Open Heaven 19 May 2025 Devotional & Commentary

Description

The Open Heaven 19 May 2025 devotional for today is THE URGE TO BE GENEROUS.

This is a daily devotion written by Pastor E. A. Adeboye, General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG).

Read: <u>RCCG Open Heaven 18 May 2025 Devotional</u>

OPEN HEAVEN 19 MAY 2025 TODAY DEVOTIONAL

TOPIC: THE URGE TO BE GENEROUS

MEMORISE

Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Hebrews 13:2

READ: 2 Kings 4:8-17

8 And it fell on a day, that Elisha passed to Shunem, where was a great woman; and she constrained him to eat bread. And so it was, that as oft as he passed by, he turned in thither to eat bread. 9 And she said unto her husband, Behold now, I perceive that this is an holy man of God, which passeth by us continually.

10 Let us make a little chamber, I pray thee, on the wall; and let us set for him there a bed, and a table, and a stool, and a candlestick: and it shall be, when he cometh to us, that he shall turn in thither.

11 And it fell on a day, that he came thither, and he turned into the chamber, and lay there. 12 And he said to Gehazi his servant, Call this Shunammite. And when he had called her, she stood before him.

13 And he said unto him, Say now unto her, Behold, thou hast been careful for us with all this care; what is to be done for thee? wouldest thou be spoken for to the king, or to the captain of the host? And she answered, I dwell among mine own people.

14 And he said, What then is to be done for her? And Gehazi answered, Verily she hath no child, and her husband is old.

15 And he said, Call her. And when he had called her, she stood in the door.

16 And he said, About this season, according to the time of life, thou shalt embrace a son. And she said, Nay, my lord, thou man of God, do not lie unto thine handmaid.

17 And the woman conceived, and bare a son at that season that Elisha had said unto her, according to the time of life.

RCCG OPEN HEAVEN 19 MAY 2025 TODAY MESSAGE

In today's Bible reading, a Shunammite woman compelled Elisha to stop by her house for a meal as he passed through her city. She kept on entertaining the prophet at her home every time he passed by, and eventually, she and her husband built him a little room in their house so he could stay and rest during his travels.

After a while, Elisha, moved by her generosity, summoned her and told her that she would soon be carrying a baby. She conceived and gave birth to a son according to the prophet's decree, all because of her hospitality.

Sometimes, when the appointed time for your miracle comes, you will suddenly have a very strong urge to be really generous and hospitable. You will desire to be a blessing to people even more than before. Today's memory verse says that you should be mindful to entertain strangers as you may be entertaining angels without knowing it. The reason for this is that God can send an angel to deliver your miracle, and that angel can come in the form of a human being. If you are hospitable to the angel, you will get the miracle.

In Genesis 18:1-14, Abraham saw three men passing in front of his tent, and he invited them to eat, wash their feet, and rest a little. After they had eaten, one of the men asked him about Sarah and told him that she would give birth to a son. Their barrenness of many years ended that day because Abraham suddenly felt the urge to be generous to complete strangers.

When you start feeling an urge to be more generous than you've ever been, please don't resist it. God might be trying to push you to do something that will launch you into your miracle. It must have been difficult for the widow of Zarephath to give Elijah the last meal meant for her and her son. Ordinarily, a generous mother will say something like, "I can do without eating, but I cannot give you my son's meal." However, she felt the urge to be unusually generous, and she didn't resist it.

In return, she had enough food for herself and her son throughout the famine.

Beloved, when you feel a strong urge to give, do not resist it; you might just be launching yourself into your next level. May God reward your kindness and hospitality towards others with abundant testimonies far beyond the imaginations of your heart and all that you are asking Him for, in Jesus' name.

ACTION POINT

When you feel a strong urge to be generous, take action; do not push it aside.

BIBLE IN ONE YEAR

Ezra 5-7

RCCG HYMN 33: GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH!

OPEN HEAVEN DEVOTIONAL 19 MAY 2025 COMMENTARY

Memorise: Hebrews 13:2 (KJV)

This verse establishes the principle that **hospitality is not merely a social virtue but a potential portal for divine encounters**.

Bible Reading: 2 Kings 4:8-17 (KJV)

The account of the Shunammite woman demonstrates how **consistent generosity to God's servants attracts supernatural rewards**, transforming barrenness into fruitfulness.

Key Insights from Today's Open Heaven Devotional

1. The Law of Spiritual Reciprocity

- Biblical Patterns:
 - Shunammite woman? Received a son (2 Kings 4:17)
 - *Abraham* ? Received covenant confirmation (Genesis 18:10)

• Widow of Zarephath ? Received endless provision (1 Kings 17:15-16)

• Jesus' Teaching:

"Give, and it shall be given unto you…" (Luke 6:38) *"He that receiveth a prophet… shall receive a prophet's reward"* (Matthew 10:41)

2. Three Levels of Hospitality That Trigger Miracles

1. Basic Kindness (Initial Meal Offering)

- The Shunammite's first invitation (2 Kings 4:8)
- Comparable to the boy's five loaves (John 6:9)

2. Consistent Care (Recurring Ministry Support)

- $\circ\,$ "She constrained him to eat bread... as oft as he passed by" (2 Kings 4:8)
- Like the women who ministered to Jesus (Luke 8:1-3)

3. Sacrificial Provision (Permanent Space Creation)

- "Let us make a little chamber" (2 Kings 4:10)
- Parallel to Zacchaeus' hospitality (Luke 19:5-6)

3. The Divine Urge to Give

• Recognizing the Prompting:

- Abraham ran to meet the visitors (Genesis 18:2)
- The widow *obeyed* despite starvation (1 Kings 17:13)

Modern Applications:

- Sudden compassion for a missionary's need
- $\circ\,$ Unusual burden to support a ministry project
- $\circ\,$ Unexpected desire to host spiritual gatherings

4. Angelic Visitations Through Human Vessels

- Biblical Manifestations:
 - *Manoah's wife*: Entertained an angel (Judges 13:3)
 - *Lot*: Hosted angelic rescuers (Genesis 19:1-3)
 - Peter: Received Cornelius' messengers (Acts 10:3-7)

Contemporary Implications:

- Your guest preacher may carry your miracle
- That needy stranger might be a divine test
- The visiting missionary could be your connection to breakthrough

5. The Danger of Resisting Generosity

- Biblical Warnings:
 - *Rich Young Ruler*. Rejected giving prompt (Matthew 19:22)
 - Simon the Sorcerer. Misused giving motive (Acts 8:18-20)

• Spiritual Principles:

- 1. Delayed obedience is disobedience
- 2. Conditional giving receives no reward

3. *Reluctant offerings lack spiritual power* (2 Corinthians 9:7)

Practical Applications

For the Hesitant Giver:

- Action: Start small but consistent (like the Shunammite's initial meals)
- Prayer: "Lord, give me discernment to recognize divine giving opportunities"

For the Weary Host:

- *Encouragement:* Your "little chamber" (2 Kings 4:10) may be incubating someone's destiny and yours!
- *Study:* Compare Phoebe's hospitality (Romans 16:1-2) with her historic role in delivering Paul's epistle

For the Financially Strapped:

- Promise: The widow's obedience preceded her miracle (1 Kings 17:15)
- Declaration: "My seed is my need" (Genesis 8:22)

Warning vs. Promise

- Warning: "Neglecting hospitality may mean rejecting angels" (Hebrews 13:2)
- **Promise:** *"Generosity triggers generational blessings"* (2 Corinthians 9:6)

Conclusion: Your House as a Miracle Center

- 1. Divine connections often come through open doors maintain a hospitable spirit
- 2. The size of your giving determines the scale of your harvest sow bountifully
- 3. Angels still walk among us treat every guest as potentially divine

Prayer Response

"Father, make me sensitive to divine giving prompts. Help me to entertain strangers with joy, recognizing each act of hospitality as potential kingdom investment. Let my generosity unlock supernatural breakthroughs, in Jesus' name. Amen."

Final Charge

"Your next meal invitation could be your ticket to answered prayers – will you open your door?" The Shunammite's chamber became her miracle room – what's your equivalent?

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