

IMPACT

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A Weekly Publication of the Metropolitan Bible Baptist Church Containing
Life-Changing Sunday School Lessons and BMA's Preaching Materials

Our Memory Verse

"Serving the Lord with all humility of mind and with many tears and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews."

—Acts 20:19 KJV—



**STRAIGHT FROM THE
BELOVED PASTOR'S HEART**

January Theme: PATIENTLY SERVING (Romans 12:11-12; Rom. 8:45; Acts 9, 26; 1 Sam. 12:24;)
"Serving the Lord with all humility of mind and with many tears and temptations" - Acts 20:19 KJV

One of the spiritual reasons why the Israelites were emancipated from the land of bondage in Egypt is for God's chosen nation to serve Him in the wilderness (Exodus 7:16).

He was the perfect example of godly virtues in service that is acceptable and well pleasing to our Heavenly Father. The apostle Paul learned and experienced these godly virtues and character when he gave his life to our Lord. The moment he got saved, the Lord imparted to his heart that burning desire to serve the unknown God that revealed Himself to him at the road of Damascus. His saving knowledge and experience taught him these Christ-like virtues and characters in serving patiently the Lord.

Did you know that was also the main reason as to why God would set us free from the shackles of sins and from the slavery of the devil, the world and the flesh? His boundless love and amazing grace reached down to us and we were set free, forgiven, bound for heaven to be heir and joint heirs with Christ our Lord and Savior. Our God did not only create us but He sovereignly chose us to salvation. He endowed us with talents, gifts, abilities and opportunities or open doors to serve Him lovingly, joyfully and enthusiastically.

Dearly beloved, let us be reminded that we are saved not just to go to heaven and to enjoy the company of our Lord, the angel and the saints but to serve Him patiently. While the Lord is "teaching us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom" (Psalm 90:12), may we never forget the Giver of gifts, talents and abilities and the Giver of open doors, effectual doors to serve Him (1 Corinthians 16:9), *"For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries."*

MESSAGE

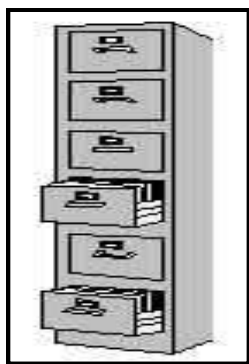
Our Lord Jesus Christ was the perfect example of patiently doing and finishing the Heavenly Father's business (Luke 2:49).

CHRIST-LIKE VIRTUES AND CHARACTERS AS WE PATIENTLY SERVE THE LORD:

1. Serving the Lord with all humility of mind.

A spirit-filled believer knows the reason why the Lord is using him. A spirit-filled believer is likened into the branches drawing all the necessary nutrients from the vine to become fruitful. He would always realize that without the Lord, he is nothing! John 15:5 states, *"I am the vine, ye are the branches: he that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."*

A child of God that is fruitful is always bowed down. Real humility is to totally recognize the absolute gracious walk of God in our lives as we abide in Him and draw near unto him. James 4:8 notes, *"Draw nigh unto God, and he will always draw nigh unto you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded."*



The **BMA ARCHIVES**

Dr. Benny M. Abante's
PREACHING MATERIALS

Contd. from p. 1

2. Serving the Lord with many tears.

There are different kinds of tears. There are tears because of afflictions and trials. Another tear might be in the form of selfishness and loneliness. There are also tears of joy because of victories and successes.

But there is a kind of tear that is worthy of being placed inside the bottle, as a remembrance and a sweet smelly savor to our Almighty God. This tear is the tear of burden and compassion when our hearts are burdened and the Christ-like compassion is burning within our hearts. Our prayer life should be fervent and bathed in tears (Psalm 126:5).

When did we cry lately because of a burdened heart? How long has it been when we shed tears while pleading for someone to come to Christ? Jeremiah 9:1 says, *"Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people."*

3. Serving in the strength of the Lord with many temptations and emerging victorious.

The tempter, the arch-enemy of our Lord is not yet in the lake of fire! He is still in the business of tempting and sowing discord among the brethren.

**NOTHING SHALL OUR MOUTH SPEAK
BUT THE BLESSING OF THE WORD
AND THE GLORY OF GOD.**



**THROUGH THE BIBLE
IN A YEAR**

CHAPTERS TO READ THIS WEEK:

JANUARY 22	EXODUS 6:1-13
JANUARY 23	1 PETER 5:5-9
JANUARY 24	ROMANS 10:11-15
JANUARY 25	MATTHEW 24:36-44
JANUARY 26	PSALM 40:1-3
JANUARY 27	HEBREWS 12:1-4
JANUARY 28	EPH 5:15-21

To memorize one (1)
verse in every chapter,
tokens shall be
awarded to those who
can recite all memory
verses after every book.

Our Lord and Jesus Christ subjected Himself to all kinds of temptations yet He emerged victorious! There must be a reason why our Lord was tempted in all points, yet remained without sin (Heb. 4:15)!

And because our Lord emerged victorious against all points of temptations, none among mortal beings can point an accusing finger to our Lord that He did not experience their temptations, for He was tempted in all points, and yet without sin.

Let us remember these brethren that we cannot be victorious against all forms and temptations without the strength of the Lord! Isaiah 40:29 says, *"He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength."*

CONCLUSION

Let us continue to abide in our Lord. To abide is to rest patiently in Him. And while we still have this gift of life, health and sound mind, let us seize the opportunity and redeem the time by patiently serving Him.

—Acts Preacher Joddy Alanzalon, 01.22.17