



RIVERS of JOY MINISTRIES

NEWSLETTER

Dear Pastor

Greetings in the wonderful name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. I thank God for your life and commitment to this ministry and above all to God's service. Here is my latest Pastoral letter for you all. Please share it with your people. It is very important that your people can be blessed with these great teachings.

Merry Christmas and a Blessed and Happy New year to all!

Please note that the ministry's office will be closed from 23 December till 2 January for the Christmas holidays. You may still email us but replies may not be given until the office re-opens.

The Word of God

A new year is dawning!

An old year is almost finished and a new year is about to begin. And although time is a continuous flow of moments with no interruptions it is good to consider that 2016 is about to finish and 2018 is about to start. It's time therefore to consider what has this year meant for you, what challenges God helped you to overcome and what you are planning to do in 2018. And whatever difficulties and challenges you may still be facing, however uncertain 2018 may look to you at the moment remember the words that David spoke when he found himself in a similar situation. These are the words of a king but contain a series of mighty promises from the King!

Ps 23 says. "The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever."

Let us start the new year with a greater level of faith, with a confident and joyful attitude that God will be with us every step of the way and above all with a greater readiness to do what ever God asks us to do trusting that He will equip us for the calling and make a way where ever He calls us to go or what ever He calls us to do.

School of leadership

Know your calling (2)

'He who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also.'

John 14:12

Your calling will always be connected to an unmet need or an opportunity to do good. It was in

listening to the cries of an enslaved people that Moses discovered his calling. So did William Wilberforce. He devoted his life to seeing slavery eradicated in Britain. Nelson Mandela was a lawyer with the potential to make money. But he chose a different path - one that involved years of imprisonment. And when he was finally set free he didn't seek vengeance, he sought justice and equality for his people, and changed his country. Ezekiel writes: 'I came to the exiles ... And there, where they were living, I sat among them for seven days - overwhelmed. At the end of seven days the word of the LORD came to me' (Ez 3:15-16). If you want to discover your calling, start praying about situations that trouble you deeply.

Usually we try to avoid discomfort, but if you sense that your calling involves helping the poor, spend time around those in poverty. Allow your heart to be moved; carry within you the conviction that things must change, and keep praying, 'Lord, make me a change agent.' When Jesus called His disciples, He chose people from different backgrounds: a doctor, a government worker, a group of fishermen. In essence He told them, 'I believe in you. What I know I'll teach you,' and promised them that 'he who believes in me, the works that I do he will do also.' Bottom line: Jesus empowered His followers to go out and live like He did. And today that's what He's calling you to do.

God bless you all!

Bishop Alex Tana

General Overseer