

THE HUB

Newsletter



NOW OR NEVER

BY JORDAN BIKILA

At times we ask God questions like "Why is this happening" or even doubt His plan. We wonder if He even there and does He hear us, our faith constantly being tested because of situations, opinions and honest religion. I've learnt that God is more effective in these situations as faith is built from uncertainty.

Faith is built from not knowing, you have to be able to walk with God even if you have unanswered prayers, unanswered questions and I'd go as far and say, even if you doubt. It is important to never forget how big God really is. He is the God of the wind, sun, moon & stars. He is the God over humans & animals, God of every language and most importantly God of every situation.

My brothers & sisters we are the future and the future is NOW. "For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed." (Romans 8:19) the world is waiting on us, let's leave the politics to the politicians and let's build, let's connect, let's be creative and put Jesus back at the centre. It's not over until God says it's over. It'll take all of us not some of us.

A HEART IN LOCKDOWN

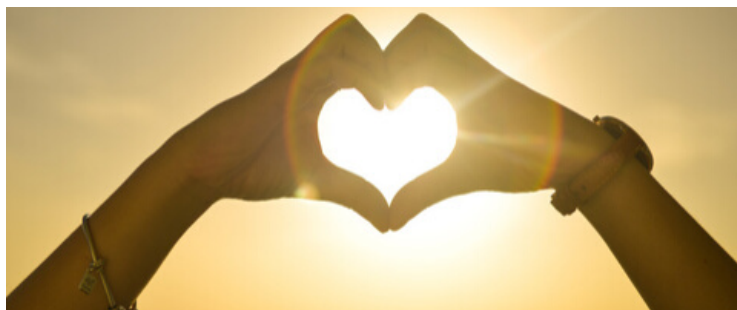
BY ANNE-CHRISTELLE ZANZEN

Lockdown. We never used to use that word, and now, it's in all our conversations. We didn't really understand its meaning. Well... today we experience it. It's almost as if this entire situation is a metaphor. Fear is one of the things that can leave us feeling locked up and in this time of uncertainty we may feel trapped or disappointed and harden our hearts. The solution to our hearts 'lockdown' however is so simple. Submission.

Submit all of your fears and concerns to God rather than allowing those things to put your heart in lockdown. Through submission we can see that Wisdom is calling; Knowledge is searching our address. Do we recognise its knock on the door? for that, we need to stop, sit and listen. But do we trust that Understanding can actually show us the way out? Do we really believe that Love has the power to soften a harden heart in lockdown? Proverbs 2.6-7. "For the Lord gives wisdom, from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

He holds success in store for the upright, He is a shield to those whose way of life is blameless, for He guards the course of the just and protects the way of His faithful ones." Proverbs 28.14. "Blessed is the one who always trembles before God, but whoever hardens their heart falls into trouble".

Be blessed and read Proverbs, it's really cool.



PLANT SOME SEEDS

BY JEAN SAMUEL

I went to a French school in London when I was 13/14 years old. I remember on the first day of the year our head teacher asked us to stand up one by one and present ourselves in a few words. My heart was beating but my thought process was "My number 1 passion is Jesus, not saying it would not be a fair presentation of who I am!". So I said something like "My name is Jean-Samuel, I arrived in London this year, I like reading, and I'm a Christian."

Funny enough my point is not to say whether I did well or not. After that I was half regretting it and half happy about it. You know how feelings can be confusing sometimes. I don't remember any direct testimony coming out of this event (that was an event for me). However through my school years people would know I was Christian and that would often spark some passionate discussions.

I like to think that some seeds were planted in the heart of my classmates, even though I was very clumsy in my way of expressing my faith at times. Some people probably thought I was a freak, or odd, but more often I could see my confidence was inspiring respect. Some friendships born within my school years (which I believe is as much about learning as character-building) are still active today.

I am forever thankful to the Lord as one of my friends has recognised Jesus as his Lord and Saviour 2 years ago, and I believe he is the first of many others. The way it happened was completely led by God. I hadn't seen him for a few years when he decided to come to celebrate New Year's Eve in London a few days before the actual New Year. I had just one ticket left for him to join us by the Thames to watch the fireworks. He stayed for a few days and we laughed a LOT, we shared our heart, and he asked questions, and at some point I said



SOMEBODY PRAY FOR ME

BY THARA POPOOLA



So what would you say is your biggest weakness? If you've ever had a job interview, you have probably been asked this question. I recall being asked this and responding with something along the lines of 'sometimes I struggle to ask for help'. At first glance you may think, isn't it weak to ask for help? and this is the mindset many people have. However, the reality is, there is strength in asking for help.

In James 5:16, we are called to fight for one another in prayer. 'One another' implies that we are supposed to pray for our brothers and sisters AND our brothers and sisters are supposed to pray for us. But how can they do this, or at least do this effectively, if we never ask or offer up our prayer requests. Of course, it is not everyone that we should go to for prayer and it is important to apply wisdom in all situations. However, it is important to not let pride or embarrassment prevent us from seeking help and unlocking the power of intercession.

We were not built to stand alone and face challenges on our own, rather we were built to commune with others, and part of this is interceding for others and allowing others to intercede for you. I read that intercession is 'the intertwining of prayer and community' asking for help can be as simple as going to a member of your church community, admitting that you are struggling and asking for prayer. I encourage you (and I am most definitely speaking to myself here!) to be open and honest about the areas of life where you may need somebody to pray for you.



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