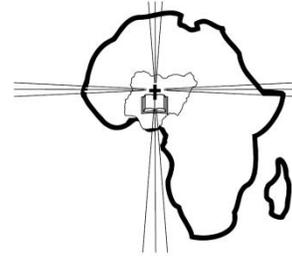


DAILY LINK WITH GOD 2015

A Daily Devotional Guide from the EYN (Church of the Brethren in Nigeria)



EYN leaders in Nigeria believe prayer is one of the most important ways to support the Nigerian people and the Church. These daily devotions were written by EYN members and published by the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria. Reading them daily is a powerful way we can be in solidarity and connect with our brothers and sisters caught in this crisis. EYN's daily devotional for 2015 will be posted a week at a time on the blog site www.brethren.org/nigeriablog, appearing mid-week for the following week. More information about the crisis can be found at www.brethren.org/nigeriacrisis.

JANUARY

Text: Deuteronomy 1- 4

Focus: The correct view of God

Brief Introduction

In this new month of the New Year, the Lord is directing our attention to having a correct view of Him. When we understand God wrongly, we will definitely get every other thing wrong. In the first four Chapters of Deuteronomy "Second Law" we trust to see God correctly, as we look through the summary of Israel's journey from Sinai to the borders of the Promised Land and the section of the Law. We pray and trust the Lord, through the Holy Spirit, to open the Scriptures to us and our spiritual eyes to behold Him correctly as it was the wonderful experience of the two disciples on the Road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-32).

January 11th Sunday 2015

Text: Deuteronomy 1:26 – 27

Topic: Guard Your Mind

"The Lord hates us, so He brought us out of Egypt..." This was the reaction of the Israelites upon receiving a discouraging report from the ten spies out of the twelve. Using the ten spies, the devil fed the minds of almost all the congregation with lies that God hated them. Eve was equally a victim of his lies, that God was not being truthful to them. Jesus, speaking of the devil says; "...not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies" John 8:44.

Today, human agents do come to paint others black, simply because they want to find acceptance.

Lesson: *Be careful of what you feed your mind with. Always listen to God.*

Prayer: *Father, help us to guard our minds as we feed on your word*

Daily Link with God 2015 – January 11-17, 2015

January 12th Monday 2015

Text: Deuteronomy 1:28

Topic: Correct View

The people of God lost heart because the report of the ten spies was full of exaggeration. They saw the people of Canaan stronger and taller. They saw themselves as grasshoppers. The walls of the city were up to the sky. When it comes to self image, we should not even listen to ourselves. We should see ourselves in the light of what God says about us. It is unfortunate that many have been wrongly positioned and conditioned by the view of others and the view they have about themselves.

Lesson: *We are to see ourselves the way God sees us.*

Prayer: *Lord, help us to believe your report and nothing more. Amen.*

January 13th Tuesday 2015

Text: Deuteronomy 1:30

Topic: The Battle is the Lord's

In the midst of the terror caused by evil reports, the word of the Lord came to give these people assurance of victory. The Lord promised to go before them so as to possess the land, but they disbelieve Him. A man sets failure in motion the moment he begins to disbelieve God. In so many instances we tend to fight our battles ourselves and we lose as a result. When God fights our battle, He fights it perfectly for He has never lost a battle and He will never. Ours is to obey, have faith and trust Him.

Lesson: *We can trust the Lord with any battle in life.*

Prayer: *Dear Lord, help us to trust you.*

January 14th Wednesday 2015

Text: Deuteronomy 1:30 – 33

Topic: Reference Point

It can be testified anywhere, by everyone that God has never left His people without a tangible act to look back to as a reference point. Israelites were discouraged by the challenge before them. Moses drew their minds back to the wondrous things that the Lord had done for them. In as much as God does not want us to hold to the former things though wondrous, He wants us to consider them as reference points. The fact that He has done it in the time past we can count on Him to do it again. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever" Heb. 13:8.

Lesson: *Reference points help us to strengthen our faith and give us hope and assurance for what lies ahead.*

Prayer: *Thank you Lord for what you have done for us, help us to trust you all the more.*

Daily Link with God 2015 – January 11-17, 2015

January 15th Thursday 2015

Text: Deuteronomy 1:34 – 36

Topic: Making a Difference

When things go the wrong direction, we are not to go with them. Joshua and Caleb, out of the whole congregation decided to believe and act differently. As a result, the Lord promised them access to Canaan. At present, the temptation is as of old, to identify with the majority, even when we know that their beliefs and actions are wrong, simply to find acceptance with men and not with God. For us to make it in this life and at last to make heaven our home, we must stand out for God.

Lesson: *It pays to stand for God even when the majority is not for Him.*

Prayer: *Gracious Father, give me the grace to go after your acceptance.*

January 16th Friday 2015

Text: Deuteronomy 1:37

Topic: Stumbling Blocks

Blocks are meant for building up a structure for comfort. Yet, some turn out to be stumbling blocks. The passage we have read presents us with a pathetic side of Moses' life as a leader. After all he has gone through for forty years, and how close he has come, yet he was not allowed to enter the land of Canaan. This was to be the consequence of striking the rock instead of speaking when he was provoked by the people. In this respect, the majority of the people did not only hinder themselves, but they also became stumbling block to their leader.

Lesson: *As we journey through this life to our destiny, let us watch out for stumbling blocks as we do not become one to others.*

Prayer: *Father, I earnestly pray that no one will take my crown. Amen.*

January 17th Saturday 2015

Text: Deuteronomy 1:42

Topic: His Presence

It is evident that man is surrounded by so many needs. But the greatest need that all other needs will answer to is God's presence. Today's passage is very explicit that God's presence is what distinguishes His people from the people of the world. His presence is what guarantees victory, success, protection, blessings and many more. Hence, His absence guarantees defeat and failure. The house of Jacob proved God right, when they engaged in battle with their enemies without His presence (v.43, 44). If it were not for His presence our story as a nation, as a church and as individuals would have been something terrible.

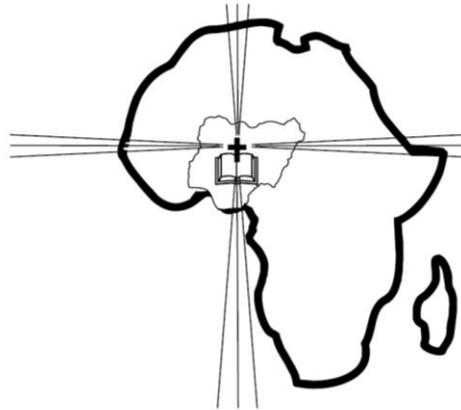
Lesson: *His presence is all we will ever need.*

Prayer: *Thank you Lord, for your abiding presence.*

DAILY LINK WITH GOD

2015

A Daily Devotional Guide from
EYN
Church of the Brethren in Nigeria



ABOUT THE DEVOTIONAL BOOK

Every church has the zeal for the spiritual growth of her members. That is why there are many spiritual devotional books in circulation. EYN (Church of the Brethren in Nigeria) has seen the need for her members to have a devotional book that will build them spiritually. It is for this reason that this daily devotional guide is published. This devotional material is called "Daily Link with God." The President encourages every EYN member to use Daily Link with God in order to build their family spiritually and mentally.

To achieve this, the 2015 Daily Link with God which is the fourth publication since the inception of the RPC is centered on "Knowing God and His full Purpose." The Committee realized that having dealt with the subject of worship in the previous years, knowing God and His full Purpose will be the sustaining force of the Church. In the midst of persecution, the killing of members, destruction of worship places as well as business places. The activities of the enemies of the Gospel and the Church of Jesus which has displaced hundreds of thousands of EYN members, it is obvious that what will keep the church from disappearance as the blood thirsty people could want is the knowledge of God and His full purpose which will in turn propel members to complete devotion and acceptable worship of Him.

The Church devotional guide is divided into twelve months January to December with general and monthly introduction to make it unique. There are daily readings for each day with some explanations, lessons and prayers. This is made easy for the reader as we already know the need of our church members and clergy. It is our desire and prayer that anyone that reads and concentrates on this devotional book would be linked to God and grows spiritually. By so doing it will enhance the church spiritually, morally and otherwise. Worthy of note is that the Daily Link with God is not meant to be limited only for the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria (Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria, EYN) but for every believer in Christ Jesus. As you study God's word daily, you will surely be blessed.