

GOD'S RESTORATION

Unlocking 2025 Series



'I will bring my exiled people of Israel back from distant lands, and they will rebuild their ruined cities and live in them again. They will plant vineyards and gardens; they will eat their crops and drink their wine. I will firmly plant them there in their own land. They will never again be uprooted from the land I have given them," says the Lord your God.' Amos 9:14-15

The months ahead hold a lot of promise and one of the things we should expect as believers is the expansion of our relationship with God. A committed, intentional and consistent walk with God will always yield results and one of the results we should expect is restoration.

'For the Lord will restore the excellence of Jacob like the excellence of Israel, for the emptiers have emptied them out and ruined their vine branches.' Nahum 2:2

When we think of restoration, we may think of returning something to its previous state, the way it was before something happened to it. However, when God talks about restoration, His intention is to bring that person or situation back to His original plan for it.

What is the difference? As an illustration: Perhaps you feel you have lost time in a particular area and are asking the Lord for restoration of lost time. From God's perspective, where you are coming from may not be where God intended you to be. So when God restores you, He won't take you back to the less than ideal state you were before. Rather He will begin the process to return you to where He originally intended for you to be at that point.

This series we are exploring 10 critical areas we can trust God to bring restoration, and we ask as that the Holy Spirit grants us revelation and sensitivity to what He's doing, He also gives us the grace to trust His process.



Day 1 Restoring Lost Time

'So I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, The crawling locust, The consuming locust, And the chewing locust...' Joel 2:25

Time is a critical element in our lives because God has appointed a time for everything in our lives. Being out of sync with God's timing, it doesn't only affect the 'now', but years to come. Time is one of the few things in life that we can never get back, yesterday will never come around again. This is why one of the strategies the enemy uses against us is distractions that rob us of our time. These distractions come in varying forms and may even be legitimate in nature, but the enemy uses them with one goal in mind: to derail us from God's plan for our lives.

And thieves who get caught must pay back seven times what was stolen and lose everything. Proverbs 6:31

"But as for me, I trust in You, O LORD; I say, "You are my God." My times are in Your hand; Deliver me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me." Psalm 31:14-15

In the natural, it may seem almost impossible to restore lost time, especially where the consequences include lost opportunities, dreams and relationships. When God brings restoration of time He doesn't take us back in time, rather it means that God in His infinite mercy sets the machinery in motion to bring us to the point that we would have been had we not lost time. Not only this, because of the price Jesus paid for us, we have the right to demand extra. Which means that restoration can come with acceleration so God positions us even further than we should originally have been.

Let's not believe the lie that it's too late for things to change. Today let's place a demand on the covenant we have with Jesus and demand a restoration of the time the enemy has stolen from us. And don't forget, the enemy's bound to compensate with a minimum of sevenfold of what he's taken.

Prayer: Holy Spirit thank You for reminding me that God is the owner of my time and that the enemy is obligated to return sevenfold what he's stolen from me. I trust Your process of and thank You for restoring the impact of the lost seasons to me

Day 2

Bringing Wholeness

'Then He said to her, "Daughter, your faith [your personal trust and confidence in Me] has restored you to health; go in peace and be [permanently] healed from your suffering." ' Mark 5:34 AMP

In the scripture above a woman with a longstanding health issue had approached Jesus by faith, trusting that once she touched Him she would be healed. When Jesus spoke to the woman, He demonstrated His mind for us with respect to our health: that we should be in a permanent state of not just good health, but wholeness. Healing speaks to our body, but wholeness covers every aspect of our being - spirit, soul and body.

He answered, "Every plant which My heavenly Father did not plant will be torn up by the roots." Matthew 15:13

His interaction with the woman tells us two key things. First is that when Jesus gets involved, He doesn't do temporary fixes, He intends for whatever He is doing or has done to be permanent in our lives. Second is that when He heals, He doesn't just take care of the visible issue, but even things we may not even know exist. He goes right to the root of the issue and takes out everything that isn't part of His plan for your life.

"...Go in peace and be [permanently] healed from your suffering." ' Mark 5:34

"Even now the ax of God's judgment is poised, ready to sever the roots of the trees..." Matthew 3:10

The issues the woman had been going through for so long had impacted her peace as she'd have suffered emotionally from the trauma of having a longstanding issue with no clear way out, financially with all the medical bills and possibly socially from being stigmatized because of her issues. When Jesus restored her health, He also restored her peace and healed her internally, not just from the physical ailment, but all the underlying suffering she was facing as a result. Physicians, therapists, counsellors are all important parts of the healing process, but only God's restoration brings wholeness.

Prayer: Lord I ask that You go to the root of every ailment, seen or unseen and restore my health (mental, emotional, physical, etc) and make me whole as only You can



Day 3

Passion for The Word

“But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.” Matthew 13:23

In the busyness of life it's easy to forget our Bible study because it requires a time commitment on our part. And as important as prayer is, knowing and understanding God's word is just as critical because this is what will form our prayer life. Jesus Himself noted that our ability to bear fruit is dependent on this. Which is why restoring our Bible study life is an area believers cannot afford to underestimate.

“And as he sowed, some seed fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them.” Matthew 13:4

“But He answered and said, ‘It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’ Matthew 4:4

The enemy actively attacks our pursuit of receiving and understanding God's word because he knows how powerful a believer who knows and understands God's word is. It's from the word of God that we understand both who God is and who we are, our rights, responsibility and benefits. He knows (sometimes better than we do) the power of God's word especially when we walk in obedience to it.

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Psalms 119:105

For every attack of the enemy or challenge we may face, there is something the Bible has to say about it to guide us on the right path. The text may not describe the exact situation, but the principle for resolution will be available to us as the Holy Spirit guides us and brings understanding. Otherwise we will consistently be growing in the dark and living by trial and error. This is why our study life comes under attack and why we need the help of the Holy Spirit to protect, restore and sustain it.

Prayer: Lord restore my passion for Your word. Grant me the grace to be intentional and consistent in reading, understanding and obeying Your word so my life will always bear multiple fruit

Day 4

Soundness of Mind

'For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.' 2 Timothy 1:7

God didn't create us to walk in fear, but in power (fueled by faith in and obedience to His word and revelation of His character), love (fueled by intimacy with Him) and soundness of mind which is the consequence of the first two. Picture these as a 3-layer cake with power and love being layers one and two and sound mind being on top. All three layers go hand in hand.

'What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us?' Romans 8:31

'Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.' Matthew 28:20

'Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.' Isaiah 41:10

The greatest threat to soundness of mind is fear of both the known and the unknown. Unfortunately, when fear is in operation, faith takes a back seat as the two cannot co-exist. Once fear enters it gradually robs us of a sound mind as it takes root and the issue(s) become increasingly magnified until we start feeling there's no resolution possible. Fear makes us forget God has already told us that He is always with us and will never leave us. Fear also makes us forget that regardless of how daunting the situation appears, God has already worked out a solution for us.

"Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God" 1 John 4:1

Fear is a spirit that requires our cooperation to be active in our lives. If we do not accept what the spirit of fear is showing us, then it has no grip on our lives. This is why one of the ways to restore our peace is to be a diligent gatekeeper of what we allow into our space and consciously replace every false evidence appearing real with God's word.

Prayer: Lord I trust You for restoration of my soundness of mind. Help me consistently keep Your word in my heart and mind so I don't give the enemy a foothold to rob me of my sound mind.



Day 5

Right Relationships

“Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble.” Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

God designed people to be relational beings and relationships are critical because people play a strong role in how our life and walk with God turns out. When God wants to do something in and with us, He sends us people that will help in the direction He’s taking us. Likewise, when the enemy wants to attack, he sends people that will take us off track.

“As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.” Proverbs 27:17

“Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble.”
Proverbs 13:20

“Do not be deceived: “Evil company corrupts good habits.”” I Corinthians 15:33

Jesus was particular about His circle and his relational practice gives us an insight into how to manage our circles. Jesus had many disciples, but only twelve apostles and out of these three who were closest to Him and to whom He could be vulnerable with and entrust His legacy. His example shows us how to distinguish between colleagues, acquaintances, social friends, purpose partners and inner circle members. We need discernment to put people in the right relationship category, so we don’t expect more from the relationship than the people have the capacity to provide. Disappointment often comes when we give and expect more from people than the relationship proximity really deserves.

Can two people walk together without agreeing on the direction?” Amos 3:3

Our close circle should be made up of people who share the same belief systems and are on the same journey we are. None of us is perfect and we’re all work in progress, so it helps for those we choose to stick to should be headed in the same direction so we can support each other. When God restores our connections, it often leads to a refreshing of our circle and a revelation of what God has placed within them to help us become all He’s called us to be. We must also ask the Lord to show us who He’s sent to walk with us per season. We each have a ‘company’ we’re assigned to who will help, encourage, chastise where necessary so we excel in every season of life.

Prayer point: Lord show me and connect me to the people You’ve assigned to me in this season. Help me not to assess people superficially, but through the eyes of Your Spirit.



Day 6

True Riches (1)

"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.' Matthew 6:24

God is very interested in restoring every aspect of our lives and our finances are no exception. In God's original plan, man was designed to be a steward and manager of all the earth's resources which God owns as creator of all things. One of the tools that man is to use to manage these resources is finances.

'Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others.' 1 Timothy 6:17-18

'And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.' Deuteronomy 8:18

There is nothing wrong with money, it can be a very useful resource in expanding the frontiers of the kingdom of God on earth and making life easier for a lot of people. In fact, the Lord desires that we prosper in every way, just not at the expense of our walk with Him. The issue is when our pursuit of money becomes a priority, we start trusting money more than we trust in God, and forget that He is the one that made it possible to get whatever we have in the first place.

'For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.' 1 Timothy 6:10

When the pursuit of money becomes a goal, it becomes easier to justify certain actions and knowingly compromise on God's standards to acquire more money. Money is a servant that goes wherever we send it. – good or bad. Unfortunately we may be serving what was designed to serve us. When we do this, the message we're sending to God is that we trust our finances more than we trust Him and we open ourselves up to many sorrows.

Prayer: Lord thank You for showing me that money is my servant and not my master. I trust You to take care of my needs without my compromising my walk with You.

Day 7

True Riches (2)

'The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him.' Psalms 24:1

Yesterday we started looking at how we may be serving money rather than God. Recall we said that there's nothing wrong with money and the Lord delights in blessing us. However, we err when we place the pursuit of money over the things of God. For us to have clarity on this, let's look at what Jesus said.

'For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.' Matthew 6:32b-33

"All these things" are essentially the legitimate daily pursuits of life which includes earning a living. Jesus tells us that our Father in heaven recognizes that we need them, but we should not place the pursuit of them above the kingdom of God and His righteousness. He assures us that when we get our priorities right, "all these things" will be added to us.

"I [Wisdom] love all who love me. Those who search will surely find me. I have riches and honor, as well as enduring wealth and justice. My gifts are better than gold, even the purest gold, my wages better than sterling silver!' Proverbs 8:17-19

When God restores our finances what He gives us isn't money, but access to the spiritual gifts that will generate true riches for us, with favour and honour added to it. In restoring us, God resets our priorities, such that our pursuit is for Him and as we increase in intimacy with Him, we also increase in the things that bring wealth. This doesn't mean we should neglect work or sound financial planning, but we do so with the understanding that true and lasting wealth can only come from God.

Prayer: Lord help me reset my priorities and trust You as my source and the giver of everything good. Restore my pursuit of walking closely with You as I know You alone have the capacity to take care of all I need and more.

Day 8

Works of Our Hands

'The Lord God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it.' Genesis 2:15

"...Cursed is the ground for your sake; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life." Genesis 3:17

God designed work and one of the first things He did with Adam was to assign the task of tending and watching over the Garden of Eden. However, when man sinned, the dynamics changed. The ground didn't immediately yield to Adam anymore and it required toil to feed. The difference between working hard and toiling is that toil requires an inordinate amount of effort that does not yield commensurate results. In popular parlance, it can be described as working like an elephant but eating like an ant. Some of us may be experiencing this in our careers, but that's not God's plan for a believer.

And let the [gracious] favor of the Lord our God be on us; Confirm for us the work of our hands—
Yes, confirm the work of our hands. Psalms 90:17 AMP

'For you shall eat the fruit of [the labor of] your hands, you will be happy and blessed and it will be well with you.' Psalms 128:2

'Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take.' Proverbs 3:6

Because God designed work, He knows what it takes for us to get consistent results. He has made provision for us to be free from toiling so that we will be able to enjoy the fruits of our hard work. The key requirement is that we yield to Him, acknowledging that He is the source of all fruitfulness and obey whatever it is He has asked us to do. He knows better than we do the path for long term success and how to maximize the result of our hard work. Beyond that He knows what and how we must develop to consistently be relevant in our field.

Prayer: Lord restore my fruitfulness, give me direction and instruction for my work. Bless, establish and perfect the works of my hands and all that I do. Keep me fresh, flourishing and relevant in my field of expertise

Day 9

Rest and Refreshing

'It's useless to rise early and go to bed late, and work your worried fingers to the bone. Don't you know he enjoys giving rest to those he loves?' Psalm 127:2

The world we live in today celebrates constant frantic activity where busyness is equated to success. However, God's perspective is very different. Rest is a critical part of restoration. The Lord designed the human body to sleep a certain number of ours and during that time, internal restoration and regeneration takes place. Similarly, our lives require periods of rest where we pause, reflect, restore and refresh.

'On the seventh day God had finished his work of creation, so he rested from all his work. And God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy, because it was the day when he rested from all his work of creation.' Genesis 2:2-3

Not only did God rest when He finished the work of creation, He also blessed the day and declared it holy – so clearly rest is important to God. Yet it's one of the things we routinely rob ourselves of. What does rest do for us?

'He lets me rest in green meadows; he leads me beside peaceful streams. He renews my strength. He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name.' Psalms 23:2-3

'This is what the Sovereign Lord, the Holy One of Israel, says: "Only in returning to me and resting in me will you be saved. In quietness and confidence is your strength..."' Isaiah 30:15

It can be difficult connecting with God in a busy, activity filled day. This is why intentionally taking time to rest gives the Lord the opportunity to renew our strength and receive His guidance. This doesn't have to be for extended periods of time, sometimes a few hours consistently is what we require. This time isn't to sleep but to intentionally take time out, not just from the busyness of work but also the noisiness of life and gadgets. A time spent consciously reconnecting with God, spending time to reflect on His word and fellowship with Him to make sure we haven't strayed off His path for our lives.

Prayer: Lord help me to prioritize time with You daily so I can receive restoration, refreshing and strength.



Day 10

Prayer Life

'The fire shall be burning continually on the altar; it shall not [be allowed to] go out.' Leviticus 6:13

In the Old Testament the priests had to keep the fire on the altar burning constantly, making sure it never went out. Every morning fresh wood was placed in the fire to keep it going and then the sacrifices could be placed on the altar. In the new covenant that we have through Jesus things are a little different.

'But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light' I Peter 2:9

'Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?' I Corinthians 6:19

Today we do not need to go to a priest to burn offerings on the altar on our behalf for God to hear us. As priests our bodies are the temple of God and we have our own personal altar which is powered by our prayer life. The principle of keeping the fire burning remains the same – we must ensure that our prayer life isn't allowed to grow cold otherwise we risk losing our connection with the Lord. When we lose the desire to pray or get distracted when we do pray, it's the enemy at work targeting our connection with God. This shouldn't be taken lightly as prayer is like oxygen for a believer.

'Then I will pour out a spirit of grace and prayer on the family of David and on the people of Jerusalem...' Zechariah 12:10

'be unceasing and persistent in prayer' 1 Thessalonians 5:17

The power of the Holy Spirit helps us keep the fire burning. He's the spirit behind prayer and can refresh us daily so we have a vibrant and fruitful prayer life and time in God's presence. He's the one who helps us pray consistently, persistently and accurately regardless of how demanding our schedules may be. In fact, the busier we are the more we need to pray.

It seems very simple, yet it is often the most challenging thing to maintain, especially when life gets very busy. But if we remind ourselves daily that prayer is the oxygen that keeps us burning for God, then it changes our approach to prayer. It reminds us that we cannot pray on our own so we need to draw on the Holy Spirit daily to help us stay consistent in prayer.

Prayer: Lord, restore my prayer life, pour the Spirit of prayer upon me. Help me have a vibrant and fruitful prayer life so the fire on my altar never goes out.



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