

Seed For Living

BRO. MANUEL MINISTRIES MONTHLY BULLETIN NOVEMBER 2013

If God Seems Far Away

Guess who moved?

As a believer today, you look around at your life and you do not see much – you notice that you're not full of happiness or abounding in joy. Hope seems far away. You don't know what went wrong. Jesus was supposed to make all things in your life better. You wonder where God is and why He isn't showing up. And you begin to feel hurt and frustrated at the inadequacy of God's provision for you today.

Oftentimes, the answer to many of life's problems is rooted in unforgiveness. Forgiveness does not come easy for most of us. Our natural instinct is to recoil in self-protection mode when we've been hurt. We don't naturally overflow with mercy, grace and forgiveness when we've been wronged. But our faith demands that we forgive and this is how it works in our lives.

True forgiveness goes beyond "I accept your apology" or "I forgive you". It takes more than words. It requires a conscious decision on our part. In order to forgive others, we must be willing to look at our own ability to hurt, offend, and injure those around us—often the people we love the most.

No relationship, especially a marriage, can be sustained over a long period of time without forgiveness. Even though you may find it difficult to forgive, being able to forgive is crucial in marriage. When you meet people who hold grudges or unforgiveness, you can often see it is affecting them badly – and affecting their walk with God. Unforgiveness is that extra baggage we were never meant to carry.

It is God that we are called to please; and our unforgiveness does not please Him at all. In fact, unforgiveness stops God from forgiving us of our many offences against Him. No matter what your spouse may have done, God calls you to forgive. If you don't, you will continue to walk in pain, the bitterness will grow and innocent people may suffer.

You can change all that right now. If you have any unforgiveness in your heart and life right now, let me encourage you to make it a top priority to deal with it, and to get rid of it. Take it to Jesus; give it to Him, as He is the only One who can take it away from us. Bow before your Father and ask forgiveness. And ask Him to help you forgive just as He has forgiven you.

—Bro. Manuel Mergulhao

Ever been hurt by someone you love dearly?

It is hard to forgive those who have wronged us, especially when that someone is a person we love and trust.

Forgiveness does not come easily to most people. It is an attribute of the strong. This book explores the various dimensions of forgiveness and how it can benefit you. Afterall, your blessings and salvation are all tied to your willingness and ability to forgive.

Book your Copy Today !!!



SAY YES!

Nothing is impossible for God. He can make the blind see, the dumb speak, and the lame walk... He can make a poor man rich just as easily as He can make a fearful man brave.

The interesting thing though is how God goes about accomplishing these seemingly impossible things. His ways are definitely not conventional. Like for instance, when Jesus wanted to cure a blind man, He spat on the ground, made mud and applied it on his eyes. Usually, when you want to help open someone's eyes, you don't put stuff in there that could make it worse, right? But God's ways are much higher and better than our ways. He does things beyond human comprehension. And, most importantly, they work out just fine.

Whenever God wants to create something, He speaks it into life. When God wanted light, He said "Let there be light" and light appeared. God can make you whatever He wants you to be. All He has to do is say the Word.

The other interesting fact is that whenever God wants to do something great, He chooses total misfits. Jacob was a cheater; Peter had a temper; David had an affair; Noah got drunk; Jonah ran from God; Paul was a murderer; Miriam was a gossip; Martha was a worrier; Thomas was a doubter; Sarah was impatient; Elijah was moody; Moses stuttered; Zaccheus was short; Abraham was old, and Lazarus — well, he was just dead.

Nevertheless, when God touched these people, they did extraordinary things. David, the shepherd boy, is known today as one of Israel's greatest kings. Moses is considered one of the greatest prophets. These were ordinary people just like you and me. And what God did for these people back then, He can do for you today.

Remember, God does not call the qualified; He qualifies the called. Are you prepared to answer His call?

All you have to do is say "Yes, God. Let it be done unto me according to Your will." Amen!

— Editorial Desk

Kingdom of God

Seek first the Kingdom of God,
And all His righteousness. (Matt 6:33)
Then all things will be given unto you,
And people will then realize
That you are His blessedness.
All laws will cease to be (Matt 5:17)
For the just and righteous,
It's both for you and for me.

The law was made
For those who do wrong. (Rom 13:3 -5)
With God and mankind
You must get along, (1 Tim 3:7-9)
All because of His free gift,
We call it grace. (Eph 1:2, 2Cor 12:9)
He purchased us at a price (1Cor 6:20)
To save us from disgrace. (Eph 1:4)

Repent and believe in the "Good News". (Mark 1:15)
"The Kingdom of Heaven is near." (Matt 10:7, Lk 10:9)
If the Lord be with you
What have we to fear? (Rom 8:31)
If we accept Jesus, "The Lamb of God"
Who takes away our sin. (John 1:29)
Then we are the new creation (2Cor 5:17)
Unlike in the past what we have been.

Benedict Vivian Fernandez



A Citizen

Of Heaven!

Thrilled with the great miracle that happened in your life, you came to believe in the One True Living God, in Jesus, and wanted to know Him and receive more of His blessings. You followed Him and suddenly the King puts forth the picture of His Kingdom and describes the qualities of the subjects of that Kingdom.

Matthew 5:3 - Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed? And Poverty? Doesn't "to be blessed" mean to be filled, overflowing with wealth, health, security and happiness? Not some one who is lacking?

Since one who is poor lacks money, we have to assume that one who is "poor in spirit" is lacking something internally. Isn't the Lord speaking about recognizing your own spiritual poverty, your lack, and your need to depend on the spiritual resources that provide you with life, joy, love or confidence?

When I admit my emptiness, my spiritual lack and I cannot look to myself for spiritual richness, it is not about having a low self-image or being depressed, nor does it mean that I do not like myself or that I feel particularly "down." Rather, it is a state of being, which opens the channel to the kingdom! It is in our own lack that we are blessed because in that way alone do we really turn to receive that great richness that is found in God Himself and which we can never create, maintain or even possess on our own.

God helps us to know our spiritual poverty deep within so that we are more and more able to continually receive the great riches of His life and love that He is so eager to share with us.

The more we mature in Christ, the more aware we are of our own spiritual lack and the more we long to fully and continually receive the kingdom of God.

We are more and more aware of the complete inability of anything or any one in our lives to fill that spiritual void.

Such a lack leads us to pursue such a treasure as the kingdom of heaven, which is an amazing destination! As creatures, on our own, we can only be poor in spirit. And this is no mistake or shame. God created us to receive our spiritual wealth from Him; to be truly blessed by Him; and not by ourselves. Awareness of our poverty of spirit means recognizing the truth of our created purpose -- to be those who continually receive what our Creator Father wants to give us -- Himself and His kingdom.

Of course, we see how the poor in spirit are blessed most clearly in Christ Himself as He stands in our place and lives on our behalf.

This characteristic, as are all of the beatitudes, is true, first of Jesus. As one of us, He is the

One who is truly poor in spirit.

In Philippians, Paul tells us that Jesus, though He was God, "did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but emptied Himself." (Phil. 2:6-7).

In the Gospel of John, Jesus tells His listeners that He only does what He sees the Father doing and only says what He hears the Father saying. (John 5:19, 7:16)

When speaking with His disciples while in Samaria, Jesus tells them that to do the will of His Father is His very food. (John 4:34)

Jesus received the Father's love, glory, authority, and power. He does not give Himself any of these things. He receives them all. In fact, He resists all temptation to accomplish for Himself what He is to receive from the Father alone. The kingdom is about receiving all the blessings of the King and Jesus receives all the blessings of His Father.

Our poverty of spirit is a reflection of and a participation in His own poverty of spirit.

Being blessed involves more than recognition of our own lack. What exactly are the riches that we are to receive? Jesus tells us. In the second half of each of these statements, Jesus goes on to relate to us what the kingdom of God is like. We will be comforted, inherit the earth, be satisfied, etc. The gifts of the kingdom we are to receive have a certain character, which reflect perfectly the King. And that too is essential to our being blessed.

Let us always be in a state of being blessed!

Matthew 5: 4 - 12

- Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
- Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
- Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
- Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.
- Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
- Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
- Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.
- Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so men persecuted the prophets who were before you.

— Sis. Lynette Mergulhao

This is the time of salvation. We can remain happy forever if the Spirit of God is upon us. We are in the last days, my friends; we will miss the mark if we continue to live the way we are living. Until today, God has been holding us. Most of us attend the prayer meetings because of the man of God, not for God. We need to put our trust in God and not in the man of God, for the word of God says "cursed is a man who puts his trust in a man."

God wants to restore everything that we have lost. For remember, in suffering there is salvation. Godly suffering and Godly sorrow brings peace. People do not like to suffer when affliction or persecution arises for the word's sake. If we do suffer, we are immediately offended. We give into such persecution. Then we blame God and start complaining that things are not happening in our lives. Why? Because we are not saved.

We cannot receive salvation when we think or talk negative about God's anointed ones. We must get into the habit of speaking positively. Some of you say, "Someday, I will accept Christ as my Savior and follow him in baptism, but not today. I'm not ready. I've got to make some changes in my life first."

Friend, you are making a terrible mistake. You are trying to do for God the very thing God wants to do for you. On your own, you can never put your life together in a way that pleases Him. Stop trying on your own. Start relying on Him.

If ever there were a time for us to "begin by saying God," now is that time. Amidst all the self-congratulations that we hear around the world, let us remember that without the Lord, the world would have ended long ago. We owe everything to

the good hand of God who has led us this far. Only by His grace can we go on from here. If last year was not good, and the things you were expecting did not happen, don't worry. Put your trust in God. Give it to Him. Surrender your life to God. You have to press on in every area to know the Lord. This is no time to put your hands on your head and ponder about last year, this is not the time to give up, and certainly not the time bask in our own glory. This is a time for us to move "Forward by Faith." This is the time of our Salvation.

Friend, if you can find one place in the Bible that says, "Repent tomorrow," I'll eat it! It is always "Today, if you hear his voice, harden not your heart" (Hebrews 3:7-8). Now is the time of God's favor. Now is the day of salvation. To put off repentance till tomorrow means one less day to repent in and one more day to repent of.

"Come NOW, and let us reason together," says the Lord. "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." (Isaiah 1:18)

If the walls and pews of the church sanctuary could speak, they would tell sad stories of countless souls now far, far from the Kingdom of God.

God said, "Now!" They answered, "Later." And later became never.

If not now, when? If not here, where? If not you, who? If not, why not? "Now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation."

Now, Now, Now, NOW!

– Editorial Desk

Now...

**"Now is the time of
God's favor, now
is the day of salvation."**



Can you fill in the missing words in the puzzle below using the bible verses listed at the side?

Isaiah 45:7			G				
			R				
Psalm 95:5			E				
			A				
Psalm 104:26			T				

Amos 5:8

Job 9:9

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING - NOVEMBER 2013

Date	Old Testament	Psalms	Proverbs	New Testament
Nov 1, 2013	Jeremiah 49:1 - 50:46	Psalms 119:121-128	Proverbs 28:6	Titus 1:1-16
Nov 2, 2013	Jeremiah 51:1 - 52:34	Psalms 119:129-136	Proverbs 28:7-8	Titus 2:1-15
Nov 3, 2013	Lamentation 1:1 - 2:22	Psalms 119:137-144	Proverbs 28:9-10	Titus 3:1-15
Nov 4, 2013	Lamentation 3:1 - 5:22	Psalms 119:145-152	Proverbs 28:11	Philemon 1:1-25
Nov 5, 2013	Ezekiel 1:1 - 2:10	Psalms 119:153-160	Proverbs 28:12	Hebrew 1:1-14
Nov 6, 2013	Ezekiel 3:1 - 4:17	Psalms 119:161-168	Proverbs 28:13	Hebrew 2:1-18
Nov 7, 2013	Ezekiel 5:1 - 6:14	Psalms 119:169-176	Proverbs 28:14	Hebrew 3:1-19
Nov 8, 2013	Ezekiel 7:1 - 8:18	Psalms 120:1-7	Proverbs 28:15	Hebrew 4:1-16
Nov 9, 2013	Ezekiel 9:1 - 10:22	Psalms 121:1-8	Proverbs 28:16	Hebrew 5:1-14
Nov 10, 2013	Ezekiel 11:1 - 12:28	Psalms 122:1-5	Proverbs 28:17-18	Hebrew 6:1-20
Nov 11, 2013	Ezekiel 13:1 - 14:23	Psalms 122:6-9	Proverbs 28:19	Hebrew 7:1-28
Nov 12, 2013	Ezekiel 15:1 - 16:63	Psalms 123:1-4	Proverbs 28:20	Hebrew 8:1-13
Nov 13, 2013	Ezekiel 17:1 - 18:32	Psalms 124:1-8	Proverbs 28:21	Hebrew 9:1-28
Nov 14, 2013	Ezekiel 19:1 - 20:49	Psalms 125:1-5	Proverbs 28:22	Hebrew 10:1-18
Nov 15, 2013	Ezekiel 21:1 - 22:31	Psalms 126:1-6	Proverbs 28:23	Hebrew 10:19-39
Nov 16, 2013	Ezekiel 23:1 - 24:27	Psalms 127:1-5	Proverbs 28:24	Hebrew 11:1-16
Nov 17, 2013	Ezekiel 25:1 - 26:21	Psalms 128:1-6	Proverbs 28:25	Hebrew 11:17-40
Nov 18, 2013	Ezekiel 27:1 - 28:26	Psalms 129:1-4	Proverbs 28:26	Hebrew 12:1-29
Nov 19, 2013	Ezekiel 29:1 - 30:26	Psalms 129:5-8	Proverbs 28:27	Hebrew 13:1-25
Nov 20, 2013	Ezekiel 31:1 - 32:32	Psalms 130:1-4	Proverbs 28:28	James 1:1-27
Nov 21, 2013	Ezekiel 33:1 - 34:31	Psalms 130:5-8	Proverbs 29:1	James 2:1-26
Nov 22, 2013	Ezekiel 35:1 - 36:38	Psalms 131:1-3	Proverbs 29:2-3	James 3:1-18
Nov 23, 2013	Ezekiel 37:1 - 38:23	Psalms 132:1-9	Proverbs 29:4	James 4:1-17
Nov 24, 2013	Ezekiel 39:1 - 40:49	Psalms 132:10-18	Proverbs 29:5	James 5:1-20
Nov 25, 2013	Ezekiel 41:1 - 42:20	Psalms 133:1-3	Proverbs 29:6	1 Peter 1:1-25
Nov 26, 2013	Ezekiel 43:1 - 44:31	Psalms 134:1-3	Proverbs 29:7	1 Peter 2:1-25
Nov 27, 2013	Ezekiel 45:1 - 46:24	Psalms 135:1-7	Proverbs 29:8	1 Peter 3:1-22
Nov 28, 2013	Ezekiel 47:1 - 48:35	Psalms 135:8-14	Proverbs 29:9	1 Peter 4:1-19
Nov 29, 2013	Daniel 1:1 - 2:49	Psalms 135:15-21	Proverbs 29:10	1 Peter 5:1-14
Nov 30, 2013	Daniel 3:1 - 4:37	Psalms 136:1-9	Proverbs 29:11	2 Peter 1:1-21



I want to share my experience with youngsters. When we are in college, the first thing we do is we compromise. That's where Satan enters. There are three things in life you should never do: a) never disobey God; b) never disobey your parents; and c) never betray a man of God. I did all these things. That's why I suffered terribly.

I was a blessed child. I started playing drums at the age of 8. I used to lead worship. God taught me how to play guitar without a tuition teacher. Even, I cannot read music, but I can play music by ear because the gift of music was given to me by God. I used to minister in the church with my mother. But pride entered me. I started neglecting God. I started playing for the secular world. And then my life took a turn for the worse.

I fell in love with a girl. I left my house for her. I was 14 when I left my house. I thought my parents were not perfect and I was perfect. I was totally into friends, drugs, alcohol—everything. Anything bad that you can think of, I've done that.

I used to earn almost Rs 65,000–85,000 a month. But I did not save a single rupee. All my money used to go in alcohol, LSDs, cocaine, etc. I did not return to the Lord again because I was ashamed.

During my time of separation from God and my family, I contracted malaria thrice. I suffered from terrible headaches for three months non-stop. Sometimes, even my eyes bled. I was really fed up of the pain that I was going through.

I tried committing suicide thrice. I jumped from a train, but there was not a single scratch on my body. I cut my veins six times, but I did not die. Because God had a plan for me and for my family. God's plan was for me to live, return home and reconcile with my family. I spoke to my mom and dad after nine years. They brought from Goa to Bombay on a stretcher. I was diagnosed with a cyst in the right hemisphere of my brain. The doctor said it could turn into a tumour and eventually become cancerous. The doctor said I had only four hours left to live. I was advised to get operated upon with the understanding that I could become bed-ridden and not be able to move for 3–4 years after that.

What I really needed though was not an operation by the doctor, but a spiritual surgery. And so God led me to Bro. Manuel Ministries. During one of the prayer meetings, Bro. Manuel was praying in the Blood of Jesus and saying, "Eat the body of Christ... the part that you want to be healed." Immediately, I started praying very hard. I praise and thank the Lord that as soon as I ate the part where the 32.6 cm cyst was, it disappeared.

I could not even move my head freely for the last six months because of the cyst. But now, there is no pain at all. The cyst was dissolved by the Blood of Jesus. I can testify this because God never left me. I thank and praise God for restoring me and for all that He has been doing in my life.

— Samuel Karkada

Mission Week & Retreat
Dec 4-8, 2013

Goa Outreach
Dec 14-15, 2013

Sunday Sabbath
4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Wednesday
R.D. National College
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