

SHEPHERD'S DIARY

A MINISTRY OF WORD PASTURE CHURCH

Volume 12, Number 3
MARCH, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX

Beloved, God desires to do so much in and through our lives and has made grace available to us so that we would accomplish all that He has laid upon our hearts to do. However, while grace is freely given, it must be rightly stewarded. In Galatians 2:21, Paul declares, “*I do not frustrate the grace of God.*” This statement reveals a truth: it is possible for our actions and even our inactions, to work against God's grace for our lives. As believers, we must learn how to maximize the grace of God rather than frustrate it, so that we can walk fully in His plan for our lives.

Let us consider the children of Israel. God's grace was powerfully evident as He delivered them through the Red Sea, making a way where there was none and setting before them a glorious future. Yet, despite this abundant grace, their hearts continually drifted backward, time and time again. They, not their enemies, frustrated God's plan for their lives and they suffered needlessly. I am certain your goal, like mine, is to come out of 2026 bigger and better in all ramifications of life. So, how do we cooperate with God to ensure that the grace of God upon our lives truly counts this year?

The first step is **desire**. Dearly beloved, what do you truly want out of life? This is a question that demands intentional reflection. What are your visions and deepest desires? It is not enough to simply exist; there must be more. Desire is not optional because everything in life is built upon it. *Proverbs 29:18*, reminds us that “*where there is no vision, the people perish.*” Vision gives direction and meaning to life. Even God operated from desire when He created man. He knew exactly what He wanted, He said; “*Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion...So*



God created man...”. Everything you see today was a desire yesterday.

The next step is **prayer**. Your desires must be communicated to the Father in prayer. It is when your desires are clear and submitted to God in prayer that heaven responds. In Rom 10:1, Apostle Paul says “*my heart's desire*

and prayer to God...” emphasizing the place of prayer as a necessary step to follow after desire. As *James 4:2* reminds us, desire must be expressed in prayer before it can be answered.

And after prayer is **pursuit**. Desire alone is not enough. The proof of desire is pursuit. When you rise and intentionally move toward what God has placed in your heart, heaven backs you. God's power is released through steps of obedience (faith). Your pursuit is only because grace has been released in that direction.

Finally, there is **change**. Change is part of God's divine system. We see this clearly when God instructed Abraham to leave his country, family, and comfort zone. He (God) literally moved him before blessing him. Could God not have blessed him where he was? Beloved, we are called to grow, move and change. The grace that the Father has given to you is found on the other side of change—so don't fight it. As you go on this year, be intentional. Allow desire to rise in your heart and commit it to God in prayer. Move beyond intention into pursuit, and do not resist the changes God requires of you. When you align yourself in this way, you will begin to walk fully in all of God's grace and see His purpose powerfully fulfilled in your life. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ remains with you. Amen.

Dr 'Riel Osabuohien
With Joy Emovon

