# 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 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday 2015 Text: Deuteronomy 3:18 – 20 Topic: Brotherly Solidarity

Our passage today depicts God as God of solidarity. We see that clearly in the command given to His people in the ongoing conquest. The tribes that have been allocated lands are not to take their rest until their brothers have taken over theirs also. Those that are to stay back were women, children and livestock. No one should be comfortable as long as his brother is battling with an issue in life. It does not speak well of us as Christians and as family members, when everyone is only into his own business.

**Lesson:** The spirit of solidarity (support) is to be seen among us as Christians irrespective of our denominations until we all attain earthly and heavenly rest.

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father, give us the heart to share in the challenges of others.

#### January 26<sup>th</sup> Monday 2015 Text: Deuteronomy 3:23 – 25 Topic: Actions and Consequences

With every act of disobedience there is a consequence that follows. No sin will ever go unpunished irrespective of who the defaulter is. Be it king or servant, rich or poor, young or old. Moses was a great servant of God. He pleaded with the Lord to let him enter the land of promise. But God would never compromise when it comes to sin and consequences. Because He is gracious and merciful, God tempered justice with mercy by taking Moses to the top of Mount Pisgah; from afar he saw the land beyond Jordan but did not enter.

**Lesson:** We should always be ready to bear the consequences of our actions.

**Prayer:** Dear Lord, give me the grace to always be obedient to you.

## January 27<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 2015 Text: Deuteronomy 4:1

**Topic: We Need His Word to Live** 

The passage encourages obedience to the commandments of God. The Israelites were to first of all give listening ears to the decrees and laws of God. Secondly, they were to obey them. As always obedience comes with reward. The purpose of the obedience was for their own benefit, that they may live and possess the land. We are products of God's word and we need the word to live, body, soul and spirit. Jesus says in Matt. 4:4 "Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." Our body, soul and spirit cannot live and function well without the word of God. "The words are life to them that found them and health to man's whole body." Prov. 4:22 Obedience to the word also brings success in all that our hands do. Josh.1:8-9

**Lesson:** Obedience to the word of God means life and success. Disobedience means failure and physical and spiritual death.

**Prayer:** Dear Heavenly Father, give us the enabling grace to obey you that we may live. Amen.

#### January 28<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 2015

Text: Deuteronomy 4:2 Topic: Do Not Add

Our focus today is on the first admonition, "Do not add to what I commanded you". The warning was necessary because as the people of God journeyed and as they settled in new land with new neighboring countries, the temptation to add to the word given to them may have been there. They were to hold on to the word of God as the sufficient and complete treasure. Anything outside the word of God is not needed when it comes to the issue of living to please God. Today, so many people come out to pervert and adulterate the gospel with human philosophy and human wisdom. In Gal. 1:8, the word of God through Paul the apostle says, "But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God's curse". If any man adds to the word of God the disaster prophesized in the book will be added to him. Rev. 22:18

**Lesson:** Adding to the word of God means belittling the Omniscient God. **Prayer**: Thank You Lord, for giving us a complete and sufficient word.

#### January 29<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2015 Text: Deuteronomy 4:2 Topic: Do Not Subtract

The second admonition in regards to the word of God is on subtraction. No passage or commandment is to be subtracted, overlooked or omitted when it comes to obedience. Deut. 8:3 as quoted by the Lord Jesus Christ in Matt. 4:4 says, we "shall not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of God". The phrase "every word" qualifies the whole of God's word as important. 2 Tim 3:16 recorded that "all scripture" not some part "is inspired by God and is useful for teaching rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness so that we may be equipped for every good work". Today, some do not read or preach from particular passages simply because it will make them and their audience feel uncomfortable. Because they do not want to lose members, such passages are rendered irrelevant. Some move from one church to another looking for a church that will tell them what they want to hear and not the whole council of God.

**Lesson:** If anyone subtracts from the word of God, God will take away from him, his portion in the Tree of life. Rev.22:19

**Prayer:** Lord Jesus, help me not to over look a single word of yours. Amen.

#### January 30<sup>th</sup> Friday 2015 Text: Deuteronomy 4:6

#### **Topic: Wise and Understanding People**

Today, we are presented with two more purposes of obedience. The careful observance of God's commands would show to the heathen nations that the Israelites were wise and understanding people. The heathen nations would testify themselves that surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people. The Lord Jesus in Matt. 7:24 – 27 likens the man who hears and put them in to practice to a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain and the storm came and beat against it but it remained unshakable because it was founded on a solid foundation. The man that hears the word but is not a doer is like a foolish man whose house crashed because it was founded on sand. Obedience to God's word makes wise and understanding people.

**Lesson:** What qualifies a person to be foolish is when he has all the information but fails to apply it.

**Prayer:** Thank you Lord, for giving me your word and give me the grace to obey it. Amen.

#### January 31<sup>st</sup> Saturday 2015 Text: Deuteronomy 4:10

Topic: Remember the Day You Stood.

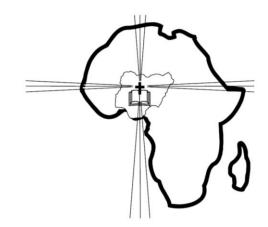
Moses asked the people to cast their minds back to the day that they stood before the Lord at Horeb (Sinai). They were asked to remember the covenant relationship they entered into with the Lord and the promises they made to Him. The reason for recalling that was for evaluation and renewal of their commitment to the Lord, so that they would not go after other gods when they got to the land of promise. As Christians we are to remember the day that we stood before the Lord and made promises during - Covenant confession/Baptism, solemnization of holy matrimony, child dedication, house dedication, Church Eldership Consecration, Leadership Commissioning and the like. Are we really living out our promises or not?

**Lesson:** Remember that we shall all stand before the Lord to give account. **Prayer:** Dear Father, help me to stand faultless before your throne. Amen.

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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.