

2022



# I'M GOOD NOW

FROM "NEW POST ALERT" SERIES

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

FROM "NEW POST ALERT" SERIES

God is giving you a new post and is doing new things. There are times when you find yourself in a situation or state that is not conducive to where you see yourself going or even what God has promised you. When you are in this space, you have to be careful of how you navigate through this season. Your position makes the difference in how you finish.

Examples of people who started in bad situations and are now thriving:

- **Oprah Winfrey** - molested at 14, lived in poverty and was rejected for her appearance. She became the youngest and the first black female news anchor at Nashville's WLAC TV station. Oprah was the first African-American female billionaire.
- **Tyler Perry** - changed his name to disassociate from his abusive father. He was homeless and lived in his car. His net worth is now over \$1 billion.
- **Viola Davis** - lived in extreme poverty, a building infested with rats. She suffered in fear, endured food insecurity and was told she was too dark-skinned for acting. Denzell Washington introduced her to the world in the movie, "Antwone Fisher" and her net worth is now over \$25 million.
- **Bishop T.D. Jakes** - was told he would not be able to speak publicly because he has a lisp. His highest level of education is high school, and he was responsible for taking care of his family at a young age. Bishop T.D. Jakes is more than just preaching from the pulpit and now has several streams of income.

It's not about how you start but how you finish. Today, we look at a man whose journey started out in a bad situation, but then turned good. His testimony is, "I'm Good Now."

## **OLD POST**

*Luke 8:26-27 NIV - They sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, which is across the lake from Galilee. [27] When Jesus stepped ashore, **he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town.***

- The man was isolated and people had given up on him.
- When you are in an isolated place, you cannot get out on your own.

## **NEW POST**

*Luke 8:35 NIV - and the people went out to see what had happened. **When they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid.***

- When Jesus steps into your situation, things change.
- Assume the right posture and get in the presence of the Lord.
- You are about to scare your naysayers.

FROM "NEW POST ALERT" SERIES

- Remember that what you are going through is spiritual with natural implications.

*What area(s) are you waiting for God to change you from the old to the new?*

## THE MAN - THE HELP POSITION

Mark 5:6 NIV - *When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him.*

- We spend too much time trying to get better rather than trying to get to God.
- Change your position and mindset.
- Your actions make the enemy mad because he thought he had you.

*What has pushed you into the help position? How has God intervened while you were in a messy place?*

## WHAT HAPPENED IN HIS LIFE?

- The enemy will try to sow confusion and hit you from every side.

## HE IS STRIPPED

Luke 8:27b NIV - *For a long time this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house,*

- The enemy will strip you of everything that belongs to you. In this condition, you will feel insecure and unprotected.

*Can you identify a time you felt stripped by the enemy?*

## HE IS SEPARATED

Luke 8:27c NIV - *but had lived in the tombs.*

- The enemy will drive you into isolation and you will find yourself around dead environments & people going nowhere.
- Wherever there is a gap in your relationships, that is an entry point for the enemy to come in.
- The enemy will try to convince you that you deserve to be isolated and eventually you'll find yourself pushing everyone away.
- Get out of the dead place because God came to give you life.

*Who or what has the enemy separated you from? When did you realize the separation occurred?*

*What are you doing to reconnect?*

## HE COMMUNICATES

Luke 8:28 NIV - *When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice. "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don't torture me!"*

FROM "NEW POST ALERT" SERIES

*Luke 8:30 NIV - Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "Legion," he replied, because many demons had gone into him.*

- "Legion" means 6,000. When they replied "Legion," they really weren't saying a name, but simply trying to intimidate Jesus with a large number.
- The Legion said, "There are a lot of us, we are organized, we are unified, we are ready to fight, and we are mighty."
- When the enemy hits communication, you become so frustrated that you will stop communicating completely. This is spiritual.
- Even if you don't have the words to speak, God can translate your shout/cry.
- No matter what is coming against you, the God we serve is bigger and stronger.

*How are you presently communicating with others? How are you honoring God through your communication?*

## **HE EXPERIENCED SUBMISSION**

*Luke 8:29b NIV - Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places.*

- The enemy makes you think you do not have to submit to anyone. This is spiritual. You have to submit to the will of God.
- If you cannot submit to anything, you cannot be over anything.
- When you feel like no one can tell you what to do, you become accountable to no one.

*Was there ever a time when you weren't submitted to anything or anyone? How did this impact your relationships? How did you finally experience submission?*

## **HE HAD WILD BEHAVIOR**

*Mark 5:5 NIV - Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.*

- The enemy knows that if he can't destroy you, he can get you to destroy yourself (self-destructing behavior). You begin doing things that are out of character for you.
- Sin will take you further than where you want to go.
- Don't let pride lead and guide you. God needs to see a brokenness in you.

*What are you currently doing that is out of character for you? How did you get to this point?*

## **THE MAN - THE HELP POSITION**

*Mark 5:6 NIV - When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him.*

FROM "NEW POST ALERT" SERIES

## NEW POST

*Luke 8:35, 38-39 NIV - and the people went out to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. [38] The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, [39] "Return home (SEPARATION) and tell how much God has done for you." (COMMUNICATION) So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him (SUBMISSION).*

### KEYS:

- 1) STRIPPED
- 2) SEPARATION
- 3) COMMUNICATION
- 4) SUBMISSION
- 5) WILD BEHAVIOR

- The enemy comes to steal, kill, & destroy. God comes to give you life.
- Every area the enemy attacked, God will correct for you and deal with the root causes.
- God is giving you a divine reversal.

*How has God dealt with the root cause of your issues that changed your life? If you were to give your testimony, what would be your new post? Who is God calling you to share your testimony with?*

## PRAYER

*Lord, I acknowledge the challenges I am facing are spiritual. As I go to battle, I know that I can only overcome through You. I am in a place of brokenness that has stripped me, separated me, changed my communication and caused me to be someone that I am not. I am bracing myself to sit in a posture of help. I am seeking help through Your word and Your Spirit. Help me to overcome, Lord, so that I can glorify You by sharing my testimony with others. In Jesus' name, Amen!*