# JIVERSAL EWS



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## MY SON HAD A 2% CHANCE OF LIFE

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#### **MESSAGE**



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MIGHTY HAND

#### **MIRACLES**



**DELIVERANCE** 





**SPONSORED BY THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH** 

## **OPINIONS**

#### IN THIS EDITION



Participate in the "Powerful Novena for Healing and Miracles"

It will be a faith-based campaign for those who want to overcome impossible cases, get delivered from problems, and receive divine healing.

What do you need to know?

In the Bible, the number 9 is related to fullness. Let's see: The Lord Jesus uttered 9 "beatitudes" in the biblical book of Matthew, in chapter 5, from verse 3 to 11. The Bible also cites 9 attributes of the fruit of the Holy Spirit: "love, joy, peace, longanimity, benignity, goodness, faith, meektemperance" ness, (Galatians Likewise, the Word of God portrays 9 spiritual gifts: "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given [1] the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another [2] the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another [3] faith by the same Spirit, to another [4] gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the [5] working of miracles, to another [6] prophecy, to another [7] discerning of spirits, to another [8] different kinds of tongues, to another the [9] interpretation of tongues." (1 Corinthians 12:7-10).

So, don't miss this opportunity. It will be 9 Sundays. The special purpose will begin on July 30th and end on September 24th. Join us.

#### **BEATING DEPRESSION**

Depression is a sadness felt in the deepest part of one's soul, which causes a sense of hopelessness and exhaustion so great that many lose the motivation to do anything and some to live at all. It is a sickness of the soul. Who can heal the soul other than the Savior of Souls, the Lord Jesus?

On Fridays, at every Universal Church, we have a service for Deliverance from Depression. Visit a branch near you today. Make a Chain of Prayer by attending a prayer meeting near you for seven consecutive weeks. You will receive practical steps and counseling, and spiritual help through prayers to overcome.

There are thousands of testimonials worldwide that prove a Chain of Prayer works. You CAN have a new life. You CAN defeat depression!

# DEPRESSION THROUGH THE POWER OF FAITH

Call 1.888.332.4141 Text 1.888.312.4141 For more information SEE PAGE 12 FOR LOCATIONS



#### **Bishop Edir Macedo**



## **MIGHTY HAND**

the harder the fight, and the greater the sacrifice.

The bigger the dream, the more demanding the sacrifice needed.

This teaching comes from above. The deliverance of the Hebrews from Egypt seemed like an impossible dream. The children of Israel were Egypt's source of wealth and luxury. They were wealthy at the expense of their slavery. Freeing them meant an

irreparable loss. Egypt is the world, Pharaoh is the devil, the Israelites are the enslaved people, Mount Sinai symbolizes Mount Calvary, and Moses was sent by the Most High.

When the Lord sent Moses, He warned him: But I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, not even by a mighty hand. Exodus 3.19 How would he free the enslaved people from the devil without using a Mighty Hand? It means, without putting up a fight, without going to war,

without violence, or a sacrifice of faith. Can you use your faith without violating religious customs? Can you use faith without violating the will of your flesh? Supernatural faith alone opposes everything natural.

Jesus spat on the ground, made mud, and anointed the blind



The deliverance of the Hebrews from Egypt seemed like an impossible dream. man's eyes, yet he was not healed. But, because he obeyed His command, even though it was challenging, he was healed. Who healed him: Jesus? His saliva? The mud? The waters of the pool of Siloam? He was healed because of his obedience to the Word of Jesus. It means, by his faith. But the Lord had to use a mighty hand to awaken his faith.

Couldn't Jesus have asked someone to fetch water from Siloam and

wash his eyes? Wouldn't it have been easier, simpler, and more humane than making the young man walk across the valley to be healed?

And from the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. Matthew 11.12

Pure faith violates the principles of human nature. Who can understand it? However, everybody knows that without sacrificing your natural faith, it's impossible to conquer anything.

Likewise, the benefits of the Supernatural World require the violence of the supernatural faith.

Those who believe go forward, and those who don't will stay behind.



t the end of August 2022, after breaking one of his wisdom teeth, Lucas began to experience a lot of pain and looked for a dentist. The test showed that he had inflammation, and they could not extract it until it subsided, so they gave him medication. The pain didn't stop after Lucas took the medicine for several days and returned to the professional. Seeing that the inflammation had worsened, the same dentist prescribed another antibiotic, which had no effect. The pain worsened, and his face swelled. He had to be taken to the hospital several times, received medication for the pain, returned home, and nothing helped.

My son then started to vomit and was taken to the hospital. There, after some tests, an infection in the blood was found. Doctors kept him in the hospital to treat the condition and then drained the pus, causing the swelling in his face, but Lucas didn't get better. Intense chest and back

### MY SON HAD A 2% CHANCE OF LIFE

pains arose, and he could not even drink water; I saw my son suffering and could only pray for him since I was already going to the Universal Church.

On the sixth day, Lucas passed out when he tried to go to the bathroom. Afterward, the doctor found a generalized infection and immediately sent him to the intensive care unit (ICU). A CT scan showed that his lungs were full of secretions. They made the initial drainage to remove the pus,

but he would need surgery. Transferring

perform the surgery immediately. They also warned the family that his disease was severe, that with or without surgery, the risk of death was the same, and that everyone should be prepared.

Before the surgery, I prayed. The doctors expected the procedure to last more than five hours, but doctors completed it in three and a half hours. There was still the risk of death, and Lucas had to receive a blood transfusion. It was 21 days intubated, and then he had to have a tracheostomy. Gradually, the sedation was withdrawn, and Lucas regained consciousness.

The doctors said that Lucas' condition was critical every day that I visited him,

that they were doing everything they could to improve him, but that he didn't react. They only gave him a 2% chance to live, but I kept believing. My faith was so great that I did not fear.

One day, I went to church, and the pastor told me to write my son's name for prayer. I asked God to restore his lungs, and the next day, my son could breathe without machines. From there, he improved daily, and the doctors said he would leave the hospital in a wheel-

chair. I did not accept all the negative news I was receiving but believed that God would set him free and He would be able to walk, which is what happened. Lucas is now completely healed and lives an everyday life.

Sandra and Lucas



him to another hospital away from home would be necessary.

Since I was already coming to the Universal Church and learning about trusting in God, I kept the faith, and there was peace inside of me. Lucas was transferred, and his condition was critical; his kidneys almost failed, and the doctors decided to

# DIVINE MATER

## "I SUFFERED FROM BACK PAINS FOR MANY YEARS."



Alicia from PA

I suffered from terrible back pain for over five years. Being in the military and being deployed, there was a lot of work we had to do; we had to carry a lot of equipment. It would affect me at work, in the gym while working out, and even in my daily life. When I came to this ministry, I drank the Divine water, and after the prayer, I was free from pain; it was gone. I can bend over and touch my toes, I can twist, and I don't feel any pain at all!

## "THE POWER OF FAITH HEALED LEVI."



It started with an allergy, but as the days went by, his condition progressed to inflammation, sores on the skin, redness, and scaling. Levi's skin

became extremely sensitive and delicate. In addition, he contracted chickenpox, which resulted in a ten-day stay in isolation.

Due to the little boy's struggles, Adriana did not accept this situation. She decided to put her faith into action by making a chain of prayer in the Universal Church and believed in a miracle. And, indeed, a miracle happened. Today Levi is entirely healthy, and his skin got restored.



## **HEALED FROM AN INCURABLE**

DISEASE!

Gilda from NY

One day I was going home carrying many bags from the supermarket, and when I got home, I felt pain in my hands. After some weeks, it became worse, so I couldn't stretch my fingers, and they were bending inward. I went to the doctor there they told me it was a disease of the hands and that there was no cure for it.



Before

Someone had already invited me to the Universal Church, so I decided to come. Attending the Sunday service, I drank the Divine water every morning, and two or three months later, I noticed the pain had gone away, and my fingers were looking fine!



Learn to apply your faith in order to face your challenges!

## GET YOUR DIVINE WATER EVERY SUNDAY

at your nearest Universal Church



#### **BISHOP JOSHUA**

#### **MOLDING HARDENED CEMENT**

What is your profession?

Teacher

Janitor

Lawyer Taxi Driver

Doctor

Chef

Barber

Concrete Laborer



Let's look at the last one on the list: Concrete Laborer.

A concrete laborer (a cement mason) specializes in designing and building structures using concrete materials. Their common projects include sidewalks, driveways, walls, and building foundations.

Anyone in this field knows letting the cement harden before it is set is not good. You cannot pave a sidewalk or road with hard cement! Keep this description in mind while you read this Bible verse:

"O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter?" says the Lord. "Look, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel!" (Jeremiah 18:6)

His vision is the same today; the Lord wants to mold beautiful vessels/ lives today! If you are tied to a broken/shattered life, give this life to the Lord. Forget about your way of thinking, your way of being. Just be that soft, manageable clay in the Potter's hands.

Go ahead, place your entire life in His hands, and experience this tremendous life transformation.

He is the greatest master builder.

May the God of the Bible bless you!

AUGU 2023		15ible	e Read	ang		LFN
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		Leviticus	Leviticus	Leviticus	Leviticus	5 Leviticus 5
Leviticus	Leviticus	8 Leviticus	9 Leviticus	Leviticus	Leviticus	Leviticus 12
Leviticus	Leviticus	15 Leviticus	Leviticus 16	Leviticus 17	18 Leviticus 18	19 Leviticus 19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Leviticus 20	Leviticus 21	Leviticus 22	Leviticus 23	Leviticus 24	Leviticus 25	Leviticus 26
27	28	29	30	31		
Leviticus 27	Colossians 1	Colossians 2	Colossians 3	Colossians 4		

## Message I THOUGHT I WAS A LOST CAUSE

"At that time, to kill or be killed made no difference...



thought I was a lost cause. I grew up in a broken home and became involved in crime as a teenager. When I was 16, I shot a boy because of a disagreement, and when my mother found out, she told me that she would not live with a murderer, so I had to leave the house. From then on, I started to use and sell drugs, and to maintain my addiction; I began to commit rob-

beries.

I thought, 'I'm going to hell, but I will send others ahead.'

I was detained at that time, but the imprisonment only increased the hatred that existed within me. I thought, 'I'm going to hell,' but I will send others ahead. At that time, to kill or be killed

made no difference. When I left prison, I got worse. I committed other crimes and tried to fill my empty life with prostitution and drugs. I even tried returning to my family, but it was too late. I was too involved with the law, and that's when I received a sentence of ten years in prison. I fell into despair.

With the loss of freedom, my only hope came from the meetings that took place inside the prison of the Universal Church. I listened to the messages from the Universal Church on the internet. The Word of God moved me, and my interior began to be changed. I no longer had that hatred, that thirst for revenge and hurt towards those who had hurt me. Repentance was born within me, and I began to desire a new life that would please God.

The changes inside were externalized, and I got my first temporary release from prison. When I left prison, I didn't return when I had to. I started going to the Universal Church. I got a job, and my life was changed, but still, I knew I was wrong since my release was only temporary and I had broken the law. I was bothered inside, and the Holy Spirit told me I wasn't right, even though I had changed my life. That's when I decided to turn myself in to the police.

There were eight more years in prison, and during this period, I had the opportunity to get baptized in water and continue to participate in the services held by Universal Church within the prison unit. There I gained more strength and more faith to seek God. In 2021 I received parole, and on a Sunday, I received Him while seeking the Holy Spirit.

It was the beginning of the restoration carried out by God: with a new spirit, character, and vision. I started living a new life to glorify God. Since then, I, who was considered "a hopeless case," have regained contact with my children, found decent work, volunteered in a Universal Church social project, and started building a new story. I never thought that all this could happen to me one day, but God transformed me. Besides all that, he gave me a wife. I met her at church, and we'd been married for six months. I'm a new person. Of course, I still improving, but I know I am safe in God's hands.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT UNIVERSAL

"...they will lay hands on the sick, ancethe

# SUNDAY GATHERING OF FAITH AND MIRACLES IN HARLEM, NY

#### **AMC MAGIC JOHNSON THEATER**



The Universal Church in Harlem held its Sunday Great Gathering of Faith and Miracles at the AMC Magic Johnson Theater in New York.

Pastor Luiz opened the service by praying for the Attendees to receive Miracles and Healing in their lives. We continued in Faith with the 2nd Sunday of the Powerful Novena (9) of Healing and Miracles. Pastor Luiz instructed the Attendees to pray for the miracles and healing they would like to receive. Pastor Luiz prayed for God to answer our prayers since the scripture states that if we seek, we should find, knock, and open the door. You are a God of miracles, so honor our Prayer requests.

The "Blessed Water" was distributed to the Attendees, and Pastor Luiz told them to take three (3) sips of the water to receive their healing in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We need healing in our bodies and soul.

#### Testimony

Ms. Pamela stated that she was invited to the service today by her friend and



who are church members. She noted that she came to the service in pain today because she has sciatica in her right hip. She could

his

wife,

not raise her right hip and was limping to church today. She only started to experience sciatica in her right hip at the beginning of this year. She was prescribed muscle relaxers, painkillers, a heating pad, and a massager, yet she was still experiencing pain. She took three (3) sips of the "Blessed Water," and the pastor prayed for her. After that, she testified about no longer having pain in her right hip. She could walk without limping, run and lift her right hip without pain or discomfort.

Mr. Philip testified that he was diagnosed with diabetes and was prescribed a medication that helped with weight loss and diabetes. He noted, however, that the pill had the side effect of causing gastric issues, which he is now experiencing. Mr. Philip took three (3) sips of the blessed water, and Pastor Luiz prayed for him, prophesizing his healing from diabetes. Pastor Luiz instructed Mr. Philip to return to his physician for a follow-up visit to confirm his recovery.

Ms. Janae returned to the service today to testify about her healing from depression and how her life has changed. She noted that the week prior, she attended the "End Depression" event. She said that her work and family life were great, her boss was happy with her, and she spent time with her children and grandchildren and had no bouts of depression in the past week.

#### Consecration of Children



All the children and their parents were called to the Altar to be blessed and anointed. Pastor Luiz and the Attendees prayed for the children and parents to be guided and directed by God.

#### The message

"If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish than for your whole body to be cast into hell." Matthew 5:29.

Pastor Luiz explained to the Attendees that although the scriptures speak of plucking out one's eye, it is not talking of the physical eye but the Spiritual eye. It is to show how important it is for one to obtain and maintain their salvation. One must be aggressive to retain their salvation by removing all sin, which could be a person or thing that one is attached to causing one to sin. Pastor Luiz emphasized that one needed to be a "Leader, not a Follower." Salvation comes not from blessings and prosperity.

You must use your Intelligent Faith and resist your heart, which is deceitful. In this context, the heart is your soul, not the physical organ; the soul desires and wants things. As such, one must be mindful of what you hear or see because the eyes speak much more than your mouth. One must be aggressive against one's heart. "The lamp of the body is the eye. If, therefore, your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light." Matthew 6:22

Pastor Luiz instructed the Attendees to be very observant of where their eyes are looking because where the eyes look is where the body will go. We may be able to hide from man, but we can hide from God

We must protect our eyes against envy, as the first case was noted in the Kingdom of Heaven when Lucifer set his eyes upon God's throne. Pastor Luiz stressed the importance of being careful with the eyes, noting that one should examine their eyes, their Spiritual eyes, that is, to see if what they desire is per our Lord Jesus' will. Keep your eyes clean, and your body will be filled with light.

"But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If, therefore, the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!" Matthew 6:23

Pastor Luiz accentuated the importance of having good eyes and not envying anyone since the Father of Envy is Lucifer himself. He noted that envy brings about confusion and destruction. Thus, if your eyes are not clean, take the time to fix your eyes today. If your eyes and heart are pure, the most beautiful things await you in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Pastor Luiz then called to the Altar all who would like their eyes to be good, have light in their body, and seek the Holy Spirit. He encouraged the Attendees to pray to have a change of Spirit which will lead to having good eyes and a clean heart to have a body filled with light.

#### New Attendees

Ms. Pamela attended the service today based on an invitation from Mr. & Mrs. Carl Peters, church members. She came limping to church because of sciatica in her right hip, and after drinking the blessed waters, she received her miracle. She advised others thinking of attending the service that they should just come to receive God's blessings.

Ms. Natasha was invited to the service



today by a family member, Ms. Velina, who is a church member. She enjoyed the service, especially the fact that the children were consecrated and anointed against all the pitfalls of the devil. She brought her son with her today, and he was able to be blessed and consecrated. She was taking with her the message that she needs to be very careful with her eyes to keep them sound and have her body filled with light.



cover story middle spre





## "DEATH COULD COME AT ANY TIME."

case had no cure and that death could come at any time", says Ivonete.

Erica had become a child on her own. "I felt unfortunate because I couldn't go out to play like every child. It was horrible not being able to go to

out to God for her daughter's healing. "I learned that I had to put my faith into practice to get results. So, I started participating in chains of prayer and church campaigns and doing everything I was learning. After a few months, I decided to stop giving the drugs because they were no longer working," she says.

learning. After a few months, I decided to stop giving the drugs because they were no longer working," she says.

Erica had another attack.

"The doctor questioned why she wasn't taking more medication, and I stated that

God would heal her. It was an act of madness, but I was confident", adds Ivonete.

At the age of 9, she was diagnosed with a cure. "I stopped having seizures, I started smiling again, and my mother took me to the doctor, who claimed the disease had disappeared. I was free of the consumption of prescription drugs, and today I have a normal life. I became

an assistant in the Universal

Church; I'm married and have a beautiful daughter. I am happy and fulfilled, but I am aware that all this is for the glory of God," she completes.

The first step to overcoming illness is to believe in healing and then put that belief into practice. Erica says that today, she understands that her success story exists to serve as an example for others. "Through everything I lived, I learned that faith is like a muscle that, if exercised, presents results and miracles. However, if this does not happen, it atrophies and prevents the supernatural from happening. So, if you are experiencing any health issues, look for a Universal Church today. We need to take action for God to react with miracles."

t 7, according to doctors, Erica Vieira, now a receptionist and 27 years old, was diagnosed with an incurable disease. With her whole life ahead of her, she would spend the years stuck with medication and constant hospitalizations.

The prognosis stated that Erica had epilepsy: a brain dysfunction that happens because of abnormal and excessive electrical discharges in the brain. These discharges temporarily interrupt some functions and produce involuntary muscle control, consciousness, and behavior manifestations.

"I remember my mother took me to several doctors. I took a lot of medications. It wasn't pleasant. I couldn't go out to play much because of the illness, because I always felt sick and fainted. I always had to be close to an adult so that he would prevent my tongue from curling in case of an

# "I always had to be close to an adult so that he would prevent my tongue from curling in case of an attack."

attack."

The dawn of each day was a box of surprises for her mother, Ivonete. "I suffered a lot with her crises. It made me desperate because I didn't know how to help my daughter. I tried to be by her side 24 hours a day to protect her," she recalls.

Ivonete took her daughter to several specialists. Erica spent days in the hospital for tests. "Experts were trying to find out the reason for the attacks. After the period of hospitalization, the doctor called me and said that her school. When she could go, they placed her in a separate room with a mattress because of the epileptic seizures. I stayed in bed until class ended," she recalls.

Disgusted by the situation, Ivonete shared her pain with a neighbor, who gave her a special invitation. "He told me that I had to stop fighting with just the strength of my arms and appeal to God. He asked me to go with him to a meeting at the Universal Church."

That day, Erica's mother cried

I was free of the consumption of prescription drugs, and today I have a normal life. I'm married and have a beautiful daughter. I am happy and fulfilled, but I am aware that all this is for the glory of God.



#### Powerful Novena for Healing and Miracles

ine is significant in the Bible in your life today? since it is associated with finality or completeness.

On various occasions, this number was used in the Bible. It would often indicate the end of a cycle or era.

"And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" which is translated, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" (Mark 15:34). This signified Jesus completing the mission of His sacrifice on the Cross, which took place on the ninth hour.

There are nine fruits of the Spirit of God... "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control..." (Galatians 5:22-23).

"About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God coming in and saying to him, "Cornelius!" (Acts 10:3). The ninth hour was when Cornelius had an encounter that would change the trajectory of his life.

What does this have to do with you, and how can the number nine be significant

We began our purpose of faith for nine Sundays called the Powerful Novena for Healing and Miracles. As nine represents wholeness/completion, we will declare this wholeness in your life through the power of faith.

What do you long to see taking place in your life? A turnaround in your finances, a reunited family, restoration in your spiritual life, breaking free from a harmful habit, a miracle in your health, etc.

If this appears impossible for you to achieve, these nine Sundays will empower you to claim what you longed to witness through the power of faith in the Word of God.

See the back page for locations.

Disclaimer: The Universal Church's spiritual advice is to be seen as a complement to the scientifically proven treatment you may be receiving. The UCKG does not claim to heal people but believes that God can through the power of faith. Always follow your doctor's instructions.

## A POWERFUL NOVENA FOR ANYONE WHO HAS IMPOSSIBLE CASES, BLOCKAGES IN YOUR FINANCES, OR NEEDS MIRACLE HEALING.

In my distress I called to the Lord I cried to my God for help. From his temple he heard my voice; my cry came before him, into his ears. Psalms 18:6

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#### MAKE A



A Chain of Prayer is when you attend a prayer meeting for a certain number of weeks without interruption in order to see a breakthrough in your life. Whether it is healing, a financial breakthrough or spiritual deliverance that you need, a Chain of Prayer helps you develop the faith and determination to overcome.

Monday - Strong Nation 7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm



Learn the secrets to overcome financially. Receive direction to grow and become a successful person.



Tuesday - Prayer for healing 7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm

Receive prayers for your physical, mental and spiritual well-being.

Wednesday - Night of Salvation 7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm



A meeting will be held for those who want to invest in a genuine relationship with God.



Thursday - Family & Love Therapy 7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm

The goal of the family meeting is to bring families together. No family is perfect, but they can be free from any hate, separation and other underlying issues.

Friday - Deliverance 7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm



There is a root to every problem. No issue can be dealt with permanently without removing its root. Every Friday, strong prayers is provided for anyone who is facing a problem that is influenced by negativity.



Saturday - Impossible Cases 8am & 12pm

Have you ever looked at a problem or situation and thought, 'this is impossible, there is no solution to this?' If you want to see the 'impossible become possible', join us every Saturday.

Sunday - Gathering of Faith & Miracles 7am, 10am, 3pm & 6pm



These meetings aim to help people connect with God, to empower people and teach them how to use their faith to achieve what they want in their lives.

# WILL MY LIFE CHANGE?



A NEW OPPORTUNITY IS HERE FOR YOU!

Be sure to tune into our weekly messages and take advantage of this chance to watch the LFN and our new series Beyond Bars.

themselves, and maybe you are one of them. You ponder on the same question every second of every minute of every day.

#### "WHY. DOESN'T MY LIFE CHANGE?"

There is an answer to the question, but you've got to examine yourself to find it. Many times, you expect this answer to come from someone else or a "sign" to show you somewhere what you need to do to change, inevitably making you quite frustrated and confused.

The Lord Jesus doesn't want to withhold good from anyone who calls on Him. The proof of that is right below:

#### OR WHAT MAN IS THERE AMONG YOU WHO, IF HIS SON ASKS FOR BREAD, WILL **GIVE HIM A STONE? (MATTHEW 7:9)**

He wants you to know that He can outdo human abilities and will never fail you. But don't fail yourself either! Yes. I said it, do not fail yourself. Think with me, how many times have you blocked your blessing? Right. Now that you have thought about it, for some of you, it's draw-dropping, like, how could I have done that to myself?

For example, if you know how to grant the request of your loved ones, and you would go the extra mile to assist them, you must trust that God can do much more for you!

#### NOW GOING BACK TO THE QUESTION, WHY DOESN'T MY LIFE CHANGE?

The burning question many people ask Could you ask but don't take action to provoke the answer? The change you need in your life comes from God, but the start of that change is with you. You need to take the first step to make the changes, and then God comes and holds your hand to help you navigate through. Almost like a GPS, it goes where you "tell it" by putting the address where you want to go. Let God be that GPS. Take the first step, let Him know your plans, and if He needs to reroute you in a new direction, so be it. But get to your destination safely and successfully.

> AS THEY SAY. "ACTION SPEAKS LOUDER THAN WORDS." AND IT'S NO DIFFERENT IN THE WORLD OF FAITH. JUST PRAYER **ALONE IS NOT ENOUGH; YOU NEED TO** TAKE NECESSARY ACTIONS THAT WILL LEAD TO CHANGE. YOU CAN DO IT, DON'T **WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING OR ANYONE** ELSE.



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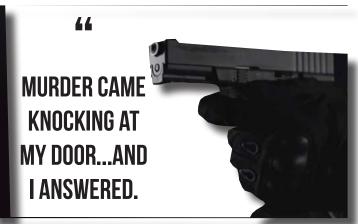
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## **UNIVERSAL BEYOND BARS**

### YOU ARE NOT ALONE.



verything started in my adolescence. My relationship with my father was complicated; I saw a lot of fights happening with him, and because of this, I left the house at 14yrs, I remember living five years on the streets, and during these five years, I got involved with all kinds of people.

I LIVED IN RANDOM PLACES,
SURROUNDED BY DRUGS, COCAINE,
CRACK, AND MARIJUANA. AT THAT
TIME, I WAS A STRONG USER, AND
I WOULD ROB A LOT; THERE WAS
A PERIOD IN MY LIFE WHEN I MET
OTHERS, AND WE WOULD STEAL
CARS; THERE WAS ONE CASE
WHERE WE WENT TO ROB A CAR,
AND THERE WAS A COUPLE INSIDE,
AND WE ASSAULTED THE TWO OF
THEM AND TOOK THEM HOSTAGE,
WE PLANNED TO KILL THEM AND
LEAVE THE COUPLE THERE.

What I remember when my friends said they wanted to kill them, I told them no, don't it, we took the car and left the couple, but let's not kill, but then one of the guys said to me, I want the girl, and once again I intervened and said, "no don't do that."

Afterward, we left, and then I met a boy that offered me a "job" in drug trafficking. He was 17 years old, but he had a

significant debt with the drug money that he would and I needed to get the money owed, and he did not have the money; I went to ask the family as well, and they also did not have the money to pay.

ONE WEEK PASSED, AND I CALLED HIM TO GIVE HIM AN OPPORTUNITY, BUT HE WANTED MORE DRUGS, AND I WAS TOLD TO KILL HIM. TWO SHOTS KILLED HIM, AND I FLED TO ANOTHER STATE.

I was not at peace; I lived there but always looked over my shoulder; my conscience was heavy. I could not sleep, passed through many nights getting high, had six drug overdoses, and was two years there.

The family was after me when I returned, and I decided to turn myself in.

I WENT BEFORE THE JUDGE, AND MANY PEOPLE WERE THERE, INCLUDING THE FAMILY OF THE BOY I MURDERED. I COULD NOT EVEN LOOK THEM IN THE FACE, NOT IN FRONT OF THE JUDGE.

My sentence was 14 yrs. At that time, I was in a cell of 8 people, but the total of us

was 30. Those not asleep stayed outside the cell, and we would rotate who entered the cell, etc.

I lost everything I had that had value; I was without anything at this point; I felt like garbage, I lost the truth, and it wasn't what I wanted.

Until I met a man of God in the prison, and the UBB was there, and he came directly to me and spoke to me about Jesus.

But I asked him how Jesus could love someone like this; I felt like garbage. Everything I did in my life, is there forgiveness for me? I asked. But by the mercy of God, they let me go with conditions.

I told my parents; I would go to the universal church; one thing as I was going, I realized that I did not have forgiveness for myself, which is the worst thing I could have done because Jesus had forgiven me.

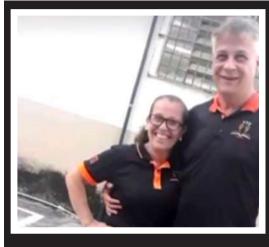
I REMEMBER I WENT TO THE ALTAR, PLACED MY LIFE IN HIS HANDS, AND TOLD GOD TO EITHER DELIVER ME OR KILL ME. I GOT BAPTIZED IN WATER AND LEARNED TO MEDITATE ON GOD'S WORD AND PUT IT INTO PRACTICE; I WOULD MAKE MY PURPOSES AND VOWS WITH GOD.

I then received the Holy Spirit, and only Him, to give me peace and transform me; I knew that God was with me; I did not need to feel anything.

I then started to seek how I could help others in the same situation I was; God's mercy is so great I took the life of one, and now He is giving me a chance to save many young people and take care of youths.

I have helped many young people on drugs, destroyed families, etc. God has allowed me to do what I never imagined; now, I have my own business; my marriage is a great blessing; the Lord Jesus has completed me.

FOR YOU THAT THINK THERE IS NO WAY OUT, THE WAY OUT IS ON THE ALTAR OF GOD.









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THE RICH AND LAZARUS | 11pm





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y definition, success means accomplishing Our reaction was not to dodge the something favorable; it is the positive problem but to keep fighting to make our consequence of something that expresses the success of the person who made it. However, achieving a good result does not mean that it was easy to obtain, and this is where many people feel frustrated: they look at the positive results of others and forget that success in business and any area of life is a consequence of hard work, effort, and courage.

Success is like construction; it cannot lack patience, constancy, adversity, and, why not, some moments of failure. Yes, failure and the ability to learn from it make a difference. Even researchers at the Kellogg School of Management, a business school at Northwestern University in Illinois, claim that going through frustration at the beginning of your career can lead to greater success than expected, as Andreza and Francisco experienced.

Andreza de Carvalho and Francisco de Carvalho. They have been working in the beauty business for 18 years and say they faced numerous financial difficulties when they decided to open their own business. During that time, they also had significant losses, according to Andreza, because they made decisions based on emotion. However, by reacting according to the Word of God, they learned valuable lessons for the company's management: "We made two investments for a second salon. We thought it would be a blessing; we imagined great victories, but it didn't work out, and we almost lost everything.

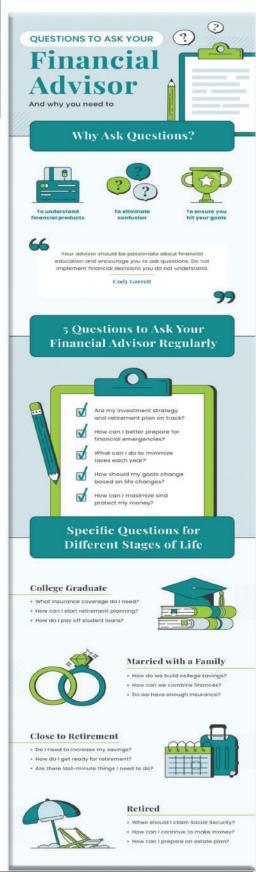
dreams come true," she said.

They decided to move to another state and sold the salon where they had been for 17 years. "Starting over in another state was one of the biggest challenges we have ever faced. Everything is new, both the culture and the challenges, and we are far from everyone we know, but we know that we aren't alone. We have the main thing, God's presence. At various times

we thought about giving up, but our significant thought was that the God who brought us here is the same one who will give us victory."



For Francisco, having a pact with God means not only conquering prevailing, and according to him, "The Strong Nation" is "like a school of faith." "The services opened our vision. We learned how to stand up to the challenges ahead," he concluded.







-The Strong Nation-

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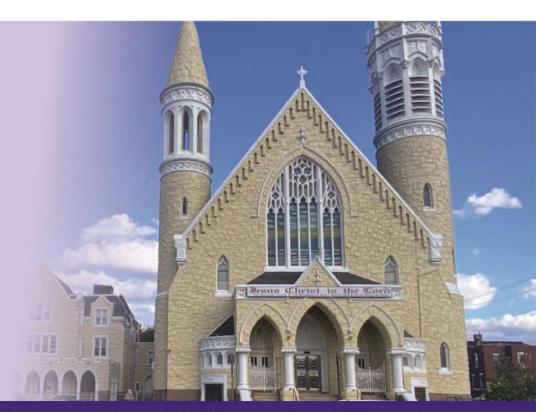
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