Michelle Adu-Asah
Spiritual Formation
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Be still and know that I am God

"When you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you." – Matthew 6:6

Often times I find myself expecting God to speak to me, knowing that in order for that to happen I have to actively spend time in his presence, in prayer, worship and feed my spirit with His word daily. It cannot be that I prioritize other things, before him and expect breakthroughs, miracles, signs, and wonders to happen in my life.

For the past few months my life has been a huge and rough rollercoaster, it was challenging and a serious battle for my life spiritually. I got myself into situations I could have avoided, only if I would have listened to God and stayed obedient to what He had already revealed to me a long time ago, through his prophets. Feeling some sort of conviction is so important because if you don't feel anything at all that's when you should know that something is not right and actually start worrying if your heart has been hardened and if God has removed his spirit from you. After I felt serious conviction in my heart, the Lord had to discipline me – Yes God is a loving father, but the word says in *Hebrews 12:6-7 "because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son." Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father?"*
Especially when you're chosen and have a big calling on your life that will not only affect your close surroundings but literally whole nations and generations in the future to come.

Was a door opened that allowed the enemy to have legal access to your life?

As I was reflecting on these days, I realized that God always has a way to call his own back to him. Once you give up the steering wheel and surrender your life and give it up to Jesus, he will surely hold you by the hand and guide you to the right destination.
In *John 15:5, Jesus says, "Apart from me you can do nothing."* As hard as we might try to control our lives, we have to be aware that we really cannot relay on our own strength at all.

In my quiet times, God told me to focus and fix my eyes on him, not to get distracted by the little things, give him all my emotions, burdens, trauma and put him first in everything I do, so that everything else will be added unto me and fall into place aligned to his will and all in His timing. The Lord also taught me that I have to spiritually grow and start chewing on solid food and not stay on the milk. It's time to pick up my sword and start fighting against all the schemes of the devil and his minions, putting on the full armor of God and also know that the battle I'm fighting has already been overcome by our Lord Jesus and has been won. It takes a whole lot of self discipline to pick up your cross and die to your own flesh daily and walk in the spirit instead – worship God spirit and in truth, your entire being is a living sacrifice.
Acts 2:17 "In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams.
A way God speaks to me is through dreams that have powerful meanings and are mostly warnings. That's why it's important for me to write them down as soon as I receive something that could be relevant to pray about.

A few sundays ago God showed me a brother from my home church back in Germany who was really sick in my dream. When I woke up I forgot all about it, but when I went to church a guest preacher came and was talking about the prophetic and dreams. Then I remembered what I saw and immediately during service I had to text my mother and tell her what God had showed me and that we need to pray for the men in church. It's interesting how God connects, because when I texted her that I didn't specifically mentioned who it was that I saw. She told me that she immediately saw the face of the person I saw and forwarded my message to a prayer group chat and another lady responded with "I had a similar dream last night about this exact same person". How much of a coincidence can that really be? I believe that God reveals to redeem.
Interceding for other people is a huge part of walking this walk with Jesus – we're not selfish, but care about the entire body of Christ.

Another thing I've noticed about how God is using me to glorify his kingdom is through the gift of knowledge. The gift of the word of knowledge refers to the ability to know facts about a situation, or a spiritual principle, that could not have been known by natural means.
It feels like you can read peoples mind to some sort of extend or to describe it differently, it's like God gives you facts and information, before the other person even confirms it.
I end up seeing words and questions playing out in my head, next thing I know I get asked that exact question. For instance, I visited my uncle and his wife in Florida and when I got there we sat by the table and were engaging in conversation, until God released a sentence into my head "they want to have a child". Literally two minutes later his wife asked me to pray for them, as they have received me in their house, they would love me to stand in prayer asking God to give them a child. Situations like this have been happening a lot lately, so much so that I don't get that surprised anymore.

I experience God through worship aswell, this is my personal favorite, sometimes it gets to a point where you just have to praise the Lord with songs of worship. It does so much in the spiritual realm too – active and truthful worship to God pins the devil down. That's why it's really important to protect your eargates, the things you listen to: *Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*
Be still and know that I am God – in time of worship I sometimes just stay in his presence and atmosphere still and listen to what he has to say, It feels like I'm downloadomg everything God has to say, not for me to keep all to myself, but actually put it into songs he releases unto me to share with others.
Whenever I find myself in these moments it's like I'm drunk in the spirit, feeling so much at peace that people would literally think I'm high on drugs, when it's really the holy spirit.

Since I moved to the dorm I never really felt like I had that intimate moment I could share with God in the secret place, because there's so much distraction and you're constantly surrounded by people. A few days ago I was feeling a deep hunger and a thirst for the Lord so much, that I decided to fast and I'm currently using every single opportunity to keep that intimacy with my heavenly father in tact, regardless of my surroundings and influences.

The atmosphere might be heavy, but we are called to be the light of this world and as long as God has said He will do what he has promised to do, we have to put our trust in him fully and constantly examine ourselves / our hearts, be careful what we agree with and

stay in His will and be able to discern His voice, the devils voice and our own voice *John 10:27-28 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.*