

Issue 9

October/November 2021



RETALIATE - FIGHT BACK - PUSH BACK

**Learn about
PERSEVERANCE
with Selena Munien's
Testimony**

**GRIP ON
AND HOLD TIGHT
TO GOD
with Britney Jenine**

**Power Verses
Bible Stories
and much more ...**



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Editorial

RETALIATE - FIGHT BACK –PUSH BACK

“For though the righteous fall seven times, they rise again, but the wicked stumble when calamity strikes.” Proverbs 24:16

Have you ever thought yourself a failure? You felt like life has been unfair and you don't think you have what it takes to move on and carry on living. I felt that way a few times. I even felt like I failed God at times because He gives us so many chances and we keep ruining it or running from it because we lack courage and faith. Well that's how I used to be. I liked running when it got difficult instead of sticking around to see how it would have played out and some of my decisions I do deeply regret but I know that God has a plan of allowing things to be as they are meant to be.

A righteous man may fall seven times but the Word of God says they rise back up. It's about getting back up when you fall that keeps you going. God knows we are going to fall sometimes and He knows that we are going to fail Him but we need to fight temptations and fight the attacks of the enemy in spiritual warfare. Yes we do have grace from God and He will always forgive us if we repent our sins but that does not mean we should go on sinning. What will happen if we had to die tomorrow or if the rapture took place? How quick can one repent and hope that his repentance gives him a place in heaven? We need to start making the change now. We need to retaliate against the spiritual forces coming at us.

Ephesians 6:12 says **“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”** This fight isn't you against me. It isn't man against man. It is the spirit man against the spiritual attacks. Some may not believe it but witchcraft is real but so is the Blood of Jesus and the Blood of Jesus protects us from the wickedness of the enemy. The name of Jesus has power that even demons must bow down to Jesus.

Do not be afraid to stand your ground. If you sense something in the spirit pray against it. It is extremely important that every Christian prays for a spirit of discernment because without it you can easily fall into the devil's trap.

Don't let bad habits and addictions control you. Have the fear of God in you and know right from wrong. You are the only one who has authority over your own life to make decisions so make sure they are wise ones. Read your bible and learn to use the Word of God as your weapon and your therapy.

Yes it may not be easy but it will be worth it in the end. You are not alone in this fight. You have angels who God will send to you, you have Jesus and the Holy Spirit with you. You also have intercessors and fellow believers who will stand with you in prayer to overcome whatever it is you are going through so you need to make a promise to yourself.

I will Retaliate – Fight Back – Push Back against every attack that comes my way!

Britney Jenine
Editor-In-Chief



PERSEVERANCE IN OUR DAILY WALK WITH CHRIST

By Padmini Govender (Tootsie)

1 Peter 1:5-7 “make every effort to add to your faith goodness, and to goodness, knowledge, and to knowledge, self-control, and to self-control, perseverance, and to perseverance, godliness, and to godliness, mutual affection, and to mutual affection, love.”

Perseverance in our daily faith makes faith stronger and teaches us lessons of obedience. I am blessed with senior citizens that have nurtured me to the person that I am today. Many of these men and women of God taught me how to persevere during some difficult challenges that I faced in life.

Most of them women and some widows that shared how God had become their source of strength and comfort. They would testify in prayer meetings of how they took the step of faith and placed their trust in God. In **Isaiah 41:10** “so do not fear for I am with you, do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand”. They were obedient to God.

Week after week I was blessed by the testimonies of how God worked in their lives, some of these women never knew how to read or write, and they would relate how God used them in the ministry. This was a life of faith. In **2 Corinthians 5:7** “for we live by faith and not by sight.” I heard how they trusted God for the impossible and thought about this quote by Martin Luther King Jr, "faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase".

These daughters of God spent much time in prayer as **Psalms 145:18** says “The Lord is near to all who call on him in truth.” Their relationship with God the father had grown daily, these sons and daughters of God lived simple humble lives even though they faced many storms and struggles where their faith was tested and I often asked them how you'll do it.

I never understood how they could love people that hurt them or how they could continue in their walk with God knowing the closer their relationship had become with God the more difficult the walk had become. In **Matthew 6:12**, God's word encourages us to forgive us our debts as we also forgiven our debtors, forgiving someone who hurts you is an act of love towards the person that hurt you, and this is

the beginning of healing. The love of God that is in them has enabled them to forgive and love.

1 John 4:19 says “we love because he first loved us.” I watched the love of God in their lives and how they passed it on to everyone that they came in contact with. These daughters stood with each other and encouraged one another. They waited upon God and had seen the hand of God move in their lives. He became the way maker, miracle worker, promise keeper and the light in the darkness, He made a way where there was no way.

These valuable lessons were passed on to me. I am the person that I am because these sons and daughters stood by me encouraging and motivating me that if God had done it for them He will do it for anyone that believes and trust in Him. All He asks of us is to be still and know that He is God. Sadly some of these God-fearing people have been called home to eternal rest. I was blessed to have been a part of their lives. As children of God we should persevere in our daily walk, we should not be moved or shaken by what we hear or see. Our focus and eyes should be on our Heavenly Father as we are led, guided and directed by Him daily. So as you continue this walk with Christ may you be blessed.



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Grip On and Hold Tight to God

In our journey we may not always have the strength to face life's battles. Sometimes the challenges that's in front of us outweighs the courage within us. I have to admit that even if you are strong in your faith you are bound to feel low at times as it is only human to do so but that does not make you a weak Christian.

“Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.” 2 Corinthians 12:8-10.

Paul, being an Apostle and a mighty servant of God even felt the pains he had to endure and pleaded with God to take it away but he was told that God's strength was made perfect in his weakness. God's strength is made perfect in our weaknesses. When the road gets bumpy we ought to Grip on and Hold Tight to God!

His Word says **Psalm 55:22** **“Cast your burden on the Lord, and He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.”** The power of God's love in our lives never ceases to amaze me. He took our sins and washed it away with His precious blood when He was on the Cross. He took all burdens and said He will carry them and allow us to live trusting that He

will take care of us and our needs. He never fails us and always shows up on time. He lightens the load we are meant to carry because He loves us and His unconditional love is what gives us strength in times of adversity and trouble. He says to just Hold On to Him and never let go and He will bring us through that dark tunnel we are trying to find our way out of.

He says don't worry. Don't worry about the problem, don't worry about that mountain. Don't worry about how the bills are going to be paid. Don't worry about what tomorrow holds. Just keep your feet grounded in my Word and grip on to My Hand. Just grip on to God's hand and hold tight. Let Jesus take that worry away from you. You are not weak, you are strong because you are holding on to a strong God and when God is in the equation extraordinary miracles happen.

Have faith and hold on. Secure yourself in Christ. Cement yourself in the foundation of His love and grace and trust in Him that He can do the impossible. The way you see it and the way God sees it is not the same. God sees the bigger picture and He is preparing you and shaping you to fit into that picture.

JUST DON'T LET GO OF GOD'S HAND!

BY BRITNEY JENINE

Perseverance

BY SELENA MUNIEN

“Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.” James 1:12 NIV.

Perseverance, the mere word is sometimes so hard to perceive yet it is what we do daily, the fact that we wake up every morning despite our situations and circumstances, that for one more day, one more time we take the opportunity given to us to try again is PERSERVERANCE.

I remember a time when I had just committed to my relationship with Christ my Redeemer, I had heard **2 Corinthians 4:8-9** **“We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed”** and was taken aback.

I felt like this is me, this is my life, how could God have known and how awesome it is that He not only is telling us that He knows the hardships we go through but is also reminding us that hey yes you may have been through abuse which had you cornered into believing that there was no way out, you may have been rejected and neglected even abandoned but not in despair or destroyed. Yes, if you are still alive and able to see another day then you have the God given ability to rise up to persevere, to push forth and to overcome, to see beyond those words, beyond the challenges and negativity that may come your way. To persevere in goals and dreams and to face the giants.

Perseverance is the determination to belief that you deserve better, bigger, bolder because you serve the Creator of All Creation, an All knowing, All loving and All merciful God that knows you better than you even know yourself. **HE** has given you the ability to see another day because He knows what you are capable of.... Do you??

The English dictionary’s meaning of perseverance is *“persistence in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success”*

The biblical definition is as the Apostle Paul describes it. He describes perseverance as being **“steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord” 1 Corinthians 15:58.**

In simple man’s terms it means go forth - push forth try and keep trying don’t give up. Keep going as though you are doing it unto the Lord and at the end of it all you can bask in the Glory of the Lord over your life when you see the fruition or the fulfilment of that which we set out to achieve.

Stand firm, stand fast, be brave, persist, and persevere in achieving better, bolder, and greater for yourself and the Lord. Remain blessed in Jesus name.



TESTIMONY

OF SELENA MUNIEN

There was a young woman, a single mother of two who was abused from childhood into teenage hood. She made the mistake of falling for the first guy that showed her attention, leaving her pregnant at 15+ by an addict. Having no choice, she ran away from home so she may keep her baby boy, having been found she had no choice but to be married as was required by tradition. Two years later, pregnant for the second time, she gives birth to a baby girl born at 900g due to complications that resulted from an abusive relationship which is what lead her to walk away from it all.

Two years later having put herself through college with the unemployment monies collected from a supermarket she worked at; she was awarded the Student of the Year award by the then mayor of Durban at a gala graduation ceremony held at the ICC.

What made this woman even continue living after the mishaps and mistakes, the taunts and mockery? Her desire for better, her belief that this could not be what she was created for. Her deep-seated gut feeling that there was a purpose for her life and none of this could be for nothing, it was her

determination to break the mould of shame and disgrace, to get better do better, be better!

It was Perseverance, her trust and faith in God, in HIS word, her gratitude that HE kept her, saw her through it all that despite all her flaws and failures HE still loved her and wanted nothing but the best for her.

This can be you today, are you prepared to push till you succeed, are you able to persist and preserve in righteousness to reap the rewards of blessings?

Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him. James 1:12 NIV

BE Bold, BE Brave, BE Persistent in your walk, Persevere and BE BLESSED.

Business as missions – B4T in partnership with Churches in KZN



Nellie is a widow and lives with her 13-year-old son in New Germany. She collects a grant of R450 per month. She must pay R30 a day to send her son to school. Nellie sews pillows to earn an income using a borrowed machine after she lost her job, she buys the sponges and cut them up into small pieces and make pillows. She had to give back the machine. In desperation she went to her Pastor Xolani for help. Nellie is very involved in the church with the ladies and the youth. Pastor Xolani contacted Pastor Monica at Good news community radio who told her about B4T and advised him to contact me, Anusha Moodley.

When Pastor Xolani told me of the need and the many talents the widow had and how desperate she was I began to pray and ask God to make a way for her. I have been working with Julie who has a heart for God and owns a clothing manufacturing company in Pietermaritzburg and Julie's business was struggling financially due to lack of work. Julie is also very mission minded and has been making a huge impact in helping people in her community. Julie advertised her sewing machines on gum tree for sale as she saw no other way.

When Pastor Xolani contacted me, I prayed and I thought of Julie. She advised that even though the machines are worth a lot she will sell it for R4200 which was not affordable for the Pastor and Nellie. Julie then told me she has a domestic sewing machine which has hardly been used which is stored away and she was willing to give to Nellie for free.

I went to Pietermaritzburg an 85 KM drive to pick

up the machine. After praying with Julie we went to One Life Foundation where the CEO was keen to hear about B4T and share their vision as well. Julie came with, and the Pastor connected with Julie and spoke about partnering in her business with the foundation for sewing. Later that evening Julie's husband was offered an opportunity to buy a business. That is how God works! I was so thrilled to see God make a way for both Julie and Nellie

I met with Pastor Xolani and Nellie in Pinetown Nandos to handover the machine, we shared about how God's kingdom operates and found so many opportunities using the resources that we have in the church with B4T and the community.

Nellie has a new sewing machine, she will be able to support herself and her son, their faith in God as a family is strengthened through the work of God. Pastor Xolani is keen to help more people in his community start and run kingdom businesses because there is a lot of people unemployed in KZN.

Julie is keeping her machines and will start a Sewing business in Durban and grow it into a kingdom impact business with training using the word of God and serving the poor and unreached communities.

I did not know how God was going to help Julie and Nellie, but I am so glad he did and we could be a part of it.

Now that Julie and Nellie have seen God at work personally in their business, they are eager to make God, prayer, and His word most important. They see it as God's business and they not in it alone.

Pastor Xolani played a major role. He persevered the local community while preparing them for until the widow got the help she needed. When we do everything as unto the Lord miracles happen. missions.

Nellie needs cotton, scissors, fabric, and some accessories to run her business from home until she sells her products and earns some money. We are looking for an investor who can invest in her business because she has the potential to run a business and create employment in her community.

B4T helps bring transformation to people's lives in

If you wish to be part of B4T and you run a small business, please contact me. Let us work together to build kingdom businesses that will impact our church, community and our lives in a practical way.



Anusha handing over the sewing machine to Nellie with Pastor Xolani at Nandos in Pinetown



Julie donating a Sewing machine to Anusha Moodley
B4T KZN Developer



All Glory to God for giving us the privilege to be a part of His work.

Matthew 28:16-20



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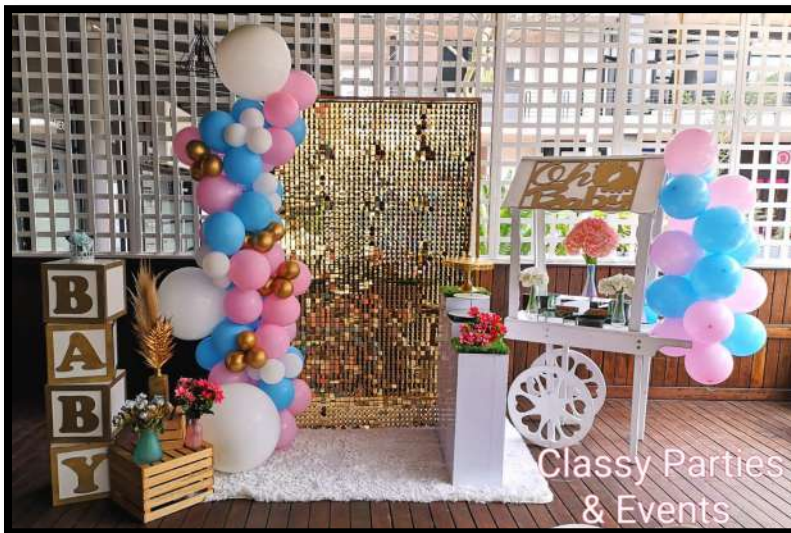
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POWER VERSES

BY BRITNEY JENINE

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

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 1 Peter 5:8

And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” John 8:32

I can do all things through him who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13

Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. Luke 10:19

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BIBLE STORIES

Battle of Mount Zemaraim

(2 Chronicles 13:4-20)

Abijah stood on Mount Zemaraim, in the hill country of Ephraim, and said, “Jeroboam and all Israel, listen to me! Don’t you know that the Lord, the God of Israel, has given the kingship of Israel to David and his descendants forever by a covenant of salt? Yet Jeroboam son of Nebat, an official of Solomon son of David, rebelled against his master. Some worthless scoundrels gathered around him and opposed Rehoboam son of Solomon when he was young and indecisive and not strong enough to resist them.

“And now you plan to resist the kingdom of the Lord, which is in the hands of David’s descendants. You are indeed a vast army and have with you the golden calves that Jeroboam made to be your gods. But didn’t you drive out the priests of the Lord, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites, and make priests of your own as the peoples of other lands do? Whoever comes to consecrate himself with a young bull and seven rams may become a priest of what are not gods.

“As for us, the Lord is our God, and we have not forsaken him. The priests who serve the Lord are sons of Aaron, and the Levites assist them. Every morning and evening they present burnt offerings and fragrant incense to the Lord. They set out the bread on the ceremonially clean table and light the lamps on the gold lampstand every evening. We are observing the requirements of the Lord our God. But you have forsaken him. God is with us; he is our leader. His priests with their trumpets will sound the battle cry against you. People of Israel, do not fight against the Lord, the God of your ancestors, for you will not succeed.”

Now Jeroboam had sent troops around to the rear, so that while he was in front of Judah the ambush was behind them. Judah turned and saw that they were being attacked at both front and rear. Then they cried out to the Lord. The priests blew their trumpets and the men of Judah raised the battle cry. At the sound of their battle cry, God routed Jeroboam and all Israel before Abijah and Judah. The Israelites fled before Judah, and God delivered them into their hands. Abijah and his troops inflicted heavy losses on them, so that there were five hundred thousand casualties among Israel’s able men. The Israelites were subdued on that occasion, and the people of Judah were victorious because they relied on the Lord, the God of their ancestors.

Abijah pursued Jeroboam and took from him the towns of Bethel, Jeshanah and Ephron, with their surrounding villages. Jeroboam did not regain power during the time of Abijah. And the Lord struck him down and he died.

Doubt Be Starved, Faith Is Real

An amazing adventure I face each day
A new task, approach that startled my way
A focused mind on God's true Word
Ready for anything
The realisation of a child of God
Feeding faith by positivity and belief
The assurance of a still voice helping you
To achieve the impossible not seen yet
Just believed for our God is able
A trueness in heart, untimely revealed
Faith in God pressed forward
Leaving doubt forever sealed

BY BRITNEY JENINE

GAMING TIME!!!

Bible Riddles



1. I was the first on earth to be a mighty man. I was a mighty hunter before the Lord. Who am I?

2. I was a contemporary and associate of the prophetess and judge Deborah. I led an Israelite army against Sisera, commander of King Jabin's Canaanite army. Who am I?

3. I served as the fifth major judge over Israel. I destroyed an altar to the pagan god Baal, earning myself the name Jerub-Baal, meaning contender with Baal. I united the Israelites against their common enemies and through God's power, defeated them. Who am I?

4. I was a court prophet in the time of King David. I told the dying David of the plot of Adonijah to become king, resulting in Solomon being proclaimed king instead. Who am I?

DELICIOUS RECIPES TO ENJOY

Recipe for: Tiramisu

- **Author:** LAUREN ALLEN
- **Prep:** 10 min
- **Total:** 10 min
- **Course:** DESSERT
- **Cuisine:** ITALIAN



INGREDIENTS:

- 1 1/2 cups heavy whipping cream
- 8 ounce container mascarpone cheese, room temperature
- 1/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 1/2 cups cold espresso
- 3 Tablespoons coffee flavored liqueur ,optional (Kahlua or DaVinci brands)
- 1 package Lady Fingers, Savoiardi brand can be found in the cookie aisle at your local grocery store, or online
- Cocoa powder for dusting the top

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Add whipping cream to a mixing bowl and beat on medium speed with electric mixers (or use a stand mixer). Slowly add sugar and vanilla and continue to beat until stiff peaks. Add mascarpone cheese and mix just until combined. Set aside.
2. Add coffee and liqueur to a shallow bowl. Dip the lady fingers in the coffee (Don't soak them--just quickly dip them on both sides to get them wet) and lay them in a single layer on the bottom of an 8x8" or similar size pan.
3. Smooth half of the mascarpone mixture over the top. Add another layer of dipped lady fingers. Smooth remaining mascarpone cream over the top.
4. Dust cocoa powder generously over the top (I use a fine mesh strainer to do this). Refrigerate for at least 3-4 hours or up to overnight before serving.

Source: <https://tastesbetterfromscratch.com/easy-tiramisu/>

YouthCross Experience

Thank you to our Team who have contributed towards making
YOUTHCROSS EXPERIENCE a **SUCCESS**.

Our team:

- Britney Jenine
- Selena Munien
- Padmini Govender (Tootsie)
- Anusha Moodley (B4T)

Cover Image:

- Shanice Devnarian

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Follow our 5 Days Till Christmas Festive Cheer on our Social Media platforms. If you would like to participate contact 0641006179.

*Britney
Jenine*

Editor-In-Chief

YOUTH CROSS EXPERIENCE

wants YOU to be part of **5** **Days Till Christmas** **Festive Cheer**

*Spread the Christmas Cheer
in the following ways:*

- Random Acts

Each of the 5 days make someone's day by doing a random act of kindness remembering the love of Christ.

- Note of Gratitude

For each of the 5 days write a note of gratitude thanking those around you who have impacted your life. Let them know you are grateful by making each message as personal as possible, even a video message will be great.

- Talent Display

Each day for the 5 days leading to Christmas showcase your talent and spread some cheer. If your talent is singing then sing a carol and if dancing then dance to one. No matter what your talent is even baking or something, don't hesitate to bring Christmas alive.

- One-a-Day

Pick 5 people you want to do something special for and each of the 5 days do your best to show the one you picked how special they are.

Choose ONE or ALL!



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