



MANIFESTATION: A 40-Day Journey of Surrender

LENTEN SEASON DEVOTIONAL

Written by the MSBC Elders
Available from msbcministries.org
Begins Ash Wednesday, February 14th

CORPORATE PRAYER

PRAYER EVERY DAY AT 1512 (3:12 PM)
Begins Ash Wednesday, February 14th

TUESDAY CORPORATE FASTS

FAST EVERY TUESDAY
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Begins February 20th

Welcome to **The Journey**

One of the most significant times in the Christian church is the season of Lent. It is in this season that we reflect, celebrate, and appreciate the sacrifice of our Savior. Throughout this season, I would encourage you to commit yourself to draw closer to the one who died so that we may live.

*In the book of James, we are compelled to “**Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you**” (James 4:8). Let’s journey together through this devotional believing that when it is done, we will have a greater appreciation for the one who made the ultimate sacrifice.*

Bishop

A Prayer Note: *In addition to the Devotional, Daily Corporate Prayer and Tuesday Fast, as Bishop shared we are “soaking the congregation in prayer” during this season of Lent. Two ministries have been assigned to pray for the Ministry each day during our 40-day journey (Remember, Sundays are not included). As a ministry you can decide whether this becomes a conference call, a specific time for prayer in the sanctuary a set time for prayer at home/work or just a collective commitment to pray throughout the day. Thank you in advance for your prayers.*

Day One – Feb. 14th – Pastoral Staff, Men’s Ministry
Day Two – Feb. 15th - Associate Ministers, Diaconate
Day Three – Feb. 16th – Wedding Ministry, Children’s Ministry
Day Four – Feb. 17th – Church School, Youth Ministry
Day Five – Feb. 19th – CREW Young Adult Ministry, Information Center Ministry
Day Six – Feb. 20th – Couples Ministry, Pearls of Wisdom
Day Seven – Feb. 21st – Pastoral Care Ministry, Imagine More Capital Campaign Team
Day Eight – Feb. 22nd- MSBC Five Star CDC, Women’s Ministry
Day Nine – Feb. 23rd – Family Life Ministry, Website Update Team
Day Ten – Feb. 24th – Publications Ministry, Greeter Ministry
Day Eleven – Feb. 26th – Usher Ministry, Ticket Sales Center
Day Twelve – Feb. 27th – Social Media Team, Poetry & Prose
Day Thirteen – Feb. 28th – Health & Wellness Ministry, Guardian Ministry
Day Fourteen – March 1st – Intercessory Prayer Team, Associate Ministers
Day Fifteen – March 2nd – Evangelism Ministry, Marketing Ministry
Day Sixteen – March 3rd – Great Commission, Ark Children’s Ministry
Day Seventeen – March 5th – Photography Ministry, Christian Education
Day Eighteen – March 6th – Stewardship Ministry, Female Adjutants
Day Nineteen – March 7th – MSBC Conference Center Team, New Members Ministry
Day Twenty – March 8th – MSBC Five Star, Bereavement Ministry
Day Twenty-One – March 9th – Toastmasters, Visitation Ministry
Day Twenty-Two – March 10th – Dance Ministries (All)
Day Twenty-Three – March 12th – Choirs and Praise Teams (All)
Day Twenty-Four – March 13th – Transportation Ministry, MSBC Band
Day Twenty-Five – March 14th – Solomon’s Corner, Scholarship Ministry
Day Twenty-Six – March 15th – Devotional Call Participants, Adult Church School
Day Twenty-Seven – March 16th – College Ministry, Executive (Senior) Staff
Day Twenty-Eight – March 17th – Trustees, Security Team
Day Twenty-Nine – March 19th – GED Ministry/Tutoring, DivorceCare
Day Thirty – March 20th – Volunteer Ministry, Congregational Care (Diaconate)
Day Thirty-One – March 21st – SHARE, Shelter Ministry
Day Thirty-Two – March 22nd – Social Actions Ministry, Prison Ministry
Day Thirty-Three – March 23rd – Audio Ministry, Male Adjutants
Day Thirty-Four – March 24th – Wednesday Worship (Mid-Day), Wednesday Worship (Evening)
Day Thirty-Five – March 26th – Wednesday Devotional Call, Facilities Staff
Day Thirty-Six – March 27th – Renaissance Center Staff, Video Ministry
Day Thirty-Seven – March 28th – Deaf Ministry, Intercessory Prayer Ministry
Day Thirty-Eight – March 29th – Administrative Staff, Building Committee
Day Thirty-Nine – March 30th – FaithFest Planning Team, Worship & Arts Leadership Team
Day Forty – March 31st – Diaconate Leadership, MSBC Elders

Day One

Get Ready, Get Set, Go

Dr. Anthony Brown

As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” At once they left their nets and followed him. Matthew 4:18-20

I want to lose the weight but it’s tough getting started on the diet. I want to become more consistent with exercise but in the mornings it’s just so tough getting started. I want to develop the habit of saving money but I just can’t take the first step when I get my paycheck. So, the obvious challenge that we can all relate to is that when we try to make changes, it’s tough “getting started.”

The disciples provide some insights for “getting started” in this familiar biblical text. Jesus’ ministry is on the ground level and positions are open for an unclear season of surrender. Familiarity, one of the strongest opponents to getting started, echo throughout this scene. The sea – familiar. The net – familiar. Fishing – familiar. But Jesus pushed these brothers – and others who would follow – to leave the familiar and “get started” on a journey that would change them and the world around them. Can you imagine where we would be had they not “got things started?” This same call is echoing today as you read and reflect and all you have to do is what the disciples did – get started.

Here’s some advice as you move forward. You may have to “leave” some things. The disciples left their nets and the next 40 days could also push you to leave some things – extra sleep, the piece of chocolate cake, Wednesday night happy hour, overtime on the job, the ongoing review of your twitter feed, your pride, your anger, your need to be in control – some things will have to be left behind. As you deal with that loss be encouraged by what you’re gaining – an intentional pursuit of Jesus. The text says they “left” their nets and “followed Him.” I’ll be the first to admit that it’s hard for me to pass up a piece of cake but there’s something about the joy, peace, hope and stability I find when I intentionally pursue (follow) Jesus.

Two early lessons as we begin this journey – leave and follow – just GET STARTED. The good news is that if you’re reading this reflection you’ve already gotten started. On behalf of the MSBC Elders – welcome to *Manifestation: A 40-Day Journey of Surrender*.

Our Prayer – Lord as I travel over the next 40-days help me not to simply focus on what I’m leaving behind but to also reflect upon what I’m gaining by following you. Amen.

Reflections

Day Two

Dealing With A Dry Season

Dr. Carla J. Debnam

“In my desperation I prayed, and the Lord listened; he saved me from all my troubles” Psalm 34:6.

Most of us can sense when we are moving toward a dry place or a place where we will be stressed and strained. This is the time to turn around and make changes in your prayer life, connect with friends, begin studying God’s word and attending worship regularly. A dry season can sneak up on you and it is better to be alert and aware than to be ambushed by the issues of life. Taking care of yourself by resting, relaxing and relying on God will help decrease those days, months and sometimes years when we feel our soul is dry and there is no longer passion in our daily living.

We can be lead into a desert season by the Holy Spirit like Jesus or we can choose our desert season by our decisions, desires, and deceitful hearts. Jesus modeled the method for handling the tests of life by using God’s word to overcome what could have been an overwhelming situation. No matter the path to burn out, the solution is the same, reliance on God’s word no matter what life brings your way. Life can drain you, but God can restore you. Problems may perplex you, but God promises to keep you. The world may seem like it has come against you but if God is for you who can be against you.

The psalmist found relief in God. “In my desperation I prayed, and the Lord listened; he saved me from all my troubles” Psalm 34:6. We can find relief, results and refreshing from God and deal with burnout by living abundantly through Christ who did not come to steal, kill, or destroy but to give your life.

Our Prayer - Lord you know my heart, my situation and how I have been stretched to my capacity. Help me to navigate these deep waters by leaning and depending on your grace and mercy. Amen

Reflections

Day Three

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Elder Anna Gray

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him". Hebrews 11:6

We often say we want to please God and find ourselves demonstrating this by serving, which we are called to do. We sing on the choir, serve as ushers, deacons, deaconess, preachers, and teachers, to name a few. We participate in worship, bible study, prayer call and other worship experiences, which we are called to do. But, Hebrews 11:6 reminds us of another mandate; it tells us "***And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him".***

Faith is about pleasing God! It is about showing The One who saved us from sin that we believe in Him. God is pleased with our service but never forget, that the Bible tells us, that He is also pleased when we demonstrate faith.

Our Prayer - Gracious Father, Our desire is to please you. We confess today that we often neglect that you are pleased when we put our faith into action. We ask for forgiveness and our prayer is that we please you in every way, even in faith. We want to please you in every area of our lives so, our prayer today is for you to help us to increase our faith in you. Amen.

Reflections

Day Four

Fire Proof Faith

Elder Stephen Dickerson

Then King Nebuchadnezzar leaped to his feet in amazement and asked his advisers, “Weren’t there three men that we tied up and threw into the fire?” They replied, “Certainly, Your Majesty.” He said, “Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods.” Nebuchadnezzar then approached the opening of the blazing furnace and shouted, “Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!” So Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego came out of the fire ... Daniel 3:24-26

“The ultimate measure of man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy. –Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Have you ever been in a situation, where you begin asking yourself how you got there in the first place? Have you ever been in a situation that seems that you are being tested beyond your limits? Sometimes we will find ourselves in tough situations for seemingly doing the right thing. Even when the situation seems unbearable, it still can turn around.

There are times when the situations that we face will seem unfair, unreasonable, and unchangeable; when such times occur, you must put your total faith and trust in God. Life has a way of putting us in the fiery places or the “hot seat.” There is an adage that says, “When the going gets tough, the tough get going”. You have to learn how to keep pushing even in challenging times. When you know that God is on your side, you don’t have to bow in the face of adversity. You can stand up even when the pressure is on you to bow. When you are a child of God, you can have a faith and confidence that God will show up for you in the midst of fiery trials.

Our Prayer - Lord, give us the courage to stand for you and what we know is right. Let us not whimper in the face of adversity, because you created us to have authority. Help us never to stoop, when you have called us to stand. In Jesus name, Amen.

Reflections

Day Five

No Matter What

Elder Joseph Sanders

Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before. Daniel 6:10

There are so many temptations, decisions and even people that seem to challenge our faith every day and make every attempt to have us compromise our belief and give in to the test of the enemy. The enemy is going to do his job to throw you off course and truth be told he's pretty good at. This is why we have to be determined that no matter what we will follow Jesus, no matter what place our trust in God. No matter what I might be facing today I'm going to believe in the all surpassing Greatness of God.

This is the story of Daniel (Chapter 6:1-10) Daniel was not fazed when he was told not to pray to his god anymore. He continued to pray even after he was informed not to. He went on about his business as if nothing had changed. He was able to do this because God was his greatest focus. When compared to the people rulers of this world Daniel understood that God is the sovereign one. Maybe Daniel read psalms 20:7 when it declared that some trust in horses and some in chariots but I'm gonna' trust in the name of the Lord my God. He may have read Joshua when it reads as for me and my house we will serve the Lord. But Daniel lived a "A No Matter What Life." No matter what I will serve the Lord. Today, hold to your convictions and put God first. And when you do praise God for your victory.

So get tough and trust God, whether times are good or bad. There comes a point in time when we are all faced with the decision to go God's way or cave to make man happy. What's will it be? Will you have that no matter attitude like Daniel or will you give in.

Our Prayer - God give me the boldness to stand on your truth, the word of God. Help me not to compromise my values and morals but instead to stand and watch as you stand with me. Amen.

Reflections

Day Six

Walking Upright

Elder Saundra Spratley-Adams

“He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: He is a buckler to them that walk uprightly.” Proverbs 2:7

As people we continually find ourselves tempted by our friends, family, co-workers and even environment. Because of or past we find ourselves thinking and often slipping back into old habits like drinking, smoking, cheating, lying, stealing as well as other sins. Yes, it reminds me of a song from the 70’s that said, slipping into darkness makes my mind do other things.

As Christians we should always know that these things may come our way, but we must remain focused and faithful even when people try to make fun of our faith. We must be ready to tell the adversary why our faith makes such a difference in our lives, and the answer is simply “I want to do what God tells me to do”. You see when you do what God wants you to do you feel good about yourself, you feel confident, you feel strong in your faith in God. When you don’t follow God’s instructions you feel, weak, depressed and just terrible because you know that you have done something wrong. Wouldn’t you rather feel good about yourself and not give in to temptation?

Faith like that is hard to have. It’s easy to give into temptation when it constantly attacks you day after day. But it’s good to know that when we resist the temptations of the devil God makes it all worthwhile. Yes, He makes us feel good about ourselves and gives us even more strength to resist in the future.

Our Prayer - Dear God, I am faced by so many temptations at home, work and at school. Help me to resist them and rely on your will for me. Be with me in every situation as I develop faith to resist. Amen

Reflections

Day Ten

Enduring Faith

Elder Carol Richardson

But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith." 1 Timothy 6:11-12

We live in a world where Christians, trying to live right and trying to serve God are constantly bombarded with other worldly things that are designed to create doubt in our minds as to whether it's worth it and cause us to give up. Our response to the world should be "It may not be easy being a Christian but it's worth it!!" Paul is writing to Timothy and basically telling him that what is valuable to you is worth fighting for. Remember what you professed to believe and pursue after those things that's going to keep you in the battle.

If we can pursue after degrees and higher paying jobs because of the value they add to our lives then our pursuit of the things of God should be greater because after all, He is the giver of all things great!! God shall supply all our needs according to His riches in glory!! Our faith in God will keep us!!

Our Prayer - God, we thank You for your Word that instructs us on how to live in the world when the world lives contrary to Your will. You remind us that it is a battle, but we win because we fight the good fight of faith. In Jesus name, AMEN.

Reflections

Day Thirteen

A Living Example

Elder James Quinn

Be on guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. 1 Corinthians 16:13.

As Christians it is important for us to show the world a response to trials and tribulations that is different from those responses adopted by the world. The question is often asked about why God allows certain things to happen in the lives of believers as well as for those persons who do not know Him. One of the reasons may be that these circumstances provide an opportunity to put our faith in God on public display for the world to witness. How can someone see that we have faith in God as Jehovah –Jireh if we are never in a posture that promotes Him as a provider when our natural means and resources are lacking?

Faith in God can also be demonstrated in a powerful way when we show Him to be Jehovah-Rapha, the God our healer but in order for this to happen we have to be in a place where we are being healed from something. We must be willing to offer testimonies of our lives to show that we stand firm in the faith that nothing is impossible for God. The greater the problem, the greater our faith step in giving it to God.

Also, the world should be shown that whether or not God provides or whether or not God heals, it does not change our faith in Him because we believe that whatever He does, we still trust Him. Our responsibility is to model a firm and strong faith and be on guard to make sure that our faith does not shrink regardless of our results.

Our Prayer - Heavenly Father, we want to thank you for being our God in the midst of every situation and circumstance. Help us to model a behavior that properly reflects our faith in You regardless of the state that we are in or the results that we receive. Give us an “in spite of” faith for the world to see. In the matchless and marvelous name of Jesus, we pray, Amen.

Reflections

Day Eighteen

He Knows

Dr. Anthony Brown

For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 29:11

Philadelphia Eagles back-up quarterback Nick Foles is currently walking humbly with two titles – Championship Quarterback and Most Valuable Player for Super Bowl LII. What’s clear when you hear Foley celebrate this victory are two things – he has a relationship with The Lord and, he believes God intended for him to be in this moment of attention and celebration.

It was just a few years ago when Foley had contemplated retiring. His more recent journey had involved being traded, benched, and told in essence “he was a useless part of the team.” Then, Eagles Quarterback Carson Wentz got injured and as they say, “the rest is history.” Or, as Foley might suggest – “the Lord knew the plans He had for Him, plans to prosper him and not to harm him, plans to give him hope and a future.”

One of the most difficult things for even believers to accept is that The Lord is really orchestrating a plan for their lives. We look at what happens – the disappointments, the curved balls, and the missed opportunities – and, we feel God is unaware of what’s going on in our lives. But, He (The Lord) knows. Foley offered a great line in an interview, discussing how he responded to one of his many “life let downs.” Once he got over the shock – he talked to friends, he talked to God and He decided to “hang in there.” I love this formula – acknowledge and walk through the shock and disappointment – every loss must be grieved. Talk to encouraging friends, talk to God, and then “hang in there” – The Lord is also writing your Super Bowl success story. Trust Him!

Our Prayer - Lord I admit that I sometimes question your direction. Please help me to understand that all things will work together for my good.

Reflections

Day Twenty-Six

Believing is Seeing

Elder Lamar Robinson

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. Hebrews 11:1

One of my favorite movies to watch during the holiday season is. The Santa Clause” starring Tim Allen. I can literally watch that movie repeatedly. It tells the story of a regular man who puts on a suit that belonged to Santa Clause. Moreover, throughout the entire course of the movie the protagonist tries to convince his son that Santa is real when he could not believe it himself. The moral of the story is that it is easy to believe for someone else besides yourself.

Can you remember conversations you had with friends and loved ones who were questioning their faith and doubting whether God was going to come through? You sent encouraging scriptures and offered to pray with them. However, when you were going through you doubted. It was easy to share with others about the power of faith, but it was hard for you to believe it. Hebrews tells us that we must have confidence in our faith.

Faith is all about believing and how can you see what God has in store if you do not believe. My favorite line from The Santa Clause is when a character says, “*Seeing isn’t believing, but believing is seeing.*” You must believe and have faith to see what God has for you. God has never let you down before. We serve a God that is the same yesterday, today, and forevermore. It is hard to believe on what we do not see, but the best things in life happen for those that have faith.

Our Prayer - Lord God, we thank you for being a consistent God. You have proved repeatedly how powerful you are. Lord God, we just asked you to help us with our unbelief and replace it with a spirit of certainty. Lord God, help us to be believe! Help us to have strong faith! When the enemy tried to cast doubt, we put our assurance in you Lord! We leave our fears behind and give you the glory. In Jesus name, AMEN!

Reflections

Day Twenty-Seven

The Struggle Is Real

Elder James Woods

I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. Romans 7:15

There are some real-life struggles that each of us have to deal with within our life time. Whatever your struggle is you know that the struggle is real. While there are many types of struggles, one of the main struggles we deal with are the struggles with sin. The struggle with sin is also referred to as the battle with the flesh. There are two struggles that we deal with at different times of our lives, as it relates to sin: 1) Struggling to do that which is right and 2) Struggling to hide the struggle. The scripture (*Romans 7:15-20*) states that even Paul struggled; more specifically as it relates to sin: v. 15 “I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. “In other words, there is a struggle going on with what we know we should do versus what we shouldn’t do!

See to keep a struggle alive you have to assume that there is no solution or light at the end of the tunnel or believe that you are struggling because of something that you are unable to solve yourself. Could it be that you are not struggling with your stuff, but you are actually struggling with God? Maybe your struggle is so big that you have forgotten that your God is bigger than your struggle? What’s more important is how to endure and get out of our struggles.

Jesse Jackson, during the 1988 Democratic Convention, made a bold statement that became the mantra for many rallies to follow. He boldly stated, “Keep Hope Alive”. And today the word of the Lord should say to those that are in a struggle...not to keep the struggle alive but keep hope alive! Christ struggled on the cross for you and me (Matthew 27:46), not due to sin, but because of the burden placed on Him by the Father. Saints we should remember that it’s okay to struggle. It is just a part of life. The goal is to not let your struggles today strangle your tomorrow. Trust God and you will survive the struggle.

Our Prayer – Lord thank you for being there to help me through life’s “real” struggles. Help me to remember that my survival is simply one “right” choice away.

Reflections

Day Thirty-Six

I Need You Now

Dr. Anthony Brown

By day the Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night. Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people. Exodus 14:21-22

One year ago I got a phone call that changed my life when I learned my college roommate had been tragically killed in a car accident. I can still remember where I was, what I was doing and, feel the emotions I experienced when I received that phone call. In that moment I needed The Lord, right now. We have all been there – we got the call, opened the letter, received the email or text, and felt the shock, disbelief and feelings that come with life’s unexpected storms.

Moses was simply following God’s directions when he found himself leading the Israelites out of Egyptian bondage. Scripture suggests that God’s plagues and ever-present hand on the life of Moses wore Pharaoh down and he “let God’s people go.” But Moses didn’t anticipate this part of the story – Pharaoh’s army pursuing them from behind and a Red Sea blocking them from in front. Moses and the Israelites needed the Lord “right now.” You may find yourself in a “need the Lord now” situation and our scripture verse from this historical episode offers some encouragement. Long before they ended up at The Red Sea the text suggest “the Lord went ahead of them.” So, even in our difficult moments we must understand the Lord has gone before us. Through the valley and the shadow of death – The Lord has been there. Through times of fear and uncertainty – the Lord has been there. Through moments when we are overwhelmed by challenges and circumstance - the Lord has been there.

In the military they often use what’s called an “advance team” which goes ahead of a unit and surveys the situation. God was the Israelites advance team – the pillar of cloud, the pillar of fire – The Lord knew Moses and the Israelites would need Him now – so, He got out in front of the challenge. He also knows you will need Him so He’s already in the midst of your “now situation,” vowing never to leave this place of peace and protection.

Our Prayer - Lord someone needs you right now. Use me to remind them that you have gone before them and are already present in their “right now situation.”

Reflections

Day Thirty-Eight

Running on Fumes

Dr. Anthony Brown

Now Ahab told Jezebel everything Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah to say, "May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them." Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, while he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD," he said ... 1 Kings 19:1-4

My car doesn't have an audible "low gas" alert which might be dangerous for someone like me who has run out of gas numerous times. Other times, it's been the low fuel signal that's prevented the awkward "out of gas with a full pocket of credit cards and cash" scenario that I've experienced in the past. While riding recently I looked at the gauge and realized I was "running on fumes." This is where Elijah finds himself in this text.

The prophet had been faithful to his spiritual assignment. In fact, it had been quite a manifestation of God's power – both fire and water coming from heaven as a result of Elijah's prayer. But, at the prompting of Ahab, Queen Jezebel is incensed, putting out a death warrant on Elijah, sending him on the run. As our text details, the discouraged prophet finds himself praying for death. Elijah is running on fumes and simply falls asleep. The story continues with an angel encouraging Elijah to eat and get some additional rest. Elijah receives physical (food, water and rest) and spiritual (encouragement) because the Lord understands he cannot survive on fumes. And, there was still work He had for Elijah to do.

Rest, food (and gas) are crucial for times when you are running on fumes. What's also helpful is the additional reminder the angel gives to Elijah, "this journey is too much for YOU." This fact, that we can't handle the journey alone, often slips our minds as we go toward our God-given assignments. Even while testifying to the miraculous power of God, our refueling regimen is often inadequate to sustain the journey. Without audible alerts, many of us continue going, not realizing we are trying to run on fumes. And, although we may not reach Elijah's extreme desperation, (wanting to end our lives) – we often want to relinquish our assignment, retreat back and ask God to choose someone else. But, like Elijah, the Lord still has work for you to do. After being strengthened, Elijah got up and kept moving. And so will you. This forty-day devotional journey may be serving as your audible alert – always take time to refuel.

Our Prayer – Lord we thank you for the opportunity we have had to read, reflect and remember your sacrifices. May we walk away from this journey reminded that TIME with You is critical to our surviving and thriving in Your will. Amen.

Reflections
