



2021 - BLACK CATHOLIC MEN'S BIBLE STUDY SERIES

THEME: HUMBLENESS

The Power and Peace

TABLE OF CONTENTS

BIBLE STUDIES.....3

BEING A MAN.....5

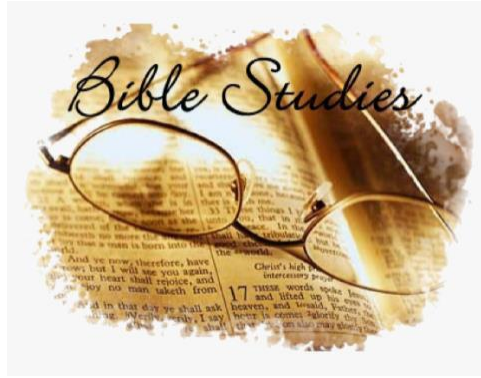
SPIRITUAL WARFARE.....9

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH.....12

WISDOM..... 15

SUCCESS AND VICTORY.....18

SPIRITUALLY EFFECTIVE – BLACK LIBERATION.....21



Many of us long to fill our minds and our lives with Sacred Scripture. We, Black Catholic men desire to be transformed by its powerful message of liberation. The Bowman Francis Bible Studies are designed to be an exciting and challenging way to do just that. They help us to guide by God's holy word in every area of life.

How They Work

Bowman Francis Bible Studies have a number of distinctive features. Perhaps the most important is that they are inductive rather than deductive. They lead us to discover What the Bible says rather than simply telling us what it says.

They are also thought provoking. They help us to think about the meaning of the passage so that we can truly understand what the author is saying. The questions requires more than one-word answers.

The studies are personal. Questions expose us to the promises, assurances, exhortations, and challenges of God's word. They are designed to allow the Scriptures to refocus, renew, and rediscover our minds and hearts so that we can be transformed by the Spirit of God. This is the ultimate goal of men's bible study series. The studies are versatile. They are designed for neighborhood and Church groups. They are also effective for individual study.

How The Studies Plans Are Put Together

Bowman Francis Bible Studies have a distinctive format. Each weekly study need take no more than 1 hour in a group setting or thirty minutes in personal study – unless you choose to take more time.

Bowman Francis Ministry use a workbook format.

Suggestions for Individual Study

1. As you begin each weekly study, pray that God will help you to understand and apply the passage to your life.
2. Read and reread the assigned Bible passage to familiarize yourself with what the author is saying.
3. It might be good to have a Bible dictionary handy. Use it to look up any unfamiliar words, names or places.

Suggestions for Group

- Pray that you will have an enjoyable and profitable time together.
- Come to the study prepared. You will find that careful preparation will greatly enrich your time spent in group discussion.
- Be willing to participate in the discussion. The leader will be asking the questions that are found in this guide. Plan to share what God has taught you.
- Be sensitive to the other group members of the group. Listen attentively when they share what they have learned.
- Be careful not to dominate the discussion. By all means participate! But allow other to speak as well.
- Expect God to teach you through the passage being discussed and through the other members of the group.

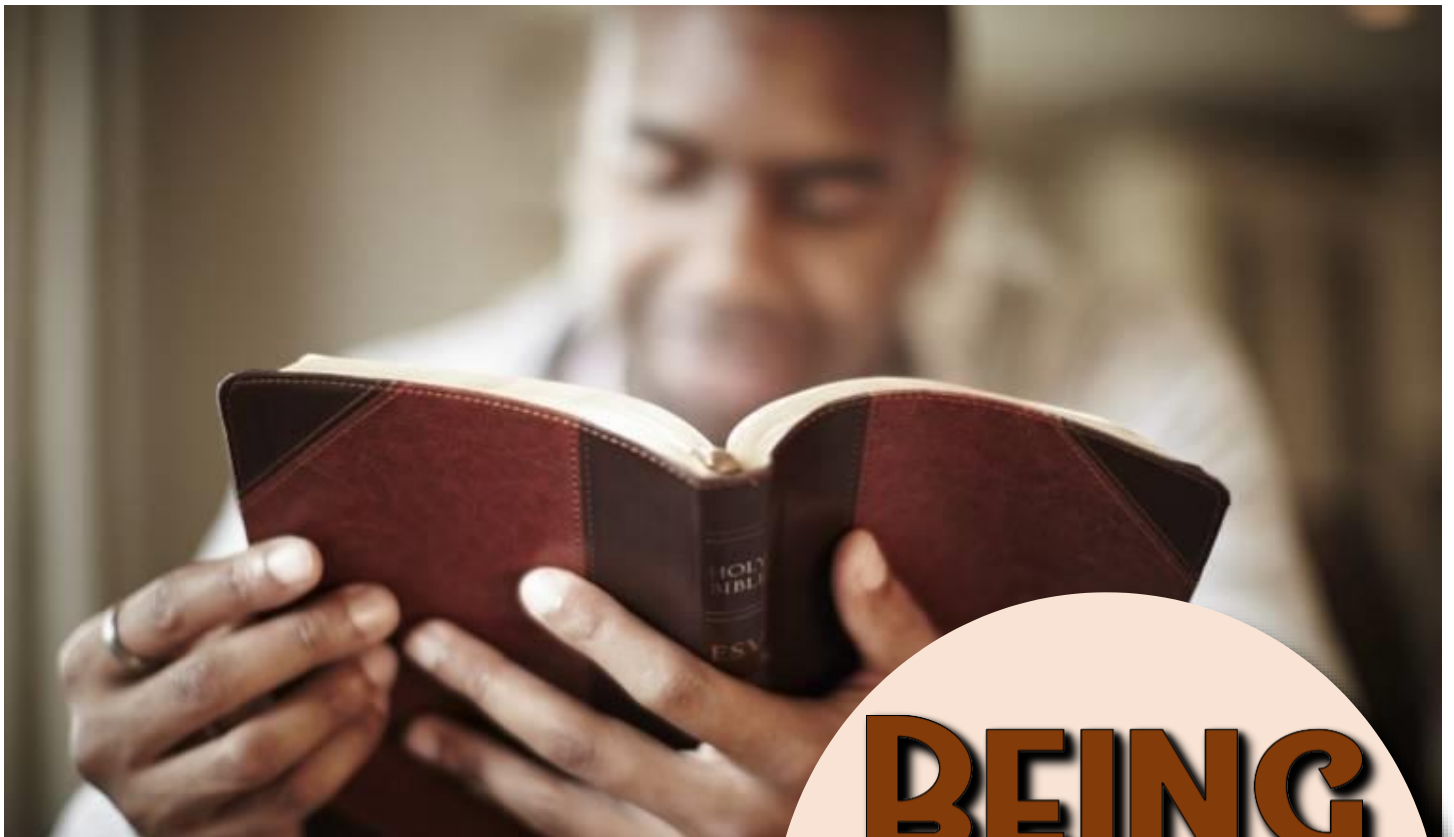
Studying the Scripture from an African-American Perspective

- Get **QUIET** and **READ** your thoughts and be **STILL**. Be mindful and visualize opening your heart to God's Holy Spirit speaking to you.
- **READ** the selected section slowly and carefully. **MARK** the words and phrases that speak to you, reading them and a second time.
- **REFLECT** on what touches your spirit. What connections do you see at this point in your life? How might God be Speaking to you through these words?
- **RESPOND** to the passage. Speak directly to God about what's on your mind and heart.
- **REST** in God's presence. Let God's Holy words take root in your mind and body; and thank God for engaging you.
- **APPLICATION** in real life. Apply what you are learning and discovering in your daily life. Look for ways to live out what you have learned; and what God's Holy Spirit has revealed to you.





WEEK ONE



BEING A MAN

1 KINGS 2:1-3
ISAIAH 30:15-22

HUMBLENESS: POWER AND THE PEACE

**WEEK 1
BEING A MAN
1 KINGS 2:1-3**

QUESTIONS

- What was I raised to believe about manhood?
- Is there anything I can let go of that's keeping me from becoming God's king of man?
- Whom do I influence as a spiritual man, and what kind of influence am I being right now?
- Today, can I honestly say my idea of manhood is established on honoring God and being a disciple of Christ Jesus in the world?
- What is a man?
- What is a male?

ISAIAH 30:15-22

QUESTIONS

- How has God made your crooked straight and your rough places plain? What work does God still have to do in you?
- How often do you find yourself asking God for what you want instead of trying to discern what God wants? How can you improve in this area?
- Why does God give you "the bread of adversity and the water of affliction"?

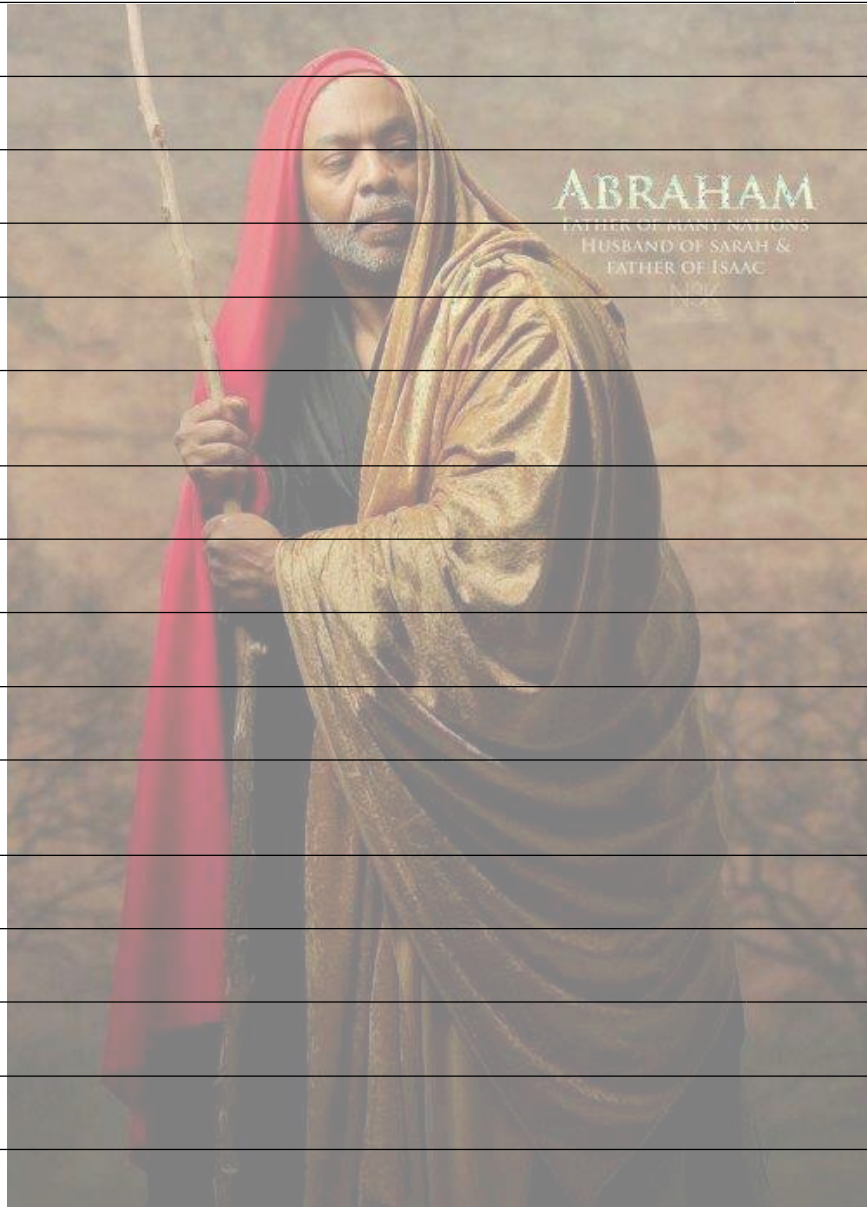
PRAYER:

Lord God, I pray that you will help me understand what it truly means to be a man of God. I pray that you will help me walk and talk in your ways in all that I do and keep your changes wholeheartedly. I ask you that you change me internally; and change me from what the world says I should be; into the kind of man you want me to be; so that I may always serve you; and build up your kingdom; and live my life to the fullest.

RESPONSE:

Lord God give me patience to wait for you. Remind me of all the times that you have come through for me. HALLELUYAH ANYHOW.

NOTES

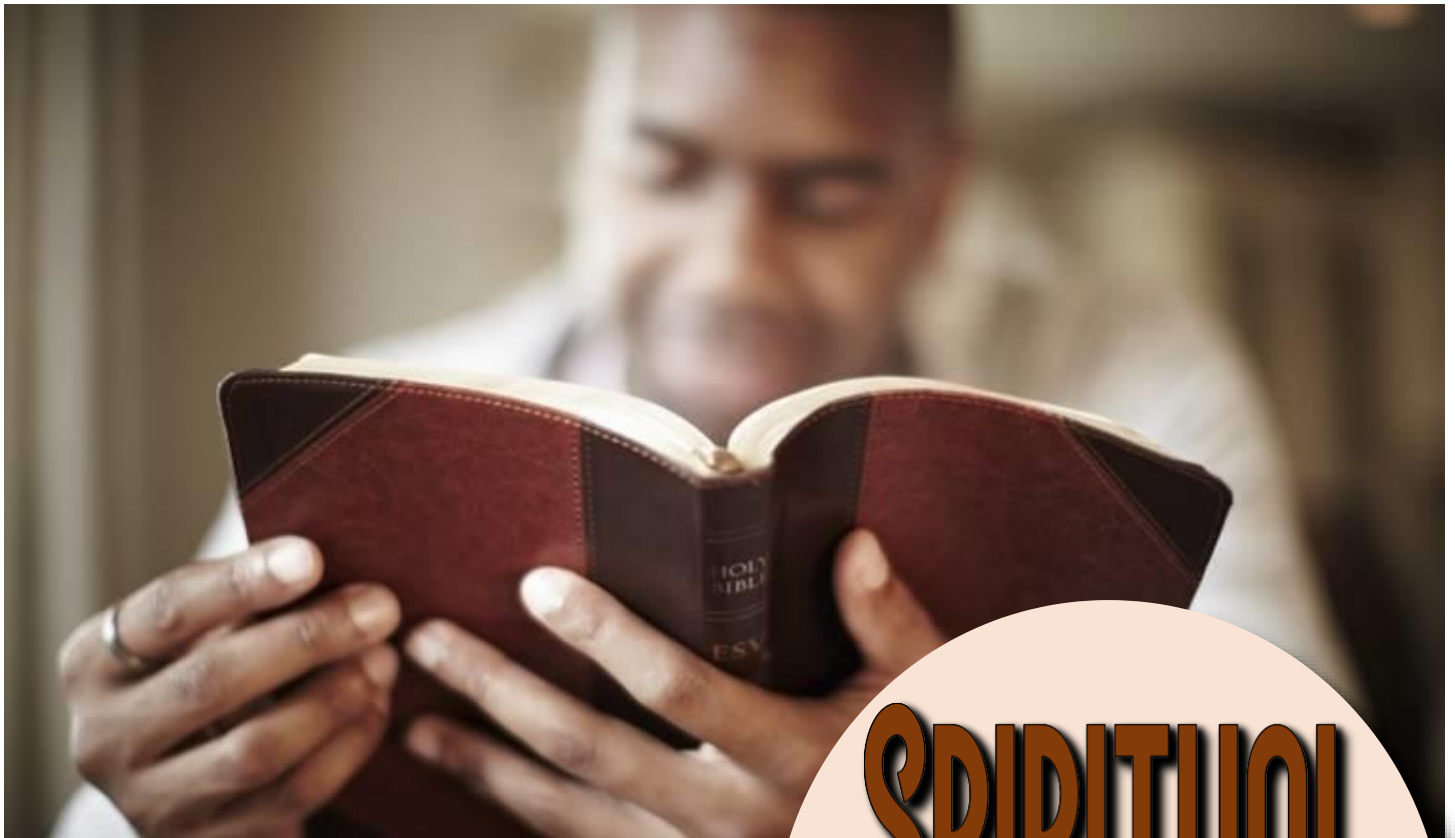


SCRIPTURE VERSE: 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, as in fact you are doing. (NIV)



WEEK TWO



SPIRITUAL WARFARE

JAMES 4:1 – EPHESIANS 6:12
PSALM 103:1-5 – ISAIAH 40:28-31

HUMBLENESS: POWER AND THE PEACE

WEEK 2
OUR TRUE BATTLE SPIRITUAL WARFARE
READ JAMES 4:1 – EPHESIANS 6:12

QUESTIONS:

- Am I experiencing any kind of conflict with others? At work? At home? At church?
- Does the peace of Christ characterize my inner life? How am I storing up “good treasures” in my heart?
- What can I begin doing (or do more of) to fight the real enemy more effectively?
- Have I resisted humbling myself even when I knew it could resolve or improve a strained relationship?

SPIRITUAL WARFARE AND SPIRITUAL DIET
PSALM 103:1-5 – ISAIAH 40:28-31

QUESTIONS:

- How much time do you spend each week playing sports, exercising and otherwise trying to stay in shape physically? How disciplined are you with eating healthy foods?
- How much time do you spend each week keeping yourself in shape Spiritually? How disciplined are you Spiritually?
- How challenging is it for you to read the Bible every day?

PRAYER:

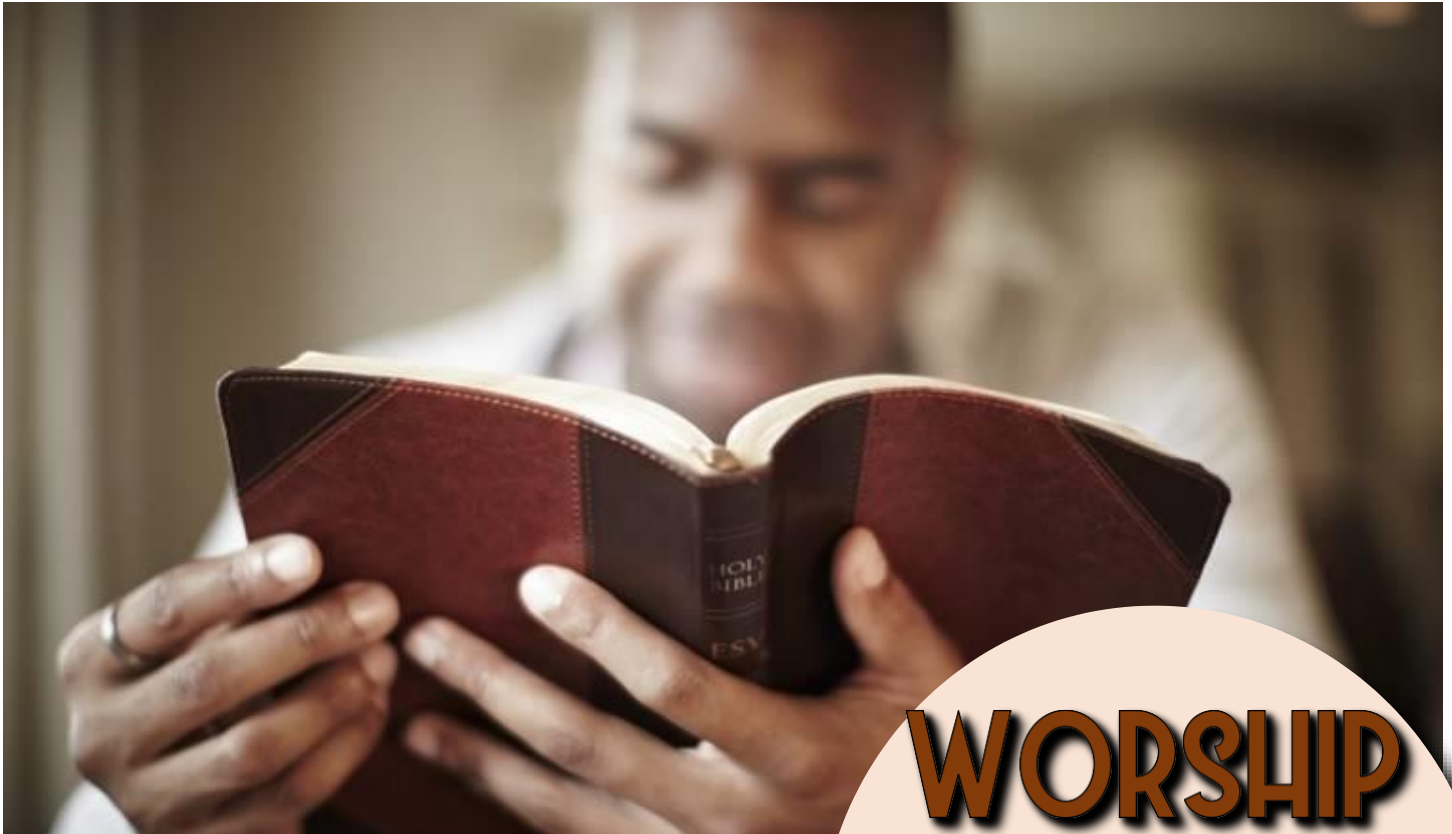
My Lord & Savior, I have been fighting the wrong battles for so long, and the overflow of my heart has caused conflict with those I love and seek to serve. Please oh God, renew, restore, and refresh my mind from the evil things I have dwelled on. Grant me God: peace, power, purpose, prayer and a spiritual plan, so that I may better focus on being an example of your love and sacrifice to those around me.

RESPONSE:

Lord God, every time I fall, you help me stand up again. Every time! You never tired of helping me to stand up. AMEN



WEEK THREE



WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

**2 SAMUEL 6:14-15, 21
ZECHARIAH 9:9-10, 14-17**

HUMBLENESS: POWER AND THE PEACE

WEEK 3
GIVE GOD THE GLORY & PRAISE – WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH
READ 2 SAMUEL 6:14-15 & 2 SAMUEL 6:21

QUESTIONS

- Is there anything about other people's opinions that is holding me back from worshipping the Lord openly?
- What would I do differently in worship or prayer if I were alone?
- Can I help others worship by being less concerned about how I appear when I come before God to worship?

SHOUTING AT JESUS
READ ZECHARIAH 9:9-10, 14-17

QUESTIONS

- When has God disappointed you? What were you expecting God to do? What happened instead?
- From what has Jesus saved you? What do you want Jesus to do now?
- When have you turned to someone other than Christ Jesus to save you? From what? What happened?
- When have you relied on your own abilities rather than asking God for help? Why do you do that?
- How can you rejoice in God's goodness today?

PRAYER:

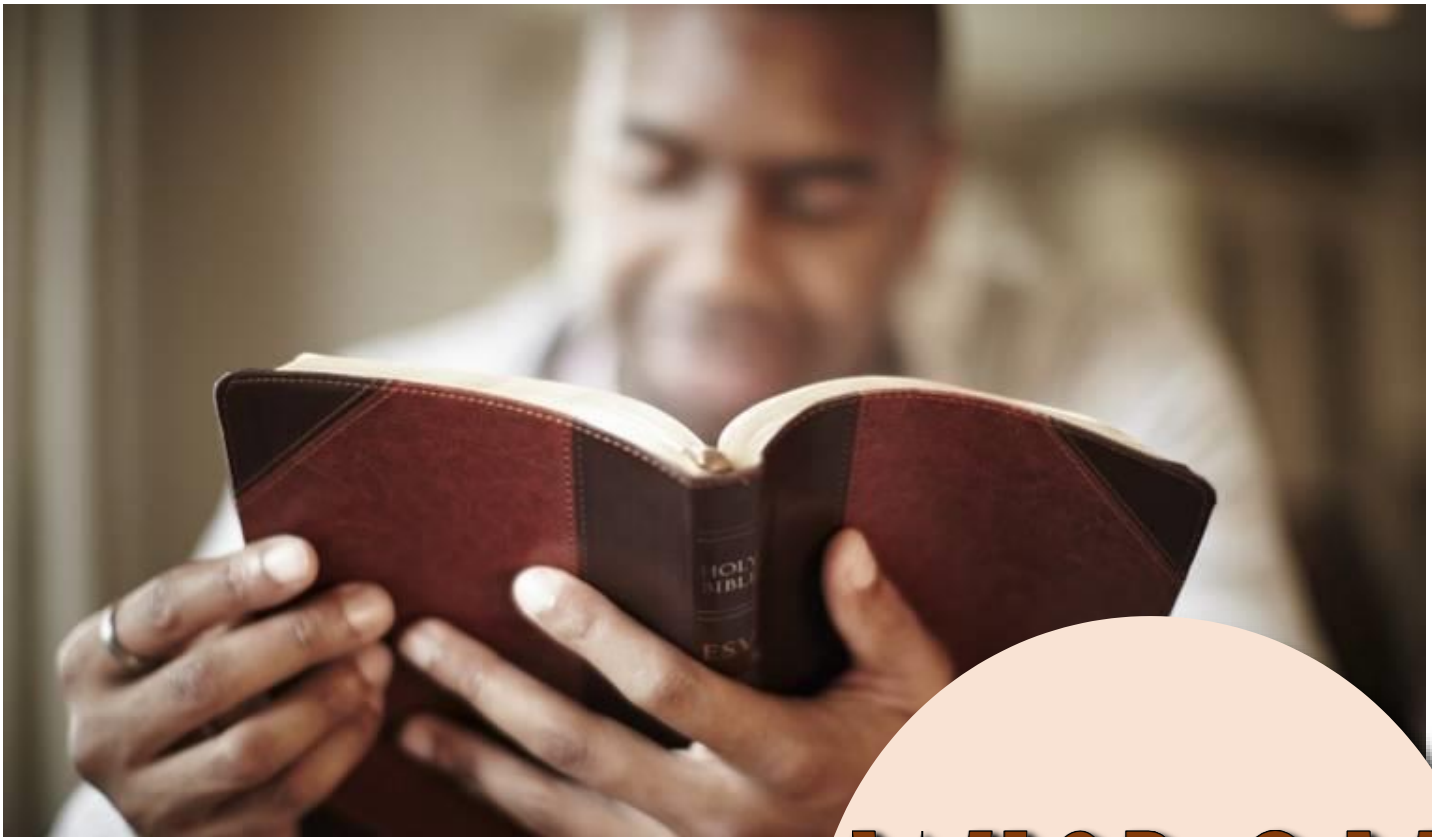
Lord God, help me to find the courage to be vulnerable and open in my everyday praise and worship of you my God. Help me, Jesus, to stand firm and to see that the world's idea of being "manly" is just a prison, for true strength and freedom comes from being unafraid to rejoice in you.

RESPONSE:

God, forgive me for not rejoicing enough about the AMAZING gift that you have given to me.
Amen



WEEK FOUR



WISDOM

**JAMES 3:16-18,
PSALM 119:125-135
1 CORINTHIANS 1:20-25**

HUMBLENESS: POWER AND THE PEACE

WEEK 4
WISDOM
JAMES 3:16-18

QUESTIONS

- Is there any area of my work life that I need to reevaluate using the criteria that James calls “the wisdom from above”?
- Do I have any unhealthy rivalries that I can confess and abandon?
- How can I pursue my goals in life using God’s wisdom and not the world? What would that look like?

WISDOM

PSALM 119:125-135 – 1 CORINTHIANS 1:20-25

QUESTIONS

- Are you simple like David, open to persuasion and able to be enticed or seduced? When have you been persuaded or enticed to go down the wrong path?
- How does God’s Word penetrate your heart and change you? What can you do to make that a more frequent occurrence?
- What is “the foolishness of God”? What is “the weakness of God”?

PRAYER:

Lord God, I am asking you to help me pursue my goals with wisdom and a healthy, uplifting spirit, and with a loving and wise perspective. I pray that any competitions I have will be healthy and build bonds. I reject the world’s wisdom and pray for your wisdom to guide me in all that I do.

RESPONSE:

Oh God, you sent your son Jesus Christ so that your Word can penetrate the hearts of simple folks such as me. Thank you God for being my light when I lived in darkness. Amen



WEEK FIVE



SUCCESS AND VICTORY

ECCLESIASTES 12:1-13 – PSALMS 119:34

HUMBLENESS: POWER AND THE PEACE

WEEK 5 – SUCCESS AND VICTORY
PSALMS 119:34

QUESTIONS

- Where am I experiencing frustration or failure on a regular basis?
- Is there something God has called me to, or am I free to choose another route?
- How do I plan to receive wisdom on a regular basis?
- In my relationships, does sharpening the ax mean becoming a better listener? Being more patient? Managing my anger? Controlling my temper?

AN UNSPECTACULAR LIFE
ECCLESIASTES 12:1-13

QUESTIONS

- At your funeral, for what do you want to be remembered?
- How are you being obedient and faithful today? Where are you struggling to be obedient and faithful?
- The wealthiest man who ever lived said that the duty of every man is to fear God and keep God's commandments; PERIOD. What do you tend to add to that very short list?

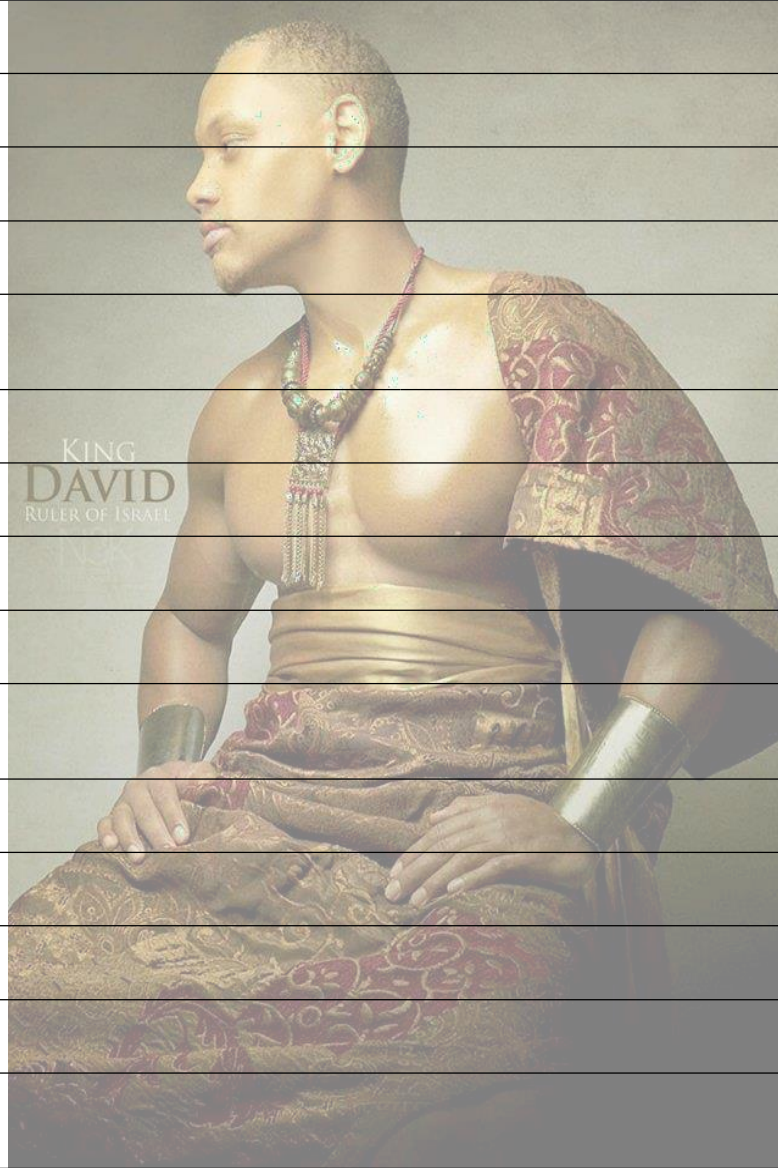
PRAYER:

You are a faithful God, help me to serve you even when I don't see results. Help me Lord to see the value in the people and situations you have brought into my life. Give me the courage to face and confront tough challenges without pulling back. Show me what I need to do Lord God; show me what I need to let go of in order to please you; and walk and talk wholly in your ways. Amen.

RESPONSE:

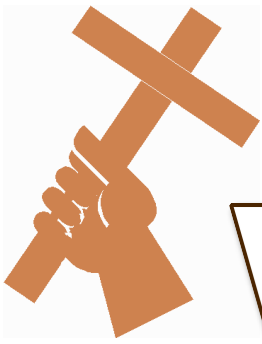
Lord god, accomplishments do not measure a man's worth. Help me Lord to be obedient to your extraordinary plan for an ordinary life. AMEN

NOTES



SCRIPTURE VERSE: John 16:33

I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world. (NIV)



WEEK SIX



**SPIRITUALLY
EFFECTIVE:
BLACK
LIBERATION**

**2 PETER 1:5-8 – 1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-7
PROVERBS 14:26-35 – JAMES 4:10-12**

HUMBLENESS: POWER AND THE PEACE

WEEK 6
SPIRITUALLY EFFECTIVE – BLACK LIVERATION THEOLOGY
READ 2 PETER 1:5-8 & 1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-7

QUESTIONS

- Do I see my efforts to be a spiritual walk with Christ Jesus and build God's kingdom bearing fruit?
- What real efforts am I seeking to become more virtuous? More knowledgeable? More self-controlled? More Christ-like? More loving toward believers and non-believers?
- How can I help my brothers in Christ grow in these traits/virtues?
- Why is attitude important in confronting and acting on difficult situations?
- What would you like to change about yourself? Would you like to be more confident or more relaxed?

SPIRITUALLY EFFECTIVE - BLACK LIBERATION THEOLOGY
PROVERBS 14:26-35 – JAMES 4:10-12

QUESTIONS

- In what situation are you slow to anger, and when does your temper flare quickly?
- When have you acted like the older son in the parable of the Prodigal Son? (LK 15:29-30)
- How often do you compare yourself to others? Why? What do you envy in others? Why?
- What are some ways that God has made you a "better man"? Where would you like God's help to improve?

PRAYER:

Let the redeem in Christ Jesus say Amen. I praise you, Father for the gifts and skills you have bestowed on me! Thank you for working in my life to grow the qualities necessary to become more effective as a Spiritual man for your Kingdom. I ask for your guidance and mercy in growing my Faith – my Spirituality – my Manhood so that fruitful and good works would overflow as I make every effort to increase in usefulness in your loving hands.

RESPONSE

Lord Jesus, dissolve the pride that lives within me, that I may humble myself and allow you to lift me up. AMEN

Coming Soon...

BOWMAN-FRANCIS MINISTRY TEAM
INVITES YOU TO OUR
18TH ANNUAL NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE
THEME: DELIVER ME FROM MYSELF
PSALM 34:4
GATHERING VIRTUALLY FOR SAFETY
October 14th - 17th, 2021
SIGN UP NOW FOR THE EARLY BIRD SPECIAL AND SAVE!
ADULT RATE: \$100 YOUTH RATE: \$50 MUST BE PAID BY SEPT. 28TH
FOR MORE INFO VISIT: WWW.BOMANFRANCIS.ORG