

THE
BREAKTHROUGH
POWER
OF VISION

DAVID O. OYEDEPO

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David O. Oyedepo

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Introduction

Every child of God is a product of God's factory line. Like every product in the market, our purposes were predetermined in God's factory. For it is written:

Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Psalm 100:3

For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Romans 8:29-30

From these scriptures, we understand that every child of God has a predetermined mission on earth. The word "predestinate" in that scripture connotes that "our destination was predetermined." The Scripture further

states that predestination brings us into salvation. Salvation is the proof of our justification, which has been predetermined to culminate in our glorification. This means that we have access to our divine destinies (visions) through redemption and as we walk in it, our breakthroughs in life are guaranteed.

Therefore, we are not called to redemption for shame and reproach, but for glory and virtue. As it is written:

According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue.

2 Peter 1:3

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

1 Peter 2:9

The Bible also says about Jesus:

...For thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

...Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive

power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

Revelation 5:9-10, 12

That means we have been redeemed to reign in our God-ordained purposes on the earth. The Scripture also explains that through redemption, Christ received and deposited in us power, riches, wisdom, strength, honour, glory and blessing. That further confirms how glorious our destinies are, in Christ. However, if all these are true of God's children, why are there so many mediocres in the world today, especially in the body of Christ?

Why are many stranded, despite God's visions for their lives? Why have they begun to doubt the authenticity of their call? These are some of the questions that prompted the writing of this book. I pray that by reading it, you will experience breakthroughs in your business, ministry, career and in whatever vocation God has called you to, in the name of Jesus Christ! Amen!

I

WHAT IS VISION?

Vision is simply accessing God's plan for our lives. It is a discovery of where we belong in the journey of life. Until God's plans for our lives unfold, our destinies remain hidden. It is written: ***Where there is no vision, the people perish...*** (Proverbs 29:18).

The Young's Literal Translation renders it this way: "Without a vision is a people made naked..."

From here, we understand that the word "perish" used in the King James Version connotes being stripped of honour and dignity. That is, where there is no access to the plans and purposes of God for our lives, our

struggles will continue. However, life becomes most exciting when we gain access to God's plans and purposes for our lives. The Bible says: *...He that cometh from heaven is above all* (John 3:31).

Vision and Call to Ministry

It is important to know that vision is not limited to a call to ministry. Vision is for everyone in the Kingdom because God, Who knows the end from the beginning, ordained the events of our lives before we were born. For instance, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, our covenant fathers, were not preachers; yet, they discovered God's vision for their lives, pursued it and became Kingdom stars. In the same vein, every child of God is duty-bound to discover God's plan and purpose for his or her life and pursue it in order to become what God has designed him or her to be.

Thus, a "Call" is not synonymous with a commission to the preaching ministry; it is a commission to our specific divine assignments.

Scriptural Examples of Men Called By God

Every great story in the Scripture has its foundation in a heavenly vision, because heavenly visions always make supernatural impact on the earth. If a vision is from heaven, it must show. For instance:

Abraham

He encountered trans-generational blessings that had its root in a heavenly vision. The Bible records:

Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

Genesis 12:1-3

The Bible also states that Abraham was a businessman; yet, he was God's friend and confidant.

That means we can be businessmen and still be highly spiritual. The Bible records that Abraham became very rich in cattle, silver and gold by operating in the plan and purpose of God (Genesis 13:2, 18:17; James 2:23).

Isaac

He was also a businessman when God appeared to him and said:

Go not down into Egypt; dwell in the land which I shall tell thee of.

Genesis 26:2

When Isaac dwelt in the land God instructed him to go to, the Bible says:

Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the LORD blessed him.

And the man waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great:

For he had possession of flocks, and possession of herds, and great store of servants: and the Philistines envied him.

Genesis 26:12-14

Job

He traded divine secrets in his days and was described as the greatest businessman in the entire East (Job 29:4).

There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name [was] Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.

And there were born unto him seven sons and three daughters.

His substance also was seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east.

Job 1:1-3

From the above scripture, we understand that whether in business or in government, as long as we are in

God's plan, our breakthroughs are unstoppable and we can never be stranded!

Noah

God appeared to Noah and gave him a heavenly task of building an ark. In his days, that sort of rain had never fallen before, so there was no case study of what to expect. Today, Noah is known as the father of all living creatures, by a heavenly vision (Genesis 8:15-20).

Moses

In the conversation between God and Moses during the burning bush encounter, God said:

I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;

And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

Exodus 3:7-8

From the above scripture, we understand that the

greatness of Moses was rooted in a heavenly vision. Moses became a great man before Pharaoh and the whole of Egypt, because he discovered God's plan and walked in it. We all have glorious destinies in Christ Jesus but we have to discover and walk in them.

Gideon

The great victory of Gideon also had its roots in a heavenly vision. It is written:

And there came an angel of the LORD, and sat under an oak which was in Ophrah, that pertained unto Joash the Abi-ezrite: and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites. And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him, and said unto him, The LORD is with thee, thou mighty man of valour.

Judges 6:11-12

It was further written of Gideon:

Thus was Midian subdued before the children of Israel, so that they lifted up their heads no more. And the country was in quietness forty years in the days of Gideon.

Judges 8:28

In the account above, God called Gideon to deliver the Israelites from the oppression of the Midianites. When Gideon obeyed, Israel had peace for 40 years!

Vision Is Not an Old Testament Phenomenon

Peter

The Bible records that Peter saw a vision of a vessel descending from heaven with different kinds of four-footed animals and God said to him, "Arise! Kill and eat," but Peter refused. He could not eat them because, according to him, they were unclean and it was against God's commandment to eat unclean animals. God said to him: "Whatever I call clean, never call unclean."

God showed Peter the same vision three times, and then said to him, "Behold, four men are waiting for you; go with them, doubting nothing for I have sent them." Through that vision, Peter was divinely directed to the House of Cornelius for his salvation and that of his household (Acts 11:1-16, 10:1-44).

Paul

God's plan for Apostle Paul was concluded in his mother's womb.

But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, to reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood.

Galatians 1:15-16

Until Paul discovered God's plan, he was a menace to the Christian community. Paul was on his way to Damascus to persecute more Christians when Jesus appeared and said:

Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

Acts 9:4-6

When Paul discovered God's purpose for his life, he said: "...I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision" (Acts 26:19).

Jesus Christ

Jesus said: *...To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth...* (John 18:37).

In another account, the Bible describes the purpose of Jesus, saying: *...For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil* (1 John 3:8).

Again, Jesus said: *As the Father hath sent Me, even so send I you* (John 20:21).

These scriptures confirm that God is still separating His people for specific assignments today. For He said, "I am the LORD; I change not..." (Malachi 3:6). Therefore, we may not like God's vision for our lives, but in it lies our breakthroughs in life.

In summary, Paul said: *Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called* (1 Corinthians 7:20). In other words, it is not enough to discover where we belong; we must endeavour to abide in it. This is because the identification of our God-ordained purpose is only a starting point in our journey to destiny. The only way to fulfil destiny is to know where we are going and stay on that path. We do not have spare lives; therefore, we must not waste the only one we have.

2

DEFINING THE LIMITS OF VISION

The Bible gives an account of two children, Esau and Jacob, who while in their mother's womb God made His choice between them, even though they had neither done good nor evil.

And not only this, but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac;

(For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God

according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;) It was said unto her, the elder shall serve the younger. As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated. What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid.

Romans 9:10-14

From the scripture above, we understand that God made His choice before they were born. In the same vein, God chose us before we were born and said, "...Wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved" (Ephesians 1:6).

The Bible says:

For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Romans 8:29-30

The above scripture validates our predestination for redemption. That is why we are redeemed. The Scripture also states that we are predestinated to be like Christ on the earth. We are to be conformed to His image and to share His Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) (John 20:21). This implies that we have glorious destinies in Christ Jesus!

How Glorious are our Destinies?

We have a Spiritual Root in Abraham by the Blood of Jesus

In his letter to the churches in Galatia, Paul said:

Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Galatians 3:13-14

He further stated in the letter that *...if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise* (Galatians 3:29).

From here, we understand that every child of God is a seed of Abraham. In the account of where God swore a blessing on Abraham, the Bible records that God said:

That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Genesis 22:17-18

These scriptures show us that every seed of Abraham is a fountain of blessing and a global citizen. This means that as children of God, we carry global potentials within us.

Let's examine Abraham's root through Isaac.

In documenting the greatness of Isaac, the Bible says:

Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the LORD blessed him. And the man waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great: For he had possession of flocks, and possessions of herds, and great store of servants: and the Philistines envied him.

Genesis 26:12-14

Apostle Paul further informed us of our connection to the Abrahamic and Isaac order of blessings. *Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise* (Galatians 4:28).

This means every child of God (every born-again Christian) is a spiritual Isaac with an enviable destiny.

We Are Destined to Shine

Jesus said:

I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the

offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

Revelation 22:16

Furthermore, Jesus said: *As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world* (John 17:18).

It is common knowledge that stars only shine at night. According to the scriptures above, however, we are ordained to shine in the morning because Jesus is the Bright and the Morning Star. Therefore, we are destined to shine above every other thing that shines.

The Bible also says:

Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Matthew 5:13-16

As the "light of the world", we are destined to be

pacesetters, trailblazers and a people showing the world how things should be done. From the above scripture, we also understand that by redemption, we are a most sought-after "commodity", because we are the "salt of the earth". This is because salt is a fundamental requirement for various things on the earth: it is a major industrial chemical and it preserves, and gives taste to whatever it comes in contact with. The absence of salt in the human body, for instance, can lead to many deficiencies. Thus, salt remains a most sought-after substance and as God's children, we are the salt of the earth, ordained to be sought-after.

Redemption Positions Us Above all Nations of the Earth

The Bible says:

And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth.

Deuteronomy 28:1

By redemption, every child of God is ordained a mountaintop citizen because we are cities set on hills that cannot be hidden (Matthew 5:14).

That is why every child of God is ordained to be envied and not to be pitied.

Again, the Bible says, as children of God, we are destined for a world of no limits. It is written: ***But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day*** (Proverbs 4:18).

From the above scripture, it is very clear that we are created to enjoy unlimited breakthroughs in all facets of life. However, it is important to know that we cannot experience the "above all nations of the earth" prophecy, according to Deuteronomy 28:1, except we obey God's commandments from Scriptures.

Every Child of God Has a Greater-than-Solomon Destiny

In the story of Solomon, the Bible records:

And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much, and largeness of heart, even as the sand that is on the sea shore.

And Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country, and all the wisdom of Egypt.

For he was wiser than all men; than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, and Chalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol: and his fame was in all nations

round about.

And he spake three thousand proverbs: and his songs were a thousand and five.

And he spake of trees, from the cedar tree that is in Lebanon even unto the hyssop that springeth out of the wall: he spake also of beasts, and of fowl, and of creeping things, and of fishes.

And there came of all people to hear the Wisdom of Solomon, from all kings of the earth, which had heard of his wisdom.

1 Kings 4:29-34

Here, the Bible says that all the kings of the earth gathered to listen to the wisdom of Solomon, because he was wiser than all men. Yet, Jesus said concerning Himself ...*Behold, a greater than Solomon is here* (Matthew 12:42).

Concerning you and I, He said: *As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world* (John 17:18).

That means a greater-than-Solomon potential resides in us and we have the capacity and potential to operate in the class of Jesus Christ (John 14:12).

Furthermore, the Bible says that we possess the mind of Jesus and our minds are where wisdom is domicile (1 Corinthians 2:16). That means, we possess a greater-than-Solomon's mind with

unlimited capacity for wisdom.

In addition, Jesus said:

Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

Luke 12:27

Jesus was referring to you and me when he made the above statement. That means Solomon may have had a super-glorious destiny, but God has ordained every believer to have a far more glorious destiny than Solomon ever had.

The Destiny of Every Child of God under the New Testament is Greater than any Destiny in the Old Testament

The Scripture says:

Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Matthew 11:11

This scripture implies that no destiny in the Old Testament can be compared with the destiny of John the Baptist. Yet, the least destiny in the Kingdom of

God is greater than the destiny of John the Baptist. This means that the destiny of every child of God under the New Testament is ordained to be greater than every destiny in the Old Testament. Thus, our destinies are greater than those of Abraham, Isaac, Moses, David, Solomon, Nehemiah, Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, just to mention a few.

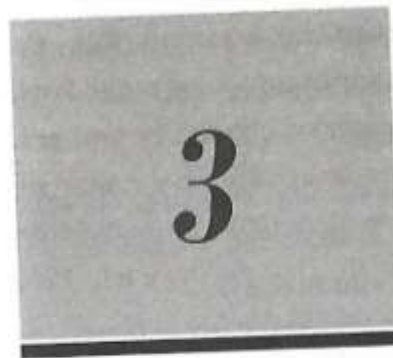
By redemption, our destinies are set to be more glorious than the most glorious destinies in the Old Testament. Moreover, the Bible says:

But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not steadfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away:

How shall not the ministration of the spirit be rather glorious? For if the ministration of condemnation be glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory. For even that which was made glorious had no glory in this respect, by reason of the glory that excelleth.

2 Corinthians 3:7-10

This further authenticates the fact that we have more glorious destinies than all the Old Testament saints. Therefore, we are ordained to be envied!



HOW TO DISCOVER GOD'S PLAN

Our glorious destinies begin with the discovery of divine plan.

For I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Jeremiah 29:11 (RSV)

The King James' Version renders it this way: *For I*

know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

In other words, God is saying, "I have defined your end; come and locate it. I have defined where you belong; come and find it."

How Do We Discover Divine Plan For Our Lives?

There are three ways to discover where we belong:

Through a Heavenly Vision

By a heavenly vision, I mean God speaking to us directly.

Prophet Habakkuk showed us how to receive a heavenly vision when he said:

I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved. And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

Habakkuk 2:1-3

The Liberation Mandate of our Commission, Winners' Chapel Worldwide, was delivered on the platform of a heavenly vision. My encounter with God's vision began on May 1, 1981, when I travelled to Ilesha, Osun State, to visit some brethren whom I had not seen or heard from in a while.

When I got to Ilesha, I discovered that the person I went to visit was not at home. There was a note on the door that stated he had gone out of town for the weekend. I was not perturbed. Rather than complaining, I said, "All things work together to the advantage of them that love the Lord." Instantly, the Holy Spirit said to me, "Look for a quiet place, I want to talk with you."

I obeyed and lodged in a hotel on the outskirts of the town. As I knelt to thank and worship God in the hotel room, I had an 18-hour long vision encounter. In that vision, I saw a line-up of the afflicted and oppressed; rows of the blind, the lame, the wretched and the battered. I heard their groaning as they filed past me; it was so intense that I felt their agony.

When the sight became unbearable, I began to cry and ask, "Lord, what is this?" Then, God said to me, "From the beginning it was not so. Now, the hour has come to liberate the world from all oppressions of the

devil, through the preaching of the Word of faith; and I am sending you to undertake this task."

Before that encounter, I had always thought I would remain in the "helps ministry", where I could sponsor God's Kingdom through my giving and service, but God had something else in store for me.

In the same way, God can speak to anyone in the Kingdom. Read this testimony from a brother about how God's voice changed his story:

I joined this Commission in 1998, in Liberia, as a technician. I was tattered and battered. In fact, things were really terrible for me. One day, I saw a pamphlet written by the Bishop, titled, 'Wisdom Diary'. One of the quotes read, 'Living without working is dying without knowing. Hanging around does not make a man, it breaks a man.' When I discovered those words, I keyed in to them.

I used the 75 Dollars I had to buy shoe polish and brush. Then, I began to polish people's shoes for a living. By so doing, I raised enough money to pay my tuition at a computer school. When I graduated, I was jobless but I heard a voice say to me, 'You can create a job for yourself.' Immediately, I gathered people and started teaching them how to operate computers. Today, I have my own building for the computer training.

Also, I got married in 2005 and the following year, my wife became pregnant. However, we lost the baby. Five years later, we had the same experience. At that point, I knew something had to be done.

I agreed with my wife to sow a seed into the Commission. During that period, the Resident Pastor mentioned that the church had found a land to buy, so my wife and I paid for it.

The following week, my wife who was already pregnant delivered a baby girl. Also, I believed God for a water processing machine, and two weeks after I sowed that seed, the machine arrived. Three weeks after, a second one came.

In addition, God blessed me with three cars. I give God the glory! – Ignatius Ejiro Okpojero

By Recognising the Burning Passion Within Us

In this context, passion means what turns us on.

One of my friends, Mike Murdock, once said, "Your passion in most cases is a pointer to the problem you are created to solve."

David had no vision whatsoever; however, he could not stand the assault of Goliath against the army of the Lord. With passion, he went after Goliath and by the death of Goliath, the throne opened to him

(1 Samuel 17:23-51).

Also, Nehemiah had neither vision nor revelation but he was restless about the state of Israel. His passion was a pointer to his assignment (Nehemiah 1:3-6).

Through Our Innate Talents

A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.

Proverbs 18:16

The Bible further states:

And as they heard these things, he added and spake a parable, because he was nigh to Jerusalem, and because they thought that the kingdom of God should immediately appear.

He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return.

And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.

But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this man to reign over us.

And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he

had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.

Then came the first, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds.

And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities.

And the second came, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds.

And he said likewise to him, Be thou also over five cities.

And another came, saying, Lord, behold, here is thy pound, which I have kept laid up in a napkin.

Luke 19:11-20

In this parable, we see how Jesus gave talents to each of His servants and told them to do business with them until His return. That means there are certain divine investments in us that are capable of engaging us productively and maximally until Jesus returns.

Thus, we must identify God's gifts in our lives and maximally trade with them, so they do not lie fallow.

Therefore, without a vision from heaven, a burning passion, or identifying the gifts of God in us, we may never know where we belong. However, it is not enough to know where we belong; we must endeavour to put

our best into it in order to actualise God's plan for our lives. No matter where we belong, it is expedient that we invest in it, because that is what will determine our ultimate rating in life.

Requirements for Accessing Divine Vision

We Must Be Born-Again

In the conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus on new birth, the Bible records that:

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

John 3:3-8

It is common knowledge that only like creatures hear one another. For instance, only a sheep can hear the bleating of another sheep. To a human being, a sheep is just bleating, but to the sheep, they are communicating. Again, a barking dog is not just barking, but speaking with another dog in their language.

In the same vein, because God is a Spirit, it would take a spirit-being of like-nature to hear what He is saying (John 4:24). This means that when we become born-again, we become spirit-beings with the innate capacity to hear what the Spirit of God is saying. Therefore, until we are born-again, we cannot hear or see what the Holy Spirit is saying or showing to us.

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

John 16:13

We also understand from this scripture that the Holy Spirit is in charge of the affairs of our lives. However, we cannot pick any signal from Him except we have a born-again spirit (John 3:3-8).

The Bible says:

And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth

before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.

And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.

John 10:4-5

Jesus furthermore confirmed this when He said: ***I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine*** (John 10:14).

This implies that only a sheep (a born-again believer) can have access to God's voice. Thus, until we are born-again, we cannot access divine plan.

We Must Be Spiritual

It is one thing to be born-again, and yet another to be a spiritual person. "Being spiritual" here connotes walking in the fear of God. It is written:

What man is he that feareth the LORD? him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose (Psalm 25:12).

This means, we cannot lead carnal lives and access divine plan. We must be spiritual!

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

1 Corinthians 2:14

A natural man, no matter his level of education or knowledge, cannot access divine plan. He must be spiritual in order to access it! Therefore, we must tune in spiritually to hear what the Spirit of God is saying and showing, because He can speak to us at any time.

We Must Depend on the Holy Spirit to Access God's Plan for Our Lives

The Holy Spirit is the Custodian of God's plan for us on earth.

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

John 16:13

Therefore, we must depend on Him to unveil the next phase of God's plan for our lives.

Here is a testimony from one of our brethren:

Ever since I completed my Higher National Diploma (HND) course in 2008, things were very tough. I used to have a very loving father but he suddenly stopped caring about me. When that happened, I started living from hand to mouth.

However, in 2009, our Year of Restoration, God gave me three business ideas. I shared two of them with

someone and that was how I lost the ideas. When I went back to God to inquire what had gone wrong, He said if I share the third idea with another person and I lose it, He would not give me another one. On the 24th of February this year, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, I bought a popcorn machine hitch free. At the onset of the business, I thought I would make a minimum of N3,000 per day, but all I got was N200. I started thinking of the downturn of the business, and in no time, I started emaciating.

When I had nowhere else to go, I returned to God and He stepped in. God did it to the extent that my product was always in high demand. In fact, throughout last week, I kept running short of supplies. Today, my story has become like Abraham when God told him, 'As far as your eyes can see, I will give it to you.' I give God all the glory!
– Olubusola, G.

Possess a Quiet Spirit

God requires a quiet spirit from us in order to reach us.

But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

1 Peter 3:4

Why? It is because the voice of God is a still small voice.

And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the LORD was not in the earthquake: And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.

And it was so, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold, there came a voice unto him, and said, What doest thou here, Elijah?

1 Kings 19:11-13

Many of us are overburdened with issues. We are so anxious about matters that make our spirit-man crowded and noisy. Thus, we miss out on the still small voice of God that is meant to open up the next phase of our destinies. God said, "Be still and you will know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10).

Therefore, we must possess and sustain a quiet spirit because according to the scripture above, God only opens up the destiny of those who are 'still'.

We Must Create a Quiet Environment Around Our Lives

Through desire a man, having separated himself, seeketh and intermeddleth with all wisdom.

Proverbs 18:1

The Bible says: If the iron be blunt, and he do not whet the edge, then must he put to more strength: but wisdom is profitable to direct (Ecclesiastes 10:10).

From these scriptures, we understand that we can separate ourselves to be with God whenever we desire His direction, and we will receive it. All we need to do is to decongest our spirit-man of anxieties and concerns in order to connect with God's still small voice.

Possess a Grateful Heart

Every time we give God thanks for the present, we commit Him to secure our future.

Because they regard not the works of the LORD, nor the operation of his hands, he shall destroy them, and not build them up.

Psalms 28:5

The Bible also says:

If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith the LORD of hosts,

I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings: yea, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay it to heart.

Behold, I will corrupt your seed, and spread dung upon your faces, even the dung of your solemn feasts; and one shall take you away with it.

Malachi 2:2-3

From these scriptures, we understand that whenever we recognise God's intervention in our situation and give Him thanks, He builds us up and takes us to the next phase of our destinies. This explains why some of us are stagnated. We arrogate the positive happenings in our lives to our efforts rather than to God, thereby blocking access to the next chapter of our lives. In addition, whenever we complain about our situation(s), we complicate matters. When we refuse to see what God is doing, He withdraws from the affairs of our lives.

And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off: And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God,

And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan.

And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?

There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger.

And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.

Luke 17:12-19

Jesus said: Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole. In other words, Jesus was saying: "You have qualified for the next chapter of your life." Therefore, until we return as that one leper who returned to thank Jesus, we are not qualified for the next chapter of our lives.

Again, the Bible says:

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.

Psalms 100:4-5

It is also written:

Ye shall have a song, as in the night when a holy solemnity is kept; and gladness of heart, as when

one goeth with a pipe to come into the mountain of the LORD, to the mighty One of Israel.

And the LORD shall cause his glorious voice to be heard, and shall shew the lighting down of his arm, with the indignation of his anger, and with the flame of a devouring fire, with scattering, and tempest, and hailstones.

For through the voice of the Lord shall the Assyrian be beaten down, which smote with a rod.

Isaiah 30:29-31

Thus, only the truly grateful can access divine plans, and it takes a heart of gratitude to enter into God's presence where He shows us what next to do. Therefore, it becomes imperative that we maintain a heart of gratitude.

Engage the Force of Prayer and Fasting

God still visits His people on the altar of prayer and fasting.

Is not this the fast that I have chosen: to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?

Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and

that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh!

Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy rearward.

Then shalt thou call, and the LORD shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity;

And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday:

And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.

Isaiah 58:6-12

On March 21, 1984, when our church was not growing the way it ought to, I called three of my staff and we engaged in three days of prayer and fasting. God heard us and opened up the destiny of our Church (The Living Faith Church Worldwide).

In the course of the prayer on the third day, I heard God say to me, "Get up!" Immediately, I obeyed. Then He said, "Follow me." Again, I obeyed and kept following. When I got close to the end of the street where our church was, He said, "Turn back." As I did, He opened my eyes and I saw a layer of thick darkness over the roof of the Church. When I asked what it was, He said, "That is the blindfolding weapon that the devil uses to misinterpret what I am doing in this Church." Instantly, I rebuked the devil and saw the layer of thick darkness roll away like a mat. That was how the destiny of our church opened up.

Through Word Encounters

Here, "Word encounter" connotes God's written Word (The Bible) that is turned to the spoken Word as we engage in a study, in order to address any situation in our lives.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

The same was in the beginning with God.

All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made.

In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness

comprehended it not.

John 1:1-5

This simply means that God dwells in His Word.

Also, whenever the Bible talks about divine encounters, it means that, God appears to His people through His Word: *And the LORD appeared again in Shiloh: for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of the LORD* (1 Samuel 3:21). In other words, whenever we separate ourselves and search for encounters with God's Word, He shows up and opens new chapters to us.

Most of the time, when God speaks through His Word, He points us to things that we lack in our lives. This is graphically illustrated in the story below:

And a certain ruler asked him, saying, Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? None is good, save one, that is, God. Thou knowest the commandments, do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother. And he said, All these have I kept from my youth up. Now when Jesus heard these things, he said unto him, Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me. And when he heard this, he was very sorrowful: for he was very rich.

Luke 18:18-23

Therefore, every time we sit with God's Word, we should not just read for revelations. Instead, we should look forward to God's appearance in Spoken Words that will direct us to the next chapter of our lives.

Stay Watchful (Be Sensitive)

All it takes to operate effectively in the centre of God's plan for our lives is to stay watchful.

I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved. And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

Habakkuk 2:1-3

From the scripture above, there are three phrases that are worthy of note: Set me upon my watch, stand upon the tower and I will watch to see. The words "Watch", "Tower" and "Watch" are key words that stand out.

Consequently, out of 24 hours available to us, we are to stand on the tower (in prayers) for eight hours and be on our watch for 16 hours. Hence, only the

spiritually watchful can remain at the centre of God's plan, because God does not reveal His plans according to our timetable, but according to His.

I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet.

Revelation 1:10

Again, the Bible says:

And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.

Mark 13:37

Therefore, being watchful is a major demand for anyone who wants to make the most of his/her adventure in life. I was very upset, but watchful in January 1996, when we came to survey the land that is today known as Canaanland. When I saw the land, I said, "This can never be a site for a church; it is too far for anyone. We are not here for farming, we are here for church." As we stood there to pray, I said, "Let us give God thanks for the efforts thus far; God will lead us to the right place." Right there, God said, "This is the place!" It takes a watchful spirit to catch that, particularly when I had concluded that it could not be the place. Likewise, God's plan is wasting away in the lives of many because they are not watchful.

Our lives are books and they are made up of chapters

that God opens to us one after another. Therefore, we must stay tuned spiritually in order to receive the unveiling of God's plan for our lives.

Stay in Love with God

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

1 Corinthians 2:9-10

God always reveals His plans to His lovers by the Holy Spirit, because, it is the love of God in our hearts that makes us His confidants.

Jesus said:

Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

John 15:15

God will always unveil His plans to us when our hearts pant after Him. Therefore, the more intense our love for God, the better our access to His plans and purposes for our lives.

Beware of False Visions

Incidentally, not every vision is from God. That is why the Bible admonishes us not to despise prophecies or visions but to prove all things and hold fast to that which is true. This is because the devil, sometimes, comes disguised as an angel of light to confuse and derail the people of God (1 Thessalonians 5:20-21; 2 Corinthians 11:14).

How Do We Validate God's Vision?

Watch Out for Supernatural Peace

I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly.

Psalm 85:8

Every vision is accompanied with divine peace. No vision from God is a burden. In fact, God said, "When you say, this is the burden of the Lord, I will curse you, because I don't put burdens on people" (Jeremiah 23:38 paraphrased).

But since ye say, The burden of the LORD; therefore thus saith the LORD; Because ye say this word, The burden of the LORD, and I have sent unto you, saying, Ye shall not say, The burden of the LORD;

Therefore, behold, I, even I, will utterly forget you, and I will forsake you, and the city that I gave you and your fathers, and cast you out of my presence:

And I will bring an everlasting reproach upon you, and a perpetual shame, which shall not be forgotten.

Jeremiah 23:38-40

Again, the Bible says:

And Moses said unto the LORD, See, thou sayest unto me, Bring up this people: and thou hast not let me know whom thou wilt send with me. Yet thou hast said, I know thee by name, and thou hast also found grace in my sight.

Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, shew me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation is thy people.

And he said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest.

Exodus 33:12-14

This implies that there must be rest in our spirit, soul and body, if we have truly heard from God, because every true vision confers all-round rest on us.

Watch out for Supernatural Joy

Every vision from God has divine presence attached to it. The Bible says:

*Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence
is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures
for evermore.*

Psalm 16:11

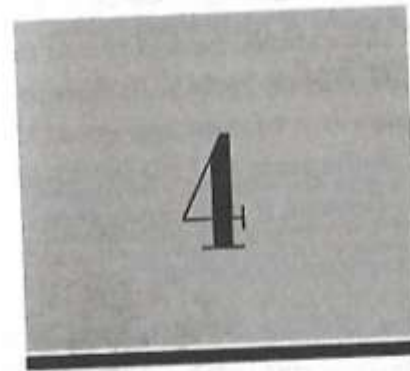
Therefore, watch out for supernatural joy, which the Bible identifies as joy unspeakable full of glory (1 Peter 1:8).

It is important to note that every true vision is accompanied with fearlessness.

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow
of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me...*

Psalm 23:4

Thus, every true vision is devoid of fear, doubt and anxieties. But, when any of these three or all is present, we must watch our steps, because they are qualities of a false vision.



RUNNING WITH THE VISION

Many of us have an understanding of God's plan for our lives but we have difficulties when it comes to fulfilling it. Knowing where we are going is just the beginning of the journey, because without motion, we will never get to our destination. Therefore, what must we do to get vision fulfilled after discovering it?

*I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the
tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto
me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved.
And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the*

vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

Habakkuk 2:1-3

From the above scripture, we understand that we do not sleep with vision; we run with it. It is the pursuit of vision that gives value to divine purpose. Furthermore, the Scripture admonishes us to run with patience the race that is set before us.

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

Hebrews 12:1-3

Again, the Bible says:

Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:

But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Therefore, if we must actualise the destiny that God has ordained for us, we must accept the responsibility of running with the vision.

Paul further said:

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:13-14

A "press" is the price we pay for a fulfilled destiny; because only those who care to press ever get the prize.

For instance, if a crowd is running towards someone and he/she is not moving, what is going to happen? A stampede will occur! Little wonder that the Bible says woe unto them that are at ease in Zion; those who believe in "whatever will be, will be" (Amos 6:1).

God's eternal purpose for our lives is to press, because nothing of value is ever free. Therefore, as the plan of God for our lives unfolds, we must accept the responsibility for its pursuit.

Jesus gave us a graphical description of what a press means when He said:

I am come to send fire on the earth, and what will I if it be already kindled? But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished!

Luke 12:49-50

Many years ago, I read from the Scriptures that: *Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men* (Proverbs 22:29).

From this Scripture, I understood that it is not enough for us to know where we are going; we must know what it takes to get there. We must also understand that no matter what God's plans for our lives are, we can never fulfil them on the platform of prayer and fasting alone. They will require the addition of practical

inputs that our purposes may demand.

Also, note that no matter the greatness of our destinies, we will always have humble beginnings.

Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it; and thou shalt know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me unto you.

For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven; they are the eyes of the Lord, which run to and fro through the whole earth.

Zechariah 4:8-10

It is an established fact that nobody starts climbing a tree from the top. It is also a fact that every aircraft that will take off and stay in the air must start by crawling, running, and then flying. Martin Luther King (Jr) corroborates this fact when he said: "If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward."

Therefore, if we are not willing to start by crawling, we may not qualify for the running stage. Whosoever despises the days of little beginning is not a candidate for greater days.

This, I believe, is one of the challenges of modern

day Christians; they are not willing to start from the beginning. Taking a cue from the story of creation, the Bible says in the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth, and made one man. God knew from the beginning that billions of people would come out of Adam, so He started with one. Where we are is the best place to begin our destinies. The Bible establishes this:

And the Lord said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.

Genesis 13:14-15

Every divine purpose that is not pursued will become a burden. Therefore, we must have an understanding of the principle of starting from the beginning and from the place where we are in order to fulfil God's plan for our lives.

What Must We Do to See God's Vision Fulfilled in Our Lives?

We Must Believe in It

The vision we don't believe in will never be actualised. Why? We are only empowered to become what we believe.

That as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.

John 1:12

Thus, if we don't believe in the vision God gave us, we can never be empowered to achieve it.

We Must Plan Towards It

Every purpose delivers on sound planning. As it is commonly said, "Failing to plan is planning to fail."

When God gives us His plan and defines His purpose for our lives, we must plan towards the delivery of that purpose. How do we plan?

Any enterprise is built by wise planning, becomes strong through common sense, and profits wondrously by keeping abreast of the facts. A wise man is mightier than a strong man. Wisdom is mightier than strength. Don't go to war without wise guidance; there is safety in many counselors.

Proverbs 24:3-6 (TLB)

The appropriate placement of fact is what we call planning, in the pursuit of God's vision for our lives.

We Must Programme Our Actions

This suggests that we put our plans into segments

with time slots. In other words, we need to allocate a specific timeline to set goals as we seek God's approval at every stage.

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven. ...He (God) hath made everything beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

The Bible further says:

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Consequently, when we involve God in the planning of His vision for our lives, our vision will not be similar to the ordinary man in the corporate world, because it is orchestrated by divine directives. Therefore, as we programme our actions and receive our timings through God's directives, we will arrive at the topmost top.

We Must Pursue the Plan

The pursuit of a vision is simply the execution of the programme of actions. It is not enough to have a plan

and a programme; we must be ready to hit the ground running. The statement, "write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it" in Habakkuk 2:1-3, connotes programming God's vision and then running to accomplish it. Just as hunters do not wait on the road for animals to come, but go after them in the forest, we also must pursue God's purpose for our lives until it is accomplished.

Never Quit

The vision we are running with may look as though it is being delayed but we must wait for it; for it shall surely come to pass as we keep running with it.

For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

Habakkuk 2:3

We must refuse to quit until we have accomplished it.

And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not (Galatians 6:9).

Vince Lombardi validates this when he said, "Winners never quit and quitters never win." Apostle Paul also confirms this when he said:

Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Therefore, we must keep running until we attain the prize.

We Must Be Prompt in Our Response to God's Vision

But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood.

Galatians 1:15-16

In Song of Solomon, a proverbial story is told of the beloved that was knocking at the door of his lover.

I am come into my garden, my sister, my spouse: I have gathered my myrrh with my spice; I have eaten

my honeycomb with my honey; I have drunk my wine with my milk: eat, O friends; drink, yea, drink abundantly, O beloved.

I sleep, but my heart waketh: it is the voice of my beloved that knocketh, saying, Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my undefiled: for my head is filled with dew, and my locks with the drops of the night.

I have put off my coat; how shall I put it on? I have washed my feet; how shall I defile them? My beloved put in his hand by the hole of the door, and my bowels were moved for him. I rose up to open to my beloved; and my hands dropped with myrrh, and my fingers with sweet smelling myrrh, upon the handles of the lock. I opened to my beloved; but my beloved had withdrawn himself, and was gone: my soul failed when he spake: I sought him, but I could not find him; I called him, but he gave me no answer. The watchmen that went about the city found me, they smote me, they wounded me; the keepers of the walls took away my veil from me. I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, if ye find my beloved, that ye tell him, that I am sick of love. What is thy beloved more than another beloved, O thou fairest among women? what is thy beloved more than another beloved, that thou dost so charge us? My beloved is white and ruddy, the chiefest among ten thousand.

Song of Solomon 5:1-10

From this story, we see that the watchmen caught and smote the woman, removed her veil and molested her. Why? Because she responded too late when her beloved came knocking! Similarly, we must respond to God's plan and purpose for our lives on time because only a timely response guarantees the fulfilment of His plan and purpose.

Give It All It Takes

If we want to make the most of any divine plan, we must run with it, tirelessly and sacrificially, until it delivers. No wonder the Bible admonishes:

Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall.

2 Peter 1:10

Apostle Paul further urged us to give it all it takes when he said:

Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier. And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.

2 Timothy 2:3-5

Paul further said:

But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

1 Corinthians 15:10

Therefore, we must give our vision all it takes, because whatever we invest maximally in always yields maximal dividends.

Enquire of the Lord Continually

How do we enquire of the Lord? We make enquiries in prayer as illustrated in the account of David, when the Philistines spread themselves in the valley of Ephraim.

But when the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over Israel, all the Philistines came up to seek David; and David heard of it, and went down to the hold.

The Philistines also came and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim.

And David inquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go up to the Philistines? wilt thou deliver them into mine hand? And the LORD said unto David, Go up: for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into thine hand.

And David came to Baal-perazim, and David smote them there, and said, The LORD hath broken forth upon mine enemies before me, as the breach of waters. Therefore he called the name of that place Baal-perazim.

And there they left their images, and David and his men burned them.

And the Philistines came up yet again, and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim.

And when David inquired of the LORD, he said, Thou shalt not go up; but fetch a compass behind them, and come upon them over against the mulberry trees.

And let it be, when thou hearest the sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees, that then thou shalt bestir thyself: for then shall the LORD go out before thee, to smite the host of the Philistines.

And David did so, as the LORD had commanded him; and smote the Philistines from Geba until thou come to Gazer.

2 Samuel 5:17-25

From the above scripture, we see that David constantly inquired of the Lord about what step to take. No wonder he never lost a battle in his days!

In addition, we understand from the Scriptures that Jesus operated at the centre of divine plan all through

His earthly Ministry. One of such times was when He said:

I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.

John 5:30

That was why He could say, "It is finished," on the Cross of Calvary (John 19:30).

I pray that as you follow the principles written in this book, you will fulfil God's plan for your life and say like Jesus, "It is finished" at the end of your journey on earth!

5

KEEPING YOUR VISION ALIVE

We are ordained to have glorious destinies in our careers, health, families, finances, and in all areas of life. Nevertheless, it is one thing to access them and yet another to fulfil them. Thus, God admonishes us to "take heed", because our God-ordained destinies will always attract the envy of the devil. It is written: *For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries* (1 Corinthians 16:9).

Therefore, if we must fulfil our destinies, we must "take heed" to that destiny. As it is written: *And say to*

Archippus, Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it (Colossians 4:17).

How Do We Take Heed?

We Must Be Committed to Our Destinies

The destiny we are not committed to will never get fulfilled because commitment is a major ingredient in the fulfilment of destiny. What the spinal cord is to a man's body is what commitment is to our lives and destinies. When the spinal cord of a man is out of place, paralysis sets in. Similarly, when commitment is absent in our lives, our destinies will be paralysed.

Also, from the Scripture, we understand that during the earthly ministry of Jesus, He was committed to the fulfilment of God's assignment for His life. He said:

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

Therefore, if we must fulfil destiny in every aspect of our lives, commitment must be an obligation and not an option.

Aspects of Commitment

We Must Be Committed Spiritually

We cannot fulfil our destinies in the energy of the flesh; we need God. Jesus said: *I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing* (John 15:5).

Therefore, we must be committed spiritually.

We Must Be Committed Mentally

In one of Apostle Paul's letters to Timothy, he revealed to us his commitment to reading and studying when he said: *The cloke that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee, and the books, but especially the parchments* (2 Timothy 4:13).

No wonder he fought a good fight and finished his course (2 Timothy 4:7).

Daniel also revealed his commitment to learning when he said, ... *I Daniel understood by books* ... (Daniel 9:2).

Maintain Focus

Every great destiny always suffers distractions but when we remain focused, we will overcome them. *The light of*

the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light (Matthew 6:22).

From the account of Joseph in the Bible, we saw that he had a great destiny, but there were many distractions (Genesis 38-40).

We must not let the "king's rich food" of today distract us from the glorious destiny God has in store for us. Concerning Daniel, the Bible says:

But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

Daniel 1:8

It is important to note that sin makes one's destiny to become irrelevant. Therefore, we must maintain focus and refuse to be distracted.

Focus Breakers

Self-Condensation

Our past notwithstanding, when we become born-again, old things pass away and everything becomes new (2 Corinthians 5:17).

From that scripture, God is saying that no matter

our past, our future and glorious destinies are more important to Him. Therefore, we must break loose from our past and lay hold on the glorious future God has in store for us.

Fear of the Unknown

Fear is a spirit from the devil, not from God. It is written: *For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind* (2 Timothy 1:7).

Fear keeps people captive, but you can live a fear-free life. Remember, Job said:

For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me (Job 3:25).

Vision Boosters

Association

It was Charlie Tremendous Jones who said, "You are the same today as you'll be in five years except for two things: the people you meet and the books you read." In other words, the books we read and the company we keep determine our end in the journey to our destinies. Therefore, our relationships and what we

read either make or break us, but they never leave us the same way.

The Bible says: *He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed* (Proverbs 13:20; see also Amos 3:3; 1 Corinthians 15:33).

Therefore, every relationship should be based on agreement because only agreeable people can relate profitably with one another. For instance, Abraham's vision was stagnated as long as Lot was with him.

In that account, the Bible says:

And the Lord said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward:

For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.

And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered.

Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee.

Then Abram removed his tent, and came and dwelt in the plain of Mamre, which is in Hebron, and built there an altar unto the Lord.

Genesis 13:14-18

From here, we understand that as long as Lot was with Abraham, Abraham could not access the next phase of God's plan and purpose for his life. In the same vein, there are certain individuals in our lives who will not allow us to fulfil God's plan, except we separate ourselves from them.

Therefore, we must mind the association we keep because it determines our destiny and speed in the pursuit of God's plans for our lives.

Appreciation

"Appreciation" here is the acknowledgement of God's hand upon us as we pursue His vision for our lives. It is being grateful to God for where we are, in order to secure our arrival where He has ordained us to be.

Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.

O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth. Selah.

Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.

Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God,

even our own God, shall bless us.

God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.

Psalm 67:3-7

That means, thanksgiving is what causes our vision to blossom because it compels God to always back us up. Moreover, praise and gratitude are covenant yeasts that boost our visions, dreams and pursuits in life. But, when we take God for granted, our vision gets grounded.

Several years ago, my driver parked by a roadside beggar on the way to my house and gave him five naira. On receiving the money, the beggar looked at it with disgust and said, "Me, five naira?" Immediately, I told my driver never to give anything to that beggar again. That is what ingratitude does; it shuts us out of divine supplies.

Thus, it is important for us to always remember that our greatness is rooted in our gratefulness. When we stop appreciating God, we start depreciating in life.

In addition, the Bible says: *But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel* (Psalm 22:3).

This further shows that when we are grateful to God, He dwells with us and our glorious destinies are guaranteed. This is because we cannot have the Great God by our side and not be great. For instance, if we are in a car with the president of a nation, every honour that goes with the presidential office rubs off on us naturally. Likewise, gratitude grants us the abiding presence of the Great God. That is enough to win any battle in life and guarantee a glorious accomplishment of destiny!

Testimonies

In the account of David's battle with Goliath, he said: "God Who enabled me to kill the lion and the bear will strengthen me to kill this uncircumcised Philistine" (1 Samuel 17:32-51 paraphrased).

Then, he ran towards Goliath, brought him down and cut off his head. David was simply energised and empowered by those testimonies; hence, he had victory over Goliath.

From that story, the Bible reveals that David remembered the acts of God in the past and that became the source of his triumph in the battle against Goliath. This explains why those who do not mind testimonies keep struggling with trials.

Again, testimonies are faith boosters and our faith is all it takes to keep our visions running. The Bible confirms this when Habakkuk said:

I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved.

And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.

Habakkuk 2:1-4

Therefore, faith is a principal booster of vision, and testimonies are boosters of faith. That makes it simple for us to appreciate that whatever can boost faith can also boost our visions.

Divine Help

We cannot fulfil our destinies without God's help, because divine help is what delivers us in times of trouble. As it is written: *Give us help from trouble:*

for vain is the help of man. Through God we shall do valiantly: for he it is that shall tread down our enemies (Psalm 60:11-12).

God's help is always available but we must accept the responsibility of calling on Him in order to access it. Thus, divine help is not wished for; it is called for. This is because when it comes to God, it is only what we call for that is made available to us. God does not waste resources. But how do we call for God's help?

One major way through which we call for God's help is prayers.

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need (Hebrews 4:16).

Again, the Bible says: *For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened* (Matthew 7:8).

In conclusion, the Bible says: *Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain* (Psalm 127:1).

Therefore, if we have anything to show for our labour, we must never forget God or take for granted that He is behind it, because every result in our pursuit of vision is rooted in God.

6

FULFILMENT OF VISION

In 1989, I was in the bathroom in Kaduna when God said to me, "Arise, get down to Lagos and raise Me a people." That same day, I sent a member of staff to Lagos and told him to contact one of my sons who had recently travelled to Lagos, so that they could both scout round for houses for the church; also for me and the staff. God favoured us and within two weeks, we got everything needed with all arrangements concluded.

To start with, the church building we secured had been unoccupied for seven years. Also, the house that I

was to stay in had been completed but remained vacant for five years because the owner was based in Canada. There was also a block of eight flats newly completed. Thus, we had access to eight flats and everything was within a short distance. Breakthroughs always characterise divine plans, because God goes before us to ensure that every gate lifts up its head and every everlasting door is flung open.

But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend. Thou whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, and called thee from the chief men thereof, and said unto thee, Thou art my servant; I have chosen thee, and not cast thee away.

Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Isaiah 41:8-10

Again, the Bible says:

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come

in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory.

Psalm 24:7-10

From these two scriptures, we can conclude that when we are in the centre of God's plan for our lives, no gate is permitted to be shut against us, because the Almighty God is holding our right hand. When He approaches any gate, it must lift up its head. Thus, it is God's backing that leads us to our breakthroughs in life.

Breakthrough Forces Behind the Fulfilment of Vision

The discovery of God's plans for our lives and their pursuit is what makes us living wonders on the earth. However, it takes the breakthrough forces that back divine vision to accomplish God's plans for our lives.

What, then, are the breakthrough forces in divine vision?

God Goes Before Us

When God leads, He goes before the led, brings down every barrier and creates a thoroughfare.

And when he (God) putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.

And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.

John 10:4-5

It is also written:

Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut;

I WILL GO BEFORE THEE, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron:

And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel.

Isaiah 45:1-3 (Emphasis mine)

In other words, breakthroughs will always characterise divine plans. Therefore, when the doors are not opening on the path of our destinies, we must check it because God may not be there.

God Works With Us

God does not only go before us, lest He goes too far and we get molested; but He also goes with us.

The Bible validates this:

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was With him.

Acts 10:38

Jesus also said: *And HE THAT SENT ME IS WITH ME: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him* (John 8:29; Emphasis mine).

While speaking to His disciples, He further said:

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, even unto the end of the world. Amen (Matthew 28:20; Emphasis mine).

Again, the Bible says: *And they went forth, and preached everywhere, THE LORD WORKING WITH THEM, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen* (Mark 16:20; Emphasis mine).

All these scriptures point to the fact that God is Omnipresent. Thus, He can go ahead of us, stay right beside us and still stand guard behind us, to ensure that nobody hurts us from behind.

Many years ago, we heard the story of a lamb that

was under the protection of a lion. It was a major news story in Kenya. That lamb had fun under the protective custody of the lion, and other predators were unable to molest it. Similarly, when God works with us, we become untouchable.

God Works In and Through Us

God does not only support us by working with us, but He also performs our part by working through us.

Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father IN me? The words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself; but the Father that dwelleth in me, He doeth the works.

John 14:10

Again, it is written: *For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure* (Philippians 2:13; Emphasis mine).

Thus, when we are in pursuit of a heavenly vision, God is committed to working through us to ensure its delivery and supernatural accomplishments.

God Works For Us

The Bible says: *Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it* (1 Thessalonians 5:24).

The scripture above implies that, when we are in pursuit of God's assignment, He takes over the operation. That is what makes the breakthroughs in our assignments unstoppable. Thus, when we align with the breakthrough forces behind the accomplishment of divine vision, our assignments enjoy God's advancement. God going before us, God working with us, God working in/through us, and God working for us are what makes us gods in our fields.

As it was said of Moses:

And the Lord said unto Moses, See, I have made thee a god to Pharaoh: and Aaron thy brother shall be thy prophet.

Thou shalt speak all that I command thee: and Aaron thy brother shall speak unto Pharaoh, that he send the children of Israel out of his land.

And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and multiply my signs and my wonders in the land of Egypt.

Exodus 7:1-3

Therefore, we must be confident that nothing can stop God's plan from being fulfilled in our lives. When God sends us on a mission, the unction required to deliver accompanies us. Hence, it is wisdom to enquire from the Lord about every step of our lives in order to prevail where others travail.

Furthermore, we must be sensitive to divine plan because there is no comparing God's plans with ours. I have often said that not every open door is God's door; many are traps in disguise. Remember, not all that glitters is gold. Thus, we must never negotiate divine instructions; but strive to always be at the centre of God's plan per time. This is because God never leads backwards, but forward. Therefore, an end has come to all your struggles in Jesus' name!



THE TRAINING FACTOR

It is important to understand that schooling is not the same thing as training. We only go to school to acquire the literacy skills required to train ourselves most effectively in our field of endeavour. Schooling is periodic, but training is for life. That is one of the reasons there are many certified but uneducated people in the world. They have degrees but cannot deliver because they are not trained to do so.

The account of David in the Cave of Adullam paints

a graphic picture of the benefit of training in the life of any man.

David therefore departed thence, and escaped to the cave Adullam: and when his brethren and all his father's house heard it, they went down thither to him.

And every one that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him; and he became a captain over them: and there were with him about four hundred men. And David went thence to Mizpeh of Moab: and he said unto the king of Moab, Let my father and my mother, I pray thee, come forth, and be with you, till I know what God will do for me.

1 Samuel 22:1-3

From the scripture above, we see how David gathered riffraffs under his tutelage or in his training academy, and they became the mighty men of David. In describing these trained men, the Bible says:

These be the names of the mighty men whom David had: The Tachmonite that sat in the seat, chief among the captains; the same was Adino the Eznite: he lift up his spear against eight hundred, whom he slew at one time

And after him was Eleazar the son of Dodo the Ahohite, one of the three mighty men with David,

when they defied the Philistines that were there gathered together to battle, and the men of Israel were gone away:

He arose, and smote the Philistines until his hand was weary, and his hand clave unto the sword: and the LORD wrought a great victory that day; and the people returned after him only to spoil.

And after him was Shammah the son of Agee the Hararite. And the Philistines were gathered together into a troop, where was a piece of ground full of lentiles: and the people fled from the Philistines.

But he stood in the midst of the ground, and defended it, and slew the Philistines: and the LORD wrought a great victory.

2 Samuel 23:8-12

These were casual fellows who became mighty men because they came under the training of a captain. They were men of no value-human trash, but training brought out the treasure in them.

It is one thing to know where we are going, and yet another to know what it takes to get there. The labour of the foolish wearieth every one of them, because he knoweth not how to go to the city (Ecclesiastes 10:15).

Many of us know the city (God's vision for our lives), but we don't know what it takes to get there. That is where training comes in!

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS TO GET TO THE CITY?

Learning

Everyone at the top is a committed learner of the arts and skills in his/her field. For instance, I have a background in architecture but when I was called to ministry, I had to train myself for it because I had seen a professor fail in ministry. That means, my academic capacity was not relevant because ministry is a profession that has its own unique skills that must be acquired. This prompted my search for thirty-nine (39) selected biographies of great ministers. I studied their principles, discovered those who failed, where they failed and why they failed, in order to avoid it. I also learnt the secrets behind the exploits of those who succeeded. Consequently, when I stepped into full-time ministry, I was thirty-nine years more mature than my colleagues, because I was thinking on the basis of the lessons I had learnt from the biographies.

Endowment is not a substitute for the demand of study. In the account of Daniel and the three Hebrew boys, the Bible says:

As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and

dreams.

Daniel 1:17

Yet, Daniel said: *...I Daniel understood by books...* (Daniel 9:2).

Paul was also a lifelong student and a man of books. He said: *The cloke that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee, and the books, but especially the parchment* (2 Timothy 4:13).

It takes reading to rise and it will take reading to stay up. T. L. Osborn validates this when he said, "When you stop learning, you start dying." Abraham Lincoln also said, "I don't think much of a man who is not wiser today than he was yesterday." To be wiser today than we were yesterday, we must learn more today than we knew yesterday.

Today, our Church (The Living Faith Church Worldwide) is experiencing tremendous church growth, not only where I pastor (Canaanland) but across our entire church network. How? I spent the whole of 1985 exploring the secrets of Yoido Full Gospel Church: the largest church congregation in the world, pastored by Yonggi Cho.

There is nothing we are doing today that somebody has not done before. So, we need to learn from them. Where we are going is real, but we need to learn how to get there.

Many years ago, one of my in-laws told me he wanted to start a soap making business. I told him there was no problem but he would require a working knowledge of the trade. I asked him to inquire about where he could learn. Three days later, he returned saying he had concluded the training. I said, "What you will do for a lifetime, you can't learn in three days." However, he insisted that he had learnt all that there was to learn and that if I wanted to help him, I should. I said, "I don't believe you have a future in this trade," but he was adamant, so I gave him the money. Later, a marketing company met with him and asked, "How many bars can you make?" He said, "Fifty cartons in a week," and was awarded the contract. He made the first fifty cartons and they were on display, but within a week, the bars were bending on the shelves. That was the end of his soap making ministry.

Similarly, a lot of people have great callings but they see little or no results. It is not that their callings are not genuine, but they lack the know-how, which cannot be imparted, but acquired.

Discipline

"Discipline" here represents maintaining an orderly life. It is operating as demanded not as convenient.

Also, it is maximising and investing our time, instead of squandering it.

George Washington once said, "Discipline is the soul of an army. It makes small numbers formidable, procures success to the weak, and esteem to all." No matter where we are today, we can emerge a formidable force when the force of discipline is entrenched into our lives.

The Bible confirms this:

Woe to thee, O land, when thy king is a child, and thy princes eat in the morning! Blessed art thou, O land, when thy king is the son of nobles, and thy princes eat in due season, for strength, and not for drunkenness!

Ecclesiastes 10:16-17

Self-discipline is being a law to ourselves and subscribing to do things because they are of advantage to our mission on earth. This is because it takes self-discipline to end up distinguished. Discipline is having a schedule for our day so we don't live it as it comes.

Therefore, let's discipline ourselves so much that people would identify us only with our divine assignment on earth. In other words, go the extra mile, pay the extra price, take the extra step and you will find yourself at the top in no time.

Diligence

"Diligence" here means hard work. As stated earlier, many years ago, I saw in my Bible: *Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men* (Proverbs 22:29).

From this scripture, I understood that how much we invest, in terms of time, energy and resources in our destinies today, would determine where we stand tomorrow. In other words, it is the quality of our work that defines our ultimate worth. *The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute* (Proverbs 12:24).

That means, it is diligence that establishes enthronement. This is because there is no future for an idle man in the Kingdom. Jesus said, "My Father worketh hitherto, and I work" (John 5:17). He further said: *I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work* (John 9:4).

Paul said:

But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

1 Corinthians 15:10

Thus, grace without labour equals disgrace. We can never take anything out of life more than what we have invested into it. *Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap* (Galatians 6:7).

Therefore, the harder we work, the greater our level of delivery. If we are not hard workers, we will live hard lives.

Many years ago, in my secondary school days, a friend of mine wrote on the back of his notebook: "Hard work never kills." Those words struck me and I added: "It only refines," because the furnace does not kill gold; it only brings out its value (Proverbs 27:21). In the same vein, the value in us will never emerge without a cost from us. Remember, there is nothing of value without a cost.

Sacrifice

There is no star without a scar, and the scar of every star is sacrifice. Sacrifice is going the extra mile, paying the extra price and taking the extra steps to deliver our vision. There is nothing extraordinary on its own; it is man's extraordinary input that makes anything extraordinary.

To access the topmost place in our field, we must pay

the topmost price to get there. Nobody can force sacrifice on a man; each man submits to the level of sacrifice he believes his vision demands.

Jesus consents to this when He said:

Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again.

No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

John 10:17-18

Jesus further said:

I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I if it be already kindled? But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished!

Luke 12:49-50

In other words, anyone who desires a global vision must be willing to pay a global price.

In summary, knowing where we are going is Vision, knowing what is required to get there is Knowledge, investing our very best to get there is Diligence and going the extra mile is Sacrifice.

James Cleveland "Jesse" Owens is another example of

what training can deliver to a man. Jesse was an American track and field athlete. In his early twenties, while in High school, he asked Charles Riley (his coach): "Sir, I want to become a sports star, what must I do?" Riley said, "There are four steps on the ladder to becoming a sports star and they are: Determination, Dedication, Discipline and Sacrifice." With that information, Jesse Owen emerged with three Gold medals at the 1936 Summer Olympics in Berlin, Germany. His medals were in the 100 meters, 200 meters, long jump, and 4x100 meters relay. His long jump record was not broken for another 22 years.

There's nothing like utilising information because it adds colour to destiny.



THE MENTORSHIP FACTOR

God is the Author of mentorship. Remember, He instructed us to look unto Abraham, our father, and Sarah that bore us. He said, "I called him alone and blessed him." In other words, God is telling us, "I want to turn your wilderness to Eden and your desert to the Garden of the Lord, but you have to follow Me to get there. If you will follow the same steps, I will bless you the same way" (Isaiah 51:1-3). Jesus also said, "Follow

me and I will make you" (Matthew 4:19). This means that if we are interested, God is ready to mentor us. Thus, what we call mentorship is simply followership.

The Bible says:

Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein.

Jeremiah 6:16

The concluding statement in the above scripture best describes the youth of this generation. They are a proud and arrogant set of individuals who won't learn from those who have achieved great feats in their chosen fields of endeavour. Yet, they aspire to be the best in the same field. This is one of the reasons we have mediocres in this generation. They have no mentors, therefore, their potentials and values are relegated. No matter your potential for sportsmanship, you need a coach for your potentials to find full expression. You may be the greatest swimmer, but somebody equipped you for swimming behind the scenes before you became the best. It is impossible for the star in us to rise without connecting to the power of mentorship. Therefore, everyone who aspires to be at the top needs a mentor.

But, Who is a Mentor?

A mentor is someone who has been to where we are aspiring to be. Isaac Newton once said, "If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants." It is impossible to write an academic paper without quality references. In fact, the quality of the references determines the rating of the paper. This is because there is no thought of yours that is considered acceptable except it has gone through the thoughts of others.

The Bible validates this: *That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises* (Hebrews 6:12).

In other words, we should look out for individuals who have arrived at where we desire to go and subscribe to their mentorship. We must remember that it is only true disciples that become apostles. Only committed students become masters and only true learners become leaders.

When we submit to our mentors' instructions, we facilitate our speedy arrival at our glorious destination. May we locate the mentors whom God has placed on the path to our glorious destinies!

Mentors can be Likened to Ladders

Mentors are ladders that help us to get to the top easily. Many times, we celebrate the glory of great

individuals, but we don't have regard for their stories. Behind every glory, there is a story. We cannot partake of the glory until we identify with the story.

Mentors give us their stories for us to partake of their glory. Mentors show us steps on the ladder to greatness, so we can also get to the top as they did.

This is one of the reasons many individuals are stranded. They have not located a "ladder" that will help them get to their destination. Until we see the need for a mentor, we are not candidates for the top yet.

The reason many people feel they don't need a mentor is because they believe they have all it takes to get to where they are going. Many individuals in ministry today do not have mentors, so they are on the same spot, using common sense and expecting unusual results. The truth is that common sense will only produce common results. However, when we employ the power of mentorship to rise, the sweat is less and the results are undeniable.

Mentors are Feathers for our Flight

For the LORD's portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance. He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye.

As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings:

So the LORD alone did lead him, and there was no strange god with him.

He made him ride on the high places of the earth, that he might eat the increase of the fields; and he made him to suck honey out of the rock, and oil out of the flinty rock.

Deuteronomy 32:9-13

In the above scripture, we see how God made Jacob to ride upon the high places of the earth by giving him feathers. Mentors are feathers that empower us to soar to great heights. Just as the mother eagle mentors the eaglets to emerge as eagles by subjecting them to the process of wing development, mentors are ordained to help develop our wings and feathers for us to soar. Therefore, without mentors, we can only embark on high jumps but we cannot fly.

Mentors are wing developers, who empower us to soar as eagles into space. It is wisdom to know the kind of result you want, identify those who have commanded it, and then line up with them.

Mentors are Life Coaches

Paul said: *Know ye not that they which run in a*

race run all, but one receiveth the prize! So run, that ye may obtain (1 Corinthians 9:24).

He further said:

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

Hebrews 12:1

From both scriptures, we understand that life is a race and an adventure in sportsmanship. Just as you will never find a star in the field of sports without a coach, you will never find a man with a great future without a mentor. That is why I said mentors are life coaches.

One of such coaches is Paul the Apostle who said in his epistle to the Church at Philippi: ***Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you*** (Philippians 4:9).

He also said: ***Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ*** (1 Corinthians 11:1).

From these scriptures, Paul is saying, the things you have learned, received, heard and seen me do, as I follow Christ's examples, if you will do the same, you will

record similar results. This is because, it will be a chain of divine manifestations (Philippians 3:17). Mentors are our life coaches!

Mentors are Life Trainers

When we visit the gym, we meet trainers who help us develop our muscles through certain exercises. They help us design the kind of training suitable for the kind of result we desire. Just as we have physical trainers, we also have life trainers and we see this in two instances in the Scriptures. One of these instances is the account of Abraham in Genesis 14:14, which says:

And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained servants, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued them unto Dan.

Abraham trained his servants as soldiers to ward off any assault on his territory. When they went to war, they returned victorious.

The second account in the Scriptures was when some riffraffs were trained by David:

And every one that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him; and

he became a captain over them: and there were with him about four hundred men.

1 Samuel 22:2

These be the names of the mighty men whom David had: The Tachmonite that sat in the seat, chief among the captains; the same was Adino the Eznite: he lift up his spear against eight hundred, whom he slew at one time.

2 Samuel 23:8

The men, who had no identity at first, had become mighty men of David. They were riffraffs, but after being subjected to the training modules of David, everything about their lives changed. Mentors are life trainers. They train us so we can command triumphs in the pursuit of our destinies.

In addition, we can locate our mentors' secrets through media materials such as books, e-books, tapes, CDs, etc., even though we may not have one-on-one encounter with them. One of my most revered mentors, Kenneth Copeland, mentored me on Kingdom prosperity. I never had the privilege of meeting him until 30 years after my encounter with Kingdom Prosperity. I contacted all his secrets from his materials, believed they were real and positioned myself to walk in them.

Also, I have never met Billy Graham but he has influenced my life beyond description. The same way Billy Graham influences leaders of nations by God's grace, I have had the privilege of meeting more presidents than I can count, at their request. They would ask probing questions and believe that I could answer them.

No matter how great our vision is, God has positioned mentors on our way to help us get to our destinations faster and cheaper. There was a world-renowned physicist named James Clarke Maxwell, Jonathan Edward was his mentor. He read volumes of Jonathan's books, and that fertilised his intellect to stay on top in his field. Mentors are positioned by God to help us establish and perfect our destinies.

Two Categories of Mentorship

Everybody in the Kingdom requires two levels of mentorship: Spiritual mentorship and Career Mentorship.

We need spiritual mentorship to secure our destinies because the devil will take us for a prey if we are not firmly rooted in Christ. We also need career mentorship to acquire the technical know-how that will make us giants in our chosen fields. However, spiritual

mentorship can suffice in both categories. For instance, one of the greatest insurance companies in America was delivered as a vision of a church. That insurance company, the last time I heard, had 187,000 people in its employment. That visionary was mentored by his pastor. Thus, his pastor doubled as both his spiritual and career mentor.

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.

Ephesians 4:11-12

This means spiritual mentors are for the perfecting of the destinies of the saints.

Here is a testimony from a member of our Church:

I was completely broke and stagnated to the point that I could not give an offering when I attended Sunday services. Then, I started telling people that I could produce liquid soap and deliver at their doorsteps. Meanwhile, I did not have the means to embark on such project or venture.

I prayed to God about my desire and read the following books: 'Breaking The Curses Of Life' authored by Bishop David Oyedepo and 'Creating A New Beginning' by

Bishop David Abioye.

While reading 'Creating A New Beginning', the author said, 'Hope is a fountain of a desired future.' Immediately, I told God to create a new beginning in my life.

As I read 'Breaking The Curses of Life', the Bishop said, 'You are looking faraway, that is why you are getting farther from your blessings. Until you embrace the sufficiency of God, you will struggle and die in insufficiency.' Those words hit me and I began to rely on the sufficient God. Thereafter, the All-sufficient God gave me a business idea and I started producing liquid soap. When I got my first contract, I did not borrow to execute it.

God gave me customers from different parts of the nation. I thank Him for breaking the yoke of stagnation in my life! – Favour, N. Y.

Friend, you can never find a destiny of worth without a mentor. May God help us to maximise the men and women lined up on our paths to help us get to where we are going on time!

9

PROPHETIC CONNECTIONS

The destiny of every generation anchors on the ministry of the teaching priests who unfold God's laws of life to the people. God, speaking through Prophet Azariah, said:

And the Spirit of God came upon Azariah the son of Oded:

And he went out to meet Asa, and said unto him, Hear ye me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin; The Lord is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you.

Now for a long season Israel hath been without the

true God, and without a teaching priest, and without law.

2 Chronicles 15:1-3

The Bible further says: *...But great vexations were upon all the inhabitants of the countries. And nation was destroyed of nation...* (2 Chronicles 15:5-6).

Why? They didn't know the true God; there was no teaching priest and they did not understand the laws of the Spirit. No wonder the Bible says: *My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge...* (Hosea 4:6).

However, in proffering a solution, the Bible says:

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

(But) how then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent?...

Romans 10:13-15 (Emphasis Mine)

From the above scripture, we understand that God sends us teaching priests who receive from God and show us what it takes for our destinies to open up. There are many of us who know the true God, but very few bother about the teaching priests.

In Hosea 12:10, God said: *I have also spoken by the prophets, and I have multiplied visions, and used*

similitudes, by the ministry of the prophets.

"Similitude" here connotes illustrations and examples. That means visions are unleashed through the ministry of God-ordained prophets. They are vision provokers. They help us to see what our natural eyes and minds cannot see or comprehend.

However, we must understand that just as every physical branch belongs to a tree, every child of God belongs to a particular spiritual family tree. No branch can survive in isolation. No matter how a branch blossoms, when it is disconnected from a tree, it is bound to dry up. It is only a matter of time (Romans 11:19-23).

Our Spiritual Family Tree

When we become born again, we are engrafted into a spiritual family.

I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every [branch] that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye [are] the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast [them] into the fire, and they

are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

John 15:1-2, 4-7

Again it is written:

And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

Ephesians 2:20-22

From these scriptures, we understand that Jesus is the vine, the apostles are the primary branches, and the prophets are the secondary branches. The church (that is, you and I) is built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets, with Jesus Christ as the Chief Cornerstone.

Thus, the security of the destiny of every child of God is in locating his own spiritual family tree and abiding there as this brother did in his testimony:

Three years ago, I heard that there would be a Businessmen Breakthrough Night service, so I attended.

Meanwhile, I didn't have anything to show for my labour. I kept moving from one place to another with nothing happening for me.

During the service, the Bishop said we should write the names of our companies and our addresses. As nothing was happening for me, I laid down and prayed to God. Instantly, God gave me an insight. The following day, I carried out a feasibility study and began pursuing the idea. Shortly after, God opened several doors of favour to me.

Today, God has established my company, and it's registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission (C.A.C.) in Nigeria. God also gave us favour beyond the shores of Nigeria as our goods are in high demand from other countries. Today, I am an employer of labour! Praise the Lord! – David, O.

The Uniqueness of Our Spiritual Family Tree Every Child of God Has a Pastor Appointed Over His Life

And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

And it shall come to pass, when ye be multiplied and increased in the land, in those days, saith the LORD, they shall say no more, The ark of the covenant of the LORD: neither shall it come to mind: neither shall they remember it; neither shall they visit [it]; neither shall [that] be done any more.

Jeremiah 3:15-16

Under our God-ordained pastors, we multiply and

increase, just like every sheep flourishes under its shepherd.

Every Child of God Has a Teacher Assigned to Him

It is written:

And though the Lord give you the bread of adversity, and the water of affliction, yet shall not thy teachers be removed into a corner any more, but thine eyes shall see thy teachers:

And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, this is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

Isaiah 30:20-21

Every Child of God Also Has a Prophet Sent to Him

The Bible says: *And by a prophet the LORD brought Israel out of Egypt, and by a prophet was he preserved* (Hosea 12:13).

Jesus said:

And he said, Verily I say unto you, No prophet is accepted in his own country. But I tell you of a truth, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elias, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, when great famine was throughout all the land; But unto none of them was Elias sent, save

unto Sarepta, [a city] of Sidon, unto a woman [that was] a widow.

And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Eliseus the prophet; and none of them was cleansed, saving Naaman the Syrian (Emphasis mine).

Luke 4:24-27

Therefore, locating our spiritual home is very fundamental to taking delivery of our glorious destinies.

Benefits of Discovering Our Spiritual Family Tree

Our Destinies Are Secured

The Bible says:

Moreover, I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them anymore, as beforetime.

2 Samuel 7:10

When we locate our God-appointed place, we arrive at our city of refuge where men slayers cannot molest us anymore. Here is a testimony from one of our members:

Two years ago, my life and business came under severe attacks, which affected every aspect of my life. At the point

when I thought I had lost everything, God miraculously brought me to this church.

At one of the services in July 2009, a word came from the Bishop. He said, 'There is someone here who came for the first time; if you would make this place your Church, within one year, if God doesn't turn your life around, you can go!'

When we got home, I told my wife that, 'This is our new church.' To the glory of God, exactly one year later, my business was not only restored, I have upgraded from using ordinary machines to industrial automated machines!

Also, during the Word of Faith Bible Institute (WOFBI) February edition in 2010, God led me to the training arm of my business. Today, God has blessed my business and the training school is growing gloriously. Praise the Lord!

–Felix, A.

Here is another testimony:

Before I came to this Church, everything about my life was stagnant. My business was grounded for over four years, and it seemed like there was no solution. People laughed at me because I could not pay my children's school fees and house rent. Everyone, including my wife, was so worried.

I went to more than 19 herbalists for solution, and they all said someone had tied down my destiny.

Some time ago, a member of this Church called me to

partner with him in his business. After being with him for a while, he called me and said he saw me in a dream fighting over money in a market. He then told me to follow him to this Church. Initially, I told him I had already been to many churches, but he insisted.

When we came to Church that morning, the title of the message was, *Discovering Your Destiny*. The man who invited me told me that as long as I had stepped on the ground of Canaanland, my destiny would be discovered. I believed him!

Some Sundays later, during the Covenant Day of Blessing, the Bishop declared that everyone with a hopeless business would beg no more. Those words hit me!

Two days later, my business bounced back. All those who abandoned me four years ago started calling to award me contracts.

Meanwhile, the two people who were responsible for my misfortune became insane in the village. One of them confessed that he had buried something to delay my destiny.

Today, I can testify to the goodness of the Lord in my life. Indeed, God is in Canaanland and whosoever steps there, prospers and never sees shame again. Praise the Lord! – Godwin, A.

Our Spiritual Place Is Our Place of Prosperity

The Bible says:

Take heed to thyself that thou offer not thy burnt offerings in every place that thou seest:

But in the place which the LORD shall choose in one of thy tribes, there thou shalt offer thy burnt offerings, and there thou shalt do all that I command thee.

Deuteronomy 12:13-14

This means there is a place chosen by God for our seeds (offerings and sacrifices) to be sown, before we can prosper through them.

And there was a famine in the land, beside the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went unto Abimelech king of the Philistines unto Gerar.

And the LORD appeared unto him, and said, Go not down into Egypt; dwell in the land which I shall tell thee of:

Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the LORD blessed him.

And the man waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great: For he had possession of flocks, and possession of herds, and great store of servants: and the Philistines envied him.

Genesis 26:1-2, 12-14

That happened because Isaac sowed in the land which God showed him.

Read this testimony:

Each time I see people sharing their testimonies on this

altar, I always ask God, "When will it be my turn?" During Shiloh 2006, God told me to give Him a sacrificial offering. Usually, my husband pays Shiloh sacrifice for the family, but this time, God said I should give Him personally. So, I did.

After some months, God gave me an idea on how to package Kunu drinks (Kunu is a popular drink consumed throughout Nigeria, but mostly in the north. It's made from millet). When I told my husband about the idea God gave me, he asked me if I was advancing or regressing. I told him I was advancing.

Initially, I wondered how much gain I could make from the business, but after the third month in the business, my husband said of a truth I heard from God! I made a lot of money from the Kunu business. When the business was one year old, I asked God what I could do with the profit I had realised so far. He said I should start a restaurant business. I obeyed and started with a shop. As the business was expanding, I told God to take me to the next level.

Today, I have large shops for that business. Not only that, before now, our farm was abandoned for a very long time but today, it has been revamped and everything about my home is experiencing a turnaround! Praise the Lord! – Favour, A.

Here is another testimony:

A year ago, I lost my job as a banker. When I was coming

for Shiloh 2009, I did not allow anybody to pity me. I was just singing and dancing. I made a vow during that Shiloh to sow my first salary in 2010 as my Shiloh sacrifice. However, due to the little amount of money I was paid, I had to divide that money to 12 parts. I paid a portion as my Shiloh sacrifice, and then my tithe. Suddenly, the heavens opened over me!

God gave me an idea in farming and instructed me to plant some crops that are popular in the Northern part of Nigeria. I started in March that year and God blessed the fruits of my labour. By His grace, I purchased six (6) acres at the beginning of 2012. Shortly after, God multiplied it to 50 acres.

Presently, I am sponsoring three students in the university and God blessed me with a farm truck!

God has blessed me to the point that, within 10 months, I made profit which is three times my annual package when I was in the banking sector. Praise the Lord!"

- Olayeni Olatunji

Our Dignity Is Secured

God spoke to me in an 18-hour vision; yet, He said to me when I was going into full-time ministry: "I will not have you go like others have gone; I will have hands laid on you, and you shall be filled with the Spirit of wisdom after the order of Joshua in Deuteronomy 34:9." I asked, "Lord who will lay hands on me?" Then He said, "Send for My servant, Adeboye,

and I will have him lay hands on you."

God brought me under my own pastor and I have stayed there all these years, and God has been blessing me. Therefore, our vision has no future until our prophetic connectivity is discovered and sustained.

A sister gave this testimony in church one day:

We got married in this Commission in 2005. Thereafter, my husband complained about the distance to Canaanland. So, we left the Church for a nearby one.

After worshipping with the nearby church for seven years, I felt so disconnected and we suffered several setbacks. One day, I cried to God and heard a loud voice saying: 'Go back to your prophet.'

That morning, as I came out of the office, I saw a bus with the inscription, 'The Liberation Mandate, Living Faith Church.' I ran to the pastor in the bus and asked how I could get to Canaanland. He told me to board the bus and that he would take me there. That was how I reconnected to my source.

The following Sunday, I re-dedicated my life to Christ. While the Bishop was preaching that Sunday, he said, 'We serve a good God that gives good gifts to them that love Him.' I keyed in to that word and said, 'God, I'm back to my source and I believe every word from the Bishop!'

In April 2013, God miraculously brought my husband to church and he also re-dedicated his life to Christ. That

was how our testimony began.

We keyed in to the ingathering season, and brought souls to church every Sunday. Today, God has used us to nurture 20 souls.

During one of the Services, a pastor shared a testimony of how God healed him of a chronic eye problem, because he was involved in soul-winning. I keyed in to it. Instantly, God delivered me from a chronic eye problem, and I stopped using recommended glasses.

Also, after one of the Blood of Sprinkling services, I sprinkled our office and the person who had hindered our business from progressing, confessed and our business picked up instantly.

Again, during the 21-day Covenant application of the Anointing Oil as instructed by the Bishop, God delivered my husband from 30-year asthma. I give glory to the God of this Commission! – Roseline, O.

No branch will outgrow the need for a vine. When you see a man who is trying to outgrow his roots, he will soon end up groaning. I don't care what your vision on earth is, if you don't have a spiritual connection, that vision has no future. I pray that you will locate your spiritual family and abide there in the name of Jesus Christ! Amen!

ABOUT THE *Author*



David O. Oyedepo, called to be an Apostle with a mandate to liberate the world through the preaching of the Word of Faith, has for nearly four decades been part of the ongoing charismatic revival sweeping across the African continent today. His faith-based teachings have literally transformed millions of lives around the world.

He is the Founder and President of the Living Faith Church Worldwide also known as Winners' Chapel International, with a network of thousands of Churches in Nigeria and several other nations across the continents of the world.

Till date, he has published over 90 impactful titles most of which have been translated to major languages of the world such as French, Chinese, Spanish etc. with over twenty million copies in circulation.

He is the Senior Pastor of the Faith Tabernacle, Canaanland, Ota, Nigeria, with a 50,000-seat sanctuary, reputed to be the largest church facility in the world. The church currently runs five services on Sunday morning with over 300,000 worshippers, making her one of the largest church congregations in the world.

His mission has established educational institutions across all levels in Nigeria, with Covenant and Landmark Universities taking large strides towards becoming world class universities.

He is married to Faith and they are blessed with sons, daughters and grandchildren.

THE BREAKTHROUGH POWER OF VISION

Vision simply means taking delivery of God's plans and purposes for our lives. Until God's plan for our lives unfold, our destinies remain hidden. However, it is one thing to take delivery of a vision, and yet another to accomplish it to the fullest. That is why Dr. David Oyedepo unveils, in this book, fundamental keys required to take delivery of a heavenly vision, pursue same and see it fulfilled to the fullest on earth.

In his words: As you follow the principles written in this book, you will fulfil God's plan for your life and say like Jesus, "It is finished" at the end of your journey on earth!


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