous!

*“A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a poor tree cannot bear good fruit.”
(Matthew 7 :18 GNB)*

Before you scream out “please don’t judge me,” ask yourself what fruit you’re producing! If you are struggling with the same sin as you were

around this time last year, it is no longer a struggle -It's an indulgence. Those that correct you and honestly want you to do better shouldn't be attacked because you are stuck loving your mess.

Today's Challenge

Judge yourself!

Judge your own motives and correct yourself as you ought. Don't be overly concerned with the opinions of others. Ask God to reveal the motives of your own heart and show you the error of your ways. We should do this at least weekly to ensure we are always moving forward with pure motives.

DAY 95

YOU'VE GOT WORK TO DO!

As I opened my eyes, terrible images began flashing before me. Indecent acts and things that broke my heart to watch -- they were all me. God was showing me where I came from, grounds to celebrate where I am, and the confidence that He's faithful enough to take me where I am going.

He did it for me, so you better claim your healing! Claim your peace! Claim the joy and the love you don't think you deserve!

You don't have to do a thing to receive this love that was yours before you even existed. God doesn't need a reason to love you. If He did, it would insinuate that there are also possible reasons He can stop loving you. There aren't any.

His love is free, take it from me...the most unqualified young woman whose been justified by grace you'll ever come across. The sin I once revelled in, now grieves my heart. The love I once thought I was incapable of has been released to me through His power. The joy that I thought people only talked about but never experienced, belongs to me and I didn't do anything special for it. There is nothing that makes me more qualified than anyone else – that is the beauty of being called by God. He selects based on a willing and broken heart and loves you as you are. But, He loves you way too much to leave you that way!

“Before I shaped you in the womb, I knew all about you. Before you saw the light of day, I had holy plans for you: A prophet to the nations—that’s what I had in mind for you.’ But I said, ‘Hold it, Master GOD! Look at me. I don’t know anything. I’m only a boy!’ GOD told me, ‘Don’t say, ‘I’m only a boy!’ I’ll tell you where to go and you’ll go

*there. I'll tell you what to say and you'll say it. Don't be afraid of a soul. I'll be right there, looking after you.' GOD's Decree." (Jeremiah 1 :5-8
MSG)*

Like Jeremiah, I thought of reasons I should keep quiet, but God said speak and has faithfully planted the words. Now, I must produce the fruits of labour just as you should.

Today's Challenge

Get to Work

You are qualified simply because He has called you -- now get to work!
Quit looking for people to talk you out of what God has spoken into you!

DAY 96

WHERE'S YOUR UMBRELLA?

You're praying for rain...Well where's your umbrella?

Most of us pray half-heartedly with no real belief that God will answer our prayers. We show it in our lack of preparation for the very thing we are "believing God for". Prayer isn't the luck of the draw we make it out to be. We have to pray with confidence that what we are requesting is on its way, once it is in line with God's will. Also, we must ask God to align the desires of our heart with His divine will and not try to "fit" His will into our plans.

Believing for a spouse?

Cut off the randoms -- allow your heart to be moulded by Christ and prepared for the right person. How do you expect to get married to the love of your life when you are never single long enough to court them? Be about your Father's business!

"Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart." (Psalm 37:4 ESV)

Believing for finances?

Stop watching your bank account. Quit expecting God to do it in the way you feel it should be done.

"Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.' "(Hebrews 13:5 ESV)

Believing for healing?

Believe! Activate your faith and speak your healing into existence. Speak with such peace and joy that those around you have to remind themselves that you are facing sickness. Keep praying, He's able!

“And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.” (James 5:15 ESV)

Whatever you are believing God for, if He said it, it is done. Expect that everything in that area of your life will fall apart, and He very well may allow it so that He can show up and show off in your life. I promise, the area that God promised to bless you in will probably get so much worse, because the enemy seeks to attack your faith. But, when you don't waiver, God gets the glory and blesses your socks off! If God spoke wealth into your life, watch how your bank account dwindles. Every “possible” means of attaining the wealth He promised seems to vanish and you begin to wonder if it was God who spoke to you. You are thinking too small! He is not trying to bless you in that miserable little job He didn't send you to in the first place. He may very well be trying to make you uncomfortable enough to push you into pursuing your passion. Seek His face like your life depends on it and allow Him to reveal His plans for you!

*“For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD gives grace and glory; No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.”
(Psalm 84 :11 NASB)*

Today's Challenge

If he withholds...

If He withholds it, it's either because:

- 1) It's not a good thing, or it's not YOUR good thing.
- 2) You are not prepared yet.
- 3) You are not walking upright.

“Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.” (Mark 11:24 ESV)

Get it? Got it? Good!
Go in faith,
Love you!

DAY 97

BE FREE!

I was pregnant with my daughter and confronted my ex about a rumour of him cheating with an old flame. He got upset looked at me and said something I would never forget, "So what if I did? You won't do anything about it anyway so don't ask!" Then he walked away. I stood there frozen for a while going over it in my head until it made sense -- But it never did, I never forgot it. I often threatened to leave. I screamed, yelled, fought with him physically. But with all my ranting and raving, he figured it out. I wasn't going to do a thing about him cheating. I had too much to prove. I needed to prove that I was worth staying with, that I was worth loving, and we were going to make it work if it killed me -- and it almost did.

We haven't been together for three years now.

You'll never get what you deserve as long as you settle for whatever they give you.

We were two broken people trying to fix each other, each doing more harm than good in the process. When you go into a relationship playing God, it will consume and destroy you. But God had bigger plans for me and looking back I can see that.

My issues did not begin with him, but my relationship was a reflection of the feelings of inadequacy I had not faced until recently. In a desperate plea, I asked God to show me -- show me what was wrong; show me why every few days I got depressed for no good reason. And

boy did he show me! I became desperate for the presence of God a little while before I started this challenge for myself, and my relationship with Him changed. He was no longer only the “God who created heaven and earth,” he became someone I knew Him intimately. He was God who created me especially for a purpose only I could fulfil. God changed my heart, all the bitter and resentment I had been carrying for years unknowingly came out in a purge that changed me radically.

Sometimes, pain is the best thing that can happen to you. The pain I felt when God showed me the roots of my issues were so filthy and ugly and I wanted to run; but He stayed with me and we sorted through each one in prayer, worship and fasting. He was mine and He loves me. I speak to Him and He answers me...God Himself answers me!

Today's Challenge

See the truth about you...

Say this:

There is nothing inadequate about me!

We cannot effectively share the message of truth with others until we know the truth about ourselves. Allow God to permeate your soul and purge you of all ill desires and thought processes.

*“And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (John 8:32
ESV)*

Be Free!

“So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.” (2 Corinthians 4:16 ESV)

DAY 98

TANGLED?

I know you have the idea that you are feeling stuck because of your situation -- that is not it. Your issue isn't with your surroundings, it is with your mind-set. Yes, everything may be falling apart before your eyes, but are you going to fall apart with it?

There are times in our lives when it seems as if we go from one mess or crisis to another. We break free of one issue only to slip and fall into another.

“...and the cares of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.” (Mark 4:19 ASV)

In the parable of the sower, the comparison that fits most of us is: he who is distracted by this *world*. We are so worried about what we will wear, what we will drive and who we will marry. Hasn't God become the channel of fulfillment rather than the source? We don't look to Him for completion, rather we seek the creator only to acquire the creation.

Don't be deceived. God is not going to send you His replacement. You are so tangled up in your desires that all He has in store for you cannot be released. God has kept you single because He knows the moment you find your spouse you will lose desire for Him. You aren't faithful in your finances and tithing now, so He knows that increase will surely cause you to turn away from Him and trust your wishes.

Are you tangled? Is there a part of your life that is choking out the very words of God and causing you to remain fruitless? It is written that we

are to seek first the kingdom of God and its righteousness and all these things will be ADDED unto us. The reason everything else is added is because in The Lord, you are complete. The things you desire are just icing on the cake, decoration and garnishing, but they are not the source of sustenance. God will process you until you are complete. The areas you feel crumbling, are where He needs you to trust Him fully and are usually the areas He will bless most. Trust God. He will give you a greater portion than you ever imagined when you are obedient. Because He knows that you put Him first, it frees up that which is stored for you and you can call it forth into the earthly realm!

Today's Challenge

Get to Work

Ask yourself...Am I tangled? Have I given EVERY area of my life over to The Lord? -- or is there still an aspect I don't expect His hand in? When you have gotten your answer. Pray!...Pray like your soul is on the line, because it is! Ask God to loose every spiritual knot of confusion, pride, doubt, fear and covetousness!

When you do this you will be free. The spirit of confusion that blanketed your mind will be lifted. God himself will begin to shift things around and release you into your destiny. Remember, you are powerful beyond measure because the Holy Spirit and all the host of heaven is at your beck and call. You were created to have dominion. Declare that you are detangled, detached and delivered!

DAY 99

99 PROBLEMS

I had 99 problems, only God could fix! I was seeking God, yet being attacked in every area of my life. I was being criticized and put down by those I loved and respected, and it seemed as if everything was going wrong. But God! Being who He is, he saw all of what I was facing and did not change one thing about my circumstances yet changed my entire life.

I was looking at what was happening to me and He showed me what was happening for me! I found comfort in the word of God knowing that no matter how bleak it seemed, it was all divinely orchestrated for the greater good. It is the plan of the enemy to keep you so preoccupied with pain, that you neglect purpose. But with the love of God, you are able to maintain peace in every situation, because though all things may crumble, the word of The Lord stands!

So yes, out of my 99 problems, God only fixed one -- but it was the only one that needed fixing...Me!

“And have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all. Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.”(Colossians 3:10-12 ESV)

Don't be one...

Every struggle, every trial, every burden was to perfect you and push you pass your threshold. My uncle once told me, no big change ever happens until you pass your threshold and he was right! Greater is coming! I had 99 problems and God fixed them all by fixing one. Allow God to fix you today.

LIVE A LITTLE, LOVE A LOT, BE A BLESSING!

HAPPY 100TH DAY OF SINGLENESS!

Our problem with this life is not that we do not understand it, but that we do not enjoy it. We spend our time counting the stars and naming them; putting them in an order that makes sense to our finite minds. But why? All God granted to us was infinite. Infinite possibilities of love, of change, of goodness and infinite ways to pursue them. We limit ourselves so much because we need to know what's next, but we never will. Just as the possibilities are infinite, so is knowledge. Even in seeking understanding we must ultimately concede that God Himself is the possessor of infinite wisdom and be satisfied with willing our lives over to Him, the one who gave it.

Love, why limit it?

Why reduce love to the stuff of fairy tales and our perception of reality? Love is given and ultimately taught by an infinite God. Express it at every chance. Seek out the endless ways to be an embodiment of the one thing that we all are seeking after at our very cores.

In seeking the knowledge of God, and praying for wisdom and understanding, I have learned so much and so little. So much in comparison to my previous knowledge, and so little in comparison to the wisdom and understanding that God is privy to. I have learned that everything is a matter of perception.

You can *spend* your time waiting or you can *use* your time loving! There is no spouse for you to love yet, but there are children, family and

friends that need the shelter of your love. There are those God has meticulously ordained to cross paths with you; and in His infinite wisdom, we must admit that what we don't understand is hardly a cause for alarm.

Pain is inevitable. I still don't get it fully and I never will, but that's okay. I will live, not like there's no tomorrow -- but like today is the window to infinite tomorrow's of eternity with a God who knows all, loves all, and controls all. *I will love without limit, without reason, without end.* Today's challenge is simple...Live a little, love a lot, and be a blessing.

Happy 100th Day!

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