

# OPEN HEAVEN 2 OCTOBER 2025 TODAY DEVOTIONAL TOPIC: YOU MUST HATE AVERAGE

#### **MEMORISE:**

Brethren, I count not my self to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, Philippians 3:13

READ: Deuteronomy 28:8-13:

- 8 The Lord shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.
- 9 The Lord shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the Lord thy God, and walk in his ways.
- 10 And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the Lord; and they shall be afraid of thee.
- 11 And the Lord shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thycattle, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land which the Lord sware unto thy fathers to give thee.
- 12 The Lord shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow.
- 13 And the Lord shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the Lord thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them:

## RCCG OPEN HEAVEN 2 OCTOBER 2025 TODAY MESSAGE

If you hate something, you will do everything to avoid it. When I was in secondary school, I and two of my friends were the best in mathematics. However, even though we scored above 90%, our mathematics teacher would always tell us that we didn't do well because we didn't score 100%.

At last, one day, we scored 100%, and we said, "Let's go and see him to hear what he will say now." We got to him, rejoicing, but our joy was cut short when he said, "Your mates are in the university, solving advanced maths, and you are rejoicing over 100% in elementary maths." His comment made me hate anything less than the absolute best. This is why I get disturbed when I see people celebrating mediocrity.

Years ago, when secondary school results in Nigeria were presented as Grade 1, 2,3, and Pass, the principal of a particular college in Lagos was rejoicing because, for the first time in the school's history, one of the students got a Grade 3 result. However, another college principal wept because, for the first time, a student went as low as having a Grade 3 result.

As seen in today's Bible reading, God's will for His children is that they will be above ONLY.

Hence, no Christian should ever settle for average. If you think you've attained your greatest height, you must know that it is someone else' starting point.

In Ezekiel 47:1-12, God showed Ezekiel a man with a measuring line in his hand, and for every thousand cubits he measured, the water level rose. It started from the ankle to the knee and then to the waist before it became a mighty river. Some people reach the ankle level of success and think they have arrived; they don't understand that there are greater levels of success waiting ahead of them.

In 2 Kings 2:1-15, while the sons of the prophets were content with being average, Elisha pressed in for a double portion of Elijah's spirit. The sons of the prophet knew it was time for Elijah to be taken

away, and they even knew the day it would happen. However, they were satisfied with having revelation without power. Elisha, on the other hand, didn't settle for average, and the Lord used him so mightily that we can never forget his name. People who settle for average never stand out.

Beloved, make up your mind to be the absolute best that God has destined you to be. Don't settle for average.

#### **KEY POINT**

You are destined to be above ONLY. Never settle for average.

#### **BIBLE IN ONE YEAR**

Matthew 1-4

**HYMN 59: I WANT TO BE LIKE JESUS** 

## **OPEN HEAVEN DEVOTIONAL 2 OCTOBER 2025 COMMENTARY**

#### **MEMORISE: Deuteronomy 28:13a**

"And the LORD shall make thee the head, and not the tail..."

This verse is a divine decree of positioning. It unequivocally states God's will for His children: to lead, not to follow; to be at the forefront, not the rear; to set the standard, not to meet it. It is a promise that excludes mediocrity by its very definition.

#### **BIBLE READING: Deuteronomy 28:1-13**

This passage presents a clear covenant contract: obedience triggers a cascade of blessings that result in being established as "the head" and "above only" (v. 13).

Conversely, disobedience leads to being "the tail" and "beneath" (v. 15). God's perfect will is for our elevation, not our degradation.

## The Call to Reject Mediocrity

Pastor E.A. Adeboye uses powerful anecdotes and biblical narratives to challenge a mindset that has infected many believers: the acceptance and even celebration of average results. This devotional is a spiritual injection to awaken a passion for God's best.

## The Peril of Low Expectations

- A Matter of Perspective: The contrasting stories of the two school principals serve as a masterclass in vision. One saw a Grade 3 as a historic achievement, setting a low bar for future generations. The other saw it as a tragic failure, upholding a high standard that inspires excellence. Your perspective on what constitutes success will determine your destiny.
- God's Nature is Excellence: The Creator of the universe, who declared His work "good," is not a God of mediocrity. To celebrate average when He has ordained excellence is to misunderstand His character and dishonor the potential He has placed within you.

## **Biblical Blueprints for Excellence**

- The Progressive River (Ezekiel 47:1-5): This vision is a metaphor for the Christian journey.
  - Ankle-Deep: A place of initial salvation and comfort, but with minimal impact.
  - Knee-Deep: A deeper level of commitment, yet one where you still stand on your own understanding.
  - Waist-Deep: A place of significant depth where your own strength and control are challenged.
  - A River to Swim In: The place of total surrender, where you are carried by the current of the Holy Spirit. This is the dimension of supernatural influence, abundance, and power God desires for every believer.
- The Pursuit of Elisha (2 Kings 2:1-15):
  - The Sons of the Prophets: They symbolize the average believer—informed ("we know") but passive, content with revelation without transformation. They observed God's move from a safe distance.
  - The Passion of Elisha: He symbolizes the excellent believer—relentless ("I will not leave thee"), focused, and audacious in his request ("double portion"). He was not content with the anointing on his master; he wanted a generational upgrade for himself. His pursuit was rewarded with a mantle that parted rivers and defined a era.

## The Foundation of Godly Excellence

This pursuit is not for self-glorification. It is rooted in:

- **Obedience:** Excellence is a fruit of covenant obedience to God's commands (Deuteronomy 28:1).
- **Empowerment:** It is achieved through the power of the Holy Spirit, not mere human striving (Zechariah 4:6).
- **Purpose:** The ultimate goal is to glorify God. When we are the "head," we become a clearer reflection of His majesty to the world (Matthew 5:16).

#### How to Cultivate a Life of Excellence

#### **Embrace a Holy Dissatisfaction:**

Allow the Holy Spirit to disrupt your comfort zone. Like Daddy Adeboye's teacher, let a voice in your spirit say, "You can do more. This is not your final destination."

#### Measure by God's Standard, Not Man's:

Stop comparing yourself to others. The world celebrates Grade 3; heaven weeps over it. Measure your

life against the plumb line of God's Word and His promises for you.

#### **Pursue Relentlessly:**

Be like Elisha. Cling to the source of your blessing (God) through persistent prayer, unwavering faith, and studied obedience. Refuse to be left behind.

#### Warning: The Seduction of the Average

The company of the average is comfortable and non-threatening. It requires no extra prayer, no fasting, no faith, and no risk. However, it is also the place where destinies are aborted, miracles are missed, and legacies are lost. To accept average is to choose to be the tail when God has called you to be the head.

### **Conclusion: Step Into Your Place of Headship**

#### Pray this:

"Lord God Almighty, burn out every trace of complacency and mediocrity from my spirit. Ignite in me a holy fire to pursue Your absolute best. Give me the tenacity of Elisha and the excellence of Daniel. By Your grace, position me as the head and not the tail, so that my life will be a undeniable testament to Your greatness, in Jesus' mighty name."

#### **Action Steps:**

- 1. **Conduct an Audit:** Honestly assess areas of your life (finances, spiritual discipline, career, relationships) where you have settled for "good enough."
- 2. **Declare God's Word:** Proclaim Deuteronomy 28:13 over your life daily. Let it rewrite the narrative of your destiny.
- 3. **Study Excellence:** Read and meditate on the lives of Joseph, Daniel, and Elisha. Note the choices that set them apart.
- 4. **Pray for Upgrade:** Dedicate time to fast and pray specifically for a divine shift from average to exceptional in your assigned field.

**Remember:** Your heavenly Father is not holding back. He withholds no good thing from those who walk uprightly (Psalm 84:11). His will is for you to be above only. Do not settle for wading in ankle-deep water when He is calling you into a river you cannot cross.

"And the LORD shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath..." (Deuteronomy 28:13). Let this be your reality.

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