

INFINITE POSSIBILITIES INC.

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For The Uncompromising Christian

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Inside this Issue

July-August

God's Plan Your Future	Lita Aleese
Waiting on God	Nishon Geary
Mirror Mirror	Ethlyn O Farrell
Money with Mardenborough	John Mardenborough
Motivating Moments	Michelle Mardenborough

God's Plan Your Future Lita Aleese

We have heard so much about leaving the past behind and trusting God with our future and that is true; but my experience was different. In a crossroad season I took a leap into what I thought was 'freedom and liberty'. However, God had another plan. My initial response was

"You have got to be kidding me", but His words were so clear and precise "Go back to VICM and I will take care of you." "Really God, you want me to go back?"

His words gave no wiggle room for misinterpretation, but I was fed up with some things in my life and I desired change. I had literally dropped everything and left but after three months of intense fasting and praying for direction, I had to turn right back around and come back to St. Thomas and the church I left. I was obedient despite the trauma of everything that prompted me to leave. I preferred not to return but I trusted God more than I trusted myself. **Taking that step positioned me on a trajectory of prosperity that I had never experienced before.** However, I must admit that there were times of difficulty where I reminded God of our covenant relationship. "Ok God, You told me to come back and that You will take care of me and since You did not specify what areas, I take that to mean that You gave me a 'blank check'". Yes, I said that to

to Him, not in a demanding way, but with conviction that what God says He will do! Our relationship with God is essential in moving forward especially through seasons of tests and trials. In those times we should do the following three things:

1. Retreat with God
2. Fervently seek God
3. Be still & listen to God

By doing these things we delve deeper into God so that we hear His voice beyond the mental, physical, and, yes, religious clutter. **1 Corinthians 2:9-10.** There is no trust, no praise, no progressing through the entrails of a trial without intimacy. The perfect time to give praise and adoration are in those times when there is little desire to do so. Mary was interrupted in her walk of life with a very **'NOW' experience** of motherhood. **Luke 1:26-38.** She probably thought to herself, a miraculous conception now? Though different than the norm, God's plan was uniquely hers and divinely purposed to elevate and impact Mary, her family, and beyond. intimacy breathes trust and that is where God wants us to be. **Isaiah 42:8-9. God's overall desire for His children is that we totally trust Him for our present and our future!**



OCTOBER
10-14,
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To Fulfill the Call of God

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RETREAT HOST
Michelle Mardenborough

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Pastor Keri Fraser
Abundant Rain
Empowerment Church
Decatur, Georgia



Apostle Brenda Alton
BAM Ministries
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania



Pastor La-Kita Gilmore
Christ Community Church
Camp Hill, Pennsylvania



Minister Ethlyn
Ottley-Farrell
Victory in Prayer Center
St. Thomas, VI

WAITING ON GOD

S. Nishon Geary

The struggle of waiting on God can be challenging. Having faith, trusting, and believing in God while you wait can be a trying process. We are told to continue to thank God while we wait. Usually everyone is waiting on something from God. Whether it is a new job, marriage, home purchase, business venture, financial increase, salvation for a loved one, direction, wisdom, or guidance, we are all usually waiting for an answer from God. I have been going through a very trying time in my life where I have been unemployed for seven months and waiting on God to open the right career door for me. On December 17th, 2018, my position was eliminated. God brought that chapter of my life to a close and I have been waiting on God to lead, guide, and direct me where to go. It can be a challenge when you know you have no control over the situation and the hard part begins..... **WAITING.** I must admit I have worried a lot during this time of waiting. I have been worried things will not work out, worrying when and if God would come through. There have been many different times of waiting in my life but nothing quite like this wait. This wait has felt different. This wait has tested every aspect of my spiritual, personal, and professional being. I felt like every area of my life was being attacked. My spirituality, career, loss of Tim (my dog), finances, relationships, child, and my health. However, it was through these dark moments that God allowed me to see the importance of using this time to connect closer to Him during



*THERE
IS PURPOSE
IN YOUR
WAITING.*

"the wait." I was so caught up with **"the wait;"** that I was not allowing myself to take advantage of the process while waiting. I was about to miss out on the journey. The journey I would take with God; that would allow me to build my faith, trust, and deepen my relationship with Him during **"the wait."** While waiting, I have learned the importance of praising and giving God the glory even during these trying times. God is worthy to be praised no matter of my circumstances. As I continue moving through my waiting season, I am praying and believing that God is preparing me for what He has in store for me. As I walk into this new chapter, I am excited for God to take me where He wants me to go. I will continue to believe in God for the big things that I know I can't accomplish on my own. To those of you going through **"the wait,"** I encourage you to wait with the purpose of knowing that God has a plan over your life. The process may be longer than you ever expected, however, take advantage of your journey along the way to your destination. I want to leave you with a quote that truly blessed me. *"If it was not for the struggle, you would not have the strength."*

Remember, God is always building you, even when it seems like He is breaking you."

MIRROR MIRRORA Beautiful You

Ethlyn Ottley Farrell

"Mirror mirror on the wall who is the fairest of them all," the evil stepmother asked the magic mirror."

This is the popular story line from the fairytale Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. When the mirror did not respond positively and in favor of the stepmother, she became extremely furious. Most of us are aware of the fairytale and we know the ending. As little girls we too may have looked in the mirror and was unhappy with the reflection in the mirror. Unfortunately, we have allowed society to dictate our beauty standards. Depending on what is popular or trending determines today's beauty. Fashion magazines, red carpets, fashion runways and retailers are leading the charge on



what is and what is not beautiful. However, true beauty is not determined on the pages of magazines or runways. The Bible defines us by stating "We are fearfully and wonderfully made, your works are wonderful, I know that full well" Psalms 139:14 NIV. Our Sovereign God and Creator has already determined that we are wonderfully made and we are beautiful. It is also God's desire that we see ourselves as beautiful. The concluding statement in Psalms 139:14 states **"I KNOW THAT FULL WELL"** As Christians, we should not allow society to formulate our personal images of beauty. We must move away from the world's false images. We must be bold and assertive; look in the mirror then speak forth what your father God says. Speak the Word! Tell the mirror the truth, it will bring the freedom, faith and liberty that results in another level and dimension with God. Now that truly is a beautiful you!

ITS BEACH TIME

October 10 -14, 2019

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Money With Mardenborough

It is undeniable that 2019 was ushered in with a myriad of themes and topics centered on women's rights and issues. These issues include, but are not limited to: diversity and inclusion, the power of the women's vote, women in powerful positions, the debate over reproductive rights, the realities of teen pregnancy, the cycle of domestic abuse, workplace sexual harassment and manipulation, betrayal of unfaithful partners, female genital mutilation, gender inequalities in the workplace and society, sexism and overall gender bias. Nevertheless, it has been a historic year for women. There are more women serving in Congress than ever before. And a record number are currently running for president in 2020. However, even with these significant gains, women—both in the U.S. and around the world—can still find gender equality elusive.

While strides have been realized to break the "glass ceiling", there is still a lot of work to be done. It is becoming no longer uncommon for women to run businesses, even in large corporations or hold key executive leadership positions and job titles in the upper ranks of management. Many women are also doing jobs that are traditionally male-dominated. It is because of these interesting shifts and dynamics among the gender spectrum, it can no longer be ignored that women are playing a more vital role in the financial and economic landscape of our society and world.

Respected and reliable financial prognosticators, along with leading lending and financial market research groups, surveyed more than 3,000 business owners. The surveys revealed how female entrepreneurs and small business owners increasingly differ from their male counterparts. The key findings were interesting and include:

Nearly 3 out of 4 (72 percent) female small business owners have pursued higher education compared to 64 percent of their male counterparts.

Women are 48 percent more likely to be concerned about the effects of the political climate than men.

It is impossible to ignore the power moves of women in society today as a whole—and



Black women are 40 percent more likely to be entrepreneurs than African American men (22 percent of females compared to 13 percent of males).

It is impossible to ignore the power moves of women in society today as a whole—and more specifically in the area of finance. "International Women's Day" occurs every year on March 8th and honors achievements of women around the world. I would like to highlight financial trends where things are going positive for women.

Women Investing in their Creative Minds

Women are investing in their creative and entrepreneurial ideas and vision. In my line of business, I am in constant contact with highly successful men and women. In the course of conversations or business discoveries, I have asked these questions:

- I. **What was the biggest/best idea you have ever had?**
- II. **How did you invest in your idea or vision?**
- III. **What was the outcome or what happened?**

Interestingly, with most women an aspect of their big ideas or vision focused on ways to support and empower female entrepreneurs either through angel investments, investing in funds with female founders, or through social platforms.

Women are Launching into the Investing Arena

In 2019, instead of going to a traditional broker or wealth manager, women—and millennials of both genders—are making their first ever investments in one of two new ways: the first through online AI-powered robo-advisors, such as *Wealthfront*, or *Poems* in Southeast Asia.

The Introduction of Women in Fintech

You may be wondering what is *Fintech*? *Fintech* is a compilation of computer programs and other innovative technologies used to support or enable banking and financial services. Women are natural collaborators and seek opportunities to share ideas more freely. I am seeing an increase in women-led communities and events designed to attract women and entrepreneurs and offer a mutually supportive environment. The visibility of women is important; and younger women need to see role models to believe they can do it too.

Women (and Men) Investing in Gender Equality Initiatives

In my field of interest and expertise, I closely follow what is taking place on a global banking level. To that end, there is a serious interest in investing with gender lens, and there is rapid progress in this space.

Women Embarking in Finance Fields and Profession

Over the past few years, there has been a catapulting push around the world to try and attract more women into the financial industry. Well, how are we doing? The financial industry needs to do a better job of presenting itself to young women as the competitively compelling career choice that it is. Female investment professionals initially like fund managers, need to be encouraged to be more visible. Work needs to be done to change the default public perception of what a portfolio manager looks like. However, there is great news; women CFA candidates are on the upswing. **We've gone from 30% in 2013 to 38% in 2018..**



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MAKE GOD THE PRIORITY

Get Away And Retreat with God

The noun retreat means a place you can go to be alone, to get away from it all.

A special place in the park might be your favorite retreat or a secluded spot on the beach or somewhere peaceful in your home. At the end of the day; everyone needs a tranquil place to quiet their mind, meditate, and collect their thoughts. Setting time aside to retreat is one of the finest gifts you can give yourself. A retreat is an investment in your Spirit and in your personal relationship with God. A retreat will give you a chance to pause and examine your life from a new perspective.

Spending quiet time with God will unlock answers to questions and major concerns that you might have. Psalms 46:10 states, **"Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."** Taking your mind off the cares of this world and spending quiet time with God is priceless. It is your very own sacred time-out; it is nourishment to your Spirit, Soul and Body. It is a time to reconnect with your authentic true self. God designed you, He knows all about you; drawing close to God helps you understand His plans for your life. The Bible instructs us to "Come near to God and He will come near to you" (James 4:8, NIV). Life is extremely busy and it is easy to feel overwhelmed. Sometimes we need to simply rest. Jesus says "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28, NIV). Going on a retreat can renew your Spirit. When you return home, you are recharged, renewed and ready to face the demands of everyday life. Schedule time to retreat with God today and make it your number one priority!

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TAKE A MOMENT AND MEDITATE ON MARK 1:35

VERY EARLY IN THE MORNING, WHILE IT WAS STILL DARK, JESUS GOT UP, LEFT THE HOUSE AND WENT OFF TO A SOLITARY PLACE WHERE HE PRAYED.

Join us Oct 10-14 at Emerald Beach Hotel STT, VI Register at www.infinitepossibilitiesvi.com