

fear is like a mirage, which does not actually exist. It can be likened to water appearing on a hot tarred road that vanishes when you reach it. Again and again, our Lord encourages us to "Fear Not." Just as the disciples were wrong in thinking it was the ghost of Jesus walking on the water, most times our fears are unfounded.

#### **Key 5 - Ask (V. 28)**

Peter asked Jesus if he could also walk on the water like him, and Jesus granted his request. Often we are too timid to present our requests to God and we expect solutions to our problems. The Lord has assured us that if we ask anything according to the will of His father, He would hear us (1 John 5:14).

#### **Key 6 - Faith (V. 29)**

After Peter presented his request to our Lord Jesus, and Jesus asked him to walk on the water, he believed and had faith in Jesus and walked on the water. Frequently, after we have made our requests to the Lord Jesus, we do not receive answers because we do not believe or have the faith that He will grant our requests.

#### **Key 7- Focus on Christ (V. 30a)**

Peter walked on the water so long as his focus was on Christ. The moment he seized to focus on Christ and instead focused on the tumultuous wind, we read he began to sink. Most times we stay focused on our mountains instead of the One who made the mountains. This is the Master Key to peace of mind. Remain focused on the Lord Jesus Christ, the Author and Finisher of our faith.

#### **Key 8 - Cry to Jesus (V. 30b)**

When Peter began to sink, he cried out to Jesus, and Jesus reached out to hold him. When we are in the valley and all seems to be lost or breaking apart, we should cry to Jesus, and He would surely reach out to us, just as He did to Peter when he was sinking.

#### **Key 9 - Invite Jesus (V. 32)**

The wind ceased when Jesus got into the

boat. Satan, demons, problems, etc., cannot cohabit together with the Lord Jesus, just as light and darkness cannot exist together. Darkness must always give way to light. When Jesus comes into your boat, everything contrary to God's plan for you must get out.

#### **Key 10 - Worship Jesus (V. 33)**

Those in the boat worshipped Jesus and proclaimed He is truly the Son of God. In our Christian journey, we must learn the art of worship. It is a command from God and a way to honor God. No wonder in the King James Version, the word "worship" appears 99 times.

In conclusion, what are the various problems that can mitigate against a sound peace of mind from the Christian perspectives? They are numerous and the list is endless. Most often, we worry about our children, where shall we spend eternity, our finances, what the future holds, our health, relationships, trials, work, etc. What are the Bible promises on the above? I am quoting from the King James Version.

#### **Children**

But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the Kingdom of God... And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them (Mark 10: 14, 16).

#### **Eternity**

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand (John 10: 27-28).

#### **Finances**

The Bible says that "The love of money is the root of all evil" (1 Timothy 6: 10), and I dare to say the lack of money can be the root of loss of peace of mind. What does the Bible say on our finances? But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant

which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day (Deuteronomy 8: 18).

#### **The Future**

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus (Philippians 4: 19).

#### **Health**

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed (Isaiah 53:5).

#### **Relationships**

Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not, knoweth not; for God is love (1 John 4: 7-8).

#### **Trials**

When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee (Isaiah 4:2).

#### **Work**

Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh in vain (Psalm 127:1).

#### **Final Word:**

If you are not born-again, why don't you repent of your sins today, accept the Lord Jesus as your Lord and Savior, invite Him into your boat (home, business, marriage, relationship, finance, health, trials, work, etc.) and enjoy the peace of mind that can only come from the Lord Jesus.

# WHO IS YOUR BUDDY?

By Samson Eniyewu

**R**edefining friendship has become imperative in today's society as a result of continuously increasing gang related activities, juvenile delinquency, and soaring moral decadence among youths and teenagers. Unfortunately, church teens and youths are also falling victims of this ungodly influence from friends. The Holy Scripture states – "Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character." (1 Corinthians 15:33 NIV) Do not be deceived: "Bad Company ruins good morals." (1 Corinthians 15:33 ESV). Wrong association is landing a lot of teenagers and youths in undesired destinations such as Jail, police custody, substance abuse rehabilitation centers and quite often in the morgue. It is very sad that many great destinies get crushed, aborted and go unfulfilled because of wrong friends. Bad Friends contribute immensely to reasons why teenagers and youths fail in life. Wrong friends also contribute to weakening the foundation of young lives as a result many irreversible mistakes with devastating consequences.

Who is a friend?

A friend is an individual with whom you share common interest, values and cares deeply about your wellbeing genuinely. Can two walk together except they be agreed? Amos 3:3. Your choice of friend is a direct reflection of who you are. 'There is a saying that Birds of same feather flock together'. A true friend is an individual who knows your fault and weakness and yet never use it against you but always want to support you to be your best. A friend is usually someone you can trust. King David was fortunate to have a friend like Jonathan in whose hand he could entrust his life. Jonathan protected David's life when Jonathan's father, King Saul wanted him dead by all means. "Most men will proclaim everyone his own goodness: but a

faithful man who can find?" Proverbs 20:6 (KJV). New Living Translation of Proverbs 20:6 says "Many will say they are loyal friends, but who can find one who is truly reliable?"

## Why is the choice of friend critical to our life?

- Friends have great impact on our self-esteem; friends can serve as a mirror through which we see our selves
- Friends can make or break our dream.
- Friends can fortify our faith or boost our fear
- Friends can affect choices we make in life, they can influence our decisions.
- Friends can determine our future; How high we rise or how deep we fall
- Friends inspire us to be better or discourage us until we lose faith in ourselves and amount to nothing
- Friends contribute to shaping your attitude, beliefs, behaviors, habits, and characters
- Friends tell us the truth which will set us free or tell us lies which will keep us in bondage just to make us feel good.
- Friends offer advice which can either keep us safe or expose us to danger.
- Friends can lead you to heaven or hell.

What Criteria should be used in choosing a worthy friend?

### 1. Fear of God

Does that individual have the fear of God? When a person has the fear of God, he or she is quick to depart and stay away from evil, ungodly habits, ungodly pursuits and behavior. An individual who fears God respects God's opinion in all things and will not advise you to do the contrary. Your safety in a friendship / relationship is predetermined by an individual's attitude towards God and his ways. Remember that the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom. You should be mingling with wise folks because Proverbs 13:20 says He



that walks with the wise shall be wise but the companion of the fool shall be destroyed.

### 2. Values

Important and lasting beliefs or ideals shared by the members of a culture about what is good or bad and desirable or undesirable. Values have major influence on a person's behavior and attitude and serve as broad guidelines in all situations ([www.businessdictionary.com](http://www.businessdictionary.com))

What does the person consider of utmost importance as it relates to the issues of life? What takes the first place on their list of priorities? Our values influence our decision making process.

Your friend's values will in turn rob on you and either positively or negatively affect your values.

### 3. Principles

An individual of principle is a person with moral, ethical standards or judgments. A potential friend should be a person of principle with predefined Godly standards of living which they will not compromise. A person with a set of standardly acceptable conduct, behavior which are of good quality and report will influence you as a

person for good or otherwise.

#### 4. Integrity

Does your friend have a commendable reputation? An individual with reputation is often sincere, honest, and above all trustworthy. It is very crucial to have a friend who is a friend of God. When God qualifies a person to be his friend, then you can confidently welcome them into your life as a friend

In conclusion, remember this great quote which I love so much - "A friend is a gift you give yourself." - Robert Louis Stevenson. You have freedom of choice, friendship is by choice not by force. Do not be in a hurry to make someone new your friend, there is nothing wrong if they are just an acquaintance for a probationary period until you know what they are really made up of. People are not usually who they appear to be when you first meet them. Let the Lord guide you when choosing a friend, let God's standards be your standard for evaluating a potential friend. Anyone who willingly and knowingly go against God's ways and words should not be on your list of friends.

# Five Benefits of Genuine Salvation.

Philip Benyeogor

**S**alvation is the greatest experience in the life of any Christian. It encompasses all aspect of our redemptive benefits in Christ, such as: Victory, progress, deliverance, dominion, welfare, safety, freedom, prosperity, healing, success, peace, and protection. Salvation is deliverance from sin and satan. It is freedom from bondage and oppression. It is also freedom to serve God and to live a righteous life. Salvation is victory over sin, self and satan. It is the victory over the battles of life. Salvation is prosperity in its entire ramification. It is the healing of our bodies, minds and spirits. It is man exercising the dominion of Christ over sin, the flesh, evil spirits and the world.

Man receives salvation when he/she hears the word of God and submits to the gospel of the kingdom of God. Man receives salvation when he or she believes in the atoning sacrifice of Christ for sin and confesses Jesus Christ as the Lord and personal saviour Rom 10:9-10 says 'that if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation'.

Salvation requires that a man forsakes his or her sins and receive the free gift of righteousness. Salvation is a free gift and must be received by faith. It is unique in that it is available to every man and women, race and culture, and generations that believe in the gospel. You can receive yours right now.

#### Benefits of our salvation in Christ Jesus includes...

**1. Guaranteed Security through the knowledge of Christ.** This is talking about true knowledge. It is a heart-to-heart personal relationship. It is part of having eternal life John 17:3 'And this is Life eternal that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent'. God granted us this privilege (Matt. 11:27). We know Him because He first knew us (I Cor. 8:3, Gal. 4:9). It is a personal, deep and intimate knowledge. We are friends. We are also lovers. And we grow in this knowledge deeper and deeper (Phil. 3:8, 10).

#### 2. We Are Reconciled to God.

This is a great benefit of salvation that we often overlook. 2 Cor. 5 is the great chapter on it. We were once God's enemies; now we are His friends. We are reconciled. It is more than a truce; it is the end of hostilities. The war is over. We have peace with God. We were once against God and God against us. Now He is for us and with us, and we with Him. Properly speaking, it is we that are reconciled to God, not God to us. We apologize, not He. Yet, on His part, the righteous enmity was removed when His wrath was appeased when Christ died for us.



#### 3. We Are Transferred From Satan's Kingdom.

Col. 1:13 says that God transferred us from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light. Christ, not Satan, is now our King. We defected from Satan's evil empire, became traitors to his wicked regime, and now are God's people engaged in Lord's army. We have been rescued from Satan's claws; he cannot ever have us again. We are on another team, part of another body, have different allegiances. We were once for Satan and against God; now we are against Satan and for God (Matt. 6:24). If God is for us, who can be against us?

#### 4. We Are No Longer Under Wrath.

We were once sinners under the wrath of God - condemned, doomed, facing judgement. All that has changed. We will never be judged. God is not angry with us, but smiles on us in Fatherly love. God saved us from several things: sin, Satan, death, Hell. But most importantly, He saved us from His own wrath. Lost sinners are still under His wrath (John 3:36). But not us. As fierce as His wrath was against us then, so intense is His love for us now.

#### 5. We are United to Christ.

This is similar to the union of the Holy Spirit. We are put into Christ's Body (I Cor. 12), with the result that we are "in Christ". At the same moment, Christ is put into us and is in us. In one sense, we were united with Him in the eternal Covenant, but we were united with Him in our experience when we were saved. We are united to Him and draw life from Him, and cannot do anything without Him (John 15). We are also united with Him in spiritual espousals. We are engaged to be His bride. One day, this will be consummated at the great heavenly marriage.

I encourage you to accept Jesus into your life today so you too can begin to enjoy all these wonderful benefits.



# Secrets Of Uncommon Lifting

Pastor Innocent & Christy Utulu



**T**here was a man that wanted to travel abroad in the time that the only means of transportation overseas was by ship.

He worked hard and was able to buy his ticket and had a little money left with which he bought snacks to be eaten during his journey. On board the ship, whenever he is hungry, he goes to a little corner to eat his snacks.

When he arrived at his destination after several weeks on the sea, one of his co passengers that he met when they were boarding saw him and asked him where he had been all through the journey that he never saw him in the dining room.

What was his answer? I had just enough money to buy my ticket with no extra money for food on board so I made provision for snacks for myself. The friend exclaimed. Oh my God. Friend, when you paid for your ticket, included in it was the cost of the food you were going to eat on board. You did not need anything extra other than appearing in the dining hall to eat.

Beloved, Jesus paid for all. Don't be like this traveler. It was recorded in John 19:30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

Christ perfected our victory on the cross of cavalry

Everything about your situation has been perfected.

Your responsibility is to believe it and walk into that victory. And this can only be possible by searching to know how you can walk into it.

There are divine secrets for walking into what God has settled for you.

Proverbs 25:2

(BBE) It is the glory of God to keep a thing secret: but the glory of kings is to have it searched out.

(CEV) God is praised for being mysterious; rulers are praised for explaining mysteries.

(ERV) We honor God for the things he keeps secret. But we honor kings for the things they can discover.

(GW) It is the glory of God to hide things but the glory of kings to investigate them.

(KJV) It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter.

There is a need for us to investigate and search out these embedded secrets. One of the ways to find them out is to investigate the lives of characters in scriptures that had dealings with God and how they walked and obtained.

The Lord has declared this year 2014 as our year of uncommon lifting. It is therefore wise and proper for us to search the scriptures

And learn from the lives of some bible characters that experienced uncommon lifting. The bible says

1Co 10:6 Now these things were our examples, ...

## JOSEPH A STUDY IN UNCOMMON LIFTING

The Profile of Joseph that qualifies him to be studied or investigated

- 11<sup>th</sup> son in a family of 12 sons and one daughter
- Was loved by the father
- Was a dreamer and interpreter of dreams
- Was hated by his brethren
- Was sold into slavery
- Was a head slave in the house of Potiphar
- Was lied against and unjustly imprisoned
- Moved from the prison and became a Prime Minister of a world power. ( If this is not uncommon lifting, I wonder what you call it)

Gen 41:38-45 And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou . Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou. And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, See, I have set thee over all the land of Egypt.

And Pharaoh took off his ring from his hand, and put it upon Joseph's hand, and arrayed him in vestures of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck;

And he made him to ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried before him, Bow

the knee: and he made him ruler over all the land of Egypt.

And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, I am Pharaoh, and without thee shall no man lift up his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt.

And Pharaoh called Joseph's name Zaphnathpaaneah; and he gave him to wife Asenath the daughter of Potipherah priest of On. And Joseph went out over all the land of Egypt And Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh, and went throughout all the land of Egypt.

## SECRETS OF JOSEPH'S UNCOMMON LIFTING

The first secret to Joseph's uncommon lifting is

### Sensitivity:

Gen 37:5 And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more.

Joseph was sensitive to the voice of God.

Ability to hear the voice of God is very key to experiencing uncommon lifting.

Three different voices that we can hear.

We need to be alerted to the fact that there are three voices that we can hear: the voice of God,

the voice of our own fleshly desires, and the voice of the Devil.

But Jesus tells us in John 10:4b and 5, "...and the sheep follow Him, for they know His voice. Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."

The writer of Hebrews tells us that we can train our ears to recognize the voice of God above all the noise. "But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have



their senses exercised to discern both good and evil" (GW) Don't despise what God has revealed. (Hebrews 5:14).

Isaiah 30:21 says, "Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," Whenever you turn to the right hand or whenever you turn to the left."

So God will speak, and you can hear His voice, but you must be careful -- especially when you are a young Christian -- that you objectively confirm that you are following the Holy Spirit and not another voice.

Our own flesh can scream pretty loud (especially when we are under pressure, or we want something very badly).

And the Devil is the father of lies -- he is the great deceiver.

So how can we know whether we're hearing the voice of God? Common ways that God speaks to us

The Bible gives us some basic keys or filters through which every possible leading should be judged. We are to carefully examine the thoughts and intentions of our hearts -- and the words of godly people who may have influence on us by their words and actions -- through the use of these seven keys:

#### **1.Scripture:**

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work" (II Timothy 3:16-17).

The voice, dream etc. must line up with the scriptures.

#### **2.The Holy Spirit speaking to our heart:**

This is called the still small voice "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds, and I will write them on their hearts. and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall not teach everyone his fellow citizen, and everyone his brother, saying, 'know the Lord,' for all will know Me, from the least to the greatest of them" (Hebrews 8:10-11).

#### **3.The Prophetic (word of knowledge, word of wisdom, personal prophecy):**

"Do not quench the Spirit; do not despise prophetic utterances. But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good" (I Thessalonians 5:19-21).

1 Thessalonians 5:20 (AMP) Do not spurn the gifts and utterances of the prophets [do not depreciate prophetic revelations nor despise inspired instruction or exhortation or warning].

(BBE) Do not make little of the words of the prophets;

(ERV) Don't treat prophecy like something that is not important.

#### **4.Godly counsel:**

"Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counselors there is safety" (Proverbs 11:14)."By the mouth of two or three witnesses every fact may be confirmed" (Matthew 18:16).

#### **5.The peace of God:**

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful" (Colossians 3:15).

#### **6.Circumstances/Timing:**

"After these things he (Paul) left Athens and went to Corinth. And he found a certain Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, having recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. He came to them, and because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them and they were working; for by trade they were tent-makers" (Acts 18:1-3)

This relationship between Paul, Aquila and Priscilla -- which happened as a result of circumstances -- became one of the most important strategic partnerships in the book of Acts).

#### **7.Dreams**

;God speaks through dreams. However, you must align the dream with the word of God. And seek for confirmation.

#### **8.Audible voice.**

God still speaks to men through the audible voice.

This too has to be align with the word of God.

#### **Sub Conclusion;**

Many times the Lord will confirm His direction to us through three, four or more of these keys -- especially when we are in the process of making an important, life-changing decision.

The bottom line in all these is PRAYER

In other words, as we humble ourselves before the Lord, seek His guidance in our lives, the Good Shepherd will be faithful to lead us, "...in paths of righteousness for His name's sake" (Psalm 23:3).

How to train your spirit to hear the voice of God

Just as the human mind can be educated and trained intellectually, so the human spirit can be trained spiritually.

It can be built up in strength just as the body can be built up.

As we apply the following four principles to our daily lives, we can come to know the will of God

in even the minor details of life.

Four ways by which this can be accomplished:

#### **1. Meditating on the Word of God**

Joshua 1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

After Moses' death when God anointed Joshua to lead the children of Israel, God told him at the very outset of his ministry of the importance of meditating on the Word of God.

God told Joshua to meditate on the Word, and that if he would do so God would make his way prosperous and he would have good success.

#### **2.Practicing the Word of God**

James 1:22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

Practicing the Word is what James called being a "doer of the Word. In this verse of scripture James was urging believers to do primarily what is written in the epistles, to act upon this Word.

The education of our spirits comes by practicing the Word.

#### **3.Giving the Word First Place**

Proverbs 4:20-22 My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

With so many different voices surrounding us, it is often difficult to stop and listen to the voice of the Word of God.

Family and friends are always ready to give us their opinions and advice.

However, an essential of training the spiritual man is learning to listen to what God's Word has to say to us. It is giving the Word first place in our lives.

In the verses quoted above, God tells us to do three things with His Word: to listen to it, to read it, and to memorize it.

#### **4.Instantly Obeying the Voice of Our Spirit**

The human spirit has a voice. We call that voice conscience.

Sometimes it is called intuition. We call it an inner voice of guidance.

It is our spirit talking to us. Every man's spirit has a voice, whether he is saved or unsaved. But the new birth is a rebirth of the human spirit. As your spirit meditates upon the Word, this is where your spirit gets its information. Learn to obey your spirit. Your spirit has the life and nature of God in it, for the Holy Spirit dwells within you.

The devil can't be giving you the information because he is not in you. He is on the outside of you. God has to communicate with you through your spirit because that is where He is.

He isn't in your head. He isn't in your reasoning faculties. He is in your spirit. Your spirit gets its information through Him. Learn to obey your spirit.

The conscience is a safe guide in the Spirit-filled believer because God is dwelling within him.

The believer's conscience, the voice of his spirit, becomes the voice of God. God is speaking to him. Paul said that he obeyed his conscience (Acts 23:1).

"The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord ..." (Proverbs 20:27).

God will use your spirit to guide you. He will use it to enlighten you. As your spirit meditates and feeds upon the Word, then it becomes more and more a safe guide. It is trained in the Word.

As we learn to obey the voice of our spirit, we will come to the place where we know what we should do in all phases of life.

The Lord will guide us. "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Proverbs 3:6).

We are still looking at the life of Joseph as an example in Uncommon lifting.

The second secret we can learn from the life of Joseph is that, Joseph had.

## THE HEART OF SERVICE

Gen 37:12-17 And his brethren went to feed their father's flock in She. And Israel said unto Joseph, Do not thy brethren feed the flock in Shechem? come, and I will send thee unto them. And he said to him, Here am I. And he said to him, Go, I pray thee, see whether it be well with thy brethren, and well with the flocks; and bring me word again. So he sent him out of the vale of Hebron, and he came to Shechem. And a certain man found him, and, behold, he was wandering in the field: and the man asked him, saying, What seekest thou. And he said, I seek my brethren: tell me, I pray thee, where they feed their flocks. And the man said, They are departed hence; for I heard them say, Let us go to Dothan. And Joseph went after his brethren, and found them in Dothan.

## JOSEPH SERVED IN PORTIHARS HOUSE

Gen 39:11 And it came to pass about this time, that Joseph went into the house to do his business; and there was none of the men of the house there within.

## HE SERVED THE KEEPER OF THE PRISON

Gen 39:22 And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners that were in the prison; and whatsoever they did there, he was the doer of it.

## HE SERVED HIS FELLOW PRISONERS

Gen 40:6 And Joseph came in unto them in the

morning, and looked upon them, and, behold, they were sad.

Gen 40:7 And he asked Pharaoh's officers that were with him in the ward of his lord's house, saying, Wherefore look ye so sadly to day?

Gen 40:8 And they said unto him, We have dreamed a dream, and there is no interpreter of it. And Joseph said unto them, Do not interpretations belong to God? tell me them, I pray you.

## HE THEN SERVED IN HE PALACE

Gen 41:38 -41 And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is? And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou art: Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou. And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, See, I have set thee over all the land of Egypt.

Brethren, Joseph served his father, served as a slave in Potiphar's house, served the keeper of the prison, served his fellow servants until one day he served in the palace.

Service had always been the hallmark of great people.

Service is a recommender for the top

There is song that says " If you want to be great in kingdom, you must be the servant of all."

In a sermon early in 1968, Martin Luther King Jr. quoted Jesus' word " from Mk.10 about servanthood.

Then he said, "Everybody can be great because everybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve

You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve You don't have to know about Plato and Aristotle to serve....

You only need a heart full of grace, a soul generated by love"

When Jesus disciples quarreled about who would get the place of honour in heaven, He told them:

"Mar 10:43-45 But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister. And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all. For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

## INSTRUMENTS OF SERVICE

God has given every man / woman everything he needs to serve.

We are all equipped and gifted for service.

Mat 25:14 -15 For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

We may not all have the same abilities but we all have some ability.

There are three principal resources that God has given every man to serve with. These resources are..

### 1.Time:

Psa 31:15 My times are in thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me.

Time is one resource that God gave to all men equally All we need to do is accommodate serving God in our agenda. There are great blessings embedded in using our time to serve God

Exo 23:25 And ye shall serve the LORD your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.

Look around you for apparent opportunities to serve God with your time

### 2..Talent

Serve God with your gifting.

Every human is endowed with a unique gifting for the service of God.

Exo 31:1-5 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

See, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah: And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship,

To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, And in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of workmanship.

### 3.Treasure

Serve God with your treasure.

There is something God has put in your hands that He will use to lift you .God never calls a man to release what He has not put in his hands.

### 2 Corinthians 9:10

(AMP) And [God] Who provides seed for the sower and bread for eating will also provide and multiply your [resources for] sowing and increase the fruits of your righteousness [which manifests itself in active goodness, kindness, and charity]. [Isa. 55:10; Hos. 10:12.]

(ASV) And he that supplieth seed to the sower and bread for food, shall supply and multiply your

seed for sowing, and increase the fruits of your righteousness:

Solomon used what was in his hands for God and obtained for himself unspeakable riches. The Widow of Zarephat did too. Peter in Lk.5 used his boat to serve God and obtained what the boat could not offer him. The woman with the Alabaster box of oil is also a beautiful example.

## NO ASSIGNMENT LASTS FOREVER

Whether it is serving God with your time, talent or treasure, you must realize that no assignment lasts forever.

Ecc 9:10 Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.

(ERV) Every time you find work to do, do it the best you can. In the grave there is no work. There is no thinking, no knowledge, and there is no wisdom. And we are all going to the place of death.

(ISV) Whatever the activity in which you engage, do it with all your ability, because there is no work, no planning, no learning, and no wisdom in the next world where you're going.

(MSG) Whatever turns up, grab it and do it. And heartily! This is your last and only chance at it. For there's neither work to do nor thoughts to think in the company of the dead, where you're most certainly headed.

Look at the case of Joshua in Jos 13:1 Now Joshua was old and stricken in years; and the LORD said unto him, Thou art old and stricken in years, and there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed.

(GW) Joshua was old, near the end of his life. So the LORD said to him, "You are old, near the end of your life, and there is a lot of land left to be conquered.

No wonder Jesus said in Joh 9:4 I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

(MSG) We need to be energetically at work for the One who sent me here, working while the sun shines. When night falls, the workday is over.

(AMP) We must work the works of Him Who sent Me and be busy with His business while it is daylight; night is coming on, when no man can work.

The Amplified version called everything we have opportunity to do for God as God's business

1Sa 21:8 And David said unto Ahimelech, And is there not here under thine hand spear or sword? for I have neither brought my sword nor my weapons with me, because the king's business required haste.

(BBE) And David said to Ahimelech, Have you no sword or spear with you here? for I have come without my sword and other arms, because the king's business had to be done quickly.

(ISV) David told Ahimelech, "Is there no spear or sword available here? I took neither my sword nor my weapons with me, because the king's mission is urgent."

The service of the Lord requires and demands urgency.

## GOD CAN NEVER BE STRANDED

If you neglect to do the King's business, God will never be stranded. The work will still get done.

Est 4:13-14 Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews. For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

Est.4:14 (CEV) If you don't speak up now, we will somehow get help, but you and your family will be killed. It could be that you were made queen for a time like this!"

(GNB) If you keep quiet at a time like this, help will come from heaven to the Jews, and they will be saved, but you will die and your father's family will come to an end. Yet who knows---maybe it was for a time like this that you were made queen!"

(GW) The fact is, even if you remain silent now, someone else will help and rescue the Jews, but you and your relatives will die. And who knows, you may have gained your royal position for a time like this."

## PURPOSE AND TIMING FOR EVERY

ASSIGNMENT. There is a need for you to understand the purpose and timing for every assignment so that the blessings attached to it will be yours and you will not have any regrets.

## PEOPLE THAT UNDERSTOOD DIVINE TIMING AND ACTED SWIFTLY AND GOT THE BLESSING

Solomon: Received divine visitation and a blank

Widow of Zarephath: Received overflowing blessings in time of famine and global economic depression

Peter: Lk.5:1-11. Became the chief of the Apostles

Woman with the Alabaster box of ointment.

Mat 26:7-13 There came unto him a woman having an alabaster box of very precious ointment, and poured it on his head, as he sat at meat. But when his disciples saw it, they had indignation, saying, To what purpose is this waste? For this ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the poor. When Jesus understood it, he said unto them, Why trouble ye the woman? for she hath wrought a good work upon me. For ye have the poor always with you; but me ye have not always. For in that she hath poured this ointment on my

body, she did it for my burial. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, there shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her.

## PEOPLE THAT MISSED THE TIMING AND REGRETED

### 1.REUBEN

Gen 37:18 -22 And when they saw him afar off, even before he came near unto them, they conspired against him to slay him. And they said one to another, Behold, this dreamer cometh. Come now therefore, and let us slay him, and cast him into some pit, and we will say, Some evil beast hath devoured him: and we shall see what will become of his dreams. And Reuben heard it, and he delivered him out of their hands; and said, Let us not kill him. And Reuben said unto them, Shed no blood, but cast him into this pit that is in the wilderness, and lay no hand upon him; that he might rid him out of their hands, to deliver him to his father again.

But see the regret:

AMP Gen 37:29-30 Then Reuben [who had not been there when the brothers plotted to sell the lad] returned to the pit; and behold, Joseph was not in the pit, and he rent his clothes. He rejoined his brothers and said, The boy is not there! And I, where shall I go [to hide from my father]?

### 2.CERTAIN WOMEN

Luk 23:55-56 And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid. And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment.

Luk 24:1- Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

Luke 24:2-3 And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.

It was too late. Jesus was gone and did not need the ointment again. When He needed it, the woman with the Alabaster box of oil grabbed the opportunity.

## CONCLUSION

Jesus said: John 9:4 I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

What has God asked you to do that you have been putting on hold, go ahead and begin to do it today and your uncommon lifting will come in Jesus name. The patience of God may be running out and the blessing is about to be missed.



# OUR TESTIMONY

**W**e thank the Almighty God for the salvation of our souls. We are using this medium to testify of what God has done for our family and how every monthly prophesy (declaration) from the Lord through the mouth of our father in the Lord (Pastor Innocent Utulu) has been working for us since we joined The Redeemed Christian Church of God, Mercy Hall.

We joined the church towards the end of the month of October, 2013. The month has already been declared by the Lord as our month of Pleasant surprises. We relocated to United States just with our bags and without any money. We keyed in to this declaration and God really surprised us with blessings from people we didn't know before, they accommodated us and fed us throughout our stay with them. That was a big surprise to us because it was very unusual.

The month of November, 2013 was declared by the Lord as our month of divine settlement. We strongly believed in the declaration for the month and God gave us a baby Girl. The bills were enormous and we were wondering how we will be able to pay the hospital bills. God settled all the bills miraculously. We give glory to God.

The month of December 2013 was declared as our month of Celebrations. Because of what God has done in our life for the previous months, we strongly believed in the declaration and we celebrated the charismas and the New Year with peace of mind. That very Month God gave me a job that was better than what I was doing before.

The month of January, 2014 was declared as our month of Signs of Wonders. God used several people to assist us spiritually, financially, materially and in all areas we trusted God for assistance. We got our accommodation and everything we needed to live comfortably was given to us by brethren.

The month of February, 2014 was declared as our month of divine speed, we strongly believed in the declaration and God said no more walking or riding bicycle to work, God gave us speed by blessing us with a Car and also helped us to pay for our rented apartment.

The Month of March, 2014 was declared as our month of prosperity and indeed God prospered us. God gave my wife a job and this increased our income.

The month of April, 2014 was declared as our month of Positive Change, we believed strongly in the declaration. As the month was going day by day we were trusting God for a positive change, to God be the Glory on the last day of the month of positive change; the Texas driving license that has been depriving us of so many opportunities was given to me. We give all glory to God.

We want to use this opportunity to thank all members of RCCG, Mercyhall, for the love shown to us. We pray that the spirit of love in our midst will keep getting stronger. Thank you all and God bless you.

PRAISE GOD.

**-The Oyinlades.**

# What You Should Know About Sickle Cell Disease



## What Is Sickle Cell Disease?

Sickle cell disease (SCD) is a group of inherited red blood cell disorders.

- Healthy red blood cells are round and they move through small blood vessels carrying oxygen to all parts of the body.
- In SCD, the red blood cells become hard and sticky and look like a C-shaped farm tool called a “sickle”.
- Sickle cells die early, which causes a constant shortage of red blood cells.
- Sickle cells can get stuck in small blood vessels and block the flow of blood and oxygen to organs in the body. These blockages cause repeated episodes of severe pain, organ damage, serious infections, or even stroke.

## What Causes Sickle Cell Disease?

SCD is inherited in the same way that people get the color of their eyes, skin, and hair.

- A person with SCD is born with it.
- People cannot catch SCD from being around a person who has it.

## Who Is Affected By Sickle Cell Disease?

- It is estimated that SCD affects 90,000 to 100,000 people in the United States, mainly Blacks or African Americans.
- The disease occurs among about 1 of every 500 Black or African-American births and among about 1 out of every 36,000 Hispanic-American births.
- SCD affects millions of people throughout the world and is particularly common among those whose ancestors come from sub-Saharan Africa; regions in the Western Hemisphere (South America, the Caribbean, and Central America); Saudi Arabia; India; and Mediterranean countries such as Turkey, Greece, and Italy.

## What Health Problems Does Sickle Cell Disease Cause?

Following are some of the most common complications of SCD:

**“Pain Episode” or “Crisis”** Sickle cells don’t move easily through small blood vessels and can get stuck and clog blood flow. This causes pain that can start suddenly, be mild to severe, and last for any length of time.

**Infection:** People with SCD, especially infants and children, are more likely to experience harmful infections such as flu, meningitis, and hepatitis.

**Hand-Foot Syndrome** Swelling in the hands and feet, often along with a fever, is caused by the sickle cells getting stuck in the blood vessels and blocking the blood from flowing freely through the hands and feet.

**Eye Disease** SCD can affect the blood vessels in the eye and lead to long term damage.

**Acute Chest Syndrome (ACS)** Blockage of the flow of blood to the lungs can cause acute chest syndrome. ACS is similar to pneumonia; symptoms include chest pain, coughing, difficulty breathing, and fever. It can be life threatening and should be treated in a hospital.

**Stroke:** Sickle cells can clog blood flow to the brain and cause a stroke. A stroke can result in lifelong disabilities and learning problems.

National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disorders  
Division of Blood Disorders





## How Is Sickle Cell Disease Treated?

The goals of treating SCD are to relieve pain and to prevent infections, eye damage, and strokes.

- There is no single best treatment for all people with SCD. Treatment options are different for each person depending on the symptoms. Treatments can include receiving blood transfusions, maintaining a high fluid intake (drinking 8 to 10 glasses of water each day), receiving IV (intravenous) therapy (fluids given into a vein) and medications to help with pain.
- For severe SCD, a medicine called hydroxyurea might be recommended. Research suggests that hydroxyurea can reduce the number of painful episodes and the recurrence of ACS. It also can reduce hospital stays and the need for blood transfusions among adults who have SCD.

## Is There A Cure For Sickle Cell Disease?

To date, the only cure for SCD is a bone marrow or stem cell transplant.

- A bone marrow or stem cell transplant is a procedure that takes healthy stem cells from a donor and puts them into someone whose bone marrow is not working properly. These healthy stem cells cause the bone marrow to make new healthy cells.
- Bone marrow or stem cell transplants are very risky, and can have serious side effects, including death. For the transplant to work, the bone marrow must be a close match.

For more information visit: [www.cdc.gov/sicklecell](http://www.cdc.gov/sicklecell)





# Touching Stories On Consistency With The Lord

## STORY ONE

# The Big Joe Story

Big Joe is a strong believer in God and dedicated to his job as a street sweeper.

Every morning, whenever Joe gets to his place of work by 7am, he will first go to the Chapel on the street where he always sweeps. He will kneel down by the altar and say: "GOOD MORNING LORD JESUS! Thanks so much for your gift of sleeping and waking up that you have given me. Thanks for the safe trip to my place of work today. I am committing my work today into your hands, please come and take control that at the end of today's job, I will have the privilege of returning all the glory back to you. Thanks for I know you have answered me!

Everyday, this is what Big Joe does before commencing on his job to go and sweep the street. He always makes sure that he gets to the Chapel exactly 7am everyday to keep his prayer appointment!

One day on the way to his place of work, big Joe was involved in an auto crash, sustaining serious brain injury and internal bleeding. And in a state of coma, he was rushed to the hospital and put in an emergency ward for operation. After a tedious operation on Big Joe there was no hope of survival because the doctors could not stop the internal bleeding nor bring Big



Joe back from Coma! Then the brain injury was severe!

Exactly ten minutes to seven o'clock in the morning at the hospital ward, the doctors gave up on Big Joe and covered him up expecting the worse to happen.

But by 7am, Jesus Christ stood by Big Joe's bed and whispered to his ear: "GOOD MORNING BIG JOE, I'VE WAITED AT THE CHAPEL FOR YOU TO COME AND GREET ME WITH YOUR USUAL "GOOD MORNING JESUS"! I CAN NOT AFFORD TO MISS YOUR VOICE, SO RISE UP AND MEET ME AT THE CHAPEL FOR OUR USUAL MEETING!"

Then Jesus disappeared! Immediately, Big Joe regained consciousness and stood up miraculously healed!

He shouted for the doctors and asked for his dress for him to start going to work!

His miraculous healing caused a serious revival at the hospital that day!

### LESSONS:

NEVER BE TOO FAMILIAR WITH YOUR DAILY DEVOTION TO GOD! GOD ALWAYS KEEPS TO APPOINTMENT

NO MATTER HOW BUSY YOU ARE, WORK A WAY OUT TO HAVE TIME WITH GOD NO MATTER HOW SHORT IT MIGHT BE. For example, you can listen to audio bible as you drive to your place of work. You can spend time to meditate on downloaded scriptures on your phone. You can listen to messages from seasoned men of God during your tea time break! You can have a 5minutes fellowship with God during your break time at work.

NO MATTER HOW TOUGH THINGS ARE, ALWAYS THANK GOD FOR MAKING YOU SEE A GLOUROUS WONDERFUL DAY! It is a privilege to be alive! Many slept yesterday and never woke up!

ALWAYS LEARN TO APPRECIATE GOD FOR YOUR JOB, NO MATTER HOW LOW YOUR SALARY IS!

LEARN HOW TO SAY EVERY MORNING:

"GOOD MORNING MY HEAVENLY FATHER , THANKS FOR THE GIFT OF SLEEPING & WAKING UP AND MOSTLY THANKS FOR GIVING YOUR SON TO DIE FOR ME"

"GOOD MORNING MASTER JESUS AND THANKS FOR THE PRICE YOU PAID FOR ME ON THE CROSS OF CALVARY" "GOOD MORNING HOLY SPIRIT, MY GREAT COMFORTER

You don't know the time your register of faithfulness and consistency with the Trinity will be opened like Big Joe!

Jesus is waiting to hear your tender voice of appreciation in the cool of every morning!



## STORY TWO: MAINTAINING A GOOD CELL PHONE ETIQUETE IN CHURCH

A white American traveled to Africa on vacation and it happens that one night in his hotel room, he started hearing melodious music coming through his hotel room from a nearby church. What really impressed him much is the beautiful and professional way the person playing the keyboard does the fingering on the keyboard. He could denote it from his hotel room because he is a Music engineer and own a studio in America.

And currently at his studio in America, he has no studio keyboardist. Quickly, he put on his shirt and walks down to the church from his hotel.

Now this is where the story got more interesting!

In between the period that the white guy walked down to the church from the hotel, the phone of that

keyboardist vibrated in his pocket and he stood up and beckoned to his assistant who also know how to play the keyboard to come and take over for him in order for him to go and answer his call.

That same period that he left was the time the white guy enters the church! The white guy asked to see the pastor of the church. He told the pastor that he is highly impressed with the quality of their music and much more the way the keyboardist plays.

Then he asks the pastor if he can employ the keyboardist to come and work for him in America at his studio! The pastor asked that which keyboardist? And he pointed to the guy playing presently ( The assistant to the main keyboardist that stepped out to pick his call)

Initially, it was the guy that left to go and answer the call that the white guy



heard playing from his hotel hotel room (although did not see the face), but by the time he reached the church, he never knew that the guy has swapped with another person!

That was how the 'substitute' keyboardist got employed by the white guy in his studio in the United States.

Can you see how someone lost a golden opportunity because of a phone call that may not be of much importance!

## CHRISTIAN JOKES

By Charles Specht



### A JOKE ABOUT CREATION

An atheist scientist came to God and said, "We've figured out how to make a man without you." God said, "OK, let me see you do it." So the atheist bent down to the ground and scooped up a handful. But God stopped him and said, "Oh, no you don't. Get your own dirt!"

### I DON'T WANT TO GO TO CHURCH TODAY!

A mother went to wake her son for church one Sunday morning. When she knocked on his door, he said, "I'm not going!" "Why not?" asked his mother. "I'll give you two good reasons," he said. "One, they don't like me. Two, I don't like them." His mother replied, "I'll give you two good reasons why YOU WILL go to church. One, you're 47 years old. Two, you're the pastor!"

### THE COIN TOSS

By the time Bobby arrived, the football game had already started. "Why are you so late?" asked his friend. "I couldn't decide between going to church and going to the football

game. So I tossed a coin," said Bobby. "But that shouldn't have taken too long." said the friend. "Well, I had to toss it 35 times."

### THE \$100 AND \$1

Two well-worn bills arrived at the Federal Reserve Bank to be retired – a \$100 and a \$1. As they traveled down the conveyor belt, they struck up a conversation. The hundred reminisced about the interesting life he had, traveling all over the country. "I've been to the finest restaurants, Broadway shows, Las Vegas, and amusement parks," he said. "I even went on a Caribbean cruise once. Where have you been?" "Oh," said the one dollar bill, "I've been to a Methodist church, an Episcopal church, a Baptist church, and a Lutheran church." "What's a church?" asked the hundred.

### SANDWICHES AND WEDDINGS

A Jewish rabbi and a Catholic priest were good friends. At a picnic one day, the priest was eating a ham sandwich. "You know," he said to his friend, "this ham sandwich is delicious. I know you're not supposed to eat ham, but I

don't understand why such a good thing would be forbidden. When will you break down and try it?" To which the rabbi replied, "At your wedding."

### TEN REASONS WHY GOD MADE EVE

1. God was worried that Adam would frequently become lost in the garden because he would not ask for directions.
2. God knew that one day Adam would require someone to locate and hand him the remote.
3. God knew Adam would never go out and buy himself a new fig leaf when his wore out and would therefore need Eve to buy one for him.
4. God knew Adam would never be able to make a doctor, dentist or haircut appointment for himself.
5. God knew Adam would never remember which night to put the garbage on the curb.

6. God knew if the world was to be populated, men would never be able to handle the pain and discomfort of childbearing.
7. As the Keeper of the Garden, since he didn't have metal sheds or greenhouses, Adam would never remember where he left his tools.
8. Apparently, Adam needed someone to blame his troubles on when God caught him hiding in the garden.
9. As the Bible says, "It is not good for man to be alone!"
10. When God finished the creation of Adam, He stepped back, scratched His head and said, "I can do much better than that!"

#### A FOUR YEAR OLD'S DESCRIPTION OF CREATION

In the beginning, which was close to the start, there wasn't anything except God, darkness and some gas. The Bible says, "The Lord, thy God, is one," but I think He has to be much older than that. Anyway, God made the world and then He said, "Give me some light," and somebody gave it to Him. He split an atom and made Eve. Adam and Eve didn't wear any clothes, but they weren't embarrassed because God hadn't invented mirrors, yet. Adam and Eve sinned by eating one bad apple and they were driven out of the Garden of Eden. I'm not sure what God drove them in because He hadn't invented cars, either. Adam and Eve's son, Cain, hated his brother as long as he was Abel. After a while, all of the first people died, except Methuselah, who lived to be, like, a million years old.

#### JONAH AND THE WHALE

One day, a teacher was talking to her first grade class about whales when a little girl had a question.

Little Girl: "Do whales swallow people?"

Teacher: "No, even though they are much bigger than a person, they have throat pleats that filter their food of krill and plankton.

Little Girl: "But Mrs. Thurston says Jonah was swallowed by a whale."

Teacher getting angry: "Blue whales cannot swallow people."

Little Girl: "Well, when I get to heaven I'll just ask Jonah if he was really swallowed by a whale."

Teacher, still red with anger: "What if Jonah went to hell?"

Girl: "Well, then you can ask him."

#### HYMNS FOR CHRISTIANS OVER 70 YEARS OLD

- Give Me the Old Timers Religion
- Precious Lord, Take My Hand, And Help Me Up
- Just a Slower Walk with Thee
- Go Tell It on the Mountain, But Speak Up
- Nobody Knows the Trouble I Have Seen
- Guide Me, O Thou, Great Lord God, I've Forgotten Where I've Parked The Car
- Count Your Many Birthdays, Count Them One By One
- Blessed Insurance
- It Is Well With My Soul, But My Knees Hurt

# Esteeming Others

Faith Osemwegie

#### Philippians 3vs 3-4

To Esteem others means to 'highly or favourably regard others with respect or admiration'

This is what the word of God encourages us to do in. Phillipians 2v3 ' Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.'

For better understanding of our text and topic, let us see how other translations of the bible put it .

'Put yourself aside, and help others to get ahead. Don't be obsessed with getting your own advantage' JMT[

'Don't be selfish, don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others better than yourselves'JNLT{

'Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud, instead, be free of pride. Think of others as better than yourselves' JNIR[

' Do nothing from factional motives ]through contentiousness, strife, selfishness, or unworthy ends.[ or prompted by conceit and empty arrogance. Instead, in the true spirit of humility ] lowliness of mind[ let each regard the others as better than and superior to himself] thinking more highly of one another than you do of yourselves[ ]AMP[

We live in an age when everyone wants to promote

Himself or herself and try to show being better than the other, but this is not the way of God. As Children of

#### PRACTICAL WAYS TO ESTEEM OTHERS

1. Be selfless.
2. Don't try to impress so you don't oppress.
3. Exhibit humility
4. Do not be quick to judge or condemn
5. Celebrate others strength and not their weakness.
6. Give room for others opinion
7. Accommodate others and find excuse for their actions.

Esteeming others could be quite difficult but there are three major things that can help us.

1. Allow the genuine agape love of Christ to fill your heart.
2. Let the Holy spirit take total control of your being.
3. Pray that God will give you this great virtue.

The great blessing of esteeming others is stated in luke 14v11b '....He that humbleth himself shall be exalted.' If you desire that God will exalt you, knowing that whoever God exalts cannot be brought down by anyone, then you must possess this virtue.

#### CONCLUSION

'I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me'. Phil 4v13.



# EVENTS IN PICS



Women of impact quarterly fellowship



Naming ceremony of baby Oluwadimimu



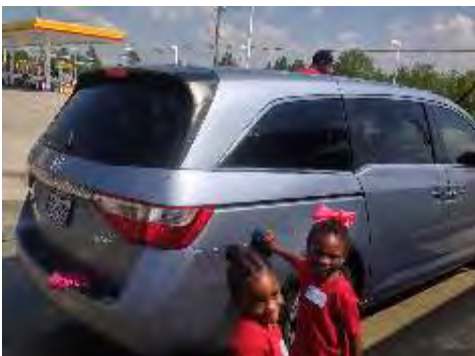
Naming ceremony of baby Oyinlade



# EVENTS IN PICS



Celebration of love



Fun at car wash



# EVENTS IN PICS



Mothers' Day



# EVENTS IN PICS



Mothers' Day

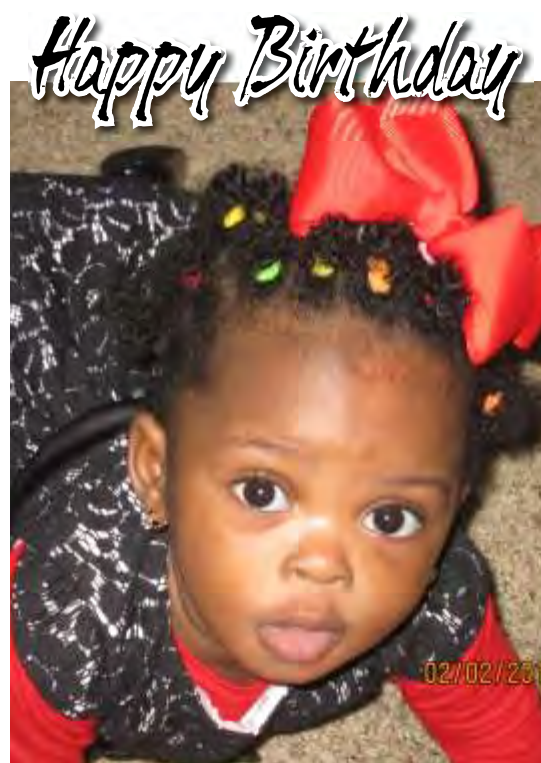


Family Fun Day

Congratulations to our graduating Students



FAITH OSEMWEIGIE, MARVELYN IWEH- OKEREKE & GRACE OF GOD INNOCENT-UTULU.



MOYO GLORY ENIAYEWU.



# MERCYHALL PROJECT,



# Arise

AND LET US BUILD  
FOR THE LORD.

## N O T E

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**Defining your destiny for the month**

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**7 : 00 pm**

**E V E R Y  
1st -3rd Day  
OF THE MONTH**

Ministering:

**Pastors Innocent & Christy Utulu**



@  
*mercyHall*

24814 Saddlespur Ln Katy, TX 77494  
Tel: 281-317-4022



Join the Mercy Prayer Line



*Mercy Hall*

*When:*

Daily

*Time:*

10 pm central time (CT)

*Dial:*

[1-559-546-1000](tel:1-559-546-1000)

*Access code:* 963264#

**PRAYER**  
*line*

