



grenepages

Issue 5

SECRET

revelations

5th Word

How would you describe your Christian race?
Rough, hectic, frenetic, or lonely?

If we had ears that ear, eyes that see, and minds that comprehend the revelations that God give each moment, would our race not be smoother?

Think about it. The power of revelations in the life of a Christian cannot be over-emphasized. God does well to talk to us about things past, present and things yet to happen, but how well do we handle his words.

In this edition of *grenepages*, the right attitudes are addressed to sustain and make the best use of the grace of divine revelation. You know that without a guide, a blind man may walk, but he'll neither go far nor fast.

As you read through this issue, we trust God to make his light shine on your hearts to see, hear and make use of this gift of divine revelation.

Our fifth edition of *grenepages* is titled **Revelations**.

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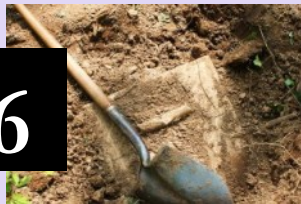
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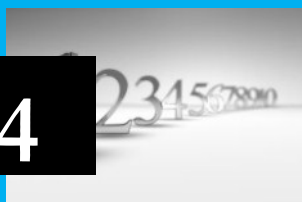


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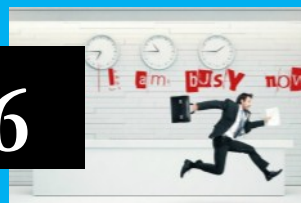
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IT'S NOW
TRENDY TO BE
BUSY

***So teach us to number our days, That we may gain a heart of wisdom.
Psalms 90:12 NKJV***

Ten	He counted and said:
Nine	“I just wasted ten seconds of your life...
Eight	Many don't care how much you've got left
Seven	But they really do care to steal your time
Six	It's a countdown!
Five	Be wise and spend your time well
Four	To distractions do not bow
Three	For soon we'll hear the end time bell...”
Two	This young pastor
One!	This and more he spoke
	Leading us to new pastures
	Washing us with sacred soaps

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Ministering Rhythms

-Joan Abimbola

<https://joanministeringrhythms.wordpress.com>

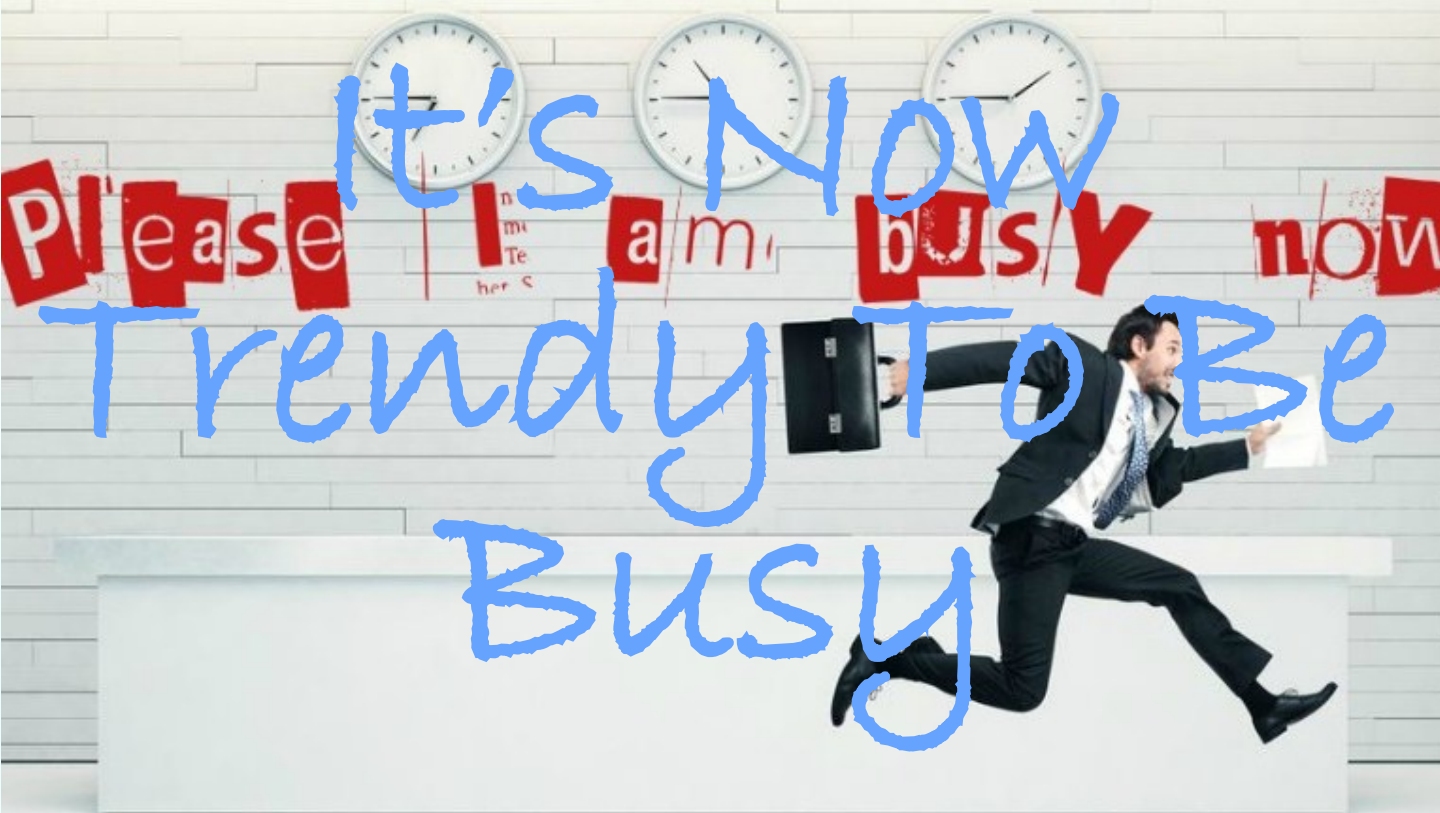


I couldn't help but stand
His words kept us out of the chairs
This message, though not in a long span
Our passion it did cheer

Awaken is my vision for life
Now deserving my zeal than before
For I do not control time
one truth I won't ignore

"... four, three, two, one
Don't forget it's a countdown
Yesterday is gone
Be wise with your time now".





"Busy is a drug that a lot of people are addicted to." Rob Bell

About a month ago, while I was getting myself ready for work, my wife came up to me with one of her observations since the year began; "Ademi, this year you have not been studying the Bible as you used to". I went blank! That was true, sharp and clear.

Her observation stems from the reduction in my usual addiction to the Bible. One of those things that make me enjoy life is the Scriptures. I usually would be seen in the middle of nights study-

ing the Scriptures like I have an exam on it at work the next day. I was always seen with ear-piece on my way to work and from work listening to my audio Bible or enjoying worship. In addition, I spend my Saturdays with my 22-versions Bible comparing verses here with verses there. It seemed to her that all of those have been reduced to the morning devotion Bible time and Sunday involvements like Sunday-Sunday medicine. The other time has been substituted for by 'busyness'; I have been busy these days.

It sounds cool to have to keep saying, "I have been busy". However, as good as that may actually appear, it is one of the most destructive sen-

tences there is today. Somehow, we feel important to know that we are here and there. We should not feel so. We should rather feel more accomplished that we are here doing the Father's bidding.

Maybe you have been more active at work, maybe your business has received a boost, maybe you have had more church activity engagements now than in the past year or you have been reading for some exams. My wife's observation may apply to us all in different version. Moreover, our own explanation may seem 'right', 'We have been too busy these days'. Haven't we?

One of the killers of destinies is uncharted busyness. The world is moving so fast and so quickly. It is becoming harder to focus on the call with so many distractions from office, church, businesses, friends, families etc. While these are part of your life, *your real life is your call*. In addition, Life is more than all.

We are not called to be busy just for the sake of it; we are called to fulfil purpose. We are called to constantly fellowship with God and while there are other things that come

to us along that line, the central focus should not be neglected. Don't get overwhelmed. You need to maintain that balance.

I think we all need constant check-ups. **'Perform an examination on yourselves'** (OJB). **'Check your faith! Are you really in the faith?'** (The Voice), 2Corinthians 13:5. We need to constantly look into the mirror and assess how well we are following and growing. Let's not be submerged in the ocean of activities that keep us away from the core. Keep busy with your call which is the core of your existence here.

*"Never get busy making a living
that you forget to make a life."*

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Treasures in Jar of Clay

-Femi Sobayo
<http://oluwafemisobayo.blogspot.com/>

When it was exactly five o'clock, I logged out of my computer, packed up my stuffs, said goodbye to my colleagues and made a dash for my car. My mind was already in Ajibode where my Akinyemi lived. God knew I hadn't had time for him in like a week because of my crazy schedule; we only chatted on phone and BBM.

Akinyemi was going for a three-month course in France in few days, and we needed to spend some time together before he left. He had been so happy to be selected for the course. It would be another step higher in his academic career. Turned out his decision to take up the lecturing job at the University of Ibadan (UI) as opposed to that private university paid off, because it exposed him to so many opportunities. He always said that UI was his location of favour because that was where good and significant things had happened to him. One, he met salvation right there through the Christian Union; two, he got his long-desired first-class Bachelor's degree in Microbiology; and three, he finally found his missing rib—me. A smile crept up my lips as I manoeuvred my car towards the Ojoo Road, and my mind to six months ago when I met him. I was shopping for foodstuffs at Bodija Market one afternoon when I ran into my childhood

friend, Tola, whom I hadn't seen in years since we moved from our old neighbourhood. She was studying for her PhD and also working as a graduate assistant at UI. We were so excited to see each other, but couldn't talk much because of the rowdiness of the market, so I promised to visit her.

Tola resided at Ajibode, in a spacious and well-kept building having a series of self-contained apartments. Only PhD students and working-class singles lived there. While we were chatting in her cozy room, I got to know that Tola was engaged and she was telling me about her impending wedding, when someone knocked on the door and called out her name.

"Ah, that's my neighbor, Akin," she said to me.

"Akin, please come in." She called out to him.

He came in, he stood tall, and he was easy on my eyes. His spotless caramel skin blended well with the blue polo shirt and black jeans he was wear-

ing. Although his eyes were partially hidden by a pair of recommended glasses, I knew they had a lot to contribute to his charming face, with help from the smile he had on his lips. He held a Bible and tablet in his right hand.

"Hello." He nodded at me, with a smile.

"Hi," I replied.

He turned to Tola. *"Tola, how are you now? I want to drop the keys for Bode,*



The Daughter's Inspiration

<http://adeyinkaoresanya.com>

-Adeyinka Oresanya



I am a female, but that's not all, I am a lady as well: not just that, but a Di-va.

Have I been abused? Assaulted? Sometimes humiliated?

Ever cried myself to sleep and woke up in the pool of my tears?

Looked in the mirror and all I could see was a broken and wounded person?

Had my childhood robbed off me before I learned to make a sentence?

Trusted the wrong man and shamefully loved even my abuser?

Searched for someone to love me enough, hoping I can learn to love myself thereby?

Hardened myself so I could fit into the “man's world”, now no one can touch my heart?

Dragged others down, settled for cheap gossip; thinking I could find fulfillment therein?

Fanned the flames of lost love, struggling to reawaken it?

Embracing feminism fanatically to see if been

manlier was the answer?

Carrying a baby in my womb, I'm just a grown baby by myself!

Cheated on so much, I earned a low self-esteem and always felt like "second best"?

Lied to time and again, yet I kept believing, wishing it was true, even when I feared otherwise?

Traded my innocence for a few minutes to boost a lover's ego?

Angered and bitter, with only one thing on my mind.... Revenge?

Are we hurt? Bitter? Ashamed? I could go on and on. We may be many things, but we refuse to remain that way!

So here I am raising my glass to every lady who in spite of all, still has her diva swag. Poised and confident,

classy yet domestic.
Hides in the shelter of her maker, fuelled by her convictions; celebrates her femininity. Accepting



her weaknesses without being weak, burnt like a coal, yet blossoming into a jewel daily. Whole without a man, and when she has her man, she completes him! Virtuous even though not perfect, stays a dreamer amidst the failures, refuses to be defined by her past. Looking in the mirror each day, she sees the scars, but forgives the abusers, holds her head up high and still calls herself a DIVA (Divine).

Here is to those ladies like me who are still standing in spite of all. With God...No limits!!

TIP: To the men that truly love their ladies, seek to "know" the girl child your woman was, it completes the picture.

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Tee-Wai

-Toyin Seth-Ogungbe'

<http://toyinmakogungbe.blogspot.com/>

I read something recently that said, “So many times, we face difficulties that alter the itinerary of our lives, only to find the detour was actually God's path.” I totally agree with this.

God works in various ways that we may never understand, but one thing is sure, God does not deny us good things, never has, never will! That should get you really excited. He is as much the God of the mountain as the God of the valley. Valleys can be tagged as our ‘bad times or not so good times’.

Sometimes in life, we face certain things that we really can't explain or that we don't understand. Jesus went through this type of experiences in his lifetime, to the point that He had to humbly say, “Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet not My will, but (always) Yours be done” (Luke 22:42 AMP) and scrip-

tures recorded that an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him in Spirit. This was God's plan for Him that has brought us redemption and eternal hope today. Without this unpleasant experience for Jesus, we would not be here. Because of Jesus, there is hope in the promise of the cross! Jesus is our 'LIVING HOPE'.

Joseph also had to go through series of processes, before he was finally announced. Personally, I believe he had to learn and he had to grow, and those experiences taught him just that. His mouth may have put him in trouble but along the line, he was a far better person.

We give too much credit to the devil most times, it is not everything that happens to us that we don't like that's from the devil. God is good, true! His mercy endures forever but life happens sometimes and a good number of times, our foolish decisions can bring different

issues our way. I think when we are faced with challenging issues we should evaluate ourselves first and not God. He does not change and by discernment, we might get answers but that does not change the fact that we might never be able to ex-



My Living Hope

-Wunmi Falodun

<http://www.mylivinghopealternative.org/>



plain certain things. In spite of adversity, trials and suffering, never rule out God's presence.

All through Joseph's sojourn from prison to palace, God was with him and I'm sure you'd wonder why that God didn't do anything to save or help him, yet it was part of the plan. His brothers' plan was to destroy Him but God had a better plan yet he had to go through the process. God doesn't miss a thing, please stay true to the process. **Don't get out, stop looking for shortcuts; shortcut can cut a lot of things short!**

I'm certain that there are experiences in your life that you can undoubtedly say it's solely the

hands of God that could have done this. Someone told me recently how grateful she was for a certain leadership responsibility that was bestowed upon her a few years back, she did not want to accept that responsibility at that time. Retrospectively, she's grateful because that period of her life prepared and trained her immensely.

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When things you don't understand happen, trust the process and fulfil your part. Know that you're coming out better, stronger, braver, wiser and your endurance is being developed and trained.

The person who delayed you saved you from mishap and your difficult boss has helped trained your endurance. A friend was recently telling me how she was saved from a robbery attack through a difficult woman who delayed her from travelling, fine the woman might have thought she was punishing her, but God had other plans. We can only see a tiny fragment of the whole picture most times, but God sees the big picture always- and forever.

However, we should never expect evil to happen or begin to tell ourselves that things must go wrong. *To subvert a man in his cause-the Lord does not approve, He has pleasure in the prosperity of His servants.* Perhaps things have not been going right with you because you automatically expect them to go left; as a man thinks in his heart, so is he -and she too! You have to see yourself as a grasshopper first before others will. Hope for the best of the best even in the worst of circumstances. He does not deny us good things, never. God is right beside you in this valley, He does not leave us helpless nor hopeless neither does He abandon us, He's carrying you through and victory is yours already! God will get victory by your very hands.

When things do not go according to our plans or calculations or when things get really hard isn't the time to give up. It is time to brace up and dou-

ble up against all odds. It is the time to worship your way through and tarry in the place of prayer. God hears and answers our prayers, delays should not discourage you, while faith opens the door of blessings to us, patience, and obedience keeps the door open until the promise is fulfilled or accomplished.

There is a gift found in disappointments and the blessings can come in unfamiliar packages, look closely. A closed door might actually be a blessing, some doors God does not open for you is nothing short of divine protection, and others, the timing not be right just yet. We just must be able to see beyond the now. Be not moved by your present circumstances.

Lamentations 3:21-23 says, *"But this i recall and therefore i have hope and expectation: it is because of the Lord's mercy and loving kindness that we are not consumed, because His (tender) compassion fail not. They are new every morning; great and abundant is your stability and faithfulness."* (AMP)

I honestly think you should underline that in your bible. What are you recalling? What faithfulness of God can you recall. Psalm 103 gives us a clue to this; *He forgives your sins, heals your diseases, redeem your life from destruction, crowns you with loving kindness and tender mercies, satisfies your mouth with good things...* This is what we should recall excitedly always.

God wants to do something for you, by you and through you, stay in the process, allow Him do His work! Don't crumble in fear or under undue pressure. Stand in faith and quietly hope. God will bring you laughter and everyone who hears will surely laugh with you. You'll say for sure only God could have done this and He specialises in that. If the miracle looks ordinary, then it can easily be mistaken for coincidence or no big deal but when it is beyond imagination, then no man on earth can take the glory and that's truly humbling. Keep on keeping on; hope against hope on /in God and you too just like Joseph will be able to say, *"You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives."* (Geneisis 50:20 NIV)

(When God saves you, turn around and help save others, don't be a stumbling block to others) Soon, you'll be a poet who sings God's glory and live what you sing every day.

I wish you grace and strength. You will overcome and own it; overflow with hope. Overwhelming grace keep you!

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1 MAGAZINE

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You may have heard that words are powerful, words have been likened to an egg, a dagger, a scorpion and I join in the league of those who have described words to say that, “*words are the world.*” Yes, your words are your world.

I may be speaking of how God spoke, and all of creation came into being - Then God SAID, “*Let there be light*”; and there was light¹ but there is more to this as shown in the Bible, and you are about to see the truth established in a manner you are not likely to forget quickly.

By faith, we understand that the things which are seen were not made by the things which are visible², there is an invisible force that brings into manifestation every physical reality and the tool or medium through which this unseen force operates is a word. Words spoken through any individual’s mouth are unseen but yet they are potent enough to bring about manifestation of a physical reality.

Consequently, from the fruit of a man’s mouth, his stomach is satisfied. In the same vein, if that which comes out of a man’s mouth brings forth fruits, then we can say that words are seeds (good seeds or bad seeds).

Words are not ordinary seeds, they are seeds that in themselves have the capacity to germinate, grow, and bear fruits. They do not need any other factor or variable to survive. Watch this – “*if the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish..... so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it*”⁴. That is more like a seed, because only seeds enter into the ground and they come back up in a different form.

What about faith, what about believing?

To have faith is to speak what you have believed. It is the declaration of an unwavering belief. Have you wondered how our salvation came? It came when we confessed (with our mouth) what we believe⁵ (the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ- the savior).

A man demonstrates faith when he speaks what he believes⁶. The Christian is no ordinary person; he must learn to be deliberate about his words, knowing that they have the potential to bring about a manifestation in the physical realm. Now that you know that your words are seeds, you

can create a whole lot of things. We must be careful to make sure that our words align with the intent and purpose of God; by so doing, we will attain greatness. It is not enough to know that death and life are in the power of the tongue⁷, the essence of that is for us to even choose our words correctly at all times. If



The Prevailing Word

-Tosin Babalola
<http://tosinbabalola.blogspot.com>



My Words, My World

words are seeds, it will be nice to sow them all seven days of the week and to do same even if an eighth day comes⁸. This way, your clouds will become very full and heavy, ready to rain down⁹ all of the things that you have spoken and by this, you shall create your own world. This is why I opened by saying “words are the world.” Believe it and say it with your mouth. Do not stop. Write it down¹⁰ and let your eyes keep seeing¹¹ it, very soon you will become it.

References

1. **Genesis 1:3** - Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.
2. **Hebrews 11:3** - By faith, we understand that the things which are seen were not made by the things which are visible
3. **Proverbs 18:20** - A man’s stomach shall be satisfied from the fruit of his mouth; from the produce of his lips he shall be filled.
4. **Isaiah 55:10-11** - “For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud... So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.
5. **Romans 10:9-10** - that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.
6. **2 Corinthians 4:13** - And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “I believed and therefore I spoke,” we also believe and therefore speak
7. **Proverbs 18:21** - Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.
8. **Ecclesiastes 11: 2** - Give a serving to seven, and also to eight, For you do not know what evil will be on the earth.
9. **Ecclesiastes 11: 3** - If the clouds are full of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth.
10. **Habakkuk 2:2** - Then the LORD replied: “Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it.
11. **2 Corinthians 3:18** - And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

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