

# SHEPHERD'S DIARY

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**I**t is easy to give your life to Christ. You look at your life and know you need a Saviour, you say a simple prayer from your heart, and bam! You are a child of God. You trust the Lord, and He saves you. This is beautiful and powerful. But, the challenge is that

many believers almost immediately take their lives back!

Brothers and sisters, salvation is the beginning of a lifelong journey towards God's plan, but sadly, the beauty and benefits of His plans are often lost on us. Many times, it comes down to 'His plan or my plan'. We often find ourselves struggling against the very plans and things with which He wishes to bless us. Sometimes, we think we can see and cut a clear path for ourselves, and so we refuse to totally let go of our lives.

Again, other times, it is just plain fear. You somehow become consumed by fears and uncertainties, thinking that when you draw close to God and trust totally in Him, you lose yourself. Well, that is a good thing, because it is only when you are lost in Him that you truly find your life! There truly should be no reason to fear losing your life. Consider the fact that you trust Him for eternity, so why not trust him totally within time? What is the difference? The God who can fix your eternity perfectly can't fix your time perfectly, right? Think about it.

The truth is, when the Lord calls a man to Himself, it is to make that man's life even more beautiful. He wants to help you, and that's why in Matthew 11:28, He says, *come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest*. In Isaiah 55:1, He also calls out to all those who



are thirsty, who have no money, to come, buy and eat, all without cost.

God has never taken a life and destroyed it, neither has He failed anyone that trusted Him (Pro 3:5). Look at the life of Abraham and how God increased and blessed him, simply because he **trusted and surrendered all**, without

holding back, without doubt or fear.

The closer you come to God, the more defined your life becomes. True. Is that what you are afraid of? No doubt, walking with God will mean you would have to get rid of 'some things' you are currently holding on to, and your faith will be tested. But be rest assured, He will supply every ounce of grace and strength you need. He

says: *'For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end'*. (Jeremiah 29:11)

The One who saved you has good plans for you, better than what you have planned for yourself. From me to you, take your foot off the brake and release yourself totally to Him. Whatever He says for you to do, do it, and just like a sculptor, watch how He will meticulously chisel away excess stone, to reveal a breath-taking masterpiece – You!

Wherever you are right now, and in whatever you are doing, trust Him, just like you trusted Him to save your soul. I am praying for you. Grace to your heart. Amen.

Dr'Riel Osabuohien

With Joy Emovon

