

Protecting your Breakthrough - Part 2

5-day Bible reading plan and devotional guide

Day 1: Peace Comes From God Alone

Reading: 2 Kings 13:14-19; Psalm 29:11

Devotional: King Joash lived during a time of peace, yet he failed to recognize its true source. Like this wicked king, we often mistake God's blessings as something we've produced through our own efforts. The peace in your marriage, the stability in your finances, the health you enjoy—these are gifts from the Prince of Peace, not products of your ingenuity.

Today, examine your life honestly. What areas of peace have you attributed to your own wisdom or strength? The uncomfortable truth is that without God sustaining what's good in your life, it can quickly deteriorate. Even when we're not walking perfectly with Him, God often maintains our peace because of the prayers of faithful ancestors and His own covenant promises.

Reflection Question: What breakthrough or season of peace in your life have you taken for granted as your own accomplishment rather than God's provision?

Prayer Focus: Thank God specifically for the peace you currently experience, acknowledging Him as its true source.

Day 2: God Holds Us Even When We're Flawed

Reading: 2 Kings 13:14-16; Romans 5:6-8

Devotional: When Elisha placed his hands on the wicked King Joash's hands, it revealed something profound about God's character. Despite Joash's rebellion, insincere motives, and continued idolatry, the prophet still guided him. God's hand remained on him not because he deserved it, but because of promises made to Abraham and David. This should bring tremendous comfort to every believer struggling with imperfection. Your flaws don't disqualify you from God's guidance. Perhaps you're here today because of prayers your grandmother prayed decades ago. Maybe you're still standing because someone interceded for "the generation to come" before you were born. God answers prayers that outlive the people who prayed them.

Before you criticize the faith of previous generations, remember: the only reason you're still here is because God heard their prayers and kept His hand on you.

Reflection Question: Whose prayers might God still be answering in your life? How does knowing this change your perspective on your current circumstances?

Prayer Focus: Thank God for the faithful prayers of those who came before you, and commit to praying for future generations.

Day 3: Declare War on What Threatens Your Peace

Reading: 2 Kings 13:17-19; Ephesians 6:10-18

Devotional: Elisha told Joash to shoot the arrow eastward—a declaration of war against the Arameans who had been raiding Israel. This wasn't a defensive posture but an offensive strategy. God doesn't only have a recovery plan for when you're in trouble; He has an offensive plan to help you prevent trouble.

What has been constantly attacking your marriage? Your faith? Your friendships? Your mental health? God is calling you to declare war on it—not in your own strength, but trusting that He will guide your arrow of victory. Like David's stone that struck Goliath, when you move in obedience, God directs your efforts toward complete victory.

Too often we sit passively, waiting for problems to overwhelm us before we cry out to God. Instead, God invites us to proactively engage the battles He's already won on our behalf. This isn't about starting conflict in our own power; it's about partnering with God to protect the breakthrough He's given us.

Reflection Question: What area of your life needs you to stop being defensive and start being offensive in spiritual warfare?

Prayer Focus: Ask God to reveal what battles He's calling you to engage, trusting Him for the victory.

Day 4: Don't Stop Too Soon

Reading: 2 Kings 13:18-19; Galatians 6:9

Devotional: Joash struck the ground only three times and stopped. Elisha was angry because the king decided on his own that three times was "good enough." He didn't consult the prophet; he didn't ask when to stop. He made a unilateral decision about how much effort his breakthrough was worth.

How often do we do the same? We pray three times and decide that's sufficient. We forgive once or twice and think we've done our part. We serve for a season and believe we've paid our dues. The problem isn't the prayer, forgiveness, or service—it's that we decided on our own it was enough without consulting God.

Complete victory requires complete submission. It means praying until breakthrough comes, forgiving seventy times seven, serving until God releases you. The king's self-determined stopping point limited his victory to only three wins when he could have destroyed his enemy entirely. Don't let your breakthrough be partial when God offers complete deliverance.

Reflection Question: In what area of your spiritual life have you stopped too soon, deciding you've done "enough" without seeking God's direction?

Prayer Focus: Surrender your timeline and definitions of "enough" to God, asking for endurance to continue until He says stop.

Day 5: Fight With Prayer, Obedience, and Praise

Reading: 2 Chronicles 20:1-22; Acts 16:22-26

Devotional: We don't fight with literal arrows today, but Scripture gives us three powerful weapons: prayer, obedience, and praise. When Elijah prayed, God blinded an entire army. When Jehoshaphat obeyed God's unusual battle plan and sent the choir ahead of the army, the enemy turned on themselves. When Paul and Silas praised God at midnight in prison, chains fell off and doors opened.

These aren't passive activities—they're acts of spiritual warfare. Prayer acknowledges God's power over our circumstances. Obedience removes us from blocking God's work on our behalf. Praise magnifies God, making Him bigger than our problems in our perspective.

Jesus demonstrated all three on the cross: He prayed ("Father, forgive them"), He obeyed (ministering to the thief beside Him), and He praised ("Into your hands I commend my spirit"). Three days later, He won the ultimate victory over death. We don't fight hoping to win; we fight knowing the victory is already secured. We fight with faith, not fear, because the outcome is promised.

Reflection Question: Which weapon—prayer, obedience, or praise—do you need to use more consistently in your current battle?

Prayer Focus: Commit to fighting your battles God's way, trusting that the victory is already won through Christ.