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**The Mind
Fixed on
Christ**



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Always

Editorial

DESPITE ...

Despite the fear, we trust Him. Despite the circumstance we praise Him. Despite the storm, He gives us peace. Despite the temptation we strive to be holy. Despite it all we hope to keep our minds and hearts on Christ.

Job 13:15 “Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him.”

The mentality we as Christians need to reach. The level of faith we need to develop. The amount of trust and faithfulness we need to have towards our Living God. Though He slay me – no matter what we go through we will trust Him, and this is not easy to do.

How do we trust God and keep our minds on Him when it seems like He is silently watching our lives fall apart? When at times we don't even want to open the bible or listen to anything about Him? When we want to be silent on God? It's us ... our nature. We do this. Our minds direct us to these thoughts. Relationships can be tough like this sometimes but this is one relationship when the person on the other side has unconditional love for you despite us feeling that He is silently watching, He is right there with you, helping you figure it out and working it out for you. But we cannot base our faith in God solely on the things that He does for us. Then our thoughts are going

to fly through every possible reason as to why God is not doing something about our situation. We don't know His plans and will never know His plans unless the Spirit of God reveals it to us. All we can do is trust in His plans for our lives that they are good.

Job didn't feel great going through his situations but His mind was fixed on God. He didn't curse God and die. He didn't turn away from God. He stuck it out! He endured! Even though bad things were happening, he didn't blame God for not answering because He knew who God was. We need to know who God is. Know His personality. Know the attributes that make Him God. Believe in His existence as God and not just what you're told He is. Because when you get to know who God is, you fall in love with Him even more. You cling to Him more. It won't matter how bad the world around you is, because of the power you will have within you. The peace and love of God is unconditional. Unconditional is without bounds, without reason. He loves you because you are His. He wants you to live the life He has created for you to live. Your heart needs to be open to receive. Your mind needs to be clear to hear, to mediate and to fight against the attacks of the enemy.

Editorial

DESPITE ...

CONTINUED ...

There are two forces at work in our mind – good and evil. Having a mind that is pure and good keeps you on the path of righteousness. How do we do that? By doing exactly what I mentioned above that we sometimes don't like to do. Soak in the Word of God. Soak in the presence of God. Live your life to worship Him. Talk to Him daily even when you feel He is silent. The only way to keep your mind pure and good is to cling to the One who is, Jesus.

we? Look unto Christ because you love Him. Think about Jesus because you love Him. Consult Him about your decisions and tell Him about your worries because you love Him and He loves you so much that He will take your burdens and make your load light. He will help you yes, but despite the result, focus on Jesus because of the unconditional love for Him.

Britney Jenine

Editor-In-Chief

You need to reach that point in your life where you will be able to say Despite! Despite what I feel right now God I will praise You! Though it may not work out the way I want I am keeping my eyes fixed on You because I serve You for who You are and not just what You can do. I am unworthy, not even to be chosen by You but despite my flaws, God You love me. Despite my failures God You hold me up. Who am I to be upset with You when all You do is try to love me? How many of us are preventing God from loving us?

We strive to have a mind fixed on Christ, let's not look at anything else but fix our eyes on Him because of love. Because we love Him, we need Him. He is our Peace and our Warrior. He fights for us and protects us. He wraps us in His loving arms and He won't let go ... then why should



THE MIND OF CHRIST

BY PADMINI GOVENDER (TOOTSIE)

As children of God we are blessed to start every New Year with fasting and praying. It is a time where we leave behind the previous year's challenges and storms in the old year and begin a fresh new year with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. A lot of planning and preparation took place as children of God together with the Pastor and everyone waited on God for their breakthrough. In **Isaiah 40:31** **"But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings as eagles they shall run and not grow weary and they shall walk and not faint"**. Spiritual breakthroughs were delivered during the fasting and on the day of the anointing. In order for us as believers to maintain the anointing, we need to fix our minds on Christ.

Many would ask the question how can I have the mind of Christ?

1 Corinthians 2:1-16 Paul quotes Isaiah 40:13, a statement concerning all believers. Having the mind of Christ means sharing the plan, purpose, and perspective of Christ, and it is something all believers possess. Having the mind of Christ means we understand God's plan in the world to bring glory to himself, restore creation to its original splendour, and provide salvation for sinners. It means we identify with Christ's purpose "to seek and save what was

lost". (Luke 19:10). It means we share Jesus' perspective of humility and obedience (Philippians 2:5-8) compassion (Matthew 9:36) and prayerful dependence on God (Luke 5:16). In the verses leading up to 1 Corinthians 2:1-16 we note some truths concerning the mind of Christ.

- 1) The mind of Christ stands in sharp contrast to the wisdom of man in (verses 5-6).
- 2) The mind of Christ involves wisdom from God, once hidden but now revealed (verse 7).
- 3) The mind of Christ is given to believers through the Spirit of God (verses 10-12).
- 4) The mind of Christ cannot be understood by those without the Spirit (verse 14).
- 5) The mind of Christ gives believers discernment in Spiritual matters (verse 15).

In order to have the mind of Christ, one must first have saving faith in Christ (John 1:12, 1 John 5:12). After salvation the believer lives a life under God's influence. The Holy Spirit indwells and enlightens the believer, infusing with wisdom, the mind of Christ, the believer bears the responsibility to yield to the Spirit leading (Ephesians 4:30) and to allow the Spirit to transform and renew his mind (Romans 12:1-2).

THE MIND OF CHRIST

CONTINUED...

The mind fixed on Christ:

In **Deuteronomy 11:18** “**Fix these words of mine in your heart and minds**”. This verse encourages us to keep our hearts and minds fixed on the word of God, spend time by reading and meditating on His word and doing His will.

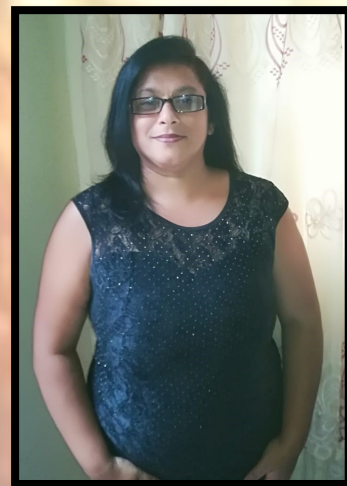
Proverbs 4:24 - 31 “**Fix your gaze directly before you. Make level paths for your feet and take only ways that are firm. Do not swerve to the right or to the left, keep your foot from evil**”. This verse teaches us to keep our direction on the right path, to follow only His ways to not be side-tracked by distractions, but to stay on the firm path of the King’s Highway.

2 Corinthians 4:18 “**So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal**”. This is a reminder to keep looking through the eyes of Faith to God, and the things of heaven. For the things of this world will pass, but the eternal things of God will never fade or pass away. Keep your focus in the centre of His will.

Hebrews 3:1 “**Fix your thoughts on Jesus**”. Your thoughts can be the hardest battleground to fight for. When you keep your thoughts fixed on Jesus, He will guard your heart and mind and keep it pure. When

we fix our thoughts on Jesus, we don't dwell on the negative things of this world but rather the positive attributes of the kingdom of God.

Hebrews 12:2 “**Let us fix our eyes on Jesus**”. There is no one more beautiful than Jesus to fix your eyes upon. Let us fix our eyes on His ultimate sacrifice on the cross of Calvary for our sins. Fix our eyes on His glorious resurrection, fix our eyes upon Jesus, the lover of our souls. Fix our eyes upon Jesus to be saved, healed, delivered, and set free. Let us fix our eyes upon Jesus in our times of need. Keep our eyes fixed on Jesus at all times.



The Mind Fixed on Christ

BY PASTOR ADRIEL REDDY



The mind is responsible for controlling every part of your body, and if your brain is not in use, it will lie dormant and that causes a reaction throughout your entire body. Likewise if your mind isn't fixed on Christ then your spiritual life will

devil to come in and play with your thoughts. But fear not for God is with you. When you feel like you're drowning in negative thoughts meditate upon God's Word, spend time reading your Bible, put on a worship song and just let the presence of God surround you. Speak to God for He is your Heavenly Father. God is waiting for you to talk to Him, as soon as you say God, He is already listening.

Ephesians 6:17 "And take the helmet of salvation".

become dormant.

If your mind is fixed on Christ you rule out every possibility for the devil to attack your mind. You see the devil won't attack you when you're dormant but he'll attack you when you're active in the things of God and when your mind is fixed on God. The devil will plant thoughts and ideas in your mind that you're not good enough, you're worthless even to the extent where you believe that taking your life would be the best solution. As long as your mind is fixed on Christ you must cancel out those thoughts that the devil will plant even though there will be so many times where your mind will tell you to give up and throw in the towel.

A mind fixed in Christ needs to be pure. There is a famous saying "an idle mind is a devil's workshop". You can't let your mind stay idle because that's when you allow the

In the book of Ephesians it clearly states that when you put on the armour of God you should cover your head first with the Helmet of Salvation. The helmet protects your head and your mind from the devil. If he gets control of your life he has control of your body.

For those of you that are doing God's work no matter what it may be, your mind needs to be strong so you can resist the thoughts of the devil. It's not an easy road to walk but as long as your mind is fixed on Christ you can overcome every obstacle and thought that the devil will throw at you.

For those of you that have read this article I pray that your mind will be fixed on Christ. I pray that God will strengthen you and keep you safe and I pray that your mind will be fixed on Christ in the mighty name of Jesus. Amen.

The Mind on Christ

BY LORRAINE PILLAY

Our thinking is very important; it shapes us and moulds us. We are what we think, when our thinking is distorted, then we develop a distorted lifestyle. It affects our life in a significant way. If your thinking is dark, you become dark. If you constantly think about things to worry about, you become paranoid. Our thinking has to be trained. When we think about God, we can think of these things that are godly. When we fill our hearts with God, God gives us peace that is beyond our intellectual understanding and that peace will guard our thinking. We need that, we need something that guards our thinking and that is the peace of God. **“The peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus”.** (Philippians 4:7).

Colossians 3:2 “Set your mind on things above, not on things on earth”. The Word of God says to us to fix our minds on Godly things and not on earthly things. With this, we have moved away from our past life which was full of earthly desires, impurities, lust, greed and addictions. These are behind us now. With God as our refuge and strength and the one we have our eyes fixed on. We enjoy His love, grace and mercy.

Proverbs 4:24-31 “Fix your gaze directly before you. Make level paths for your feet and take only ways that are firm. Do not swerve to the right or left; keep your foot from evil”. This verse cautions us to keep our direction on the right path, to follow only His ways, to not be side tracked by distractions, but to stay firm on the path of the king’s highway.

Hebrews 3:1 “Fix your thoughts on Jesus”. Your thoughts can be the hardest battleground to fight for. Nevertheless, when you keep your thoughts fixed on Jesus, He will guard your heart and mind and keep you pure. When we fix our thoughts on Jesus, we do not dwell on the negative things of this world, but rather the positive attributes of the kingdom of God.

As Christians we have the authority and power to speak to the situation that is disturbing our peace of mind. There is power in your words. One effective way to realign our thoughts with God is reminding us of the goodness of God. He is our redeemer, our restorer and our Heavenly Father who created us to live out His will for our lives and do so with joy. God did not create us so intently, so lovingly and marvellously only for us to be powerless to the tormenting thoughts in our minds. With Christ we have the Victory! We have already won the battle we are facing including the battle taking place in our minds including the battle taking place in our minds. Wake up daily and choose to set your mind on things above. We must surrender our thoughts, words, our will and desires to the Almighty God.

I hope this article will be a blessing to you.

God Bless.



GOD AND MUSIC

BY LUCELLE MOODLEY

Psalms 98:1-7 “Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music; make music to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing, with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn - shout for joy before the LORD, the King”.

It is indeed a privilege to share on this beautiful topic of God and music as it is something that is close to my heart. If we look at the above biblical scripture it talks about making a sound of praise and worship unto our Lord. There is nothing more beautiful than fellow brothers and sisters in Christ singing songs from the very depths of our hearts! As a worship leader of our church, I have come to know the true importance of godly music and the powerful impact it can have on one's life.

Just like the verse says in **Romans 12:2 “Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.”**

In this world the devil will send out assignments and distractions especially when we take the step of faith in getting closer to God or even working in His ministry. I believe one of the most powerful tools that the enemy uses to attack the minds and lives of our people is music. If we listen to circular music by famous artists, do we really take the time to hear and understand what their lyrics actually mean? Or what we are confessing over our lives? The devil is subtle and will never present himself as he is, but rather he will appear as something innocent and harmless, something beautiful to our eyes and ears. After I became a praise and worship leader, I began to see music in a different light with a better understanding. As children of God, who and what we listen to is of paramount importance. Behind every lyric, behind every singer that does not sing unto God is a spirit that we don't even realise that is working through them.

As children of God we should always remember that music is something that is very important to God. When we sing praises here on Earth, the angels in heaven joins us in singing to our Lord. **Revelation 4:10-1 “The twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne, and worship Him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say: You are worthy, our Lord and GOD, to receive glory and honor and power, for You created all things, and by Your will they were created and have their being.”**

I can only picture what an awesome and majestic sight that must be!

Worshipping God through music is absolutely important. I believe that praise and worship is a way of expressing our gratitude to God and it also serves as a communication with our Father. Music expresses God-glorifying emotions. Our most intimate, strongest, purest affections should be reserved for GOD Himself. I believe He gave us singing for that purpose.

Given the above, I hope that we take this topic more seriously and pay careful attention to what we allow in our spirit man through music. Remember we are vessels of the Most High, we should be constantly praising and worshipping Him as that is what He has called us to do. Worshipping God gives us a deeper connection with Him, it takes us into the heavenly realms unlocking new doors that only bring us closer to God and that can also help us

to identify our spiritual gifting. I hope that you were blessed!



FAITH

BY KRISTIAN M. MARION

What can I say about Faith? Suppose I had to prepare a sermon; what scriptures would I choose?

Pastors quickly flock to **Hebrews 11:1** “**Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen**”.

That's the most common scripture used for Faith. And maybe some will flock to the verse about the mustard seed and moving mountains, not to mention that it is impossible to please God without Faith. We all love the idea of Faith, but no one has ever really read the whole chapter, did they? What about Hebrews 11:39-40?

These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

It's not about how much Faith you have; It's about how long it lasts.

Do we still have faith in God when things go wrong? Or is our Faith intact only when things are going well?

Is our Faith conditional? When we read the story of Job, we come across a man who remained faithful to God even though he lost everything. Then we have Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who refused to worship an idol of defiance whether God saved them or not.

So, how do we define Faith? Is it something that is always functioning? Of course, it is!

We all need natural Faith, it's whenever you switch the light on, you always expect that the globe will light up the room. Suppose the globe doesn't shine when the switch is activated, then what? It's pretty simple; you can change the globe, the switch or the wiring. Everything is pretty much in control.

But when it comes to the things of the supernatural, you have no control, no answers, no solutions but to believe. Your only option is to trust God.

I've been a Christian for 16 years and encountered many believers with whom I have worked. I've seen many Faiths fade away at the strike of tragedy, crisis, loss and death. They had Faith, but a certain catalyst in life triggered the absence of it. Pain is the most intense factor that eradicates Faith. To test this, I've asked people when a tragedy occurred, and they stopped going to church, and you'd find it was around the same time. Life is filled with highs and lows, and people neglect God at those two points.

My conclusion is this:

Do we believe in God no matter what comes our way? Or are we spiritual gold-diggers, only serving God for what He can give us instead of who He is? Jesus wondered if there would be Faith on the earth when He returned. That's a good question. Will we be faithful until the end, or will we give in to the pain and the circumstances surrounding us?



POWER VERSES

Matthew 6:33

“But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”

Isaiah 26:3

“You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you because he trusts in you.”

Psalms 62:1

“For God alone, my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation.”

Colossians 3:2

“Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.”

Proverbs 4:25-27

“Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you. Ponder the path of your feet; then all your ways will be sure. Do not swerve to the right or to the left; turn your foot away from evil.”

Philippians 4:8

“Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.”

Psalms 143:8

“Let me hear in the morning of your steadfast love, for in you I trust. Make me know the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.”

BIBLE STORIES

Jesus Walks on the Water

(Matthew 14:22-33)

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear.

But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

"Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water."

"Come," he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"

Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Biblical Facts

DID YOU KNOW?

The Scriptures contain a grand total of 8,810 promises



DID YOU KNOW?

The world's most "stolen book" and the most "sold book" is the Bible.

DID YOU KNOW?

"Mahershalalhashbaz" is the longest word in the Bible.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Bible shows historical accuracy.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Bible has 21 Epistles.

DID YOU KNOW?

It took over 1,000 years to complete the Old Testament.

DID YOU KNOW?

God inspired real people to write the Bible. It was God-breathed (2 Timothy 3:16) to forty authors over 1,500 years from different walks of life including fisherman, physicians, and shepherds.

Youth Cross Experience

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

Our team:

- Britney Jenine
- Kristian M Marion
- Padmini Govender
- Lorraine Pillay
- Pastor Adriel Reddy
- Lucelle Moodley

If you would like to be part of this magazine, don't hesitate to write to us.

We will inform you about our requirements.

This is a good opportunity to impact someone's life!

Invite us on WhatsApp and let us know what topics you would love to read about. This is also a great way to directly receive our latest Issues .

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Editor-In-Chief

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Sealed with the Holy Spirit

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