

Unshakably Solid Devotion by Marni Hawkins

Hello once again my dear friends. It's been a while but I am full of joy to be sharing something the Holy Spirit has placed on my heart. While I was worshipping I spoke this to Him, "I want to hear your heart Lord, teach me to listen." His response was this, "Be unshakably solid." There is a quote from Pastor John Piper which says, "Can you call God your God today and every day? Is there an unshakable solidarity between you and Him? This is not inherited. It is a gift embraced by turning to Christ. Let Him break you, bless you, and make you bold. Amen."

Unshakable means to be immovable, steadfast, or steady. Let nothing move you unless the Lord is doing the moving. I want you to pay attention to what solid means spiritually. Ok here goes, it means having no vacant interspaces (all of the space in your heart is occupied). My encouragement to you is twofold; occupy till He comes and let the Holy Spirit occupy any place that separates you from Him. Normally, since this is the week of Thanksgiving it would be about what we are thankful for, that was my topic right? Nope. Not that we shouldn't be thankful, we should give thanks in all things. I want to focus the how process of it works which enables us to be solid, steady and allows us to focus on our source which is God. Our manner relates to His through a positional process.

The process begins with grace. Ephesians 2:8 NLT, *"For by grace you, have been saved through faith and this is not your doing; it is the gift of God.* For the next five days I will explain 5 definitions of Grace (derived from Latin root Gratia) and what relational heart position we should be in for each.

DAY ONE:

Let's begin with our first meaning for grace which is to be free from the heart position calling. Mary Ellen McLeod, once said, "As you surrender to this process, you will come out stronger and better able to handle places of new levels of growth /occupation, now and in the future. I am not a God who will leave you where you are. I desire that you become wiser and able to see and hear past natural feelings of pressure to make better responses. Ask me for wisdom. I have given you to unlock closed doors, to your Turning Point. " How many of you would agree freedom can be described as a turning point for those of us who have been bound by something at one time or another? Think about this scenario, do any of you want to feel imprisoned in your own cell in life? I know I don't. So where does that freedom come from then? It all starts with being called of Christ, positioned at this time and hour on the earth for His kingdom come His will be done. When He calls our name we come and His grace comes running after us.

The apostle Paul even says in *1 Corinthians 15:10*, *"By the grace of God I am what I am, His grace toward me is not in vain."* Where do you stand in Christ? Have you received His gift of grace through salvation. Are you positioned where you are called? Whether you know him as Lord and Savior or would like to commit your life to Him, He is the Son, the truth that sets you free. It is Jesus that has saved us and called us to a worthy calling, (*2 Timothy 2:19*), *"not because of our works, but because of His own purpose and grace."* Also he has called us chosen, wanted, and not forgotten, *a people for His own possession.*

Let's pray, Holy Spirit help me to walk worthy of the calling you have chosen for me as your child and not grow weary in the process of Your grace having its way in all of my heart, not just a part. Reveal to me what separates me from Your heart so I can hear it. What is it I need to remain stable and secure in the freedom You freely sent Your Son Jesus to give His life for mine? In Jesus name, Amen

DAY TWO:

This day you move to the second definition of grace to being ready, from your position of inheritance. Grace promotes and protects you from anything that would try to harm your well being. After you believe God loved you enough to send His only Son to die for you and confess it to Him, then it's time to deal with the source of that harm, sin, or fleshy nature /character that needs reconstructing. (*Titus 2:11-12*) *ESV reads, "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared, bringing salvation to all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age. (Galatians 5:13) it doesn't give us an opportunity for the flesh to sin."* The Greek word for saved, is "SOZO". It means; saved, healed (physical, emotional, mental) wholeness, complete deliverance from all the things which are bad for your well being. The word for train is a continuous step by step teaching of His grace to keep you ready to say no to the things which are contrary to Christian principles and beliefs. These are the interspaces preventing your unshakable solidity. The standard by which you live, as a Christian, come from the Word of God. Anything opposite could be dangerous and deadly to your close walk with the Lord.

What is the shortest distance between two points? The answer is a straight line. You don't want to miss the target of what Jesus finished for you at Calvary and promised to bring it to pass do you? Let me put it another way. Which is better to keep walking in circles in the wilderness and miss your inheritance or possessing your eternal inheritance in God's Kingdom? *Acts 20:32, "the word of God's grace is able to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified."* The Holy Spirit is, as it says in *Ephesians: 14-18* *"...the guarantee of that inheritance. Ephesians 1:11 declares" ... until we acquire full possession of it."*

We are His heirs claimed by God Himself! Isn't that amazing? We are His portion, most treasured possession. The Holy Spirit is gracious to make us constantly ready to say yes to God and not the areas we are still hiding in our private closets that still deny Him full access. He is jealous and wants you for Himself alone, with nothing to stand in His way to having all of you!!!! Surrender to the process and position yourself as an heir to all His promises by faith. Here you are immovable and solid.

Lets Pray, Father I come to You in the name of Jesus to thank you for grace that teaches me constantly to be ready to choose life or death in my walk with You. You have made me Your heir to inherit all You have purposed for my life. Thank You for the promises that are yes and Amen in Your Son Jesus. I let go of all my unsundered spaces that still loom in darkness. I need Your Light to shine to prepare me to align with all that glorifies Your great marvelous name.

Just pause for a minute; and let this quote resonate with your spirit before we start. Brad Gray "We are only good to those who need to be saved when our lives finally are rightly ordered because of the reason of Christ. It means our hope of being made new has nothing to do with us and everything to do with Him. How can we behave and believe to share the gospel with the world unless we reside solely with the one who came down to where we are? When we embrace His character He brings us to where He is. Christ is our life!"

DAY THREE:

Wow I hope you were impacted by that quote from yesterday, that one wrecked me. I pray it did to you also. We are halfway through this devotion already. You all are so amazing in God's eyes and He longs to bring us to now to the third definition of grace which is a quick response from a position of embrace. I know we think of embrace as a hug but it is much more than that. It has to do with intimacy, fellowship and reconciliation. "The gospel is not merely an announcement of information, but one of new life. When you embrace that you were made spiritually alive by faith. The word of God proclaims that our deadness is no more. What was once demanded by God's Son in death you are raised to life in His righteousness. 2 Corinthians 5:21, *"This is made possible because Christ, who was sinless became sin, so that believers could become the righteousness of God through Him."* When you know that you are right with God you have the resolve to quickly respond when He tells you to do something and keep solid because you are joined as one with Him.

I want to talk about quicken for a minute, indulge me. This refers to our response time to when the Lord is giving us a check in your spirit or a sense He's speaking to you. Our position of embrace keeps us close to the voice or impression He is trying to share with you.

Responding is one of quickness!!! In what is to follow. There is a closely related term to quickened, called “quickenings”. For you Moms out there you know what this term means. It’s the fluttering in your womb, the first time a fetus moves within it. It is when the Holy Spirit makes you come alive. *Colossians 1:27, He is “Christ in you the hope of glory.”*

What do we do when the Holy Spirit is dealing with you to do something? Respond after you have prayed and don’t react immediately. Positive or negative embrace His yes or His no or not yet. Then do it quickly. Don’t cover it up, hide it or pretend He did not just speak to you. *Psalms 32:8, “He is the one behind you telling you where to go whether to the right or to the left.”* Sometimes it’s just stay and wait. You need grace to hear His heart. Here you are firm and move only when God tells you to. This determines a spirit-led outcome or a fleshly one. James 1:21 reads, *“Receive with meekness the implanted word that is able to save your soul.”* How God sees you is how you should see yourself and respond to the quickening of His Spirit accordingly. *John 6:63 says, “It is the Spirit that quickens, the flesh profits nothing.”* The more truly you will walk in Him when you embrace the things above where Christ is. I exhort you to be quick, to embrace His promptings of grace. Do not delay in obeying the Lord, you may miss a Holy visitation in just one moment and miss Him!

Lets pray: Holy Spirit Your grace which embraces us is and intimate place of fellowship and reconciliation. Hold us tight to Your heart. Keep us solid in how You see us so we can respond to Your yes, no, wait, right, left, or straight. Lead us in the way we should go. Quicken us to listen with the intent to obey. Give us more precious moments with You. Wrap us in Your love, secure us in unshakable solidarity. In Jesus name, Amen.

DAY FOUR:

At this point I want to encourage you on our fourth day. TRUST THE PROCESS! This is where you need to be willing to receive from the Holy Spirit in a place of breaking. I may be even inclined to say our breaking point. How does God break you? He breaks us with kindness. *Romans 2:4, “His kindness leads us to repentance.”* A fourth definition for grace is being willing to be positioned in brokenness. You must be submitted to the delight of Christ Himself. It is *1 Corinthians 2:2, “knowing nothing but Jesus and him crucified.”* Often Gods kindness, patience and richness is despised by you simply because it will require you to change; when the very essence of His Spirit is the very catalyst of transformation you need. This keeps you solid and not shaken. He is passionate for our good, our well-being.

You know what else? The Lord gets the glory in the shattered pieces of our lives. In the cracks of trial and tribulation, we become glorified “cracked pots.” Somehow the pieces get rearranged into a masterpiece, where God’s power is displayed to others through our

weaknesses. 2 Corinthians 12:9, says *“My grace is sufficient for you, my power is made perfect in weakness.”*

The Holy Spirit is our most precious treasure; His essence is pure in what challenges us the most. Layer by layer, just like an onion needs peeled, so do you. The more intense the pressure, the more crying there will be. God holds us in these times and this is when He is the closest to us. There is no one else to depend on. When I lost my Mom unexpectedly, I felt like I was going to die I cried for a week straight until I had no more. You know what He collects our tears. *Psalms 56:8 states, “You keep track of all my sorrows. You have collected them all my tears in your bottle. You have recorded them all in your book.”* Did you notice how many times all is mentioned here? That should really say something to you .

I want to mention one other thing before I close out today. Don't take yourselves off the altar. *Romans 12:1, “I beseech you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service .”* The altar is your life, where in your surrender the Holy Spirit occupies your interspaces, until you are wholly His! Be willing to let grace strengthen you in the breaking.

Lets pray, Father God invade me with the fire of the Holy Spirit to walk strong and solidified in places In need to be broken. Break me open as a living sacrifice, as Your grace strengthens me in my weakness. I want You to be what is poured out of every essence of my being. Thank you for drawing near to me I draw near to You. You know every trial, temptation, tear and tragedy, I have experienced already and the ones to come. I trust Your process, God. Help me to keep myself on the altar and not take myself off as an offering poured out to You. In Jesus name, Amen.

DAY FIVE:

This is the last day dear friends, and the last definition for grace is prompt. The context which I would like to point out to you is prompt from a position of boldness. Remember at the beginning of this journey, I shared that I desired to hear God's heart. Of course, He lovingly responded with me being unshakably solid. When we are grounded in Christ, confidence results from His shepherding of you as His sheep. His sheep know His voice and not the voice of a stranger. This is where does boldness come from. It comes from the Holy Spirit infilling us with power from on high. You must know the source of who is doing the heart prompting, whether it aligns with principles from God's Word, and does the prompting bring life or death. This is called discernment. *1 John 4:1 reads, test the spirits to see if they are from God.”* The Lord needs us to be spiritually alert.

What prompts your heart to keep it awake? Actually a better description is who? Let everyman give what is impelling in the depths of your very being. Give to the Lord freely as you have been given. We live in the physical realm and the spiritual and both are constantly active and our senses must be trained to know what is happening in both. *Hebrews 5:14, "says that solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained their senses to distinguish between good and evil."* Know the source. Is it God, the devil, or your flesh wanting to have its own way?

Psalms 95:8, "For He is our God and we are the people of His pasture, the flock under his care. Today if you hear his voice do not harden your heart..." Be receptive to God's voice don't grieve who the Holy Spirit is or quench (take the fire out) of who He wants to be through you. Learn His inflections so you can be bold as you grow.

Let's pray, Holy Spirit forgive me when I have grieved or quenched You. I need You to train my spiritual senses to be more accurate than my physical ones. Impart wisdom, understanding, discernment and insight on the words that proceed from only Your mouth and not the voice of Satan or my own flesh. With Your Spirit guiding alongside me, I can be bold and aware of Your prompts. Don't let me become too familiar with your presence that I lose the wonder of You. Teach me to remain sensitive to what Your heart is saying to mine. In Jesus name. Amen.

In conclusion, let's review real fast. How are we thankful? Through the process of grace of God was described in five ways: freedom, readiness, quicken, willingness and prompt. There are 5 corresponding positions: called, inheritance, embrace, break, and bold. Allow the Holy Spirit to invade your interspaces, so there is not space between you. Occupy until He comes and be occupied. God is pleased when we obey Him without delay and when we fulfill the purpose of our calling. The Holy Spirit gives us assurance that we are his children which breeds confidence to trust His provision of what He intends for us to inherit. His various blessings stimulate our longing for eternal results. I cannot fully comprehend this free gift of God's grace poured out on us, for us, in us and out of us. Until I write again, I have enjoyed this special time with you all. Thank you for your love and support.

I'll end with this quote by Floyd Shank, "Has the disease, disaster, war, evil, and death in history reduced the Holy Spirit's omnipresence? No. He is forever infinite, unbounded, whole filling our space, this is the evidence of His solidity and infrangibility. Yet He is matter less." We are more solid in Spirit than in flesh, than concrete. Without suffering, trials, temptations can injure or weaken our spiritual self, who is made in God's image and likeness. *Acts 17:28 says, "In Him we live we move and have our being."*