Thank God for Expiry Dates

William Marais 17 March 2016



God has a unique story and plan for your life, BUT the devil wants to block it at all costs. Romans 15:18 says, 'I will not venture to speak of anything what God our Father has done through another – except what Christ has accomplished through me.' The fact is that God wants us to progress and experience breakthrough (both in the natural and spiritual realm), but along with this fact is the truth that before breakthrough comes, we will often experience resistance, confrontation and frustration. Unfortunately, what I've experienced prior to finding breakthrough in life is: 'With each different level, there's a different devil'. But it doesn't end there. The encouragement is that **every** difficult time has a God-ordained expiry date. It won't last forever and we will eventually break through.

> ...it is the will of God for us to break through in EVERY area of our lives.

In our second year of marriage, Pam and I needed a little 2-bedroom flat for the arrival of our first baby, Lara. The Lord soon spoke to me and assured me that, as I remained faithful and faith-filled, He would create a breakthrough in this area. The promise came to me from Paul's letter to the church in Philippi: 'And my God will meet all your needs' (Philippians 4:19). Later that week, while visiting Pam's folks in Milnerton, I went for a walk up their road and distinctly heard

the Holy Spirit telling me to enter a small block of flats, to go upstairs to number 6, and to ask if the flat was to rent. The young lady who answered the door told me that her husband's firm had just phoned, and that they were being transferred and would need someone to take over the occupancy within the next week. It was a rent-controlled flat (the rent was legally bound to a minimum amount) with two bedrooms—exactly what we needed. Our circumstance had been met by God's provision and breakthrough had come.

What was the Process to Our Breakthrough?

1. I initiated the breakthrough by letting God know of my need.
2. God gave His Word and I 'took Him at His word'.
3. I remained expectant and open to the Holy Spirit's guidance.
4. God acted on our behalf and breakthrough came.

Please know that it is the will of God for us to break through in EVERY area of our lives. Why?

- So that we can **accomplish His plan**
- So that we can **reveal His Kingdom**
- To **bring Him glory**
- To **give others hope**

This is why the enemy wants to exhaust you in the trial—he wants you to lose heart and hope. In Psalm 27:13-14, David the Psalmist said, 'I almost lost heart had I not believe that I will again see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.' Don't just stay in the faith, but more importantly, don't give up the fight.

> The secret to breakthrough is knowing what God wants me to break through into.

Many have no idea of their destinies in God and many don't get into the Word to allow God the opportunity to give them specific guidance. And still others are just content to let things happen. They don't take God at His word or live in the reality of truth that God will honour His word, always. They miss out on breakthrough. The secret to breakthrough is knowing what God wants me to break through into. You need to ask God first, and then 'put it out there'.

Questions to Ask Myself

- Do I have a dream or hope?

- Have I written it down?
- Do I pray over it daily?
- Do I ask God to give me His wisdom daily to see it materialise?
- Am I intentional about breaking through?
- Do I know that God's presence and power will accomplish His purpose, which I believe is my dream for my life?

Go for it, trust God for breakthrough, keep trusting when it gets tough, and see that tough time 'expiry date' come sooner than you think!