

Scriptural MEDITATIONS

For

PARENTS - IN - WAITING

A 15-Day Journey



KEMI OYEDEPO

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Acknowledgements

My teacher, my helper, my comforter and my guide - The Holy Spirit.
I remain grateful for Your inspiration and empowerment.



EQUIPPING YOU. EDUCATING YOU. ENRICHING YOUR FAMILY LIFE.



So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

~Isaiah 55:11~

Crisis-Proof Your Family

Introduction

When God said, “*be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth*” (Genesis 1:28), He meant it! He was not speaking empty words; those words were full of life. Those words carried so much weight that since the day He spoke them, they have not stopped finding expression in everything, including in human existence. The greatest effect of that powerful statement is seen in the creation of life, itself. God put everything inside of man at creation to carry on the cycle of life without interruption. What an awesome God! The good news is that this blessing is readily available for anyone who desires it.

While this was God’s intention from the beginning, there are many couples that are yet to experience the joys of parenthood as a reality. However, this does not nullify God’s word. It may take longer for some individuals to experience His blessings, but as long as you stand firm on His Word and refuse to waver, everything He has spoken must come to pass. My heart is drawn to parents who are still waiting for their own children and while praying for those in this category one day, I was inspired by the Holy Spirit to compile this brief devotional, with every scripture coming directly from Him.

This is specifically for:

- Those who are experiencing delays in getting pregnant.
- Those who are already pregnant and may have received negative reports.
- Those who want to saturate their hearts and minds with God’s word before their journey into parenthood begins.

This 15-day meditational journey was compiled to boost your faith and assure you that God still has your best interest at heart. Just as faith comes by hearing the word of God (Romans 10:17), faith also comes and grows through the process of reading, and meditating on the word of God. With every scripture, comes a charge for the day to further encourage you. I urge you to read them with full concentration, allowing them to sink into the depths of your heart.

Use this resource as often as you need it until your testimony arrives and be assured that those words, “*be fruitful*” straight out of the mouth of God, will not return to Him void. It will accomplish what He sent it to do in your family!

At the end of this devotional, you will find my personal testimony, which I have often shared. I trust God that it would have a positive impact on you. Please put every fear and concern aside and don't let anything steal these promises of God from your heart. Even if His promise seems slow in coming, wait patiently, for it will surely take place.

My heart is full of excitement for you and your family, and I congratulate you in advance.

Kemi Oyedepo



DAY 1

Then one of them said, "I will return to you about this time next year, and your wife, Sarah, will have a son!" Sarah was listening to this conversation from the tent. Abraham and Sarah were both very old by this time, and Sarah was long past the age of having children. So she laughed silently to herself and said, "How could a worn-out woman like me enjoy such pleasure, especially when my master--my husband--is also so old?" Then the LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh? Why did she say, 'Can an old woman like me have a baby?' Is anything too hard for the LORD? I will return about this time next year, and Sarah will have a son."

~Genesis 18:10-14~

Take a moment to ponder on that question – “*Is anything too hard for the Lord?*” That is not the kind of question that should be answered casually but deeply meditated on. Can anything ever be too hard for the one who created the heavens and the earth? Can anything ever be too hard for the one who created man himself? What do you think? I hope your answer is a resounding NO! No matter how hard your situation may seem, you have to keep reminding yourself that there is nothing too hard for God to overturn. Many times, we hear medical professionals say, “*this will take a miracle*” or “*unless God is involved*” when they reach a hard conclusion.

Crisis-Proof Your Family

You may have heard such statements more times than you can count but I want you to be encouraged because the one who performs miracles with ease is on your side. Perhaps you are wondering exactly how He would do it for you or you are concerned about when you would have your children. However, what is most important is how you answer the question He asked Abraham. If you are sure of your answer, anytime you remember the doctor’s report or anxiety rises up in you, boldly exclaim, “my case is not too hard for the Lord!” Once you can answer that question with confidence and a sense of conviction, there is no doubt that your case, just like Sarah’s, is unquestionably settled.



DAY 2

Sing, O childless woman, you who have never given birth! Break into loud and joyful song, O Jerusalem, you who have never been in labor. For the desolate woman now has more children than the woman who lives with her husband," says the LORD. Enlarge your house; build an addition. Spread out your home, and spare no expense!

~Isaiah 54:1-2~

When someone is expecting an important or long-awaited guest, they are full of excitement, going over and beyond to ensure their guest's time with them will be a pleasant one. If you have been in such a situation before, how did you prepare? I'm almost certain that you set up the guest room and ensured there was an abundance of supplies and food. In fact, if you could, you spared no expense! What plans have you put in place as you expect your child(ren)? This scripture indicates some steps that you should take as you wait.

First, you are told to break into loud and joyful singing. You may ask, "why should I rejoice? I have no reason to rejoice at this time." I want you to know that you have so many reasons to rejoice. The children you long for are on their way but it is impossible to receive anything from God, including children, without joy. Secondly, you are admonished to enlarge your house, build an addition, spread out your room, and spare no expense! In other words, get yourself ready for the blessings that are coming.

There may be no physical manifestation yet but keep preparing yourself for the role of motherhood and fatherhood that you are about to step into. Put your house in order; gather the relevant information you need through reading books and observing or helping other parents. Get ready to accommodate your own children. Be expectant as you picture their arrival. They are on their way!



DAY 3

Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you. ~1 Peter 5:7~

You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!

~Isaiah 26:3~

Crisis-Proof Your Family

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

~Philippinas 4:6 - 7~

God cares about you! Yes, He does. In fact, you are always on His mind. You may be weighed down right now with anxiety and concerns about the children you desire, or your mind may be constantly thinking that you will never have your own children. God needs you to know that no matter what the circumstances may be in your life right now, He cares for you more than you could ever realize. And He wants you to hand over your worries to Him. Jesus rightly said that no one could add a single hour to their life no matter how much they worry. Anxiety and worry have never helped anyone, and it has never changed any situation for the better, therefore you need to deliberately let them go.

In case you are wondering how you can do this; remember, Jesus said you should come to Him, He wants you to lay your burdens down at His feet and He would give you rest for your soul. He would lighten the load that you carry and fill your heart and mind with His peace that is beyond human comprehension. Peace means to be free from disturbance; the kind of peace that makes people wonder why you are even at peace. That is the kind of peace that God has for you.

I also want you to know that anxiety and worry fall under the category of a weight. Lay them aside and allow God to give you rest. He is the one who has the power to give children so keep your focus on Him, and continue to enjoy the best of your life and marriage. As you do, may the God of all peace keep you strengthened in this waiting season!



DAY 4

Isaac pleaded with the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was unable to have children. The LORD answered Isaac's prayer, and Rebekah became pregnant with twins.

~Genesis 25:21~

But the angel said, "Don't be afraid, Zechariah! God has heard your prayer. Your wife, Elizabeth, will give you a son, and you are to name him John.

~Luke 1:13~

Crisis-Proof Your Family

Then God remembered Rachel's plight and answered her prayers by enabling her to have children.

~Genesis 30:22 ~

So Boaz took Ruth into his home, and she became his wife. When he slept with her, the LORD enabled her to become pregnant, and she gave birth to a son.

~Ruth 4:13~

This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

~1 John 5:4~

These scriptures clearly show the place of prayer and the respect God has for His word. Rachel prayed specifically for children and God answered that specific prayer. There is no doubt that Rebekah and Elizabeth were desperately waiting on God for their own children and they must have prayed about it, but when their husbands specifically prayed to God, He honored their own prayers. There are some lessons from these scriptures that I want you to take note of:

Crisis-Proof Your Family

- There is absolute power in prayer. Not just in prayer, but in specific prayer. Be specific about your desire for children. God is the baby maker and He is ready to give you your children. Don't approach Him generally; speak to Him freely about your longing for children.
- There is power in praying for your spouse as you wait. We see that Rachel prayed for her children, which is all too common. Too often, women are left to bear the responsibility of praying and engaging in various spiritual exercises, however; we see that the husbands of Rebekah and Elizabeth took responsibility and prayed specifically for their wives and the children they desired. As a husband, do the same.

In fact, whether you are the husband or wife, take the time to lift up your spouse, praying for their emotional state, their spiritual state, and their mental state. Trusting that they will not break down as you both wait and that the bond in your marriage remains unbroken.

Crisis-Proof Your Family

- The final and most important lesson here is that prayer helps us acknowledge our helplessness. These individuals all wanted God's help. They wanted God to get involved. They knew that no matter what they did, God is the only one who gives conception. Even when a husband and wife are sexually intimate, it is God that gives conception. Therefore, seek for God's divine help. Your doctor, your spouse, your support system can only do so much; they are all limited. The most important person you need is God. Approach His throne confidently, knowing that as you ask for your children, which is according to His will, He will hear you, and like a dream of the night, He will answer your specific prayer!



DAY 5

Children are a gift from the LORD; they are a reward from him. ~Psalm 127:3~

He gives the childless woman a family, making her a happy mother. Praise the LORD! ~Psalm 113:9~

Crisis-Proof Your Family

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. ~James 1:17~

My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him. ~Psalm 62:5~

Children are a gift from God. He is the sole giver and nobody has the capacity to give such a beautiful and unique gift. No one has the capacity to give the gift of human life. Despite how advanced the world is becoming, and no matter how many feats human beings achieve, the ability to give life will never be on the list. God wants to get the gift of children to you; He has no business holding on to this gift that belongs to you. A gift is a thing that is willingly given to another person. He is willing to give you your own specially wrapped gift in the form of children. Therefore, you must acknowledge Him as the giver of the gift and you must seek Him as the giver of the gift.

Crisis-Proof Your Family

When you know a special gift is coming, you get excited. Let your excitement begin today and keep that excitement up until your gift arrives. The good news is that God doesn't just give gifts but His gifts are always good, they are always perfect, and they are always on time! No matter how late the desired gift comes, it is always on time, as far as the receiver is concerned. Don't think God has forgotten you. As you maintain your joy and excitement in anticipation of that gift, He would deliver that gift right on time!



DAY 6

“They do not fear bad news; they confidently trust the LORD to care for them”

~Psalm 112:7~

‘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~

Crisis-Proof Your Family

And it shall turn to you for a testimony.

~Luke 21:13~

Negative reports have become too prevalent in our day and age but thanks be to God, those who trust in the Lord have nothing to fear! For many couples believing God for their own children, negative reports tend to hit very close to home. You may be carrying your baby in your womb but have received some negative reports from the doctors about that pregnancy; fear not! You may have been given different reasons why you don't yet have children; fear not! Perhaps you are not married yet and are already receiving negative news about your reproductive organs; fear not!

Crisis-Proof Your Family

You must never allow any negative reports to make itself at home in your heart. Meditate on the scriptures for today until they saturate your heart and calm all your fears. Put your trust and confidence in God alone and be assured that no matter what the medical professionals may have told you, He has everything it takes to turn that situation around. Don't exalt the report of the doctors, their result is not the final say.

May I ask - whose report do you believe? If you truly believe God's report, renew your mind with only His report.

Remember the scriptures tell us to fix our thoughts on what is true, honorable, right, pure, lovely, and admirable. Think about (and expect) what is excellent and worthy of praise (Philippians 4:8). When you align your thoughts with God's word, you cannot be discouraged, the report notwithstanding. I'm praying for you that as you replace every iota of fear with faith-filled thoughts, that report shall turn out as a testimony for you!



DAY 7

**That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through
faith and patience inherit the promises.**

~Hebrews 6:12~

Crisis-Proof Your Family

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

~Hebrews 13:8~

The promises of children! This scripture tells us exactly how to receive what we desire based on the blessings that others have received. Follow them and do what they did! Do you take the time to listen to, and read about the testimonies of others? Do you pay attention to the details in their testimonies? The details are so important because they help you know the exact steps to take in order to receive your own promises.

Crisis-Proof Your Family

I recall the testimony of a couple who was trusting God for children. They moved in faith and began to buy baby clothes and toys for the child they desired. They went as far as naming their child and began to act as if their child was already born. They took time to feed the child, gave the child a bath, and played with the child even though the baby was not yet a reality. Needless to say, God honored their faith with twins. What an awesome God! To His glory, many other testimonies have been delivered from this one testimony.

Such testimonies, when meditated upon and followed, have what it takes to build you up and provoke your own desires to be fulfilled. This couple and many others who have been relentless in their faith, believing God for the fruit of the womb are examples that should be followed. Regardless of how long you have been married, another couple must have gone through what you may be experiencing as they waited for their own children. Many of them refused to be discouraged, trusting that God's word would be fulfilled in their home. God has not changed; whatever He does for one couple, He has the capacity to do for other couples.

Please don't mock the testifiers or their testimonies, don't despise those who have been blessed and don't get angry with God. If you are angry with Him, who can help you? Receive grace from Him to keep your hope alive, and never stop searching for testimonies to boost your faith. As you stand firm on such testimonies of fruitfulness, very soon, you also will be sharing your own testimony for others to follow!

Crisis-Proof Your Family



DAY 8

...A family splintered by feuding will fall apart ~Mark 3:25~

***Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit,
binding yourselves together with peace.***

~Ephesians 4:3~

Crisis-Proof Your Family

...do not give the devil an opportunity to work.

~Ephesians 4:27~

There are too many couples who are against each other, tearing each other down, yet believing God for the fruit of the womb. If you are not united as a husband and wife, the presence of a child will not automatically make things better. As a couple, you must stand together, supporting and encouraging each other as you wait for your children. One thing the enemy does to parents in waiting is that he divides them. He ensures the husband blames his wife and the wife blames her husband. Unfortunately, too many have fallen for his tactics, forgetting that neither of them actually have the capacity to give children, even if they tried.

A house divided against itself cannot stand, and divisions only open the door to every evil work according to the Scriptures (James 3:16). If you are trusting God for your own children, please begin to put your house back in order. Don't let this season of waiting affect your marriage! Always remember that the fact that your children may not be here YET, does not make your marriage a failure!

Crisis-Proof Your Family

Focus on correcting every wrong and build each other up spiritually and otherwise. That may be all God is waiting for. He may be waiting for you both to become a house united before a baby is added to your family. Unity in the home provokes the blessings of God (Psalms 133:1-3). Be willing to let go of every iota of pride and if you have been the point of the offense, take responsibility to mend the hedge that has been broken. As you do your part, may the Lord honor you and release your bundle of joy into your home.



DAY 9

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

~Hebrews 4:12~

He sent out his word and healed them, snatching them from the door of death.

~Psalm 107:20~

Crisis-Proof Your Family

**I am counting on the LORD; yes, I am counting on him.
I have put my hope in his word.**

~Psalm 130:5~

The word of God is quick. It is powerful. It has the ability to pierce deep into your body and correct any damages within it. There may be medical reasons why you don't yet have your children, but God's word can address it. It is medicinal! Your sperm count may be close to zero, your ovaries may be non-existent, fibroids may have filled your belly, or your womb may have been removed. In all these things, the word of God is medicinal! He has sent His word to heal you and make you whole again. This same word has the capacity to reach down to your joint and marrow and make everything in your system align.

We appreciate medical professionals, in fact, they are needful but the word of God should never be discarded for medicine. The Greatest Physician has what it takes to outdo the most decorated human physician that exists. Your body was created by Him and it belongs to Him so even if something is missing, when something is out of order, He can perfect your health in the twinkling of an eye. Guess what? He can even bypass medical science and give you children even when part of your reproductive system needed to make a baby is missing.

Crisis-Proof Your Family

Therefore, if you have been told that it is medically impossible for you to have children, fix your eyes on the word that has the power to heal you and deliver you from every destruction. Never forget this, your doctor is not more of a specialist than God. So never put your hope in your doctors but in God's word. May that hope never be cut off! Here is God's prescription: Take in a daily dose of the word, meditate on it, declare it in faith, and you will begin to see your body align and every medical verdict disappointed.



DAY 10

**Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply.
Fill the earth and govern it..."**

~Genesis 1:28~

Crisis-Proof Your Family

**Your wife will be like a fruitful grapevine, flourishing
within your home. Your children will be like vigorous young
olive trees as they sit around your table.**

~Psalm 128:3~

These scriptures paint a beautiful picture of what God has in store for your family. As mentioned in the introduction, when He said, "*be fruitful*," He meant it. The fruitfulness of your body is already a done deal as far as heaven is concerned. Our scripture for today from the Psalms clearly states that your wife will be fruitful, and your children will sit around your table. That means it **MUST** happen. Hallelujah!

If you read through the entire chapter of Psalms 128, you will see that the fear of the Lord and walking in obedience to Him guarantees the prosperity of the family. We are also assured of God's blessings on the labor of our hands, as well as having our own children and even living to enjoy our grandchildren. Can you see that He has already spoken the end from the beginning? This should fill your heart with hope.

Crisis-Proof Your Family

Speak these scriptures to yourself and command your body to align itself with the written and spoken word of God. Declare out loud, "*My body is fruitful*," "*My spouse's body is fruitful*." Do not relent. stand firm on His promises, daily encouraging yourself and your spouse with these same promises, being fully persuaded that the fruitfulness of your body will soon find expression.

SEX and SENSIBILITY

A

des Gartens
wie eine Schwarz-
schwarzwälder Kirsch-
Stimme und sah sich u-
als versuchte sie, jemanden zu ent-
den Büschen hockend beobachtete
den sie das?«
»Na ja, ich weiß nicht ganz klar.« Wieso, wie mei-
mit den Schülern, als ob sie andeuten wollte, dass ihre
Meinung vermutlich ganz unwesentlich sei. Trotzdem fuhr
sie fort. »Na ja, Sie haben von Ihrem Grundstück aus keine
direkte Sicht auf dieses Haus. Aber haben Sie vielleicht be-
merkt, dass hier abends recht viele Autos auftauchen, seit
sie eingezogen ist? Die drehen ja alle vorn bei Ihnen auf
dem Wendeplatz.« Miriam zog die Augenbrauen hoch und
wartete auf eine Reaktion von Ellinor.
»Ja ... ich weiß auch nicht so genau ... Wille hat das
auch schon beobachtet, aber mir ist das noch nicht auf-
gefallen. Warum?«
»Ich weiß ja nicht, ob man sich wirklich Sorgen machen
muss, aber sonderbar ist es ja schon.« Miriam machte ein
mal mehrere nacheinander und jedes Mal Männer, die aus-
steigen und ...« Miriams Stimme wurde leiser. »Und dann
die Sache mit den Jalousien ...«
»Mit den Jalousien?«
»Ja, wenn sie Besuch empfängt, geht sie durch ...«
79

et-
man in
Wille diese
hingegen war
langamer als Miriam an
schlechte Wetter ver-
ich. Ellinor sah hinauf zum Himmel und über-
sah weiter unten, wo man sich zu den grauen Wolken
bewegte. Sie sah sich umringt über den blauen
Himmel. Sie sagte so natürlich
auf den Boden ihrer Nachbarin. Nicht ein

