

Messages from Heavenly Teachers 49-60

(Typed by CQ)

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Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon:

In the days of yore, I wanted more

To know to grasp to see

But I knew only a part, of what was on God's heart

Then He came to me

Hungry I was to learn what was God; and what wasn't. I was sick of tricks. I yearned for truth. I knew in my heart, and wanted it to be so, that there was only one God in charge of all. –Just like I wanted to be His one ruler on Earth, for all time. Well, that was short lived, and I moved on. Kingdoms came and went, but always the true God lived on. Always trying in every way He could to make people understand that He was around. There are signs for Him everywhere. Only the willingly blind and rebellious can miss them. But the hearts that seek Him will always see Him in His creation. He speaks to each person on this planet, calling them to learn more of Him. He likes to approach with mystery and intrigue. He likes seekers. He likes to be the one to satisfy. So first He lets the hunger and intrigue build up. Then He reveals Himself to a grateful person who finds in Him the answer to their heart's longings. No matter where you are at in life, or what your head is up to, God has you all figured out, even if you could never figure out Him! He can fit in and be the solution to each and every person, no matter who they are or what circumstance they are in, or what they've made of their life. If they give him a little gap, He'll start to come in and change things around so that there's even more room for Him and less room for personal problems and confusion. He formed each person's heart with a place that is reserved for Him, and that person will never find fulfilment in life until they have let in the missing part of their heart. But He doesn't conform to their likes and ways. He comes and changes the person to be more the way that they will wish to be in the Kingdom of God. Gently, or sometimes sternly, as it was with me, He'll make the changes needed, so all things can be set right and the true and final Kingdom of God established on Earth.

John Hus:

“There is no disappointment in Heaven, no weariness sorrow or pain; no hearts that are bleeding and broken.”

Yes that’s right. All things are set right when you get on to the other side. I may have had a sad and broken life, but all that was made lovely when I got up here. I just did what God showed my heart was right to do. The world around me hated that. It’s freedom that the devil hates the most. When God’s children become saved, they become free. It’s easy to get entangled again in various types of conformity or bondage. But you have to keep yourself free most of all to serve and worship and live for your Lord. Nothing should get between you and the big Guy Upstairs. He calls the shots and says when and how much. If you want to be bound to something, be bound to your commitment to follow Him with all your heart and mind and soul, otherwise you’ll get stopped up and weighed down.

There is not time for personal programs in God’s army, just utter loyalty. When I chose to do things God’s way, to act on the freedom God gave through Jesus, it made the enemy so mad he screamed ‘treason’ and ‘heretic’. He called me those names, and my followers those names too, because those are his crimes, and he loves to place his shame names on others. Treason against whom? Not against Jesus, but against the spirit of the world that tries to enslave. I just knew Whom God hath set free could be free indeed. He could say and do with His humble sons and servants whatever He wanted to. Read about it all through the Bible, when God says something, you better believe and act on it. And if you don’t then there is big trouble. The wicked are like the raging sea, and they like to toss you, disciples who have climbed in the boat of God’s will, all around and preferably upside down. But you’ve got the ballast to keep you, Jesus Christ. Call out to Him to still the raging of the enemy.

In a funny way you can be glad when the masses of the undecided or wicked are mad at you because you obeyed God’s still small voice in your heart and did what God’s Word showed you to do. If the bad guy is mad, that means the Good Guy at the very top is glad and winning. So you can rejoice, even in persecution. Be glad when your adversary the devil comes at you as a roaring lion, and you need to put up a fight. Rejoice, for so persecuted the prophets which were before you. Stand fast in the faith and know that “great is your reward in Heaven.”

When things get tough, look up all the more, and praise His Holy Name all the more, because you can be sure the enemy is being hit hard enough he’s hurting and losing some of his prey. Instead he is being spoiled. Keep strong in the Lord and knowing you are on the winning side.

Some people think that it’s good when they are at peace with the world around them, and have all their comfort needs met. But that’s not what God’s word says is the sign of a Godly life, infact the opposite might be true. The wicked flourishing, settling in plush places, is a common theme in the Bible. The righteous being troubled by the wicked, is also a sign of a truly Godly life. For as Jesus said, “In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

So if all is going well for you, and all men—good and bad, or the baser sorts—are speaking well of you, then it should send off alarm bells loud enough to wake you up. It’s a sign you are sliding down into a trap and about to get it. Or if you are Godly and are getting off track, a time of stern correction is about to come. If you can go to the Lord quickly and get your heart right and get doing the tough things—and in a way receive the so called

“correction” of the world, the strap of satan, who wants to punish you for doing things God’s freedom way, then the Lord will bless you and comfort you.

Do you want satan’s comforts and God’s rod of correction? Or the other way around? If you chose to get the wrath of man and satan’s roaring, then the Lord God will comfort you and bear you in His arms. Choose to stay close to the Lord of lords, learn from Him, submit to the tough times, and you will be comforted.

Which reminds me, when do you most enjoy a mother’s embrace or a father’s commendation for a job well done? Is it after you have played and played all day, with never so much as a speck of dust on you from having done a second of work? Or is it after you have cried hard because something was hard, and you felt you just couldn’t do things right. But you persevered, and then were thanked, and appreciated, and perhaps a party was held to celebrate the victory of it all. You really like the hugs and thanks then because you did your part to pull your load. Great will be your reward in Heaven, and more importantly, great will be your joy in Heaven, you’ll be able to appreciate it to the fullest, because you gave your all, as tough as it was.

Philip (Apostle):

If all your life you don’t get to know Jesus, then you risk it being said, “I know you not.” Jesus said to me one time, “Have I been so long time with you and, yet you have not known Me?” I was asking to see and know the Father. But I had missed the whole point of why Jesus came to be with us and teach us and live among us, telling us things from Heaven. This was a sample of the Father. So when we get to know Jesus, we are getting to know the whole team, God the Father, Jesus the Son, and God’s Holy Spirit. And they are one. They think the same, act with the same goals, are one in nearly every way but in their appearance or attributes, so mankind can grasp Him better.

Take a glass of water that you share with a few friends. You drink the first bit, you and give it to your friend to have the next portion, and then the last guy drinks the final portion. Three partaking of one. One glass in three bellies. How many cups? One. But divided by three different faces. Who’s got the water? All three. So the essence of God is like living water, just one glass of it, but who you get it from can appear different. The face of the Father, the face of the Son, the face of God’s Holy Spirit can help mankind understand better, as it appears much like a family to them. Parents and a child. People know that, and can related to it.

Relate. That’s the point. To get to know God, to have a relationship with Him, a forever-bond of union and long-term friendship. So did you get to know Jesus today? You can, just by asking Him to tell you what He thinks about this or that. Did you share a bit of your own heart with Him, getting some of its weights placed into God’s caring hands? Did you let Jesus get to know you, or your love for Him? This is what will make all the difference in the world to you as you go about life.

There is a difference in the way people carry their burdens, according to how much they know of Jesus. If they just think He’s a pretty picture to look at, and kind of worship or something, but not really a moving, fast and hard working God, then they’ll keep right on bearing their troubles, and it will wear and tear them down. But if you know that He said and meant it, “Come unto Me all ye that labour and I will give you rest”, then you’ll “Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He will sustain you.”

Those people who have learned to bring their cares and concerns to Jesus, pray for His help, get His help and act on whatever part they are to do in the matter, have a lighter look to their face. Their physical body isn’t being weighed down quite as much. Yes they might have to take just as many physical steps, and breathe just as much air, or work the same amount of hours as another person—or even more—but because they share the load of

the mental and spiritual and emotional strain with the Lord, they can walk lighter and feel more relaxed mentally. This makes a tremendous difference in how they appear and how they feel.

So did you get to know just how strong and capable Jesus is? Or did He do something that took you by surprise because it showed how He knew just what you were thinking, or what made you happy, or something you needed just right then?

You can rest in His loving care. Jesus knows you, exactly who and where and everything about you. Trust in His love and see what new thing you can discover in your “getting to know Him”. Ask Him things and be surprised by His take on the matter. Ask Him to do things, and see what things He agrees to and what things He doesn’t like. Ask for something really important that will take a miracle, and see what He chooses to use to perform it. Read His words in the Bible and see what kinds of things He gets stirred up about, or greatly dislikes. These are ways you can get to know Him. Try Him. Test Him. Taste and see that the Lord is good. “Prove Me now” He said. He wants you to put Him to the test and discover what He is like, and how real and present with you that He is.

One more thing, did you get a good meal today, or are you hoping to? When you learn to feed deeply from God’s Word, your own meals for your body are going to get bigger and better too. God will feed those who hunger and thirst after Him. When your heart and mind are being malnourished, it’s more important that they are fed, than even your body. When a mother has to do both, then both sides might not get fully cared for in the ways that you’d like and need. You want a bigger budget for lots of edible goodies? Feast on God’s Word and He’ll reward you with a belly full of goodness. Mostly because your mother has time then to do it. Can you sit with a pen in hand and hear the voice of God, and then open up your Bible books and read and read until something special stands out to you? Do you know how to kneel and pray for the needs of others, committing each thing to the Lord, quoting His promise and asking for Heavenly assistance? Can you close your eyes and think about Jesus and let Him show you some visions of the future that will really inspire you?

If you can learn to do this for a good hour or more each day, besides your united times of fellowship with the King, I can assure you the meal quality will go up, and you’ll be mighty glad, as they will be mighty.

Cheers and love, in the Name of Jesus.

Rebekah of Isaac:

As I massaged the aching muscles of my dear husband, we talked about the troubles we were facing—the choices of wives our eldest had made. I felt at a total loss. I could nourish him with food, but I couldn’t make him choose the right thing, the options that would keep him closer to God.

He had always been bent on the fleshly side of life. He could be lured by physical pleasures. Did you notice what Isaac asked of him? To get food. He knew that if food was involved this would make him want to do this or that. If Isaac had said, give up what is special to you then you can get a blessing, there is little chance he would have gone for it.

Sometimes the Lord has to use things that we like, to get us to do things that we should. But if we only do things that we seem to personally benefit from, right at the time, we’ll miss the best things that we could be enjoying over a longer period of time.

Why not make a list of all the things that you really dislike, or would often choose not to do. I’m not talking about the ungodly things that you should disdain and refuse, but the things that are upsetting your personal comfort or make you cringe. Maybe there is something on that list that God might want you to accept or do, but

because of your wishes for making things as nice as you can for yourself, you won't allow yourself to give room. Give these things to the Lord, and say you are willing to be made willing. You are willing to do any of them, if God so wills. This is true Christianity and devotion to Jesus.

Take for example the dislike you have for people who talk or behave in a way that makes you feel small, and like they don't like you. It's hard to be around them. You wonder if it even is right to do so. Because of it you miss reaching out to be a friend. You are sure it will only hurt you if you try. But maybe getting hurt isn't as much of a problem than what will be missed in God's plan because you wouldn't let yourself be in a vulnerable position.

Sometimes you have to let yourself get hurt if it's to help others. If it's because you are doing something the Lord wants you to do, then you'll get repaid in a good way for it. Or sometimes not even getting hurt, but you want to protect yourself from anything that might hint of discomfort. And that is not good. For all that is good to do will be uncomfortable in some way.

Comfort is for comfortable times. But now is the days of want and warfare. You've got to not be led by the feelings and wishes for pleasure, but gird up your loins, get them ready for work not pleasure. Be wise and let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, for then you won't slide to this side and then the other, but walk on, tough as it is.

Suffer a bit now, while labouring in the field, giving the tithe of your time, strength, and wishes. You'll be repaid in full at the time of recompense. Trust in the Lord and then you will prosper. Prosper doesn't mean everything good for you, but being a long-lasting influence for good.

Florence Young:

I love to help Godly youth raise and train the children of others. I love that you called for me to give you a little message. I've been having you on my mind, as I know you have me. But don't take it too personally, as I have many others I like to share this message with. Some things may apply, and others won't totally fit. Thanks for listening.

There once was a little girl who had a few curls, right in the middle of her forehead.... well, I was that girl, and I was rather strong in what I allowed and didn't allow into my life. One could say I was stubborn, but God likes to use all types, for anyone, when placed in the right situation can have their talents shine. Some character traits only look like talents when in a certain location doing a certain job.

But anyway, I had some things about me that were hard even for me to handle about myself. The best cure was to get out and give what I could to a dying world and hurting souls who needed Jesus. So that's just what I did. I worked hard all day, and often prayed at night, or some of the night.

You know miracles of salvation can only happen when one has God's miracle working power on their side. I said, "Lord, you can have me, if you can make something out of me." And He did. Praise God.

Somehow He took my wilful nature and strong headedness, and got some steam out of me for His Kingdom. He can do the same with you. Things that look bad about you, or that hinder you or slow you down, if they are given to Him to use, He can even give you a new ministry if that's what it takes to match your traits and characters with something useful—or He can give you a whole new set of skills to match what you are trying to do right there, if you are having a hard time doing it.

Don't despair if things are hard to manage, because that is when God comes into play. Be open for change, for that might be just what is needed or He is preparing you for by stirring things a bit and getting you feeling rather

uncomfortable with where you are or with who you are. Sometimes the puzzle piece just needs to be replanted and placed where it was meant to be all along.

So even if you think you are “just a...” whatever, with a mind to work and willing heart to be whatever the Lord needs, and wherever He needs you to be, you can fill an important role in His Kingdom.

People will love you for what you are, even though imperfect or with flaws that rub them the wrong way. They can be left with a good impression after you pass away, or when you leave, if you really do try to do things as close to God’s way as you can, and if you show them love, because that is the most important thing.

First Jesus, then love for others, then your work on “great things for God”. Keep things in that order and you’ll hit the highlights. Life will be too short to live out all the dreams you wish you could, that you feel are on His heart. But you’ll hit the highlights and many good goals if you keep things in this order.

Okay, cheers and God bless you deary. You are going to do great things for the Lord, by loving and caring for the young ones.

Other James (Apostle):

The less there is of you, the more God’s light can get through. Though I was surnamed “the less” it didn’t mean I could skimp out and pull less than my weight could manage. I had to work just as hard as the others. There’s not room in the work of God for loafers and “fish and loafers”. We’ve all got to do our tough part, whatever that may be. Jesus needed me, desperately, and made it abundantly clear. If I didn’t do my part to get the good news out, huge areas would not have been reached.

We all had to do the maximum, and reach some pretty uncomfortable zones. I might have had to eat less and had less time for myself, and have less friends as I travelled. I might have had less time to daydream. I might have gotten less and less things done that I’d dreamed of as a child, but less is more. More time to do what I was called to do. Accepting God’s call meant denial of many other things I had wished to do in life. But God had bigger and better plans for me—just like He has for each of you, if you’ll let Him call the shots and say what and when and how.

I can’t express how very thankful I was to be called. It was a tough call, and cost me my life, but boy was I glad when I got to see the beloved face of Jesus and stand before His throne, receiving His commendation. I was very glad I gave up all my petty ideas of what a life should be like. God’s better and greater plans were worth it. After all, it was God who made me, not myself, so it would make sense that I should use the life He gave for what He planned for it to be used for. Right?

The same is true with every child of God. He made you, He has plans for you, and if you let Him tell you what to do, and when to do it, then He can give the reward that He saved up for you if you did just that.

It’s good to have ideas and great thoughts of amazing things you want to do. This is what boyhood is for, because that keeps you learning what you need to. But when it’s time to become a man, God might have a whole new set of ideas, dreams and wishes for you. Some of them, or all of them might surprise you. You really don’t know just what He has up His sleeve for you in the future. But if you are willing to say yes and to work hard to do it, giving up whatever hopes and dreams you might have that were the result of boyhood aspirations, then you’re grown up manhood life will be like ‘a new creature’ in Christ Jesus. It might be something quite different than what you think things will be like. But if it’s what God has planned for you, it not only will be surprising but also remarkably fulfilling, with a happiness of Spirit that only comes to those who forsake the past and go on to follow whatever God has in store for them.

Many people aren't allowed to know just what they are going to be called on to do in the future, as it would hinder them from learning what they are meant to learn right now. But keep open, so when the Holy Spirit calls and moves your heart to step to a new vision and live a new dream—God's dream for you, what His dream has been all along—then you will hear it and live it, and be oh so glad you did. Like I was.

Cheers and God bless you as you reach your full potential, what God is and has been preparing for you. Did you think I knew as I grew up, that in my lifetime the Saviour of the world would come, and I would be one of His closest aides and helpers? No way. But I knew that "the gifts and callings of God are without repentance" and that what He called me to do, He really wanted me to do, and I had to live it out, or I would be a disappointment. God's call was unturning. He asked for me, all of me, and meant it. And He asks no less of you, for the job is great. And now, instead of just 12 close ones learning of Him and telling the good news, He has you also, and anyone who is willing and ready.

It won't be easy and you'll get the false impression, as many others down through history did, that they were some of the only ones around who were following Jesus closely, and feeling so alone in the job. But you can know with assurance, that there are many, many others, it's just that you are called to serve in such varied situations and different circumstances. Jobs are different, and methods are different, but in heart there are many brothers and sisters who are also following the King of kings as He is taking over the world. He's moving in and is going to upset the apple cart one of these days, reveal His true presence that has been around all along. It's going to shock the world into submission, if not by love. One way or the other all eyes will be on Him, and every knee will bow. I'm looking forward to that day, aren't you? Stay faithful to His commission to you, and stay attuned to change of mission and plans and new assignments, then you can stay on the inner close team of disciples who give their all so that the Gospel is preached.

But I'll give you a clue that everything God will yet ask of you has been, in some way, prepared for in your heart and life. You just won't realise it yet until the call comes, you say yes, and get busying acting on His instructions. It won't be oh so new that you aren't in some way prepared or preparing. If you do today what He calls you to do, and you prepare in Spirit to work for Him and with Him, then you'll be ready for any call and any task God needs you to do. And believe me, He does need you. There are things that only you can do, people only you can reach because they'll only be open to the message if it comes through someone just like you. Believe me, God needs every last person He can get. Because although there are many true believers, not just anyone can do the job anywhere He has a need. You are placed where you are because there is or will be a need. Sure He can call Mr. Pakistani to come to Australia and do the job God is preparing for you to do, but it wouldn't be the same, and besides, God needs him there. So just because there are lots of men and woman who want to serve Him, you are the only you there is to do the mission God has for you. It's an individual assignment. I hope you are man enough to step up and take that task. There is only one you to do it. He needs you.

Jesus, bless these miracles in the making, those who You will use to do Your work. Your work being done is a miracle and takes plenty too. Make miracles out of these young ones, and may they know that with You aiding them and inspiring them, and fully possessing them, they can tackle whatever seemingly impossible tasks that are before them. To the finish! God has authored it and so it will be written in Heaven's Historical records. Do your bit today, so you can make a way for the miracles of the future that are lined up.

All for Jesus. It's all gotta be for Him. If there is any pride in the way, that's gotta go, as it will just slow you down, like a flat tire. Be brave, for not all things that seem glorious at the start will be smooth sailing all the way through from start to finish. But if it's God's work, then it's worth the struggle and challenge, and greater will be your reward. The tougher the tasks, the greater the reward. Be faithful to the message, to the word you have received from God. Don't let the birds of deceit and doubt take it away from you, for the words God speaks to

you personally are the fuel to feed the fire of your anointing and will empower you to do the job. You can't fire an engine on an empty tank. Believe what God has said, and then you can go on the strength of those words.

We are going to have some great talks up here; I've got lots to say. Wanna come for a visit? I'll have you to my table, and we can swap stories of victories and share personal lessons. You'll like time spent with your Uncle James. The lessons we can share will be invigorating and refreshing. Jesus still teaches me so much, and I love to pass on what I've learned to others.

Gideon:

I didn't really want to do what God was asking of me. It was too big of a job, and seemed way too impossible. But I was the one God had called to do the job. I couldn't shirk and say "get someone else" without there being some tough consequences. Who knows what our troublemakers would have pulled off next, and it might have affected my personal family more than we already were being troubled. The time was "now" and the person was me. I had to step up and take the bat and give it the best whack I could—to speak in terms of ball games.

Now it wasn't just a bit of fame and glory that came with it, but it meant I was going to be singled out by God Himself. "You, you there, step up here". And many eyes were going to be on me, both those on my side and those who didn't like me filling this role. I couldn't hide in my little home, like I had to do when threshing wheat for fear of it being robbed again. I would be a public figure, and be a household word, and that's pretty uncomfortable. You know people are talking about you behind your back, and the enemy would love to get his hands on you to get you to stop protecting and helping the God's people.

But comfort and personal preference aren't included in the package of God's will that He hands out. No, rather a whole lot of discomfort and often everything opposite than what you thought you would like to do. Can you say yes to the Lord today, even if it means doing what you least want to do? If you can get in the habit now of receiving a message from the Lord that goes against what your feelings and mind often lead you to do, then that is a great step. Being willing to hear what He is asking of you, and giving it some thought is a good start. Then those that are real God-pleasers will do the self mortifying move of casting aside their personal wishes and ways to feel good, and grab hold of that 'crown of thorns' and do what He needs them to do. If they do, then a crown of glory that fades not, will be theirs forever.

A lasting crown given to you by God in return for your willingness to serve Him, no matter what He needed you to do, is worth the pain, the struggle, the mocking, and all the rest. Forsake the pride of man, and praise of man, and reach up to 'Glorify God in the Highest'. You'll be glad with the rest of us that you did.

Some of us found it a very hard part of the job to be a public figure, and be well known the world over; others found it hard to not even be named—like some prophets, who gave their lives, but whose names aren't even in the Bible, but have to be found out one day. Others you never heard about at all, but their role in God's plan was very vital to some miracle or witness being done. All play their role.

Just think, if your heart said, "I'm so unseen..." well, if it got its request to be seen by all, that'd be the end of the story. It needs to be inside, out of sight for the body to function properly. It's a vital organ to the running of things, but can't be a flashy piece of equipment. So if you are called to hold the heartbeat of your Creator, feeling His love and passing it on in humble, out of sight ways, then do your part. If you are called instead to be like hands reaching out, seen and felt, then do your part, not hiding yourself away in a pocket. Okay?

Peace be unto you, and grace to do our Lord's will. He won't make it too hard, but it usually will feel more uncomfortable or a bigger stretch than you wished to do. But that just means greater will be your reward, for it took a greater giving of yourself, and greater faith to claim the victory, and that took you having a closer and stronger relationship with Jesus. And that's the best part for Him. In fact, He'll probably select just the right mission for you that pulls at you a bit, and makes you need Him the most, because that is when He can help you the best. If you think the task is a piece of cake and you can do it no sweat, then not much will get done, at least not much in the supernatural will come through, because you never felt the need. But it's when you feel the great burden of the task that you are called to do that you really need Him to help. You are more open to the whispers He gives, because you need all the help and support. You are willing to do whatever He says, if that is what is the prerequisite for Him doing a miracle. If He says get pots and torches and trumpets, then you do it. And bam! He then does His part and victory comes.

Do you see how your mission has these three things baked into it? At least what you all are doing now? There are meals you give to others who come to be fed spiritually and emotionally; there is the Word of God, the fire of God that you are to be trained in, and to be filled with His Holy Spirit; and there is the music to wake people up in the spirit. So take your pot and break bread with them; take your torch, your quiet time with God learning of His Word; and take your trumpet, your music and shows or classes or whatever your voice is used for, the light filled materials you make. Victory will come when you use what God hands you, and in the way He says to use them.

Also, the pot, made of clay represents the vessel of your life. You might have your own plans smashed, and you might go through things that cause you to feel broken, but then the light shines, you can let your light—God's Spirit in you—shine. Then the trumpet of triumph is heard, and the devil knows he is doomed. He couldn't get you to hide your light in your pride. You let yourself be broken, you allowed the times of humiliation to occur, and then let only Jesus' light be seen. A victory couldn't be won without some change of plans, so smashing of your own ideas of the way you wanted your life and your plans to be. But when you said, "I just want Jesus to be seen; get me out of the way" that is when the enemy's plans were foiled. You were willing to give yourself up to let Jesus shine.

There was one more tool given, and that was our voices. We shouted out and God did the part to make the voice be heard all around. So use your voices to proclaim the right, the good, the news that should be made known, the Gospel, the good news, the only news worth saying out. This is saying God is the victor and the enemy is already the loser, and he's about to feel it real soon.

(Jesus Speaking:) Hide not your light. Keep not your life reserved for yourself, unmarred but unused. Let your voices be heard, and the trumpet of God will resound through your efforts. Fortresses will crumble, and the gospel will be preached. Blessed is He who shall not be offended in Me.

Sarah (of Abraham):

"Sleep dear baby, for great things will come one day. You and your father are called. You have been touched by God." I sang this in my heart to my new baby, given from the very hand of the Lord. I didn't know what tragedies, trials and triumphs he would live to tell of. But while he was young I could still hold him. The tears were easy to wipe away when he was young. I would have to let God take care of the tears of heartaches when he was older. And these came, for it was not easy to have no certain dwelling place for much of the time, nor to go without a wife for many years. But in these times he learned faith and patience, two of the most important things need by a man of God.

So you can sing this to your little ones also, while you caress their little troubles away. They too have been called by the Lord, sent down, to fulfil their place on Earth. They too will know heartaches and heartbreaks, and plans falling through. But if they learn to hold to their faith in the Lord their God, and to be patient, then they will be able to endure. They will reach their just rewards. Our God is a God of love, and though hard times come to all, it all is to bring about good in the end. For a while all the world groans, as if in pain, waiting for the King's return.

Endure a little longer, sweet mothers of God's children, for all will be right again one day. Not one of God's promises will fail. Even if it takes awhile until fulfilment is seen, and even if there are tough days ahead. Your children are God's children, or can be if they choose. Hold them, love them, and cherish them. For then they can in turn give out this love to others.

Faith in the unseen God is what many people struggle with, but there is nothing like a taste of the Almighty who comes to those who believe; that is a reward for the step of faith to believe in the unseen, and to trust that your belief in Him actually matters and will have an effect on your life, and what happens in the hereafter.

Trust in the Lord your God.

Edward J. Eyre:

As I sat there in the dust of the day, sometimes real hot, sometimes cold, but all the time weary and wondering if we'd make it to our destination. I never knew what would befall us in a day, but we just had to keep doing our utmost and keep putting one foot in front of the other, even if we worried if we were going in circles or would have to retrace our steps.

Sometimes that's all that you can do, just take the next step. Weary, yes, thirsty, hot, cold, and sometimes or most of the time, just not knowing what's going to happen or is supposed to happen next. But you don't have to. You can trust that the One who looks out for the sparrows is going to keep His eye on you as well.

Well, where to start. I was born in England and had a good reputation for being punctual and on time. I liked to keep tidy and do things when I said I would. But when you go on adventures it can kind of upset things a bit, as you no longer have that control as you use to have, because the things that you are depending on to make your goals possible, are no longer there. You have to rely on God's providence. And His ideas of what you need, and when you need it, might be quite different than your own wishes, because He has different needs—and training you is one of His goals.

I had to learn to be patient too, as things didn't happen as quickly as I thought they would. If I had had an inkling that things were going to be as tough and long, on going as they turned out to be, I might have had second thoughts. Sometimes it's good that the Lord doesn't show you everything all at once in advance, because you might get scared out of something that is going to be real good for you in the end. You might be the only one He has to help do that job. So even if it's not perfect and has its tough aspects, and there might be some wounds that need healing, it's better that you do it, than if it didn't get done. So you have to trust Him a bit on a lot of things.

When I put aside the dreams I got for having a perfect life, then I was able to tackle things that seemed fairly impossible. That's how it often is, you have to let go of what fits into your idea of doable, if you want God to come through and do some miracles for you. Who is in charge of your life anyway, you or the Lord? Can't He plan a few surprises into the plan of your life? Who are you going to answer to anyway in the end of days? The twists and turns will only make you braver and thus able to handle more responsibility later on. A lot of people

who went on to do greater things for the Lord all had their start in the small humble learning process, learning what they had to before they were given the strength and ability to tackle something harder and better too, better because it helped many more people than the smaller task did.

You really never know when God will choose to ring the bell. Tests are coming at you all the time, and only He knows when the passing grade is to be given, and then whoosh, you are whisked into the next level of learning and doing. And that next level is also just another step, that one day you will also move out and on from. He's always got so many new things for you to learn. Enjoy each step the best you can, don't shirk and don't compare, because you never know when something new is about to be asked of you.

Jesus, please help these humble ones, who live in this little place called home, to look to You every moment of the day, so they can stay real close to You. They don't know what the future holds—it could be dramatic or simple and take more humility than courage. But help them trust that You have all levels of their learning planned way in advance. Just like I am still learning to day, so will they then, on into the future, and each step is a thrill and a learning curve. Give them safe keeping in that wild and vast place, that seems to be getting wilder by the day. Keep them stout hearted on the truth and seeking you to lead and guide them in all their ways. Amen.

I love you sweet heart, and am glad to be of some assistance. I know you didn't plan to come here and to do what you are doing, but it's all going to work out well. One of these days you'll understand why. Leave the whys up to Him, and just tackle what He asks you to do today. Cheers and God bless. —Uncle Edward.

Nathanael/Bartholomew (Apostle):

I didn't know what I was getting into, when I got hooked up with Jesus. But God had prepared my heart for so many years. I liked things to be right. I thought if everyone in my city, town and country would just do what the law we read was teaching to do, then most of the problems would be solved. So many troubles are man-induced, even today. And I knew it. But I couldn't seem to fix the problem. Sometimes I got into fierce arguments trying to make people think better, but it never did a single thing about their heart—hard and selfish, wayward hearts were the core of our strife, sickness and disorder. I thought, maybe if we got things right, according to the law, and obeyed God's principles better, than He would lift the yolk of the Romans and other unrighteous rulers, who didn't know or respect God's laws. God allowed them, but I thought there might be something that we could do to fix things, that would make God do His part to fix the rest of the problems.

Philip and I couldn't have been more eager to have a solution to the world's problems, when in walked Jesus. At first I was a bit sceptical that this man, this common man, was more than met the eye. Many people were either sceptical or turned a blind eye so they wouldn't allow themselves to face the facts and make an informed decision. That first glimpse at the Saviour and I knew He was going to change my life. The fact that He knew me, thought about me, was keeping tabs on me, just brought me to my knees. I had to know more about Him and would spend the rest of my life finding out.

It cost me far more than I thought it would. It wasn't just about, Bing! Everything getting better! --Like I had wanted. We had to go through hard times, and the fact that not everyone was accepting of His ways made it hard for me to understand. "If they could just get to know Him," I thought, they'd stop all this deception, trying to catch Him up to put a stop to His work, and to us along with Him.

But I saw that He was more than just a lovely vase on the shelf, more than just nice to look at, nice to touch, and something to be admired. When it came to work, man He could work hard, and endure the toughest situations

without complaint. Hungry, thirsty, tired, attempts on His life, and then their final taking of His life. Man, this guy was tough as the nails that pierced Him. He could hold up to anything that was thrust at Him. I saw a new side to Him, the mighty conqueror that wasn't going to be scared away by a little physical discomfort and emotional trauma.

If He could handle that and not lose sight of His goal, He was a winner for sure. Only winners can stand the heat, the pain, the long hours of hard work, and keep their goal in mind without giving up.

Well, He never did give up. He never surrendered to Satan. He could have said, "You win. I'll take the easy way, skip the death on the cross, and be hailed as leader of the world." But no, that would have been a sorry loss to all mankind. He can stand the heat of the test and still say, "I love you" to those who got Him in that difficult situation; our sins are responsible for His pain. But He was man enough to bear it, because the Love of God can go through any fires of testing, and still be pure and strong.

I decided that I was going to stop hoping for all to be posh and beautiful. I realised that first there was a war for the souls of men to be won. The lovely Kingdom of God reigning on Earth and all its niceties would happen after the tough times. So on my knees I cried to be made of tougher stuff, to have a change of plans and be ready and willing go through the tribulations it was going to cost. I "put on the Lord Jesus" as my armour and got to work fighting the battles of the Lord.

I was a different person after Jesus gave His life and met us again, alive and well. We had to decide if we were still on God's special team, knowing that the cross-bearing times had just started. They didn't end because Jesus rose alive again. He did His turn, and now it was our turn to give our life to spread the good news.

We encouraged each other in our trying times and became a close knit team. God cared for all our physical needs, mostly through friends and other followers, so we could do what we had been commissioned to do. And it was a thrilling life too, so many miracles, so many transformations. People who we'd known all our lives, who were corrupt dealers and not living in the Godly way, were starting to change as we shared the message of Jesus and salvation with them. And man, to see a heart change, something that can only happen in the spirit, is a thrill. And it was because of Jesus, and our willingness to say that Yes, Jesus is the Messiah, and you need Him! Even if it took our lives to do it, eventually, it was worth it to see the transformed lives.

At last my vision and hopes were happening. Totally different than the way I had thought it would or should happen, but people who were selfish and stealing and taking from the poor, now were giving and coming to learn from us about all that Jesus had said.

News was getting around about these changes, big changes. And that is when things started to clamp down on us. But that just made us do what we'd been asked to do—to spread out and tell the good news everywhere, not just there where people had heard and even see Jesus. We had to take him to places that may have never heard His name, and trust they would believe just because we told them. That took faith, as it was introducing new ideas that people hadn't ever thought of. And yes, it got us into new tight spots, and so we just kept on going. It all worked to help get the Gospel preached. Just like with you too, anything you do, if done in obedience to the Lord's commission, can have tremendous results. You don't have to be one of the 12, have been one of us, to reap a harvest. Be the best disciple you can be, in your city, in your home, in your groups, when you travel, wherever you are.

God bless and keep you winning in His Name. You won't regret it. There is plenty in store for those who are faithful. Cheers, mate. —Nathanael

Thaddeus (Apostle):

I liked to make things out of leather, a purse, a bag, or fix up my shoes. I had a nice bag that I used to carry to keep my special things. I was sure Jesus was looking at me when He was given the instructions of what not to worry about bringing with us when we were sent out two by two. It went against my natural thinking. I was a practical guy and like to be prepared for anything. I liked to keep as clean as I could and have what I needed so as not to have to beg things off of others; I didn't want to be in debt.

But I had to rethink what I brought and didn't bring, for that special trip. God's blessing and supply was going to depend on how closely we had faith to obey. I had to recall the account of the children of Israel in the wilderness. They weren't to save up food for the next day on most days of the week. Those who obeyed were glad and blessed. Those who thought they knew better, were reprimanded for their lack of faith and obedience. So "packing" for that trip really was "unpacking" for me. I took out whatever Jesus said was not needed.

"After all, I'll have more then, as I won't use up what I have saved here..." it made sense. I wanted the blessing on that scary first trip. Only scary at first, until we saw the Spirit of the Father was with us and opening doors and giving provision, and teaching us what to say. When I got back and saw what I had left behind, I laughed, and smiled. "I didn't need you anyway," I said to the little pile of belongings, "I had Jesus' promise, and He was true to His Word."

I didn't need to worry so much, and try to get things for myself, I still had a Father who looked out for me. I wasn't alone in this world. I would be cared for as I did the work I was given to do.

Matthew (Apostle):

Numbers are amazing things, and can make you discover mysteries and facts. They can amaze you with their perfectness. When you get your figures right and it all makes sense and aids you in what you are trying to achieve, it can be thrilling. Big numbers, those beyond what the mind can even comprehend are pretty amazing as well. Try doing Heaven math one of these days. That's a challenge, and fun too. It's nothing like the old worn out trouble that it is made up to be for some poor students. It's a path beaten and beaten until the joy of the number world is gone. The sense of wonder is practically non existent in math learning, is it not? Or for many is it. Some cultures take the joy of the music realm and beat that out so thin there is hardly anything to it. It appears flat and lifeless and certainly joyless. Others use God's number world as a tool to flatten out the path, take the joy of life away from students. For it turns into a drudgery, as it's all about right and wrong, and no longer about learning, discovering, and the perfection of the God who created it all.

Let your math learning only glorify the creator. Math should be a living example of how God made things so amazing. Rather than tests and endless page work, it should be examples of amazing calculations and figures that show the completeness, the beauty and the perfection of the Godly world around you. It's very linked to scientific discovery. And so it should be. It always has been. When God made the world, numbers were added (pardon the pun) right from the beginning. Let's take a look at the first chapter of Genesis and see it for yourself.

GEN.1:1 [TIME LINE; SEQUENCE; ORDER]

GEN.1:2 [GEOMETRY AND SHAPE; CONCEPT OF ZERO; DEPTH AND VOLUME; SPEED AND MOVEMENT]

GEN.1:3,4 [CORRECTNESS; CONCEPT OF RIGHT; THERE ARE ABSOLUTES]

GEN.1:5 [TIME; SEGMENTS]

GEN.1:6,7, 18 [ADDITION; DIVISION]

GEN.1:8,13,19,23,31; 2:2 [ORDINAL NUMBERS]

GEN.1:9,10 [SUBTRACTION; FRACTIONS; MEASURES]

GEN.1:11,12 [COUNTLESS; ENDLESS]

GEN.1:13 [PERCENTAGE—HALF DONE]

GEN.1:14 [CALENDAR AND TIME]

GEN.1:15,17,24 [PLACEMENT AND ORDER]

GEN.1:16 [MORE/ LESS; GREATER/LESSER; COMPARISONS]

GEN.1:20,21 [EXTRA; SURPLUS; UNKNOWN FACTORS; ENDLESS; IMMEASURABLE; UNCOUNTABLE]

GEN.1:21,22,28 [MULTIPLICATION]

GEN.1:25 [AND ANIMALS TEACH US MUCH ABOUT MATH—AND TO STUDY THEM WE USE IT]

GEN.1:29-30 [GIVE, TAKE, RESTOCK, SUPPLY AND DEMAND, AMOUNTS; VALUE AND WORTH]

GEN.1:31 [ACCURACY; FIGURING; MULTI-FACTORED EQUATIONS]

GEN.2:1-2 [ENDING, SUFFICIENT, COMPLETION]

So the best way to comprehend the use of numbers and amounts and figures and calculations is right in the elements they were created for—right in nature, or when learning about it. A math and science book gives a more well-rounded way to learn it.

Now a days it seems the world tries to add math on to science in ridiculous, ludicrous ways. But all they really are doing is adding zeros to long numbers. That doesn't make sense. Just more of nothing isn't going to make something. Work with real science to learn real math, and it'll make so much more sense then. It will add up to be something of value. And you'll get the "wow, it's wonderful" factor in the end.

Take a science fact, just about any will do, for this experiment—but "fact" not "fiction" and see what math tags it has. Learn about that part or element in nature, and then learn what math and mental skills you need to be able to learn that science element.

Try it.

Take the distance of the moon from the earth for example. Now that opens up a heap of things to learn about. Then for fun you can learn about moon craters, and how many moons have been discovered on other planets. You can learn about time in space and space travel. And on goes the list. It can open up to discussion about weight and size and speed due to gravity's effects. Can you write the number of how far the earth is from the moon, if told it verbally? Can you work an equation of how long it would take to travel at a certain speed to it? How much more land mass does the earth have than the moon, not counting all the watery places? There's all kinds of fun you can have. And when you dig into things you can find out neat facts that will be like a jewel of discovery for your efforts. So why do men like math? Because of the findings they make, and the facts they learn; because it brings understanding of the world around you, and makes the option of discovery possible.

How else could people travel the globe and re-find their way to some certain island if they didn't have maps of measures, and notes of nautical knots. Math and numbers are the way to get around in nature and find your way. A nose in a book working with black lines and lifeless numbers just makes you numb.

Find out the wonder of creation, and then use the tools of discovery to learn more than is clearly seen and noticed, and do more than you can by working with figures.