

OPEN HEAVEN 10 SEPTEMBER 2025 TODAY DEVOTIONAL TOPIC: MENTAL EYES MEMORISE: The heart of him that hath understanding seeketh knowledge: but the mouth of fools feedeth on foolishness. Proverbs 15:14 READ: Ephesians 1:15-23:

- 15 Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints,
- 16 Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;
- 17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:
- 18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of hiscalling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,
- 19 And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,
- 20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,
- 21 Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:
- 22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, 23 Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

RCCG OPEN HEAVEN 10 SEPTEMBER 2025 TODAY MESSAGE

Besides physical eyes, I believe that every human has mental eyes, which the Bible refers to as the eyes of understanding. In Ephesians 1:18, Paul said,

"I pray that the eyes of your understanding be enlightened."

In other words, he was saying, "I pray that your eyes of understanding be opened."

The eyes of your understanding are very important. According to Deuteronomy 1:13, understanding is one of the major requirements for becoming a leader. Hence, to be an effective leader, you must have understanding and the eyes of your understanding must be fully opened.

This was why Solomon asked God for an understanding heart to lead His people (1 Kings 3:9). The state of the mental eyes is what makes the difference between people who are highly educated, moderately educated, or illiterate.

I worked as a tutor at Ondo Boys High School in South- Western Nigeria before enrolling for my undergraduate studies. In those days, there were 40 class periods per week, and I was made to teach 36 of them. I worked alongside a university graduate who had to teach for only 23 class periods every week, yet he always complained that the school was overstretching him. My salary was about 15 pounds a month, while his salary was 60 pounds a month. I was surprised about his complaints because he was earning about four times more than I was earning, even though he was teaching fewer class periods than I was.

One day, I asked him, "Why are you complaining? You have fewer periods to teach compared to me." He replied, "I am not being paid for what I do now. I am being paid for the work I had done on my brain in the past." My understanding could not be compared to his because I only

had a secondary school certificate while he had a university degree, so we were paid differently, based on our levels of understanding.

If you want to be successful, your mental eyes need to be opened. You need to study hard and try new things to get better outcomes. A wealthy man once said that the more you learn, the more you earn. Someone else said that readers are leaders. Those who will be great in life value learning more than entertainment; therefore, they keep on learning. The day you decide that there is nothing more to learn, your mental eyes will begin to go dim.

Beloved, the more you learn, the more the eyes of your understanding receive light. Therefore, make up your mind never to stop learning.

REFLECTION

Do you truly value learning?

BIBLE IN ONE YEAR

Daniel 1-3

HYMN 33: GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH!

OPEN HEAVEN DEVOTIONAL 10 SEPTEMBER 2025 COMMENTARY

MEMORISE: Proverbs 15:14 (KJV)

"The heart of him that hath understanding seeketh knowledge: but the mouth of fools feedeth on foolishness."

This verse draws a stark contrast between the wise and the foolish based on what they pursue. A person with an understanding heart has an insatiable appetite for knowledge, recognizing it as the fuel for wisdom and growth. In contrast, a fool consumes and is consumed by triviality and nonsense. The pursuit defines the person.

BIBLE READING: Ephesians 1:15-23 (KJV)

This passage contains one of Paul's most profound prayers for the Church. He does not pray for their circumstances to change but for their *internal perception* to be transformed. The key verse (v.18) is a plea to God: "The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know…" This highlights that true knowledge is not merely intellectual acquisition but a spiritual revelation granted by

God. It is about *seeing* the hope of our calling, the riches of our inheritance, and the greatness of God's power—realities that are true whether we perceive them or not.

The "Mental Eyes": The Gateway to Effective Living

Daddy Adeboye introduces the concept of the "eyes of your understanding" or "mental eyes." This is the faculty of the mind that processes information, gains insight, perceives truth, and applies knowledge. It is the difference between simply seeing data and truly *comprehending* its meaning and implications. The devotional establishes that these mental eyes are not automatic; they must be "opened" and "enlightened" through deliberate effort and divine grace.

Understanding: The Non-Negotiable for Leadership

The interpretation grounds the need for understanding in the practical realm of leadership. Deuteronomy 1:13 and Solomon's request in 1 Kings 3:9 are cited to prove that God Himself prioritizes understanding over all other natural gifts for those who will lead. A leader with a closed understanding cannot discern God's will, make wise judgments, or navigate complex situations. Therefore, seeking enlightenment for the mind is not a secular pursuit but a spiritual necessity for fulfilling God-given assignments.

The Principle of Investment and Reward

The personal anecdote from Daddy Adeboye's teaching career is the core illustration of the devotional's message. It presents a powerful spiritual and natural law: **You are paid (rewarded) for the past work you have done on your brain.** The university graduate was compensated for the investment he had made in his "mental eyes" through years of study. This explains why two people can do the same *physical* work but receive vastly different rewards—the value is in the *mental* capital and capacity they bring to the task. God rewards diligence, and diligent study is a form of faith in action, preparing the mind to be a useful vessel for God.

The Lifelong Pursuit of Light

The devotional makes a clear connection: **Learning = Light.** The more you learn, the more the "eyes of your understanding receive light." This light dispels the darkness of ignorance, limitation, and foolishness. It is a continuous process. The moment a believer stops learning—whether it's studying the Word of God, acquiring new skills, or understanding the world around them—their mental eyes begin to "go dim." They become less effective for God's kingdom and susceptible to error and deception. The call to "never stop learning" is a call to remain humble, teachable, and ever-expanding in capacity.

Beyond Secular Knowledge: Spiritual Enlightenment

While the application includes general knowledge, the primary context, based on the Ephesians prayer, is *spiritual* understanding. The ultimate goal is not just to earn more money but to *know* God more—to comprehend the hope, inheritance, and power that are already ours in Christ. A mind enlightened by the Holy Spirit can grasp spiritual truths that are foolishness to the natural man (1 Corinthians 2:14).

This divine enlightenment is what transforms information into transformation.

Pray this:

"Heavenly Father, I pray as Paul did for the Ephesians: enlighten the eyes of my understanding. Pour out upon me a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of You. Open my mind to comprehend the hope of my calling, the riches of my inheritance in the saints, and the exceeding greatness of Your power toward me. Give me a hunger for knowledge and the discipline to study and learn continually. Make me a lifelong student of Your Word and Your world, that I may be a effective leader and a wise steward of all You have given me. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Action Steps:

- 1. **Commit to Daily Study:** Dedicate uninterrupted time each day not just to read, but to *study* the Bible with a commentary or concordance to deepen understanding.
- 2. **Identify a Learning Goal:** What one skill or area of knowledge would make you more effective in your career, ministry, or personal life? Enroll in a course, read a book, or find a mentor in that area.
- 3. **Audit Your Input:** Are you "feeding on foolishness" (e.g., gossip, frivolous entertainment, negative media) or "seeking knowledge"? Intentionally replace one source of foolishness with a source of edifying knowledge.
- 4. **Pray for Enlightenment:** Before you study anything—especially the Bible—pray Ephesians 1:17-18 over yourself, asking the Holy Spirit to be your teacher and to open your understanding.

Remember: Your mental capacity is a gift from God to be developed for His glory. The investment you make in your mind today determines the impact you will have for the Kingdom tomorrow. Don't just work hard; work smart by filling your mind with light. For it is with the mind that we serve and understand the Lord (Romans 7:25).

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