Monday
Get God's Power

“For the kingdom of God is not just a lot of talk; it is living by God’s power.” (1 Corinthians 4:20 NLT)

To live a fulfilled life, you have to live by God’s power. Did you know God does not bless self-reliant people? No, He does not. He only blesses people who are dependent upon Him and surrendered to him. God wants to use you, but you must live by his power. God is able to do more than you can ever imagine. So how do you get God’s power in your life?

There are three ways: a) **By praying.** If you don’t have any power in your life, that tells one thing: You’re not praying. b) **By taking risks to obey God.** When you take a risk to do what God tells you to do, even when it’s hard or unpopular, even when it may cost you, even when it doesn’t make sense, even when nobody else is doing it, God will pour out his power in your life. c) **By not giving up.** Don’t give up! In order for God to grow your faith, he’s got to test it. God is teaching you to trust him. If you hang on, God will bless you.

Tuesday
How and Where God Speaks

"The hand of the Lord was upon me there, and He said to me, 'Get up and go out to the plain, and there I will speak to you.'" Ezekiel 3:22

God speaks in many different ways to His children. He spoke through a bush to Moses. He spoke through a donkey to Balaam. He spoke through prophets to His kings. He speaks through other believers. He speaks directly to us through the invisible Holy Spirit. And He speaks even through circumstances.

When God wants to speak a very important word directly to us without interruption from the noise of our busy lives, he will take us "into the plain." The plain is a place of no distractions and no other persons. It is a place of silence. It can be a place of great need as it often fails to have the normal provisions we are accustomed to.

It can be a place we go to voluntarily to seek His face, or we can be moved there without choice by His supernatural ability. More often, it is the latter method that brings us into the plain. In modern times, it often means a separation from our normal activities such as jobs or families. Do you need
to hear God’s voice today? Is your life such that you cannot even hear His voice? Pray that you might make time to hear.

Wednesday
Building the Art of Community

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin (1 John 1:7).

Jesus often spent unhurried times of fellowship with the disciples. They shared countless meals together. It is often during such times we get to know others at a deeper level. Love for one another is one of the greatest signs of faith in Christ. However, the pace of life often contributes to a life being lived for the next event instead of a relationship rooted in the love of Christ.

As believers in the market place, we need to build relationships and cultivate friendships. You cannot be isolated and keep only to yourself. One of the things we do as businessmen is to network. Networking is getting across to others in spite of their beliefs. We then use our relationship to reach them with the love of Jesus. You can try and start today.

Thursday
Put God First

“You should live in a way that proves you belong to the God who calls you into his kingdom and glory.” (1 Thessalonians 2:12 GW)

The Kingdom of God is a present reality. The power of God is the present resource. It’s the energy you get to do what God wants you to do once you’re surrendered and submitted to his will. God’s glory is the reason. It’s not the reality or the resource. It is the present reason for everything. How do you live a fulfilled life — the kind of life that you were designed by God to live?

What does it mean to live in God’s Kingdom? It means you make God’s agenda your agenda. You make God’s will your will. You care about what God cares about. Whatever you want God to bless, put Him first in that area. What does it mean to put God first in your life? Consider these five areas - Finances. If you want God to bless your finances, even during a recession, you must tithe; Interests. Put him first in your hobbies, your career, and your recreation. Give God first consideration in every decision; Relationships. Put him first in your family, your marriage, and your friendships; and Schedule. That means you give him the first part of every day. You get up and sit on the side of your bed every morning and say, “God if I don’t get anything else done today, I just want to love you”.

Friday
MIRROR, MIRROR ON THE WALL

'...The clay doesn't ask, "Why did you make me this way?' - Isaiah 45:9

Many guys are unhappy with what they see in the mirror, and spend a fortune to change it. And while it's good to look your best, God never intended our looks as a statement of our value to Him, or to others. 1) Resenting your looks just puts you at odds with God. 'You have no right to argue with your Creator. You are...a clay pot shaped by a potter. The clay doesn't ask, "Why did you make me this way?"' 2) Resenting your looks results from false comparisons. Unhappiness over your appearance results from ignorance of God's marvellous and creative purpose for you.

Many spend fortunes to reshape what God had done with them. Today you hear about plastic surgery and all that. The wife of a past Nigerian president and incidentally, a Baptist family died of complications from plastic surgery. She first had a facial surgery that was successful. A few months later, she then followed up with breast enhancement, which was also successful. Sometime later too she went for tommy tuck, and unfortunately, she didn’t make it back to Nigeria. Just accept that you are made in the image of the Lord as you are.

Saturday
Change Requires Support

"Two are better off than one, because together they can work more effectively. If one of them falls down, the other can help him up. But if someone is alone and falls [into temptation], it's just too bad, because there is no one to help him." (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 GN)

How serious are you about breaking free from the temptation in your life? Because if you are, let me be very blunt with you: You will never do it without support. You will never do it on your own. You need somebody in your life to help you with the habits in your life that you want to change. You’re not going to change them on your own.

Everybody is tempted. It is false to say you’re going to get to a point in your spiritual life where you’re not tempted anymore. In fact, the more mature you become, the more Satan is going to put you on his “most wanted” list. You need people around you - your spouse, Church or Fellowship members, etc. Iron sharpens iron. Let us proclaim that believers should not separate themselves from others.
Sunday
The Power of Unity

"That all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in Me and I am in You. May they also be in Us so that the world may believe that You have sent Me." John 17:21

In the last days we are seeing God's Spirit convict His children of the lack of unity among His Church. We are seeing God move between blacks and whites, ethnic groups, denominations, and para-Church fellowships. There is much work to be done. The walls of division and competition among His Body are a stench in God's nostrils. He sees the competition and the pride of ownership and weeps for the lost who cannot come to Him because they cannot see Him in His Body. When there is unity, there is power.

The underlying factor has always been pride and selfishness. Believers are sometimes selfish and want to go it alone. There is a saying in Nigeria - if you chop alone, then you die alone. It literally translates to mean, you need others too to make it in life. Let us be united in the body, be it in Church, business, community and elsewhere. Let’s do it together to get a fantastic result and reward.