

voice of **Impact**

WE ARE RAISED TO RAISE • WE ARE LIFTED TO BE LIFTERS • WE ARE BLESSED TO BE CHANNELS OF BLESSING

September, 2016



THIS **KINGDOM**





mercyHall

A PLACE OF GOD'S ENDURING MERCY...

**we are a people victorious
on earth
and prepared for Heaven**

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Katy, TX 77494
Tel: 281-317-4022
website: <http://www.rccgmercyhall.org/>

Join us

- + Every Sunday
CELEBRATION SERVICE -9:30am
- + Every Tuesday + Every Thursday
BIBLE STUDY -7pm FAITH CLINIC -7pm
- + The First 3 Days of the month
FIRE FROM HEAVEN SUMMIT - 7pm
- + Last Friday of the month
HOLY GHOST NIGHT -10pm
- + Every Night -10pm (CT)
MERCY PRAYER LINE 1559 546 1000
Access Code 963264#

12noon Central Time

Everyday **Except Sundays:**

(641)715-3276 Code 963264#

10pm Central Time Everyday

Including Sundays:

(518) 530-1840 Code 563690720#

we praise we pray we preach



W E L C O M E

It is with great joy of THIS KINGDOM and AMAZING GRACE of the Almighty God that we present this very special edition of VOICE OF IMPACT to you.

We thank God for His great doings in our lives and our midst in Mercy Hall.

So much has happened since the last edition that we cannot present all, please bear with us as we can only present those we can't but bring out here.

The Mighty Men of Mercy had their annual conference with the theme HIS WORKMANSHIP, it was a great time in God's presence and we congratulate our Men. Our Teenagers and Children had their maiden TEENS AND CHILDREN'S week as we all celebrated THE KINGDOM CHILD.

The Women of Impact came out powerfully in the Month of May with the theme THIS KINGDOM. We are grateful to God for IMPACTFUL and life transforming conferences. We pray that the blessings of these programmes will remain with us forever.

We have had several celebrations in the house....wedding, wedding anniversaries, graduations, birthdays etc we congratulate all our brethren and we want to specially celebrated with our Pastor Innocent Utulu on attaining the Golden age.

So beloved, we bring you some messages preached and specially written on the theme of the conferences we have had.

The high point of it all is that this vision, Church, family of God and gathering of

A PEOPLE VICTORIOUS ON EARTH AND PREPARED FOR HEAVEN.....RCCG MERCYHALL turns five in this Month of September. Wao, our God is Awesome. He has done great things in our midst and we rejoice greatly. We celebrate Gods GRACE AND MERCY as we gather to celebrate MERCYHALL @ five with the Theme AMAZING GRACE.

Once again, with the joy of The Lord in our heart we present to you this special edition of VOICE OF IMPACT. Enjoy the content and be blessed.

MARANATHA!!!



OUR ANTHEM

I am Going Higher Yes I am
I am Going Higher This Year (2x)
I am Going Above The Shadow
Into The Realm Of Greatness
I am Going Higher Yes I am
I am Going Higher This Year

I am Gong Higher (3x)
Very Great, Exceedingly Great

We Are Going Higher.....

You Are Going Higher.....



CELEBRATING *mercyhall*



We give all the glory to the Almighty God who alone deserves all the praise, worship, honor, adoration and thanksgiving for giving us the privilege to celebrate five years of Grace and Mercy in RCCG MERCYHALL.

Indeed the amazing grace of Jehovah God has brought us this far.

Mercyhall is that little grain of mustard seed sown which the breath of God came upon, watered by sacrifices of faithful saints and the Almighty kept giving increase. 1Cor 3:6. "I have planted, Apollos watered: but God gave the increase. The Church of God RCCG MERCYHALL has survived various stages of development and all forms of weather conditions, In all our testimony is that WE ARE KEPT BY THE POWER OF THE LORD. WE ARE KEPT BY THE POWER OF GRACE AND MERCY.

God began to do glorious things right from start of this Church, great heights were attained but not to the joy of the devil as we all know he is the enemy of the Church, especially

where the uncompromising truth of the Word of God is preached without fear or Favour. But in all we are VICTORIOUS AND MORE THAN CONQUERORS THROUGH CHRIST OUR LORD.

Beloved, the journey continues, we are just starting or do I say about to start, this is still a beginning.

Thanking you all faithful Children of God, home and abroad, known and unknown, visible or not, recognized or not, who have been part of this great work, We pray for you that Jehovah will honour your sacrifices. God will remember all your labour of love and reward you accordingly. The Lord will continually remember your offering and sacrifices and may your offerings and sacrifices keep speaking for you before the Almighty God. You are blessed.

We encourage you not to relent, keep working for God. Keep doing what God has called you to do. Continue to be faithful even in little and you are sure your reward is guaranteed. 1 Cor 15:58 " therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of The Lord, for as much as ye know that your labour is not in vain in The Lord."

We congratulate everyone of us, happy celebration, happy Anniversary as we remain A PEOPLE VICTORIOUS ON EARTH AND PREPARED FOR HEAVEN.

MARANATHA!!!

THIS KINGDOM



By Christy Innocent- Utulu

Matthew 6:9-13

"After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen."

Verse 9-13(a) are actualized by the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory.

The disciples of Jesus requested that the master teach them how to pray and he did as recorded in the above scriptures. The content of the prayer shows the desire of Jesus concerning his disciples, as the words "kingdom" and "Heaven" were mentioned twice and still indirectly referred to in the Lord's prayer. This For me tells us how engrossed Jesus wants us to be in matters of the Kingdom.

What is KINGDOM?

It is the domain of a King where He exercises influence and power. You can call it the sphere of influence of a King

In this write up, the Kingdom we are talking about is the Kingdom of God.

In THIS KINGDOM, there are allowables and non allowables.

KINGDOM ALLOWABLES

1. Rom 14:17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

(CEV) God's kingdom isn't about eating and drinking. It is about pleasing God, about living in peace, and about true happiness. All this comes from the Holy Spirit.

(GNB) For God's Kingdom is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of the righteousness, peace, and joy which the Holy Spirit gives.

From the above Scripture, we can see the features of This Kingdom we belong to.....

-Righteousness: Holiness is the watch word. There is power over sin, power to please God. We are to live above sin.

-Unspeakable peace: Peace that passes all human understanding is given to us by God.

-Joy in the Holy Ghost: The joy of The Lord is our portion in this Kingdom.

2. Col 1:13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

(AMP) [The Father] has delivered and drawn us to Himself out of the control and the dominion of darkness and has transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

(GNB) He rescued us from the power of darkness and brought us safe into the kingdom of his dear Son,

The second allowable in This Kingdom is.....

-Deliverance: we are delivered and set free through this Kingdom and deliverance is made available to us as we call upon the name Jesus.

Demonic activities are not allowed or permitted. Every operation of forces of darkness is not allowed. Manipulations by forces of darkness are not allowed. Dominion by forces of darkness is alien to this Kingdom.

2Tim 4:18 And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and

ever. Amen.

(AMP) [And indeed] the Lord will certainly deliver and draw me to Himself from every assault of evil. He will preserve and bring me safe unto His heavenly kingdom. To Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen (so be it).

(GW) The Lord will rescue me from all harm and will take me safely to his heavenly kingdom. Glory belongs to him forever! Amen.

(NLT) Yes, and the Lord will deliver me from every evil attack and will bring me safely into His heavenly Kingdom. All glory to God forever and ever! Amen.

In this Kingdom, The things that harm are not found there:

There is deliverance from everything that harms destinies and lives: Sicknesses and diseases, Poverty, Barrenness, Depression, Evil attacks, And all forms of evil assaults.

4. Heb 12:28 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:

Heb 12:28 Let us therefore, receiving a kingdom that is firm and stable and cannot be shaken, offer to God pleasing service and acceptable worship, with modesty and pious care and godly fear and awe;

(MSG) Do you see what we've got? An unshakable kingdom! And do you see how thankful we must be? Not only thankful, but brimming with worship, deeply reverent before God. For God is not an indifferent bystander.

Further allowables and characteristics of This Kingdom we are talking about as enumerated in the above scripture is that we are partakers of an Unshakable, Settled, Stable, Firm kingdom. We have a kingdom not subject to variables, No setbacks, No retrogression.

Now, the allowables in the Kingdom of God are maintained, sustained and kept by the Power of the King of the Kingdom, The Lord Jesus Christ. While the non allowables are expunged or

expelled by the same power of the King of the kingdom. Anything not permitted in the Kingdom is dealt with by the power of the King.

TAKE NOTE....One significant component of the Kingdom is power. POWER is force, ability, might, violence, strength.

1Co 4:20 For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power.

The Kingdom is sustained and secured by power, and if you will you can call it violence.

Force is required to maintain the Kingdom.

Psa 24:7- 10 "Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory."

THE GLORY

The moment the kingdom is secured by power and all the allowables are sustained and non allowables are expelled by power of the King, The glory of the Kingdom will begin to show forth because everything that would have tarnished the glory of the Kingdom has been taken care of by the power of the King. Say to yourself now and declare with a loud voice "" ANYTHING NOT PERMITTED IN THE KINGDOM IS NOT PERMITTED IN MY LIFE"

The kingdom is full of glory, beauty, joy and every good thing and blessings you can think of.

BRINGING IT DOWN HOME and understanding the more how this relates to you, the bible says in luk17:20 And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.

(AMP) Nor will people say, Look! Here [it is]! or, See, [it is] there! For behold, the kingdom of God is within you [in your hearts] and among you [surrounding you].

Also the book of Daniel 7:18 says But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever. (CEV) But God Most High will give his kingdom to his chosen ones, and it will be theirs forever and ever."

We can see clearly from the scriptures above that

1. The Kingdom of God is within you.
2. The Kingdom has been given to you
3. You represent and personify the kingdom

Therefore, by implication, everything that is allowable in the Kingdom must be or is expected to be present in your life

The glory of the Kingdom of God is expected to be found in you and in your affairs.

And everything not allowable in the Kingdom must not be seen or found in your life. In fact, everything that will not allow the glory of the Kingdom to be made manifest in your life must not be present in you.

If in any way they make their way into your life,

the power of the Kingdom will forcefully remove them, deliverance is available to you. Name it, is it Sickness, Diseases, Poverty, Barrenness, Demonic attacks or manipulation, Retrogression, Near misses (I nearly got it syndrome), operation of Evil covenants running through your family, all forms of attack physically or in the dream, Curses or evil pronouncements against your destiny, Secret satanic conspiracy against your destiny, Lack of focus, Lack of the manifestation of greatness and whatever, They must be taken care of by the power of the King so that the glory of the Kingdom can begin to show forth upon your life.

Therefore rise up, and begin to pray now. Start by worshiping the king of the Kingdom and then begin to ask everything NOT allowed in the kingdom to leave your life. Ask that all the allowables in the kingdom begin to manifest in a great dimension. AMEN.

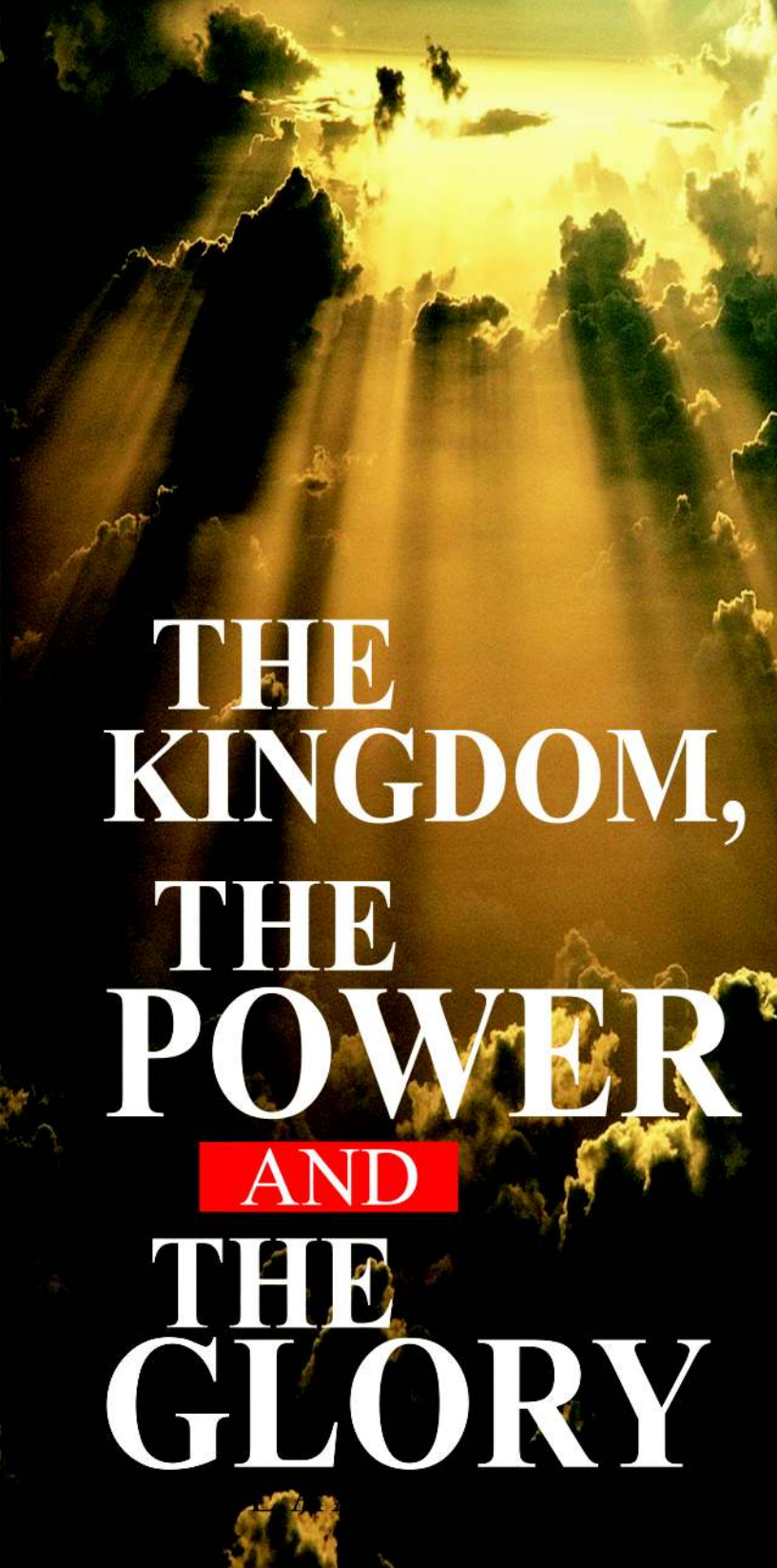
MARANATHA !!!

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THE KINGDOM, THE POWER AND THE GLORY

The word KINGDOM is a combination of two words -KING and DOMAIN, or the King's domain.

KING, in this context, refers to the King of kings.
“And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a

name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS” Revelation 19: 16 KJV.

Our Lord here is referred to as the ruler of all the kings of the world and all the subjects in the kingdom of Jesus Christ are royalties. If you accept him as your king and your Lord, you become a king and a lord. We are not kings by election, so we cannot be voted out of office. We are kings by the appointment of the most high; we are kings forever. Whatever is true of our Lord, would be true of us, because we are kings.

DOMAIN is the area of authority of the king. The area where the king is recognized, where the word of the king is lord, where the king has absolute control. Psalms 24:1 says that the earth is the Lord's. Since Nigeria is part of the domain of the King of kings, the Lord has control over the affairs and people of Nigeria.

Isaiah 66: 1b says that heaven is his throne and the earth is his footstool. That is to say, that God's headquarters is in heaven and heaven is part of his domain. “That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth”. Philippians 2: 10 KJV. The domain of the King of Kings includes heaven, earth and under the earth. His domain covers the entire universe.

POWER is defined, scientifically, as the rate of doing work, where $WORK = LOAD \times DISTANCE$. Work can be done either fast or slowly and the one who can do the work faster has greater power, which explains why the horse is more powerful than the donkey. In Acts 1: 8, the Lord told his disciples that they would receive power when the Holy Spirit had come upon them, before they would be able to witness for him. Similarly, we need the power that only the Holy Spirit would supply, for us to do the kingdom work. That was why Jesus instructed his disciples, in Luke 24: 49, to remain in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit had filled them with power from heaven. He also told them that the Holy Spirit would not come, until he had gone to join his father in heaven (John 16: 7). All the time Jesus was on earth, every work he did, he did under the power of the Holy Spirit (Acts 10: 38). So, the link between the kingdom and the power is found in 1 Corinthians 4: 20,

which states that “for the Kingdom of God is not in word, but in power.” To have a successful ministry, it has to be a power ministry. That was why Jesus told the nobleman who had come to Cana of Galilee and besought Jesus to come to Capernaum to heal his sick son, who was at the point of death: “Then said Jesus unto him, except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe” (John 4: 48 KJV). In 1 Corinthians 2: 4,5, Apostle Paul said he had made his message very simple; he had not used clever and persuasive words, but had relied only on the power of the Holy Spirit. He had done so, to teach them not to trust in human wisdom, but in the power of the Holy Spirit. If you want people to come to the Kingdom of God, they would need to be set free and only the power that comes from God can set them free. 1 Thessalonians 1: 5(b) says the gospel of Jesus was preached, not only in words, but in power and in the Holy Spirit. In John 4: 39-41, Jesus operating in the power of the Holy Spirit which gives knowledge, was able to tell the Samaritan woman at the well side her life history, many believed and were saved. Also in Acts 8: 5-8, Philip went to Samaria and preached the gospel to them. They witnessed signs and wonders, healing, deliverances and the people believed, rejoiced greatly and turned to Christ because of the manifestation of the power of God. My advice, to operate a successful ministry, you would need to spend time with the Holy Spirit and get plugged into the socket of the power from the Holy Spirit.

GLORY is shining beauty or beauty that shines. During the transfiguration of Jesus, his face shone as the sun and his clothes were white as light (Matthew 17: 1,2). Jesus is immortal and dwells in the light and glory of God, which no man can approach unto (1 Timothy 6: 14,16). That is why Jesus has promised to come take us himself when it is time for us to go home, so we can be where he is with God, because on our own, we would not be able to approach the glory of God.

GLORY OF GOD. What, then, is the basis of the glory of God? It is his holiness. In the book of

Exodus, Moses and the children of Israel sang this song of praise after God drowned Pharaoh and his host in the sea: “Who is like unto thee, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders? (Exodus 15: 11 KJV). The holiness of the Almighty God is the foundation of his glory. The link between the kingdom and the glory is found in Revelation 21: 27, which says nothing impure would be allowed to enter the Kingdom of God. Absolute purity, or absolute holiness is the rule in the Kingdom of God. The glory of God is the source of light in the Kingdom of God.

What, then, is the link between the power and the glory? The very basis of power is holiness. If you want power that comes from God, you must be holy. “You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore, God your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy” (Hebrews 1: 9NIV). Many people pray for power, when they should be praying for the grace to live holy. Once you are holy, every other thing would fall into place. In Deuteronomy 28: 1-14, the Lord has promised us he would not afflict us with any of the diseases he sent on the Egyptians, that is to say, divine health. He has also promised us unmeasurable blessing, so much, that blessing would pursue and overtake us, if we are holy. In order for the Almighty God to show that this is the one he approves of, when you are living a life of holiness, he would cause people and strangers to bless you. But, if you start to eat what you should not eat, or to use your wisdom instead of the wisdom of God, then he would show you he could reduce the wisdom of the wise to nothing, or foolishness.

I once reminded God that He said the works He did while on earth, I could also do. How could I accomplish this? God answered that I should be holy, because when God's current wants to flow, it can only flow through a clean channel. So if you desire the power and glory of the kingdom, you must be holy. I pray that God will give you the grace to live Holy in Jesus name.



// And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. "And he said unto them, **How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" Lk 2:48-49**

Our Lord Jesus Christ in the above scripture referred to the work God sent Him to do as His Father's business.

Following the example of Jesus, as citizens of God's Kingdom, whatsoever assignment God gives us, or any responsibility committed into our hands in the vineyard of God which is also the Kingdom of God is the king's business.

Referring to assignments given to us as business did not even start from the time of Jesus' ministry on Earth, successful servants, loyal servants and citizens of the kingdom have this same knowledge. In 1 Sam 2:2 "...And David said unto Ahimelech the priest, The king hath commanded me a business. In other translations of the bible it is put this way.....

"I am here on the king's business," [GND]

"The king gave me a special order. (NCV)

Amazingly in our generation and in modern day Christianity, many Christians, workers, ministers

and helpers in God's vineyard do not put in same level of commitment, attention, dedication they put into their circular business into the work of God.

The question for you as you read this article is how do you see that assignment given to you by God and how do you handle it.

No assignment given to you in God's Kingdom is too little, every assignment must be taken with the level of commitment that God expects. Whatsoever you do in this Kingdom must be done with all seriousness and handled as a Business which it is.

We see another example in the Apostles of old, they Knew that the work of God must be handled with all seriousness as a business as they carefully, prayerfully and with all seriousness appointed people to serve food in Acts 6: 3 " ... Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business."

In Lk.19:13 Jesus told a parable about THIS KINGDOM, which will further give us understanding of what we are talking about here. "And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come

And in other interpretations OCCUPY TILL I

COME is being put as follows....

Do business with these until I come back.' NRSV

Trade with these till I come.' ^{1 RSV}

Do business with this money until I get back.'
(NCV)

Use this to earn more money until I get back." CEV
to invest for him while he was gone. TNLT

See what you can earn with this while I am gone.
GNB

Engage in trade with these until I return.' NAB

What then is business?

The activity of making, buying, selling or
supplying things, providing services and
management of resources with a view to making
profit.

The Main thrust of every business is
profitability, Therefore businesses diligently engage
in things that promote profit, we all know that the
physical is a replica of the spiritual, Jesus will often
use physical things to explain to us the spiritual.
Matt 25:14 - 30 "For the Kingdom of Heaven is as a
man travelling into a far Country, who called his
servants, and delivered unto them his goods, And
unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and
to another one...." Please read that passage to verse
30 and you see that profitability was rewarded and
lack of profitability led to loss. Jesus made us to
understand that this is how it should be in the
kingdom, we are to use what we have been given
to make profit and so will this be also at the end of
time when the King will return.

I believe you will want to know what you can do in
order not to suffer condemnation and loss at the
appearing of our King, our Lord and master Jesus
Christ who has called us to serve in His Kingdom.

1. DEVELOP A RIGHT ATTITUDE

You must have the right attitude towards the
business in the kingdom. What then is your
attitude to this serious King's business? The
seriousness with which you should take the
Kingdom business must be much more than you
exhibit on your paid job, career or personal

business.

You do not resume work in your place of business
anytime you like, you do not stay away from your
employment anytime you like, you are sure to be
diligent so as not to loose your job or not to be
promoted.

But in the Kingdom of God what attitude do you
put up, Do you do the work anyhow just as it
comes or are you doing it with the kind of
seriousness and haste that the Kings business
requires? Do you do it whether convenient or not
or only when it is convenient, do you give God's
work priority or you do it after every other thing
you need to do for yourself has been done. Are
you a profitable servant or through your attitude
the Kingdom has suffered loss in several ways. Are
you a promoter of the Kingdom or not. 1Cor. 4:1 - 2

2. BE A FAITHFUL STEWARD

We are all Stewards. The business is the King's and
we are merely entrusted with it.

As citizens of God's Kingdom, we have to be faithful
in all things.

Weigh you faithfulness to your Earthly
kingdom {your state, your Nation, your
establishment} with that of God's Kingdom and see
for yourself. You are diligent in obeying rules and
regulations of Earthly kingdom in paying for
example in paying of taxes but in God's Kingdom
you have every reason not to obey rules, not to meet
up with your obligations and comply with the
injunctions of the King so as to keep God's Kingdom
moving on, meanwhile the King of the Kingdom has
endowed you with so much so you can be a blessing
to the Kingdom. ARE YOU FAITHFUL?

Stewards don't own things but are only custodians
of things that belong to another man. Stewards must
be faithful.

A steward who out of zeal defrauds His master must
not go unpunished. Anything that God calls His own
must be recognized as His own. Lev. 27:30; It is God's
own and must be treated as such and anything short
of that will amount to stealing; Mal. 3:10; see also
Joshua 7:1 -12.

Pray for grace to be faithful in what God asked you to
do for Him.

MARANATHA!!!

THE MYSTERY OF GRACE & MERCY

Pastors Innocent & Christy Utulu

Grace and mercy are mysteries that you may never fully comprehend until you see Christ in glory. They are so deep and can be regarded as one of the ways of God that is past finding out. Rom 11:33 "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!"

My prayer for you is that the interplay of these two powerful forces called GRACE and MERCY will work in your favor in Jesus name.

Beloved, how do you explain the following stories and situations in the bible.

A. The story of Jacob and Esau

Rom 9:10-16 And not only this; but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac; (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;) It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated. What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid. For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

B. The story of David/ Bathsheba/Solomon. 2Samuel 11.

God forgave David, enthroned Solomon a son born to him by Bathsheba. 1 kings 2:12. This is nothing but Mercy and amazing grace at work.

C. The genealogy of Jesus

Mat 1:1-6 The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas and his brethren; And Judas begat Phares and Zara of Thamar; and Phares begat Esrom; and Esrom begat Aram; And Aram begat Aminadab; and Aminadab begat Naasson; and Naasson begat Salmon; And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse; And Jesse begat David the king; and David the king begat Solomon of her that had been the wife of Urias;

One will ask, how can our Lord Jesus, the Holy one, savior of the World come from these kind of people.

Phares and Zara children of Thamar as recorded in Gen 38:1-6 "And it came to pass at that time, that Judah went down from his brethren, and turned in to a certain Adullamite, whose name was Hirah. And Judah saw there a daughter of a certain Canaanite, whose name was Shuah; and he took her, and went in unto her. And she conceived, and bare a son; and he called his name Er. And Judah took a wife for Er his firstborn, whose name was Tamar."

Tamar was the wife of Er the son of Judah. Tamar gave birth to Phares and Zara and the father of Phares was Judah, the father of Er the husband of Tamar.

Who is Rahab? She was an harlot as recorded inbut amazing grace found her out.

What about Ruth? Ruth 1:22 So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabitess, her daughter in law, with her, which returned out of the country of Moab: and they came to Bethlehem in the beginning of barley harvest.

Ruth was from Moab. So she was a Moabitess. Who are the Moabites? Here is their origin as recorded in Gen 19:36-38 "In this way both of Lot's daughters became pregnant by their own father. The older daughter had a son, whom she named Moab. He was the ancestor of the present-day Moabites. The younger daughter also had a son, whom she named Benammi. He was the ancestor of the present-day Ammonites." GNB

What about Bathsheba. She was Uriah's wife. Uriah was married to Bathsheba, he went to war and David took his wife Bathsheba, killed him and gave birth to Solomon? Are these the kind of characters that should be in the genealogy of Jesus?

INTERPLAY OF GRACE AND MERCY

Mercy is like a judge finding you guilty but then withheld judgment

While grace is like getting something you could never have imagined. An inexplicable gift. It is like the same judge awarding you \$7billion after finding you guilty.

Mercy is not getting the punishment you deserve

for the offense committed. It withholds punishment

Grace is getting the blessing you don't deserve - unmerited favor

While God's grace enables you to achieve success without struggles, His mercy makes you enjoy peace and pardon without punishment

Grace saves us from sin, Mercy saves us from the punishment of sin that we deserve and serves us the righteousness of God

When there is a manifestation of God's grace and mercy upon your life, you may make obvious mistakes and commit obvious errors, but Grace and Mercy will lift you above reproach.

When grace speaks;

- Laws become irrelevant
- Protocols are broken
- Connections become useless
- Powers become silent
- Condemnation is reversed
- Hopelessness is deleted

ACTIVATING THE POWER OF GRACE AND MERCY

You may never know what God looks at or sees in a life that moves Him to show mercy and bestow uncommon grace. But in my little study on the mystery of grace and mercy and the lives of those that enjoyed same, I made some discoveries that may give us a little hint of what may expose you to the interplay of grace and mercy.

I will just enumerate five of them.

1. The Force of Uncommon Praise 1Ch 15:28- 29

"Thus all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the LORD with shouting, and with sound of the cornet, and with trumpets, and with cymbals, making a noise with psalteries and harps. And it came to pass, as the ark of the covenant of the LORD came to the city of David, that Michal the daughter of Saul looking out at a window saw king David dancing and playing; and she despised him in her heart."

2. The Force of Uncommon thanksgiving. This we can see in The story of Solomon in and the 10 lepers in

3. The Force of Uncommon Prayers

1Sam 1:10- 11 "And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore. And

she vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head."

The prayer that is not selfish but that meets the need of God.

4. The Force of Uncommon generosity towards God

1Kings 3:3-4 And Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of David his father: only he sacrificed and burnt incense in high places. And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place: a thousand burnt offerings did Solomon offer upon that altar.

Another example is the Widow of Zarephath. Also Peter in Luke 7:1-11. Peter in spite of his frustration and failure surrendered his boat for God's use.

5. The Force of Uncommon sacrifice

1Sam 1:10- 11 "And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore. And she vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head."

Before the miracle Hannah prayed to God for manifested, she had already given it back to God.

See also:

- * Abraham offering His son Isaac to God
- * Widow of Zarephath giving away her only meal to God through the man of God.

CONCLUSION

Beloved, expose yourself to the above forces. You may never know what will make heaven to focus grace and mercy upon your life.

Pray and say, Father what so ever you are looking for in a person so as to bestow Grace and Mercy on him or her, may you find such in me in Jesus name. AMEN.



Kingdom Authority

PASTOR TIMI DANIELS

“And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.” Luke 17:20-21

From the scripture above we see that there is a kingdom called the Kingdom of God. Furthermore, the scripture also makes us to understand that there is a kingdom of darkness. In Colossians 1:13 “For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son”

A kingdom as defined by the dictionary is said to be a country, state, realm, domain, dominion, empire, principality, duchy, land, nation, sovereign state, province or territory ruled by a king; characterized by belief, language and other cultural practices that might be in play. But for our purpose under this topic, THIS KINGDOM, we are talking about is the Kingdom of God.

From our opening scripture, Jesus said the Kingdom of God is within you. That means as long as God resides in you then his kingdom is in you, we all know that wherever the king resides is his palace and from there he rules his kingdom. The bible makes it clear in 1 John 4:4 “You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world”. Also John 14:17 says, “that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you”.

For this Kingdom to reside in you the bible says in 1 John 2:15-16 “Do not love the world nor the things in the world, if anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the

Father, but is from the world”. We know also from the scriptures that the whole world lieth in wickedness, (1 John 5:19) which means the kingdom of darkness has a domineering grip on the world, meaning loving the world shows that the kingdom of darkness reigns in you.

“The kingdom of God” is also called “the Kingdom of Heaven” that we can see in the following scriptures.

Mark 1:14-15 “After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. The time has come, he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

Matthew 4:17 “From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

The laws of God's Kingdom do more than just prohibit Sin. It raises our moral character, for example, the Bible says: “‘you must love the Lord your God with your whole heart and with your whole soul and with your whole mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. The second, like it, is this, ‘You must love your neighbor as yourself.’” (Matthew 22:37-39) Love of God and neighbor moves subjects of the Kingdom to act in the best interests of others.

While God's Kingdom sets high standards for its subjects, it also teaches people how to meet those standards. Isaiah 48:17-18, 17 “Thus saith the Lord, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the Lord thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go. O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea.”

This Kingdom of God within you makes you a carrier of what Jesus carries; POWER. Jesus has given you this power to rule over so many things. The Bible says in, Acts 8:6-7, “And the multitudes with one accord gave heed to what was said by

Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs which he did. For unclean spirits came out of many who were possessed, crying with a loud voice."

The effect the kingdom had on the woman at the well in John 4:17-18 when Jesus told her the secrets of her heart was evangelism. After her encounter with Jesus she went about telling everyone about Jesus.

Peter was a carrier of Kingdom power when he raised Tabitha in Acts 9:40-42.

The demonstration of Kingdom Power at Pentecost was what caused the crowd at first to gather and be amazed (Acts 2:12). "We hear them talking in our own tongues the mighty works of God.' And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?'"

This Kingdom comes with COMPASSION and POWER, which makes it important for those carrying the kingdom power to turn the heart of the people to God. We are ambassadors of the Kingdom, we have the authority of that kingdom anywhere we are. "And Peter said to him, 'Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; rise and make your bed.' And immediately he rose. And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord." 1Corinthians 4:20, makes us to understand that "The kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power."

Nature of the Kingdom of God: It is most important to understand that the kingdom of God is both now and future. In the 'Now' the demonstration of the power of God is to preach the Kingdom, live the kingdom life and to turn the hearts of men to the Kingdom of God. But in the 'future' it's focused on your walk towards the inheritance of that eternal kingdom.

Paul said in 1 Corinthians 2:4-5, "My speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God."

This same power is described in Romans 15:19, as "the power of signs and wonders" and in Colossians 1:11, as power "for all endurance and patience with joy".

Brethren this kingdom power is for us today to do signs and wonders, to love each other and to

disallow the works of the devil. Remember the scriptures says in Mark 16:17 "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;"

What then is the connection between love, power, and the kingdom of God.

The power of the kingdom is demonstrated in love. Love and compassion are the summation of all practical Christian living. When you love, you "fulfill the whole law" (Romans 13:10). "Faith, hope and love abide, but the greatest of these is love" (1 Corinthians 13:13). "Faith working through love" is the only thing that avails with God (Galatians 5:6). "By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35). Love is the test of whether spiritual gifts and power amount to anything: "Though I speak with the tongues of men and angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love I am nothing" (1 Corinthians 13:1-2).

How then can I demonstrate This Kingdom Power? First take a look at the book of Acts the early "moves" of God that led to the saving of souls were associated with the outpour of God's power, practically the demonstration of what the kingdom resonate. In Acts 2:1-4 we see the mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, resulting in 3,000 persons being saved and water baptized in Acts 2:41. In Acts 3:2-10 we see the paralytic healed at the beautiful gate of the temple. This so astounded the onlookers that another 2,000 turned to the Lord (Acts 4:4). In Acts 5:12-14 we see the apostles doing "many signs and wonders", with the results that "multitudes were added to the Lord". In Acts 8:5-8 Philip preached in Samaria, and his words were confirmed with miracles, healings and deliverance. when the Kingdom of God is ministered in Power it will lead to harvests of souls.

It is not just enough for us to see the demonstration of the Kingdom power, but the major issue is this: HOW DO WE Christian believers, heirs of This Kingdom today get to the place of ministering in This KINGDOM POWER. The Scripture gave us 3

major ways;

1. KNOW THE WORD OF GOD. Jesus said in John 6:63; "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." Jesus told His disciples to "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." They needed to know and to share the WORD of the Lord, because His word carries power. Study the word, 2 Timothy 2:15 says "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Memorize them, share them and other biblical truths with those whom God has placed within your influence, study the bible with your children, fill their hearts with God's Word from early on because God's word within you is the kingdom authority that carries power.

2. BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT: Jesus told His apostles to "stay in Jerusalem until they have been filled with power from on high." To be full of God's Word is an awesome thing, but it's not enough! They needed to be filled with the Holy Spirit who is the power from on high" before going forth to fulfill the Great Commission of This Kingdom.

Today we need that same power too. In Acts 1:4, 5, 8 says "On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit. You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth". Acts 2:1-4 "When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began

to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them." Know this that they were already born of the Spirit. Jesus was well aware of that, having been the One who had previously "breathed" the Holy Spirit into them in John 20:22. Jesus was fully aware of the crucially important difference between being born again of the Spirit John 3:3-8 and being baptized with the Holy Spirit in Acts 1:4,5,8. It was this latter, the power of Pentecost, that Jesus knew they yet needed, and therefore He told them to wait for it, then to go forth and minister. Note that since that time, Christians do not need to wait. When you accept Jesus you can immediately be baptized in the Holy Spirit.

3. PRAYER: One experience that is too often overlooked by Christians is PRAYER. Believers are so busy these days that they forget that the connection between a Kingdom and its subjects is communication. This Kingdom power to speak God's Word and see great results is born out of a heart and life of prayer. We need to pray for an outpouring of manifested Kingdom power in our lives. Acts 1:14 says, "These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren." The initial outpour in Acts 2 occurred in an atmosphere of prayer. In Acts 1:8 Jesus promised this Holy Ghost power. In Acts 2 they received it. In between, they were seen to be "constantly in prayer". The prayer preceded the Kingdom outpouring.

Peter, John, and many others experienced this subsequent filling, a replenishment of the anointing of the Spirit. They had first been filled with the Spirit in Acts 2:4. Then in Acts 4:24, 29-31 it says "When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God... Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus." After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. Here again, this was for them a "filling" with the Holy Spirit, followed again by bold speaking, healings, signs and wonders in

response to their prayers. Prayer preceded this further great outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon them and through them. This is a clear illustration of the power of the prayer of faith to precede and to stir a move of the Holy Ghost.

When we look into the book of Acts 28:8-9, it says, "The chief's father was sick in bed, suffering from fever and dysentery. Paul went in to see him and, after he had prayed, placed his hands on him and healed him. When this had happened, the rest of the sick on the island came and were cured." A healing service took place on the island after Paul healed the chief's father through the power of prayer. The "trigger", to this kingdom demonstration of power is Prayer.

God will use you mightily in this kingdom power if you follow these biblical strategies: Be a man and a woman of the Word, be continuously filled with the Holy Spirit and PRAY. In the book of James 5:16 (AMP) it says "Therefore, confess your sins to one another your false steps, your offenses, and pray for one another, that you may be healed and restored. The heartfelt and persistent prayer of a righteous man (believer) can accomplish much when put into action and made effective by God—it is dynamic and can have tremendous power." Pray and ask God to use you with His power to bless others.

Finally, someone might ask, if God resides in me and I can obtain and move in power, why then is the devil having a free day in my life? Why can't I demonstrate this power? The answer is **WORLDLINESS**. Anywhere that sins reside can't harbor the Kingdom or the power of God. 1 Corinthians 6:11 says "Don't you realize that those who do wrong will not inherit the Kingdom of God? Don't fool yourselves, those who indulge in sexual sin, or who worship idols, or commit adultery, or are male or female prostitutes, or practice homosexuality, or thieves, or greedy people, or drunkards, or are abusive, or cheat people--none of these will inherit the Kingdom of God". Understand that once you carry God in you, you carry power, but to experience the kingdom of God in your life and in your ways, then every acts of worldliness **MUST** die out of your life. This

Kingdom in you brings peace, healing and power to the dying world. My earnest prayer for you is that you will begin to work in the power of This Kingdom in Jesus name.

Sing this song, and pray the following prayers; "How lovely on the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, good news; announcing peace, proclaiming news of happiness: Our God reigns! Our God reigns!

Now go ahead and pray these prayers below in faith:

1. Anything within me that promotes worldliness be destroy in Jesus name
2. Blood of Jesus sanitize my life
3. Rulers of darkness in my life scatter in Jesus name
4. Owners of satanic load in my life, carry your load by fire in Jesus name
5. Grace to pray, come afresh upon me in Jesus name
6. Oppression of darkness in my life, receive instant death in Jesus name.
7. O lord let your rain of power fall upon me in Jesus name
8. Every works of the flesh in my life die in the name of Jesus
9. O God, rule in my life in Jesus name

The power of the spoken word is also upon the written word, if you believe that, now say Amen as I pray: Father in the name of Jesus, I pray for your children, reading this message, let every activity of the kingdom of darkness come to a stop now in the name of Jesus. Your word says in Matthew 15:13 that, Every tree, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted out, therefore I pray, anything not of God in the lives of your children, I command them in the name of Jesus to be rooted out now in the name of Jesus. Let the Kingdom of God reign in you now in the name of Jesus. Thank you mighty God for in Jesus name we have prayed. Amen. God Bless You.

LIVING BY



KINGDOM PRINCIPLES

SAMSON ENIAYEWU

Kingdom principles are acceptable codes of conduct or rule of engagement endorsed by the King of this kingdom – The Almighty God. God being a God of order and protocol has set standards by which kingdom citizens are expected to live. Living by kingdom principles is highly rewarding and very beneficial. The key to enjoying a favorable relationship with the king of this kingdom is embedded in adherence to kingdom principles. Below are kingdom principles which Christians must practice:

1. Christians must live by faith daily. "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him" – Hebrews 11:6. "Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase" – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Faith is an expression of total trust in God's ability to make the impossible possible. Mark 9:23 says "If you can" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for one who believes." Faith is the most relevant currency in the kingdom of God which makes all transactions possible. Faith expels fear and instills confidence.
2. Giving God first place in all that we do is a necessity in the Kingdom of God. Our relationship with God must occupy the utmost place of priority. We often give preferential treatment to the people we cherish and value, it is therefore

Faith is assurance that God can never fail and that he is always dependable. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding" – Proverbs 3:5. Faith is a weapon of warfare that will guarantee success and victory in our Christian race. Ephesians 6:16 says: "In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. We must allow God to take the wheel of our life daily."

important to remember what the Lord Jesus said when He talked about the two most important commandments: "Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" – Matthew 22:37. Everything we do as kingdom citizens must be influenced by our absolute love for God. Our choices and decisions must be based on our love for God. We give God the front seat in the vehicle of our life because we love him and will never want to do anything that will hurt him or make him unhappy. We must love God more than anything else in our life or in this world. We must remember that our God is a jealous God – "Do not worship any other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God." – Exodus 34:14. As a sign of respect, love and admonition for God, we must always give him first place and that is why he said that we must always seek first the kingdom of God and its righteousness according to Matthew 6:33. For us to find it easy to love God and lift him up above everything else in our life and in this world, we follow his counsel in 1 John 2:15: Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. He also said that in Matthew 19:29 that "And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life. We must not let anything separate us from loving God just as Apostle Paul said in Romans 8:35-39 : 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

3. We must love our neighbors as ourselves. Loving our neighbors as ourselves is a kingdom principle that compels and reminds us to treat others the way we will want to be treated. So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets - Matthew 7:12. Kingdom citizens are not selfish or self-centered but rather put others before themselves – "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves." - Philippians 2:3. "Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have

seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen." – 1 John 4:20. We must therefore be quick to demonstrate God's kind of love, agape love to everyone around us all the time. This love is described in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - 4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, and it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, and always perseveres.

4. Forgiveness is a very important principle in the Kingdom of God because we can only qualify to obtain God's forgiveness if we forgive others. While teaching the disciples how to pray, the Lord Jesus mentioned the condition for receiving forgiveness in Matthew 6:12(NLT) – "and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. The parable of the unforgiving servant also confirms that forgiveness is a kingdom principle that must be taken seriously. Matthew 18:21-35 explains "21 Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?22 Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.23 "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. 24 As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold[b] was brought to him. 25 Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.26 "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' 27 The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.28 "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins.[c] He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.29 "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.30 "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. 31 When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.32 "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. 33 Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' 34 In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.35 "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

5. Kingdom citizens must be incurable worshippers, God's praise must continually be on the lips of Christians who want to live by kingdom principles. David, a man after God's own heart said in Psalms 100:4 - "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name." He discovered early in his life that praise and worship will unlock the door into God's presence and grant unlimited access. A secret to inviting God's presence was also unveiled in Psalms 22:11 - But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel. We must there abide by the principle of worshipping God at all times in order to enjoy God's unlimited presence. Praising and worshipping God grants victory over the enemies as recorded in 2 Chronicles 20:15-26. Jehoshaphat was instructed to praise God with his army and God made the opposition's army fight against one another until they destroyed themselves completely. When Paul and Silas praised God, the prison doors were opened - Acts 16:16-40 Gratitude is also a way of life in God's Kingdom, giving thanks in all things must be our lifestyle: "give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." - 1 Thessalonians 5:18. We must refrain our lips from complaining and murmuring: "Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer." - 1 Corinthians 10:10. "Do all things without murmurings and disputings" -Philippians 2:14
6. Preaching the gospel of God's kingdom is a principle that is very dear to God's heart and that is why he commanded us expressly in Mark 16:15 - "He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation." Also in 2 Timothy 4:2, Paul admonished Timothy: "Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage--with great patience and careful instruction." Daniel 12:3 said: "Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever." The wise are described in Proverbs 11:30 - The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that wins souls is wise.
7. Obedience to God's word is a must in God's kingdom. L. Tom Perry said: "obedience is the choice between our limited power and knowledge and God's unlimited wisdom and omnipotence". We must live the consequence of our obedience to God just as Daniel did and he was cast into the lions' den for choosing not to worship other gods. Isaiah 1:19 said: "If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good things of the land". Saul's disobedience to God made him loose the kingdom as a king. The consequence of disobedience can be very devastating. It is also important to note that nothing can take the place of obedience and that is why God's word said in 1 Samuel 15:22 -**But Samuel replied:** "Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the LORD? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams. Abraham's obedience was generously rewarded by God. Obedience to God's command is often the condition to partaking of most of God's promises.'Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; - Exodus 19:5. God also said in Jeremiah 7:23 - "**But this is what I commanded them, saying, 'Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you will be My people; and you will walk in all the way which I command you, that it may be well with you.'**"

In conclusion, living by kingdom principles listed above will position us as candidates for our King's blessings and it will also keep us secure from dangers in our day to day lives. Living by Kingdom principles will make us wise, blameless, productive, progressive and highly effective in our service to God and humanity.

The kingdom woman is created in the very image of God (Genesis 1:27); tenderly fashioned and equipped for good works.

A woman that has built her trust in Christ and ready to impact her home, the church of God, and her community in fulfilling her God given mandate.

Though the enemy may want to make her feel incapable but she knows that her capability is in Christ Jesus. As she continues to grow to reach that full stature in the Lord to become the woman God has made her to be.

She pursues the truth about who God says she is and should be.. She seeks to align herself and operate under the authority of God in every area of life.

She lives confidently in the knowledge that Christ died and rose for her so that she can experience the significance of the destiny to which she has been called.

A Kingdom Woman may face challenges and temptations , but by agreeing with God's vision of her, she lives in the reality of who God has made her to be and chooses to fulfill her God given purpose. A Kingdom Woman, knows and remembers this truth that "Satan has no power over any one who disagrees with his lies" This is the Kingdom Woman.

MORE ABOUT THE KINGDOM WOMAN.

- The Kingdom Woman is a woman who lives confidently in the knowledge that Christ died



THE KINGDOM WOMAN

CHRISTY BENYEOGOR

and rose for her .
(Romans 5; 8)

- The woman that seeks God first.
(Matthew 6: 33)
- She loves her Father, her King and her Lord more than anyone or anything else in her.
- She shows love to others like her father and King.
- She looks unto God for directions, help, support, strength and lifting, and not to any man. (Psalm 28; 7)
- Kingdom woman has the grace to help and serve others. A kingdom woman ensures members of her household are adequately taken care of. She has so internalized her role as a helper that it extends past her immediate family into the Church of God and her community. (Proverbs 31 :14-24)

Qualities of a Kingdom Woman:

Her Price - The Kingdom woman is more valuable that all the wealth of the world. This is why Pro. 18:22 says, "Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and

obtaineth favour of the LORD." If God has placed in your life a good, kingdom woman, He has blessed you with something more valuable than any material possessions.

Her Perfection - The kingdom woman is trustworthy, and she always has the best interest of others at heart. Her husband, and all those around her, are blessed and they benefit from her diligence. (Proverbs. 19:14), "House and riches are the inheritance of fathers: and a prudent wife is from the LORD." She is exactly what God designed her to be, "a help meet" for her mate, Gen 2:18. She is his completer!

Her Plan - This kind of woman is an asset, not a liability to her husband and family. Good comes to him that can be directly attributed to her. She

in countless ways to help others. Imagine a world without that kind of heart. If it was a world filled with men, that kind of compassion would be missing. Thank God for good, kingdom women! (Luke 6; 27). But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you.

She Guides - She stands by to help those who need the benefit of her intuition and her wisdom. She offers counsel to her husband and to her children. Wise are the individuals who listen to the counsel of kingdom women God has placed in their lives. "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in



supports and encourages him. And she is faithful in helping him all her life. (Proverbs. 12:4a), "A kingdom woman is a crown to her husband..."

HER SACRIFICES

She Gives Of Her Talents - She labors, she shops, she cooks, she keeps the home. She is a giver of the abilities God has graced her with and her family benefits from her family. What would a house be without the ceaseless and selfless labor of the kingdom woman?

She Gives Of Her Time-- She takes care of the necessary details of the home. She rises early, and she works late. She tends to the needs of her husband, her Children and the others in her household. She is there when they are hungry, when they are sick, when they are broken and when they need someone who cares. She gives her life for those she loves.

She Loves - The kingdom woman is moved by her compassion to make a difference in the lives of others. She has a heart for people. She reaches out

pictures of silver," (Proverbs.25:11).

She is Gentle - She has a way of soothing the hurts of life. Whether it is the boo-boo suffered by the child, or the hard blows of life that have left her mate defeated, she has the power to lift others with the gentle medicine of her tender spirit. I thank God for all Kingdom women. (1Thessalonians. 2; 7), But we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children.

HER SELFLESSNESS

She Watches - She keeps her eye on those who have been given to her to love. She watches their lives to be sure they have what they need, and that they are walking the right path.

She takes no glory - This woman does not do the things she does for the praise of men. Her's is a labor of love! She is not seeking the passing praise of others, she is seeking the good of those she has been entrusted to care for.

Things to Remember as a kingdom woman;

First, the kingdom woman must have the kingdom mindset. She must realize that the life and teachings of Jesus is the basis for the way she lives her life. Jesus said to the disciples that "...the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what he has done." (Matthew 16; 27)

Secondly, she must realize that the world system in which she finds herself does not agree with the kingdom system. So her decision then has to be to stay with Jesus; against the opinions of her friends, her family and neighbors. Why? Conventional thinking, is not applicable because it is not Kingdom thinking. (Mathew 16; 24) "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 25 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. 26 What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? 27 For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what he has done."

In Conclusion:

God's Kingdom is a real government established by God. Unlike human governments, which comes and goes. God's Kingdom will never be brought to ruin, and will never end but stands for ever. (Daniel 2; 44) Says " And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in peaces and consume all these kingdoms and it shall stand for ever.

Are you part of this everlasting kingdom, if not surrender your life to Jesus today and you become a citizen of God's everlasting kingdom. God bless you.

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THE KINGDOM AS A TREASURE

PASTOR KUNLE ADEKOYA

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field." Matthew 13:44 KJV

Taking a close look at the above Scripture, we can see clearly that secret things about the Kingdom are often revealed through parables. This truth is further confirmed in the scripture below:

"All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world." Matthew 13:34-35 KJV

Jesus through His teachings taught many parables to illustrate great truths about the kingdom of God as He revealed many things that had previously been secret so that we can be partakers of the Blessings of the Kingdom.

In this parable, Jesus illustrated the kingdom to be one of great value, so great that one who stumbles upon it sells all he has in order to have access to it. Beloved The Kingdom is of great value that no matter how rich you are, you can't afford it but we can see from the scriptures that a life of sacrifice will give you access to the Kingdom. Remember, the man sold all he had to buy the field and not the treasure.

I like to state categorically, that it is only in the Kingdom that you have access to treasures that money cannot buy. A selfless life, a committed life, a sacrificial life and a life willing to go the extra



mile will naturally see the blessing of the Kingdom flow into him or her.

"Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek;) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew 6:31-33 KJV

Thus, in this Kingdom you have abiding joy (Phil. 4:17-18), freedom from the power of darkness (Col.1:13), freedom from sin (Rom.6:17-18), lasting peace (Phil.4:6-7) and long life (Psalm 91:16) just to mention few among what you cannot buy with money but living a life worthy of the Kingdom will deliver such treasures of the Kingdom into your life.

Moreover, if we ask the early Christians who joyfully laid down their lives, accepted the plundering of their possession for the sake of the Kingdom and eventually received the promise if the sacrifice is worth it? I am confident that they would all say forcefully, "Yes! It is worth giving up all!"

It's equally noted from the parable that sacrifice is the language of the Kingdom but it's quite unfortunate that sacrificial life is not a popular subject in the body of Christ today. Christians are moving rapidly toward a kind of faith that seeks what to get from the Kingdom rather than what to sacrifice for the sake of the Kingdom. Permit me to say, such Christians have entered a dangerous

ground, because any faith not based on the true GOSPEL is pointless make-believe.

In walking with God, sacrifice is one requirement for success. We may even say that a Christian life without sacrifice is not true Christian life. Why? Because sacrifice is necessary to accomplish anything of eternal value. You cannot get something for nothing. If you read the accounts of early Christians, you will discover that they paid a price to be great and leave us with examples to follow.

"Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." 2 Timothy 2:1-2 KJV

Let us draw strength from the wisdom in this parable and be willing to set an example of a sacrificial life in our daily life because others are unlikely to make sacrifices if they do not see you making them. Show other Christians that you are generous with your money. As you live your life before them, make choices that put service, integrity and God's will above wealth and success.

Dear friend, when you go to church occasionally and drop money in the offering bag and you think God should be pleased with the hour you carved out of your precious weekend and with the money (blind offering) you gave from the abundant you have, may I tell you such is no sacrifice in reality. Learn from the Jews in the days of Malachi:

"Ye offer polluted bread upon mine altar; and ye say, Wherein have we polluted thee? In that ye say, The table of the Lord is contemptible. And if ye offer the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? and if ye offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? offer it now unto thy governor; will he be pleased with thee, or accept thy person? saith the Lord of hosts." Malachi 1:7-8 KJV

The Jews thought that they were giving God every sacrifice the law required. But they brought

polluted bread and inferior animals – animals that were not strong, blemished, lame and sickly. God was angry with the Jews. He said that He rejected their offerings as well as those who gave them. And a lesson from the parable of the ten VIRGINS suggest that a life willing to go the extra mile is what it takes to have this Kingdom treasure. Matt. 25:1-12.

Always remember the Bible teaches that if we give priority to seeking the Kingdom of God, we will attain it and receive "all these things" besides (Matt. 6:33). We discover that "all these things" refers to food and raiment and the other material necessities of life (Matt. 6:31-32). What we receive will be a hundredfold greater than what we sacrifice:

"And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life." Mark 10:29-30 KJV

Indeed, if we choose to serve God, He will give us everything that a Godly person needs and a Godly heart desires: "Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart." Psalms 37:3-4 KJV

Finally, there is no blessing without sacrifice. James and John wanted places on either side of Christ when He sat on the throne of His kingdom. But Jesus answered that they could earn such (Treasure) a high honour only by undergoing great suffering on Christ's behalf (Matt. 20:20-22). In the spiritual realm, as in every other, you cannot get something for nothing. The more you would gain of eternal rewards, the greater the sacrifice required of you. God bless you.

Maranatha!!!

KINGDOM BUILDER

PHILLIP BENYEOGOR



Kingdom builders are committed covenanters who help build God's kingdom through consistent and dedicated services in prayers, working, giving and all other activities that will meet the need of God's kingdom.

1 Cor 3:10 says "according to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it." The Kingdom builder walks by faith, he or she is a doer of the word of God and through God's love, lays his or her life down for the building of God's kingdom.

1 Corinthians 3:11 says "for no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ." In Kingdom building, we must always remember that Christ is the Foundation and the head.

To be a Kingdom builder, our relationship with the King of the Kingdom is absolutely important. Everything begins with Him. Too many of us Christians have become preoccupied with our relationship with a 'denomination,' a 'network of churches,' a 'spiritual covering,' or a 'fellowships,' while neglecting something of far greater importance – the depth of our personal relationship with the King. No 'denomination,' 'network of churches,' 'spiritual covering,' 'church association' can replace our personal relationship with the King.

It is an awesome thought to consider that God has called us to be co-workers together with Him. Our call is to be builders of His Kingdom. Since all of us are co-laboring with God, this also means, that we co-labor with each other to build His Kingdom. We cannot be true Kingdom builders, if we do not have the heart to be one.

We must also learn to yield to the Spirit of God who directs the work of the Kingdom.

Kingdom building is about building people, shaping hearts and lives for God to be glorified. Kingdom Building is very different from developing an organization. We build people by the Spirit of God because God's Children are God's temple. We need the leading and direction of the Holy Spirit to build lives for God. Kingdom builders seek first the kingdom of God in all they do.

God given Dreams and visions in God's Kingdom are interlinked. In order to fulfill the dream in my heart, often God will call me to step in and serve in the dream God has put in another's heart. In the process, what is in my heart will be fulfilled.

We must learn how to partner in Kingdom building, co-laboring and working together. If we all work as Kingdom builders, we will see a radical shift for good in the spiritual behavior within the body of Christ in our city, region and nation.

While it is important to have a healthy relationship with fellow believers, what really qualifies us to be a Kingdom builder is our relationship with the

King. Colossians 1:16-18 16 says "for by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. 17 and He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. 18 and He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence." In the Kingdom and in Kingdom building, Christ is preeminent. In Kingdom building, we must remember that all things are by Him, for Him and through Him. And in all things He must be preeminent, the number One. If Christ is not preeminent in what we do, then the work we do cannot be considered building Christ's Kingdom.

The job of kingdom building must seek to glorify God Alone. Matthew 6:13b, For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. All of the glory belongs to God alone. As Kingdom builders our purpose is clear, that is to glorify God alone. We should not desire any glory, not even a small portion of the glory for ourselves. Jesus said in John 7:18 "He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the one who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him." It is only when we truly seek to glorify God in all we do that our hearts will be pure and no unrighteousness will be found in us. Too often, our hearts are tainted with a mixture of giving most of the glory to God, but desiring a part of the glory for ourselves. We need to move away from this to a place where we give all of the glory to the Lord. Flesh will always seek gratification through appointment to position, special recognition or being honored one way or the other, if this is done as directed by The Lord it is not bad in itself, but when we seek for it primarily we are allowing our flesh to control us. We must put flesh under always.

God said in Isaiah 42:8 "I am the LORD, that is my name; and my glory I will not give to another, nor my praise to carved images." God is a Jealous God, in that He will not tolerate his glory being given to anyone else (Exodus 20:5; Exodus 34:14). Why is it then that we, children of His, do not hesitate to draw attention to ourselves, as though it

was because of our own power, our prayer or our virtue that wonderful things happen? Our words, our slick advertising, our body language, our ministry reports and our testimonies are all geared to having the eyes of people fixed on us. We feel threatened if people look elsewhere even for a moment. This is unlike Peter and John who when the lame man was healed, spoke to the crowds and said, "...Why do you marvel at this? Or why look so intently at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk?" (Acts 3:12) The apostle Paul was mightily used by God to establish and expand the Kingdom of God. He was a true Kingdom builder, one whose heart was set on glorifying Christ and seeing His Kingdom established in the lives of people. In his epistles, Paul shares what it takes to be a true Kingdom builder in 1 Corinthians 3:6,9-11, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. 9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building. 10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. 11 But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ." We see several important things here:

1. We are co-workers with the King "we are God's fellow workers..." (Vs 9). The fact that we are co-workers with the King, is what makes us Kingdom builders. We are working with Him to build His Kingdom.
2. Kingdom building is about building people "...you are God's field, you are God's building" (Vs 9).
3. Kingdom building is about partnership, about working together (Vs 6,9,10). "I planted, Apollos watered". "I laid the foundation, and another builds on it".
4. God uses one man to sow, another man to water and yet another man to reap. God uses one man to lay the foundation and another man to build on it, and yet another man to take it further. Each one's work, regardless of what it is, is equally important. Everyone is equally important.
5. Kingdom Building is about Christ (Vs 11). Christ is the foundation, the starting point. God bless you.

KINGDOM CHILD

OSELOKE UTULU AND EVA FADEYIBI

Who is the Kingdom child?

The Kingdom child is someone who has become a son or daughter of God through faith, by accepting Jesus as Lord and Saviour. He or she is born again.

The kingdom we are talking about is the Kingdom of God. Jesus Christ is the king of the kingdom.



Hallelujah. Somebody say 'I am a Prince, I am a Princess' Jump up on your feet and give glory be to God. Just worship our Father the King.

THE BIG DEAL

So now we all know who the Kingdom child is... a good question is what's the big deal?

The big deal about being a prince and princess is that

you never run out of good things. Everywhere you go, you are special and a star. You have access to the authority and power of the King. You represent the King anywhere you are.

Now, as great as it sounds, this is a great responsibility. It means whatever you do or say must always bring glory to the name of the King.

1 Thessalonians 2:12 (TLB) says "that your daily lives should not embarrass God but bring joy to him who invited you into his Kingdom to share his glory."

The Kingdom child has to make sure they only do things which will make God happy and proud. Before you talk or act, you must ask yourself – what would God want me to do?

How can you know what God wants you to do or what makes Him happy? Through the bible! Everything you need to know about God and his Kingdom and who God says you are can all be found in the bible.

1 Peter 2 has a lot to say to us on this. Let us read together and take note of what is expected of us and who we are as Kingdom Children.

"So get rid of your feelings of hatred. Don't just pretend to be good! Be done with dishonesty and jealousy and talking about others behind their backs. 2-3 Now that you realize how kind the Lord has been to you, put away all evil, deception, envy, and fraud. Long to grow up into the fullness of your salvation; cry for this as a baby cries for his milk.[a]

John 1:12 (TLB) says "Even in his own land and among his own people, the Jews, he was not accepted. Only a few would welcome and receive him. But to all who received him, he gave the right to become children of God. All they needed to do was to trust him to save them."

How do we trust God to save us?

Romans 10:9 (TLB) says "For if you tell others with your own mouth that Jesus Christ is your Lord and believe in your own heart that God has raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

Galatians 3:26 (TLB) also says "For now we are all children of God through faith in Jesus Christ"

God is the greatest King

- Psalm 95:3 says For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods.
- 1 Timothy 6:15 15God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords

His Kingdom is bigger than we could ever even imagine. It covers all the heavens and all the earth.

Deuteronomy 10:14 (GNT) "To the Lord belong even the highest heavens; the earth is his also, and everything on it".

So, as God's child, you and I are the Kingdom children. God Almighty our Father is the king, so we are Princes and Princesses! This is so exciting!!Somebody shout

4 Come to Christ, who is the living Foundation of Rock upon which God builds; though men have spurned him, he is very precious to God who has chosen him above all others.

5 And now you have become living building-stones for God's use in building his house. What's more, you are his holy priests; so come to him—you who are acceptable to him because of Jesus Christ[b]—and offer to God those things that please him. 6 As the Scriptures express it, "See, I am sending Christ to be the carefully chosen, precious Cornerstone of my church, and I will never disappoint those who trust in him."

7 Yes, he is very precious to you who believe; and to those who reject him, well—"The same Stone that was rejected by the builders has become the Cornerstone, the most honored and important part of the building." 8 And the Scriptures also say, "He is the Stone that some will stumble over, and the Rock that will make them fall." They will stumble because they will not listen to God's Word nor obey it, and so this punishment must follow—that they will fall.

9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

10 Once you were less than nothing; now you are God's own. Once you knew very little of God's kindness; now

your very lives have been changed by it.

11 Dear brothers, you are only visitors here. Since your real home is in heaven, I beg you to keep away from the evil pleasures of this world; they are not for you, for they fight against your very souls.

12 Be careful how you behave among your unsaved neighbors; for then, even if they are suspicious of you and talk against you, they will end up praising God for your good works when Christ returns.

13 For the Lord's sake, obey every law of your government: those of the king as head of the state,¹⁴ and those of the king's officers, for he has sent them to punish all who do wrong, and to honor those who do right.

15 It is God's will that your good lives should silence those who foolishly condemn the Gospel without knowing what it can do for them, having never experienced its power. 16 You are free from the law, but that doesn't mean you are free to do wrong. Live as those who are free to do only God's will at all times.

17 Show respect for everyone. Love Christians everywhere. Fear God and honor the government.

Shall we all bow down our heads for a moment and pray to God to help us understand more about being the Kingdom child.
AMEN.



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ADVANCING THE KINGDOM

IZU ARIWODO

The word kingdom refers to a country or territorial unit which is being ruled by a king. The kings in many of these territories exercise supreme political authority over the realms of the kingdoms.

Since the creation of the earth and due to the mortality of men, kings and kingdoms have risen and fallen in various domains over the faces of the earth. But, there is only one supreme and immortal king. His kingdom does not fall nor fail. This king is the creator of all creation. The realm of His authority traverse the galaxies both known and unknown to men. The name of this king is Jehovah, the Almighty, and the everlasting King of kings. He is also our father and God.

In Gen. 1:1, it is written; "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth", and in John 1:3, it was written, "all things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made". These two bible verses attest to the supreme and limitless powers of our Almighty God and king.

Every king rules over the subjects of his realm. In the case of the Almighty God, all of mankind are expected to be the subject of His kingdom. However, God does not want to impose Himself on man, instead, He has given man the power to choose whomever his heart desires to serve. That is why Joshua said in Josh. 24:15 "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve

the Lord". From this bible text, it is obvious that not every living person has fully accepted our God as their Lord and king. There is therefore a need for kingdom soldiers to march unto the battle field and turn things around.

Every citizen of God's kingdom is a kingdom soldier. As soldiers, there are some commands given to us by our commander-in-chief (our God and king). One of such commands, is the commission given to faithful subjects in Matt. 28:19-20, which says "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:²⁰ Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

The above bible text is a call to evangelize and win souls unto the kingdom of God. A call to win souls is a call that is aimed towards advancing the kingdom of God, by reaching those who have not yet accepted our God as their Lord and king. There are several reasons, why every born-again Christian should heed to this call of soul winning. Below is a list of three out of many reasons;

1. In Matt. 28:20b, the Lord says "I am with you always, even unto the end of the world". This is a comforting word that should give every Christian the confidence that the Lord will guide and direct us in His service.
2. In Matt. 9:37, our Lord Jesus said to his disciple "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few". There is an urgent need in the kingdom, to reach out to the multitudes that are earnestly awaiting the good news of our God and king.
3. Rom. 10:14 further emphasized the need to heed this call by saying "How then shall they call on him in

whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?"

Having enumerated the above, I also want to note that answering the call to service is not an easy one. We need a willing heart, the grace of God and the help of the Holy Spirit. The journey starts with a willingness to serve. Then God will provide the grace and His spirit to guide you.

As is expected of every kingdom, there is always the need for growth and expansion. The work of expansion requires the army of the kingdom, to prepare, strategize and marshal out a plan. Similarly, as soldiers in the kingdom army of God, we need to prepare, strategize and marshal out our own plans.

To prepare us for the task ahead, we need to continuously study the word of God. The bible in 2 Tim. 2:15, encourages thus "study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth". Whenever we study the word of God, we train ourselves to understand our God. As we train ourselves, we gain confidence and knowledge, and then we can boldly serve our God and king in any capacity. Eph. 6:11 says, "Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil". The world is full of deceitful schemes and devices. The devil can use any of His schemes and devices to deceive or distract or incapacitate any kingdom soldiers from the work of God. Most often, the tools of deception are not very obvious. It is only by filling ourselves with the word of truth, that we can be able to decipher the schemes and devices of the enemy. The words of truth bring revelation knowledge.

From the moment, we accept Christ as our Lord and savior, we automatically sign-up to answer the call of the Lord to evangelize and become a soul-winning vehicle for the Lord. Unfortunately, many Christians prefer to ignore the task to evangelize and reach-out to souls that are ripe for harvest as mentioned by the Lord in Matt. 9:37. For many years after receiving Christ, I resisted the call to follow other Christians to evangelize. I was fighting some personal internal battles with;

1. Fear of persecution from friends
2. Peer pressure or preservation of self-ego.
3. Complaining and blaming the church leadership for not providing a manual

However a time came, when the power of the word

hit a home-run, and I immediately realized the futility of my grumbling. 1 Pet. 2:2 "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby". In the house of God, after receiving the sincere milk of the word, we are expected to grow-up, so we can feed others coming after us. We cannot continue to live like babies in the house of God when we should have upgraded several times.

The work of advancing the kingdom requires the Lord's armies to be prayerful. A prayer-less soldier is a powerless soldier. In Zach. 4:6b, the Lord said to Zerubbabel, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts". And in 1 Sam. 2:9b "for by strength shall no man prevail". We cannot fight the battles of the Lord, with our physical abilities. We need the Holy Ghost power to help us prevail against the enemies of the word of God. Let me remind us that in this battle, the enemy is brutal. They have political power and influence. They will apply political correctness in their favor.

However, 2 Cor. 10:4 says "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds". Indeed our weapons of warfare can pull-down their strong-holds. Paul and Silas are an example of pilgrims that were able to leverage the enormous power of the Holy Spirit through prayer. Acts 16:25-26 "25 And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. 26 And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed. Our God possesses the ultimate power. He is the King of kings. He is in-control of the heart of earthly kings. In Matt. 7:7-8, he said "7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: 8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened". These are the words of the Lord, hold unto them and they will surely not return back to Him, without accomplishing its purpose.

Brethren, the harvest is indeed plenteous. We need all hands to be on deck for this task. Imagine how glorious it would be, if you and I could add souls to the Lord? Heaven would be ecstatic for our sakes. It is my prayer that the Lord will help us in His service, in Jesus name. Amen.

THE **POWER** OF THE KINGDOM WOMAN



EDOWAYE OGBEIDE

A kingdom woman is a born again child of God who by the grace of God lives in holiness and righteousness and whose main objective is to make heaven. The day we accept Jesus into our lives, God's power by the Holy Spirit comes into us. John 1:12

A lot of us Christians don't know and utilise our authority in the power God has given to us, that is why we tolerate some negative situations in and around our lives and families. Firstly we need to remind ourselves of who we are in Christ with some of these Bible truths, so that we can begin to exercise our authority in the power that God has given us.

Who am I in Christ?

Let us say it out loud

I am complete in Him Who is the Head of all principality and power (Colossians 2:10).

I am alive with Christ (Ephesians 2:5).

I am free from the law of sin and death (Romans 8:2).

I am far from oppression, and fear does not come near me (Isaiah 54:14).

I am born of God, and the evil one can not touch me (1 John 5:18).

I am holy and without blame before Him in love (Ephesians 1:4; 1 Peter 1:16).

I have the Greater One living in me; greater is He Who is in me than he who is in the world (1 John 4:4).

I have received the power of the Holy Spirit to lay hands on the sick and see them recover, to cast out demons, to speak with new tongues. I have power over all the powers of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means harm me (Mark 16:17-18; Luke

10:17-19).

I can quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one with my shield of faith (Ephesians 6:16).

I can do all things through Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:13).

I am God's child for I am born of the incorruptible seed of the Word of God, which lives and abides forever (1 Peter 1:23).

I am a new creature in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17).

I am more than a conqueror through Him Who loves me (Romans 8:37).

I am an overcomer by the blood of the Lamb and the word of my testimony (Revelation 12:11).

I am a partaker of His divine nature (2 Peter 1:3-4).

I am an ambassador for Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20)

I am the righteousness of God in Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:21).

I am the temple of the Holy Spirit; I am not my own (1 Corinthians 6:19).

I am forgiven of all my sins and washed in the Blood of Jesus (Ephesians 1:7).

I am delivered from the power of darkness and translated into God's kingdom (Colossians 1:13).

I am raised up with Christ and seated in heavenly places (Ephesians 2:6; Colossians 2:12).

I am greatly loved by God (Romans 1:7; Ephesians 2:4; Colossians 3:12; 1 Thessalonians 1:4).

I am strengthened with all might according to His glorious power (Colossians 1:11).

I am submitted to God, and the devil flees from me because I resist him in the Name of Jesus (James 4:7).

For God has not given me a spirit of fear; but of power, love, and a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7).

It is not I who live, but Christ lives in me (Galatians 2:20).

A kingdom Woman is called and empowered to live a victorious life through Jesus Christ. We are carriers of God's power. You've got the power! The question is what are you doing with it? How many of us have ever thought of our bodies being vessels that carry the power of God. There are different gifts and different measure of gifts but we all have the same power and authority, it's ours in our union with Jesus Christ.

The bible says in Romans 8:11, that the same power that rose Jesus from the grave lives in us. That means that God has deposited in us His power to heal the sick, to cast out devils, to do exploits in His name, Mark 16:17-18 "these signs shall follow them that believe..." we must exercise this power and authority that God has given to us in order to live a free and triumphant life over the devil and his agents, oversituations and challenges, fear and anger, sickness, heaviness of spirit, heartaches and failure.

God has given us the power to tread upon serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy and He said nothing shall by any means harm us. (Luke 10:19), Friends I pray, even as Paul did in Ephesians 1:17-22 that God will give us the spirit of wisdom and revelation and enlighten the eyes of our understanding to understand the gravity of His power in us as children of God and the boldness to exercise our authority in Jesus name. Amen

Ephesians 6:12 says we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities against

powers, against the rulers of the darkness....." Yes we are wrestling against all these but thank God we have authority over them, this authority and power is not the property of just a select few, they are the true possession of every child of God. (John 1:12)

If we don't know the power of God in us we cannot act upon it, we need to know what belongs to us and not stop at just knowing, we must act upon it so there can be good result because it that is knowledge acted upon that brings result. Here is an illustration we can reflect on, the power company supplies power to your house but it is your job to flip the switch, the power company is not coming to your home to turn the light switch on. They have released the power, you now execute by turning the switch on, so likewise, God has supplied the power it's our job to make use of it. Brethren we don't have to tolerate the lies of the devil, (sicknesses, defeat, failure and any negative situations). Jesus did not tolerate demonic manifestation, He exercised His authority in every way, we should do the same because He expects it from us. John 14:12. Recognise your authority, utilise it and the devil will flee.

The believer who is thoroughly conscious of the divine power behind him/her and of his/her own authority can face the enemy without fear or hesitancy.

It is time for us to begin to walk in the dominion and authority that God has given us, and when we do, mountains shall be removed and there shall be positive results in every area of our lives and families in Jesus Name. Amen



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KINGDOM LIFESTYLE

TEMITOPE OLUSEYI-AWE

'Houston based Pastor's secret lifestyle revealed!'

Imagine that you catch sight of a magazine while checking out at your favorite store and the headlines scream the above statement. What are the chances that you would pick it up and maybe, buy it? Pretty high! A lot of people read gossip columns and entertainment magazines because they are fascinated by the lifestyle of the rich and famous. What these celebrities do, say, where they go, what they wear, who they hang out with ... these are considered news because it gives regular people a glimpse into the world of these celebrities. At one point or the other, we have all probably found ourselves reading or listening to tidbits about people who don't even know we exist; we don't know them either but we make comments about them based on information we have gleaned from reports of their lifestyle!

The big deal about This Kingdom Lifestyle.

So yes, a person's lifestyle is very important. It is the glimpse that outsiders get of the goings-on in a group. Christians are citizens of God's Kingdom and people who are not believers use our lifestyle as a window to peep into what this Kingdom is all about. We either attract them to give or repel them from giving their lives. Your lifestyle also matters to fellow believers – it sets an example for new converts, and more importantly, serves as a cloud of witness around them, just

like the lives of faith veterans like Abraham, Enoch, Noah, Joseph, and David does for us. (Heb 11; Heb 12:1-3, 6.) How about fellow, older Christians? For one, we sharpen one another like iron upon iron Proverbs 27:17. Woe unto any believer whose lifestyle is a stumbling block to others. Not my words! So saith the Lord. See Matthew 23:13 (NKJV)¹³ "But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in.

This Kingdom lifestyle?

Everyone has a lifestyle. Your lifestyle is your particular way of living powered by your usual activities, your values, the ideas that you support, and what you have faith in. These activities, values, and ideas are usually motivated by the group with whom we identify. This kingdom lifestyle is therefore the way of living of Kingdom people.

What is your own lifestyle? How would others describe it? Now, there must not be a divide between how people perceive you and who you say you are. Professing to be a Christian but having a lifestyle that is at variance is nothing but hypocrisy i.e. pretending to be what you are not, or pretending to believe something that you do not. Our Lord Jesus says in Matthew 15:7-9 (ESV)

You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, when he said: "these people honor me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."

The end result of not living the Kingdom lifestyle, of being hypocritical is being disowned by the LORD

Matthew 7:21-23 "Not everyone who says to Me, Lord, Lord!" will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of My Father in heaven. On that day many will say to Me, Lord, Lord, didn't

we prophesy in Your name, drive out demons in Your name, and do many miracles in Your name?' Then I will announce to them, I never knew you! Depart from Me, you lawbreakers!'

Living it

This Kingdom lifestyle must be exactly that – a lifestyle. It should not be affected or feigned. It should not be on Sundays only or whenever there is a church meeting. It should not be sporadic or intermittent... if we succeed in fooling others, we cannot deceive the almighty God. Galatians 6:7 (NKJV)

⁷Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. Living it entails as many aspects as there are to human existence. It is easy to make the error of devolving this Kingdom lifestyle into rules and regulations which we tick off as we go through our list but it has got to be much more than that. Nobody wants their children to be little robots merely responding to programming, so neither does our heavenly Father. Like all good parents, Jehovah wants us to be obedient and willing to live a godly life because we have deep knowledge, true understanding and pure wisdom of why and how. A good example is weaving thanksgiving and praise into our lifestyle; we are to do this not by rote but because we are awed by the immensity of God's power, love, grace, mercy... towards us. We do not adopt and conform to this kingdom lifestyle in order to earn God's approval or an assurance of His love. The fact is we cannot work our way to heaven because nothing we could ever do would be sufficient. By default, when we depend on God, when we trust Him completely, when we love Him above all things, when we live by faith – we glorify Him and this becomes our way of living, our lifestyle.

How do we style our life as Christians? Simple – imitate Christ!

Ephesians 5 sums it up:

5 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; ²and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

As believers and citizens of this kingdom, we must walk in love. This love must supersede that which the worldly system tends towards; it must include

loving the unlovely, the unloved and the unlovable. We must often disregard our natural likes and dislikes; we must discard ego, comfort and whatever else; we must do this gladly as an offering of love to the One who loved us first.

³But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints; ⁴and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. ⁵For this you know with certainty, that no ^[c]immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. There are things which society permits but we must dissociate from as believers. As a believer, this kingdom lifestyle does not permit you to blindly 'follow the Joneses' or be 'politically correct' at the expense of biblical truths. Also, there are some things that even those who do not believe consider to be improper. In any case, a believer must exceed the societal standards of propriety. Along that line, we must pay close attention to those things which are visible like our dressing and our speech. Why? Because men look on the outward appearance. 1 Samuel 16:7 (NKJV)

⁷But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." No confusion intended here. Yes, the Lord looks at the heart and that is why a believer must glorify Him in the intents and with the contents of the heart. Having squared that away, we then have a responsibility to draw men unto the Lord by taking care of that which is visible to them – our outward appearance. There's an order to it; anyone who is not right with God in their hearts but are preoccupied with their outward appearance are on a train of vanity going fast to nowhere. Taking care of our outward appearance is dressing decently with modesty; it is talking responsibly and purposefully at all times, thanksgiving never distant from our lips.

⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷Therefore do not be partakers with them; ⁸for you were formerly

darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light ⁹ (for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth), ¹⁰ trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them; ¹² for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret. ¹³ But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light. What things invite the wrath of God and must not be a part of this Kingdom lifestyle? Greed, covetousness, idolatry, impurity, immorality, and vulgar speech. Wait a minute before you score yourself high on these... focusing on what we do not have instead of being grateful for what we do have? Laughing at a crude joke or video? Not bothering to check the truth of 'revelations/visions' and other messages we forward on social media with the bible? Can't miss any episode of that TV show or can't do without Facebook? Covering up for your co-worker's lies? The list is endless. The time that we expend on activities is a resource from God our Father and just like in the parable of the talents; we would have to account for it! Definitely food for deep thought. What we usually do or what we usually fail to do must not indicate that which makes Jehovah quite angry. Whether someone sees or not, in private or in public, our activities must always be such that we would gladly bring under the light of scrutiny anywhere, anytime.

¹⁵ Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of your time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

How can we learn what the will of the Lord is and style our living in line with it? Read the bible. Every day. Romans 12:2(NKJV)

² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

When we read the bible, we encounter the truth. The truth liberates our mind from dead weights and as renewal comes, who we are and how we live changes.

¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; ²⁰ always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father; ²¹ and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.

Be self-controlled always. Don't be prone to losing your temper; don't let anything be the boss of you. Not even food. Fast and pray without ceasing. Hand over the control of your life to the Holy Spirit. Do not abandon opportunities to gather with fellow believers. Be accountable to them as well as demand an account of them. That implies don't pretend or ignore when you see brethren doing something that is clearly contrary to what the bible says. Not that you should go about judging people or lashing out anyhow... such corrections must be made with wisdom. The test for wisdom from above is that it is first of all peaceable, then pure. If your actions or words will in any ways destroy peace, then pause and rethink it. Accountability also implies that we must be teachable and open to correction.

In conclusion, the activities of a Christian should never run contrary to the will of God as written in His Word. Any revelation or knowledge MUST be in agreement and never contradict the bible. Where do you typically go to? What do you do most often? Who do spend your time with? This kingdom lifestyle requires that your activities always be those that will draw you closer to God and draw men closer to Him. A Christian's lifestyle must be premised on integrity; humility, forgiveness, trustworthiness, love, respect, generosity, charitability...

Back to that magazine at the checkout lane... If the headlines had your name instead of that Pastor's name, what would the story be? Let's sign off on the note of Philippians 4:8(NKJV)

⁸ Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things.

May you receive grace for this Kingdom lifestyle.

The King Is Coming

PASTOR INNOCENT UTULU

"And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." Acts 1:9-11

Of all the events and happenings predicted about our Lord Jesus Christ, the next in line to happen is His second coming. Interestingly today, the consciousness of His coming is very dim and men live as if He is not returning when this actually should be the major focus of Christianity. If care is not taken, we could be carried away with breakthroughs, possessions, prosperity etc and forget this important and ultimate gain and purpose of the Christian faith.

Jesus warned us in LUKE 12 :15 thus.... " Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth."

Let us look at a few scriptures that tells us what to expect as the coming of the king is approaching.

2Pe 3:3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,
2Pe 3:4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the



creation.

2Pe 3:5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:

2Pe 3:6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

2Peter 3:7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

Nature of His coming:

1Th 5:2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

2Pe 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and

the works that are therein shall be burned up.

-The coming of the Lord will be like the coming of a thief in the night. It will be....

- Sudden
- Unannounced
- Full of Surprises

- Mat 24:36-44 "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,

And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.

But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.

Even though we are not given specific date, time, month or year the Lord had intimated us with a few signs that will remotely point to the imminence of His coming in the above scriptures. And we can rightly bring out the following features.....

- * Grand deceptions
- * Wars and rumours of wars
- * Nations and kingdoms using against themselves
- * Famines, pestilence and earthquake in diverse places
- * Great persecution of true believers
- * Emergence of false prophet and preacher and doctrines II Pet 3:1 - 7
- * Iniquity still abound
- * Love of many shall wax cold
- * Intensive world evangelization

What shall we do then?

We are informed of what to do in the word of God. God did not leave us without an answer.

Mat 24:42-44 Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.

But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.

Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. The answer embedded in the above scripture therefore is that we should

Watch, we should be ready. To watch is to pay attention.

It means to observe closely and to be careful. We are to be Ready and fully prepared. We are to be careful and prepared at all times.

Part of watching and being ready is that

- We must closely observe the scriptures to see the qualifying attitude or qualification that we must possess in order to be ready and what the disqualifying quantities are.

A Qualification for readiness:

Eph. 5:25 - 27 says "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

The qualifications listed in the above scripture can be listed as follows;

1. We must be Glorious, we must be beautiful within and without. We must be Worthy of the glory that awaits us.
2. We must be Spotless: Spot is a small mark that may not be very visible to the eyes. We must watch out for such things and deal with them.
3. We must have no wrinkles. Wrinkles are flaws that come with age. Are you an old Christian and you are taking a lot of things for granted, you are no longer as pure, innocent and beautiful as you were when your journey of Christianity started. Do you feel you have come of age and you know so much now. WATCH.
4. We must have no blemish: Blemish is a mark or fault spoiling something that is good. Things that

devalue.

What will make your testimony ineffective or unimpactful.

5. We must be Holy. Heb 12:14 says “ follow peace with all men and holiness without which no man can see the Lord” see also 1Peter 1;16....Ye shall be holy; for I am holy.

We can see further qualifications in Psalm. 15:1-5 “ LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour. In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the LORD. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not.

He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved.

B Disqualifying Factors :

Rev 21:8 “But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”

The message version puts it this way “But as for the cowards and the ignoble and the contemptible and the cravenly lacking in courage and the cowardly submissive, and as for the unbelieving and faithless, and as for the depraved and defiled with abominations, and as for murderers and the lewd and adulterous and the practicers of magic arts and the idolaters (those who give supreme devotion to anyone or anything other than God) and all liars (those who knowingly convey untruth by word or deed)--[all of these shall have] their part in the lake that blazes with fire and brimstone. This is the second death.”

Further more we are told in Gal 5:19-21 “When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures,

idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.” (NLT)

Conclusion

Mark 13:33

(AMP) Be on your guard [constantly alert], and watch and pray; for you do not know when the time will come.

(ASV) Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.

(BBE) Take care, keep watch with prayer: for you are not certain when the time will be.

(CEV) So watch out and be ready! You don't know when the time will come.

(GNB) Be on watch, be alert, for you do not know when the time will come.

(GW) Be careful! Watch! You don't know the exact time.

(ISV) Be careful! Watch out! For you don't know when the time will come.

(KJV) Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.

(MSG) So keep a sharp lookout, for you don't know the timetable.

(NLT) And since you don't know when that time will come, be on guard! Stay alert [and pray]!

(RV) Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.

Let us pray

- * Father Lord, please prepare me for your coming.
- * Father help me to surrender my all to you totally and completely and remove all that can hinder me from making it to heaven from my life.
- * Father please help me to be ready when you shall come, may I not sleep or slumber in Jesus name.

MARANATHA !!!

IMPACTFUL TESTIMONY

OSASU OGBEIDE



I wish to testify to the goodness and mercies of God.

I had to make a trip with my family outside of the US for a permit related to my job. This permit was needed for me to continue to work in the US. Due to the current conditions in the oil industry, I had been warned that the approval process might be difficult.

I was required to attend a scheduled interview at our destination. The interview went well, and to my joy, we were told that the permit was going to be approved, and we would be receiving the confirmation documents in a matter of days.

When the day we were told to expect the approval arrived, I went to pick up the documents. I found that we were sent only a part of the documents we were expecting. Some unknown issue had come up, and the government agency involved needed to do more processing. Right away, I became apprehensive. I knew that this was the scenario I had been warned about. When I made further enquiries, I learnt that the process was stuck in an indefinite state, and they could not tell me when it would be resolved.

I need to give a bit of background to help explain why this was such a serious situation for us. The approval was required for my family and I to be able to return to the United State where we were living at this time. This meant that we could be in this state of “limbo” for anything from 3 months

upwards. A colleague who encountered the same issue was stuck in this state for up to 9 months. This was going to affect my income of course (as I would not be able to work while waiting for the approval), my wife's job, our children's schooling, and so many other things in our lives. This is a process that should normally take just two weeks when things are going right. The more frustrating part was that, during this period, the government agency was not constrained to provide us any more details on their progress. We were simply stuck.

After about 7-8 days of not getting any updates, I became even more anxious. It seemed like we were in for a really long wait. All my efforts to get further information from the government agency were unsuccessful. Our expenses were mounting up, and my anxiety was becoming quite obvious to our children. The environment was tense. I began to pray intensely about the situation. One of my weaknesses, which God is helping me overcome, is a habit of only going to God as a last resort when in difficulty, rather than as a first resort. I really started praying intensely about this situation after I had tried all my other options, and they had all failed.

My stress level was rising with every day that passed. I was checking for progress on the government agency website at least twice every hour. It was getting more and more difficult to find ways to keep the children occupied while we wait.

I kept thinking about how difficult it will be to explain to them that they will not be able to re-start school when their mates start the next session. That they will not be able to go to church for a number of months. We remained in this state for another 10 days. Then, while checking the application status one day, I realized things were not just stagnant anymore, it was getting worse. The government agency website showed that our application had moved back to a previously completed state. So, I felt like it was time to accept the obvious, and start making plans for a prolonged stay (for example, moving from the more expensive hotel to a full apartment). I was deeply saddened by this.

In that disappointed state, I received a call from Pastor Utulu. He called to ask how we were doing, and also to find out when we were coming back. I opened up to him to say that the situation had turned really sour. I explained everything that had happened, and told him that the prospects were not looking good. I believe he sensed from my voice that I was on the edge. He prayed with me. And then he told me that he could feel it in his spirit that this situation was going to turn around, and that he and the church would continue to pray for us. His specific words were that by the next day, there was going to be a positive change in our status. My expectations were really lifted after that call. When I got back to the hotel, my family and I joined in faith and prayed. Our children really lifted their faith and expectations.

I remember that the two thoughts that crossed my mind that evening were, first, I was astonished at the conviction in Pastor Utulu when he said that he felt it in his spirit that by tomorrow, there will be a positive change in the situation. I was really amazed to see how God speaks to a man. The second thought I had was I dreamt for a while at how I would celebrate if I actually found out the next day that the status of our applications actually

changed. I was praying to God for a change, and believing that it would come, but still, I knew I would be completely beside myself with joy if it actually happened.

I got up the next day very early and checked on the government website, and saw that it had changed. The status showed approved! I remember the feeling of goose-pimples all over my back when I saw it. I felt very cold all over my body. All my life, I have seen and heard people talk about such wonderful experiences with God. There have also been instances where I have prayed for something, and eventually it came to pass. But, I had never had such an experience like this before, where a change came about so directly and incontrovertibly. I was praying for it, I was hoping for it, desiring it, but still, when it happened, I almost could not believe it. One of the most pleasant parts was when I gather the children together, and told them "remember what we were praying for yesterday? Well, today, I went to check for it, and guess what I saw!!?". They were all so happy.

I have a stronger conviction now in the power of prayer in our lives. I pray that God will continue to work on my weaknesses, and my faith. For a lot of people who have had much greater experiences with God, I know that this will probably be something small in comparison. For me, probably because of the type of person I am, I was very deeply moved by the experience. I just had never seen an act of God with such a direct response to prayer.

Thanks to God, two days after that, we were on our way back to Katy. I am grateful to God for turning our situation around. I am grateful to God for using the experience to draw me closer to him. The experience has had a big impact on me. I am still unfolding the lessons I learnt. PRAISE GOD!!!!..

YOUTHS IN THE KINGDOM

By Tomiwa Oluyen



Ecclesiastes 12 verse 1:

Remember also thy creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near in which you will say, "I have no pleasure in them"

Jeremiah 1 verse 4 - 8: Now the word of the lord came to me, saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Then I said, "Ah, lord God! Behold I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth." "But the lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a youth'; for to all to whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, declares the lord

The first test of a youth in life is the identity of self, purpose and future. Once this stages are conquered, a way out is always very visible. Jeremiah was a youth in the scripture verse above. He identified himself as a youth before the lord, he admitted his weakness that he couldn't speak or let me say he didn't know how to speak. Perhaps he had things to offer or talk about to people, but he confessed that he lacked the technical know-how to speak.

Even after God has revealed his purpose and identity to him, that Jeremiah was consecrated and appointed to be a prophet to nations. He still doubted his ability to speak. But praise be to the name of the lord, God said to him "Do not say I am only a youth" In other words, you're a youth in the kingdom, a youth separated unto good works, a youth set and graced for work, a youth created to bring about change, a youth without fear, a youth called unto righteousness. Not an ordinary youth.

A youth in the present age kingdom is an aroma of Christ. To God we are the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing. To some people we are a deadly fragrance, while to others we are a life giving fragrance. Who is qualified to tell about Christ? At least we don't go around selling an impure word of God like many others. The opposite is true. As Christ's spokesmen and in God's presence, we speak the pure message that comes from God. 2 Corinthians 2 verse 15 - 17.

That's the true identity of a youth in the kingdom.

Knowing this fact, the above scriptures says "To some people we are a deadly fragrance and to some a life giving fragrance" what does this means? A quick picture into the security department of this country. Despite the fact that we know that the Police is set up for the safety of citizens and non-citizens of the country, which is a good course in ensuring peace, absence of fear syndrome and stability in the country. There are evil perpetrators who still see the police department as a treat to their means of survival. Now what do they do, they are ready to take out life from them, they are willing to purchase all the best fire arms to engage the police officers in any public operation.

In the Christian kingdom, we call those tactics temptation, challenges and obstacles. Jeremiah knew what to say, but he didn't know how to speak. That's a challenge, Jeremiah was afraid of the people, that's fear which is a big obstacle. Then we have temptation, which comes from the kingdom of darkness to disengage us from achieving the purpose Christ has set us for, not only that, to make us feel irrelevant for the work of Christ.

2 Timothy 2 verse 22: So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the lord from a pure heart. Youthful passions are those things that draws one's attention from yielding to the word of truth. All sense of immoralities, all forms of value degraders and vision crashers. Even the so called social media and openness to information technology appliances is a big means of distraction. Addictions, pornography, sexual misconduct, ungodly relationship with the opposite sex.

The world presents them to youths as fun and to some its gradually becoming a life they live. But I tell you today, they are all set to make you feel irrelevant to God, they are all set to make you lose focus. They are destiny destroyers. Amazingly the bible says, how can a young man keep his ways pure? By guarding it according to your word (Psalm 119 verse 9) stay glued to the word of God, embrace the environment where the word of God is freely shared

in love. When the bible says guard, it's like school rules, no one wants to be expelled from school. So what do you do? You pay attention to details and the rules of the school. That's what God expects from us, pay deep attention to his words, let it be a constant reminder for and to you always. It makes you victorious above all these things.

The bigger truth is this; it makes you overcome temptation. How do I know this? No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you to be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it

(1 Corinthians 10 verse 13). That way of escape is through the word of God in you. If you don't know the word, there is nothing to use against the situation or even remind you that the part you're about to tread is deadly.

Finally, Jeremiah was from his mother's womb consecrated and appointed to be a prophet unto nations. As youths in the kingdom, we are destined by God to be world changers, priest and prophets to nations, we are called to be a royal priesthood, a holy nation. We were not just called out of darkness into light for no reason. We are set apart unto righteousness to do the father's work.

We are to grow the kingdom he called us into, the laborers are few but the harvest is plenty. We are to be kingdom ambassadors everywhere we find ourselves. We are to express the love of Christ within our groups. We are expected to use our gifts and talents to promote the glory of God.

Your qualification to be a vibrant youth for the lord in this end time is to dedicate your life to him and be filled with the Holy Spirit.

To function at the right place he wants you to function in the kingdom

Acknowledge him in every area of your life and it's quite understandable that many youths have great desires and prospect for the future but remember that you can't do nothing without God's approval.

Your whole life ought to be based on nothing else but your walk with the Holy Spirit; that's the secret to a life of absolute and unlimited success and victory against the enemy of souls.

When you spend quality time in fellowship with the Holy Spirit, he lifts your vision and enable you to be more productive in life also seeing things like God does.

You'll see what he sees that other youths of your age bracket don't see. You'll find yourself living in a realm that the world doesn't think is real; an arena they probably only dream of.

So many youths chase after wrong things in life, they think of life in terms of material things or about money, but life isn't about those things or gain.

A man's life doesn't consist in the abundance of his possessions (Luke 12 verse 15)

At this end time era, life isn't about anything in this world, what matters is your walk with God. We ought to live our life as a youth like Jesus did. We should make Jesus our perfect role model in all things. God was so proud of him in all things that God had to anoint him

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went about doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him (Acts 10 verse 38)

Well you might want to say that's Jesus, how can I be anointed like that and do those kind of great works Jesus did?

Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will even do greater things than these, because I am going to the father (John 14 verse 12)

This is the how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgement: In this world we are like Jesus

(1 John 4 verse 17)

Jesus secret was the Holy Spirit, no wonder he lived as a master over everything and same he expects of us as youths of this end time.

Life is more about the victory inside you through the spirit. It's your response to circumstances, it's your ability to control and dominate forces of nature and the world around you.....

Youths in the kingdom at this end time, walk in the spirit, live the life of the spirit, grow in the spirit, ensure you speak in tongues regularly, don't be lazy about it. Win more souls into God's kingdom, be active in his house and be a constant flag bearer of his name and statues.

It will catapult your life to higher realms of glory in a way you never imagined and at the end your great reward will not stop on earth but continues in heaven.

You will be victorious on earth and prepared for heaven. Amen.

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