



*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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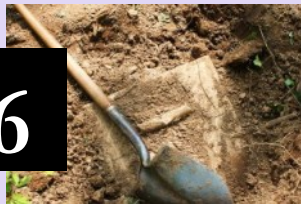
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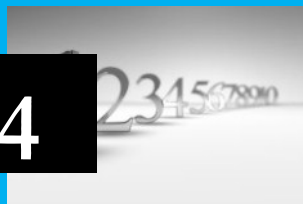


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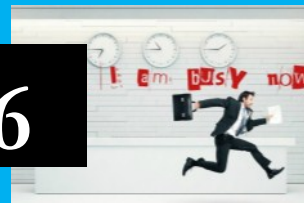
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IT'S NOW  
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**So teach us to number our days, That we may gain a heart of wisdom.  
Psalms 90:12 NKJV**

**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

[comment](#)



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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,*

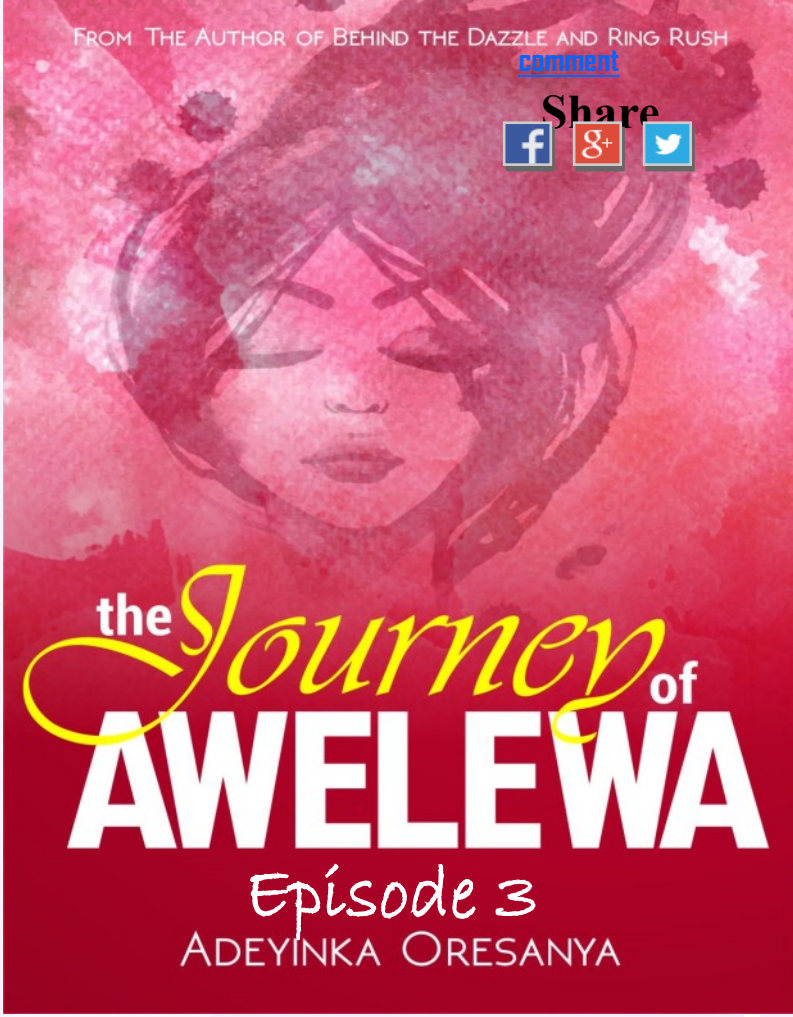


# The Daughter's Inspiration

<http://adeyinkaoresanya.com>

-Adeyinka Oresanya





*I'm off to Bible study."*

*"Okay."* Tola stood up towards him. *"Akin, meet my runaway childhood friend, Awelewa Daisi. We just found each other again after ten years, isn't that great? She is a banker."* She turned towards me. *"And Awe, meet Akinyemi Adu, my neighbour, colleague and the most responsible guy on the block."*

*"Tola, you are not serious."* Akinyemi chuckled and playfully thumped Tola on the shoulder. *"Nice to meet you, Awelewa."* He met my eyes, and his lips broke into a teasing smile. *"I hope you stay this time."* He excused himself and left.

**Well, I stayed, but in his life.**

We became fast friends. I would visit Tola, and Akinyemi would come to her room if he was around, and all of us would chat on various topics ranging from our school days to current affairs to things of God till late in the evening when I had to go back to my house. Four months later, Tola got married and moved out. Akin also left and moved into a new two-bedroom apartment with his friend, Bode, in the same area. Akin and I took the chat to the phone and BBM. He was very intelligent in many matters and displayed a good understanding of the Word of God and how we ought to live our lives as Christians. I began to fall in love, and discovered that it was mutual.

When that happened, I ran to the cross where I was saved, to discuss this matter with my Saviour, if it was okay to remain in love. When I got the conviction to go ahead, I waited for him to speak his mind.

*"Awe, I love you, and I want you to be the*

*woman I will build my home with, to spend the rest of my life."*

And I let myself remain in love. It had been six months now, no heart-wrecking drama, no regrets. There is nothing compared to loving God and being in love with a man who also does.

I parked outside his building and dialed his phone number so that he could come open the gate for me.

*...to be continued.*

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**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://toyeenmakogungbe.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.myfromabqmailmatters.org/>





MYSTERIOUS  
WAYS, HIS  
PURPOSE TO  
FULFIL

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!

**50 STORIES**  
**13 WRITERS**  
**5 ISSUES**  
**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 light<sup>1</sup> 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 visible<sup>2</sup>, 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*”<sup>4</sup>. 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 believe<sup>5</sup> (the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ- the savior).

A man demonstrates faith when he speaks what he believes<sup>6</sup>. 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 tongue<sup>7</sup>, 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>



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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 comes<sup>8</sup>. This way, your clouds will become very full and heavy, ready to rain down<sup>9</sup> 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 down<sup>10</sup> and let your eyes keep seeing<sup>11</sup> 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.

**When** it comes to the use of vocabulary and our freewill, one cannot overemphasize the quality of matrimony these two phrases have achieved, especially in our generation. When presidential debates are fuelled with campaign straplines such as not ‘*necessarily being politically correct.*’ In addition, phrases like; ‘*just speak,*’ ‘*say what others are not bold to say,*’ are thrown around.

Conventionally speaking, we have been formed by the society we live to retain some kind of vocabulary. We live in a world of words. When you say positive things, you can attract good. The scripture says, decree a thing and it shall be established and I did not observe my bible stating whether your decree has to be positive or negative before it is established.

So what exactly informs our decrees? What exactly influence your vocabulary? “*As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he.*” Our circumstances can instruct our thoughts. Much more, our

use of words are informed by the accumulation of what we have fed the gateways to our minds with.

So in all, we intentionally or unintentionally decide what our individual glossary should contain. Whether your glossary will contain undesirable words is a decision you must be conscious of. Whether they will be solely picked from the streets or from the media is a choice.

The devil is aware that if he can keep your vocabulary negative, he can defeat you as much as possible. Second Kings Chapter four and verse twenty-six gives us an example of a woman who has trained her vocabulary to be positive, even in the face of crisis.

I urge you today, to take charge of your vocabulary. Do not let the weather determine your vocabulary, do not let economic recession determine your vocabulary either. I once lived in a city where it rained on more days than there was sun. On days that there was rain,

most people gave remarks such as, “*Such a horrible day, it’s all wet and messy.*” On other days, when it was sunny, when you ask a good number of residents at dusk, you could receive comments such as, “*I made it, it was hectic, the heat kept me home the better part of the day.*”



<http://mikeadeoye.blogspot.co.uk>



# How Positive Is Your Vocabulary?

As much as we may not be able to influence situations around us, we can choose our position in such situations. Be more conscious of what you feed your mind with, be more positive on what you think on; *'whatsoever is true, honest, just, pure, lovely, and pure, of good report.'*

The source of our vocabulary must be the scriptures. The bible tells me, *'A thousand shall fall at my side, and ten thousand at my right hand; but it shall not come near me. And only with mine eyes shall I behold and see the reward of the wicked.'*

The scriptures also reminds me that when men are cast down, then thou shalt say there is a lifting up, and he shall save the humble.

I know it might be difficult to see negative and speak positive, but you can choose the better side. Your vocabulary does not only affect your outcome, it also affects your attitude in the meantime. According to Michael Hyatt, *'You don't have to be at work tomorrow, you get to be at work.'*

Don't let the enemy leak your investment as a result of negative vocabulary. Let your expected response to situation be positive. Don't lose your answers to prayers with constant negative exclamations.

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your

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# When He Comes...

*And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.*

Matthew 24:14 KJV

*And, behold, I come quickly; ...*

Revelation 22:12 KJV

**Nothing** is hid from us if we ask aright. Nothing! Except the date or hour of HIS return. Don't feel bad, even our Lord Jesus DOESN'T know it.

I however find it intriguing that while we have been given the power and ability to hasten this date, we are oblivious of this power or, better put, prefer to ignore its potency.

There are steps we would rather take to delay it unwittingly. The singular reason for this might be that WE ARE NOT READY.

'Now come Lord...' is a statement of someone who IS ready. Are we bold enough to make this declaration right away?

After Jesus left, there was a growth in the Church that could only be described as phenomenal. That's in the general opinion an understatement. I know some might argue that it was a 'new religion' OR 'they were merely after miracles' OR 'they were only interested in the daily food'...

I am not here to support or refute, but to state



my facts, which as inspired by the Holy Spirit, I have come to know as the Truth.

We were told by Prophet Haggai that ‘... the desire of nations shall come...’

To further buttress the point, I would ask that you try introducing a fertile seed in a dry and patchy land. It would abide alone and eventually get spoilt. The movement in the church of God was and is not something we can describe. Now that is what makes it Divine.

Someone once said when we give God our ordinary, HE adds some extra and we end up with something extraordinary. Similarly, our natural (in God’s hands) becomes supernatural.

The Apostles were SOLD OUT. A property that is sold out is no longer of interest to previously interested buyers simply because it is no longer available. IT NOW HAS A SINGLE OWNER WHO CAN DO AS HE DESIRES WITH IT.

We should not be afraid of what happens when HE comes IF we are ready and vice versa. There are few things more annoying than a servant ignoring his master’s instruction.

I remember keeping sleepless night just to be prepared for quiz competitions in which I won perishable prizes such as Math set or towels. In this particular case, we are being told of the prize awaiting faithful and diligent la-

bourers include the Crown of righteousness...

“Woe is I if I preach not...” “I am damned if I don’t partake in the harvest...” [Paraphrased]

We have suddenly become so relaxed and lethargic, that we now think, “So long as I am saved, I am OK.” NO!!!

Congratulations to you when he returns, you are found in right standing and get a mansion. However, may I quickly ask you, ‘What is the glory of a king without a crown?’ ‘What are the expectations of Heaven?’ ‘How much joy have you brought to Heaven?’ ‘What is the prize awaiting you?’

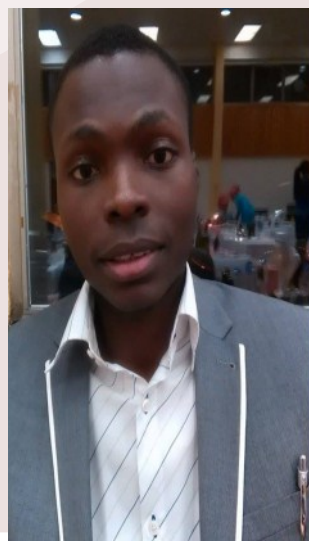
Whereas the field is ripe, we (the few available labourers) must intensify our effort. Don’t seat in the midst of the harvest: WORK!!! Don’t allow the harvest to get spoilt: BRING IT IN!!!

**We that are saved, the necessity is laid on us to ‘ARISE for the salvation of others.’**

Now that is a command. Heaven is counting on us...

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# Inked Words

<https://inkright.wordpress.com>

-Tosin Iosef Kehinde



# Of Prophecies And Fulfillment

**Have** you read Nahum's prophecy about cars in bible?

*The shield of his mighty men is made red, the valiant men are in scarlet: the chariots shall be with flaming torches in the day of his preparation, and the fir trees shall be terribly shaken. The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall jostle one against another in the broad ways: they shall seem like torches, they shall run like the lightnings. Nahum 2:3-4 KJV*

Bible scholars confirm to us that what the prophet saw was a car. Powered by flaming torches; headlamps seen by the prophet were also thought to be eyes blazing like torches. They run fast along broadways...of course, that refer to roads today. The prophet was sincere with what he saw. Just that he couldn't describe them in today's terms.

If a prophet in the year 2016 sees the same vision

he could say; "I see a nice Honda Accord, with its headlamps on, moving along Awolowo Way, Ikoyi, Lagos." That's less scary right? If you ride in a car, you are living in the fulfillment of Nahum's prophecy.

Have you read the prophecy on telephones in the bible?

*Canst thou send lightnings, that they may go, and say unto thee, Here we are? Job 38:35 KJV*

Bible researchers claim that what Job heard God referred to was a revelation about phones. In his days, a description of radio waves would have made lightning come to mind. In his best possible description, we would send messages through lighting saying: "This is where I am right now."

To him, one day there would be a conversation like "Hello, I'm on Lagos-Ibadan Expressway. I just drove past Redemption camp. I'll be with you before 6PM." Is this happening today?

If you have a mobile phone or you have ever made a phone call. You are fulfilling prophecies.

You probably didn't know there were such prophecies in the bible, and that, my friend, is the real problem we have.

Have you read about Jesus' words about these last days in which we live?

*And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. Matthew 24:6-7 KJV*

We live in days when wars and rumours of war form the major content of the world's news all over. Hatred, selfishness, pestilence- Lassa virus, HIV, Ebola, incurable diseases claiming lives in numbers everywhere. We are really fulfilling prophecies.

Jesus talked about famine, and we only think about dry unproductive lands leading to food shortage, but what about the current crashing economy of the world as a whole. Is this not the

famine Jesus was talking about? Nations that thrive on proceeds of Petroleum keep getting it hard by the day. We are fulfilling prophecies already, every single one of His words are coming to pass, yet even Christians don't seem to realize; they are lost in the storm. We have a serious issue at hand, what shall we do?

Shall Jesus meet his church unprepared? I know he didn't give an exact date, but all the signs he gave are playing out right before us. How

come we can't see them?

Our access to and knowledge of His word by His Spirit should make a difference. It did in the life of Joseph in his days at Egypt. He knew the dream and the interpretation. He knew what was coming; seven years of surplus and seven of deficit. His insight helped to prepare for what was coming.

Enjoy your new car and your mobile phone. Make those trips of your dreams and make those calls that matter to you. Yet let them be a witness unto you that as the car is a prophecy that came to pass, and the phone is a word that never went unfulfilled, Jesus' prophecies of these last days, which are also playing out right before our very eyes shall definitely lead to an ultimate moment. It will be a moment when the car and the mobile phone shall be of no value.

Everything around us is a reminder; our Lord Jesus will soon be here. You will not have an excuse if you are taken unawares.

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Tobi Olowookere

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*"Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to have all of you, to sift you like wheat. But I have pleaded in prayer for you, Simon, that your faith should not fail. So when you have repented and turned to me again, strengthen and build up your brothers."*

Luke 22:31-32 NLT

**Jesus** called the attention of the self-confident Peter to events that would soon befall him. However, the revelation was not just an alarm or panic button being pressed but an assurance that it has been handled in the spirit realm through Christ's prayers. It was a case of painting the end before the start.

Unlike what some practice by their revelations, causing panic and instilling fear in the hearts of their audience, Jesus took to shape and determine the end of things by praying for Peter.

Those who are blessed with the revelation gifts

should not intimidate nor exploit others with such graces. Rather they should prepare people and shape the end of things via prayers. After all, to each person the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the benefit of all. (1 Corinthians 12:7 NET)

Abraham took advantage of the information (revelation) at his disposal and shaped the end in favor of his nephew.

*Then the LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do?"*

Genesis 18:17 NIV

*Then the LORD said, "The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and their sin so grievous that I will go down and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me. If not, I will know."*

*The men turned away and went toward Sodom, but Abraham remained standing before the LORD.*



*Then Abraham approached him and said: "Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked?"*  
Genesis 18:20-23 NIV

Abraham did not just sit in a state of helplessness on gaining the revelation. He did not even send a 'copy' of the revelation to the concerned party. Rather he took action by interceding for Lot.

Heaven stopping by to get you acquainted with her plans is an indication that you are a stakeholder. A stakeholder is one who holds a stake. However, some do not use their stakes even after heaven has confirmed their status through such 'knowing'.

It's like being privileged to be part of a Board and after being given the agenda for the meeting fail to make case for your constituents when a vote is about to be made. God giving you such advance knowing is getting you to the Board to cast a vote that really matters.

Abraham used his stake in the place of intercession. Not only did he use his stake, it was acknowledged and passed.

*But God had listened to Abraham's request and kept Lot safe, removing him from the disaster that engulfed the cities on the plain.*

Genesis 19:29 NLT

Although the events could not be altered as in the case of Peter, the outcome was predetermined by that intercession.

Peter went through the

sifting but he was not blown away. Likewise, Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed but Lot and his daughters were spared.

One's stake can also be optimized by taking practical steps.

*During this time, some prophets traveled from Jerusalem to Antioch. One of them named Agabus stood up in one of the meetings to predict by the Spirit that a great famine was coming upon the entire Roman world. (This was fulfilled during the reign of Claudius.) So the believers in Antioch decided to send relief to the brothers and sisters in Judea, everyone giving as much as they could. This they did, entrusting their gifts to Barnabas and Saul to take to the elders of the church in Jerusalem.*

Acts 11:27-30 NLT

The Spirit brought to the knowledge of the believers a coming famine that would devastate the whole Roman Empire of which Judea (Jerusalem) was also part. It was an event they could not stop but could be prepared for. It was recorded that they took steps by sending relief materials according to their abilities to their brethren in Judea, who would have been worst hit by that famine.

God gave them foreknowledge and they saw themselves (and acted) as stakeholders in what was to happen, ten years ahead during the reign of Claudius Caesar.

Ope Rowland

<http://operowland.blogspot.com>

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thrive

**The** secret of failure is failure in the secret just as the secret of success is success in the secret. People fail in the public because they have failed in the secret. They succeed in the public because they have succeeded in the secret.

What happens to you in the secret – success or failure - determines what happens to you in the public. Your public life is the product of your private life. Your public life can never exceed your life in the secret. You cannot have an output in the public that is not the product of the input you have made in the secret.

For a while, one may disguise or pretend in the public to have a viable secret life. Time, however, has a way of testing and trying the authenticity of our lives. We will be proved and soon the whole world will know that we are fakes.

The secret is always the template for the public life. It's the foundation on which the public life is built. To project a positive public image without a reliable private life is self counterfeiting. The ultra structure we have built on a weak founda-

tion will soon cave in and collapse.

### **A Covetous Generation**

We are in a generation where people see a successful man and they want to be like him in a single day. We “covet” the success of the successful but not their secret sacrifice. Indeed it is a covetous generation like that of Simon the sorcerer, who thought the gift and grace of God can be bought with money.

Nowadays, people run to the altar to drop an offering to tap or receive the anointing on the man of God. To such, we bring the rebuke of Peter to Simon, the sorcerer;

*“To hell with your money! And you along with it. Why, that's unthinkable--trying to buy God's gift! You'll never be part of what God is doing by striking bargains and offering bribes...”* Acts 8:20-23  
MSG.

### **No Shortcuts**

There are no shortcuts to success – the secret is always the secret. Secret diligence, secret labours and hard work, secret study, secret sacrifices are the secrets of all forms of success. This

is also the secret of those who fail in life; they have failed in the secret!

Jesus in Mathew 6:1-18 taught the people about giving of alms, prayers and fasting. Jesus made it clear that the secret of doing these things successfully is doing them in the secret. He placed emphasis on the



# Fresh Bread

-Olufemi Babalola  
<https://olufemibabalola.wordpress.com>

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# The Secret Is The Secret

principle and priority of the secret as the secret of success. In verses 4, 6 and 18 He summarized it like this: **And your Father who sees in the secret Himself shall reward you openly.**

Invariably, we can say that public reward is the product of a secret investment.

## What Goes On In Your Secret?

The question then is, what is the heavenly Father seeing in your secret? If the Father should come to your secret today, what will He see? Will he see secret sin or secret sacrifice? Pornography or praying? Backbiting or Bible study? Don't you ever forget that, either good or bad, your secret life will be rewarded openly by God. The challenge today is for us to take responsibility for what happens in our lives when no eye is watch-

ing.

We ought to start building a secret life that can command a good reward in the open. We can intercede secretly for souls. We can raise disciples secretly for the Lord. We can labour secretly and serve without the knowledge of anybody. We can give secretly to the work of God. **And your Father who sees in the secret Himself shall reward you openly.**

## Characteristics of the Secret Life That Commands Open Rewards

### Consistency

You must be consistent in your secret commitment to a noble course if it will command an open reward. A once-in-a-while commitment will never catch God's attention. It is the cumulative

effect of your secret diligence that will attract the eye of God. In Acts 10, there is a story of a man who was consistent. He gave alms and prayed to God. The Bible says:

*There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band, a devout man, and one that feared God with his entire house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God always. Acts 10:1-2 KJV*

His alms was characterized by the adjective “much” and his prayers by “always”. These are indications of consistency. He was always giving and always praying. He gave and prayed until it became much.

It seems to me that there is a measure that our secret commitment must meet before it can command heaven’s attention. Our open reward comes when this measure is full. God responds by measuring it back to us in folds. Consistency is the key to meeting up to this measure. This is why the Scriptures admonished us not to “become tired of doing good; for if we do not give up, the time will come when we will reap the harvest” (Galatians 6:9GNB).

Cornelius did alms and prayed until he was called “a certain man”. His life became certain. He could not be confused with other men. He was distinguished by his giving and praying.

God’s demand on your own life may not necessarily be praying, giving or fasting but there is a particular demand, commitment or consecration that will command open reward in your own life. It could be secret study as a student that will

guarantee open and striking success. It could be secret faithfulness and righteousness in your business dealings as a business man. You must be consistent in that secret commitment if your life will attract the attention of heaven and earth.

### **Kept secret**

Your secret investments must be kept secret if it will yield a public reward. It must be hidden from the eye and ear of men. A secret heard or seen of men is no longer a secret. Jesus said, *Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father. Mathew 6:1 KJV*

The tendency in every man is to showcase what is done in the secret especially when one is despised or overlooked. To do this however, is to uproot our seed before it germinates and grow up to bring forth fruits. Jesus said, such people already have their rewards. Only the secret that is secret indeed can command an open reward. In the example of Cornelius, God said; *Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God.*

This indicates that Cornelius had kept his prayers and giving life from the eye and ear of men as much as possible. It was before God that he gave and prayed. He was careful to make sure that even when men saw him; it was not to get their attention but the attention of God.

### **You Have No Secret!**

Don’t forget that “your Father sees in secret”. God is the God of the secret. He is a witness to the secret of all men; nothing can be hidden from



His eyes. The Bible says;

*Neither is there any creature that will not be made manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.* Hebrews 4:13 KJV

*For nothing is secret, that shall not be made manifest; neither is there anything hidden that shall not be known and come abroad.* Luke 8:17; Mathew 10:26; Mark 4:22. KJV

Your secret is not a secret before the God of the secret. You cannot hide your secret from His eyes. You may close all the windows and doors but He is still with you. He never sleeps nor slumbers and so there is no free time for you. You cannot do anything without His knowledge. Nothing can be kept secret from God with whom you are dealing.

The king of Syria was troubled because his secrets were discovered by the king of Israel. He could not harm him because his war strategies were exposed. Out of indignation, he said to his servants, *“Will you not show me which of us is for the king of Israel?”*

*And one his servants said, none, my lord, o king; but Elisha, the prophet that is in Israel, telleth the king of Israel the words that thou speaketh in thy bed chamber.* 2 Kings 6:11-12. KJV

David slept with Beersheba and killed her husband secretly. He taught the whole show was over until God who sees in the secret showed up and sent Nathan to him. In 2 Samuel 12:12, God said;

*For thou didst it secretly; but I will do this thing*

*before all Israel, and before the sun.* (KJV)

God was giving David an open reward for his secret misbehavior. You cannot hide it from God; you may hide it from men. One day, your secret life will bring you an open reward. He will reward your secret openly either good or bad. A day is coming *“when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ...”* (Romans 2:16 KJV)

### **Destroy The Shameful Secret!**

God is seeing your secret laziness, secret compromise, secret lie, secret stealing, secret lust, fornication and masturbation, secret procrastination, secret infidelity, etc. If your secret is sinful, do not make it a secret any longer, expose it! Sin is strengthened by secrecy but it loses its power when it is exposed. A secret confessed is a secret destroyed.

Jesus can help you today if you will trust Him. If you continue to keep it secret, a day is coming when it will be exposed on the roof-tops. Destroy that secret sin today by confessing it and forsaking it.

*He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.* Proverbs 28:13 KJV

Make a public show of that secret sin and its power will be destroyed. Why don't you decide today to build a clean, strong, steady and stable secret life so that you can have a rewarding public life? Cut off from your secret all that is shameful and sinful! Jesus can help you.



# Prayer: Step TO PLANNING Your Future

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**Prayer** is the number one key to fulfilling your future. Money does not guarantee future, not even intelligence or connection. Remember that none of these can assure you of a long healthy life; after all it takes a living healthy person to enter into the future. Therefore, can you see why you need to pray? It is in the place of prayer you secure your future and tackle any obstacles that may want to hinder you. You cannot afford not to include prayer in your

lifestyle especially if you are from this part of the world where there are many spiritual forces that does not want you to excel. Some of these forces can be family members and they can be friends or people around you that just hate your success, especially when they see that your future is glorious. Therefore, you cannot afford to live a prayer-less life. In case you are living a prayer-less life, let me tell you reasons why you need to see prayer as your number one key to a successful future.

a) Devil himself does not want you to enter into



your future. Have you not been seeing the way young people are killing themselves these days, both home and abroad? It is the devil at work, making young people to kill themselves over nothing, and some times over trivial issues, that does not worth it. May God never allow us to be a victim of such wickedness in Jesus' name.

b) Some wicked forces that do not want you to succeed. Like I said earlier, some of them can be from your household, some can be

from your peers, and sometimes some parents have sown evil seed that will affect the future of their children in one way or the other.

c) Some bad habits are capable of ruining one's future. Every man has one or two or more habits to deal with, and most times it takes the help of God through prayer to destroy such habits. Just look deep into your life, name those bad habits that can affect you and begin to table them in prayer before God before they hinder your future from becoming a reality.

Here are some issues you need to put in prayers often

Pray for divine protection

Pray against generational curses, iniquities and wickedness. Some families are extremely evil; they rarely allow their offspring succeed in life.

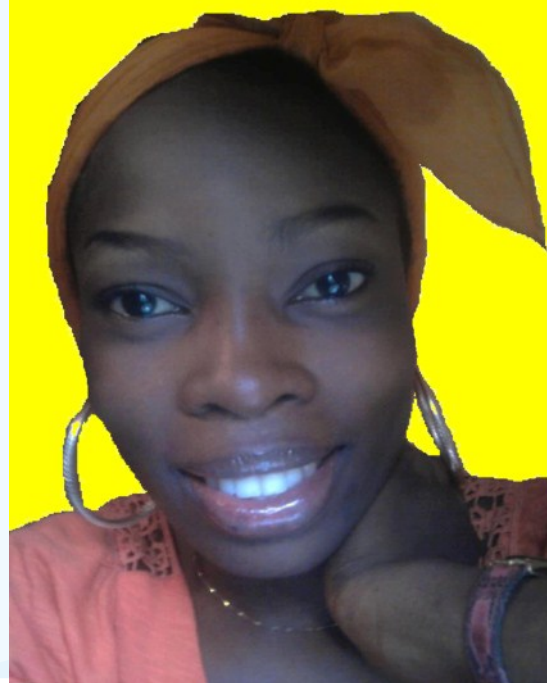
Pray against bad influence.

Pray for direction. Everyone needs direction in life. As per what course to study, whom to marry, what business to do, etc. it is better to be directed by God because you are assured of his protection and provisions when He leads you.

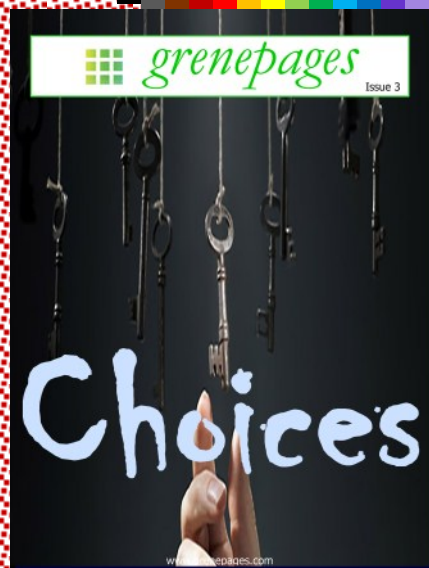
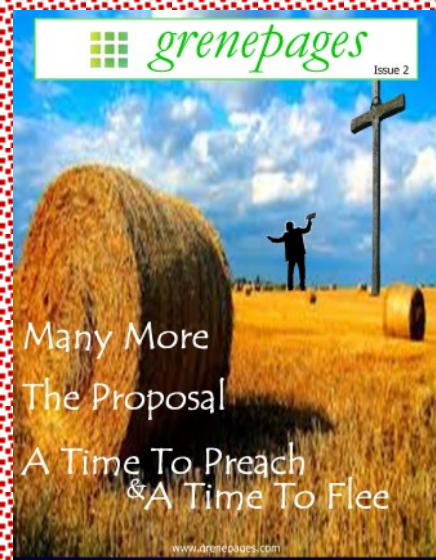
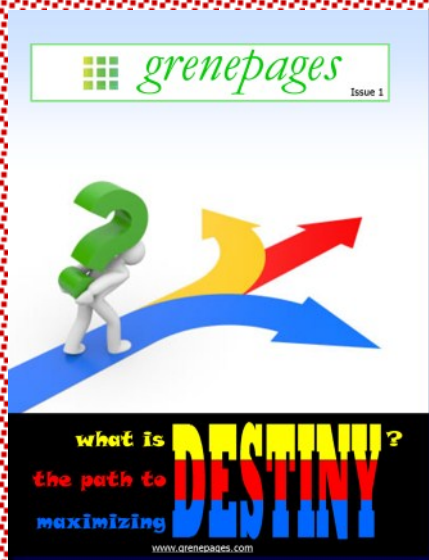
# Maximizing Teen-hood

**Ibukun Abraham**

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







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