

Open Heaven 16 April 2025 Today Devotional & Commentary

Description

The Open Heaven 16 April 2025 devotional for today is BECOMING A VESSEL UNTO HONOUR. The author of this daily devotion is Pastor E. A. Adeboye, General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG).

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OPEN HEAVEN 16 APRIL 2025 TODAY DEVOTIONAL

TOPIC: BECOMING A VESSEL UNTO HONOUR

MEMORISE

I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:

Matthew 3:11

READ: Luke 1:26-38

26 And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,
27 To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

28 And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.

29 And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.

30 And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.

31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus.

32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

34 Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?

35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

36 And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren.

37 For with God nothing shall be impossible.

38 And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

RCCG OPEN HEAVEN 16 APRIL 2025 TODAY MESSAGE

After reading today's topic, you may ask, how do I become a vessel unto honour? The simple answer is that you need the Holy Spirit.

In 1 Samuel 16:1:11-13, God told Samuel, "I am sending you to Jesse's house because I want to raise a king there." Jesse didn't present David initially because the entire family believed that David was not the kind of person who could become a king. However, as soon as David came, God said, "That is him." Samuel poured oil on David's head, and the Bible says that the Spirit of God came upon him. When the Spirit of God came upon the shepherd boy, he became who God wanted him to be – a king.

God has a great plan for your life, but you need the power of the Holy Spirit over your life to fulfil it.

In 1 Samuel 10:6, Samuel told Saul that the Spirit of God would come on him and he would prophesy; the Spirit of God turned an ordinary boy into a prophet. In Judges 13:1-25, an angel told a woman that she was going to give birth to a son and that he would be a judge in Israel.

After that son was born, the Bible says that the Spirit of God began to move him. When the Spirit of God comes on someone, the fellow becomes who God says he or she will be. In today's Bible reading, when the angel told Mary, "You will have a son, and He will be the son of the Highest," she asked, "How can this be since I know no man?" The angel gave her the ultimate solution to impossible cases: The Holy Spirit. When the Holy Spirit came upon her, she did the impossible; she conceived God and birthed Him into the world. She became a vessel unto honour because the Holy Spirit came upon her.

Are you struggling with sin? Do you find it difficult to spend time in God's presence?

Do you lack the fire and zeal to live a holy life? Do you keep going back to your vomit of addictions? Cry out for the power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is symbolised as fire, and when fire visits a place, nothing remains the same. When the Holy Spirit came upon Saul, the persecutor, he was changed into Paul, the apostle.

Beloved, the Holy Spirit sanctifies vessels for the Father's highest purposes, and you need Him to

become a chosen vessel unto honour.

PRAYER POINT:

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me and use me for Your glory.

BIBLE IN ONE YEAR

1 Kings 19-20

HYMN 23: TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE

OPEN HEAVEN DEVOTIONAL 16 APRIL 2025 COMMENTARY

1. The Holy Spirit: The Divine Catalyst for Destiny

The devotional for today begins by establishing that **human potential is unlocked only by the Holy Spirit’s empowerment**. Key examples:

- **David (1 Samuel 16:13):** A shepherd boy ? Anointed king by the Spirit.
- **Saul (1 Samuel 10:6):** An ordinary man ? Transformed into a prophet.
- **Mary (Luke 1:35):** A virgin ? Chosen to birth the Messiah through the Spirit.

Key Insight:

- **Natural gifting is insufficient for divine assignments.** David’s musical skill (1 Samuel 16:18) didn’t make him king—the Spirit’s anointing did.

Application:

Pray: *“Holy Spirit, overshadow me as You did Mary, and birth Your purpose through me!”*

2. The Process of Becoming a Vessel of Honor

The Open heaven devotional for today outlines **three stages of Spirit-led transformation**:

Stage	Example	Modern Application
Divine Selection	David (1 Sam. 16:12)	God calls the “unqualified” (1 Cor. 1:27-28).
Spirit Infilling	Samson (Judges 13:25)	Baptism in the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8).
Purpose Fulfilment	Paul (Acts 9:17)	From persecutor to apostle.

Warning:

- **Without the Spirit, destiny remains dormant** (Zechariah 4:6 – “*Not by might nor by power*”).
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3. The Holy Spirit’s Fire: Purifier and Empowerer

Today’s devotional emphasizes **two works of the Spirit symbolized by fire**:

1. **Sanctification (Purifying Fire):**
 - Burns away sin (Isaiah 6:6-7 – Live coal purification).
 - Breaks addictions (Romans 8:13 – “Put to death the deeds of the body”).
2. **Empowerment (Igniting Fire):**
 - Fuels boldness (Acts 4:31 – Disciples spoke with power).
 - Releases gifts (1 Corinthians 12:7-11 – Miracles, prophecy, etc.).

Prayer Strategy:

“Lord, baptize me in Your fire! Purify me and empower me for Your glory.”

4. Mary’s Model: Surrender to the Impossible

Mary’s response to the angel (Luke 1:34-38) reveals:

- **Human impossibility** (“How can this be?”) meets **divine possibility** (“The Holy Spirit will come upon you”).
- **Key Attitude:** *“Let it be to me according to Your word”* (v. 38).

Modern Parallel:

- **Career:** A “nobody” becomes a gospel influencer through the Spirit.
- **Family:** A barren couple conceives after Spirit-led prayer.

Action Step:

Write down one “impossible” dream. Ask the Spirit to overshadow it.

5. Prophetic Declarations for Your Transformation

The devotional closes with assurances:

1. *“Your ‘shepherd boy’ season is ending—kingship begins!”*
2. *“Every addiction breaks now by the Spirit’s fire!”*
3. *“You are a chosen vessel for God’s glory!”*

Stand on These Promises:

- *"You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you" (Acts 1:8).*
 - *"He who has begun a good work in you will complete it" (Philippians 1:6).*
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Final Thought: Your Turn for an Upper Room

The disciples waited 10 days for Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4). Likewise:

- **Your "upper room" (prayer, fasting, surrender) precedes your empowerment.**
- **Your "Paul moment" (radical transformation) is coming!**

"The same Spirit who raised Christ from the dead lives in YOU (Romans 8:11). Expect resurrection power in every dead area!"

Action Steps:

1. **Fast for 1 day** this week, seeking fresh infilling.
2. **Study Acts 2** to understand Pentecostal power.
3. **Testify** when the Spirit manifests through you.

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