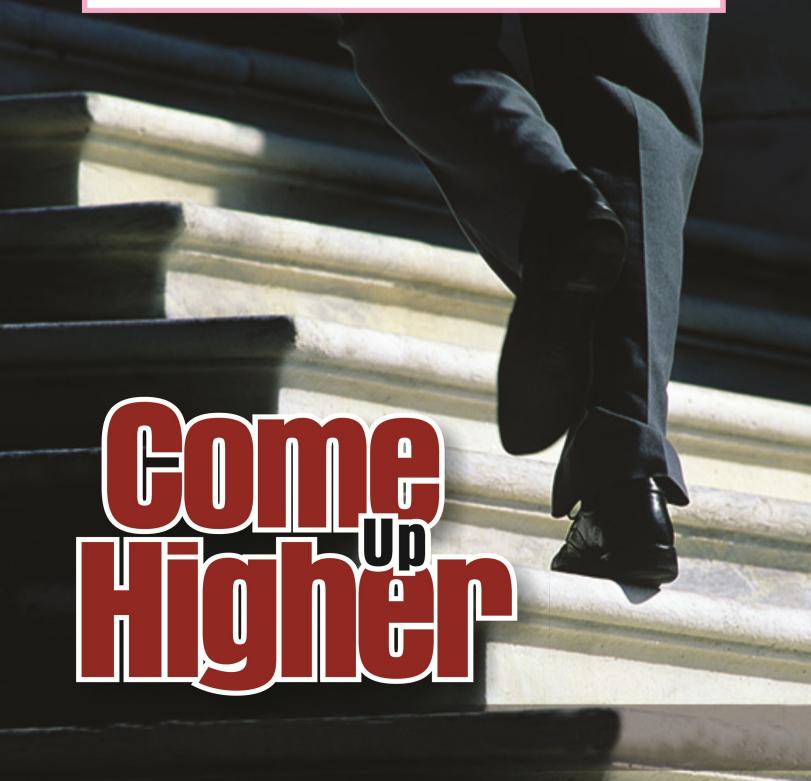


A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE RCCG, MERCY HALL WOMEN OF IMPACT

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





Senior Pastors, Mercy Hall

Beloved, we are glad to be back with this new edition of voice of impact. Thank God for the last edition, it was so beautiful, so packed with blessings and highly refreshing that we dwelt there for a while, but we must move on and move on to Higher Heights still. Proverbs 4:18 says "But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day". Therefore we will keep shining for the Lord and moving on to Higher Heights by the day.

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Beloved, the first half of the year is gone already and gone forever, we are in the second half of the year, the Spirit of God impressed on our spirit man to challenge ourselves to WAKE UP and keep moving on to Higher Heights. At this junction you and I must ask ourselves some important questions. Please let us pause, ask and answer the following questions in all sincerity.

How am I doing in the Lord?

Am I growing spiritually?

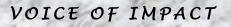
• Is my love and commitment to God and things of God increasing or decreasing?

- Am I moving forward or backsliding?
- Am I sleeping spiritually?

These questions are not unto condemnation but to challenge us to wake up from every form of spiritual slumber. Isaiah 51: 9a says "**Awake, awake,** put on strength, O arm of the Lord; awake, as in the ancient days, in the generations of old."

If you have missed it anywhere, anyhow, wake up, put on strength and return to your first love. This is not the time to sleep, so AWAKE OH THOU THAT SLEEPEST.....AND CHRIST SHALL GIVE THEE LIGHT Ephesians 5:14. Therefore beloved Arise, Shine, for thy light is come and the glory of the Lord is risen upon you, Isaiah 60:1. God bless you as you wake up from every form of spiritual slumber...





STAY CONNECTED



Dearly beloved,

> I bring you greetings and love from the editorial team. I have to start by congratulating the Women of Impact for their tremendous efforts in

raising Mercy Hall to Higher Heights. Blessed are you among women. Just imagine how much time has gone by since our last edition. I stand amazed at the awesome works God is doing in our lives. It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to this edition. We continue to make positive strides in growing our ministry through faithful stewardship, dedication, and obedience to the words of the Lord.

In the previous edition, God called on all of us to step forward and take charge of that which He wants us to accomplish to the glory of His name; and you did! Thank you for a great celebration of love event, Father's day celebration, the parents' day off program for our children, baby dedication, the flavorful hospitality Sunday meals, women's prayer meetings, church sanitation, and children's Sunday school program. Just to mention a few. You continue to be lifters and channels of blessings.

This edition will center on the theme "Awake, Abide, Revival, and Come Up Higher" The centerpiece of this edition is geared toward helping us reflect on our walk with God in the midst of our daily routines and life activities. As a mother, I understand how "busy" it can be as wife, mother, sister, career woman, activist, patron, and other important roles we have going for us. Of course, we have to own the role of the virtuous woman to ensure our homes are functioning as ordained. We carter to everyone's needs, and sometimes put our own needs in the back burner. Our role as women

encompasses so much. Very soon, it will be back to school session where we have to get back into various school related activities. Thank God for giving us the grace and ability to be able to carter to all that we have to do in our lives.

While we take time taking care of all our duties and responsibilities, the need to spend quality time with God may sometimes inevitably become strained to an extent. For this reason, we will focus on finding measures to help us remain Awake and stay Revived in God's presence at all times.

There are several articles and messages in this edition with important lessons for everyone. The Lord will strengthen you as you read. Remember, "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall nount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." Isaiah 40:31.

God bless you richly.

Chíka Nwordu Editor, Voice of Impact

Stay Connected Through The Word of God

Joshua 1:8: This book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and they you shall have good success.

Psalm 119:11: Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Proverbs 16:3; Commit your work to the LORD, and your plans will be established.

Romans 10:10-11; For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in Him will not be put to shame."



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WHY YOU MUST ABIDE

Medítatíon

Page 4

Written by: Pastor E.A. Adeboye



Psalm 1;1-3 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. 2. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. 3. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

In **John 9:6-7**, a man who was born blind had contact with the Lord and his eyes were opened in a very dramatic way. If just one contact could do that much, how much more when you abide in Him? When you abide in Christ, He makes everything to become new. **2 Kings 4:8-17** tells of the Shunammite woman who offered Elisha food, and he decided to abide more regularly in the apartment she built for him. Because he was abiding there, this woman who had lost hope of becoming a mother became the mother of a son.

When you abide, there is a new beginning. The widow of Zarephath had the servant of God abiding with her and her son and what was supposed to be her last meal became the meal that sustained the trio for over two years of famine. Are you abiding in Christ? If you are today in Christ, tomorrow in sin, you are not abiding in Him. If you are today in church, tomorrow in a shrine, you are not abiding in Him.

Moreover, why do you need to abide in Him? Abiding in Him creates the perfect atmosphere to get the best results from God's word. **Psalms 119:11** says, **"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."**

If you are in a hurry to study God's word, it will not sink into you, and you will be unable to reach the depth where you can get revelation. You need to read, study, memorize and meditate on the word, so that you can have good success (**Joshua 1:8**). You cannot continue in sin and expect a breakthrough from God because God is a miracle worker not a magician. Abiding in Him helps you to stay holy.

Several years ago, a woman attended an anointing service organized for those who wanted to be fruitful. Like others who came, I laid hands on her and prayed. Much later she was angry that nothing happened even though she fell under the anointing. While I was about to pray for her again, the Lord stopped me, and told me to ask this great woman how many boyfriends she had, beside her husband, and she said six. What some people are seeking is magic not miracle. To prosper and become fruitful or successful through Him, you must be holy.

Anytime you step out of Christ, you are exposed to the bullets and arrows of the enemy. Stay in Him!

OPEN HEAVENS DEVOTIONAL July 23rd 2013.

Mercy Hall

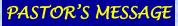
The place of God's enduring mercy, where God is reaching out to men, women, and children of all races, tribes, and tongues by the awesome manifestation of His power and mercy. We are a People Victorious on earth and prepared for heaven.

WE PRAISE

WE PRAY

and WE PREACH :

the Undiluted Word of God.





As recorded

in Genesis 1:31 all that God created was very good. Everything was perfect as created by God. However, while men slept, "the enemy comes"

Pastor Innocent Utulu

to sow a contrary seed in the life of man: Making him to bear fruits that don't reflect the nature of God.

Have you ever asked yourself who people resemble by the way they talk, the way they think, the way they conduct themselves, the way they relate with others, their manner of life that is not Christ like despite the fact that they claim to be Christians?. And for you as an individual: Does your way of life reflect the nature of God? Or are you behaving and living the way you are doing now because the enemy has taken advantage of your spiritual slumber? When a man is asleep, he is motionless, insensitive to his environment, he cannot hear when you talk, he cannot see, and he cannot eat. Likewise when a man is asleep spiritually, he will be highly insensitive to: (1) The things of God (2) To the Word of God (3) To the ways of God and (4) To the voice of God. Spiritual slumber manifests itself in different ways we shall be looking at here.

Running from God. When a person who has been enjoying God's presence suddenly begins to run from the presence of God, it is a clear indication of spiritual slumber. This was what happened to Adam and Eve. in Gen 3:8

WHILE MEN SLEPT ...

"And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden" . It happened to Jonah too as recorded in Jonah 1:3 " But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD".

Not doing what you should be

doing: When a child of God finds it very easy to neglect his or her duties or abandon the assignment given to him or her by God, it is an indication of spiritual slumber. In the book of Proverbs 6:9-11, the word of God says "How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man". Proverbs 10:5 says "He that gathereth in summer is a wise son: but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame". Jas 4:17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin. The amplified version of the bible puts it this way "So any person who knows what is right to do but does not do it, to him it is sin"

Spiritual weariness: this is another serious manifestation of spiritual slumber, when a child of God is beginning to be weary in spiritual things, he or she is sleeping spiritually. When you can meet up with cir-

cular and social demands and commitments but you get weary and you don't want to push yourself in spiritual things...If urgent care is not taken, you will not know when you will totally skid off track. Matthews 25:5 " While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept." (AMP) While the bridegroom lingered and was slow in coming, they all began nodding their heads, and they fell asleep.(AMP) some believers are weary because their miracle is delayed, their blessing appears to linger or they feel God is not fast enough in meeting their heart desires.

If a child of God does not not wake up from spiritual slumber as quickly as possible, he or she may get to the point of denying or not taking serious the coming of the Lord. At this point, any talk or preaching that does not center on claim it and receive it, or address their physical needs to is not trendy. They begin to see messages that promotes living an acceptable Christian life as too judgmental, condemning and not trendy.

Lack of vigilance: This is another manifestation of spiritual slumber.

The moment a believer becomes insensitive to the voice of God, to the word of God and to the things of God, you will discover that automatically He or she will be sensitive to the flesh and to the dictates of the human nature: See what the word of God says in Romans. 8;6-10. "For to be carnally minded *is* death; but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace. Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.





WHILE MEN SLEPT ...

Counsel from the Lord:

Romans 13; 11-14 "And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake fear and trembling. Philippians 2:12 out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night always obeyed [my suggestions], so is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof". I Thessa-Ionians 5: 1-9 " But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ",

Make your salvation sure and sincere: Be sure you are truly born

again.2Corinthians 13:5 (MSG) "Test yourselves to make sure you are solid in the faith. Don't drift along taking everything for granted. Give yourselves regular checkups. You need firsthand evidence, not mere hearsay that Jesus Christ is in you. Test it out. If you fail the

test, do something about it. "

Work out your own salvation with Therefore, my dear ones, as you have now, not only [with the enthusiasm you *would show*] in my presence but much more because I am absent, work out (cultivate, carry out to the goal, and fully complete) your own salvation with reverence and awe and trembling (selfdistrust, with serious caution, tenderness of conscience, watchfulness against temptation, timidly shrinking from whatever might offend God and discredit the name of Christ).

Be watchful and sober: 1Thessalonians 5:6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. The amplified version puts it this way; Accordingly then, let us not sleep, as the rest do, but let us keep wide awake (alert, watchful, cautious, and on our guard) and let us be sober (calm, collected, and circumspect).

Live everyday in expectation of the coming of the Lord

Beloved, now are we the son of God and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.1John.3:2-3. When you live every day expecting the coming of the Lord, naturally you will live a life of purity and holiness in readiness for this certainty

Let there be sensitivity in you to the spirit of God and the things of God.

Galatians 5:16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.(AMP) But I say, walk and live [habitually] in the [Holy] Spirit

[responsive to and controlled and guided by the Spirit]; then you will certainly not gratify the cravings and desires of the flesh (of human nature without God). We should become sensitive to the word of God, to the voice of God and to the things of God. We should shun the dictates and the evil desires of the human nature and strive to obey God.

Let us pray

Father, forgive me in every way I have slept

Father deliver me from every form of spiritual slumber

Father please rekindle your fire in me

Father show me mercy and give me a brand new beginning.

Father please take me back to my first love for you. AMEN.

MERCY HALL PROPERTY PROJECT

We Give God the Glory!

Our God is at Work.

Join us to partner with Him.

GOD is COUNTING on US.





Pastor Christy Utulu

Ohe Lord said to Moses "Come up the mountain to me, and while you are here, I will give you two stone tablets which contain all the laws that I have written for the instruction of my people." Moses and his helper Joshua got ready, and Moses began to go up the holy mountain. Moses said to the leaders "Wait here in the camp for us until we come back. Aaron and Hur are here with you; and so whoever had a dispute to settle can go to them." Moses went up Mount Sinai, and a cloud covered it. Genesis 24; 12-18.

Beloved, the lord is giving us a command, as He gave to Moses, to come up higher.

To come up higher means:

• To come up to that new level that He has promised us.

VOICE OF IMPACT

- To come up higher and experience that new beginning we desire.
- To come and think the way He is thinking because His thoughts are higher than our thoughts.
- To come and see the way He sees as He opens our spiritual eyes.
- To come and operate at His level because our God is high and lifted up.
- To come and see the invisible as He opens our eyes of understanding.
- To come and hear the inaudible as He opens our ears to hear from Him.
- To come and experience the incredible, as He makes us signs and wonders to behold.
- To come and begin to do the impossible as we move higher in fulfilling His purpose for our lives.
- To come and receive new strategy for the next level in every facet of life.

Why is the Lord Giving This Command at This Time?

It is possible that you are lying down when you should be up. Lying down where you fell; where you failed, fumbled and stumbled; Proverbs 24;16 says " for a just man falleth seven times, and riseth again" You may be Lying down where you were hurt or disappointed; even lying down where you succeeded or lying down in your comfort zone. The Lord is saying to you, it is time to come up because there is a higher height to attain and nothing must stand on the way. I pray that as many of us that are lying down when we should be up, the force of the Holy Ghost will lift us up in Jesus name.

It is possible that you are sitting when you should be standing. Sitting down could be a sign of fatigue. May be you are already tired and resting when the journey to the top is still far. There is an interesting story in 1 King. 13:14: of a young prophet who was given an assignment with specific instruction from God, the bible recorded that the son of the old prophet who misled him and made him disobey God found him sitting under an oak , if the young prophet was not sitting when the assignment was not fully carried out or accomplished he would not have become meat for the lion. This will not be your portion in Jesus name.

It is possible you are standing but without motion; without movement;

without climbing; without advancing. I decree that from today, you will gain speed in life in Jesus name. It is even possible you are climbing but you are getting tired: Getting discouraged or weary when you have not reached the top and so the Lord is calling you to come up higher because you are almost there. You will get there in Jesus name. UNTIL YOU COME UP HIGHER.

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There are glories you will never experience or enjoy. Exodus. 24:15-16

There are wonders you will never behold. Genesis. 22:4-5 There are revelations you will never be open to. Matthew 5:1-2

COME UP HIGHER is a command that is expressing the mind and determination of God to move you to the next level. ANY-TIME God wants to move His people higher, He usually does three things:

GOD WILL STEP INTO YOUR LIFE IN A NEW WAY

The Lord has declared this year as our year of higher heights. To take you to the level He has promised, God will have to step into your life and plans in a new way, He will step in to take over in a new way, He will step in to usher you into a new phase of your destiny and You will no longer be allowed to do things your own way.

God stepped into the life of Moses and from then on it was God's own way all the way. Exo.3

God stepped into the life of David in a new way (1Samuel.16) God stepped into the life of Elisha in a new way (1King.19:19) God stepped into the life of Peter in a new way (Mathew. 4:18-20) In Acts.9 God stepped into the life of Paul in a new way.

If you suddenly discover that the Lord is disrupting your well laid out plans and introducing His own, then know that He wants to uniquely move you up higher. Do not resist the move of God; you must always remember that His plans are always better, richer and far more rewarding.

~ Continued on page 8



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GOD WILL SET YOU UP: In the process of moving you higher, after stepping into your life, the Lord will set you up. He will place a demand on your life that will cost you something. (You must know that the call to come up higher is not for boys but for men. People that will say to the Lord "Lord, not my will but yours be done). Each time God wants to move a man higher, He will set him up. When God demanded for Peter's boat, it was a set up. When God demanded for Abraham's Isaac, it was a set up. This is where many people drop off.

The stage of God's set up is usually very challenging and Highly demanding, but don't let anything stop you, God is greater and bigger than any challenge He brings your way. Note that before He places a demand on you He knows how He will make the ability and the provision available as He did in the case of Abraham offering Isaac as a sacrifice, a lamb was in the waiting. Beloved do your part and allow God to do His own.

GOD WILL STEP YOU UP. This is the third thing that follows after God steps into your life anew, sets you up and you allow Him have His way, He will step you up to a greater Height in your relationship with Him. This is the level Abraham got to and God swore by Himself concerning Abraham in Genesis 22:16-18. It is a higher level of devotion to God, dedication to God and things of God. It is higher level of fruitfulness, higher level of service where you put your hears close to the heart of God to know what His heartbeat is for the moment and you are ready to do something about it. It takes you to higher level in God's blessings and His commitment to your live and to all that concerns you. What a blessing it will be if we can **COME UP HIGHER**. May God find you worthy and take you to this level in Him in Jesus name. Welcome to journey with the Lord on a higher level as you come up higher in all areas of your live in Jesus name. MARANATHA!!!!!

By Pastor Christy Utulu



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY VOICE OF IMPACT

STORE YOUR TREASURES IN HEAVEN

reasure is something special or valuable to us. We must

store our treasures in heaven and not on earth.

As children we will wonder how we store our treasure in heaven. Are we going to travel to heaven and come back to heaven? No children. You don't need to go in and out of heaven. But we should note the following;

- Realize that whatever we do here on earth is recorded in heaven. (good or bad)
- We should recognize that giving towards the work of God and giving our offerings regularly is important to God.
- Doing the will of God and obeying God's commandment in key
- Giving to the poor and the needy among us is also storing treasures in heaven.

Jesus admonished us in Luke 18:22b "When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

Matthew 6:21 says where your treasures is, there will your heart be also.

All children of God's focus are to make it to

heaven, so we need to store good things ahead of us, in form of treasures.

Matthew 6:19 says do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.

Children, we are on a journey here on earth and we will go back home one day.

Finally, before we could store treasures in heaven, we must first have a relationship with Jesus Christ by accepting Him as our Lord and savior.

By Christy Benyeogor





Children's Choir



Mercy Girls Dancing Group

SPIRITUAL REVIVIAL



Revival is the act of giving life

to what seems dead. It is the act of replenishing what has been depleted. It is the act of giving strength to what hitherto look weak.

In the spiritual parlance, it is the reawakening of the spiritual favour. It is

the replenishment of our spiritual strength and desire.

Jonah 3:1-10. The story in the book of Jonah chapter 3 clearly demonstrates the concept of spiritual revival in the life of the people. From the foregoing, everyone is expected to take the 'sinners place' to experience spiritual revival {2Chronicle 7:14}. The 'sinners place' is where we accept without excuse that we are sinners.

It is where we take the blame and stop blaming others or making excuses for our weaknesses.

In the 'sinners place' we no longer blame our circumstances, rather we take full responsibilities for our sins and admit failures.

For example,

- 2 Samuel 12:1-13, David admitted his sins and said "I have sinned against the Lord"
- Job 40: 4 Job said "I am vile (unworthy), what shall I answer thee"

Isaiah 6:1-5 Isaiah said "Woe unto me for I am undone"

Luke 18:13, The Publican declared "God be merciful to me a sinner"

Revival is a personal thing. It is Jesus himself coming to us at the point of our need; like he came to the disciples in the upper room at the prison of frustration. John 20: 19-20, Luke 24: 13- 21

Things to note about spiritual revival:

- You do not receive spiritual revival by seeking revival. But you receive revival by seeking God.
- From 2Chronicles 7:14, God says: If you will pray and seek my face, I will hear you and forgive and heal.
- If God is going to come to his people, he will not come until his people ask him to.
- Therefore, God is waiting for people to pray and ask for revival. Also, until someone gets on his knees, humbles himself and seek God and ask God to come, spiritual revival will not be a reality.

How to Receive Spiritual revival

1. The people must be broken. Jonah 3:8. The King instructed everyone to put on sack cloth; this is a demonstration of humility, brokenness and desperation for God and repentance.

- 2. There must be urgency in our heart for us to receive spiritual revival. Jonah 3:8 (NIV) "But let people and animals be covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call **urgently** on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence"
- 3. Urgently means a sense of emergency, unyielding, intense and fervent.

4. We must be holy to receive spiritual revival Jonah 3:8b (NIV) "Let them give up their evil ways and their violence". You cannot attract Gods attention and presence in the midst of iniquity. 2Chronicles 7:14, Psalm 66:18.



Revive Us Lord! (Medley)

Revive us Lord /2x By your power and your grace Revive us Lord /2x Holy spirit fill this place

We need a Holy Ghost revival Nothing else will do Nothing but your spirit Lord In our heart renewed As we turn to you And seek your holy face Pour out your spirit in this place. Alvin Slaughter

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NEW WINE MARRIAGE MINUTES

VOICE OF IMPACT

Take this as the beginning or new month to get it RIGHT with your spouse. Remember LIFE is too short for drama and petty things; PRAISE endlessly, PRAY without season, FORGIVE quickly, LAUGH insanely, LOVE truly, KISS slowly, MAKE LOVE passionately, and FEAR the LORD always. Arrange in order as applicable (Ephesians 3:19).

Our TONGUE is one of the most powerful organs in our body irrespective of its size. A daily check of its use in our homes is whether it creates a warm inviting campfire or a raging destructive forest fire. Remember not ALL things have to be said. (James 3:8-10).



It is certain that YOU will be hurt by someone sometimes. You cannot make people love you always. You will be hurt by people you cherish most, but YOU can decide to FOR-GIVE and RELEASE them. That is a powerful gift no one can take from you. (Matthew 18:21-22)

The substitute for criticism is LOVE. LOVE protects, heals, builds up, forgives, endures, encourages, lifts up. LOVE creates an avenue for change than criticism does. Do YOU CRITICISE or LOVE your spouse? (1 Corinthians 13:4-7) Life is full of decisions! We have to make many of them daily! Significant, wise, insignificant, unwise! I believe our decision to be married to our spouse is one of the most significant decisions we have ever made. Making wise decisions entails seeking God's guidance and not trusting in our own wisdom. Another wise decision we can make today is to continually renew our marriage commitment by loving, honoring and submitting to our spouse! Would you? (**Romans 13:8**)

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LOVE your spouse UNCONDITIONALLY! REJOICE in the ways you both fit together and WORK AROUND the ways you don't. RECOGNIZE what your spouse brings to the relationship rather than focusing on what you wish your spouse should have brought. DON'T lose sight of what attracted you to each other in the first place. It may be hidden, but it's still there. NEVER compare your relationship with others. RESTORE peace after a fight. **(Ephesians 5:2)**

> I will praise thee for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well. **Psalm 139:14.**

SINGLES

Wholesome Christianity: SEXUAL PURITY



Text; Romans 12;1-2 1. I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice,

holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. **2.** And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

God has many wonderful experiences He wants to give us as His children, but He also assigns these experiences to particular seasons of our lives. In our humanness, we often make the mistake of taking a good thing out of its appropriate season to enjoy it when we want it. Premarital sex is a prime example of this principle. Sex in itself is a wonderful experience, but if we indulge in it outside of God's plan, it becomes a sin. .

Like a fruit picked green or a flower plucked before it blossoms, our attempt to rush into anything before God's timing can spoil the beauty of His plan for our lives. Just because something is good doesn't mean we should pursue it right now. We have to always remember that the RIGHT THING DONE AT THE WRONG TIME BECOMES A WRONG THING. Sexual Purity is key to a Godly living for a young adult, and it is a matter of choice . In this write up we shall be looking at **ten** reasons why sexual purity is the best choice a Godly young adult should make.

PREMARITAL SEX IS SIN - I COR.

6:18: This point should be taken very seriously because it is God's own word, if God says it is sin, it is sin, culture or human demands or ideas cannot change it. Physical intimacy is much more than two bodies colliding. God designed our sexuality as a physical expression of the oneness of marriage. God guards it carefully and places many stipulations on it because He considers it extremely precious. The use of protective pills to protect one's self to avoid pregnancy, because you are not yet married is also an act of sin. The truth is that we will never understand God's demand for sexual purity until we appreciate the deep spiritual and emotional implications of physical intimacy, thus respecting the deep significance of physical intimacy is very important. And remember, just because your friends are doing it does not make it right.

IT ELIMINATES THE PROSPECT OF HAVING ABORTION TO COVER SINS.

The 'catch-phrase' here is that "you don't need to shop for what you cannot afford". You won't have to think about protection, using risky pills, talk more of getting pregnant when you shun premarital sex. And of course, you won't be committing murder. Yes don't be surprised, ABORTION IS MURDER. A word to those who have already fallen victim of this act, you are **free** and **forgiven** if only you confess your sins to God and promise God to never go back to your vomit, but use the rest of your life in glorifying God. One thing is sure, even if you feel bad that you have lost your virginity to premarital sex, you could encourage yourself by seeing yourself now as a born again virgin.



~Continued from page 14

TEENAGERS

VOICE OF IMPACT

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YOU ARE ON A MISSION



Your future begins now because you are on a special assignment to discover who you are, have dominion and takeover your promise land. You are a peculiar project! Yes, you heard me right. Every project has a purpose and every purpose is born out of a vision. Every Project has a Project Manager. You are God's exclusive project and he is the Project Manager.

Your ultimate goal in life is to discover the purpose of the Project Manager for your life and begin to manifest in the fullness of your potential. The Project Manager has all the raw materials and tools you will need ready. They are in form of the talents, special abilities and God-given passions which makes you exceptional from everybody else.

Samson Eniayewu when I grow up? What profession do I choose? There is no better person to answer this question than the Project Manager himself because he is your maker. He had a purpose in

mind for you when he designed you as his masterpiece. He has the master plan and blue print for your life.

In spite of the staggering world population which is now over 7 billion, God still know you by name and he know the number of hair on your head – Luke 10:30. God told Jeremiah that he predetermined his purpose on earth before he was formed in his mother's womb – Jeremiah 1:5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." (NIV). God has a plan tailored just for you because there is nobody like you.

Remember, you can only be your best when you are in your place of assignment, when you choose the right career, business endeavor, or ministry. There is grace and favor for extraordinary performance and productivity in God's will for your life.

To have good success in life, you must be at the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing. Why don't you ask God to reveal your purpose on earth to you today? He will show you because he said in Jeremiah 33:3 - 'Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.'

Seek to Discover the Purpose of the Project Manager for Your Life

To have good success in life, you must be at the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing. **DO NOT** let the excitement of YOUTH cause you to forget your Creator. Honor Him in your YOUTH before you grow old and no longer enjoy living. It will be too late then to remember him, when the light of the sun and moon and stars is dim to your old eyes... (Ecclesiastes 12:1-2)

Wholesome Christianity: SEXUAL PURITY

IT ELIMINATES THE PROSPECTS OF GETTING PREGNANT.

Joshua Harries in one of his books said, "Intimacy is the reward of commitment, thus no commitment no intimacy – I don't need to pursue a romantic relationship before I'm ready for marriage." One of the gift of marriage is making family, so if you are not yet up to the task, don't push it, you will only end up punishing the innocent child by raising him or her up outside the guidance of a Godly home, which involves a mother and a father. There is nothing as **safe sex**, whether safe or not, so far it is outside the wall of marriage, it is still a SIN. Moreover, statistics have shown that, the so-called safe pills or condoms are not even 100% safe, and 50% of the time does not even stop one from getting pregnant. **The bitter truth is that there is no SAFETY outside the will of God.**

IT ELIMINATES THE PROSPECTS OF STD'S TRANSMISSION.

If you obey the commandment of God by remaining sexually pure, you won't have to worry about contacting these deadly diseases. "He that the son has made free is free indeed" our body now becomes the temple of the Lord, where diseases should not live in. This can only be so when we do what is right before God and also physically.

BEING SEXUALLY ACTIVE BEFORE MARRIAGE CAN ROB YOU OF GOD GIVEN DREAMS AND GOALS.

God has a perfect plan for everyone's life, only if we could be patient enough to allow His plan to be fulfilled. More than likely, that plan includes marriage, where you will enjoy your marriage, with all the goodies, without any guilt. There are two cases of people in the bible that had to keep their body pure before they could be used of God:

MARY: She was the young virgin who gave birth to our Lord Jesus Christ, she was the reason we all are access to salvation today.

JOSEPH: He was the young guy, who at a very young age, had a dream that he was going to be great, little did he know that his journey to greatness was going to be quite an experience. He started off as Daddy's little boy to being hated by his brothers resulting into him being thrown into the dungeon, where he was later sold into slavery. He landed in Pharaoh's house, became Pharaoh's favorite slave, just as he was trying to relax and recover his dreams, all of a sudden his masters wife wanted him and tried to seduce him. He tried to run away and his refusal landed him in prison again. Wao I am pretty sure, if it was some of us by now, we would have asked God why, but of course according to God's purpose for him, he had to be seduced, he had to reject it and then imprisoned before he could finally be vindicated to attain his destined greatness. To achieve God's purpose for our lives, we need to exercise patience. Waiting for God's timing requires trusting in God's goodness. We develop patience, as we trust that God denies us good things in the present only because He has something better for us in the future. "If we want to lead pure lives, then we must realize that purity does not happen by accident. Rather, we must constantly pursue the direction of purity.

IT LEADS TO DISCIPLINE IN OTHER AREAS.

If you could discipline yourself sexually, you will be able to discipline yourself academically, spiritually and even martially. You can accomplish anything as far as God's will for you, is concerned and you will be able to say like Paul "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

~ Continued on Next Page



Wholesome Christianity : SEXUAL PURITY

YOU CAN AVOID UNNECESSARY FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN EXPERIENCED BY INDIVIDUALS WHO ENGAGE IN PREMARITAL SEX, RESULTING IN UNPLANNED PREGNANCIES.

Do the right thing at the right time and you will reap the result therein.

IT MAKES BREAKING UP WITH 'BOYFRIENDS' OR 'GIRLFRIENDS' MUCH MORE EASIER.

If you get sexually involved with someone who you are not married to, you are breaking God's rule and creating unnecessary bonds, which might be really difficult to let go. Actually, wasting too much time trying to figure each other out as boyfriends and girlfriends can actually distract two people from the more important task of preparing to be good spouses.

THIS IS A SPECIAL AND PRECIOUS GIFT YOU COULD GIVE YOUR FUTURE SPOUSE .

Virginity is a unique gift. Being virtuous is a special value in the scripture; the bible says, "A virtuous woman is the crown of her husband." This makes walking down the aisle a special and memorable event, rather than just an act. However, if by one way or the other you have lost yours, all hope is not lost yet, you can choose to live your life anew starting from now, and God himself the maker of life will change you and you will become a born again virgin.

WAYS TO PULL THESE 10 REASONS THROUGH AND ALSO HELP CONTROL YOUR HORMONAL DRIVES:

Make up your mind to ABSTAIN completely from SEXUAL IMPURITY. Daniel 1:8

Pray daily for strength to resist temptations. " it is not by power, nor by might, by my spirit says the Lord."

Strive to grow spiritually. Make God first in all you do. Keep God's instructions and commandments close to your heart.

Do not Date an unbeliever, your believes differ and you can easily compromise your stand if you do.. I Corinthians. 15:33, II Corinthians. 6:14-18.

Be active in the Church where you fellowship. Attend Church programmes. Always be in an environment where you keep hearing correct word of God. Guide your eyes and ears against disturbing events such as advertised on TV, videos or music impacts. Job 31:1. Set appropriate Dating Standard – Don't just Date someone for his or her society class, image or beauty.

Let God lead you in your choice of who to walk with. The first thing before dating is to know if it is the will of God to get yourself involved

Avoid peer, society and parent pressure, **Strive to do the RIGHT thing at the RIGHT time.** Do not decide to Date because you are the only one among your friends, your siblings or group that does not have a man/woman yet. God's plan for everyone differs. When you are eventually ready to embark on God-confirmed relationship, get your pastor, a respected youth leader or your **Godly** parent informed to guide you through in giving Godly counsel. If you eventually get into dating/courting someone, make your meeting places a public center, not in a secluded place where dirty thinking can creep in. Pray! Pray! Pray! God bless you as you stay pure.

Commit your ways to the Lord and He will direct your part



SUNDAY SCHOOL

What is the Rapture of the church?

The word 'rapture' does not occur in the Bible. The rapture of the church is the event in which God removes all believers from the earth in order to make way for His righteous judgment to be poured out on the earth during the tribula-



Philip Benyeogor

tion period. The rapture is described primarily in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and 1 Corinthians. 15:50-54.

Sequence of events

God will resurrect all believers who have died, give them glorified bodies, and take them from the earth, along with those believers who are still alive

and who will at that time also be given glorified bodies. In 1 **Thessalonians 4:16-17** the bible says:

"For the Lord Himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever"

The rapture will be instanta-

neous in nature, and we will receive glorified bodies at that time. "Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eve, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed" (1 Corinthians 15:51-52).

Rapture is the glorious event we should all be longing for. We will finally be free from sin. We will be in God's presence forever.

When will Rapture Happen?

At present, all believers are living in the Church age, which has no specified time period given to it in Scripture. At any moment from now, Christ will return for His Bride, the Church, and evacuate believers from earth before the start of a seven-year period in which God will pour out His wrath on an unbelieving world. The tribulation will climax with the bodily return of Christ, after which He will establish a perfect reign that lasts 1,000 years. Once that reign has

concluded and one final rebellion crushed, God creates a new heaven and earth and the eternal state begins.

Is rapture and second coming of Christ the same?

The answer is NO for the following reasons.

1. At the rapture, believers meet the Lord in the air 1 Thessalonians 4:17. While at the second coming, believers return with the Lord to the earth Revelation 19:14.

2. The second coming occurs after the great and terrible tribulation. The rapture occurs before the tribulation 1 Thessalonians 5:9; Revelation 3:10.

> 3. The rapture is the removal of believers from the earth as an act of deliverance 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17. The second coming includes the removal of unbelievers as an act of judgment Matthew 24:40-41.

4) The rapture will be secret and instant 1 Corinthians. 15:50-54.

be visible to all. Revelations 1:7; Matthew 24:29-30.

BEDTIME STORY

A pastor was walking with his son along the beach. His son questioned his father's sermon from Sunday.

"Dad, I can't understand how Christ can live in us and we can live in him at the same time."

The father noticed an empty bottle laying on the beach with a cork in it. He picked up the bottle, put some water in it, stuck the cork back in, and threw it into the ocean.

As they watched the bottle bob up and down in the ocean, he said, "Son, the sea is in the bottle and the bottle is in the sea.

That's a picture of Christ being in you, and you being in Him.

Col. 1:27--"Christ in you, the hope of glory."

Col. 3:3--"For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

The second coming will

RAPTUR

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Events

VOICE OF IMPACT



Naming of Baby Glory Eniayewu





MERCY VOICE



The Lawals Thanksgiving



Naming of Baby Rebekah Jesuvivi Ntete



Sis Helen's Thanksgiving

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BOOK REVIEW

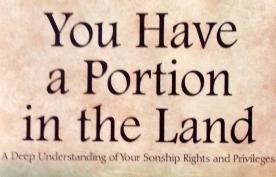
You Have A Portion in The Land

A Deep Understanding of Your Sonship Rights and Privileges

You may have known and believed that the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, but do you know that as a son or daughter of God you have a portion in the land? The authors set out in this book to help you appreciate and appropriate the facts that:

- The whole earth belongs to your heavenly Father; it is His estate. Not because He needs it but because He wants you to inherit it.
- No matter your present location on the face of the earth, you are not an alien, you are in your Father's estate and can obtain your portion there.
- You need the powers of Revelation, Purpose, Determination, Anointing, and Mercy among several others to work in your favor in order to obtain your portion in the land.

By the time you are through reading this book, you will be able to confidently say, "I have a portion in the land." Much more, you will be set to obtain your portion in the land!





Innocent Utulu and Christy Innocent-Utulu

About The Authors

Pastor Innocent Utulu and his wife Pastor (Mrs.) Christy Innocent-Utulu trained as attorneys and had a successful legal practice before their divine call into full time ministry by the Lord with a mandate to build men and structures for Him with a passion for excellence which mandate the Lord has helped them to successfully execute since the last twenty years. They had the rare privilege of overseeing about 900 churches of The Redeemed Christian Church of God over this period. Pastors Innocent and Christy are widely travelled as ministry companions on preaching engagements to South Africa, East Africa, United Arab Emirates, France, Holland, Poland, Spain, Italy, The United Kingdom, Canada. They presently reside in Texas, USA as Senior Pastors of The Redeemed Christian Church of God. Mercy Hall. They are happily married, and blessed with three gems: Chiedu, Grace of God, and Oseloke.

To order, visit: www.amazon.com www.barnesandnobles.com www.bookdepository.com www.eden.co.uk

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TESTIMONIES

I would like to testify on how God changed my life in RCCG Mercy Hall. Three plus years ago I lost my husband, father of my kids, my best friend, life partner and confidant to a horrible car crash only 5weeks after having my daughter Abigail. A year later my mother suddenly passed from a cardiac arrest.

I was left bitter, heart-broken, depressed with a lot of anguish while trying to raise my kids. My kids kept me going but I felt like I was being punished for something, I kept saying 'but I'm a good person' how can this be?. I remember being so angry when my folks would say stuff like 'God would not put something on your plate if he didn't think you could handle' I questioned God, my religion, church and even His existence, it was too much to bear; the pain, the anguish, the loneliness e.t.c.

In December 2012, I accompanied some house guests I had to Mercy Hall a 'Born again' church. I was raised Presbyterian and had dabbled with Pentecostal faith over the years but still felt funny about it. At the end of the service that day the pastor asked us to ask for something we wanted God to do for us that will be a memorial of our first day in Mercy Hall. I had several requests but my main requests was for Him to change my situation, and reveal to me what I needed to do to get better.

He did!! At first I thought going to church several times a week is just too much but I kept going, even when I didn't feel like going. Bible studies, prayer meetings. I just kept going. I began to learn as I was taught the word of God in the various services. I learnt of God's promises and His true nature-Good. He is a good God; He let me go through all those storms to bring me closer to Him.

Today I can say He is my provider, husband, Father to me and my kids (who are thriving by the way) and my refuge. I cast all my cares on Him. I have a certain peace and calm within me that sometimes I don't understand. I look forward to fellowship days in the Church. He has assured me all will be well- Yes I AM BORN AGAIN thanks to God, thanks to Mercy Hall.

I know He has not finished with me yet and I am very excited about my future once again. My faith has grown. I find myself thanking God more for the smallest things that I used to take for granted, I now know I should put Him first and I am doing that. As our Pastor always make us to declare "I will Keep saying what I want and not what I see..." God Bless Mercy Hall, my Pastors and all the beautiful members.

Annie Kwankam-Ndumu

I want to thank God for all He has done for me, He has blessed me so much. I stepped into Mercy Hall as a sick person and I had so many burdens on me. That first day we came, I was told that I am stepping up in life, I told God to do exactly that for me. We were told to make requests that God will answer our prayers, I told God all the problems and that He should solve them for me.

As we kept coming to church, I started noticing changes; God started blessing me and my whole family. My problems began to go one by one.

God has healed me. I am no longer the way I used to be. Even my look and appearance has changed for good. God blessed me with many grandchildren, I am full of joy and I always like to dance for God. I have testimonies every month.

God answered my prayers in Mercy Hall and I thank Him, I and my family have indeed stepped up in every area of life.

I thank God also for our Pastors, anytime I tell them to pray with me, they always pray and God answers. I thank God for all the things He has done and will still continue to do.

Mama Barango

I will like to testify to the glory of God of how my life and that of my entire family have been transformed since I joined RCCG Mercy Hall. I came out to give this testimony in church and I want to give it again.

Before I came to Mercy Hall I had terrible experiences and it affected my decisions on where to worship. My wife encouraged me after she visited Mercy Hall that we should go as she felt the presence of God when she stepped into Mercy Hall. I thank God I yielded to her advice.

Since the day I came to Mercy Hall for the 1st time, my life has never remained the same, I enjoy fellowship, I leave church every fellowship day with overwhelming joy and happiness.

My pastor teaches the word of God passionately and I am always challenged to live as a Christian indeed. Pastor Innocent Utulu is not just a pastor but a teacher to the glory of God. His teachings from the word of God have greatly influenced my family and I positively. God has used RCCG Mercy Hall to bless me and my entire household. Praise God.

King Victor Okereke





From Mum's Heart to the Youths

and the second the second

- *************
- The secret to happiness is the acceptance of you.
- The level of happiness is largely related to your level of intimacy with God. Proverbs
- 26:20 "He who heeds the word wisely will find good. And whoever trusts in the lord happy is he". ٠
- Forgive those who are yet to do you wrong, and you won't have to worry about it should the time come. •
- Never let an argument last; never hold a grudge it will only make your heart heavy
- Love and companion can heal the **♦** deepest wounds.
- Remember what vour mother ۲ taught you. It came from the most ♦ ♦ sacred place of love that exists.
- ♦♦ When you are true to yourself in all * * your actions, your life takes on a whole new level of joy you never taught possible. •



- If you want to receive, give.
- Ask for what you want. If you don't ask, you won't receive. John 16:23-24, "Until now you have asked nothing in my name ask and you will receive that your joy maybe full"

Stay Focused

- Growing up, one can sometimes face obstacles. The ability to overcome these obstacles is • important and here are some tips to stay focused as youths.
- ۰ Don't live on the past and never give up. What happened in the past, should be in the past.... move on. Most youths think once they fail in life that is the end. It is important to keep trying and never give up on your dream. Success is sure to be accomplished -٠
- ٠ remain focused.

- One of the ways to stay focused is also to have to do list each day. Without to do list, it's ۲ easy to get distracted.
- Visualize your success set goals for yourself and give yourself time in accomplishing ۰ these goals and then work on it until you accomplish these goals.
- Surround yourself with right people surrounding yourself by people of higher experience ¢ that can mentor and teach you highly valuable lessons. ٠
 - By Joy Nimiworio

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AUGUST

King Victor Okereke - 2nd Mummy Somuyiwa - 7th Bunmi Lawal - 8th Korede Ogunde -12th Janet abiodun -13th Helen Abiodun - 18th Oreva Akugha - 22nd James Abiodun -23rd Ramat Ariwodo - 23rd Joy Okereke - 27th Tolani Lawal - 29th Noah Farri Ogunde - 31st George Benyeogor - 31st

NOVEMBER

Kenneth – 7th Samuela Ntete – 10th Toyin Young – 14th Favor Fatoki – 17th Rezi Kenneth – 19th Chiedu Utulu -20th Christy Utulu -24th

OCTOBER

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Joy Nimiworio – 1st Ebiere Nimiworio – 8th Moyosore Okuyiga – 19th Nora Somuyiwa – 19th David Okuyiga – 29th

SEPTEMBER

Brendalyn Okereke – 6th Seyi Odulate – 14th Elohor Kenneth – 18th Patrick Ojeah – 20th Nathan Somuyiwa – 27th Karina Nimiworio – 29th Uche Ojeah – 29th

DECEMBER

Christina Benyeogor – 9th Ima and Ime Idim – 11th Derecklin Okereke – 13th Chibike Ariwodo – 20th Sharon Okereke – 20th Naomi Newton – 27th

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Elohor and Kenneth - 25" August Mrs J.A.Adeyoye - 3rd September Papa and Mama Somuyiwa - September Funmilayo and Olufemi Adaramola - 20th September Nimiworios - 4th November

Izu and Ramat Ariwodo -14th December Akughas— 29th December

Aspire To What Is Higher

Aspire to godly excellence And wisdom for your life, For these have eternal value And is the character of Christ

Why should we spend more time On what is only external? Shouldn't we be feeding our spirits? For it's our spirit that is eternal

For there is far more value In pursuing godly things, For with it our souls shall prosper And know eternal blessings

God wants to lift us up To our full potential in Him, To rise above our limitations And run the race to win

Don't let circumstances in life Hold you back once more, For you can arise and conquer it As you trust in the living Lord

And as the Lord reveals to you His purposes and His will, Know that He equips you for Your destiny to fulfil

And He will be to you a friend, You can go to when in need, Just keep your eyes focused on Him And upon His word believe.

© By M.S.Lowndes

Mercy Hall

The place of God's enduring mercy, where God is reaching out to men, women, and children of all races, tribes, and tongues by the awesome manifestation of His power and mercy. We are a People Victorious on earth and prepared for heaven.

WE PRAISE

WE PRAY

and WE PREACH :

the Undiluted Word of God.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

• Sundays

- Workers Training, 9:00 am
- Sunday School, 9:30am -10am
- Celebration Service, 10:00am -12 noon
- Power Sundays (Bimonthly)
- Tuesdays (Bible Study)
 - Digging Deep, 7pm 8pm
- Thursdays
 - Faith Clinic, 7pm 8pm
- Monthly Night Vigil
 - Last Fridays, 10pm 1am
- Evangelism / Mercy Walk
 - Every other Saturday
- Fire from Heaven Summit
 - First three days of the Month (1st, 2nd, 3rd of every month)
 7pm - 8pm
- Believer's Class TBA

For more information,

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Join the Mercy Prayer Line



When:	Daily
Time:	10 pm central time (CT)
Dial:	<u>1-559-546-1000</u>

Access code: 963264#



THE PLACE OF GOD'S ENDURING MERCY