THE REAL *** WORD IS FEAR

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ABRIDGED EDITION MOBILE VERSION

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Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are taken from The Passion Translation of the Bible (TPT).

Other scriptural quotations listed are stated as:

- Amplified Bible (Amp)
- The Message (Msg)
- The New King James Version (NKJV).

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FIRST WORDS

"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 doesn't serve the world."

-Marianne Williamson (A Return to Love)

FEAR is best described as a spirit the Creator did not give us. A software our Programmer did not install in us. It is an aberration, a virus, a corrupting element that has attached itself to the human spirit, encroaching on our psyche, dictating to our bodies, forcing a lid on our capacities, affecting our results and relationships, maneuvering our contributions to the world, depriving human history of our greatest giftings and potential.

Fear is that tendency that attaches itself to man from birth, it is a characteristic feature of man's nature without the Spirit; it is the first wound, because it is a natural flaw. For every human entering the world, fear is the first trauma.

"The meaning of the word "trauma," in its Greek origin, is "wound." Whether we realize it or not, it is our woundedness, or how we cope with it, that dictates much of our behaviour, shapes our social habits, and informs our ways of thinking about the world. It can even determine whether or not we are capable of rational thought at all in matters of the greatest importance to our lives. For many of us, it rears its head in our closest partnerships, causing all kinds of relational mischief.

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What is trauma? As I use the word, "trauma" is an inner injury, a lasting rupture or split within the self due to difficult or hurtful events. By this definition, trauma is primarily what happens within someone as a result of the difficult or hurtful events that befall them; it is not the events themselves.
"Trauma is not what happens to you but what happens inside you" is how I formulate it. Think of a car accident where someone sustains a concussion: the accident is what happened; the injury is what lasts. Likewise, trauma is a psychic injury, lodged in our nervous system, mind, and body, lasting long past the originating incident(s), triggerable at any moment."

-Gabor Maté (The Myth of Normal)

Fear is the first trauma, it happened in us by a natural flaw, and if left unresolved, it persists as a constriction of the self, both physical and psychological. It constrains our inborn capacities and generates an enduring distortion of our view of the world and of other people. Trauma, until we work it through, keeps us stuck in the past, robbing us of the present moment's riches, limiting who we can be. This is what Fear has been doing to us.

Dealing with the trauma of fear is a non-negotiable key in manifestation of who we were made to be. The first century apostle said it best and we'll rephrase "our Programmer did not install the software of fear in us," so we must deal with it wherever it lurks in our lives. As the human race, there are many things we've lost to fear, however when the shackles of fear's trauma begin to loosen, we gladly reunite with the severed parts of ourselves. This is what this book is about.

THE REAL "F" WORD IS FEAR

We were made complete; fear took everything from us

"Fear is the most socially accepted sin in the Church. Fear is a serial killer, the prime suspect in the death of more people on the planet than all other diseases combined. Fear in every form has been linked to heart disease, cancer, autoimmune disorders, mental illness, and many other sicknesses. Fear is the welcome mat to demonic activity in our lives."

- Kris Vallotton



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THE THINGS WE LOST TO FEAR.

Once upon a time, the English British population was decimated by a plague. It was something like COVID, but worse than COVID. The King was so concerned about the shrinking number of his subjects that he ordered his people to reproduce, his words were simple, "Fornicate Under Command of the King"–"F.U.C.K" for short— this is said to be the source of our favourite swear word.

Except that this story isn't true, nor is pretty much any etymology of a swearword that seems to involve an acronym.

The way we Christians hate swear words should be the way we DETEST THE REAL SWEAR WORD, THE HIGHEST FORM OF SWEAR WORDS— FEAR!

AFFIRMATION

Repeat after me:

I ______(insert your name) declare that henceforth, I look fear, the real swear word deep in the eye and I detest it. It has no power over me.

•••••

Now that you've taken the first step to freedom, I believe that you are ready to let go of fear finally.

So let's get into it!

I can almost predict; your greatest issue is a fear Issue.

You are scared about your future, you are scared that you are not good enough, you are scared that your plans will fall through, you are scared that your business will not be successful, you are scared about the security of your job, scared about your school grades, scared about your project, the acceptance of your sound, scared about your brand, scared about getting hurt in a relationship, you are literally scared about life. So let's look at fear from the most accurate lens, that is as a lying friend. How would you treat a friend who lies to you as often as your fears do? Fear feels like your guy, he is that person who is there for you through your feelings, fear sells to you until you don't have any funds to buy anymore. I remember a story I once heard about a young man who did not like the tertiary institution he got admitted into, so he resorted to saving his tuition, and whatever money his ward gave was sent to his brother. He had his mind set on a particular university, so he worked extra hard, saved enough for the fees, wrote the exam, and got in. It was time to reveal his grand plan to his father, only for him to discover that his brother with whom he was saving all his money had been squandering the money from the onset.

What would you do to your brother in that situation?

Think of fear as that brother. You think he is loyal and has got your back, meanwhile, he has been a foe plotting your downfall.

AFFIRMATION

I ______ (insert your name) hereby denounce my loyalty to fear that has kept me bound all the while. Henceforth, my eyes become open to every frenemy.

•••••

Does this feel familiar?

Like me, I believe you may have struggled with the lie of insecurities at some point in life. This lie can get so severe that we accept them as our characteristics and even tell ourselves "This is who I am." But when you advance in life and overcome some of these fears, you will come to see how much of a terrible lie you have lived and may even end up regretting all the opportunities it robbed you of.

Repeat after me:

This is the end of fear robbing me of all of God's blessings for me.

WHERE DID FEAR COME FROM?

A little more attentive study of the first chapter of the book of Genesis and one will see that it was only mankind that God made with His hands and not just the word of mouth. God formed man. This undoubtedly explains man's position at the top in the hierarchy of nature. The creation story reveals man's glory in his pristine state as we see Adam take charge of literally everything, so much that he even names the animals. Like he looked at one animal and said, "the name monkey is befitting", and to another, he said, "hmm, you look more like a penguin". How interesting, right?

We continue to look at the book of Genesis and we see that one chapter and a few verses down the line, things take an unexpected turn; man loses his supernatural halo and the word 'fear' is introduced. see(Gen 3:10)

Now that we have traced the beginning of this dreadful swear word, it is time to define it.

WHAT IS FEAR?

A typical response to this would be that fear is an unpleasant emotion caused by the threat of danger, pain, harm...etc. However, this would mean examining the subject with surficial reference.

Fear is one phenomenon that has continuously succeeded in ridding man of the ability to achieve his greatest possibilities-. That means it cannot just be a"feeling" or "emotion". Fear is a spirit; one that is not to be in man. Fear is a spirit that aims to destroy man, but usually, it feels like it wants to keep man safe from embarrassment, failure, heartbreak and whatever it poses to protect you from.

AFFIRMATION

I ______(insert your name) break free from every comfortable feeling of fear that keeps me from achieving my dreams, goals, and destiny. You see, it's like getting a new gadget with promising prospects that has been programmed to do so much and with good speed but not being able to enjoy these functions because a virus gets into the gadget.

Or worse, imagine deciding to switch to an IOS device, and after months of probably saving and depriving yourself of some pleasures, you finally get yourself your dream gadget. You put it on but you are greeted with another company's logo and theme sound when you put on your phone. *Ugh the betrayal!* You'd surely get those sellers arrested. Right?

Again, fear is pretending to give you something good but it is really just handing you something so much less than what you paid for. Fear makes you work hard to get something it promises is good but in the end it is just an imitation of what you desired.

Fear is a malfunction. Like a virus in a gadget. In like manner, fear is an unwanted spirit in man. Image

Now let us backtrack to Genesis...

"God created human beings; he created them Godlike—reflecting God's nature." So by His design, man is to be like God, having the same divine nature as He has, **the nature that is true, good, and merciful.**

This is why Genesis also tells us that God comes to fellowship with man in the cool of the day. However, on this fateful day of The Fall, man hears the usual sound of God in the garden... but because a transaction that has stripped man of his very divine-ness had transpired, man for the first time since his creation is 'afraid' at the sound of the footsteps of God. God calls out to Adam and he (Adam) says "I heard you in the garden, and I was **afraid** because I was naked, so I hid." God's response to that statement reveals that indeed, fear is a spirit that He does not intend to be in man. So to avoid further damage, he sends man away from the garden, because man now had a nature that did not listen to truth but fear, he no longer belonged in the garden. Man now belonged outside, where fear ruled. Here is really what transpired in the garden. The devil, disguised as a serpent, went to Eve: the one who was made after God had given the instructions about what to do and not do in the garden, to test her true understanding of the information that was passed to her by her husband. The serpent asks "Did God really say you cannot eat out of every fruit in the garden?" Eve replies to the serpent saying "God said we can eat out of every fruit in the garden, but from the one in the middle of the garden." And he goes, "God knows that when you eat it your eyes would open and you would be like God." The irony is this: the Devil tells Eve that if she disobeys God, she will be like God.

CHAPTER 1

In other words, the Devil was trying to say "Girl, God is lying to you. He is trying to deceive you. He doesn't want you to be like Him. Come on! Eat the fruit, you are not going to die, but you will be just like Him, see for yourself!" Now how is that? Insane right?

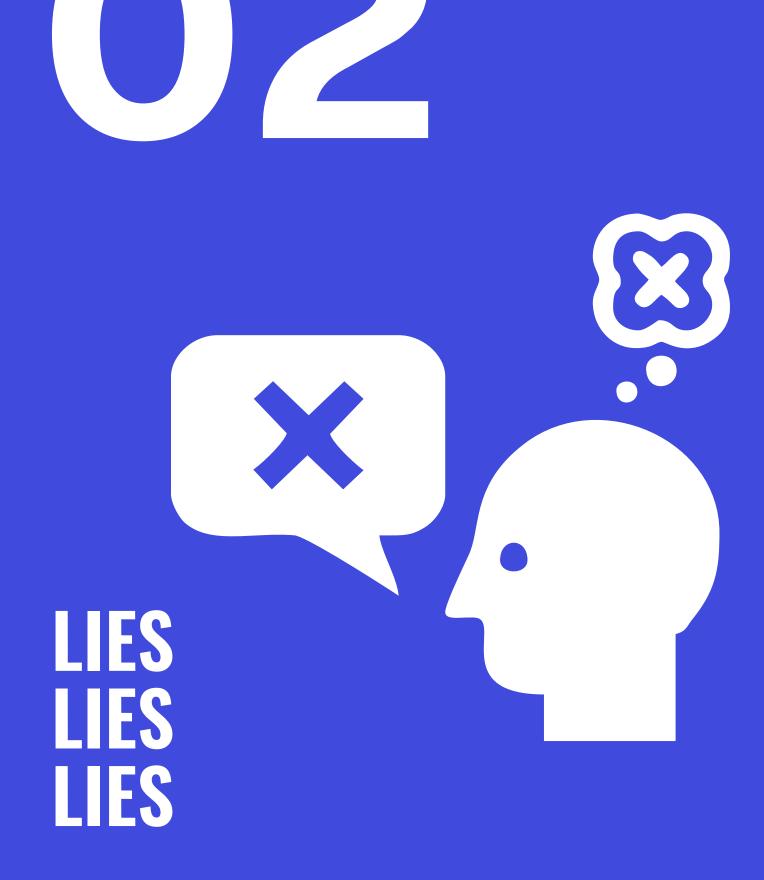
Sadly, neither Adam nor Eve knew of the rebellion of the Devil against God, nor did they know of his punishment, so he beat them to it. They also did not know that they were indeed like God —the best reflection of God they could ever be, and who they would really be like after eating the fruit was the devil -the father of all lies and rebellion. So they fell mercilessly.

One would wonder what man ever did to deserve such hatred from the devil. It is this simple: Lucifer was the angel in charge of worship in heaven, he was so glorious that musical instruments were built in him, and all of that was to give glory to God. But one day he decides to glorify himself and rebel against God. God casts him down and alongside other angels he had deceived. Then somewhere down the line, God decides to create man to worship Him, enjoy Him and give Him glory. Literally like taking the Devil's place. Now even you would be bitter. Seeing the glory with which God created man, the Devil could not help but seek ways to destroy that glory, hence, the episode in the garden of Eden. So, the Devil, out of his hate for humanity and God, deceived Eve, caused mankind to fall from God's originally designed glorious state, and permanently introduced the spirit of fear. So the devil really wished he was like MAN.

AFFIRMATION

I ______(insert your name) am made in God's image and according to His likeness. I reflect the glory of God. I am a spec and a beauty because God says so. The Devil can hate all he wants, but he is too late because the blood of Jesus has redeemed me forever. Hallelujah!

Always Remember this, Fear will find scriptures, find arguments, find ideologies, find quotes, to defend its HOLD on us .



A lie gets halfway around the world before the truth has a chance to get its pants on.

-Winston Churchill

YOU ARE NOT ALONE, YOU ARE NOT ALONE, WE ALL HAVE FEARS, WE ALL HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE GIFT OF LOVE

Be well balanced and always alert, because your enemy, the devil, roams around incessantly, like a roaring lion looking for its prey to devour. Take a decisive stand against him and resist his every attack with strong, vigorous faith. For you know that your believing brothers and sisters around the world are experiencing the same kinds of troubles you endure.

1 Peter 5:8-9 TPT

If there is anything that the scripture above proves, it is that the devil is a restless schemer. He roams about looking for the next prey. So, you bet, he is constantly spreading lies. It can be through people; even loved ones, through situations, and most prominently these days, through the media.

We have been warned countless time to take what you see online with a pinch of salt. The media projects very unrealistic image of perfection while using lies to patch up the inherent flaws of humanity. This has resulted in so much comparison, fear, hatred, depression, and ultimately death. Moreso, it has become quite apparent that the media is used to propagate the agenda of whoever is in control, especially in the governmental and economic atmospheres.

What am I trying to say?

Guard your heart.

So many things are happening. As we get closer to the end of the age, the Devil is doing the most to achieve his goal to destroy as many people as he can, so to have to be careful what you feed your mind and what you let influence you. Remember to test all spirits *(see 1 JOHN 4)*. Most importantly, protect your heart.

So above all, guard the affections of your heart, for they affect all that you are. Pay attention to the welfare of your innermost being, for from there flows the wellspring of life.

Proverbs 4:23 (TPT)

Guard your heart with the word of God because God cannot lie, He doesn't have fear in him. Put on the word of God as a protection.

Put on truth as a belt to strengthen you to stand in triumph. Put on holiness as the protective armor that covers your heart.

Ephesians 6:14 (TPT)

The relationship between fear and lie

As we see from the garden of Eden, it is lie that sells fear. The same technique the Devil used against Eve has not changed: sell a lie to steal a divine destiny/purpose, this is the same technique he is using against us. But thank God for Jesus!

AFFIRMATION

I ______(insert your name) am no longer a slave to fear. I am able to see through every lie of the Devil, and I rise above it. It has no power over me!

Amen? Amen. Good. You are following, so let us continue.

BUT GOD HAS NOT GIVEN US THE SPIRIT OF FEAR

- For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind

2 Timothy 1:7

This would take us back again to the book of Genesis briefly. "God created human beings; He created them godlike, Reflecting God's nature." Man was made to reflect God's nature, which is fearless, good, righteous, dominating the whole earth; giving glory to God in all of this. So when He made a way to redeem man through the sacrifice of His son Jesus Christ, God also restored in man the spirit that he had intended for man to have from the beginning —the Holy Spirit —the spirit of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

AFFIRMATION

Lie oh lie oh lie, shame on you! From today, you are under my feet. I trample on you!





The human mind doesn't like a vacuum. We will populate that vacuum with the contents of our own head, and often that's scary stuff.

-Jeremy Wade

Science, while comparing the human mind to a computer, has proven that the human mind is at least a billion times more sophisticated and powerful than the computer. However, like the computer, the human mind works based on what has been installed in it. Furthermore, it has been proven that the mind cannot actively differentiate between what is real and what is not. This means that the mind would react to a real scary situation, the same way it would react if it were imagined. This explains why we get chills from just our thoughts, movies, and stories.

Other interesting experiments used to prove the power of the mind are the placebo and nocebo effects. They explain the effect a particular medication has on an individual in relation to their mindset about said medication.

Let me explain that.

A medical facility did an experiment on patients with a particular knee problem who were due for surgery. An actual surgery was performed on half of those patients, and on the others, just incisions were made to imply a surgery, but no real surgery took place. Now because both categories of individuals thought they had had an actual surgery, they all recovered fully from their knee issues. The nocebo effect on the other hand is a negative mindset that causes everything to go wrong. It has been proven through medication also. And just like in the medical field, our mindset about other areas of our lives influences the results that we get.

What am I trying to say?

The mind is powerful, and you cannot be more than the image of yourself that you have in your mind. No wonder the Bible tells us in Matthew 12:34 that the mouth speaks out of the abundance of the heart.

"Whatever we plant in our subconscious mind and nourish with repetition and emotion will one day become a reality."

-Earl Nightingale

AFFIRMATION

I have the mind of Christ, therefore I am like Christ. I do not fear because Christ has no fear in Him.

I looked up the meaning of the word knot and I think this is the most interesting definition I found: "a tangled mass in something such as hair or wool." I found it interesting because of the word 'tangled' which means 'twisted together.' No doubt, a knot is made by pulling one or more strings of thread together and the more they are pulled together, the tighter the knot becomes; the harder it is to loosen.

As we have already established, the mind, in all of its glory, cannot differentiate between what is real or not, and simply lives off what you feed it. This implies that the content of our minds can be filled with the wrong things: our fears, failures, inferiorities, etc. And a lot of times, we are unable to control our thoughts and how they make us feel. Fear cripples us, as long as we allow these fears and lies to stay in our hearts, it is only a matter of time until we become totally paralyzed.

It is like pulling the threads of the knot tighter, you would soon be unable to untie the knot. For example, focusing on a particular issue that causes fear like inferiorities and trauma, has a way of magnifying them and their effects on our lives. This is because every time we think about these fears, we pull a thread from the knot more, and make the knot tighter.

A lot of us have had our minds mumbled with different thoughts: fear, hurt, societal and religious limitation, trauma from the past, unforgiveness, and so many others. These have been due to past experiences such as being told we are not good enough, being hurt by those we least expect it from, being abused by those who were meant to protect us, having to deal with situations that cost us our ability to trust anyone, having experiences that left us with trauma, among others. And all of these have succeeded in locking us in this conundrum of hurt, guilt, low self-esteem, and trauma. So, like the knot of tangled hair or wool, our minds have synergized the hurtful words that have been spoken to us, the heartbreaks we have experienced, the condemnation we have received, etc, and have sold a false idea of ourselves to us that we have wholeheartedly believed.

Let us be honest, our fears are exaggerated most time. They are not really as bad as they appear if we confront them with the truth that makes us free. It is like what happens with a mirage on a hilly road on a sunny day -none of that "water-looking" at the junction is actually real. Just a projection of some compound reaction of the sun and actual properties of matter around. In the same way, our fears are a projection of our mind knotting thoughts that have been laying around. The danger in this is that the longer these fears stay in our hearts, the more magnified they seem. So really, our fears are not as bad as they seem, they simply get magnified in our minds the more we think about them; the more we knot our fears together.

AFFIRMATION

I untangle every knot of fear that has been formed in my heart. I refuse to think about all my reasons to fear, but instead meditate on the truths of God.

NOTHING

Untie the knot

"Any movement toward wholeness begins with the acknowledgment of our own suffering, and of the suffering in the world. This doesn't mean getting caught in a never-ending vortex of pain, melancholy, and, especially, victimhood; a new and rigid identity founded on "trauma"—or, for that matter, "healing"—can be its own kind of trap. True healing simply means opening ourselves to the truth of our lives, past and present, as plainly and objectively as we can. We acknowledge where we were wounded and, as we are able, perform an honest audit of the impacts of those injuries as they have touched both our own lives and those of others around us."

- Gabor Maté

Ways to untie the knot

1. Change your gaze.

A popular saying goes thus: "you cannot keep doing the same thing and expect a different result." To untie the knot, you have to stop pulling the threads of fear and lie in your heart, and the most effective way to do this is to stop looking at your fears. As children of God, we have been encouraged over and again to put our focus on God and all that He says about us.

Stop imitating the ideals and opinions of the culture around you, but be inwardly transformed by the Holy Spirit through a total reformation of how you think. This will empower you to discern God's will as you live a beautiful life, satisfying and perfect in his eyes.

Romans 12:2 TPT

2. Declare God's reality

Like the placebo and nocebo effects, what we confess with our tongue is powerful. It reflects and informs our beliefs, and ultimately, it shapes our reality. Confess the reality of God over your life.

> Guard your words and you'll guard your life, but if you don't control your tongue, it will ruin everything.

> > Proverbs 13:3 (TPT)

3. Therapy

It is very important to seek help, especially when you recognize that you can not do it by yourself. However, remember to guard your heart. You cannot afford to have just anyone speak to you. Let it be someone who has their facts aligned with the word and truth of God.

So above all, guard the affections of your heart, for they affect all that you are. Pay attention to the welfare of your innermost being, for from there flows the wellspring of life.

Proverbs 4:23 (TPT)

4. Community and mentorship (if you are around people that are free it helps you).

"It is not good for the man to be alone;" God Himself made this statement. According to His plan, you should not be doing life alone. Even Jesus while on earth had His circle. It is the Devil who keeps us in isolation because he knows we will fall when we are alone.

"Two are better than one, Because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, For he has no one to help him up. Again, if two lie down together, they will keep warm; But how can one be warm alone? Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

NOTHING

Fear comes when we agree with a lie. Remember the Garden of Eden, fear got introduced when Adam and Eve believed the lie of the serpent. But thanks to Jesus, and his sacrifice. This can be undone. All we must do is accept God's love for us by believing in His sacrifice for our redemption from the consequences of the sin of the first fall in the garden of Eden. By faith, when we accept the promise of his love we are redeemed from fear.

I have learnt not to take stock of the thread that makes up the knot of my thoughts. I have come to realize it is ineffective. It's like being in a dark room and trying to negotiate or lure darkness to make way. No matter what you say, nothing will change until you shine light in that room; and instantly, the darkness disappears. Then why not turn on the light of God in your situation? His word is that light we need to shine on our fears. God also wants us to be free from fear, which is why the phrase "fear not." appears 365 times in the bible, and I like to think that it is no coincidence; He gave us reassurance for each day of the year.

We need to open our hearts and minds to experience his love. This is when the true freedom that we seek will come.

Such love has no fear, because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love.

-1 John 4:18

God has gone to many lengths to restore us back to what he originally designed us to be. He didn't just meet us halfway, he went to the end of the road and is only asking that we stretch out a hand of faith to him and allow him to save us. From the human perspective, we always feel like we can sort ourselves out by our power but so far that has proven to be a continuous failure. To put it in clear terms, it is *pride* that makes us resist God's love.

Yes, pride. If you are wondering how pride came to be in this sentence suddenly, then here's why:

Have you ever gone shopping, and you get a bundle deal that comes with so many other items? We often refer to it as 'the total package.' Pride is to sin, fear, and the fall (in Eden) what paired item is to a bundle deal. It simply comes with the package. So not only did fear get introduced, but pride that is heavily fueled by ignorance was also in the package. This is one of the many ways that the devil uses to keep us in the cycle of fear and lies that poke us all our lives. But here is a better plan: **accept the love of God.**



FEAR GOD



All I have done in the first 4 chapters is to say DO NOT FEAR. I have also been trying so hard to tell you that our Heavenly Father wants to show you how much of him you carry.

It is His heart that He wants all to come to know, see, and love. For it is this Heart that created the universe out of Love. It is the Heart, that out of love, created mankind, each and every soul. It is this Heart that lives and loves in every line of Scripture. Most of all, it is this Heart that has been waiting for so long to be discovered and to be loved, that He may then pour out upon mankind its greatest expression of Love. Why then am I saying FEAR GOD?

Relax...

Now let us do some study and try to break down the fear in this chapter.

All fear is bad except this fear. Let me explain.

Tick tock tick tock...

•••••

Then He said, "Do not come near here; remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." Exodus 3:5

The above scripture is an excerpt of the story of Moses at beginning of his ministry: his first encounter with God. This story, popularly known as 'Moses and the burning Bush' is one that narrates a typical example of the fear of God that leads to awe. *(see Exodus 3)*

What comes to your mind when you think of awe?

Oh! Let's be honest, every football fan would think of Messi or Ronaldo: the most talked about legends of football in recent times. Or perhaps, if you are a romantic, nature may come to your mind; like the expanse of the Grand Canyon in Arizona, the rolling green of the Swiss Alps, the skies when you are in an airplane, or something amazing from NatGeo. You may even think of the beauty of the sky on a quiet night. Architecture lovers would probably think about one of the most recent constructional wonders they have come across. Regardless of your personality or background, you definitely have areas of special interest that translate into awe for you. It could also be a special or personal memory or a loved one. For me, it was the miracle of watching my daughter's birth via Whatsapp -it made me speechless, it was an AWE-FULL experience.

So far, we have spoken about fear from a negative perspective, but at this point, I would like to introduce you to the only side of fear that is positive.

Now back to Moses.

In Exodus 33, we see Moses and God having a conversation. Moses is asking to see God: I imagine he was probably like "God I've been working for you for a while now and I still don't know what you look like. For once, just let me see you." God then tells him that no one can see His face and live, so for his own safety, He will show him just some part of himself. So God covered Moses' face when He was passing by the mount and only let him see his back. Yet, just that fraction of God that was revealed to Moses gave him a fixed glow that caused the children of Israel to tremble when they saw him(Moses). They all then got convicted and swore to do what the Lord had commanded them through Moses. That type of fear is known as Yirah.

What does Yirah mean?

'Yirah' - is a Hebrew word that means 'awe.' but in a way that represents trembling. Personally, I have had a few *yirah* experiences in my life, and I will be honest about them. Kanye West's last two albums and some of his shows have given me some feeling of awe. Watching my daughter play and jump around has given me some *yirah* moments. A number of TY Bello's spontaneous worship sessions have also given me *yirah* moments.

How about you, have you had any yirah moments?

Ultimately, the goal as a child of God is not to fear, but to fear God. That is, to move your focus away from your fears, and focus on God; there is no way you would not develop a reverence for Him, just like Moses did on Mount Sinai. How this works is pretty simple: if we are to reject fear and accept His love by learning all that he has planned out for us, we have to study His word more regularly. And that would open our eyes to parts of Him we probably never saw. If we continue, it's only a matter of time until our fear and anxiety transform into genuine reverence for Him and His goodness-our human fear will turn into yirah for God.

Jesus dying for us was an awe moment. In the garden, we lost our glory, our natural yirah, but God gave Himself to get us back.

Exercise

Recall your Yirah moments.

The beauty of awe is that most times, it is out of love for who we are in awe of. So when we look at the character of God the most, and the depths of His love for us which is revealed to us in His goodness, mercy, and forgiveness, we are made to grasp the essence of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for us, we cannot help but be in awe and in love.

What I am trying to submit to you is that being in awe of something comes from looking at it and realizing that it is beyond your capabilities and understanding.

God knew that since fear was introduced in the Garden of Eden, beholding His full glory would make us scared of Him because the fear that was now within us is not the fear of God. Therefore, He sent us His son Jesus Christ, Jesus is God's perfect image in the form of a person. Seeing Him would help us truly know God, truly fear Him and truly be in awe of Him. He spared us the terror —now we can look at Him through His Son, the Messiah Jesus, who is one with the Father.

Bonus point: The trick of conquering fear is ONENESS AND WONDER

Oneness is the gift of the Cross; wonder is the understanding of what was done on the Cross.

DAVID UNDERSTOOD YIRAH.

Yirah calls us to behold and worship.

As I have said, awe can give birth to love. The book of Psalms is full of David's wonder at the natural world and God's majesty, wisdom, and power. And he does not hold back with his expressions of awe and love. A few of these verses are:

"He's the owner of every ocean, the engineer and sculptor of the earth itself!" Psalms 95:5 (TPT)

In Psalm 29, David describes the voice of the LORD as powerful, majestic; it hews out flames of fire and shakes the wilderness. He writes,

"The God of glory thunders, the LORD is over many waters" Psalms 29:3 (Amp)

"What delight comes to the one who follows God's ways! He won't walk in step with the wicked, nor share the sinner's way, nor be found sitting in the scorner's seat." Psalms 1:1 (TPT)

Author Lisa Bevere rightly said that "We are a generation that has been stripped of our awe", and I agree. Scripture tells us that having yirah toward God is the beginning of wisdom (see Proverbs 9:10). This means we must regain our sense of awe and reverence toward God. The best way to do this, according to Scripture, is to read and meditate upon His word and to also hear His voice to you is that we need to go back to a place of worship where we would develop awe-yirah and its inherent love for God; that we would be able to pass on to our neighbor.



THE GOD CLOUD.



Living above fear, living in the realms of God

Oh Yes! Technology expounds on the systems of God, let me explain. Let us try to quantify eternity. We know that eternity is endless, so let us just say it is 7 billion trillion terabytes. Since we know that God is timeless (divine timelessness), this exercise is foolish, because eternity cannot be calculated, it is billions and billions and billions of bytes.

AFFIRMATION

God is BIG! Too BIG! BIGGER than I can imagine. BIGGER than my mind can grasp, and way BIGGER than my fears.

God lives in eternity; and exists in time (divine temporality), that is, He is HERE: in time showering us with love and is with us through Christ by His spirit. If God is in time and thus exists at every time, that means, there is no time which God doesn't exist.

So how does our mind, which in this case is similar to 5MB, want to host billions and billions of gigabytes in God?

The Apple ICloud system teaches us:

If you have an IPhone, you are likely familiar with the single most annoying notification that exists, "Your ICloud storage is almost full." Yes, Apple is making a lot of money. As you acquire data (bytes), through videos and pictures, you must also upgrade your service, you must buy cloud space, you might have gotten a 64 gig phone, and might need to buy a 250 gig space in the cloud. This means your phone is still 64 gig, but you have access to 250 gig worth of memory in the cloud.

So, this is my proposition, your human mind has limited space, so to keep up in God's economy and kingdom, you must walk in the realms of His kingdom that exists in eternity, which is similar to upgrading your cloud system

How do you buy a spiritual cloud system?

You *buy* into it!

You first need to decide that this cloud system is the one that you want. You need to evaluate it to see if it's really worth it. You need to make a firm decision and stay true to it because sometimes it seems like a foolish mission. *(see Luke 9:62)*.

The lie that your 64 gig space is all you need to do life, has limited your potential. The goal is to live like God on earth, therefore, connecting to His cloud system is the only way to live in His fullness.

AFFIRMATION

I will no longer rely on my own abilities. Henceforth, I will subscribe to the God cloud.

Is your subscription Valid?

- 1. Be born again
- 2. Understand what He has done for you
- 3. Remind yourself that you are blessed

Once your subscription is valid, you must now engage it, unless the enemy will get at you when he does come. It is like with your IPhone. If you do not upload your phone's content to your ICloud then your phone will definitely run out of space.

Engage your God cloud. Download some truth from the bible and store away some lies of the enemy. One step at a time. Little by little, and you will be all optimized soon!

THE LANGUAGE OF THE CLOUD SYSTEM

Here on earth, we know that computers do not understand our human languages, so we have developed artificial languages like python, java script, and the likes to help us get the best of our machines. In Heaven, the language is also different from what we use here on earth. Yes, God speaks to us in languages that we understand, and hears us when we do speak to Him, but that is because He is omniscient and knows all things. However, to fully maximize your God cloud, you have to transact in kingdom approved language.

When someone speaks in tongues, no one understands a word he says, because he's not speaking to people, but to God—he is speaking intimate mysteries in the Spirit.

1 Corinthians 14:2

Speaking in tongues is key in the God Cloud, the program is maximized when we activate our tongues. There are so many things that ought to come your way from the planes of eternity but may never land unless you learn to pray in tongues regularly. When you pray in tongues you get a lot out of it. The bible says so:

The one who prays using a private "prayer language" certainly gets a lot out of it (MSG).

1 Corinthians 14:4

When you speak in tongues, you tap into eternity and build your cloud system. It's like what happens when you are around a wifi network, your phone automatically updates. No doubt, we edify ourselves when we speak in tongues. To edify oneself means to build up yourself. When we pray in tongues we build up ourselves on our most holy faith.

"But you, my delightfully loved friends, constantly and progressively build yourselves up on the foundation of your most holy faith by praying every moment in the Spirit. Fasten your hearts to the love of God and receive the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, who gives us eternal life."

Jude 20-21 (TPT)

When we speak with tongues, we initiate both spiritual and physical progression in our lives. Stagnation is not God's will for us. If you notice that you are stagnant in your life, then you need to give yourself to speaking with tongues. Progression occurs as you speak with tongues. The Holy Ghost rejuvenates areas of your life that may be dead.

When you speak in tongues, you rise higher and higher spiritually. It is like constructing an edifice (a magnificent building). The more you engage your spirit by speaking in tongues, the more progress you make with your building. Or like buying cloud storage over and over. God has a magnificent plan for your life: one that is more beautiful than an edifice. In order to rise into the fullness of that plan of God in your life, you need to practice this spiritual exercise often.

SO SPEAK SOME TONGUES NOW! SPEAK MORE TONGUES...

Note that:

Your mind cannot carry the fullness of His plans, but your mouth in tongues can declare it. The cloud space is limitless, so you must engage and engage. It is an open space.



THE GOD DRIVE.



Love is the agenda of God.

Love is not just a word that expresses feelings, it is the hardware of the God cloud (see 1 Cor. 13).

"We have come into an intimate experience with God's love, and we trust in the love He has for us. God is love! Those who are living in love are living in God, and God lives through them."

1 John 4:16 (see full chapter).

Walking in love is impossible without the help of the Holy Spirit because human nature is inherently self-centered. God's love in one's heart remains fired up through speaking in tongues. Your passion for the things of God grows and increases. This means that when you speak in tongues you keep yourself in the love of God—the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost. Every time we speak in tongues, we stir that reservoir of God's love in our hearts.

Let us look at it this way.

Gold is among the world's most treasured stones, yet it is never at its purest state from the beginning. It must first go through the process of purification which involves fire. The fire stirs the particles and separates the real gold from dirt. This applies to our spiritual lives. Praying in tongues serves as that process of purification through the Holy Spirit. The more we pray in tongues, the more our lives become refined. The flaws of our old man are taken away by the Holy Spirit, and the character of God shows up in us.

He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself.

1 Corinthians 14:4a

To edify yourself means to recharge your spiritual batteries. When a battery is run down, in order to get that battery back to full strength, it needs to be connected to a source of power for a period of time. The length of time it stays connected determines how recharged it will be. When we pray in tongues, we recharge ourselves like a battery. The longer you pray in tongues, the more heavenly current that flows into you, causing you to be aglow with the fire of the Holy Spirit. That means, you not only charge up your spiritual man, but also transform your physical self when you speak in tongues. That way, you keep receiving more of God's nature, and you are able to love truly. The God kind of love. The type of love described in 1. Corinthians 13.

Never lag in zeal and in earnest endeavor; be aglow and burning with the Spirit, serving the Lord.

Romans 12:11

When you speak in tongues, you stir up the gift of God in you.

Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.

2 Timonthy 1:6

Paul wrote to Timothy admonishing him to stir—fan to flame the gift of God which he received through the laying on of hands. He further describes the character of the Holy Spirit, in the next verse. Yes, we have received the spirit of God, but we cannot keep him dormant, we must continually exercise our spirit man so that we activate all His characteristics explained in the next verse: power, love and self-discipline.

Many of us have several gifts in us lying dormant. The only way to activate those gifts is by speaking in tongues.

The river of the Holy Spirit is in our belly.

In John 5, we are told about a certain pool by the Sheep Gate in Jerusalem which heals the first person who enters into it after the angel of the Lord comes in and stirs it (and this only happens at certain seasons). This pool is like an illustration of the river of the Holy Spirit within us.

Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.

John 7:38

Today we do not need an angel to come and stir us up. Rather, when we speak in tongues, we stir up the river within us and it begins to flow.

When we speak in tongues, our spirit is exercised.

Paul said,

"For if I am praying in a tongue, my spirit is engaged in prayer but I have no clear understanding of what is being said."

1 Corinthians 14:14 (TPT)

When we pray in tongues our spirit is engaged actively in the place of prayer. We know that to keep ourselves healthy, we need to engage in bodily exercise as often as we can. Yet this is not as important as exercising your spirit man.

For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

1 Timothy 4:8

We exercise our spirits when we pray in tongues. Just like regular bodily exercise strengthens our body and boosts our immune system, so is speaking in tongues to our spirit man. Our spirit man waxes stronger through the exercise of speaking in tongues.

This is the key to waxing strong in the spirit and being strengthened with might in the inner man.

And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel. And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

Luke 1:80

John the Baptist and Jesus were both said to have waxed strong in spirit. The secret to this is praying in the spirit.

The Holy Spirit is the search engine into Eternity

The benefits of the Holy Spirit are endless. The easiest way to put this is: the Holy Spirit works out everything necessary in us, for us to be able to reach the peak of the destiny that God has ordained for us. However, to me, one of the most powerful roles of the Holy Spirit in our lives is:

These are the things God has revealed to us by His Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.

1 Corinthians 2:10-11.

Let me explain this.

It is a no-brainer that no one can fully know the content of a man's heart except himself. The Holy Spirit of God is God, but He is a dimension of God that has been given to us while we are on earth so that we can successfully be transformed into the image of God, as He has planned it. "We can all draw close to him with the veil removed from our faces. And with no veil we all become like mirrors who brightly reflect the glory of the Lord Jesus. We are being transfigured into his very image as we move from one brighter level of glory to another. And this glorious transfiguration comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."

2 Corinthians 3:18 (TPT)

It is only that spirit of God (Himself) that knows the heart of God. Yet, the Holy Spirit is willing to search God's heart and share His thoughts with us.

Think about it this way, the world's greatest search engine is google, and we can get the answer to almost everything we ask by just typing in keywords. Now think about the Holy Spirit as a search engine to the mind of God (who clearly has answers to everything that we will ever ask or need). The possibilities are endless; you can literally download what is on the mind of God at a particular season. But like with google, with the wrong search words, you will not get results.

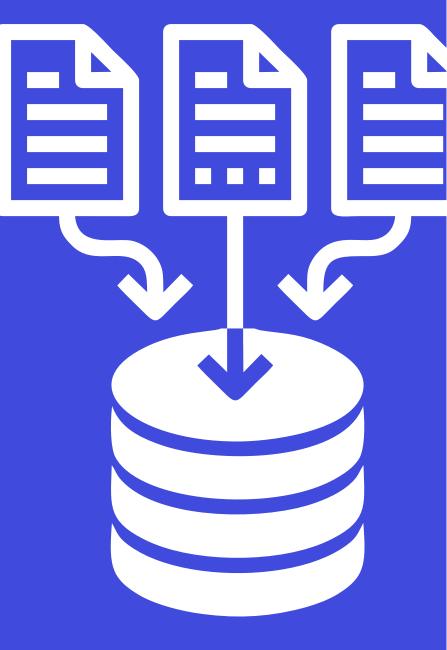
The right keywords are not known by our own human understanding, it is through speaking in unknown tongues that we access the right keywords for each season.

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

Romans 8:26



BIG GOD, DIVINE DATA.



Be an expression of God

"We are the sum total of our experiences. Those experiences – be they positive or negative – make us the person we are, at any given point in our lives. And, like a flowing river, those same experiences, and those yet to come, continue to influence and reshape the person we are, and the person we become. None of us are the same as we were yesterday, nor will be tomorrow."

– B.J. Neblett

We will all agree that a machine is what has been programmed into it. No matter how sophisticated a computer is, it can never function outside of the designs of the software that has been written by the programmer. What this means is that it is what has been programmed into a computer that serves as the foundation of its entire function or action.

Same can be said for us. This is why when God said "worship Me in Spirit and in truth," He meant worship Me from what I have already deposited in you—your OS (operating system) which is My Spirit who gives you the characteristics of righteousness, peace, love, power, joy, and all of Me. God wants you to function in the fullness of what He has programmed in you, so that earth can experience Him.

AFFIRMATION

I ______(insert name) refuse to continue to walk according to I-OS which is self. Henceforth, I will work according to God's OS, which is the Holy Spirit.

.....

Now from a human perspective...

Have you ever heard of the concept of 'tabula rasa'?

The word in itself is often translated to 'clean slate'. As a concept, it asserts that the human mind is without any information, thoughts or goals at birth. It is as communication happens from a mother nurturing the child, to a father babysitting and playing pranks, to siblings sharing food, love and fights, all that happens in school, and all the interpersonal communication that we pick up the data that makes up who we become.

"It just means you are the sum total of your data. No man escapes that."

- Don DeLillo

The thought of this is simultaneously scary and intriguing. We are just Data?

AFFIRMATION

I am good data, the data of God. I am nurtured by Him, hence I pick up godly values.

From a philosophical view, we are only the perceptions that our memories provide for. In short, we are "fixed" perceptions. What this means is that our mind stores data from all our communication and experiences, and these shape our general outlook to life and further forms our personality.

From a biological standpoint, memories wouldn't exist without the biological components that allow for them, which includes our brain, brain cells, blood vessels and so on. That being so, we are only solid entities (like containers) that have the cognitive ability to understand that we do in fact exist in a physical world. In other words, we are a combination of a virtual (or abstract) mind (like a software) and the physical vessel that houses it (the body or hardware). Neither of which would survive without this symbiotic relationship.

Meaning we are pure consciousness which has created a field of memory. It is our memory, as frequencies of light, and the qualities of love we have developed, that gives us a unique 'personal' self. Hence, the whole is the sum of all parts. All our experiences combine to form a synthesis, and the hub of it all is consciousness.

Now, because we are the sum total of our experiences, we have a responsibility to determine the activities & events we expose ourselves to. Stay in the womb of God and download all the data He has for you. Keep upgrading your cloud. The womb of God is mercy, it is simply by His mercy that we can partake in His reality. We keep ourselves in the love of God and engage in His mercy by praying every moment in the Spirit. As we do this, we make downloads from God's Drive, we are edified (upgraded) and our lives become data that changes other people.

CHAPTER 8

"So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive His mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most."

Hebrews 4:16

"God's mercy to us is the motivation for showing mercy to others. Remember, you will never be asked to forgive someone else more than God has forgiven you."

-Rick Warren

"But you, my delightfully loved friends, constantly and progressively build yourselves up on the foundation of your most holy faith by praying every moment in the Spirit. Fasten your hearts to the love of God and receive the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, who gives us eternal life."

Jude 1:20-21 (TPT)

God is Big, our data is small, all we must do is download more data from the BIG GOD. He wants to use His word to change our small data; His word is Big DATA —the only data that contains the truth about us.

Stop overestimating your experiences, magnify His word.

Believe He can change your experiences through His word, even as He lives in eternity, because He can!

"You've gone into my future to prepare the way, and in kindness you follow behind me to spare me from the harm of my past. You have laid your hand on me! This is just too wonderful, deep, and incomprehensible! Your understanding of me brings me wonder and strength. Where could I go from your Spirit? Where could I run and hide from your face?"

Psalms 139:5-7(TPT)

God is His word; the bible tells us that what is responsible for the words of a man are the thoughts of his heart. This is also true for God, because His thoughts reflect His personality, and His words expose His thoughts—His personality.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:1

God is His word.

God's word has the ability to completely change and transform you if you are willing to work with the divine truths that are contained in His actual words.

Jesus says in the Bible that you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free. However, you first must know what the **real** truth is before the truth can start to work to set you free. This truth is the word of God—the **real** truth.

In it is found the promises of God to us.

Speak the word over yourself.

And that does it.

•••••

Testing 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, selah!