



Open Heaven 18 April 2025 Devotional & Commentary

Description

The Open Heaven 18 April 2025 devotional for today is ARE YOU A TRUE WITNESS?. 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 18 APRIL 2025 TODAY DEVOTIONAL

TOPIC: ARE YOU A TRUE WITNESS?

MEMORISE

And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.

Acts 5:32

READ: Acts 1:6-8

6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth

RCCG OPEN HEAVEN 18 APRIL 2025 TODAY MESSAGE

In Acts 1:8, Jesus said that you will receive power after the Holy Ghost comes upon you, and you will become a witness. A witness produces proof. When the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you become someone who can produce proof that Jesus is the Saviour, the Healer, and the Deliverer because He will reveal these divine attributes through you.

Your lifestyle must reflect that Jesus is in you because He said that people will be known by their fruits (Matthew 7:16). Being a witness means showing what it means to be a genuine child of God. All parties involved in a court case are expected to invite witnesses who would make statements in their favour. The testimonies of the witnesses are expected to strengthen the argument of the parties that invited them. Your lifestyle as a witness of Christ should strengthen the faith of others, not weaken it. Your life should draw unbelievers to Jesus, not push them away from Him. Your primary task as the Lord's witness is to follow Him sincerely and use everything He gives you to lead others to Him. Don't be the reason people vow never to follow Jesus because, as a witness, your life has told lies about God's nature and personality. Whenever your words and conduct speak lies about Jesus, you become a false witness.

While false witnesses tell lies about what they have seen, another set of people, whom Paul called false brethren, claim to have seen things they have not. They act as witnesses when they haven't seen anything.

Paul spoke about the dangers he faced at the hands of false brethren (2 Corinthians 11:26).

Some of them came into the Galatian church and wanted to enslave the true believers there (Galatians 2:4); they came with high-sounding opinions that were contrary to God's will. You must beware of false brethren because they carry a contrary spirit. They twist the message of Christ and turn the grace of God into a license for immorality (Jude 1:4). Such fellows say that once you have received Jesus, you can live anyhow because the grace of God covers you. They also feign godliness for their personal gain. Paul warned that we should withdraw from such people (1 Timothy 6:5).

Beloved, as Christ's witness, you must be careful that your life doesn't speak lies about Jesus, and you must also take care not to fall into the trap of those who profess to be witnesses of Christ but have never met Him.

REFLECTION:

Are you a true witness of Christ?

BIBLE IN ONE YEAR

2 Kings 1-3

HYMN 20: STAND UP! STAND UP FOR JESUS

OPEN HEAVEN DEVOTIONAL 18 APRIL 2025 COMMENTARY

Today's devotional centers on the **power and responsibility of being a witness for Christ**. A witness, by definition, provides **evidence**—not just words, but a life that testifies to the truth of Jesus. The Holy Spirit empowers believers to live in a way that proves Christ's reality, but the enemy also raises **false witnesses and false brethren** to distort the Gospel.

1. The True Witness: Power and Proof (Acts 1:8)

Jesus declared that the Holy Spirit would come upon His disciples, granting them **power to be witnesses** (Acts 1:8). A witness does not merely **talk** about Jesus but **demonstrates** His nature through:

- **Miracles (Mark 16:17-18)** — Signs following confirm the Gospel.
- **Transformed Character (Galatians 5:22-23)** — The fruit of the Spirit in daily life.
- **Bold Testimony (Romans 1:16)** — Unashamed proclamation of truth.

Lesson: Christianity is not just a philosophy; it is **a life of supernatural evidence**. If the Holy Spirit is truly in you, there should be **proof** (1 Thessalonians 1:5).

2. The Danger of False Witnesses

Just as in a courtroom, **false witnesses distort truth**. The Open Heaven devotional for today warns of two types:

A. The Hypocrite (False in Lifestyle)

- **Claim Christ but live contrary** (Titus 1:16).
- Their actions **weaken faith** and repel unbelievers (Romans 2:24).
- Example: A believer who preaches holiness but indulges in secret sin.

B. The False Brethren (False in Doctrine — 2 Corinthians 11:26, Galatians 2:4)

- **Pretend to be believers** but twist Scripture.
- Teach **license for sin** (Jude 1:4) — "Grace covers all, so live as you please!"
- Promote **legalism or heresy** (Galatians 1:7-9).

Lesson:

- **Examine your life:** Does it align with Christ's standards?
 - **Discern false brethren:** They may use "spiritual" language but deny God's power (2 Timothy 3:5).
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3. How to Be a Faithful Witness

1. **Obey the Holy Spirit (Acts 5:32)** • Power follows obedience.
 2. **Live with Integrity (1 Peter 2:12)** • Let your life draw others to Jesus.
 3. **Guard Against Deception (1 John 4:1)** • Test every teaching against Scripture.
 4. **Expose Falsehood (Ephesians 5:11)** • Silence can imply endorsement.
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Final Warning and Encouragement

- **To the Compromising Witness:** Repent if your life • lies • about Jesus.
- **To the Deceived:** Flee from false brethren (1 Timothy 6:5).
- **To the Faithful:** Keep shining • the world needs **authentic** proof of Christ!

Prayer:

• Lord, fill me afresh with Your Spirit. Make me a true witness • pure in life, bold in testimony, and unwavering in truth. Expose every hypocrisy in me and protect me from deceptive influences. Use me to lead others to You. In Jesus • name, Amen. •

Key Takeaway:

A true witness doesn't just speak about Jesus • their life proves He is real.

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