

I'll Do It

Philippians 2:14

v.14 *Do everything without complaining or arguing,*

v.15 *so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe*

v.16 *as you hold out the word of life--in order that I may boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor for nothing.*

1 Samuel 22:15

But Samuel replied: "Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the voice of the Lord? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams.

We should follow this example. We should not give our own opinions, but rather obediently speak as the Lord instructs.

By: Lo-Kee Manifest

(Macro)

This song is a constant source of motivation for me. It's encouraging when we're reminded that not only is it of paramount importance that we remain obedient above all else, but also that God asks nothing of us that we are incapable of accomplishing. From Gideon to Hosea, and from Saul, to you and I, we see that God not only gives us tasks, but He undoubtedly equips us to succeed at them. In this verse, I deal with two main issues: 1. Obedience to whatever God wants me to do. 2. Conquering obstacles or obstructions, especially self-doubt, fear and circumstance.

(Micro)

I'll do it. I'm wit' it. Down forever. I'll go wherever, whether I'm dealing with calm or stormy weather.

I'm truly committed, in the rainstorm. I'm gon' brainstorm. Maintain hold on, 'til the rain's gone.

Psalms 57

v.1 *Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in thee: yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge, until these calamities be overpast.*

v.2 *I will cry unto God most high; unto God that performeth all things for me.*

- v.3 *He shall send from heaven, and save me from the reproach of him that would swallow me up. Selah. God shall send forth his mercy and his truth.*
- v.4 *My soul is among lions: and I lie even among them that are set on fire, even the sons of men, whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword.*
- v.5 *Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens; let thy glory be above all the earth.*
- v.6 *They have prepared a net for my steps; my soul is bowed down: they have digged a pit before me, into the midst whereof they are fallen themselves. Selah.*
- v.7 *My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise.*
- v.8 *Awake up, my glory; awake, psaltery and harp: I myself will awake early.*
- v.9 *I will praise thee, O Lord, among the people: I will sing unto thee among the nations.*
- v.10 *For thy mercy is great unto the heavens, and thy truth unto the clouds.*
- v.11 *Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens: let thy glory be above all the earth. {KJV}*

We all go through those tough times that seem to truly test us. We need to be committed, not only when our situation is not taxing, but also when things get a bit thick. Our rainstorm can be anything from financial difficulties, trouble in relationships, illness or whatever. The point is, that those times of trouble will pass, and we have to be able to hold on until they do. I used the word brainstorm here, because many times we find that God uses other people in our lives to help us weather our storms. When we brainstorm, we include others and collectively seek help to solve a particular problem.

Ain't nothing better than the sun when it peaks through the clouds.

What I'm describing here is the feeling one gets after the sun becomes visible when the clouds move away. It's very refreshing to be able to feel the warmth of the sun that sustains life. What would this planet be like if every day were cloudy? We wouldn't make it very long – life would not be able to continue. Now, look at this in a different light. Imagine sin as the clouds obstructing your view of Christ (the sun), the source that gives us life. As we move the sin from our lives we see more clearly, and in turn, we please God.

Or knowing the Son's proud when I please You.

John 14:21

- v. 21 *He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. {KJV}*

God is pleased when we are obedient to His word. When we do this, we show God that we love Him. In turn, we are loved by the Son, for He loves those whom His Father loves (is pleased with).

I'll reach through the fire and touch whoever You want me to touch, trust and believe You.

Daniel 3:16,17, 22

- v.16 *Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter.*
- v.17 *If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.*
- v.22 *Therefore because the king's commandment was urgent, and the furnace exceeding hot, the flames of the fire slew those men that took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.* {KJV}

There are so many examples I could give concerning this type of obedience. Sometimes, we are called on to do things that are rather tough, in order to touch someone else's life. I think of the story of Daniel's three friends in the fiery furnace. They stood firm on their faith and trust in God. They knew He was able, and would deliver them from harm, if it were His will. If not, they still knew He was God and trusted Him just the same (*verses 16,17*). Think about how hot that fire was. The heat killed the soldiers that threw the three young men into the furnace (*verse 22*). Think about all the other choices those three guys could have made. They could have folded under the King's demands in fear. They could have run or fought, yet they stood firm and believed in God and caused others, even the king himself, to believe in their God. Chances are that we won't have to be thrown into an actual furnace, but each of us will face our own 'furnaces' (metaphorically speaking) in life, and we should be willing to persevere to the end, no matter what.

And when I'm in those hostile places, You say don't even worry about their faces.

Jeremiah 1:8,9

- v.8 *Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD.*
- v.9 *Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth.* {KJV}

It is eternally important for us to stand firm on God's Word, and not be affected by the reaction of others. Surveys have documented American's number one fear as being public speaking. What is it about speaking before others that is so frightening? Many people will attest that it's in the potential negative reaction of the audience being addressed. What if they don't like the way I speak? What if they don't agree with what I'm saying? Heck, what if they just don't like me?

We must understand that as servants of God, we can't be concerned with such things. Don't let fear stop you from being obedient. While all we can see with our eyes is a person's reaction (body language, facial expression, etc.), we must realize that God uses us to speak His Word into their hearts. When we speak God's Word, we don't need to be afraid of how it, or we, are perceived or received.

'Cause you'll be my mouthpiece so my outreach won't fall short on account of my kinda broke-down speech.

Isaiah 55:8-11

- v.8 *"My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts," says the Lord. "And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine.*
- v.9 *For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts.*
- v.10 *The rain and snow come down from the heavens and stay on the ground to water the earth. They cause the grain to grow, producing seed for the farmer and bread for the hungry. 11 It is the same with my word. I send it out, and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it. {NLT}*

Exodus 4:10-12

- v. 10 *Moses said to the LORD, "O Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue."*
- v. 11 *The LORD said to him, "Who gave man his mouth? Who makes him deaf or mute? Who gives him sight or makes him blind? Is it not I, the LORD?"*
- v. 12 *Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say." {NIV}*

Jeremiah 1:6-9

- v. 6 *Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child.*
- v. 7 *But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak.*
- v. 8 *Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD.*
- v. 9 *Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth. {KJV}*

Throughout the bible, God uses those individuals who think they are inadequately equipped to perform something great for the Lord. Here's another example: God told Jeremiah that He would do the work. All Jeremiah had to do was be obedient. Jeremiah actually was uneasy about carrying out this task. He was a young, inexperienced man. How could he be capable of such a thing? Jeremiah was perhaps afraid that his words might not come out right, but God put His own words in Jeremiah's mouth. Now, when do God's words ever come out wrong? God will accomplish that which He desires, through His word. His words will never come back void. It doesn't matter whether you stutter, drool, dribble or whatever, God's words are His own, and they will fulfill His wishes...period. We should be more concerned about making ourselves available vessels for His purpose, than whether we think we're qualified to deliver what He instructs us to deliver.

Moses also worried about being inadequate, or even inarticulate. God reassured Moses that He would not let him fail. God's choosing him had nothing to do with what Moses himself was capable of accomplishing on his own. Rather, it was about what he could do with the Lord's help. We must remember that God is the ultimate director and coordinator. He is all-knowing and can always see what we are unable to see. Submit to His wisdom and trust that He will equip you with the tools that are necessary to successfully carry out any task.

Whatever it takes, I'm steady. I'll fast or get my passport ready, in case you need to send me to the Serengheti. I'm there, just give me a task. I'm Your ambassador.

Matthew 28:16-20

- v.16 *Then the eleven disciples left for Galilee, going to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go.*
- v.17 *When they saw him, they worshiped him—but some of them doubted!*
- v.18 *Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth.*
- v.19 *Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.*
- v.20 *Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” {NLT}*

So many times we forget about making ourselves totally available for God. We say we want to do His will, yet we're not prepared for what that means in certain instances. We say we want to take the gospel to the ends of the earth as the Lord commanded, but we can't even leave our own country because we don't have passports. What about a certain group of people whom God may have drawn us to? Perhaps its the youth, the elderly, the deaf community, a certain race or nationality, athletes, homeless... whomever. Have we learned about them, about their language, culture, common concerns or issues? These things will help us become effectual ambassadors to those individuals. The point is, let's be willing and ready to do whatever we are asked.

By: The Godchild

(Macro)

Whatever you want me to say, wherever you want me to go, and whatever you want me to do... I'll say it, go there, do it.

One thing I wanted to address in this verse is the question of why. If someone told me to say whatever they wanted me to say, go wherever they wanted me to go and do whatever they wanted me to do, quite naturally two major questions would need to be answered before doing anything. Those questions would be: who are you, and why should I obey? This is where we struggle when it comes to doing what God says do. If people knew - really knew who God was - they'd probably spend less time resisting His instruction.

Do we really need a reason to obey, knowing that the one whom we serve is the very glue that holds all things together? Not only does He hold things together, but He also created it all. Creation alone provides enough evidence for us to follow where He leads. However, if that is not enough for formality's sake, we can further explore a few reasons.

Jesus came while we were yet enemies of God, and He died so that we might live, even while knowing that some of us would just throw His salvation back into His face, as if we could do better on our own. He is the epitome of grace and humility, and He has decided to call us

“friend.” It’s one thing for someone to consider another a friend, but it is something totally different when that friendship is reciprocated. We have all had those unsatisfying, one-sided friendships. Likewise, it’s one thing for you to call God "friend," but to know that He is calling you "friend" back... it’s awesome. To have a friend like this is amazing. When you slip, He is able to catch you. In the areas of your weakness, He is strong. He is able to keep you from falling. He is loving and kind, and He alone has the answers. As if this was not enough, He still loves us and is faithful to us, even though we really deserve His wrath.

Peace shod wherever my feet trod.

Ephesians 6:15:

v.15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; (KJV)

I love the thought of knowing that peace is in every step we take as soldiers in the army of God. It’s wonderfully overwhelming to think that peace, even in the midst of a riotous situation can be ours. With this we can maintain our composure and think clearly, because we are not moved by our circumstances. Like Christ on the boat during the storm, we can find rest (Mark 4:37-39). This peace brings power, through Christ Jesus, to keep our hearts and minds at rest (Philippians 4:7). To me, having peace with me at all times is far more valuable than any money, gold, or even platinum albums (Proverbs 17:1).

Reasons I need not, yo, other than He's God. And He's got em, the answer to each problem. For each young'n and adult, He'd solve 'em. But for those who're still looking for more proof .

Romans 1:20

For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, [even] his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: {KJV}

Psalms 19:1

The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. {KJV}

We really are provided with more than enough proof that there is a God. We can easily look around at creation and see that this God of ours is more than great. He controls creation, and it functions because of Him and for His divine purpose. This is the God who asks us to trust and obey Him. He can manage the functioning of the entire universe. Doesn’t having this on His resume qualify Him to know enough about how to manage our tiny lives? Isn’t it ludicrous to think that He isn’t able to solve our simple problems and deliver us, even from our own mistakes?

We've got boatloads of truth here to flow through. Just to name few... Before I knew my name, He came to save like he had an "S" on his chest and caped suit.

Romans 5:8:

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. {KJV}

Romans 8:29:

For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate [to be] conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. {KJV}

Jeremiah 1:5:

Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee... {KJV}

God, in His ultimate perfection, never ceases to amaze me. Sitting outside of time and space, in a heaven that no man of his own capability can discover, God humbled Himself for us. He didn't just check on us (His human creation), but offered Himself in exchange for us after we blew it. This shows that God's greatness is equally measured in His humility. He came to earth and died, as the bible states, while we were still sinners. He knew that we were guilty, yet He would still take our case. The Lord Jesus Christ is our advocate, yet if we insist on pleading innocent, as in neglecting to admit our faults, He cannot help us. He can, however, step in once we humble ourselves, confess our sin and plead guilty. His goal was never to defend our wrongdoing, but rather to represent us in our guilty state, and then receive our sentence as His own. Amazing isn't it? Christ knew that we were guilty as charged, but it did not stop Him from paying the ultimate price for us. He came to save us, long before we even knew whom we were. God is the real hero – the real Superman.

So peep doctor if you're still not convinced that He's not ya Average friend when it seems like you're falling, yo, He'd spot ya.

John 15:13

Greater love hath no man than this; that a man lay down his life for his friends. {KJV}

Jude 1:24

Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present [you] faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy. {KJV}

Ps 8:4

What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? {KJV}

David says that God is mindful of us. This thought alone is amazing. The fact that the One and Only God, who created the heavens and the earth - from the great Maia Nebula to the smallest insect life form - is thinking about us and desires to know what is on our minds, is an incredible thought. God has made us top priority, even as He holds the entire universe in the palm of His hands. It's as if there is nothing He would rather do more, than think of us. This is love in its purest form, as we have His full attention at all times. He would stop everything to come to our aide if He sees that we need Him. This is the kind of friend and Father He is.

**And if you see one set of prints in the sand it's cause He's got ya.
These blocks get wicked but He's not
So you'll find me with him like trees up in the weed spot.**

Psalm 91:1

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. {KJV}

Many people don't realize it, but one thing you can expect to see in a drug house where marijuana (a.k.a. weed or trees) is sold, is actually the weed or trees themselves. The very thing that makes it a "weed house" is the fact that, weed or trees are really there. This is an analogy of how we should be with God. If we are looking for Him, of course, we will be able to find Him. If we seek Him, we will be drawn into His presence, following so closely after Him, that we become inseparable. Two sets of footsteps become one, as we walk with Him carrying our burdens until, in His loving care, He eventually carries us. In Him we live, move and have our being (Acts 17:28). We could never go on without Him.

And if that isn't convincing enough, even after giving his Son

John 3:16:

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. {KJV}

He's given his love and faithfulness like he's indebted to us

And that's why...

Some people treat God like He owes them something. Some feel slighted because they don't have that Benz or that large house they want. I've noticed that we sometimes have a way of looking past the many things that we do have, and become ungrateful because of the one or two things that we lack. Some of us have adopted the attitude that what God has given is not enough. We're not satisfied, and we cannot be content. This becomes evident in the responses we give and in our disposition when we suffer through trials or disappointments. Its often good for us to be reminded of just how little we are owed, through the humbling situations that break us down and leave us groping for the shelter of God's arms. He is in no way indebted to us, but He still chooses to show us faithfulness. He does this not because it's what we deserve, but because of his unfathomable grace and mercy toward us.

By: Maestro Of Peace

(Macro)

This song is one of total obedience. This should be the anthem of all mankind, especially believers; our Father in heaven requires our submission. Obedience is not easy, as it requires us to deny our own understanding and submit to God's instruction.

(Micro)

Chorus

**Whatever YOU want me to say, I'll say it. Wherever YOU want me to go, I'll go there.
Whatever YOU want me to do, I'll do it. I'll do it. Do it.**

The chorus of this song was given to me after a 7-year journey of disobedience. I have had a prophetic calling on my life, even while I was in my mother's womb. I was aware of this throughout my life and I accepted the call of God as a child. At an early age, I was blessed with a gift to draw people to the Lord. As a young man, I was zealous and "on fire for the Lord," yet I struggled with self-pride. This reminds me of the process that Moses went through early in his journey.

Exodus 2:11-12

v.11 *Now it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out to his brethren and looked at their burdens. And he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren.*

v.12 *So he looked this way and that way, and when he saw no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. {NKJV}*

In this passage you can see Moses' zeal and compassion for his oppressed people. Also, you can see that he allowed sin to creep in. He allowed his passion, anger and pride to take over, and ultimately he took a man's life. Moses knew that he was wrong (this is why he looked around to see if anyone was watching before he killed the Egyptian). Although I did not commit murder, I did sin against God just as Moses did.

Exodus 2:14-15

v.14 *Then he said, "Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you intend to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" So Moses feared and said, "Surely this thing is known!"*

v.15 *When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh and dwelt in the land of Midian; and he sat down by a well. {NKJV}*

In a feeble attempt to run from my guilt, I packed my things, and moved away. After I moved I hid my gifts and talents out of guilt, fear and shame. I became like a toothless lion in the wild. There was nourishment all around me, but I could not take advantage of it. I was going through the motions and slowly dying. While in this state, I became bitter and angry at "the church" and "church folk." I felt that they had used me. These feelings festered inside of me for several years. It got so bad that I stopped attending church (except for weddings and funerals) for seven years. I didn't want to share my gifts with those "church folk."

God clearly spoke to me several times, but I ignored His voice. This began, what I call, my seven years of a "Jonah" experience. Like Jonah I was given clear direction, but I chose to do something different.

Jonah 1:1-3

- v.1 *Now the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying,*
v.2 *Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me.*
v.3 *But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. {NKJV}*

I stopped fellowshipping and worshipping with other believers, and became an island unto myself. I became distant, cold, aloof and lethargic. Like Jonah, it seemed no matter where I went I could not find peace, nor could I feel free.

Jonah 1:4-15

- v.4 *Then the LORD sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up.*
v.5 *All the sailors were afraid and each cried out to his own god. And they threw the cargo into the sea to lighten the ship. But Jonah had gone below deck, where he lay down and fell into a deep sleep.*
v.6 *The captain went to him and said, "How can you sleep? Get up and call on your god! Maybe he will take notice of us, and we will not perish."*
v.7 *Then the sailors said to each other, "Come, let us cast lots to find out who is responsible for this calamity." They cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah.*
v.8 *So they asked him, "Tell us, who is responsible for making all this trouble for us? What do you do? Where do you come from? What is your country? From what people are you?"*
v.9 *He answered, "I am a Hebrew and I worship the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the land."*
v.10 *This terrified them and they asked, "What have you done?" (They knew he was running away from the LORD, because he had already told them so.)*
v.11 *The sea was getting rougher and rougher. So they asked him, "What should we do to you to make the sea calm down for us?"*
v.12 *"Pick me up and throw me into the sea," he replied, "and it will become calm. I know that it is my fault that this great storm has come upon you."*
v.13 *Instead, the men did their best to row back to land. But they could not, for the sea grew even wilder than before.*
v.14 *Then they cried to the LORD, "O LORD, please do not let us die for taking this man's life. Do not hold us accountable for killing an innocent man, for you, O LORD, have done as you pleased."*
v.15 *Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm. {NIV}*

It often appeared that I was blamed for situations I had nothing to do with. I can now look back and see that I was living out my own will, rather than in God's will. God's mercy and grace were covering my life, as there were many times that I could have been destroyed. Even when I experienced rejection by others, He never left me. Satan wants us to think that we are alone in troubled times. We must always fight to remind ourselves that despite what we are going through, God is protecting us, loving us and caring about our every concern.

Eventually, a “great fish” of depression swallowed me. Still the Lord kept me. He put people in my life that truly cared about me (my wife, my pastor and his wife, my Covenant Family, and especially my God’s Army family). Many times during my struggle with depression, I had to fight off thoughts of ending my life. I felt that no one understood me, and I convinced myself that no one truly cared. All of my relationships suffered, and like Jonah, it was not until I cried out to God surrendering completely, that He released me from the belly of the great fish.

Jonah 2:1-10

- v.1 *From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the LORD his God.*
- v.2 *He said: "In my distress I called to the LORD, and he answered me. From the depths of the grave I called for help, and you listened to my cry.*
- v.3 *You hurled me into the deep, into the very heart of the seas, and the currents swirled about me; all your waves and breakers swept over me.*
- v.4 *I said, 'I have been banished from your sight; yet I will look again toward your holy temple*
- v.5 *The engulfing waters threatened me, the deep surrounded me; seaweed was wrapped around my head.*
- v.6 *To the roots of the mountains I sank down; the earth beneath barred me in forever. But you brought my life up from the pit, O LORD my God.*
- v.7 *"When my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, LORD, and my prayer rose to you, to your holy temple.*
- v. 8 *"Those who cling to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs.*
- v.9 *But I, with a song of thanksgiving, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. Salvation comes from the LORD."*
- v.10 *And the LORD commanded the fish, and It vomited Jonah onto dry land.{NIV}*

Even after I finally I surrendered to God, it took me awhile to learn to trust again and to not be so judgmental toward others. I am not perfect, nor do I have all the answers, but God does because He is perfect. Through my relationship with Him, I have access to the greatest resource ever. Now I can truly say: whatever You want me to say, I’ll say it. Wherever You want me to go, I’ll go there. Whatever You want me to do, I’ll do it. I’ll do it. Do it.

By: Rhodes Scholar

(Macro)

I just kind of went through the gospels, mostly Matthew, and looked at the red ink. I wanted to know, literally, what Jesus said, and that's what I tried to emphasize in this verse.

(Micro)

I never worry about tomorrow.

Matthew 6:34

Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

2nd Timothy 1:7

...for God has not given us a Spirit of fear, but of love, power and sound mind

The above scriptures are the reasons that I am anxious about nothing. If you are lead by, listen to and walk by the Spirit you have nothing to worry about.

Because I walk the narrow path You told me to follow.

Matthew 7:13

Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. 14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

The reason that I don't operate in fear or anxiety is because I walk His walk. This narrow walk leads to less margin of error in my life. The walk through a wide gate allows for more error, sin and wrongdoing. The narrow walk isn't easy, but it's fair and right!

And I swallow my pride, wanted some Jordans - got Pro Keds.

But now I can dunk on all these cats' heads.

Matthew 18:1-5

- v.1 *At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?*
- v.2 *And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them,*
- v.3 *And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.*
- v.4 *Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.*
- v.5 *And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.*

Using some creative liberty: we all know who the greatest basketball player of all time is, whether you like Michael Jordan or not. What kid wouldn't want a pair of his kicks? Now, I couldn't even afford Pro-Keds back in the day (and that probably dates me). The point is that it took some humbling to wear those kicks that I had to wear. In the kingdom, it doesn't matter if you have Kingsway or K-mart specials... If you remain true and cool with God, the Kingdom awaits you.

Cause I eat of the bread that you fed to give life.

John 6:32-35

- v.32 *Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven.*
- v.33 *For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.*
- v.34 *Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread.*
- v.35 *And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.*

I am not sustained on mere mortal's food, because I am sustained by the food of God (not to be confused with food of the "gods" as in the movies). In the Old Testament, God provided food from heaven. In the New Testament, Jesus made note of that and just how miraculous that was. However, food from heaven was taken to a higher level, as He came to be that Bread, and then some.

Wanted to be a playa but you told me to find a wife.

Matthew 19:3-6

- v.3 *The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause?*
- v.4 *And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female,*
- v.5 *And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?*
- v.6 *Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.*

Proverbs 18:22

He who finds a wife finds a good thing, And obtains favor from the Lord.

Before Christ I was about the ladies, but once I found my new life in Christ, I no longer had a desire for any woman who was living her life outside of Christ. I literally found the wife (rather she found me) who was not just a good thing, but the very BEST thing that God intended for me. This is evident by the fruit exhibited in our lives (ministry, relationships, children, finances). My wife has always given my life a sense of balance, and she's been a source of accountability for me when it comes to the things of God.

And even though I was broke-down, lowdown

Matthew 9:12-13

- v. 12 *But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick.*
- v. 13 *But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. {KJV}*

The thing is, somehow I always seem to get back to a message in every song that the mission of the church is to equip believers. Plus, it's our duty to minister to or evangelize non-church folk. The Great Physician Himself said:

Mark 2:17

When Jesus heard it, He said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

The greatest hope for a sinner or an outcast is that Jesus cares. He wants desperately to make you one of His own, come to your aid, and accept you as you are. This is very encouraging, because it shows that we don't have to get "right" with God first. He only wants us to confess our sins, repent or turn away from that sinful nature, and then He can get us right... We are eternally wrong - lost without Him.

Looked for you first, and a Pro 31 woman is what I found.

Matthew 6:33

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

When you seek God first, you receive so many blessings. For me, one of those blessings is reflected in this line, because I finally sought Him, as opposed to seeking women. It was then that He provided a virtuous woman for me (as described in *Proverbs 31:10-31*).

You said knowledge is power.

Went to school 7 years 3 degrees, now I'm the Rhodes Scholar.

Hosea 4:6

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; Because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.

These are some powerful words! We often quote this scripture from Hosea without stating the "rejection of the knowledge" portion. It's because of the rejection of the knowledge that God is forced to reject us.

Matthew 18:18

Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and

whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

Luke 13:23-27

- v.23 *Then one said to Him, "Lord, are there few who are saved?" And He said to them*
- v.24 *Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able.*
- v.25 *When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open for us,' and He will answer and say to you, 'I do not know you, where you are from,'*
- v.26 *Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets.'*
- v.27 *But He will say, 'I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity.'*

Be clear that not only us, but our children will also suffer as well. It is vitally important to obtain biblical knowledge and pass it down to the next generation. I like to consider myself a bible scholar, because I diligently seek His Word. I get obsessive/compulsive about it when I'm writing songs, because I want to make sure that God's heart is coming through. This is why I have studied through the Berean school of ministry. I've made sure to keep myself surrounded by godly mentors and godly counsel. I've also studied Foursquare Gospel teachings. My group gave me the name, "Rhodes Scholar" because of this, my penchant for avoiding the slang vernacular, and because I hold two Bachelor of Science degrees and one Master's degree. The Rhodes Scholarship is the world's oldest and arguably most prestigious international fellowship. It is named after Cecil Rhodes, and given on the basis of academic qualities, as well as those of character. I am living to transcend from "Rhodes" to "Bible" Scholar.

So, no, it's outta hurr with all those wicked ways.

Michael Bowdre (Maestro of Peace) thinks that this is funny, because I just said I'm the "Rhodes Scholar" and I come back with some improper English. Well, that was the intent.

Your kingdom is near and the price has been paid.

Matthew 4:17 From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand

Because I have not rejected, but rather accepted the knowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord of my life, I understand the importance of and actively practice repentance. Because of His sacrificial death at Calvary, I aim to please Him. Because God is always watching, I live and act as though His kingdom is upon me right now.

**And I made disciples in lots of places
Brown, white yellow different shades and faces.**

Matthew 28: 18-20

- v.18 *And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven*

and on earth.

- v.19 *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*
v.20 *teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen.*

Always coming back to a point of evangelizing, God's Army has had a global impact. We have preached in ghettos of Jamaica. We have influenced ministries from both Holland and England. We have been all over the United States, ministering in churches of all denominations. We minister to all people, all nations, regardless of age, color, culture, creed, or nationality. We make disciples of ALL nations, not just one group of people.

I never fear. You said I have vision, with sound mind.

Matthew 10:26-31

- v.26 *Therefore do not fear them. For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.*
v.27 *Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops.*
v.28 *And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.*
v. 29 *Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will.*
v.30 *But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.*
v.31 *Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.*

Public ministry or public speaking can bring anxiety. There is the fear of the crowd, the unknown, saying or doing the wrong thing, and just plain ole being scared. The Lord says don't worry because if He gives you something to say, then say it, rap it, write it. Don't worry about the opinions of others, because they have no heaven or hell to put you in. Sometimes, God gives you a hard word, but He is revealing or bringing to light those things that need to be made known. Also remember:

II Timothy 1:7-8

- v.7 *For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.*
v.8 *Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord*

So, I gotta follow the GOAT...Greatest Of All Times.

Matthew 19:21

Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.

Matthew 16:13

- v.13 *When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?"*

- v.14 *So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."*
- v.15 *He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"*
- v.16 *Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."*

Now many proclaim to be the G.O.A.T. (Greatest Of All Times). There's L.L. Cool J in rap, Muhammad Ali in boxing and Michael Jordan in basketball. But the true G.O.A.T was, is and shall always be Jesus. The disciples were asked who people said Jesus was. Then He asked who do they say He was. Now they mentioned some great men, but as great as they were He was the Christ, the Son of the living God... enough said!

By: *The Visionaire*

(Macro)

Scripture tells the story of Balaam, who was ultimately killed for leading the Israelites into sin. There was a period of time when Balaam was committed to doing, saying and going only where God told him. Balaam made it clear that he did not want the riches of the world, but wanted only to obey the word of God (Numbers 22:18). In verse 35, he was told by an angel to go with them and only speak what he was told to speak. He did just that (verse 38), by saying, *"but can I say just anything? I must speak only what God puts in my mouth."*

Numbers 22:20

"And God came unto Balaam at night, and said unto him, If the men come to call thee, rise up, and go with them; but yet the word which I shall say unto thee, that shalt thou do".

We do know that God was upset with him because he went. Depending on the translation you read verse 20 can be understood that God sent him (NIV) or God's said to go only if He said go (KJV, NKJV).

Numbers 22:22

And God's anger was kindled because he went: and the angel of the LORD stood in the way for an adversary against him. Now he was riding upon his ass, and his two servants were with him.

Based on this, we can assume that God did not intend for him to go. Whether he went because of God or on his own accord, we can all agree that Balaam really "intended" to do what God said.

(Micro)

Whatever you want me to do Jehovah, I'm down for whatever,

Isaiah 1:19

- v.19 *If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the best from the land;*
v.20 *but if you resist and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword." For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."*

Throughout the first chapter of Isaiah, God states His displeasure with the sacrifices the Israelites were making. God didn't need nor desire sacrifices from people who disobeyed Him. All He really wanted was their obedience. All I want to do is obey Him. If that's what He wants me to do, then I'm down for whatever!!

I'm always in the house of the lord, like I rock a tether.

This line has a double meaning. One thing is for sure, when not working or ministering with God's Army, I am in church. You can find me there teaching young people, learning from my pastor, attending bible study, etc. Secondly, my body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, so I am always in the house of the Lord.

I Corinthians 6:19-20

- v.19 *Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own;*
v.20 *you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.*

"Like I rock a tether" is another way of saying that I am willingly under house arrest. Even in the middle of the night, I know that I am in the Lord's house, and I will always respect it.

You want me to take the gospel to the streets.

The Great Commission in Matthew 28:6, 17-20

- v.6 *Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go.*
v.17 *When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.*
v.18 *Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.*
v.19 *Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*
v.20 *and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

Wait before marriage before I hop between them sheets.

I got saved when I was 18 years old and I stopped having sex. I wasn't sexually active again until the age of 22 - on my wedding night. Living in a culture where sex is promoted and used to promote all kinds of things, it is difficult to maintain your purity, unless you first make up your mind to be obedient to God. We are all one decision away from being everything that

God wants us to be. I remember the day when I made the decision to wait until marriage to have sex. I called my girlfriend and told her with boldness that we were waiting until marriage, and I meant every word. I wanted to wait because I wanted to be obedient to God, and to be blessed by Him.

I Corinthians 6:18

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body.

Use a new tongue in my speech.

In this verse, I am basically saying that I stopped using profanity. This is what I mean by using a new tongue in my speech. The Word of God also says:

Mark 16:17

And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues;

Put Yo word over phat beats.

All of our lyrics should reflect the Bible – God’s Holy Word. Staying true to that comes first. The beat, the hook... is secondary to His Word.

Invest my time and money in outreach,

If I have to take time out of my day and go out and spread the Gospel, then I will do it. Please note that I say “invest,” because when we work for the kingdom of God, we will have a ROI “return on our investment,” that is out of this world.

Be courageous in the mist of danger,

Just knowing that God is with you, and knowing that He sent you is enough motivation for us to stand strong and be courageous, no matter what the situation.

Deuteronomy 31:6

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

Turn over my plate.

Turn over my plate means to go on a fast, but not just abstaining from eating. We should consider true fasting, like the one spoken about in Isaiah 58. I focus on verses 6-7.

Isaiah 58:6,7

v.6 *Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?*

v.7 *Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter-- when you see the naked, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?*

Or, the tables of the moneychangers.

If God tells me to make sure that the temple (my body) is respected, then that is what I will commit to do.

John 2:14-16

v.14 *In the temple courts he found men selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. 15 So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the moneychangers and overturned their tables. 16 To those who sold doves he said, "Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a market!"*

I'ma spread Yo good news like jelly. I ain't gon' be like Jonah, up in Shamu's belly.

In the first chapter of the book of Jonah, we read about him not wanting to spread the good news.

Jonah 1:1-3

v.1 *The word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai:*
v.2 *"Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me."*
v.3 *But Jonah ran away from the Lord and headed for Tarshish. He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the Lord.*

Most of us know that if we continue reading, Jonah ended up in the belly of a giant fish. I remember going to Sea World for the first time, and seeing Shamu, which was probably the largest fish I had ever seen. I thought about what it would be like to be inside of the belly of that huge fish. I concluded that it definitely would not be a pleasant place.

It's an Honor to obey a God that's so worthy,

God made the earth and all of its complex contents. If anyone is worthy of my obedience it is he.

I got your back like players' names on jerseys.

When someone says "I got your back", it means that they will take up for you or protect you. We all know that players' names are on the back of jerseys, so that was just a nice way of saying "I got your back".

Jehovah Jireh, You're my provider, You pay me. I was on my way to hell, but You saved me.

Jehovah Jireh is my provider and I wanted all who hear the song to know that their paycheck is not from their employer but from the provider.

You gave me life when I deserved death.

I deserve to die, based on my former lack of obedience to the Ten Commandments. However it was because of the grace of God that I have been saved from eternal death.

Timothy 1:8-9

v.8 *So, do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God,*

v.9 *Who has saved us and called us to a holy life--not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, who has saved us and called us to a holy life--not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time,*

**That's why I'm seeking your face to the point where I smell your Breath!
Ahhhhhhhhh!**

Psalms 105:3

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. 4 Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.

This is probably my favorite part of the whole song. In the past, I have been so far from God, that when He yelled for me, I didn't hear Him. Now I want to be so close to Him and so in tune with Him that when God whispers my name, I can clearly hear His voice. I don't just want to see Him, though. I want to be so close that I can smell his breath. Having an intimate relationship with my Lord is what I desire. When I wrote this section, I was really seeking God's face, and asking for insight on a lot of the things I was going through. Naturally, He came through for me - over and over again.

Matthew 6:33

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

If you remember the childhood game, Hide and Seek, you know that one child would seek, while all the others would hide. Well, God is so "off the chain", that He tells you to go ahead and seek Him, but He doesn't even hide.
