

"LIBERATIONALS"

**Excerpt from
A 31-Day Devotional
for the Soul**

**By
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Introduction

I am Pastor Leontine S Osuagwu and I am the founder and CEO of Liberating Tamar Inc. Liberating Tamar is a 501C3 non-profit organization which specializes in ministering healing to women and men who carry emotional baggage as a result of all kinds of abuse (physical, mental and emotional), teaching them how to reclaim their identity, their self-esteem, their confidence and ultimately their freedom through the Biblical teaching, outreach events, seminars, webinars, conferences etc.

I named this book “Liberationals” because the devotionals in this book are not merely inspirations; they are aimed at liberating you from emotional barricades and mental strongholds through daily devotion, scripture reading and prayer.

Liberationals: A 31-Day Devotional for the Soul

This is a 31-day journey. As you read these “Liberationals” every day and allow the Holy Spirit to minister to your heart, true emotional liberation can become a reality in your life.

Let's get right to it!

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DAY 1

I am the reason why he came!

Mark 2:17

“When Jesus heard *it*, he saith unto them, they that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

In this passage, Jesus was eating and drinking at the house of Levi with tax collectors and sinners. When the Pharisees saw that, they started criticizing him and asked his disciples “why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?”, in other words, “why was he abasing himself to this level?” They were critical and judgmental about the fact that Jesus was associating himself with men and women of low status, the bottom of the barrel,

the scum of society, the dejected and the downtrodden.

The Pharisees were very educated in the Law, they were teachers of the law, they considered themselves the cream of the crop and their minds were boggled when they saw Jesus fellowshiping with common mortals.

I myself am flabbergasted by the fact that the Son of God would stoop down to a human level and choose to make his abode in flawed man. **Philippians 2:7** states that even though He was God, Jesus made himself of no reputation and took on the form of a servant just for you and me. When the Pharisee asked the disciples why Jesus eats with tax collectors and sinners, he did not say, “Oh, I am so sorry; I must be in the wrong house.”

Instead of rejecting people who had been rejected and ostracized by society, Jesus makes a powerful statement: “They that are whole do not need a physician but they that are sick.”

Wow! Jesus is saying, “I know who they are, I know everything about them, I know their issues, I know their flaws, I know their narrative, I know what they've gone through, I know about the emotional baggage that they are carrying, I see their pain and they are the very reason why I came.

I am telling you today that, “You are the reason why Jesus came.” He is not a Pharisee, he is not turned off by your story, the opinions of others do not affect the way Jesus sees you and me. To the contrary, he is attracted to you and wants

to have an intimate relationship with you.
Enjoy his fellowship with you today.

Prayer

Father, I thank you for the incredible gift of your son Jesus. Thank you that despite my imperfections and my emotional baggage, you choose to abide with me. Thank you so much for not seeing me through other people's lenses and not being influenced by what people think, feel or have said about me. Help me to be consistent in my fellowship with you and develop a strong relationship with you. I love you and I praise you in the name of Jesus, I've prayed.

Day 2

He wants me to live!

Ezekiel 16:6

And when I passed by thee, and saw thee polluted in thine own blood, I said unto thee *when thou wast* in thy blood, Live; yea, I said unto thee *when thou wast* in thy blood, Live.

As a victim of sexual abuse, there have been times in my life where I was so overwhelmed with negative feelings and emotions that I wanted to go to sleep and never wake up. Even though the abuse occurred decades prior, I was still allowing it to abuse me over and over again by constantly meditating on it. I rehearsed the “how” and the “why” in my head all day every day to the point where I lived in a constant state of anger and depression.

The abuse had caused feelings of rejection and a dysfunctional need for acceptance and as a result of that, I sought love in the wrong places and ended up not only feeling more rejected but also filthy. I was much like the baby portrayed (portrait of the children of Israel) in **Ezekiel 16:6**.

The scripture says that he was polluted in his own blood; the word polluted means to “contaminate with a harmful or poisonous substance”. The baby in **Ezekiel 16** was in a state of uncleanness. Blood is a representation of life according to **Leviticus 17:11**. The life of the flesh is in the blood. His blood was killing him.

What was supposed to sustain his life was slowly but surely destroying him. The baby represents Israel. They were God's

chosen people. They were the apple of his eyes (**Zechariah 2:8**). They were supposed to live in perfect obedience and fellowship with God and be blessed but instead, their disobedience caused them to go through multiple seasons of captivity and judgment.

Their constant violations of God's commandments had contaminated their life and led them into spiritual, emotional and physical bondage but God had not forgotten about them.

Ezekiel 16:6a says that God passed by him and saw him polluted in his blood. In the Monk TV series, gentle detective Adrian Monk works the grimy streets of San Francisco but is so driven by a fear of germs that he must scrub his hands after shaking hands with someone. Monk has

been called the “poster boy” for obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD).

Contrary to detective Monk, our God is not OCD. He is not intimidated by dirt; he does not turn the other way when he sees us in our mess; as a matter of fact **Romans 5:8** says that he demonstrated his love by dying for messy people, for dirty people, for people who had been polluted by life and by their mistakes.

He passed by Israel, he saw them in their despicable condition and instead of hiding his face and pretending not to see them, he stood right there in front of them and spoke a word into their life.

God is speaking a word into your life today: Live! He wants you to live! He has compassion on you. He sees the rejection

that you have gone through, he is well aware of the abuse, the divorce, the abandonment issues and the insecurities that you have and he still wants you to live.

Your life is not an accident; you are not an afterthought. He has created you with and for purpose. When God speaks a word, it has no choice but to come to pass (**Isaiah 40:8**) so when he says “live”, you can rest assured that you will live, you will soar and you will be all that he has called you to be, just trust him.

Prayer

Father I thank you for the life that you have given me through Jesus's death. Thank you for loving me despite my unworthiness. Thank you for seeing

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beyond my past and loving me regardless of where I have been, what I have done, who I have been with and what others say about me. Help me to embrace the life that you have given me and to live with purpose by honoring you with my life. I love you and I give your name glory, in the name of Jesus I prayed.

I hope you enjoyed this two-day excerpt from *Liberationals: A 31-Day Devotional for the Soul*.

Grace and peace,
Leontine

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Leontine S Osuagwu an ordained minister and a Bible Teacher with a passion to see every man, woman and child emotionally whole and walking in their God ordained purpose. She is the founder and CEO of Liberating Tamar Inc., a 501C3 nonprofit organization mandated by God to help facilitate emotional freedom in the lives of survivors of physical and emotional abuse. Leontine Osuagwu is married to Emeka Osuagwu and they are the proud parents of Joshua and Victoria.

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