



Faith News

March/April 2015

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PRAYER

FOR SALVATION

If you do not know the Lord Jesus as your Saviour and Lord, pray the following prayer in faith, and Jesus will be your Lord!

Heavenly Father, I come to You in the Name of Jesus. Your Word Says, "Whoever shall call on the name of the Lord Shall be saved" (Acts 2:21). Come into my heart Jesus and be Lord over my life according to Romans 10:9-10: "That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord', and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved."

I confess that Jesus is Lord, and I believe in my heart that God raised Him from the dead.

If you have just prayed this prayer, please write and let us know of your decision. We have a **free** minibook, titled **The New Birth** that we would like to send you to help you begin your new life in Jesus!



SERVICE TIMINGS

Sundays

Worship & the Word	10:30 am
Covenant Kids	10:30 am
Nagamese Service	2:30 pm
Prayer & Praise	5:30 pm*

Wednesday

Pastor's Bible Study	5:30 pm
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Friday

Dream Team	5:00 pm
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Saturdays

Radical Generation	4:30 pm
*as announced	

Faith News is a bi-monthly publication of Spirit of Faith Church, Kuda 'B' Village Dimapur - 797112; Nagaland
Tel : (03862) 231 588
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In association with John Roughton Ministries
Spirit of Faith International USA
www.spirit-faith.org

Executive Publisher	:	John Roughton
Design & Layout	:	Sentirenba Lemtur & Sajjur Rahman Mazumdar
Printed at	:	Creative Printers, Midland, PWD Road, Dimapur

This Magazine is provided free of cost without any subscription rate and may not be sold or used for fund raising. Some of the views expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the views of this ministry.

THE DANGER OF THE FLESH



By Pastor
John Roughton

Romans 8:12,13

So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

There are enemies to the Christian life. To walk in victory we must defeat the devil, the world, and the flesh. You need to know that you have authority over him. The Bible says in **James 4:7 Resist the devil and he will flee from you.** Stand against him and he will run from you!

We don't have to be conformed to this world. You don't have to follow the crowd. You can dare to be different. Besides, **1 John 2:17** says, **This world is passing away along with its desires.**

But the greatest single enemy in the Christian life is not the devil or the world. It's the flesh. The most difficult challenge to overcome, the biggest obstacle in your way, is the flesh. The thing that trips up most believers on the journey to reach their God-given destiny is the flesh.

Most of our problems are flesh related problems. Yes, there is a devil and you have to deal with him. Yes, there is a world and you have to turn away from worldliness. But you cannot always blame the devil or society for your failures.

James 1:14 says, **but each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desires.**

We are tempted because of our desires. If there was not something in you that wanted it, the devil could not tempt you with it. In other words, if you won't live according to the flesh the enemy has nothing to work with, you are untemptable.

1 John 5:18 (NKJV)

He who has been born of God keeps himself and the wicked one does not touch him. When you deny the flesh, you're denying the enemy access to your life. If you keep yourself, you are untouchable. The enemy can't get a handle on you. And if you won't walk in the flesh, the sway of this world won't have any influence over you.

We are not debtors to our flesh. Before they commit a sin, some Christians will say, "I know it's wrong, but I owe it to myself. I've worked hard and I deserve it." Or, "I've been cheated and hurt, and I owe this to myself." No, you don't owe your flesh anything.

Proverbs 22:7 says, **The borrower is the slave of the lender.** If you are a debtor to your flesh, you're a slave to it. But in Christ we have been set free from sin's power and have become a slave of righteousness.

It's dangerous for you to let the flesh dominate you. Notice, **for if you live according to the flesh you will die.** I don't think this verse is talking about physical

death. Otherwise, there would be no Christians today—they'd all be dead! Every believer at some point has followed his flesh.

I also don't believe Paul is suggesting that carnal Christians won't go to heaven. The Corinthians were carnal, yet in his letter to Corinth, Paul never suggested they were lost. He said they were babies and needed to grow up. He gave them warnings, but never said they had lost their salvation.

The Greek word **die** also means, "to decay and wither, to rot." It also means to become dry. It suggests misery, unhappiness and failure. That means if you are dry spiritually, miserable, and failing, the flesh is involved.

The **flesh** is the sinful tendency of the flesh; the fallen human nature that dwells in the human body, which we inherited from Adam.

James 4:1 (NKJV)

Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members?

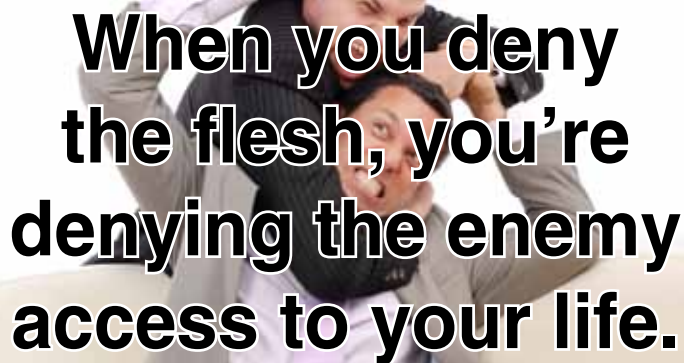
This verse defines the lust of the flesh as desires for pleasure that war in your members. These are sinful desires which work in your physical senses: your eyes, ears, hands, etc. Of course, not all of your body's desires are sinful. It's not a sin to sleep. Jesus slept in the boat during a storm (just don't sleep while I'm preaching!) It's not a sin to be hungry, just don't eat like a pig, eat in moderation.

Sin, is taking a desire that is good and healthy and pushing it to an extreme, unhealthy, degree. It is trying to satisfy a good desire in a bad way. It's not wrong to want nice clothes. It is wrong to steal clothing from a shopping mall. It's not wrong to want a vehicle. It is wrong to covet someone else's vehicle.

James 4:1

Where do wars and fights come from among you,

do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members?



When you deny the flesh, you're denying the enemy access to your life.

Why is there strife among believers? The flesh. If we follow our fallen human nature we will destroy every relationship we have. We will ruin every divine connection. Why are there divisions in the church? Most disputes aren't really theological; they're personal, because of the flesh. The war you're having with others is evidence you're losing the war with your flesh.

There's a war going on in your body. It's a battle that you cannot afford to lose. And it's a fight every Christian must face. The hardest battle of life is not with demons, it's with your flesh. Most of our problems are not demonic; they're "Adamic." Some Christians who have bad habits want you to cast the devil out of them. But you can't cast out flesh, you have to subdue it.

1 Corinthians 9:24,27

Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it.

But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

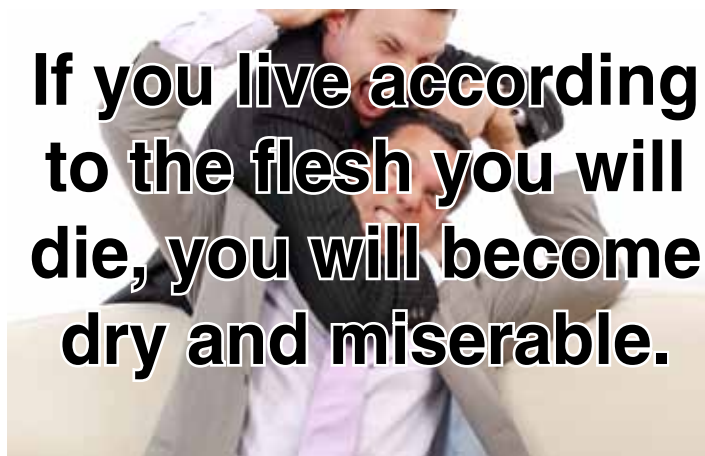
The **race** is God's plan for your life, your calling. But if you let the flesh dominate you will not finish your race, you will not complete your assignment.

If you are **disqualified**, your race is over. Most people do not finish their race. Time runs out before they reach the end. In fact, the body of Christ is full of men and women who have never even started their race.

As you pursue God's will and plan for your life, grace intervenes. The ability of God becomes available. The Lord opens doors for you and brings the right people into your life at the right time. His grace empowers you and propels you. But if you don't discipline your flesh you'll never make it. In other words, the sinful tendency of your human nature will sabotage the plan of God.

This journey is not a meandering trail, it's a staircase. With each step you move higher. As you go further you move higher. It requires more personal development. Your dream will not be fulfilled at the level you're at, you'll have to move up higher. Your dream is not where you are now, it's waiting for you at the level you need to move to.

v.26-27 I do not box as one who beats the air, but I discipline my body. Some Christians are always fighting the wrong fight. The enemy is not your fellow Christian or the church down the street. It's you. More specifically, your flesh. If you live according to the flesh you will fail.



Your spirit is born again with the life and nature of

God. But you have the same body you've always had. You're a new man but living in the old house. Don't allow sin to reign in your body.

There is a battle in every believer between two opposing forces: the fallen human nature of our flesh and God's divine nature in our born again spirit, empowered by the Holy Spirit. Don't let the enemy convince you that you're the only one who struggles. All of us have weaknesses in our human nature.

If you live according to the flesh you will die, you will become dry and miserable. But if you live according to the Spirit, you will **live**, the opposite of death, in other words, you will have a blessed and happy life. If **death** in **Romans 8:13** means stepping away from the presence of God, then **live** must mean intimacy with the Father, enjoying the reality of His presence.

That means even though we are saved, we can live closer or further away from the Lord. Even though we are saved we can experience more or less of God's grace. Life can be rich and rewarding or end with frustration and failure. The difference is whether we live according to the human nature in our flesh or in God's nature in our born again spirit.

There's a war going on. There will be a winner and a loser. If you follow your flesh, your heart will resent it. You may have pleasure but not joy. You may have lust but not love. If you follow your inward nature and deny the flesh, there is some discomfort, but the end is glorious.

Jesus said in **John 4:31**, **I have food to eat that you know nothing about.** He wasn't talking about pork and bamboo shoot. He said, **My food is to do the will of Him who sent me and to accomplish His work.** There is a price to pay to finish your course, but the journey is joyful. Many people think it is noble to serve the Lord, but it is more than that; it is satisfying. You'll never be truly happy until you surrender to the Lord and deny yourself to do His will.

लिखा हुआ वचन जीवित वचन को प्रकट करता है



यहून्ना 1३:१

आदि में वचन था, और वचन परमेश्वर के साथ था, और वचन परमेश्वर था।

यहून्ना, पवित्रआत्मा की अगुवाई में होकर यीशु को ही परमेश्वर का वचन मानता है। यहून्ना 1३:१ में वह यीशु को, जीवन का वचन कहता है। प्रकाशितवाक्य 19:१3 में यहून्ना ने उसे एक सफेद घोड़े के घुड़सवार के रूप में देखा जो कि बहुत से मुकुट पहने हुए था, उसकी आँखों से आग निकल रही थी, उसने लहू से सने हुए कपड़े पहने हुए थे, और जिस नाम से उसे पुकारा जाता है, वह है परमेश्वर का वचन। यीशु वचन है जो कि शरीर में प्रकट हुआ।

मैं आपसे परमेश्वर के वचन के महत्त्व के बारे में बात करना चाहता हूँ। बहुत से विश्वासी लोग वचन को छोड़कर प्रभु यीशु के साथ संबंध रखना चाहते हैं, लेकिन वे ऐसा नहीं कर सकते हैं। वह ही वचन है। मेरी बात को गलत न समझें, यीशु बाइबल नहीं है और बाइबल यीशु नहीं है। हम इस किताब बाइबल की झुक कर आराधना या पूजा नहीं करते हैं। हम इस पुस्तक में लिखे संदेश में विश्वास करते हैं और उसी के अनुसार जीते हैं।


शास्त्र (लिखा हुआ वचन) हमारे सामने यीशु (जीवित वचन) को प्रकट करता है। यदि आप परमेश्वर के पुत्र के प्रकाशन को पाना चाहते हैं, वह आपको बाइबल में से ही मिलेगा। परमेश्वर का वचन

जो कुछ भी उसके बारे में कहता है, वह वही है। अगर आप यीशु को अच्छी तरह से जानना चाहते हैं, तो बाइबल को अच्छी तरह से जान लें।

इवानियों 1३:१

प्राचीनकाल में परमेश्वर ने नवियों के द्वारा पूर्वजों से बार बार तथा अनेक प्रकार से बातें की।

1500 सालों के समय से, उत्पत्ति से लेकर, परमेश्वर धीरे धीरे मनुष्य के लिए अपनी इच्छाओं व योजनाओं को प्रकट करने लगा। बाइबल “आगे बढ़ते रहने वाला प्रकाशन” है। बाइबल की हर एक जुड़ने वाली किताब के साथ, परमेश्वर ने जो भी कहा था, परमेश्वर उसमें कुछ न कुछ जोड़ता जा रहा था, उसका विरोध किए बिना। पुराना नियम हमसे प्रतीकों व छाया के रूप में बात करता है। नया नियम हमें सच्चाई बताता है। पुराना नियम हमें आने वाली बातों की तस्वीर दिखाता है। नया नियम हमें उस व्यक्ति को दिखाता है जो आ चुका है। सोचिए, क्या होगा अगर कुछ लोगों की आँखों पर पट्टी बाँधकर उन्हें हाथी के पास छोड़ दिया जाए। हर एक आदमी वही बताने की कोशिश करेगा जो वह अपने हाथों से महसूस करता है। एक आदमी हाथी की सूँड पकड़ कर कहता है, “जरूर यह कोई बड़ा साँप होगा।” दूसरा आदमी पूँछ को पकड़ लेता है और



यदि आप परमेश्वर के पुत्र के प्रकाशन को पाना चाहते हो, आप को वह बाइबल से मिलेगी। यीशु वही है जो कुछ भी परमेश्वर का वचन कहता है कि वह है।

कहता है, “नहीं, यह तो एक छोटी बकरी के जैसा लगता है।” कोई दूसरा उस हाथी के पेट को हाथों से पकड़कर कहता है, “यह किसी बड़ी चट्टान के जैसा है।” फिर दूसरा हाथी के कान को छू कर कहता है; “इसके पंखों के जैसे पंख हैं।” हर एक आदमी एक तरह से सही है, लेकिन उनमें से कोई भी पूरे सत्य को नहीं जानता है। उनमें से कोई भी पूरी तस्वीर को नहीं देखता है।

सारे पुराने नियम में परमेश्वर ने छुटकारे की योजना, उद्धार की योजना के रहस्य को बनाए रखा और वह थोड़ा थोड़ा करके भविष्यद्वक्ताओं को देता रहा। यह सब यीशु की ओर ही संकेत करता है।

इब्रानियों 1:2 इन अंतिम दिनों में परमेश्वर ने हमसे अपने पुत्र के द्वारा बातें की हैं।

यीशु केवल परमेश्वर का संदेश लाने वाला ही नहीं है, बल्कि वह स्वयं संदेश है! परमेश्वर ने जिन भविष्यद्वक्ताओं का इस्तेमाल किया यीशु उनकी सूची में से एक नहीं है। यीशु ने पुराने नियम के नबियों की तरह से पवित्रआत्मा की प्रेरणा से समय समय पर भविष्यवाणी नहीं की। नहीं, जब भी उसने अपना मुँह खोला, परमेश्वर बोल रहा था। यीशु ने कहा, “जो वचन तुम सुनते हो वह मेरा नहीं, वरन् पिता का है जिसने मुझे भेजा है (यहून्ना 14:24)। यीशु ही वचन है।

परमेश्वर पिता नाटक लिखने वाले लेखक के जैसा है- वह आदमी जो नाटक की कहानी लिखता है। उसने पहला दृश्य शुरू होने से पहले ही अपने नाटक को पूरा का पूरा लिख दिया। इस संसार की नींव रखने से पहले ही परमेश्वर ने छुटकारे की योजना बना ली थी (इफिसियों 1:4, कुलुसियों 1:26)

लेकिन, परमेश्वर दर्शकों की भीड़ में केवल देखने के लिए ही नहीं बैठा है। वह ड्रामे का हिस्सा है, पूरी तरह से इसमें शामिल रहता है, एक्टरस लोगों को बताता रहता है कि कब क्या करना चाहिए और पर्दे के पीछे काम करता रहता है। लेकिन, आखिर के दृश्य में, अंत के इन दिनों में, परमेश्वर पीछे के पर्दे से निकल गया है और वह मुख्य मंच पर आ गया है। वचन शरीरधारी बन गया और हमारे बीच में रहने लगा। वह अपने पुत्र के रूप में हमारे पास आया। इन्सान के छुटकारे के इस ड्रामे में यीशु मुख्य पात्र है। वह कहानी का हिरो (नायक) है। इतिहास सच में यीशु का ही इतिहास है!

आप बाइबल के बिना यीशु को नहीं जान सकते और बिना यीशु के आप बाइबल को भी नहीं जान सकते हैं। लिखा हुआ वचन हमारे लिए जीवित वचन को प्रकट करता है, और जीवित वचन हमारे सामने लिखित वचन को प्रकट करता है। वचन हमें दिखता है कि यीशु कौन है। और यीशु हमें वह अंतरात्मा देता है जिसके ज़रिए हम वचन को समझ सकते हैं। मुझे यीशु को जानने के लिए उसे आँखों से देखने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। मुझे यीशु का दर्शन देखने की ज़रूरत नहीं है। मैं उसे वचन में देखता हूँ।

अगर आप चाहते हैं कि संसार के लोग यीशु को देखें, तो हमें जीवन की रोटी यानि कि वचन खोलने की ज़रूरत है। अपने अनुभवों को प्रचार न करें (हाँ, आप अपनी गवाही बता सकते हैं) और अपनी भावनाओं का प्रचार न करें (आप की भावनाओं को प्रकट करना कोई बुरी बात नहीं है), किंतु वचन का प्रचार करें और वचन को सुनने से लोगों के हृदय पवित्र आग से जल जाएँगे!

लिखा हुआ वचन हमारे लिए जीवित वचन को प्रकट करता है। जीवित वचन हमारे लिए लिखे हुए वचन को प्रकट करता है।



अगर आप यीशु के साथ अच्छा रिश्ता रखना चाहते हो, तो बाइबल के साथ अच्छा रिश्ता बना लो।



BIBLE SCHOOL

Spirit of Faith



Joel Chettri
(Arunachal)

I graduated at SFBS where my whole life has been transformed. I am now ministering to youth groups in Arunachal and many young people's lives have been changed because of the teachings that we got from SFBS. Together with me there are a few more SFBS grads and we reach out to the youth as a team. Though we have face some persecution, God is always with us and delivers us, and we will never quit. We give God the glory.



Gurvinder
(Punjab)

I am a graduate of SFBS where I got my spiritual groundings. Today, I am working for the Kingdom of God by ministering in some of the villages in Punjab. God is so good and faithful, and He has provided all my needs, financially and materially as well. Even up to this day, I have not looked to people for my needs but fully put my trust in God and He has never failed.



Manage your mind

Quite often we are trying to change and improve our lives by focusing on the outside. Some people deactivate their accounts and block friends on social sites hoping to change their life for the better. Yet, at the end of the day they become discouraged and disappointed because of the lack of progress and change.

In order to change our life we must first change our thoughts; and we can only begin to manage our life when we manage our mind. The quality of our life will determine the quality of our thoughts. Our lives will not be able to rise above our thoughts. As a man thinks, so is he (Proverbs 23:7).

Our mind goes through an average of 70,000 thoughts per day, and those 70,000 thoughts per day will determine where you end up in life and how you will go through life. Proverbs 4:23 says, "Guard your heart above all else,

To draw young people to Him and to each other
To Glorify and make Him known
And to touch our world with His love.



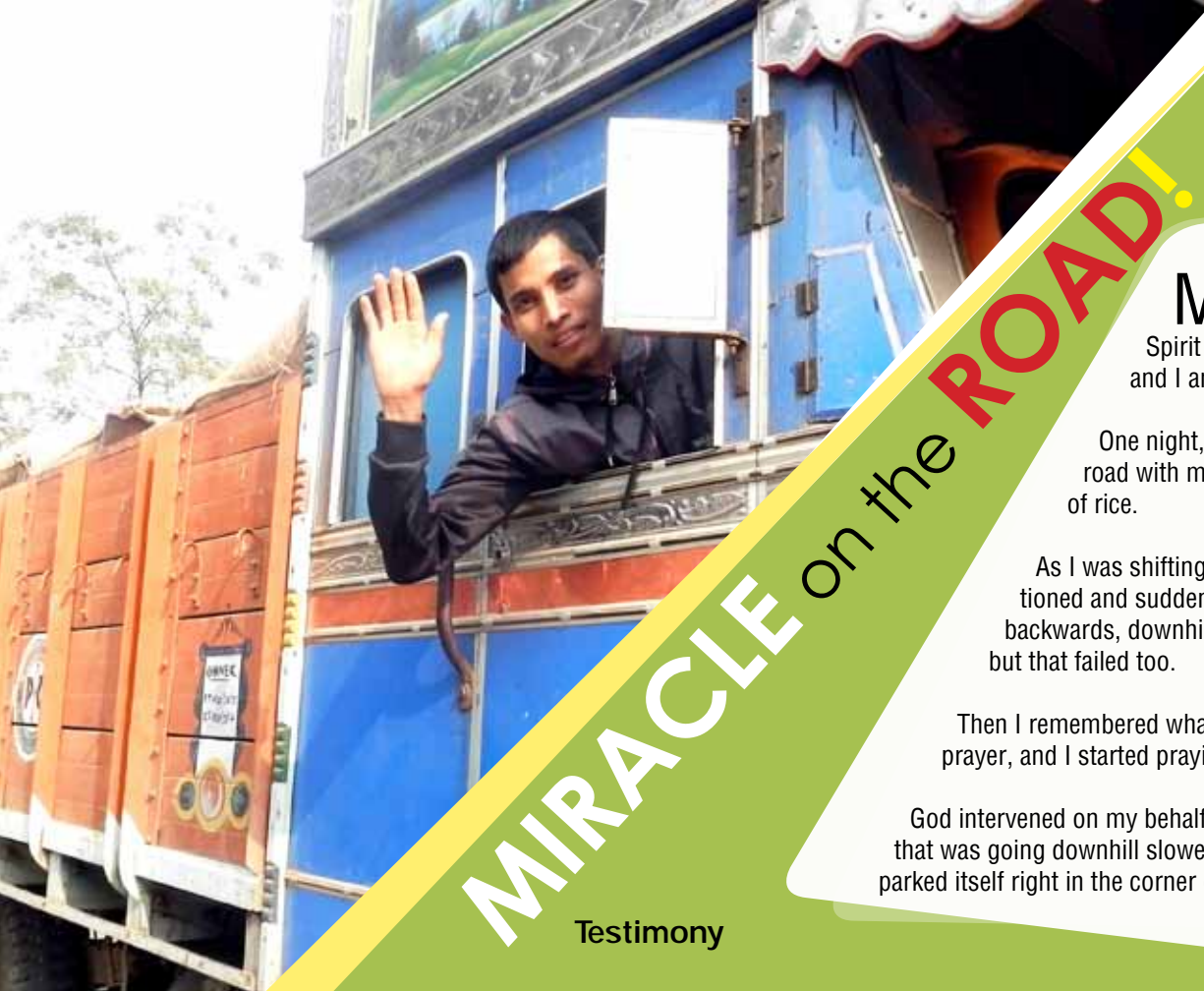
for out of it flows everything you do." Managing, and protecting our mind must be a priority in our life.

In order to begin managing our mind we must first be willing to fight for our mind, relentlessly. There will never come a day where the enemy will leave our mind alone, because his easiest access into our life is through our thoughts. Next, we must filter our thoughts. We don't have to accept every thought that comes to our mind. In order to filter our mind we must read the Bible, and if the thoughts in our head do not line up with the Word of God, we do not need to accept and meditate on them.

Lastly, take the time to think on purpose. Think about what is going on in your head! The best time to do this is during prayer. Make it a daily habit to talk to God each day about what is going through your mind, and ask Him to help you change your thoughts to line up with His Word.



GOD cannot use our life to its full potential if we have a negative mind. It's never too late to begin again.



MIRACLE on the ROAD!

Testimony

My name is Prasant Bordoloi. I am a member of Spirit of Faith Nagamese church and I am a truck driver.

One night, I was driving up a steep road with my truck loaded with 9 tonnes of rice.

As I was shifting to another gear, it malfunctioned and suddenly the truck started going backwards, downhill. I pressed on the brakes but that failed too.

Then I remembered what was taught in church about prayer, and I started praying in tongues!

God intervened on my behalf and the heavily loaded truck that was going downhill slowed down immediately and parked itself right in the corner of that steep road!



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