

Crossing continents and cultures #ineverystep is a biannual magazine that tells the stories of those whose lives are being transformed.

While reading their heartfelt testimonies, experience how God in His great love relentlessly pursues the lost and found.

This is His story in our story, our story in His story, a true love story. God is indeed in every step.

## **CONTENTS**

THE FORMER AND LATTER RAINS
As it is in the natural so it is in the spiritual... p2

DESTINY ROAD - A PROMISE FULFILLED A true story of the journey along destiny road. p10

PHOTO JOURNAL p16

UNRAVELLING THE MYSTERIES OF EPHESIANS Understanding that brings growth and empowerment. p18

DISCIPLESHIP
JOURNEY OF
DISCOVERY
Unexpected encounters
that unite eternity. p22

LISTENING AT THE FEET OF THE MASTER God brings revelation and inspiration. p26

**EDITORIAL** I'm looking into eternity, with your eyes of love. The billions, the multitudes, those who will come. For you have shown me from your presence above. That they will testify of your glory and together sing. Yes, I have seen the billions of those who will come. And the glory of the Lord in the coming of our king. God's love revealed in Jesus is perfected when we know and experience living in Him. jesus loves: the world exists to preach, teach and train on the Kingdom of God so all who are willing may be established in His truth, rooted in His love and filled with the fullness of God. www.jesuslovestheworld.info For more information please email info@jesuslovestheworld.info

Names have been changed and locations withheld for security and privacy reasons Photographs of people are used for illustrative purposes only. They are not associated with any testimonies included in this magazine or jesus loves: the wor



We were ready. Much had been promised, so expectations were high. At first the large drops of water released from the heavens bounced off the parched lands. Yet little by little, drop after drop, the soil would break up. The former rains have come and gone.

In readiness for the sowing, the soil was ploughed. Now was the time for the choicest seeds to be sown, the seeds to be scattered throughout the land.

The crops will grow big and strong. For this is the time of the latter rains. As it is in the natural, so it is in the spiritual. The heavens have opened. As we walk into the village, 'Father, what is your word for these, your people?' 'The Former and Latter Rain.'

The drums are beckoning us to come closer. Everyone is waiting. The time and place ordained since before the beginning of time had come.

It is a special moment. We take off our shoes and enter. Three rooms are filled with people of different ages. Together we worship the creator of heaven and earth and all things good. Moving freely amongst the people, we soak in the moment. It is a powerful time of drinking freely the continual outpouring of the latter rains.

Father, it is so clear. In times past you sent the first rains. Even though hearts were not yet ready, you still sent your rains. You plough the fields and pursue in love. You wait and wait and wait for people to be ready. Till the time is just right. Now is such a time.

They confirm that everything we said was true and testify.

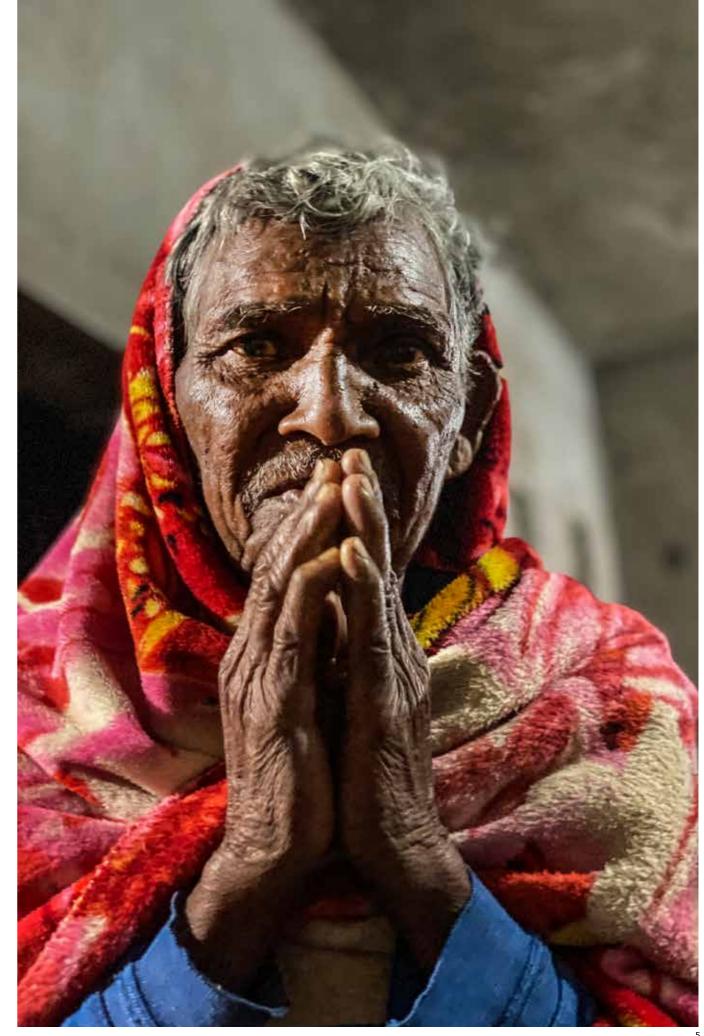
'This is so powerful, for when Jesus returns it is harvest time. Together with Him we have an eternal festival.'

What an incredible honour and privilege we have to live in this time of the second rain. To sow into hearts that are ready, hearts that are soft and willing to surrender daily and receive.

Another testifies, 'I learnt how God's timing is perfect.'

As the day draws to a close, we thank you Father for a time such as this. The time of your latter rain.

> 'The second rain resonated so much with us. In our culture we have the two rains. The first for the land and the second for the crops to grow strong and healthy. After the harvest we have big festival time. We thank God that now is the time of the second rain.'



It is a new day. Evening has come. We return to the same village of the night before. Father, what is your word for these precious people? 'Tell them, FREEDOM!' Thank you Father, I hear your voice and see the letters of freedom so strong and powerful. 'What does freedom mean to you? I want you to tell them.' Okay Father. Freedom to me means... freedom to be loved and freedom to love. Yes Father, I will certainly tell them.

The message is complete. The moment of surrender has come.

To the one who is feeling unworthy to walk into God's throne room, unworthy to sit on the Father's lap and let Him embrace you, just give that feeling of unworthiness to Jesus. Jesus has made you worthy.

For those who have much hurt and pain in their heart after someone has done you wrong, give that hurt and pain to Jesus. Gentle sobbing permeates the silence.

To the one who wants to feel closer to God. As we heard from sister, He grows the good and takes away the bad. Give that good desire to Jesus. There are more tears.

To those who are trying to earn the respect, love and honour of another. Let go of the struggle and give it to Jesus.

To the one who used to feel God's presence, but now there is no feeling. Just give it to Jesus.

To the one who is frustrated — you have prayed and prayed, but you have not seen the answer. You are disappointed and that is okay. Just give it to Jesus. Be real with Him.

There is a crescendo of voices! Freedom in surrender! Victory in surrender!

To the one on the mountain top with victory crowns, give the all to Jesus. All glory and majesty to the king and God our Father in heaven.

Then silence.



## A gentle voice starts singing in their heart language. I know that song

A gentle voice starts singing in their heart language. I know that song. It takes me back to many times and many places in this moment of surrender. It is the beautiful sound of hearts singing, 'I surrender all.'

There is a gentle, yet powerful Spirit of God in every moment of surrender.

Thank you Father, thank you. You meet each one right where they are at. You know just what each one needs.

For it is true. In love and identity, there is freedom. In freedom and surrender, there is victory. Our Father is always working, pouring out the former and latter rains.





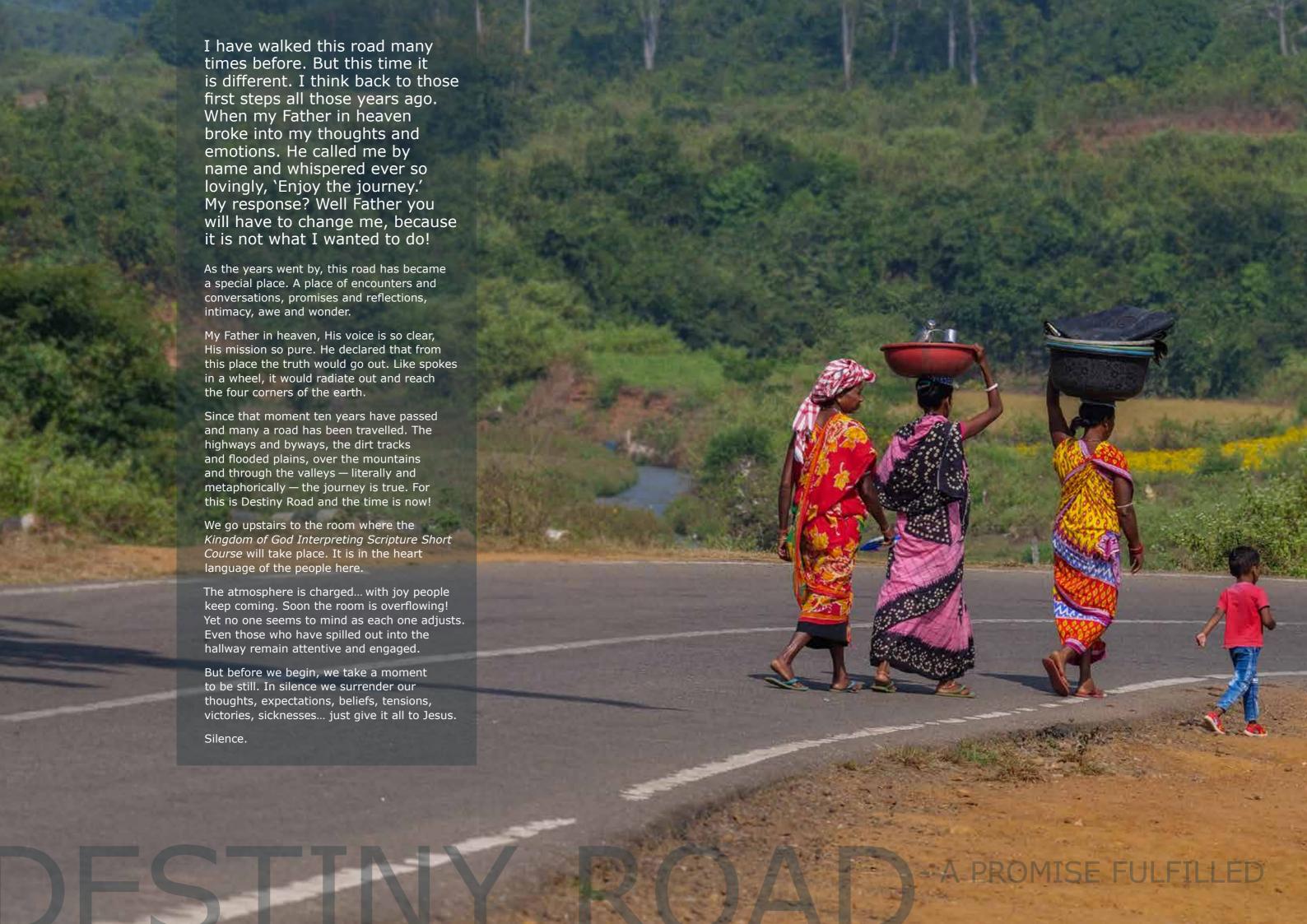
Together we testify.

'God is always pouring out His spiritual rain. We now live in this time of the second rain.'

'I learnt God is my Father and Jesus is my brother, my big brother. As my big brother He is someone who will always stick by you.'

'For me I really like how God doesn't cut us off, but instead He is cutting out the guilt and shame we carry.'

'The big thing for me was that God reminded me that I am to come to Him as a little child and take ownership of all that He has given.'



Father in heaven, your will be done. By your Spirit refresh us. Give us new eyes to see the unseen. To see your eyes of fire, your passion that burns for us. That we may see the jewels in your love story to us. Oh Lord, teach us. Help us to see, help us to hear, help us to be, help us to receive freely from you, in Jesus' name, amen.

So let the sessions begin!

As we journey through the first session many revelations are there. One by one people excitedly testify.

'I have learnt to ask the six questions of scripture. That is, who, how, where, when, why, what? When searching the Bible to find the answers to these questions, before we ask them, we need to surrender to God.'

'I used to think that God would say to us,
'Depart from me, I never knew you.' But
now going through the scripture, asking
the six questions, I understand that God
will never say that to us as He was talking
about false prophets. Hallelujah!'

Another joins in.

'I learnt the Secret of Success. How each day we need to take a moment to surrender and receive. As the Living Waters are coming from heaven we have to drink each day. Just as the tree drinks and eats through its roots, just like that we should be in God. As we say yes to Jesus we are His branch. Surrendered to God, He will bear much fruit in us. Every day we need to surrender to God and whatever His will is. He shares it with us, and whatever we receive from God, we share this with others.'

This is indeed a moment to treasure. Not only is each one catching the teaching for their personal life journey, but they are inspired and empowered to take the fullness of the truth to others. Thank you, Father. Just as you declared it all those years ago, let it be.

'I came to know the Father's word and heart, and that surrender is the will of God for us to be free.' As we walk down Destiny Road together, the testimony is true.

'When I heard that Jesus' commands become promises that He fulfils, this was a really good reminder to me to be at rest in Him. As not only will He enable us to love one another, but He will enable us to surrender to Him and be in His will. It was clear that when we read the scripture from a human perspective, commands are rules for us to follow. But when we receive God's heart and read it from His perspective, we can understand it in a completely different way. The way God intended.'

This was the evening of the first day.

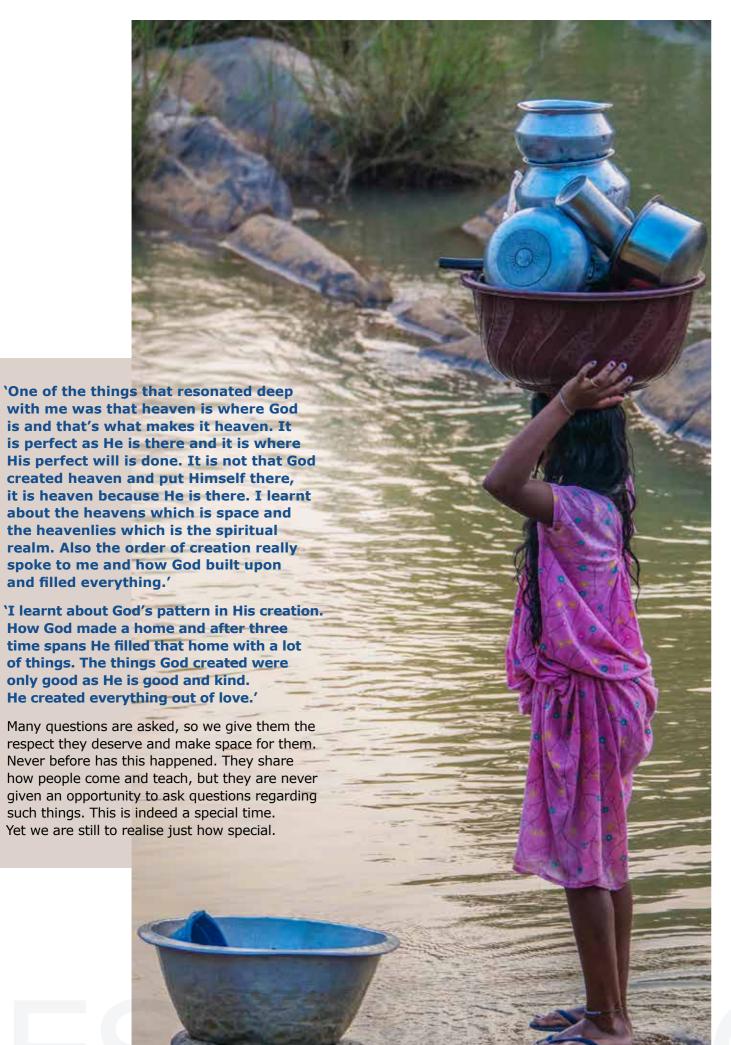
With a new dawn the second morning has come and we continue on.

So many facets of the jewels in God's love story to us are revealed. With great joy, again people testify.

'In God's kingdom, His commands He will do in the people as they surrender to the King.'

'All things are new and I am enjoying it greatly. Personally I have received much, especially the timeline of when things happened. When this description and illustration was given, everyone was in silence and amazed.'





Today's sessions are complete. The evening will be another sacred moment in time. For we will worship together, break bread and pour the juice, enjoying the honour and privilege of partaking together.

It is time. The word is spoken. The bread and the juice are shared. Father, may I treasure these moments just as you treasure them. Your presence is so gentle, beautiful and glorious.

This was the evening of the second day.

The third morning of a new dawn has come and we continue on... it's our last day for this course.

The testimonies are true.

'During this teaching I had so many questions. At every word I felt so excited in my heart. I asked why am I feeling like this? Why am I asking so many questions? That evening I went down to the river for a very special ceremonial celebration. For I now know why I was asking so many questions and why I felt so excited. My moment has come. Now I have such peace in my heart. I am so very, very happy.'

'When I heard that Jesus made such a sacrifice of His life and placed that value on me, that went very deep in my heart. Tears came for the first time. So I too went down to the river for my special moment.'

It was a sacred time ordained before the world was created. Lives transformed and empowered to go and share with others. Their testimonies are true. Thank you Father, that you fulfil all your promises of so many years ago. I too testify. A new dawn has come. It is now evening of the seventh day.

People come and people go, along this life journey of Destiny Road. There are still those who have yet to find it, but our Father in heaven knows each one by name. To those who are searching, the Son is the one who holds their destiny in His hands.

All are invited to come on the daily walk of surrender and receive. Where much fruit is produced by the creator of heaven and earth and all things good. For such is the journey along Destiny Road.

'I learnt that God has given everything for us and did everything for us. This makes me feel so loved.'





'From the Kingdom of God Ephesians Bible Study,
I learnt what being a witness for Jesus is. It is not
a work or anything I do. But it is His work in me,
His transformation in me. Even love for others is
His love in me. This truth was very liberating for
me as the truth sets us free.'

'The acceptance and awareness and experience of journeying through the *Kingdom of God Ephesians Bible Study* has enabled me to live in the reality of God's love. During a difficult situation this week, I had a greater awareness of His love.'

'When writing Ephesians Paul is going through tribulations, yet he is reminding the believers of who they are in Christ, what they have in Him and ultimately God's love for them. He is encouraging them not to focus on the circumstances. This part particularly spoke to me — not to withdraw from God when troubles in life come. Paul is explaining to them the trials of this world don't discount the truth of the gospel. He wants them to stay strong and not be discouraged. And he knows the only way this can happen is by understanding the fullness of God's love for them. Understanding this gives Paul's prayers in Ephesians a much richer meaning to me.'

## ASTERIES PHESIANS

'In my quiet times this week, knowing and receiving the revelation that I'm accepted in the beloved, enabled me to enter into that intimacy with God the Father that Jesus has much easier.'

'With life's challenges and people dynamics I actually withdraw, so it is good to think about this and know how I can approach this with God's help, living in the imbalances of relationships. It makes complete sense to me that Paul is not saying that any of these relationships of imbalance are okay, instead he is saying in them there is still a way for us to live as God's kingdom on earth, even in the stuff of this world.'

'What stood out to me was that with this world as it is, there is separation and problems between different people groups and levels in society. But it is very clear that with Jesus as the centre or head, living in His love not ours, that unity and removal of issues is possible. I was also reminded about how God's love is pure and it is not like human love. God's love is not driven by power or self.'





## ISCHPIES FIRM

The surrender and receive practical was a special time.

Others testify too: 'I surrendered my stress to God. Immediately He took the stress and I received His peace. I'm so happy.'

All of this is so new for us. We understand that we are to journey through the *Kingdom of God Discipleship Program* with others, just as they are doing with us. I observe the way they give us opportunity, how they honour and respect all our answers and questions.

They give us the time to share about what we have learnt from the first sessions. For me, as well as the tree, the drama of how God works in every disciple in making disciples and reaching the lost was also very special. It was so clear and we have received this with deep understanding. As I listen to each one testifying, I realise there is much that we have received.

'I learnt all the different ways God speaks to us. He reveals Himself through so many different ways.'

'For me I came to know that prayer and worship are fellowship with God. Described as a heart to heart connection, God and us.'

'God is a miracle working God.'

'I learnt that from the throne of God, He is pouring out His spiritual rain. When connected to Jesus, I understood how we can drink and receive freely. How we can bear fruit, as we surrender our self will, He produces the fruit in us.'

We are so excited for these things. So overnight in our own time we complete session one. Now for session two.

To begin, again we are asked a question. What does a wheel mean to us? We give answers, eternity, life, no beginning and no end, movement, so many things are there. We go to the vision of heaven given to Ezekiel.

We ask questions of the scripture. I can sense that all confusion about this passage is fading away. Until now I never understood this scripture. I now have true meaning and the revelation of the one who created. He is eternal, no beginning and no end. Above time so He is not a limited God. He is eternal and moving over all the earth.

Another testifies: 'Even though we live in a country that does not acknowledge the eternal God, it is very meaningful to me that, like Ezekiel, we can hear from God and speak for God and reveal Him to those who have yet to experience Him.'

Then another: 'The oneness of God, that He is a God of all people. His eyes are upon all people everywhere. I'm so impressed about discovering this.'



I think on the six questions for scripture. This is so empowering that we can all ask those questions after reading the scripture, to help find true meaning, God's meaning. I'm so happy.

Now it is the final day. They inform us we will jump ahead to the two workshops in the *Kingdom of God Discipleship Program*. Session 9 and 13 in our workbooks.

In the four cards workshop I went back to my childhood days, my mum, my grandmother, my grandfather... it was like a swing back and forth, back and forth to my childhood and back to here. I can see how powerful this workshop is. I thank God. It was super!

When we did the 10 seeds practical I was so impacted by the way each one was treated equally, regardless of their social status. It became clear we did not do the same. Even though we were supposed to give equal respect to each other, we only told those who we knew were leaders in our community. This was very confronting for some of us.

Another precious moment was when one of our sisters was sharing how she felt the community did not think she was of any value. Tears were coming. She expressed her hurt and pain. None of us knew what to do, so we sat motionless. But immediately when one from the jesus loves: the world team saw her they came to her, bent down and hugged her. It was a powerful moment for all of us. We humbly surrendered ourselves and did the 10 seeds practical again. Each one was given equal respect and the opportunity to express their heartfelt experiences.

Now it was time for us to share summary points from the workshops. How can we help those who feel the community sees them of 'no value' or of 'some value', to feel the community sees them of 'high value'? One thought from our group was to show them love, just as was shown to us today to our sister. So when someone is in oppression and depression, we can go to spend time with them. Give equal respect.

We are assured all this is a work of God as we simply surrender and receive. So many more things we have received, observed and learnt about God, ourselves and each other.

It is a time of two opposites. For it was sad to say farewell, but a joyous time as we continue our journey of discovery through the *Kingdom of God Discipleship Program*. We are empowered to journey with others. Just like in the drama, knowing it is all a work of God, and to Him all the glory.

'I realised it is God who gives us eyes to see the unseen and to see with His eyes of love.' 'My gospel of peace and compassion binds the hurts of this life journey. It is what brings healing and wholeness.' - God

'It stood out to me the last part of *The Mystery of the Latter Rain Part 1*, that God pours out His spirit on all people. That's all people, from all socioeconomic backgrounds, ethnicities, and standing in society. So it is important for all of us to hear and receive that.'

'It was great listening to the jesus loves: the world podcast *The New Covenant — Remember Me*, learning how the Old and New Testaments were brought together with the Passover. Bringing clarity that death passed over the door with blood, and with Jesus' blood we are passed over from death to life. It was really beautiful.'

'Listening to the jesus loves: the world The Spiritual Gifts and The Gift Giver podcast this morning, the following was really clear to me: Salvation happens in an instant when we receive Jesus, receive God. But transformation is an ongoing process. We can be saved but still be trapped in our selfish desires. We need to surrender these to God daily to be continually transformed to be more like Him. Spiritual gifts are given to enable members of the body of Christ to minister and reveal God to others. It is all about God, His love, and how and who He wants to reveal Himself to, not the one who has been given the gifts. It is very freeing to not be concerned about what gifts I do or don't have, or when and where to use them. Instead I surrender my focus on self and receive God's heart of wanting to reach out and bless someone else.'

'I am a regular listener and subscriber of the jesus loves: the world podcasts. Through listening to them I came to know that God in the Old Testament is not saying I will do this to you and that to you. It is more like that He knows our nature, what we will do and how we will react. This is changing the picture of God for me, in that He is not judging or creating problems. I realised He is not the problem, we, humanity, are the problem. So the more He works in me, the more I know Him. The more I know His love for me and what I need.'

'When listening to the jesus loves: the world podcast To Know God it resonated with me that the ultimate prize is to know Jesus. How amazing He is that the fellowship of His sufferings is to know and understand how He suffered so that we don't have to suffer. That we can live in the hope of the eternal glory that He has for us to share with Him.'

Each week through the highways and byways the gospel of peace goes out to the ends of the earth. To subscribers and listeners, God is bringing revelation and inspiration, healing and wholeness, peace and transformation. Here are some of their stories. God's story in our story, our story in His story. He is indeed in every step.

LISTENIN(

AT THE FEET

MASTE



'I had always been taught that the Ancient Israelites were complainers, but listening to the jesus loves: the world podcast series on the *Miracles of the Wilderness Journey*, the situations were not about being bothersome complainers. It was all about allegiance. Some of the people complained about having no meat, and Moses complained about the burden of these people, saying he could not bear them alone. God gave them both what they asked for. The people who wanted meat also wanted to be back in Egypt, and were rejecting God and His deliverance. They despised the LORD. So God gave them meat but with it came a plague. Just as what occurred in Egypt, the people were affected by the plagues if they chose to align themselves with the gods of Egypt and be one with their judgement.

I was really surprised how in part one they clearly said they would've preferred to have died and received the same judgement as the gods of Egypt. Moses too complained but in response God gave him many helpers who were given and carried God's Spirit. It became clear to me it is all about allegiance.'



'I loved the jesus loves: the world podcast titled Discerning the Voices, especially the insight on discerning Satan and God's voice. I loved the examples of exposing the lies and the truth of what is of the Father and how we can abide forever with Him.'



'Listening to the jesus loves: the world podcast Be Transformed from Glory to Glory, the following stood out to me: God will never reject us. I understand that when we receive Jesus, receive God, we receive His Holy Spirit. He makes His home in us and lives in us. So when listening to the podcast I could receive that God will therefore never reject those who have received Him because He can't deny Himself. He can't deny His Spirit in us. I feel knowing this truth and understanding the 'why' behind why He can never reject us will help me (and others!) if and when the doubts come.

It was also clear to me that being transformed from glory to glory is a daily journey. And that it's the Father's will that we are transformed — completely free of all the stuff of this world. We can live in this reality by daily surrendering our will to that of the Father's will and receive more of Him. Listening to Be Transformed from Glory to Glory helped me see the peace that Jesus has in what he does, and to ask him to help me to live in that peace.'



'The Miracles of the Wilderness Journey Part 2 — Manna from Heaven, Water from a Rock. When listening to this podcast the contrast between the ancient Israelites and Moses really touched me. The ancient Israelites wanted to be back in the captivity of Egypt, back in the captivity of the rulers and powers that had been revealed to be evil. They wanted that and the delicacies offered there to feed their flesh rather than to be with God and only good in the wilderness.

In contrast, Moses had chosen to leave the palace life and pursue God and His presence. Later he would say to God that we won't go if your presence doesn't go with us. The contrast is so distinct between choosing to pursue our flesh and ultimately evil and God and only good. Thank you Lord that you are more than enough. It is better to be with you in the wilderness than in the world trapped in our selfish desires.'