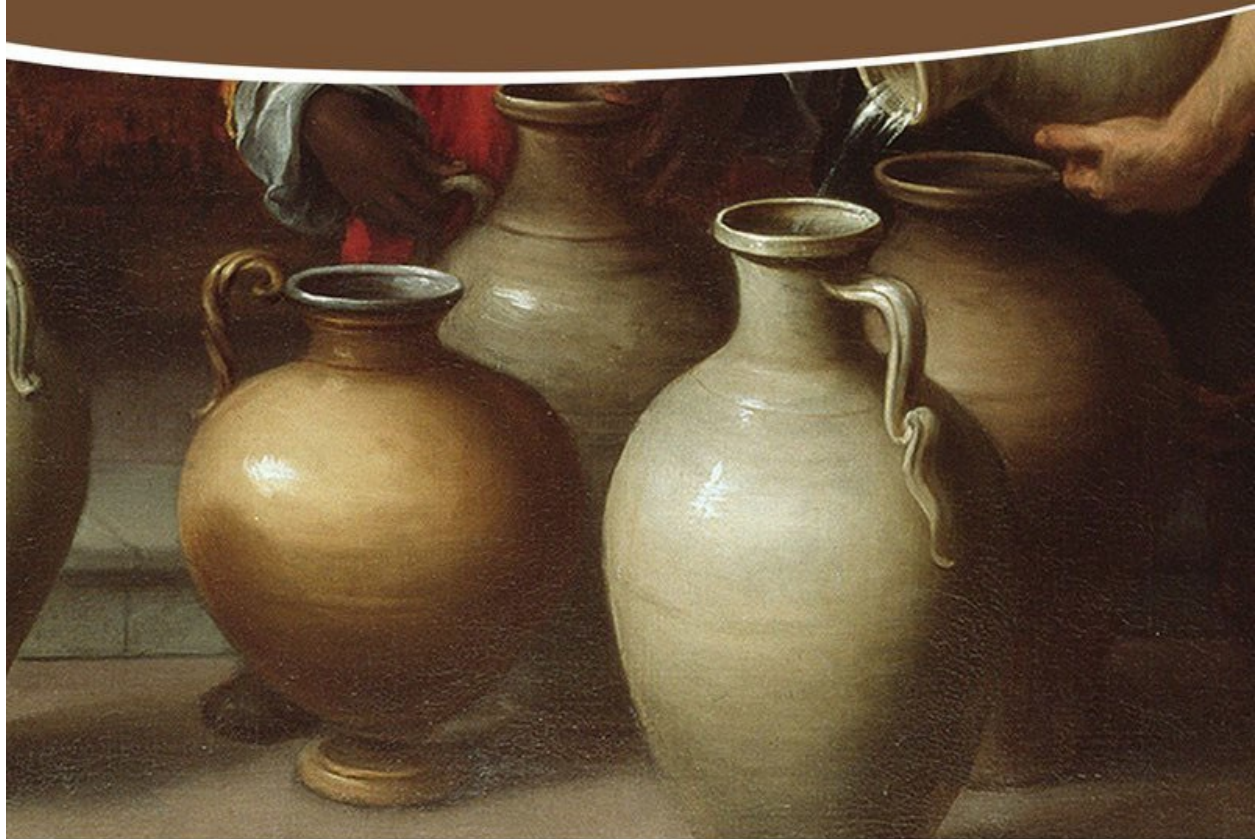
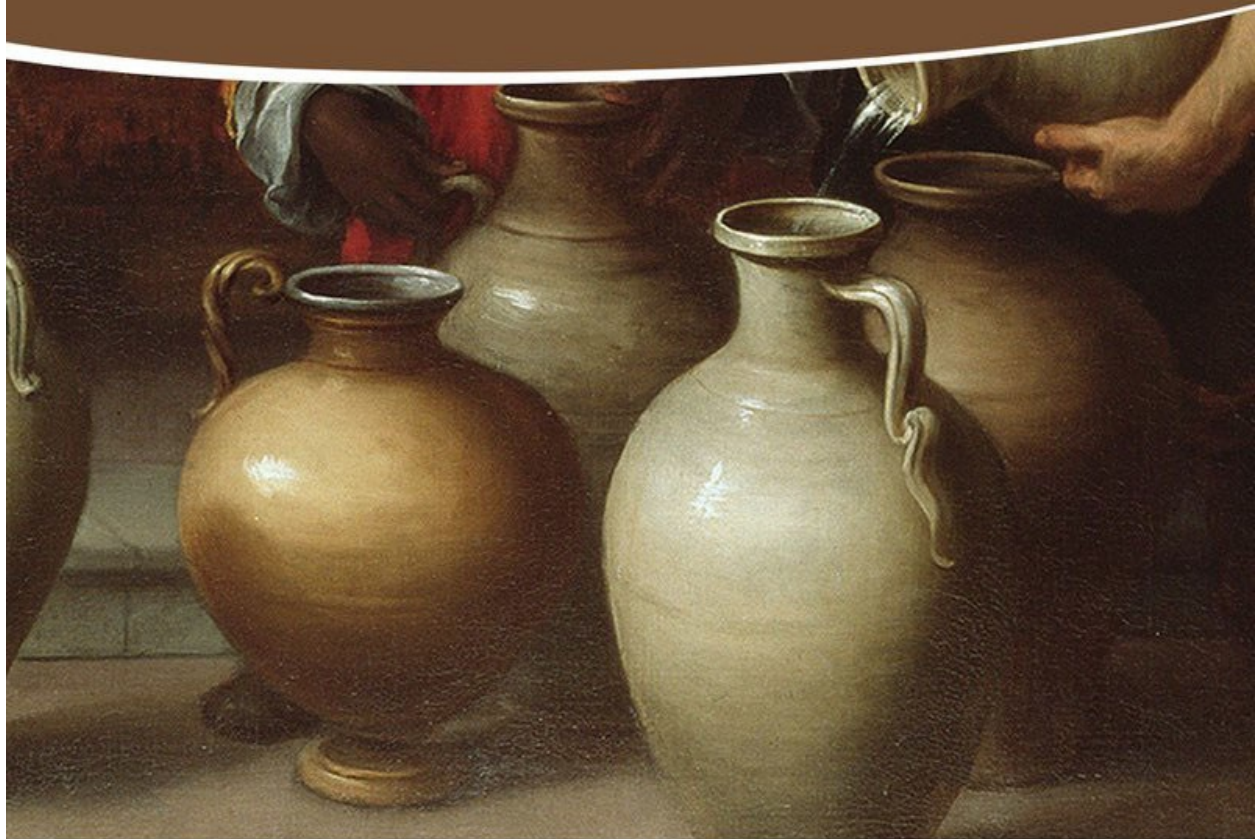


A VESSEL *of* HONOUR



Zacharias Tanee Fomum

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Preface

A Vessel of Honor is a compilation of messages that were given to Christians in Nigeria by Professor Zacharias Tanee Fomum.

In this book the author expounds on forgiveness from the scriptural perspective as a means of healing oneself from wounds received from those who hurt and offend us. He further gives detailed illustration of the disastrous effects of a shallow and Christian life in the believer, thereby giving a clear cut difference between the two and providing the way out through acting on faith in Christ Jesus. Lastly, clearly he lays out the absolute necessity for believers in Christ Jesus to live a sanctified and consecrated life, not leaving out the understanding that progress made in the Christian's life, depends on his obedience to Christ Jesus.

Dear reader, we recommend this book to you while praying that the Lord will use it to transform you into a believer; capable of forgiving as God does and through Christ live a consecrated life overflowing with God in all its purity and bearing good fruit as a result of the intrinsic work of the Holy Spirit in your heart.

Justification

Justification means that God treats me as someone who never sinned. That is wonderful, isn't it? For a real sinner in his thinking, in his action, to be seen as one who never sinned, takes God. When you as a believer tell someone who sinned against you, "I forgive you", is he justified before you? or the next time he does it, you say, "just like you". When the person repeats the sin, what do you do? Is it like when you throw a stick on a mango tree and then it brings down three others that had been thrown?

In the justification of God, when God says, "You are forgiven", He never brings it up again: He never brings it against you again. Justification means that what the person does will never, never be brought up against him again. If God has justified us, even if we commit the same sin again, He does not bring the previous instance up against us. When God forgives, He blots out the memory completely. He does not keep it there to see whether we will add to it.

Hebrews 10:16-17

"This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts and I will write them on their minds."

Then He adds:

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“Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.”

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The forgiveness of God includes the fact that the sin and its deed are blotted from God’s memory.

There was the case of a brother who went to pray for another brother and he said “O God, this child of yours has done it again, just as he always does”, God asked, “What has he done?” He said: “You remember the other year when he committed this sin and repented, committed it again and repented? He is always committing it and repenting.” God said : “I do not know what you are talking about because this is the first time the thing is happening. I know only of this case, I don’t know any other one. It has never happened before.” The truth is that when God forgives, He forgets. He blots out.

As a believing husband, it is expected that if your wife does something, you wouldn’t say: “But you did it before, I forgave you, what did I get out of it?” God wants us to be unto others what He is to us. The challenge before us is to be a people who forgive and forget, leaving no trail of it anywhere in their persons, such that when it is touched the wound does not become more dangerous.

Some people’s heads are full of evils done against them such that there is no room even for new things to come in. Some husbands have such scars that they can no longer receive love. Somebody says: “I love you,” and your reaction is; “No! People deceived me before.” If one is to enter into the justification of God and enjoy it to the fullest, such a one must be ready for God to give him the divine capacity not to get hurts here, hurts there, wounds here, wounds there.

Even at the national level, when God is changing things, there are people who cannot enjoy them because they see in terms of the past. They say: "One man deceived us, so this is another deceiver." Before things have gone wrong, they had already built a negative mind. For this reason, they are not open, neither are they instruments through which God can flow. They are blocked by the past, they have things against people who have died, they are bitter against corpses that have decomposed.

If someone knocks the wall of a building down, he will be seen as a man of great power, however, the power to remember no more the great evils that were done against you is super power. This super power is what is supposed to be flowing in great abundance among the people of God. So, if we are proclaiming the Lord's power to forgive and to remember no more, we will also be saying; "Lord, I choose and I receive from you the power to justify those with whom I have to live, those with whom I have to deal with and those with whom I have to relate."

Before you continue to read on, thank the Lord for His great power to justify which the elect have resident in them.

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Luke 17: 3-4

So watch yourselves. "If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents forgive him. If he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times comes back to you and says, I repent, forgive him."

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This presumes that when He comes the second time, you will not tell Him: "But you have done it before". If your brother sins against you 70 x 7 times and

repents, God says, “forgive him!” If he sins seven times in a day and he repents, you are to forgive. For instance, if your brother sins against you at 7 am and at 9 am he comes and asks for forgiveness, you will forgive him. If at 10 am he sins against you again and comes to ask for forgiveness, you are to forgive him. At 12 o’clock he sins again, he comes to ask for forgiveness you’ll forgive him. At 2 o’clock, he comes again to confess his sins, you will forgive him, at 5 o’clock he is back, you will forgive him, at 6 o’clock, he comes again, you will forgive him.

I want us to bless the Lord who gave that command. He gave the command because He has no doubt about what He has done in the new creation. He is totally confident of what He has done in the new birth. God has no doubt in the redemption. And because the New Testament is a declaration of faith in the work of the Cross, we can go ahead and obey the Lord even as we proclaim this.

If your brother sins, the first thing is to rebuke him. The Lord is first of all saying that we must have the honesty to rebuke. However, because many people are dishonest they pretend as if nothing has happened. If one’s brother sins, one’s first duty is not to forgive but to rebuke. Some people may say that it is not in their character to rebuke people, but they will be violating the law of the New Testament. Such people are fond of saying that, they will just forgive and forget. The truth however is that, they cannot forgive and forget because in the first instance, they themselves have violated what God said. It is either we take the whole Bible or we reject the whole of it. The Bible cannot be taken in pieces.

The question may be raised: “How can one rebuke a leader?” To this question, a counter question is: “Is he a brother?” If he is not a brother, he cannot be a leader within the Body. A man is first of all a brother, then a leader. The first qualification therefore is a brother and because of this first qualification, a leader should be rebuked if he sins. God said, “If your brother sins, rebuke him”, and He still says so. This is the immutable word of God, the word that cannot be withdrawn, the word that will even stand in heaven. Therefore if your husband sins, rebuke him. Don’t say: “Well, he is my husband, I will just allow him to go

and perish.” If a man is sinking and you don’t rebuke him, you will sink with him. He was first of all your brother before becoming your husband. Some may ask: “How can I rebuke my husband? In my tribe we don’t do that.” There is only one way for a husband to escape rebuke, he should avoid sins, then the wife will have no reason to rebuke him. When a husband sins, then the wife has to stand between her tradition and the Word of God. The tradition says: “A wife does not rebuke her husband” and the Word of God says “if your brother sins, rebuke him.” - we therefore have to decide whether we are Christians or members of our tribes. The gospel however puts all traditions to question because the gospel is the way of life of another world. Saphira must have noticed the fact that Ananias was being double hearted but she did not rebuke him. The day she fell dying, she knew that the scriptures cannot be broken. Pray that God will give you the grace to accept your wife’s rebuke with love. When she rebukes you, love her.

The whole process fails because we offer cheap forgiveness; that is why it keeps pinching afterwards because there was no genuine repentance before we offered forgiveness. This accounts for the reason why the person does not change. If a person repents, he should be forgiven. If he does not repent genuinely, what do you do? If he does not repent genuinely, hold it against him. It is not just saying we are together, when we are not actually going together. As Christians, we are not just to pretend and say everything is going alright when it is not going alright. If he sins, rebuke him, if he repents, forgive him. What does this mean? It means that we are prepared for confrontation. God’s way, the way of the Christian life means we are prepared for confrontation. The Bible says:

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“ bear fruits that befits repentance, for the axe is laid at the root of the tree, every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down.” Luke 3:8,9

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Let us not want cheap victories; there are no cheap victories; the one who is to win must be ready to fight.

Therefore, if your brother sins, rebuke him. I have known spiritual tragedies: When the wife sinned, the brother rebuked her but she did not repent and in the night he went and begged her to go to bed with him. So he continued to have a sexual life with a woman who had not repented and her heart is now hardened beyond measure. While she was out of communion with God, the man was in communion with her. If somebody is not well related to God and is well related to your body, then you have a sick body. If someone is out of relationship with God, the believer is expected to take God's side. It is impossible to have deep union with someone who is cut off from God. As a wife, if your husband is living in sin and living in union with your body, what will the union produce? Union in the body was to be a natural consequence of union in the spirit. When the union in the spirit is shattered, people cannot have any meaningful union in the body. To have intimate union with people who are deeply separated from God is confusion.

The reason why a believer says he has forgiven and restored someone, but still remembers the wound, shows that the person never really repented and was never really forgiven and restored. When someone repents, your whole being goes down to lift up and to restore. In actual fact, it is impossible to be bitter against someone who has repented because in repentance the two people involved are brought together into a very deep relationship.

If someone repents but you refuse to forgive, you are the one in trouble. When he sinned, he was the one in the trouble. After you have forgiven, you may never mention the fault again even if he repeats it one million times. My prayer to God is that we'll establish forgiving communities. Communities where what a person did in ten years was forgiven and forgotten, so that you face every person as a brand new creature.

As a man, the first time you saw the girl you married, you said if you were not allowed to marry her, there would be trouble. Now you say if people want you to live with her there would be trouble. The root cause of this, is heaps of things

that have not been forgiven or forgotten. As a result of this, instead of just seeing the person before you, you have scars and anything she does is only adding to the scars. When you hurt a man's scar, it is naturally very painful. The girl's nose is still what it was before, her eyes are still the same, yet the girl is not wanted any more by the same man. This is the attendant result of memories of hurts, and of failures that were not dealt with God's way. All these stand between people to ruin even the best.

After a certain couple had been married for 21 years, the wife told me that she could not believe the man. What was her reason? The first day the man was taking her to their home in the car, they got somewhere and she suggested that they should put more petrol but the man said that they had enough petrol. One kilometre from the house, the petrol got finished and she had to walk for 1 kilometre with a pregnancy; 21 years after that, all she remembered was that the man said the petrol would be enough but it was not enough, so he made her walk one kilometre with a pregnancy. For 21 years she was just seeing herself walking the 1 kilometre every day. From that moment, she decided that she would not believe the man because his words led to walking 1 kilometre with a pregnancy. It hurt their relationship very deeply. The man had been faithful a thousand and one times afterwards but her eyes were glued.

Father, I pray that our eyes would open to the need for godly repentance and godly forgiveness and the need to forget after we have forgiven. Father, I pray that no one here will allow the root of bitterness to destroy him.

When you forgive, but don't forget, you place a cancerous cell in your own body; it will destroy you. We are under obligation to forgive and forget. If someone has not repented genuinely, tell such a one; "you have not repented, therefore I am not forgiving you!" We owe it as a duty to that person and we can also discern when someone has repented. It is not words that are used as a bribe, it is the heart that is turned in repentance. This is because God deals with the heart. In the Bible, it is understood that forgiveness implies forgetting and restoration. Forgetting and restoration are integrated in the word forgiving. When

you say; “I forgive you,” it means “you are back to my heart.” You cannot say that you have forgiven someone but the bonds broken remain broken; you cannot forgive and remain bitter. The Bible says: “Let no root of bitterness be found in you”. This is a wise counsel because, if allowed in you, the root of bitterness would grow down until it strangles you. The only way to ensure that no root of bitterness is found in you, is that one should get the person that sinned against him to truly repent. And when he repents such that one’s heart witnesses to it, the issue is settled. This is different from political reconciliation.

A sister asked what she should do if someone gossips about her, she hears and asks the person who denies or gets quarrelsome. In my father’s tribe, this is what is called the ‘stick of lying’: If there is a lie spreading in the village, they would hold one person and say, “Kumabe you told me this lie”, and give him the stick; he would pass the stick to the one who told him until it gets to the source of the lie who will have no one to pass the stick to such a person is normally brought to the market place so that the whole village would shame him.

If you tell me something, I will say it and call your name. Don’t come and say: “Just between the two of us”. That “between the two of us,” God is not in it. I will say: “This person said this thing to me, let me go and bring him”. This is necessary because we have to walk in the light. If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another and the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all our sins. The question that our sister raised should not arise if we are all committed to ruthless truth and to helping one another with the day of His appearing in view. If I am told something, I would say it and mention the name of the person that told me, so that falsehood maybe removed from among the people of God. If someone says: “Zach Fomum is a fool”, if you love me, you should confront him instead of coming to tell me: ‘Oh, you know, that person said that you are a fool, but don’t say I told you.’ These are the mannerisms of the days of darkness from which God has delivered us.

Truth demands that there be confrontation. Though Peter was a leader, when it came to the issue of ensuring the truth, he was confronted by Paul.

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Galatians 2: 11-20

When Peter came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he was clearly in the wrong. Before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid of those who belonged to the circumcision group. The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led astray. When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel; I said to Peter in front of them all, “You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish custom? We who are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified. If while we seek to be justified in Christ, it becomes evident that we ourselves are sinners, does that mean that Christ promotes sin? Absolutely not! If I rebuild what I destroyed, I prove that I am a lawbreaker. For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me”.

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In the above passage, Paul confronted Peter even though he was a leader. However, he was not dealing with a leader, he was dealing with a brother and the brother had sinned and needed to be corrected. This is counter culture. It is the way of the cross. If you are telling somebody something, you should be ready to be quoted and you should be ready to come and give evidence. If someone wants to tell you a story, tell such person to be ready to be quoted and be ready to appear to give evidence. If he says; ‘no’, he should be sent away. As believers, we are expected to speak to people and not to speak about people. To speak to people is to confront them on issues that may arise. If Brother Emmanuel does

something wrong, I will tell him, I will not go and tell Brother Theodore because he is his leader, that is playing a trick. That is how to Christianize gossip. If your brother sins, rebuke him, don't tell his leader to rebuke him, don't go and tell the husband to rebuke the wife, she is your sister in the Lord.

If I don't forgive a brother, it means I am holding him captive. Therefore my hands are not free to love another person or to love God. When there is bitterness, it means that I have embraced the person with bitterness, he is my captive, all bound by my bitterness. I don't have other hands to embrace another. Listen brethren, you can go to church but not belong to Jesus. Changing groups does not change your debt to Jesus. If I change my group, have I changed my Saviour? I am just a fool. If my relationship with Bro. Kumabe is broken, I have a problem with Jesus, don't I? Then I say: "Okay, I will not see him again, good-bye". I am just a fool; the relationship with Jesus remains broken. It is not; "how does it affect my church" but "how does it affect my relationship with Jesus?" If it affects my relationship with Jesus, even if I take a plane to Kano, it is not a different Jesus that is there in the North. I would meet the same Jesus there and He would tell me: "You are wrong". I can fly to Moscow and be there in the snow but I would meet the same Jesus and He would tell me: "It's wrong".

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Father, I pray that you help us to see that we have to deal with Jesus; we are the Jesus people; we have been called out of the World to belong to Him.

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The other thing is the truth that I have only one heart. How many hearts do you have? One! Now, if you are bitter against your wife, you cannot love another person. I have only one heart to love, when I don't love my wife, I am paralysed in loving other people. I have only one heart! If I kill that heart in one relationship, the whole heart is paralysed in the next relationship. Therefore, for my heart to be free, it has to be totally free. Can I be loving one person and be hating another person at the same time? It is not possible. When I hate somebody, I am ruined inside, paralysed in all domains. Even when I say, I love,

it will not be love.

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Lord teach us to come to grips with the fact that we have only one heart and we cannot love and hate with the same heart at the same time.

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But sometimes, we think we can love and hate at the same time; we are deceived. The Bible says, when you come to make your offering and you remember that someone has something against you, go and first be reconciled to your neighbour. Doesn't it? Why? God is saying: "A broken relationship with your neighbour means that you cannot flow towards Me, go and heal that relationship, then come." First heal the lesser relationship and then you can enjoy the greater relationship. In the matter of relationships, the relationship that must be put right first is the lesser relationship, before we come to the greater relationship. If someone who is not my wife hurts me and I do not put things right and I say I would enjoy a satisfying relationship with my wife, it would not work, because I am broken. I am broken! If am broken, even though I want to give my best, I cannot give it, because I am broken. A man who has problems in the office will not enjoy his relationship at home. When things are not going well at the office, the wife suffers the burden, because she receives a man who is more or less in the fighting condition. If you are not careful, a blow may land on you that was meant for somebody else. Even if you try to do your best, the person is paralysed by what has happened at the office. For him to fully enjoy his home, he should also be in harmony in his place of work, because the man has only one heart. Every wife knows that when the husband is having a difficult time in his job, their marriage is affected. The wife has not done anything wrong, she has done everything right, but because there is trouble at his place of work, you are having a man who is not at his best. Whatever you give cannot receive total response. It is only highlighting the fact that, we have only one heart. So, when the husband comes wounded from the office, even though the wife has done nothing wrong at home, she receives the wounded heart and when things are working well in the office, the man comes home with a song, even a cup of water tastes good. We have only one heart. That is why the Word says: If you are coming to make your offering, if your neighbour has something against you, first

go and be reconciled to that neighbour. God says “I am the higher authority, first go and put things right with the lower authority, then come and we would have a good time.” The Lord says: “First go and put things right with the lower authority so that the lower authority should not ruin matters with the higher authority.” God is saying: “When things are broken with your neighbour, they would be broken with Me even though I have not hurt you, you are not to fool yourself, you cannot give your best. Therefore go and put things right with your neighbour and then let us have a good time.” I have only one heart. Say, I have only one heart. I must ensure that no root of bitterness is found in that heart. Because, bitterness can destroy the deepest construction in a man.

The Word of God says,

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“If you are offering your gift at the altar and there you remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother, then come and offer your gift”
Matthew 5: 23 - 24.

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Now, your brother has something against you. It is not you who have something against him, you now remember that your brother has something against you, whatever he may have, he may have something against you wrongly, you must leave your gift and go and put things right with him, then come and give your gift. The Bible tells us also that if you go and see him and he does not want to make things right, you take others and if he doesn't want to make things right, it gets to a point when the ball is in his court. You are right, you are cleared with God. What I am saying is that if someone decides to be unreasonable, you are not in permanent bondage. If I wrong C.K.C. and I tell him please forgive me, then I go with another person, but he will not forgive, I bring in the community as best as I can, he refuses, I am no longer guilty, his guilt remains on him. I am cleared before God to enjoy fellowship with God and with other people. So, nobody should just say: “I will not forgive, I will see where you will go.” No!

There are limits, lest some wicked person decides to be the destroyer of the destiny of others.

The Bible says, if you remember that your neighbour has something against you; it is not you who has something against him, you are free but you know ‘this person has something against me’, you who has done nothing wrong but against whom someone has something is suppose to seek peace. The standards of the Bible are very contrary to the standards of man. It makes the peace-maker to be the one who has done no wrong. So as a believer, if your brother does something wrong, it is your duty to rebuke him and see that he repents. So the guiltless one is the one to make a lot of efforts to put things right.

You may not know what the person has against you; he just begins to treat you coldly, he says ‘hello’ now, whereas before it was intimate. Call him and say: “Brother, this distance must have some underlying reasons, let us settle it.” There are those who don’t speak up but record things in their minds with dates: “At 2.30 pm on so, so date, these words were spoken in this tone.” That’s the reality, some people have minds that are more accurate than a tape-recorder. They record everything you say. A certain couple came to see me in Yaoundé, the wife had her diary, she wrote everything down with more precision than a precision machine and the dear husband came with nothing, so that all the points were against him. He remembered nothing, he had forgotten everything. So, he just asked for forgiveness. The evidence was so convincingly against him and he had nothing to prove to the contrary. First of all, if we are mature, we will be more difficult to offend, because we will also remember our many faults and our many failures. A mature person, before he argues with somebody, stops to ask himself : “Have I ever committed such a sin before?” if he has ever committed it, he says: “No, since God did not kill me, let me spare this person.” It is the law of : “He who is without sin should throw the first stone.” I must not throw a stone where a stone could have been thrown at me but the Lord spared me. Say, I must not throw a stone, where I once deserved a stone, but the Lord spared me.

We are talking of when someone repents and you say, “I will not forgive.” We

are not saying that; “since I once committed this sin, this one that sinned, I will not rebuke him.” That will just be releasing indulgence in the Church.

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Matthew 18:21 -35.

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times? Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to pay the debt. The servant fell on his knees before him, ‘Be patient with me’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything’. The servant’s master took pity on him, cancelled the debt and let him go. But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii. He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded. His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back. But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed and went and told their master everything that happened.

Then the master called the servant in ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I cancelled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you.’ In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

“This is how my heavenly father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart.”

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Vs 29. *“His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him.” So, he was resisting clear pleas, “His fellow-servant fell on his knees and begged him, be patient with me I will pay you back, but he refused.” That is hardness of heart. He was forgiven ten thousand talents, wasn’t he? Ten thousand talents! But he could not forgive a hundred dinarii. It is like someone was forgiven millions of Naira and this man owed him just a few Naira, he would not forgive a few Naira, even though he has been forgiven millions of Naira. The Lord would do that if we do not forgive from the heart, if we just forgive from the lips. Forgive from the heart!*

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I once read in the American devotional booklet - ‘Our Daily Bread’ of two Americans who quarrelled, they had an outstanding problem: One of them was sick and he thought he was dying, so he sent for the other person. He said; “go and bring him, let us be reconciled.” The man came and they shook hands and said it was all over. When the other man was about to go out, he said, “But this reconciliation does not stand if I don’t die.” He was prepared to be reconciled in death but not to be reconciled in life.

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“My heavenly father would treat you like that if you don’t forgive each other from the heart.”

■

What is the central element of forgiveness from the heart? It is the power to restore. When you forgive from the heart, you restore the person to the heart. Forgiveness from the heart leads to restoration from the heart. Say, I would forgive from the heart and restore from the heart, and restore to the heart.

Let's then pray for those who found it difficult in the past to forgive.

Let me ask you a question, are you proud? If you are humble but cannot forgive from the heart, put up your hands. Those who cannot forgive from the heart are very proud people. They say: "Who has told this nonentity to sin against my royal highness. I think you should repent of pride; and pride is a sin before God. Pride is the worst sin, it is Lucifer's own sin. Pride makes us despise others. It's not even pride. I have met very few proud people. It is an inferiority complex. Let me give it the name that you will hate, so that you may do away with it without mercy. What people call pride, is an inferiority complex because, pride is the overflow of great accomplishment; great gifts, great beauty, great wealth, great, great!! Great!!!. Such a person can be proud; proud of what he has done; what he is. Pride has to do with great being and great doing. A person is proud when he has great being and does not attribute it to God or great deeds and does not attribute it to God. But if there is no great being and great doing, then you have an inferiority complex. Now, are you great in your being; do you have great doings? If there is no great being and great doing, then it is not pride. It is either an inferiority complex or self deception at its worst. We had a schoolmate when I was in primary school. In class five, he went into the village and saw one teacher who was teaching in the primary school. He put his arms at akimbo, then said: "Do you know who you are talking to?" He called his name: "I am this, the great. Do you know my position in the last exam? Eighth the great." He was eighth in the exam, eighth the great. And the teacher he was talking to had finished primary school and was even teaching.

Listen brethren, Do you have any reason on earth for being proud? People are proud of what they are and what they have done. Nebuchadnezzar said: "Is this not great Babylon which I have built by my great might as my royal resident?" You could see it. But for that, God punished him, because he did not acknowledge the One who gave him the power to do it. But you could see the great things. So, when there is arrogance that is based on no great being and no great deeds, it is the overflow of a complex. So, I want you to ask God to set you free from the chains that make you feel you are better than you are. The chains that make you feel that you are more important than you are. Say unto the Lord: "Set me free from the deception that makes me feel that I am better than I am.

Set me free from the chains that make me feel that I am better than others. Lord, open my eyes to see that I am what I am by Your grace and to give You all the glory for it. Lord, open my eyes to see the greatness in others to which I am yet blind. Open my eyes to see greatness in others that is absent in me. Open my eyes to see greatness in others that is absent in me and to exalt them. In the name of Jesus, I throw away the spirit of bitterness; I turn my back to the spirit of self-exaltation, I turn my back to the spirit of depreciating others. I will appreciate others, I will exalt them. I will lift what is good in them, I will give them honour for it and serve them. Amen.”

One thing that the devil does is that although we start by being grateful, soon the enemy makes us to become arrogant. Look at when a boy goes to ask a girl to marry him, he goes there trembling most of the time, isn't it so? He goes there trembling, he does not know ... I remember one classmate in the world, he went there trembling, when the girl came upstairs (they were in the house) he was so hot that he was opening the Windows that were already opened because he did not know how he would open his mouth to release that big speech.

Even in relationships, they start by being grateful, even with their disciple makers, they start by being grateful. Afterwards, they allow the enemy to sow first of all the spirit of presumption, then the spirit of ingratitude then the spirit of arrogance. Sister Emilia was telling me about a sister: There was a man who begged her for seven years to marry him; she refused, he begged for seven years. Finally, she accepted. Soon afterwards, she said that she could not recognize this man again; he had become an authority commanding her. She could not recognize the man who was begging for seven years. Immediately she said yes, the man became the emperor. The spirit of presumption!

Think about your wife think about the time you were wondering ... “would she say yes to me?” Think about the time you were trembling. I want you to maintain a bit of that trembling. Maintain a bit of that trembling and don't be so rude. There was a sister in Yaoundé who said; “oh, if God gives me just any of His sons, I would treat him like a king forever.” Recently, I thought I should

copy that saying and send it back to her: Because, after God gave her, she now discovered her own importance.

Listen, it may be good to take a few steps back and think. Have you become ungrateful, have you become demanding, have you lost the sense of privilege? I am saying it because often we also lose the sense of privilege in the Lord. We forget the fact that we are nothing and that He is everything, that He is everything, that He has adopted us, exalted us and given us standing that we do not deserve.

Are you dealing with a superior and you have now forgotten the gap between you and him? Somebody, pray that we may maintain the childlike disposition that was there in our relationships in the beginning because pride always goes before a fall. Have you lost a sense of privilege, have you lost the sense of privilege? Now this is a serious matter. Losing a sense of gratitude, losing a sense of honour, taking things for granted. Taking people's love for granted, taking their gifts for granted, taking their care for granted, taking their covering for granted.

Father, I pray that you will deal with the root sin, this root sin of taking people for granted, of taking love for granted, of taking care for granted, of taking gifts for granted, of taking honour for granted, of thinking that we deserve anything. We want to acknowledge that we deserve nothing, we are nothing, we deserve nothing. As sinners, we deserve the worst, help us oh God. Amen.

Have you become ungrateful, have you become a boss, have you lost the spirit of a servant? Is that not where your problem is? You've forgotten from where the Lord picked you or you've forgotten from where someone picked you, you have become big. Okay, now the man shall become the woman and woman shall be the man; Amen? And the man shall receive from the wife just what he gave her. Who will like that? Which man will like that? Will Jeff like it, he must be an unparalleled husband. I wouldn't know where to hide for practical purposes.

Ask, who did I once hold in great honour but now I treat lightly? Where have I lost the sense of privilege and now I have grown horns? Nothing has changed, it is only that your stupidity has taken hold of you.

Humility! Humility!! I was talking to a missionary couple in one place, the wife said “This man and I were friends, so we talked like friends. Then after marriage, they said the man is up and I am down, I can’t understand it”. She asked; “but how is that possible, does marriage promote men?” Does marriage promote men? When you have generals and one of them becomes the head of state, anyone of them who still says; “bow!”, will go to prison. Things have changed.

May God help us to see this. Miriam did not see it: She said, “this is my junior brother, has God spoken only by him? Aaron, you too are the senior brother has God not spoken by you and me the great?” She did not understand how the junior brother should become the imperial lord. And God heard it and God came down. I say, marriage promotes men. It is like when you make someone king. If you take a small boy and make him king today, even you the king-maker gets under the authority of the one you made king. If it doesn’t fit into the logic, I hope it fits into the heart. Because the heart has the capacity to understand things that the head cannot understand. $1 + 1 = 1$, cannot enter the head, but to those who have faith, it is given.

God forgave me, God forgave me, God forgot. And listen: I don’t see how God can deal with us without that capacity. Because if you see a person and you just see all his sins in all directions, they would paralyze you, wouldn’t they? In order to deal with us, God forgets. And in order to deal with others, God has given us the power to forgive and to forget. Say: “God, you have given me the power to forgive and forget, I will exercise it. God has given me the power to rebuke, I will exercise it, and after I rebuke and the person repents, I will forgive, I will forget and I will restore.”

How can one forget? It seems in the fall, people have the power to remember what they should forget and to forget what they should remember. It is as if people have the power to forget the good things done for them and remember the bad things done against them. Say; “in the name of Jesus Christ, I overthrow the power to remember evil. I restore the power to remember righteousness.” I want to say brethren that it works, because God has given me the power to forget the nonsense that people do or say to me or about me. Many times people have come to ask for forgiveness and I don’t even remember what they are talking about. The Holy Spirit is available to impart to you the power to forget what should be forgotten. The Holy Spirit is available to impart to us the power to forget what should be forgotten.

I want to ask you a question. Is it that you don’t want to forget, could it be that you don’t want to forget, and that it is not the lack of power? You don’t even want to forget, you want to remember it. There was a sister and her husband. I was their marriage counsellor. When they were newly married, one day the husband did something that annoyed the wife and went to work. The wife was very angry, she decided that she would nurse her anger so that by the time the man came back the anger would be fully grown so that she would pour it on him. But by 10 o’clock, she found out she was not as angry as she was, the anger seemed to be diffusing; at 11 o’clock, she found out that, she was even less angry, she was even looking forward to seeing him; at 11:30, she said; “oh I am just a cheap girl, I cannot even maintain anger for 4 hours.” I told her that she was not a cheap girl, she was a great girl. By the time the man came, she tried to look for bits of the anger and they were nowhere. You know what happened? She was in love! She was in love!! She was in love!!! Love gives someone the power to forget the wrong done against them. Yes, love imparts to us the power to forgive the wrong that is done to us. The power to love and the power to forget come from the same source. The power to love and the power to forget the wrong done to us is from the same source. You realize that an unforgiving spirit comes when love has grown cold. If you trace this bitterness, it is rooted in the fact that love has grown cold. Bitterness speaks of the fact that love has grown cold. Where there is love flowing, forgiveness is always flowing, forgetting evil is always flowing, remembering good deeds is always flowing. From love comes the power to forgive, the power to forget, the power to restore and the power to remember good deeds done.

You will agree that when you love, you cannot harbour negative thoughts. But when you have an enemy, if you hear something about your enemy, you will remember it. If your son steals and the son of somebody you hate steals, how many people will you tell about the theft of your son? Will you meet everybody and say, “My son stole, be careful as you are coming to this house”. Love covers a multitude of sins.

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(1 Peter 4: 8)

“Above all love each other deeply, because love covers a multitude of sins.”

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Who here is deeply loved? Who loves you deeply? Who loves someone deeply?...

[...There is a power in names; that was why when the Lord took Simon, He changed his name to Peter. It was normal. Even the three Hebrew slaves in Babylon were given new names. The master gave a name corresponding to what He wanted him to become. Jesus said; you will become rock, because you are going to be used. When you name a child, you have prophesied and you can change the prophecy by changing the name. If you are named after some sorcerer in the village...for example;Magdalene ... her name means sick one and she has been sick all her life. It was last year that she was called upon to throw the name off. The sick one; and she has been sick all her life. It's a prophecy. Abram was changed to Abraham, Sarai was changed to Sarah. God keeps changing names to bring new standing, new position. There is not time to dwell on this but if you were to be the leader of a thousand, when you get there, God should give you a new name that corresponds to leader of a thousand, a new

name corresponding to the leader of one hundred thousand, one million...]

Who here knows they are loved in a settled way? Who is not sure? If you do not know from the depth of your heart that you are loved by someone apart from the Lord Jesus Christ, stand up. Do you want someone's love or the love of the stars? Now write the name of the person you want to love you deeply, put your own name and send it to me. Who has the person he wants to love him inside this hall? Now go to the person and tell the person: "I yearn for your deep love."

What we are asking for is something settled forever. We are asking for something settled forever. That I am loved unconditionally is part of the strength behind some of the things I have been able to do. Love is a power that ushers people into God's best. Maybe you've failed the person, go and beg the person to blot out the past and accept you as if you have never failed. Could someone pray that God will sort out this matter permanently? Because someone who is not at rest about the fact that he is loved is like a cripple.

We cannot be a community unless we exercise love individually. 'I am loved by the community, I am loved by no one in particular.' It will not help. Who loves you? Who are you sure would open the door for you with joy even at 2 am? Whom are you sure that even if you committed the worse crime on planet earth would not reject you? Is there such a person, is it settled in your heart? Who is it that even if you killed a man you would go to and say you killed a man before going to the police. You could say; "I want to tell you that I killed a man" and his love would not alter?

There are three types of love: If you do this, I will love you; If you are a submissive wife, I will love you; If you don't bring problems into my life, I will love you; If you stay young and beautiful, I will love you, if wrinkles come huu; If you receive the members of my family well and keep my food at 86 degrees,...; always if. So every day you are struggling to win that love; if. Or, because you are such a wonderful girl, I love you; because you treat me so well,

because you are so faithful to me, because you love my God as I do, because you love my God as I do, because you are following me in the call of God on my life, I love you. Which means, if the person no longer does those things, he is out. It is a conditional love. Because you look like an angel, I love you.

1 — In spite of - first class love

2 — Because of - second class love

3 — If - third class love

If somebody says he loves you, ask him whether it is first class or second class or third class love. First class love is - in-spice of: in-spice of all that you have done to discourage my love, it continues. In-spice of your arrogance, in-spice of your stubbornness, in spite of all that you have done, in-spice of all that you are, I love you. First class love. Now, whom do you love and how? Since you have said this thing against me, my love for you is finished. God commends His love towards us in that, 'while we were yet sinners, Christ died for the ungodly.' In-spice of what we were, in-spice of what we did, Christ died for the ungodly. In-spice of what we were

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Romans 5: 8

"But God demonstrates His own love for us in this; while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

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God commends His love towards us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. This love is the love that does not seek to exploit. The love that does not seek to exploit. The love that has not seen some virtue and wants to exploit it. It is a love that does not want to make the best out of the person. Like some may say, "eh, this beautiful girl, let me go and get her before somebody else gets her. Let me propose quickly, in case a faster brother goes ahead of me and I lose the prize."

Listen brother, is what you call 'your love' just an extension of your self-love? What you call 'your love', is it just an extension of your love of self: "I like orderly people, this one is orderly, so I love her." No, you don't love the person, you love order: "I love generous people, this one is generous, so I love her." No,

you don't love the person, you love the generosity: "Oh, I like a show girl, this one is show, I want her". The day she ceases to be show, trouble will begin that cannot be sorted out. Do you love the person or you love some extension of yourself? Do you love the person or you love yourself?

Who loves someone, instead of loving himself, or is what you call 'love' an extension of the love of yourself? In one University, I think it was in California, a believer was living with an unbeliever: The first Friday in their room, the unbeliever went out, got drunk and came and vomited in the room. The believer cleaned the vomit, washed the floor and said nothing. The next Friday, the unbeliever went out, got drunk came back to the dormitory and vomited in the room. Again, the believer cleaned the vomit, washed the floor and said nothing to the unbeliever and behaved as if nothing went wrong. This happened the third Friday and the fourth Friday of the first month. It happened the first month, the second month, the third month, the fourth month, the fifth month and the sixth month. The brother had cleaned the vomit and washed the floor for 24 Fridays without complaining, without changing his attitude, just treating him normally. Then the unbeliever was overwhelmed, he fell before the believer, cried and was converted. Then became a disciple of Jesus Christ. Can you win that kind of soul? "Lord make me a soul winner", can you win that kind of soul? People who want cheap souls, cheap souls that do not contradict their persons or test them to the core of their beings cannot be deep sea fishermen for Jesus. You like shallow fishing that does not inconvenience you to the very depth of your person. You can only catch crayfish, there, there is no risk.

I want to ask you, can you catch that kind of fish? That is what God's love is about. That is the love with which Christ loves us and that's the love with which we are to love each other. And that is the love that overcomes the world. It is the love from the other world. But if you are hypersensitive, hypercritical, hyper clean, hyper individualistic, you are eliminated from God's battle. You cannot catch the type of fish that needs six months of cleaning vomit and washing the floor without complaining. Could someone pray that we would rise above ourselves in order that we might be partners with Him.

If you wait for someone to deserve your love, you will never love because that will be the 'because of' type of love. Do you love your wife or you love her good deeds, do you love your wife or you love her appearance? Have you ever loved anybody, those you profess to love, are they not those who do you good? So what you actually love is the goodness. When you say that you love the Lord, is it not because of the things He is doing for you? Like some may say: "Lord, I love the things you do for me." Could it be that you don't love your wife, you love this good woman who does you good? Do you love your wife or you love her body? When you say you love the brethren, do you love those who do what you want? Maybe you may want to tell God: "Lord, I have never loved anyone, I have used them." If you love someone because she is beautiful, when she is no longer beautiful the love will stop. If it is because he is nice or he honours you, when these stop, the love will end. Have you ever loved without interest?

The Bible says, love your enemies. Brethren, do you see? Who wants to tell us why he loves his wife, who here loves his wife? Why do you love her?

Who has had misunderstanding with his partner? No, sorry I am using a worldly word, with his helper? She is not your partner, because in partnership you have 50 per cent rights. God did not give you a partner, God gave you a helper. Don't say I am looking for a life partner, you are looking for a helper for life. In a partnership, each one has his rights, his shares and you can come and negotiate. In fact, some people marry a partner, that's why they have problems. What you need is a helper, God gave Adam a helper. Say: "God gave Adam a helper!" When you look for a house helper, she doesn't come there to claim rights, she comes there to help you. Then you confer on the helper whatever you see fit, isn't it so? "I would make a helper fit for him." The trouble is that many girls have never thought of being helpers, they have thought of being partners, so they have their rights to claim. "My rights as a wife, my rights to be listened to, my right to be heard, my right to be understood, my right to be provided for, my right to be given attention." They claim their rights, they are partners.

A helper has no rights but enjoys the generosity of the person he helps. I don't

know what happened, very soon Adam became the helper of Eve instead. Because, this Eve now went and was the negotiator with the serpent on some strange covenant and then brought the package for Adam to endorse and become a party too. Who sent her? Do you know that Adam did not speak to the serpent? Eve spoke to the serpent. It was only reported to Adam. Are you the spokeswoman of the family? When I used to come and preach at the University of Ibadan, I remember a certain fiancé and fiancée who came to see me. The man was trying to say the thing but the woman said: "Wait, let me talk," and she actually talked.

I don't know whether women have ever accepted to be helpers. I know they accept to be partners, it is a worldly concept. God did not give Adam a partner, He gave him a helper and the difference is very wide. The partners come with ideas and you fuse the ideas, isn't it so? A helper comes to follow. Sisters, just speak, educate me. Is there any girl who gets married with the intention of being a helper, and not a partner? When you were getting married, were you coming to be a partner or a helper, who wants to share?

A helper seeks no reward, even the reward of thank you. If it comes, good, if it doesn't come, I've only done my duty. Now listen, this is the message of the book I am writing now. First of all, I didn't see it this clearly, I see it now as I have never seen it before. The other book has something of being a partner although the theory of being a helper was well developed. But in the book, the wife is a helper, her joy is in helping, her sorrow is that she has not helped enough. The books are titled: A Successful Marriage - The Wife's Making. The wife's making - what the wife would do to make her marriage successful. She would not say; "but this man has not thanked me." If you want to be thanked, then you are no longer a helper, you are a boss claiming your rights. Some sisters say: "But he has never even said I am beautiful". She is claiming her right to be admired.

Question:

What is the difference between a helper at a distance and a wife, if a wife is just a helper since another woman can help in every other way apart from sexually?

Answer:

is it sex that makes partnership? Are you asking if sex is the only difference in the role of a wife as a helper and another helper who is not a wife?

The answer is yes and no, because by law, sex is prohibited, only the marriage helper is allowed into the sexual domain, every other person is out. That one is already there by God and by morals, so it is not discussed. I want to say that all else is not a matter of institution, but of relationship. The unique responsibility of the wife is sex, no other woman may enter into that role without heaven heaping burning coals upon her. After that, all else depends not upon the institution but on the relationship. That is, the institution does not make you intimate, it does not give oneness of vision, does it? But the institution allows you your conjugal rights to the exclusion of every other person. The rest is not by institution but by relationship. That is why two people can go very far in their marriage while some others are just strangers who lived together under the same roof for some years and produced children in total distance.

Let me say that, it is a matter of union of spirits. It is not just a union of bodies, it's a union of spirits, of souls and only lastly is it a union of bodies. So you can enter into union of spirit with somebody and enter into soul union without entering into body union and hence, the intimacy is from spirit union and soul union. It is spirit union and soul union that brings real intimacy. So, it cannot be created by the institution, it cannot be created by the court where you sign or by the church that blesses. If two strangers go to church and they are blessed, does that make them intimate? But they are married, and they could be called Mr. and Mrs. I want you to see that even in this matter of helping, it is first of all something of the spirit.

I was sharing with the brethren yesterday about India '99'. Last year in India, along one of the trips to the south, a certain brother whom i think we met at

around 8 a.m, and after which we parted by around 6 p.m, was given an unusual love in his heart, by God, for me from that day. He told me I should come back. He was at two meetings that day, he said I should come back because more people needed to hear the message. Early this year, he stopped all he was doing and is preparing the meeting of August. Then he called a meeting of 110 pastors who will sponsor the prayer crusade. He has been sending two e-mails a week just to say what is happening. Then he has some contacts in United Arab Emirates, he got the people to say if they have not listened to me they have lost. So, the people put up a programme and ordered 250 copies of each of our books on prayer. Then he arranged some other contacts in Kuwait. So India '99' is going to be a different story. He is involved. At 3 a.m on my birthday, he sent his birthday wishes and wrote, "Dear brother of Jesus Christ" and he was thanking the Lord that He made me a gift to the Church in India. We were talking about an administrator, so he wrote to my Secretary when I was not. This was to ask what I eat, the size of my shirt, just getting details in order to prepare.

He sent an e-mail two days ago saying the more people read my books the more people would bless me, so, he has decided to produce a booklet - just what I have said on prayer and get it translated into the language of the Tamil spoken by 6 million people at his own personal expense. He's got people to order 500 copies of the nine prayer books, because in India now the nine books are out. He said it would not be good if there is no book in Tamil since most of the people speak this language, so he set up a board to translate and produce the book for it to be ready in August, so he just wrote to ask for permission. We were at the prayer meeting when his e-mail came. Fortunately, two of the brethren had written notes to wish me happy birthday. They said that this Indian would have got first in everything.

What I am saying is that, it is the power of love, it is not just the result of studying anything for long. You people would allow me to take Theodore to India this time so that he will come and tell you the story. He will go just to India, when I am going to the gulf he will come back. Listen brethren, love is the greatest power. The question is whether you married a man who loves you or one given to you by the law. The question is whether you married the man you love or you just have the marriage certificate. In Limbe, one girl told a certain

wife to keep the ring while she will keep the man.

For those of you who are leaders, the work expands as God raises lovers. The lover accepts you without credentials. It is not because you have done A, B, C, it is not because you are 1, 2, 3, 4 or 1000. The lover accepts you before you have proved yourself. The lover accepts you before you have had any reason to justify being accepted. On the books going to the gulf, the brother from Kuwait wrote to say four of these books have been approved. Every book entering the country must first be approved by the government. The same condition goes for the United Arab Emirates. Any book that would compromise Islam would not be allowed in except God blinds their eyes. They are that strict. But they ordered 250 copies of the nine books on prayer. They don't even know that there are other books, so they are ordering all they know exist since those are printed in India.

So as a pastor or leader, ask God for lovers. While the other people are putting you to question, weighing you and wanting you to explain everything, the lover takes the mantle and flies with it. I remember the first time I met Brother Tim Obiaga, he was staying in a hotel. When I met him it was as if we had known each other for years. We had never seen each other before that time. When he came to the house, I could not be found, so first thing next morning, I went to see him. When I met him, it was as if we had known each other for years, we just knelt beside his bed there in the hotel and prayed. We had no thought of even starting the church in Nigeria then. We did not know each other. It was not the fruit of some analysis. It was something of God's doing. The thing is that when God's at work, it is first of all a bonding of spirits; you only get the logic afterwards. You get the logical reasons only afterwards. The person who says he would only follow after he has studied you well, tested you on the screen and x-rayed every bit of your life, will never follow you. This is because he wants to use the flesh. People meet in the spirit.

There are even marriages that are of the spirit. You look at her physically and you are troubled but you cannot detach your spirit. And since the spirit wins, the

battle over the flesh would be won. But if when you met her, she attracts your eyes and your spirit is cold, the spirit will be colder with increasing time. What the spirit does is first of all a spirit bonding. It may be years before you see the reason. It may be years before you see the reason. Do you know why that is so? It is because the Holy Spirit dwells in the spirit so the knowledge that comes from God is immediately imparted into the spirit. So those who are responding to God respond to the movement of their spirits. It's only afterwards that it moves from the spirit to the soul where the centre of thinking and analysis are installed. So the person who follows his spirit even when he is contradicted by logic will in time find that the logic toes the line. But the reverse never happens. The spirit never toes the line of the flesh. Never! If you marry the man of your flesh, he would be distasteful to your spirit, increasingly and vice versa.

Let me say something of this bonding of spirits or spirit meeting. It is something totally done of the Holy Spirit. Now CKC has become my international servant, but when I first met him, he was in a three piece-suit. That's not how a servant dresses. If you are asked to pick a servant, that would be the last person you would choose. It is also to recognise that it is a work of God, not of the flesh. We had a house-girl, the parents were poverty incarnates. All of us in the family wear 'second-hand' clothing ¹. She asked to be given her money instead, even though some of the things in the second-hand market are of such good quality that people go and buy them and sell them in shops for countless times the price. I have a jacket Prisca bought at 5,000 francs. The other day a friend of mine said, this is good for going to the presidency. It is a presidential jacket for 5,000 francs; utter quality. She said, 'no, I can't wear second-hand things'. So Prisca used to give her money to go and buy her new clothes. If her insanity stopped there, we could have borne with it, then she said she could not cook meat without fish or fish without meat. Her parents in their village were absolutely poor. When I get home, everybody runs out to receive me, for all her time in the house, no day did she come out to receive me, never.

I am telling you that 'the boss' has nothing to do with education or rank. The real 'boss' is absolutely depraved, bankrupt beyond telling. It has to be of the spirit, it has to be of the spirit. It is inward. Look at some of the very generous people, they are not rich. Look at those people who could win colours for giving. They

do not give because of super - abundance. They give because they have captured the vision to invest in the perishing souls of men. They give in spite of their own glaring needs. They hazard themselves to meet the needs of others, based on logic, their giving is stupid, but based on the principle of the kingdom, they are triply wise. When they make money, they make it with great plans to give. When they plan projects, they plan with great plans to give. They have seen something that others have not seen. They have seen. People are looking at the world, they are seeing "the city".

When God blesses you, He gives you someone to love you, then the person comes in without laying conditions for you. Then the person pours his all in without holding back. Pray that this would be seen. It is the secret, brethren. It is the secret.

As you look for someone to love you, so that your own work may expand, why don't you look for someone whom you will love so that his own work may expand? Do you get what I am asking? It is possible to think about your own ministry: "Let my ministry expand, God, give me lovers so that my ministry may expand." You are a lover to who, whose lover are you to the expansion of his own ministry? Pray that we may not only be thinking in terms of receiving but in terms of giving. "Father, I plead that you open our eyes to confront not only the gift that may be given to us but the gift that we may be unto others, oh Lord, for their expansion. Deliver us from wanting to settle as receivers, forgetting that it is more blessed to give than to receive, oh God. In Jesus' name, Amen. Pray that God would open our eyes to see that when we hold back from being instruments in the expansion of the ministry of others, God will block people from being instrumental to the expansion of our own ministry. We can only receive as we give.

You have to be saying: "I will love, I will love, I will love." Like a car that is trafficking: "I am turning right, I am going to turn right." But has not turned. That's why there is an accident. One great thing about human beings is the power to decide and the power to act out their decisions. Don't say you love

until you are prepared to invest your all. Don't let it be lying words. Love invests its all. It holds nothing back. Until you give your all to expand the ministry of another, God would not give you His all to expand your own ministry. If you have an eye on your glory, God will have an eye on demoting you. If you have an eye on the glory, God will have an eye on demoting you. But if you have an eye on exalting another, God will have an eye on promoting you.

Promotion from God is now in your hands, if you are looking for somebody to command, you would lose out. If you submit yourself to be commanded, you would be promoted. Could that explain why you are still where you are? You have held back the investment of your all into another. Some young boys dressed like soldiers and they stood like soldiers but they were not fighting. Somebody said to them; "hey soldiers, why are you not fighting?" They told the man; "we are all Generals, we are looking for people to command." How long have you obeyed, that you are expecting others to yield to your own command? What you sow, the same you will reap. Are you a born rebel? You rebelled because you did not submit and now you want to tyrannise others. Whose word was law to you so that your word maybe law to another?

Songs must flow from the heart; they must flow from the burden that is currently on the heart. they must relate to a burden that is today's message. This burden has nothing to do with "the old rugged cross". That's not where we are in the meetings today. Do you understand what I am saying? So those who sang have not ministered to us. The songs have nothing to do with what we are going through now. I used to be taken aback when I ministered in Ugandan schools. The first song some would want to sing would be; "unto Jesus, I surrender" ...What surprised me was that on Saturday two weeks ago at a meeting in Kampala, it was a big meeting with about 1,400 people, the second song was; "unto Jesus I surrender". The audience was nowhere ready to think about surrendering to Jesus.

Before you bring a song, you must ask, where is this audience related to this song here and now? Where does the song fit into the experience of the audience

here and now. Who can explain what I am saying to the brethren? I wish they had moved away from our standard words to include words that contain what God has been saying to us. I wish they had sung a song with some of the standard words replaced with some of the words of today. Is that asking for too much? So that there is a song whose tune is adapted with words that say what God has been saying to us today. It doesn't require too much talent to throw off some of the standard words and replace them with the clear issues of what God has been saying to us today. That song could be sung anywhere in the nation, isn't it so? But what of here? This is a people here under a very specific message. Where is the song for that message? Do you understand what I am asking for; can it come forth? Are there instant composers or instant modifiers?

There is the critical need of repentance before justification. God does not just say; "all of you are free". "Repent and believe the gospel." "That repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in His name to all the nations." Repentance towards God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ - the ground for justification. God does not justify the unrepentant. In fact, why is the whole world not justified even though the Lamb has died for all? The answer is that, it is the repentant who are justified. Amen! Amen.

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1 These are clothes which had already been worn by individuals (generally abroad) and brought into the country for sale (this is really beneficial, especially to those who don't have enough money to buy new ones)

Shallowness

We invited the provincial leaders and the national missionaries to Yaoundé and had a week with them. There, I began to talk about what causes a shallow life. You know some believers are just shallow. They are shallow even after 20 years, they remain shallow. Do you understand what I am saying? Who here is shallow? Who here knows he is shallow? If you are a young believer, it's just normal for you to be shallow. Who is an old believer here but is shallow? Put up your hands. It means people are not only shallow, they are deceived. Shallowness is lacking depth. You know there are some trees whose roots are on the surface instead of burrowing down. Their roots grow on the surface just a little above the ground, instead of going down. So that the person is twenty years in the Lord, but still shallow. Who is like that? I am surprised that the provincial leaders and the national missionaries in Cameroon were more ready to own-up that they were shallow than you people here. This might be a personal deception. If a man is shallow but thinks that he is deep, then his problem is very difficult to treat. He is deceived about his whole person. He cannot be treated. Who has deceived you that you are deep? Shallow! Please I want you to pray, Lord open my eyes so that I may know myself. Deliver me from self deception. Deliver me from thinking that I am what I am not.

'Father, I pray that the saints here, particularly those who are shallow would be delivered either from the falsehood of not owning up or from the deception of not knowing themselves. Father, I pray that the saints here gathered who are shallow would be delivered from either the deception of thinking that they are deep whereas they are shallow or from the falsehood of knowing that they are shallow but refusing to own up. Oh Father, Father, Father I plead in the Name of Jesus Christ, I plead that the saints here, Oh God, two thirds of whom are shallow, will be delivered from the falsehood of thinking that they are what they are not so

that there may be hope that they would become what they ought to be.”

You are deep in what? In what are you deep? If you are not shallow, then, you are deep, you are deep in what? Yes, say I am deep in this thing. Are you deep in forgiving people, are you deep in forgetting wrong? Are you profound in seeking God, are you profound in knowing God? Are you profound in loving God, are you profound in being content in God? Are you deep in bearing fruits, are you deep in leading people to the Lord? Are you deep in building the people who are in the Lord? Are you profound in producing mature fruits? Are you profound in prayer? Are you profound in fasting? Are you profound in obeying the Lord? Are you profound in giving to God? Are you profound in mighty deeds? Are you profound in serving without seeking rewards? Are you profound in loving, are you profound in mercy? Are you profound in joy? Are you profound in discipline? Are you profound in faithfulness? Are you profound in kindness? Are you profound in goodness? Are you profound in long-suffering? Are you profound in self-control, are you profound in keeping your mouth shut? Are you profound in being quick to obey the Lord? Are you profound in self-sacrifice? Are you profound in humility. Are you profound in self-abasement, are you profound in counting others better than yourself? Are you profound in serving on your knees? Are you profound in seeing beyond your nose? Are you profound in mobilising the people to accomplish a goal? Are you profound in running a straight course? Are you profound in keeping to your word?

Those who are not taking down notes are lazy. You are already manifesting being very light because these are the elements of depth and you don't think you should go away working on them. Maybe you want to be profound in looking at the speaker.

For the first time, I am breaking it down in bits. Even when I was teaching it in Yaoundé, I didn't break it down to bits. Shallow! Shallow!! Shallow people want the short cut, they want the easy way out. Who was writing the things? These are elements through which you can have a look at yourself so as to know yourself.

Someone who belongs to a church called Deliverance Church came to our worship service on Sunday morning in Kampala. Because that was the only time I had, he came there and brought me a pair of socks, he had read 33 of our books. He came to thank me for writing books that give you no room to run away. The practical implications follow you from start to finish. You cannot theorise. He said the books are so down to earth that they catch you. They do not allow you to swim in the air. They bring you down to earth. He is a man in his fifties. When you don't begin to ask: "Am I shallow or deep?" When you don't ask: "In these issues that are being raised, am I shallow or deep?" Then you don't plan to work on them.

Brethren, why are we gathered here? We are gathered here, so that we may be better not just in hearing, but in hearing and doing. So at this retreat, we have to reduce things to obeyable units. You know there are some people, each time they take a song, the song goes light. Do you understand what I am saying? Even if they are singing about Gethsemane, they will make it a light experience. Even if they are singing about the cross, the cross would be a joke. One such person told me: "I was born for the lighter moments." If I was doing something very serious, the person would provoke and say: "No, don't make life too serious, I was born for the lighter moments." I told the person, you are a very dangerous person.

You see, when I was in Guyana in Latin America, I went jogging every day. In fact I jogged eight kilometres one day, another day seven kilometres. One day as I was jogging back, I had jogged about six to seven kilometres and was tired, so I was jogging very slowly. I met someone who said; "hey, you have just started and you are already tired? Come on, get on." He did not know when I started but said; "you have just started and you are already tired, come on, get on." Another day, I was just on about the third kilometre, so I was going seriously. I met someone who said; "No, take it easy, take it easy, take it easy." I will never forget it. I was just in the strength of the race when this man said: "Take it easy." There are some people all they do through life is to tell you; "take it easy, take it easy", while there are some who say; "now get on, you have not yet done anything, go on."

Is your personality twisted towards the lighter moments? Are you bringing in; “take it easy, take it easy”. In prayer, you say, “take it easy,” fasting, you say, “don’t go so far”. The husband of a certain lady told me; “since I got married I can’t do any long fast, after three or four days, my wife tells me; ‘If you don’t feel like it, just stop it, I will make you a good meal. God has already answered what you can do for now’ ” The husband told me; “even my sports stopped since I got married, my wife tells me; ‘take it easy’.” I think she belongs to that group in Guyana, although she is a Cameroonian. Is your personality the type that says; “take it easy, things will go right in the future, I don’t know how, but just leave them, don’t worry take it easy?”

Shallow people cannot stand being alone. Tell them to keep quiet, it is trouble. We had a missionary concertation in one part of the world. For eight days we were in the missionary’s house. We met for 6 to 20 hours a day. We were studying on the power of a man’s all. The wife of one missionary stood up and said: “I had one problem with my husband before going to the mission field and the same problem is still there. I like to chat, that is just talk, the man is too serious for me. Even when he was working back in Cameroon, he would come back from work, eat, take his bible, read, then pray until late and only come to bed when I had already slept. He kept me lonely, I had nobody to chat with.” This brother had read his bible through 22 times before they went to the mission field. The wife was lonely because she wanted to chat and the man was chatting with the Bible and chatting with God when the wife wanted to chat with him. Even when she wanted a little trouble, the man was not there for her to provoke. We took her to task and we bombarded her carnality. We threw stones at her with this mighty weapon of the mouth. We attacked her carnality, we attacked her worldliness, we attacked her purposelessness. We attacked her for the fact that she could take the work nowhere. That was 21-22 years back. Two months ago, I was back to their country and met a totally different woman. She had taken 5 long fasts in 2 years, she had gone to the place of prayer, the place of seeking God. She had gone on retreat, she too had become a long reader of the word and she had changed completely. When I saw her, I was glad that we made her the target for missiles that day. We tore every place she wanted to hide. So the gap that was between them in their marriage has been healed. It’s now a team. There was no woman around her. Now there are women gathered around her and she is leading them, because from her, depth is flowing.

Light superficial people always gather rebels around themselves, they always gather complaining people around themselves. One mark of superficial people is that they can only talk about people, they cannot discuss concepts, they cannot discuss plans or visions. They cannot set strategies. They would rather die than think. Anything long ranged, based on concrete ground is not in them. Even if they choose some things, it is not the result of having thought. But they can point the finger at this, point the finger at that. The superficial can only go round and round and round. They gather around themselves their kind. The superficial cannot see beyond today or beyond this week or beyond this year. And let me tell you one mark of superficial people, they cannot believe anybody. It requires depth to believe someone. It requires depth and so the superficial cannot follow. The superficial cannot invest, they are always holding back. They ask: "Are you sure? The president may be deceiving us, let's hold back." The superficial cannot take a risk, they are always looking for safe waters. We can add to the list. When we look at the work in the nation ten years from today, it will depend upon what type of people we have today. The church in Yaoundé is on a forty-day evangelistic crusade. Every night I have been in the city, I have led people to pray from 2 to 5 am, largely about the warriors who are on the field, and Brother Joe Mbafor is praying every night from 12-5 am alone as a personal investment into the crusade.

Shallow people cannot pay a price, shallow people choose giant rat type of prices when they want to pay a price. They fast for one day and want a month to recover, fast for another one day and take two months to recover from the fast. Then they fast for another one day and they are so sick that they need 3 months to recover from the fast. The first month they fasted one day and rested for one month, they fasted one day again and rested for two months, they fasted one day again and rested for three months, they fasted one day again and rested for four months, then they fasted one day and rested for five months. Every fast leaves them very broken. They have a phobia for fasts.

These people - at prayer meetings, the prayer topics are always too high for them. When you are leading prayer meetings, the superficial, the shallow, always

find prayer topics too heavenly, they don't understand. They are people who always say that; "before I stood up to pray, somebody had already prayed what I intended to pray." Someone is always standing up before them and praying what they had on their hearts. When it is time to pray, their words are few, when the prayer meeting is over, their words are many. Shallow people are always sleeping at prayer meetings. When they say, "Amen", a certain turning that keeps them very awake begins to circulate through their System. Shallow people always wake up when somebody is already helping. Something keeps them back. "Who wants to go and bring the food?" They wake up when someone has already gone. They say: "I too," so that they would be told somebody has gone. Shallow people always leave prayer meetings to go and sleep and they come back. Even if you are praying here, they would find keys to the cars. They say: "I will just sleep for minutes". They come back after 3 hours and even when they come back, you would think because they have slept they would take the weapon and shoot but after two or three topics, they are sleepy again. Prayer is like valium to them, it leads to very deep sleep.

Shallow people have an unusual capacity to pick what is wrong with the leader. Shallow people have the gift of picking the leader's faults. They don't want anybody to think the leader has no fault. They are committed to opening the eyes of the people to the leader's faults. In one town in Cameroon, the leader's wife told me: "I know you believe my husband is an angel, I want everybody to know that even if he is an angel, he is wrong at least in this one thing" She said: "I want everybody to know that even if he is very right, he is at least wrong in this one thing." That was her commitment and she packed out of the bedroom, went into the visitor's room just so that people may know, this man is no angel. An unusual capacity to bring the leader down, 'come down, you are just like us'.

Shallow people are very suspicious; when you are talking, they think you are talking about them. It seems, you cannot talk of anything else except them. They always think people are discussing them, since they don't think there are big issues they think that they are the biggest issues, so, anybody who is talking must be talking about them.

Shallow people find the Bible very confusing. The Old Testament to them is terrible, they cannot distinguish Isaiah from Ezekiel. They seem to be telling one whole mystery they don't understand. One woman landed in the school of knowing and serving God, with her husband. We said, "Write the names of the twelve tribes". She wrote: the Jebusites, the Canaanites, the Ammonites. I've not been able to recover from it. That the Jebusites, the Ammonites are the twelve tribes of Israel, it makes history. Shallow people would rather die than think; everything seems to confuse them.

Shallow people always like to relax, they are always looking for somewhere to hang their legs, they can't sit straight. They like to read in bed. They are often without notebooks. They think that they are so wise that everything stays in their heads. They cannot delegate to another because they believe that everyone is against them. They don't trust people, even their closest partners. It is only the deep that can trust others. The power to trust others flows from great depth. When they sit in the car, they are always applying the brakes with their feet even if they are been driven by an experienced driver, because somehow they cannot trust the driver.

Shallow people have an unusual capacity to blame others for their misfortune. All that went wrong was the fault of someone else. Shallow people have an unusual capacity to forget others. You may be very intimate with them today but very soon they forget you as if you never existed. They lack the power for long term relationships. They are intimate with you today, tomorrow they leave, then they build the next one, leave, build the next one, leave and so on and so forth. Their whole life is like a wave upon the sea. They could easily be like the man William Barclay described: The man was married to a woman who was his 56th wife and he was her 57th husband - progressive monogamy. It was William Barclay's commentary on the book of Romans. That was the morality of that period - the first century.

Shallow people see virtue in you until they come near. Shallow people have an unusual capacity to admire that which is distant and to condemn that which is

near; to admire that which they don't have and condemn that which they have. Shallow people have prayer sessions of 30 seconds or 45 seconds and if they get to 1 minute, a miracle has taken place. After that, they must rattle a few things in tongues and yawn. Tell them to pray in tongues for five minutes, it's like climbing Mt. Everest. Tell them to follow up a young convert, they would go the first day, second day, third day and its finished forever, "the young convert does not want Jesus." Shallow people cannot exalt anyone. They cannot exalt their husbands, they cannot exalt their leaders, they cannot exalt anybody. Shallow people do not see anybody in the church who could be their spouses. If you find a shallow girl, she says "my kind of man is not here in the church." "My kind of spouse has to fall down from heaven on a special plate made in heaven and delivered to Miss this or Mr. that."

Now do you know what it means to be shallow? Who here is shallow, who here is really shallow? If there is no area of shallowness in you, then you have no room for growth. Every normal person would have areas of shallowness which will have to be deepened, but in a shallow person, almost everything is Shallow. Who knows somebody who is shallow, do you have the courage to tell him? They may cut off your head. A brother went from Yaoundé to Douala and there was some marriage there that he believed was wrong. So he wrote me that there was some marriage there which he felt was wrong and that I better do something about it. I said "no, go and tell the people". Then he told me; "remember the head of John the Baptist. He opposed a marriage and lost his head. I love my head". Those who want to risk having their heads cut off should oppose a marriage. I was amazed when he told me, "remember the head of John the Baptist". You don't oppose a marriage and go free.

Shallow people don't have the guts to speak to the people they always speak about. They always prefer to talk behind people's back. Shallow people only talk when they are hurt. They don't address general issues that need correction. They only speak when their shallow selves are hurt. Even when they confront you, it is not because something is going wrong generally, it is because you have stepped on their small self.

There are some people who are a bit shallow, anybody who is not a bit shallow should go to heaven tonight, because there is no more room for God to work on him. But if you are 75%, 80% or 90% shallow, stand up. If from all that we have said, there is a pointer that you are shallow, stand up. Look at the people who are up and tell those who should sit down to sit down because they are lying. If you are shallow, even if somebody tells you to sit down, don't sit down. I was preaching in a place, I was preaching a hot evangelistic message. When I called people forward, the leader of a house church came forward. Then the leader of the assembly said he should go and sit down because he was already a believer. I said, "don't deceive this person, when after 12 years somebody is walking forward at an evangelistic meeting, there must be very deep issues. You cannot cover them by telling the person to go and sit down." Let no one fool you, you know in your heart. Tell us the most obvious manifestation of shallowness in you. Call your beautiful name, announce the ugly manifestation of the shallow life and sit down with a prayer that God would change you.

The central neurosis of sister L's life is lack of an overruling passion. She is absolutely committed to nothing. There is no overruling goal, there is no overruling mission. If people are planning to overthrow the government and you are a loyalist, when you get there, they will immediately stop and go away because you have brought a current that is counter. But if you can be won, you will sit there and listen and be inducted. What I am saying to L. I am saying to all the superficial. The root of superficiality is the lack of an overriding passion. A man carried by vision, carried by dreams, carried by a goal may have weaknesses but those weaknesses would be dropping along the way. They would not be increasing, they would be decreasing, because in the course of pursuing the goal, he will become increasingly refined and perfected and broken and rebuilt. The lack of a supreme passion, a supreme vision, a supreme purpose is the root of so much evil. It is the burial of uttermost potentials, great potentials. It is the grave of heights, of breadths, and of depths. Pray that this would be seen. The root cause is the lack of a supreme passion, lack of a supreme goal, lack of a supreme pursuit. And people who are going nowhere hate those who are going the negative direction. Because the currents are violently opposed, there can be no agreement at all. I remember when I led evangelism in Yaoundé 1977, 78, we used to go out and evangelize on Saturday nights on the streets. If you said you belonged to a fellowship, then you were not allowed to stay back. There was one woman who said, "Zach Fomum, the slave driver." She called me

the slave driver, driving people to go and evangelize even if they didn't want to. I didn't see how they could be sleeping, relaxing and enjoying salvation when others were perishing. If Jesus had relaxed in heaven, how would we be saved. She said, "Zach Fomum, the slave driver calling people to go even when they didn't want to." When I think back now, I consider that that sister was praising me, because leaders are not people who suggest.

Listen brethren, what was peculiar about Jesus was that He gave no suggestions, He commanded. What was peculiar about the leadership of Jesus? He met a man, his two sons and the hired servants. He called the first son, come follow me, the second son, come follow me. Ah! A man has two sons, you took both of them? You have no pity for the man, no pity? After that the wife, wiser than the sons gathered the money and followed Him. So this man lost the first son to this imperialist, the second son, the wife and the money. That is great imperialism that Jesus practiced. He met Peter and Andrew, two sons of a man: He said, "two of you, come follow me, come!" He met Levi-Matthew at the tax office. He didn't ask about his pension, or what inconveniences the resignation would cause him, "come follow me." This is the leadership that must be offered today and if there is no such leadership, it is a failure of the Lord. And anyone who would not follow such a leadership cannot follow the Lord. The Lord does not ask, "would you like to do this?" The army of Jesus is not a volunteer force. It is by conscription. You are compelled into it. Your opinion is not sought. Your comfort is not sought, your convenience is not sought. The Nazarene passes by, sees you and there ends your beautiful career. And you follow Him with no plans, no guarantee about retirement benefits?

What happened to the Galilean Trawlers Association whose president was Peter? Could it be that his brother was the treasurer and James and John were board members, because it was an association? The association died because the Nazarene passed by with His imperial command, and leadership has not changed. Oh that leadership would rise. Do you understand what I am saying brethren? When the Holy Spirit came to the church in Antioch, He didn't ask, "of the five of you elders, which one would you like to be apostles, leave this church. And go to the wild for God?" He didn't ask, "Are you people interested in missions?" "Set apart Barnabas and Saul for the task to which I have called

them.” The Lord Jesus Christ, the Commander, the Holy Spirit, the Commander. Leadership is by commanding. One sister said to me afterwards that, in 1984 when you stood in Obili and issued commands that allowed people no way to edge out, all of me was boiling inside. The commands were just so straight that it’s either you are in or out”. She said: “All of me was boiling inside” and she finally boiled herself outside.

Leadership is a call to issue commands that immediately give people a choice to follow or rebel. Pray that we would come back to biblical standards in everything. God does not consult men, God commands men. He did not ask; “what percentage of your income will you give to the Lord?” “Go, sell all you have and give to the poor and you will have treasures in heaven, then come follow me.” There was no room for 90%. This Nazarene asked for 100% giving. It was all for God, nothing for the rich young ruler and his world crumbled. May God give you grace to see what I am saying. When we were in Sierra Leone, we had some friend. He was from Whales in Great Britain. He was the patron of the Christian Union. I went to visit him one day, he was swinging the child on a swing. They were living on the second floor of the house. His name was Tony, the wife’s name was Pauline. They had two children. The wife came to the window and said, “oh Tony, I don’t feel like cooking this evening, can we go and eat in the college Guest House?” That is the college restaurant and of course even in the cheap one, food would be at least 3 times more expensive than cooking and eating at home. The man said, “get into the kitchen my friend.” And just continued swinging the child. After 30 minutes she said, “Tony, it’s ready.” I went away that day knowing the secret of power and how to get people to do things. “Get into the kitchen my friend” and he continued swinging the child and the next thing is, “Tony, it’s ready”: That’s power, isn’t it? That’s how things are done. Pray that the believers would catch this and it would be embedded in their persons, so that God may distinguish between the disciple and the rebels.

Listen, the call of God on a man’s life is received in intimacy with God. Say, ‘the call of God in a man’s life, the call of God in a woman’s life, the call of God in a believer’s life is received in intimacy with God and intimacy with man. The call of God in a believer’s life is received in intimacy with God and intimacy with man.’

“Father I plead that the saints would see this, oh God, I pray that the saints would see that it’s in intimacy with God and intimacy with man that the critical issues of life are imparted to the believer.”

Saul of Tarsus got into an encounter with God then God sent him to Damascus and sent Ananias to him. So, in union with God and in obedience to God and in union with Ananias, the call of God was imparted to him. In union with God and in union with man, the great things of God are imparted to a believer. In union with God and in union with man the secrets of God are revealed. In union with God and in union with man the secrets of God are imparted. So when the relationship with God is broken or the relationship with man is broken or both, then you have a wondering star for which is reserved confusion and darkness.

If we do not know what God wants us to do, it is a clear indication of shallowness. You know the child who lingers around you would finally know what is at the bottom of your heart. The child who only comes to say: “Mama give me sweet, Mama buy me exercise book, Mama give me pocket money.” When that child comes, you keep quiet. When a child comes and asks: “Mama can I sing you a song? “Mama I used my pocket money to buy this loaf of bread.” You give the child one hundred naira as pocket money and a child decides to keep twenty naira when he is coming home he buys a loaf of bread just to make it easier for Mama at super. Another child says, “but this money was given to me, I can drink a bottle of coke,” so the child chooses between buying a loaf of bread and taking it home and buying a bottle of coke to store in the belly. That’s a choice, isn’t it? But that choice may make history. The child who brings his Coca-Cola in the stomach and the child who brings mama a twenty naira of bread have two destinies. When one is coming, you say; “this solver of problem is coming, what is he bringing?” David said, “that’s a good man, he must be bringing good news.” That’s a good man, he is bringing good news, that’s a good child, he must be bringing a solution. What request is this one bringing this time, what would be the demand? He may ask us to go to the bank. It is simple attitude that makes people.

Listen children, when Stephen was in the third year, he got a prize for being on the Dean's list for 4 semesters. So he was given 75 thousand franc, he added 5 thousand from his savings and made me a gift of 80 thousand Franc. I have not used the money, it's still in the envelope in his file. He could have spent all of his money and spent the 75 thousand. It is a choice, isn't it? Small things...

With small things people stand at major cross roads. Small things soon bring us to major cross-roads. We don't need to bring a lion, the lion in our case maybe a loaf of bread.

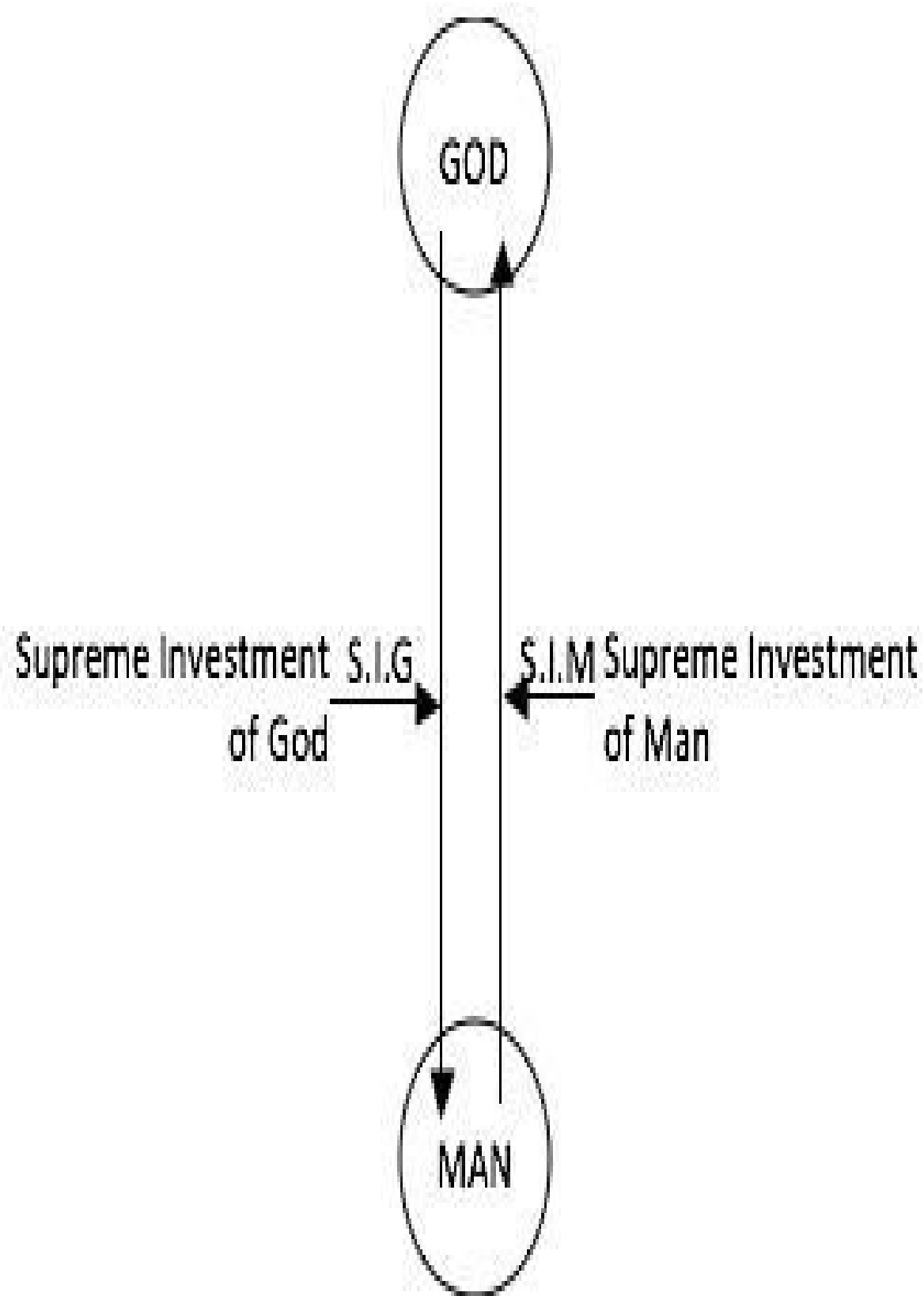
I have a young disciple whose parents are divorced. I asked my disciple, what caused the divorce. He told me it started with a goat, a goat. The mother was working somewhere, they had a feast, she was given a goat to cook for the occasion. The father was working in another ministry. She cooked the goat but did not leave as much as little soup to lick for the husband. She took everything away to the last drop. And that was where the divorce started. When you look at the world, you can laugh but you have to confront the problem that the world has. This man said, "as far as this woman is concerned, I am nothing. There was not even pepper soup with no meat from this goat that was cooked in my house - killed in my house and cooked in my house - this is the story of something deeper." The marriage died over a goat. It looked like a small matter, you may say, "why is this man worried over a goat?" But it reflects an attitude of the heart. Small things speak what volumes cannot say.

In the context in which we are talking, have you ever bothered about the needs of God, have you ever bothered about the needs of man? Have you ever bothered about the need of your mother, about the need of your father, about the need of your brother? Are you constantly on the receiving end or you know the power of giving? Pray that we may understand because some people may say, "it's my bad luck." It is not your 'bad luck' but your created luck. It is what you have generated. Generosity towards God, generosity toward man.

Love makes history

“Father, I plead that you open our eyes to see that all our problems spring from a problem in relationship with you and relationship with man. That all our problems spring from holding back what we should give to you and hold back what we should give to man. And that all our successes flow from giving to God and giving to man.”

Please pray that the saints see this, the answers are not locked up in heaven, they are right here on earth. The root cause of shallowness is lack of a supreme investment. We said that the root cause was the lack of an overriding passion, it is also the lack of supreme investment. A supreme investment. It could be a supreme investment of time, it could be a supreme investment of energy, it could be a supreme investment of opportunity, it could be a supreme investment of talents. It could be a supreme investment of money, it could be a supreme investment of possession. The lack of a supreme investment. God and man are bonded by a supreme investment. God made a supreme investment in man on the cross. When Jesus Christ came from heaven to earth to die on the cross, that was God's supreme investment. The supreme investment of God must meet with the supreme investment of man. The supreme investment of God must meet with the supreme investment of man for union and for harmony. God gave His all, I must give my all. When the all of God meets the all of man, bonding at the deepest level takes place. When the supreme investment of God encounters the supreme investment of man bonding at the deepest level comes forth.



When the all of God and the all of man meet, great things happen. Say, “when the all of God and the all of man meet, great things happen!”

When you are ministering in songs, you have to ask, am I ministering to the flesh - that is the body, am I exciting the flesh, or am I exciting the soul or the spirit?

Father I pray that the saints will be goal directed in their ministry. Father I plead that the saints will be goal directed in their ministry: Father, Father, Father, I plead in the Name of Jesus Christ that in the ministry of the word, in the ministry of the proclamation of the gospel, in the ministry of building the church, Lord, the saints would ask, are we appealing to the spirit, to the soul or are we appealing to the body? Father I ask in the Name of Jesus Christ that the saints would be confronted with this reality. Father I plead that there would be a revelational knowledge imparted about the reality of the spirit, soul and body. And oh God, I pray that you will deliver the saints from that which is purely psychic. I pray that the saints would know the spirit of man, would know the Spirit of God, would know spiritual phenomena and walk in the spirit. In Jesus Name. Amen.

I was a member of the Anglican Church for six years, I was a member of the Presbyterian church for all the years before the six years. They call me now a Pentecostal, but I am learning to be a Christian. Let me tell you, the Anglicans minister to the soul and present day Pentecostals minister to the body. There is very little ministry to the spirit. I have been delivered from dancing by the time they started dancing soul music, but I once watched people who danced soul. In soul music, you press the girl right to yourself. Very gently, you press the girl to yourself very gently. What are you exciting? Emotions, in a very gentle calculated way.

When you are leading a song and that's why the ministry of songs or better still the ministry of exhortation is a very costly ministry. It is a very, very costly ministry if it is to be ministry in the spirit. But since many people just come and excite the soul or the bodies of people, the more noise they make and the more physical exercise, the more the wonder they think it is. Anybody who is to minister in the ministry of exhortation at the spirit level must have history with God in holiness, in prayer, in fasting and in radically paying the price. If there is no heavy price paid God-wards, you will minister to the soul and to the body, so that the singing in a Christian meeting can excite lust and desire

If the man who is preaching is not caught up in the glory of God, clothed, protected, wrapped by the glory of God, he easily excites the flesh. And when the excitement is over, the people walk out of the meeting cold inside. There is no breakthrough to reach the spirit of man. I want every minister to ask, at what level am I ministering, am I ministering to the body, am I ministering to the soul? The soul means that one is ministering to the will, the mind and the emotions. But Pentecostal ministry is characteristically a ministry to the emotions and this is most unfortunate. When I read the book, "Destined For The Throne", I was blessed to the core of my being because it was the first book by a Pentecostal that got me to think. I want to recommend the book to you. Of course if you are not a thinker, the book will bore you.

We are talking about shallow people, shallow people are given only to their emotions. They always ask, "How do you feel?" Shallow! Relating to that which is on the surface. Shallow! Providing very surface, quick answers. Somebody came to visit us, they brought soft meat and I said, "No, no, I don't like soft meat". He said, "You can just call this soft meat, hard meat and eat it." Just call the soft meat, hard meat and eat it. I was taken aback. Just call this soft meat hard meat and eat it. The tendency to provide surface, superficial answers. Shallow people can easily be deviated. They are going here, you tell them let us go there, they say, "Praise God." They get there; you say, no, no let's go here, they say, "hallelujah." Shallow people know nothing about deep seated repentance.

Their tears come very quickly and go away as fast as they came or faster. You may not know where tears ended and a laugh began. Nothing can trouble them for long, they would find some cheap solution to cover it. Shallow people may even think deep seated people are not joyful. They mistake superficial manifestations of the flesh for joy. They want to be happy, “make us happy.” They are more concerned about happiness than about holiness. They are carried away by the outside. They are carried away by that which strikes the eye. Say with me, “they are carried away by that which strikes the eye!” All that glitters seems to be gold to them, since they only look at the surface. They do not want to be bothered with content, they are desperate for quick results. They cannot wait long for anything to happen. They are peculiarly given to the moment. They are given to the things of the moment. Provided a woman is physically beautiful, that’s all that matters. They say don’t worry. We would look into character in the future. For now, let’s get married first, on the basis of physical appearance.

Shallow women often land in the hands of crooks because crooks tell a lot of lies, sweet stories and make wonderful promises. And since the shallow woman is not checking to see what is there, but is just taken in by what the person says, she discovers only after the wedding that the car was borrowed, the suit was borrowed, the title was borrowed and the certificate forged. And that the company of which he was the director general only existed on the business card. And that the telephone line, the fax, the e-mail were only to come in the future.

The superficial don’t want medical examination before marriage, they say let’s have them after the marriage. They say you are so handsome, you cannot be sick. Everything is correct. In Yaoundé, one sister who had believed in our ministry in 1975 got engaged to a brother in another ministry against the advice of the leaders then. She said my heart is gone, just let me go, my heart is gone, just let me go.” The Friday night before the marriage was blessed on Sunday, she came to the house and wept the whole night. She said, “He fooled me with some Bible verses quoted and I thought he was a spiritual man. He deceived me with a few Bible verses, quoted, now I found that he has no God content.” It was two days before the wedding in the church, I said, “stop this marriage.” They were going to be married in one of the Pentecostal churches because the man was a member of that church. I said, stop it. She said, “Brother Zach, I am pregnant.”

This man with his few Bible verses had seduced her and made her go to bed with him. She was pregnant. It was a sad story, and the man was just sitting there, because they were in the house. I had not seen her for months, from the time the leaders said no, she disappeared. The whole night she was repeating, Brother Zach, I am not fortunate, I am not fortunate. Four years after the marriage, she died and she was miserable throughout. She had said before, “He has a good job.” Because he was a director somewhere. A good job plus a few Bible verses.

The superficial does not ask, is this man true? The superficial does not weigh the man. The thing that struck me about that man was the fact that he had no friends. When we meet a man who cannot bond strongly, one mark of the superficial is that he just touches lightly all over. One characteristic of the superficial is that they easily make relationships which they break the next day. You cannot see one enduring relationship of ten years, you cannot see one relationship of 15 years, you cannot see one relationship of five years. When they find a new friend, the old ones are finished. A man of depth keeps his old relationships and adds new ones on them. Ask a superficial person, he only has the relationship of today. The one of last year, he cannot remember, two years? When you are with the person, you are everything, when you leave, it's finished forever. The superficial cannot look ahead, they cannot plan. They would rather die than do long term planning.

One woman in Nairobi took our book, Divorce And Remarriage, and wrote all over on every page, madly angry with us. The missionary went to see her, her case for divorce was in court but she had already found another man. She was waiting for the case in court but she had already found another man. She was waiting for the case in court to be decided, so that she could marry the new man. That book was the worst news she ever read. She was not yet divorced, the case was still in court, but already she was rapturously caught up with another man. I said, there would be ten others, because that man would not be the end. Maybe he had a good nose, she would soon find one with good teeth. Then she would find another with good ears, like those of rabbits. The superficial always run away from difficulties and they don't care who is destroyed in the process.

When you tell the superficial to repent, they weep instead; they prefer to shed tears than to repent. They consider the person who is insisting they should repent a persecutor. If you insist that they repent, they will consider you to be persecuting them. Then the superficial do not like disciplining anybody. If you are disciplining people, they think you are wicked. They say, “just allow the person, somewhere along the line, the person would change”, that is their philosophy. They consider discipline as total cruelty. They live for the moment, for the here and now. They are totally inclined to the indulgent. They fall in love at first sight and fall out of love at second sight. When your eyes meet theirs, the story has ended and when your eyes are not there, the story has also ended. They have eyes that take and give a glance for the moment. When they have meat, they eat all of it that same day. They cannot cook meat and eat it today and then tomorrow, they finish all the same day. We had a teacher, a superficial man, the first week, he ate chicken, stew and rice, the last week of the month he soaked “gari” and “okra” ¹.

One such person had a wedding banquet to which he invited three thousand people and by God’s grace, somebody gave him money to buy petrol to drive him back to his station. He told me himself that somebody gave them a bag of beans which they ate everyday of the thirty days of the first month before his salary came: But he fed three thousand people. His transport money and the bag of beans that saved his young wife from starvation were given to him. He had a degree in his pocket and was working in a research station. It was not a shortage of diplomas, because superficiality is not a lack of schooling. Doing Geography or Chemistry does not impart depth. It is a crucial matter. I want leaders to pay particular attention to this because often leaders put heavy task on superficial people and ask why the people do not produce any results. You may be going to visit a superficial person, he will spend all the money available to put a red carpet from the airport to the house. When you get home, there is nothing to eat because all the money has been spent on the carpet. And he expects you to be grateful because he gave you a red carpet welcome. The superficial ask: is it big? is it beautiful? is it attractive? does it draw attention? Could a few people pray before we continue this matter of shallowness.

Each one gets back what he sows. Darling! Darling! One American said,

“Honey, we are going to get a divorce.” How do you divorce honey? That’s where the world outside has no relationship with the reality- “Honey we are going to get a divorce,” superficial people know no ethics. A man sues a wife to court for divorce but wants to go to bed with her. You see, part of counselling people over the continents means that I have met very ridiculous cases, cases I can’t understand. All the pre-occupation is what is seen on the surface.

Superficial people cannot produce leaders. I took apart the leaders of the church in Yaounde and asked, which elder has produced another elder and which elder has produced a missionary? I drew a new list of eldership seniority based on that. Seniority depended upon the power to produce elders and to produce missionaries. It’s so frightful that I don’t even want to show them. The superficial cannot produce spiritual leaders.

Elders are produced at the cross. Elders are produced at the winepress where the self-life is crushed out. Elders are produced at the place where indulgence is smashed mercilessly. Say it, elders are produced at the winepress where the self life is smashed mercilessly. Elders are produced at Jabbok - the place where independence is broken permanently - the tendency to depend on oneself; “I can do it on my own, I am self-sufficient.” Elders are produced at all night prayer meetings. Say, elders are produced at all night prayer meetings. Elders are produced at prayer crusades. Elders are produced at the place where all is forsaken to follow Him. Elders are produced at the place where the last trace of sin is abandoned. Elders are produced at Pentecost. Elders are produced during long fasts. Elders are produced in loyal hearts. Elders are produced in the desire to exalt another. And these things are the very antitheses of shallowness, isn’t it so? Pray that this would sink.

Elders are produced at the place where ones children are conscripted into God’s missionary force and trained for that purpose and no other purpose. Somehow, there is one way that will help you not to be deceived. Look at your children and you will see the story of your life, you’ll see the story of your spirituality. Look at them as a whole, look at all of them. They will give you an overall picture.

One child maybe 20, the other may be 80. Take an average of all your children and see the direction of their investments, that's a true story of your heart. Do you know why? Because when the child was in the womb, what the mother spoke to God was the telling factor. Oh! When a man has chosen a superficial wife, he can only go into the bush and hide there to weep alone so that nobody sees him and mocks at him and asks him where did you keep your eyes? Do you know why? The mother has a greater telling factor because of those nine months. It is nine months of seclusion. The man may touch the wife occasionally, speak occasionally, but the man's factor at that time may be 10% at most. It is 90% the woman. What she thinks, what she feels, how she reacts and is there another period where nine months are set apart? Never! It is better to be single than marry a superficial woman.

If you have a spiritual woman, a woman after the heart of God, a woman of depth, a woman who hungers after righteousness, the child would have nine months that are decisive. If your wife is superficial, don't have children or wait until she becomes spiritual, because there are already so many superficial people in the world. Why add one more? Since God is not giving you children waiting for you to be spiritual. In fact Brother ----- told me you can plot a graph about his children. The first one was born when he was farthest from Christ, and that one is very difficult to turn spiritual. The next one was born when inside his heart there was already some turning towards God - that one is in the middle. The third was born when he was near being converted, that one is committed. So he said that they should have another child, he has believed, but that would be putting a woman in the early forties into unnecessary danger.

If people were wise they would wait. When a carnal woman carries a child, with her carnality, she is moved by her moods. When she frowns against the husband, she knocks the child. Listen, when Mary appeared, John the Baptist leapt for joy in the womb of Elizabeth. Inside the womb are very deep spiritual experiences, very deep knowing. Jesus was in the womb of Mary, John was in the womb of Elizabeth. When Jesus appeared, when Jesus and John met, Jesus did not leap for joy. It was John who leapt for joy because the creature leaps for joy in the presence of his Saviour. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Can your wife be filled with the Holy Spirit? And Elizabeth had the power not to say the

baby kicked me, but the baby leapt for joy, some women would have said, oh, this baby has knocked me hard. They do not know how to discern the spiritual movement of babies. She walked so close with God over all those years so that every move was watched in the spiritual. A study showed that 90% of spiritual men married carnal women straight away often by their looks, to show that their spirituality was to be called to question. They had one eye in the Word, and one eye after the looks. I asked one man of God, why is it so? He said because the women were their toys to entertain them when they were tired. So they want some nice looking toys to ease their tension or for light moments. They are not partners at war. For war they choose a woman not beautiful but spiritual, not for marriage. So with this woman who is not beautiful but spiritual, they do spiritual warfare. For marriage they look for some toys (who cannot do spiritual battle) for entertainments between the warfare. That's what someone said. It is not applicable in all situations. If not, how can you explain the fact that George Whitefield (the greatest evangelist of all times without equal - he preached to 5,000 people four times a day without a microphone. He roared the gospel of God, there were times when he laid before God for seven days without movement) went and married a totally carnal woman? How can you explain the fact that the prince of thinkers - John Wesley - this Oxford tutor and leader of the holy club, got engaged to a carnal lawyer's clerk, had to break the engagement and the girl sued him to court? And later on he married some widow who was more bent on being a settled English woman than the wife of a revivalist, burning around the world. They finally separated and he never saw her again until she died many years afterwards. If something is not wrong with men of God how do you explain the fact that each time their wives die, they marry another one. Alanajah married three times. The father of modern missionaries, Carey, married 3 times. Hudson Taylor married twice. May be someday when I will be angry enough, I will write a book on the weak sides of men of God. How do you explain the fact that David - "my soul thirst for thee, my body burns for thee", when he was old, even Bathsheba with whom he had ruined everything, could no longer keep him warm. He needed Abishag, the most beautiful girl then in Israel to keep warm. Blankets could not keep him warm, nothing would keep him warm, only the most beautiful girl in the nation could keep the king at 70 warm. Can you explain that? Can you explain the fact that the wisest man (because when you analyse the Wisdom of Solomon he was wiser than everybody) needed 1000 women, for one single man. 1000 - 700 wives, 300 concubines - all of them princesses. Though he knew the God of his father, he built idol worship centres all around the place - even though he knew they were false; to please his army of women, how can you explain that?

Elders are produced at the place where one's children are conscripted and trained for God's missionary purpose and for no other purpose whatsoever. They don't only consecrate them for God's purposes, they ruin the possibility of any other thing coming in. Elders are produced where spiritual monuments are erected. When I was in Uganda, I was to drive to where I preached my first powerful evangelistic message three days after I was baptised into the Holy Spirit and sixty young people came forward in October, 1970. I was driven to the school and I spoke to 1,700 people; staff and students. It was a place of great memory. The Holy Spirit had come upon me on Saturday, and on Tuesday, I went to that school to preach. We had gone there so often, by then it was a school for drop-outs; they would mock at us while we were preaching. That Tuesday, I went and preached the same message as I preached before, in the same tone, in the same way. When I gave the invitation, six young men stood up to come forward. They were coming so forcefully that I thought they were coming to attack me, I said, "hey, hey what have I done, what are you doing?" They said, "But you said that those who want to believe should come forth." I did not know that what happened on Saturday had a bearing on the winning of men. This time that I preached, hundreds stood up to give their lives to Christ. Elders are produced at the place where spiritual monuments are erected.

During the last all night prayer meeting in Yaoundé, I asked Henriette Mbarga to read her spiritual monuments. She read just the monuments in giving to God. There were 13 monuments of her giving everything to God. The first monument, when she was a student, she gave her allowance of 30,000 Franc to the Lord, all of it. The second monument as a student, their scholarship was delayed for three months, it was 105,000 Franc, she gave all of it to the Lord. There were thirteen monuments like that of giving everything to God. Just the monuments in giving. She has been on an allowance of 50,000 Franc for the last ten years and she gives 50% of it to the Lord and lives on 25,000, herself and her disciples whom she has housed and in those ten years, ten times she gave everything to the Lord. Monuments! Elders are produced at the place where spiritual monuments are erected.

Elders are produced at retreats for spiritual progress. One thing about the carnal is that they don't go on retreats or when they go they are distracted. One thing about the superficial, the shallow, is that either they don't go on spiritual retreats at all, often it is as if you need a Caterpillar to take them to the place of retreat and even if you get them there, they would joke, they would sleep, they would read the Bible lightly. Everything is always towards the light hearted. The shallow love reading biographies, they would not read books on doctrine - The Way of Sanctification, The Way of Christian Service, The Cross in the Life and Ministry of the Believer, You can Receive a Pure Heart Today, etc., are not popular books with them. They consider them as forbidden literature. They have no desire for a pure heart. One unusual mark of the superficial is that they don't read any book through to the end. They start a book, but they never finish reading through. They can start ten books but to get them to finish one is like climbing the Everest. They enjoy the title of books but to finish a book and write down what God has said to them will make them feel like dying. So they have a record of unfinished books. That's one thing about the superficial, they cannot finish a project. They can't finish the project of reading a book. The superficial cannot read their bibles from Genesis to Revelation. They always stop somewhere and start again the next year.

Elders are produced at the place where the love of the world is forsaken. Elders are produced at the place where the love of the things of the world is forsaken. Elders are produced at the place where self-imposed poverty because of Jesus and the gospel have become a way of life. Elders are produced at the place of utter consecration. Elders are produced at the place of bleeding obedience to God. Bleeding obedience, "go take your son, your only son whom you love, go on one of the mountains and sacrifice him there" -that's a command that goes not to the superficial but to the deep. And Abraham did not share it with Sarah. He did not say Sarah, you know what? God has told me to take Isaac and go and sacrifice him on one of those mountains. If Abraham had committed such folly, Sarah and Isaac would have disappeared before he had the time to obey God. She would have said, "It is because you have your son Ishmael, that's why you want to go and sacrifice my son, you will not take him". So he did not discuss it with Sarah and did not expose his intentions.

Elders are produced at the place where spiritual altars are built. An altar! We hope to write a book on spiritual altars and spiritual monuments. The problem is: jumping around the world gives very little time for writing. But do you know how to distinguish between an altar and a monument? The superficial have no altars in their lives and no monuments in their lives.

Elders are produced at the place where large sums of money are invested into the perishing souls of men. All these things are the very antitheses of the shallow life. These things are absent in the shallow, almost all of them. Even if they seem to be there, the shallow life would soon reject them. Even if they are there, very soon the shallow life will say, “no we don’t want these.” We said spiritual shallowness was the lack of supreme investment, isn’t it? I want also to say that the root cause of spiritual shallowness is the lack of supreme discipline or it is indiscipline - indiscipline in motives, indiscipline in desires, you just desire this, desire that. Today he wants a thin nose, the next he wants slim long legs, the next he wants African beauty, another day he wants “yellow titi”(light skinned). Indiscipline, everything attracts him. Indiscipline in thought, indiscipline in look, indiscipline in touch, indiscipline in taste, indiscipline in feelings, indiscipline in words, indiscipline in deeds, indiscipline in possessions - indiscipline - who was the most indisciplined man of all times or the most indulgent?

Eccl. 2:10 “I denied myself nothing my eyes desired; I refused my heart no pleasure, my heart took delight in all my work and this was the reward for all my labour.”

“I denied myself nothing” That was the pathway to a thousand women. Somebody wrote to me recently, as at the end of last year, there had been about a thousand women in his life. In 1977 somebody who was selling in Mokolo was converted and he confessed his sins at the all night prayer meeting, we were in Jungolo then. He took 3 hours to confess his sins. There were 300 women in his life plus thirty girls he disvirgined. One name after another, he kept a record. So when he had 300 plus 30 disvirgined and this man talks about a thousand, Solomon was not alone. He has modern counterparts. Some people desire but

they don't have the power to have, Solomon only needed to say 'that one'. "I denied myself nothing that my eyes desired."

What is discipline? It is saying no to your desires. What is indiscipline - saying yes to your desires. What is discipline? It is declaring your heart closed to all pleasure. When you have so many things near you at your choice, you have never been closer to a catastrophe. When you have many things before you that you could get freely, you are closest to danger. When you have that fatal gift of beauty that men find you irresistible, you are most likely going to go wrong. When good looks make you instantly a king of women, the chances that you will marry right is slim. When money is obtained that is not got through rigorous pain, it may come and your head would go out. The thing is that prayer always brings reasoning and chains the heart to the cross, so that money comes and goes God's way. Indiscipline! Write out the areas of your indiscipline and reduce them to zero before they reduce you to zero. The shallow life is the overflow of indiscipline, indiscipline in possessing. Pray that the saints would confront the matter of indiscipline.

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Matt. 13:5

"Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow".

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The soil was shallow, shallow soil for shallow plants, shallow! When we were at the youth camp, after Brother Alex spoke, one sister stood up and prayed and said, "for this message that is so deep that I don't understand, I give you thanks oh Lord". We also saw that the ministry would provide a place where people raise themselves. In the ministry, we are trying to raise people in all the domains. Somebody like sister Lydia's mother rose up to maturity just by sitting under

solid teaching for years. Everybody should be improving himself. If you enter the ministry at the primary school level, you should come to graduate level in the course of years, by the exercise of your mind and person. You know Tozer didn't go beyond primary school. Who has read something by Tozer? He writes at the level that doctors in English would need a dictionary. You even see through life, where people make their money is not really related to what they studied. In schools you only get some certificates that enable you to apply yourself. If you don't apply yourself, you have failed.

In the U.S. they have a Master's degree program in Business Administration for medical doctors. I read in the papers when I was there that most doctors after the course abandoned medicine because there is not enough money in medicine. They go into raw business. One of my goals this year is to learn a thousand new English words - to increase my vocabulary by a thousand new words and if I am still learning, then you should be learning even more. Have you stopped learning, have you stopped growing? Who here is a graduate in English Literature?

How many books in the African writers series have you read? I read 37 of them.

At one holiday I read Shakespeare from cover to cover. Listen please, one thing is for people to break the clutches of laziness. The clutches of laziness.

Your level is not provided by where you ended in school, your level is determined by where you ended in self-education. When I was in Paris, I was shown a fifteen storey building owned by a Cameroonian who never went to school. There are Ph.Ds in Economics who are bankrupt. It's amazing that many who have degrees in Economics are jobless, B.Sc. Economies, no job. They should go and ask those village women who send their children to school and pay for them how to make money. Improve your capacities, don't be lazy. By the grace of God, next year, I am going to the French cultural centre to improve my French. How can you lead unless you keep adding to the weapon? Brother

Bosson, is there at the American cultural centre in Cotonou. Go there because very soon, we will call you to go and preach in English. I will pay for the course, I've just paid for Brother Martin's - 165,000 for his course in the American cultural centre in Douala to improve his English. The leader must keep labouring to improve himself. If not, one day he would lead from behind. There must be a commitment to excellence that is progressive. When I was holding a campaign in the University of Buea not long ago, in May, I got totally angry with the believers. There were very many songs in Pidgin - "I go worship my God O, I go sing hallelujah, my God he do good for me." I was saying, this people are seduced by the devil. This is not for the university. As you enter the university in Buea, there are ten places where there are sign boards against pidgin and we had the campaign just at the entrance of the university and the believers were singing and dancing like mad in pidgin. I thought it was academic treason. I said how can these students grapple with their colleagues knock them out and bring them to the gospel if they speak pidgin, sing pidgin and they will soon want a pidgin Bible and literature written in pidgin. It is academic immorality, it is the way of people who cannot lead their generation.

A few years from today, we will want a first degree as the minimum qualification for a missionary and in some years, we will want a master's degree and later a doctorate degree as minimum qualification. Because the academic level of the work is always rising. Yes, the academic level of the work is always rising, isn't it? Our children Elizabeth and John are finishing 'A' levels at 17, I finished 'O' level at 19, got to the University as one of the youngest at 21. They should be getting masters degree by then. If we do not follow that kind of trend, and we think that when we go to a university we would sing - "I go worship my God", then when you go to the village you sing, 'immortal invisible, God only wise', we will not get anywhere. Then I asked those people, what will you sing when we send you to the villages? Do you get what I am saying?

God gave a mind of thinking and we are supposed to sharpen the mind to think. I hope by God's grace to get a D.Sc. next year, I am just compiling my thesis. I have a few more papers to finish- to get them to a hundred publications, then I will submit them to the University for evaluation for a D.Sc. So even academically, I am still in it. So, when people who are young enough to be my

grand children have retired from the act of thinking and studying and subduing the earth, they should repent. Because the world is not going backward.

God has asked us to bring a billion people to Him in the 21st century. We are not going to go back to the first century. If we cannot cope with the communication techniques of our generation, if we cannot cope with the language of our generation, if we cannot cope with the technology of our generation, if we cannot cope with the thinking of our generation, then we cannot rescue people from the sins of our generation. Because our generation has peculiar sins, peculiar bondages, peculiar temptations, peculiar rebellion, peculiar fancies and peculiar fantasies.

I forgave Stephen for not getting a 1st class; for bringing a second class upper to the house. A graduate with 2nd class upper, for his abilities that was poor performance. He lost the 1st class because he became disloyal in the second and third years. Because the heart and the head go together, now that he has corrected his heart, he will get a 1st class mark at the Master's level, but I want you to know that the head and the heart go together. God used the fishermen because their hearts were right towards Him. He did not use them because they were fishermen, He used them because their hearts were right towards Him, but when He wanted a global strategist for the gospel, it was the colossal mind - Saul who studied under Gamaliel. And when you start reading the thesis of Romans, for those of you who have studied Romans just for intellectual enjoyment, you know that you are dealing with a massive mind.

When you read Watch Man Nee – Watchman Nee stopped in the equivalent of 2nd year in the University because after that he went four years for the masters - you know you are dealing with very colossal mind. He was bracketed first out of 600 that were admitted into the university. When he said, “I will not go to the University, I will serve only the Lord,” he was a massive mind, rigorously applied. When you look at C.T. Studd, you see the rigour of mastering cricket he used to practice at home, isn't it so? Putting countless hours to strike correctly, it was the fruit not of something that came naturally, maybe the talent was there,

but he was rigorously cultivated. He conquered himself. And you know when a child lost a button, he got the child to spend six hours looking for that button. A button. Putting six hours into looking for that button in order to curb the calamity of indulgence because indulgence is a calamity.

John Wesley and of course George Whitefield, these were colossal minds. The Holy Spirit came, fell on sanctified intelligence to ignite it for God. I met somebody who left the university, he told me, "I've not read anything except the local papers for five years."

During the last all night prayer meeting in Yaoundé, I was sharing something about the power of personality, because some people are just as if they are dying. When I travelled on Kenyan Airlines, there was this magazine with a 19 year old girl, who won a contest to be a model. It's a continental contest for a model and the girl is from Zimbabwe. I read her story inside the magazine. She was said to have personality, poise and a penetrating look that seems to see into the future. When you look at the girl, she is only 19, but she seems to see through people. I sent the magazine round and said, "look at her, some of you just sit there as if your eyes must be closed" Her first contract is 500,000 dollars at 19, just because of the way she carries herself. Four days before the contest, her younger sister died but she still went into the contest, a small woman of 19. When you see the picture, her eyes look into the distant future with the intensity that says, this girl is a woman of purpose. But the person who is going nowhere has a vacant look. Even the way you sit says you have resigned from the race. In the University of Yaoundé now, all the candidates who apply are interviewed for an hour or two per candidate. They are to dribble the candidates, find out whether they can speak English or French, whether they can communicate, whether they have the personality of a teacher. They are to find out whether they can look the students in the face or they look down, or whether they will feel like urinating in their trousers as the interview gets more heated. A commitment to communicate - the inside flows through the outside.

A friend of mine was to give a talk in the University of Morocco on Jesus Christ

in the Koran. He said he sat there, everybody in the team was a businessman, he also wrote inside his card, Jesus' businessman. God's businessman, had an executive looking suitcase not a woman's bag for the market. He was going on God's mission to speak on Jesus Christ in the Koran. But I want to tell you that the story is inward. If you take the most expensive clothes and put them on a statue, you would not produce an impressive personality. I went to one of the countries, I found that the jacket of the missionary was letting him down, so I gave him my jacket. I said, "I can travel back just with the shirt, but you need a jacket here." I gave him my jacket, my shirt and trousers, he happens to be my size, so that he may look like a legal representative that he put on his signboard. When you are a legal representative and go about with a jacket that says, "money is finished"... So I gave him also my tie and that day in church he really looked like the pastor and he spoke with extra authority. When your clothes are letting you down, you somehow wonder whether there is a hole somewhere that you cannot see yourself, you can't speak with much confidence.

In 1975 before I went back to Cameroon there was a man of God who came and laid hands on me and prayed, "Lord, when Brother Zach gets to Cameroon, let every Cameroonian say to him, you owe us Jesus." That was the message. I left the country in 1966 and bought a top suit, I got married in that suit. I went back home in that same suit; although it was still looking new, when I got back in 1975, the fashion was 9 years out. So when I was walking through the streets, people were looking at my outdated fashion but I said, Oh they are looking at me and saying give us Jesus. I landed on the 11th in the evening, the next morning I went to the University and got employed and everybody was looking at me, I thought they were saying give us Jesus, so I went back into my office, locked the door (it was a big office because I came back as an Associate Professor) and wrote the first tract - How to know Jesus Christ - for six hours. That was what I did on my first day in Cameroon because I said, everybody is looking at me. And saying, "Give us Jesus". My head might have been mistaken but my heart was correct, the tract is in circulation even till today.

Let your whole personality speak for Jesus and a missionary should be looking for open doors. When I got to Rwanda, I was told that the President of the International Court which is based in Kigali was introducing the Cameroonian

community to the Rwandan people. I had known him back home so he sent word that I should come because he heard that I was coming. I wondered whether to go to that worldly meeting or not. We were holding an evangelistic meeting at the hotel, after the meeting I said, "Okay let's go to the Cameroonian meeting." I got there to an applause because these Cameroonian (all of them lost people) were very proud of our missionaries there. They said, "you see, we Cameroonian have come to evangelise you pagans." Everybody uses the gospel for his own purpose, whatever the purpose. They were very proud that we had missionaries there, they said it is to evangelise the pagan Rwandan people. When I got there, they said, oh the President is here, they were shouting and making a lot of noise. It helped me because everybody was saying, 'the president.' They called the missionary, 'the President's assistant.' The next day we forgot the flight tickets at home and we went to the airport, he thought the tickets were with Brother C. but Brother C. had given them to him and he forgot them on the table. We were waiting and waiting. They had driven home to look for the tickets. The Cameroon airline man was at the meeting when they were calling me, 'the President.' When the people were pressurizing him to start the flight he answered, "do you want me to leave 'the President' and his assistant here?" So they kept the plane there until the tickets were brought. I entered and went and sat at the back, I had no jacket, they came and pulled me from the back and put me in first class and said, " 'Mr. President', come and sit in first class."

At that party, I spent 30 minutes with B. Wrestling through the gospel with him. In fact, I had to beg him to go and attend to other people who were there. For 30 minutes, we wrestled about the fall of man, then he told me two things that the brethren had told me...

I want to tell you that your goal gives you your personality. A man with an overriding goal has a personality flowing through him that breaks through walls, through obstacles, he sees beyond the horizon and such a person cannot be vindictive. Those who are turning round are very vindictive people. Forgiving is very difficult for a man who is turning round, he is going nowhere. He has time to think about all the hurts that has been done to him and how to revenge. Without an overriding goal, people turn round and they are bitter and unforgiving they have time to think of all the small hurts of their purposeless

lives. And they are afraid to rub shoulders with great minds, with great persons. They prefer the company where they are always bosses, they cannot stand the company that would promote them.

There is a brother in Yaoundé who became older ten years after he ought to have been, because he spent ten years running away from me. He said, “I like small people.” I asked why? He replied, “Because I am immediately their chief. If you would not run after a big man, you would not inherit a great throne. How did Joshua become the leader of the people in the Promised Land? By forty years investment into Moses. Joshua invested forty years into Moses and as reward he became the next leader. Elisha was the one pouring water on Elijah’s hands, he was the one pouring water, that is the servant, he became the next leader: Elisha was the one pouring water on Elijah’s hands, he was the one pouring water, that is the servant, he became the next prophet and did twice as many miracles as Elijah. And Gehazi was being brought up to become the next prophet who would have done maybe four times the miracles of Elisha or Elijah but he loved money and instead of the prophet’s gown, he got the leprosy of generations for himself and his household.

Poised to be a servant, poised to greatness. Poised to be a servant, in line for greatness. The one who takes the position of a servant has been appointed to be the next great man. When I see someone who specialises in finding the faults of leaders, I tremble because the person is into a very terrible curse. What happened to Ham? He exposed the nakedness of his father isn’t it so? And he was cursed. God did not take his father to task, but the curse dwelt on Ham. Elisha’s head was bald and those children said, “oh, bald head”, the next time they said it was from the stomach of the bear, 42 of them. They said, “Bald head, bald head,” they were criticising God and they were criticising God’s prophet. They were saying, “God why do you make bald headed people and why do you give them power?” God said, “this matter is my own and it will be settled today”. If you have the calamity of discovering the fault of leaders and exposing them, you are ruined. Even when Miriam questioned Moses about whom he had married, God brought leprosy on her. Korah and the team that rebelled against Moses; Moses said, “if they die an ordinary death, then God has not appointed me.” And so it continues. Taking a posture to break into the future or taking a posture to fail.

We have to come to grips with the fact that there are some things God does not consult us about and that God does not know people as we know them. What we may consider grievous faults is not what God is seeing. Let me tell you a thing I learned from a brother called Peter. He told me, “from the day I met you (because he came when my mother died, that was when we first met) I set out to find out why God is using you”. One day I had to preach in a Presbyterian church and I was living some distance from the place in Cameroon. In the morning I ran three kilometres and went and ran round that church where I was going to preach seven times, then I ran back to prepare. That day! It was a storm; the heavens were opened. Then we preached in Germany for six weeks together, he was translating me. He liked to chat, he was a people oriented person. Everyday when we finished the meeting, I went to bed early and at 2 or 3 a.m, I was up till morning. Years afterwards he said, he found the secret, two things; “a price paid and much time in God’s presence.”

If you are wise and you see God using somebody, don’t ask, what is wrong with this person? If you ask that, you are already in the hands of Satan. You want to nullify the conviction by saying that, but he is weak here, so there is nothing in it. Ask, what is the secret? Because God does not work randomly, there are some things God is looking for, He would ignore many things and take the person to untold heights, if He finds those things. There are some things that God is looking for, when He finds them, He is like a treasure hunter who has found treasure, He ignores all else and goes for that. When a man finds gold in a rocky area with a very bad road, he will ignore the bad road, ignore the rock and break through because he has found precious jewels. The onlooker would be saying, the road to this place is very bad, why are you bothering yourself? This place is very rocky why waste time? But the jeweller has found jewels all; else is of no consequence, he would get there, he would get the jewels. But the born loser would be saying, the road is very bad, the born loser would say, this is rocky ground here and that is very good ground there. It is good ground but it doesn’t have the jewels.

God is a Hunter for spiritual jewels, when He finds the jewels, He will ignore the clumsiness of the road and the clumsiness of the environment and go for the jewel. So while you are criticizing the road and you may be correct, you become

a bitter enemy of God because you are criticizing the path to God's jewel mine but if your heart is right, you'll say God is using this person, God must be correct, I will take sides with God. Blessed are those who take sides with God because God will take sides with them. Say that with me, Blessed are those who take sides with God because God would take sides with them. And brethren let me tell you that it doesn't take years.

I have here a list of my helpers, I have two names from Benin, one is François and Sylvy. I've not known them very much, but I found out that they have a right heart towards God and right heart towards me. So apart from Bosson Kumabe, they are the only people on this list from Benin. This list was drawn in Cameroon, not here, but it is not an accident that they are here and the three names in Benin that are on the list are here. Brother Komabe, your name is here alone and not with your wife, do you know why? Your wife serves me from a distance, there is no relationship between us, so, I consider her to be doing her job as Mrs Bosson but Brother here is my helper, not because he is the leader of the work there. A man is what his heart is.

For those of you who are growing in leadership, that is what you should be looking for. Brethren listen, twice in the Bible, the mighty men of David were listed. The first list in II Sam. 23: 8. "These are the names of David's mighty men. Joshab-Basshebeth, a Tiahkemonite was chief of the three; he raised his spear against eight hundred men, whom he killed in one encounter." Joab the commander of the army is not among them. Joab who fought most of David's battles is not among them, why? He was a very brave and able soldier with a disloyal heart. But in

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II Samuel 23:37.

"Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai the Beerothite, the armor bearer of Joab son of Zeruiah".

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His armor - bearer was there, but he was not included. So your house servant could be among the mighty people, but the boss? What is it saying? It is saying that, heart qualities are an integral part of greatness and not just might on the field.

In the book on loyalty, there is a chapter - Joab was not among the mighty men of David. Looking at it outwardly, if Joab was not there, then there should be nobody there. Joab was not among the mighty men of David. They can write and say his wife was not among his helpers. Would that surprise you? Joab was not among the mighty men of David. I want to tell you that the day I found that Joab was not among the mighty men of David, there was a crack in my heart about the absolute indispensability of heart correctness. The R.S.V is the richest version on loyalty, there are at least seven other references to loyalty in the R.S.V. A bible student should know all the versions, their strengths and weaknesses.

What God desires in a man is loyalty. If your wife is disloyal, in everything, she takes a slightly different position from you. Spontaneously, she takes a slightly different position from you. If you say yes, she will say ye-e-s, she is always agreeing slightly with the people who oppose you. If you ask her to choose someone to work with, she spontaneously chooses somebody whom you would not have chosen because loyalty gives people the power to see in the same direction. When a junior is loyal to the senior, God gives the junior the power to see what the senior sees, so that even though they may be separated, they stand together. I want to plead with you, particularly those of you who are called to lead, the tendency in the past is to go for mighty people, I want to tell you, go first of all for loyal people, they will be there 20 years from today. The mighty people might have gone away. After you have a selection of loyal people, pray that the Lord would grant them might. But the fact that cannot be negotiated is loyalty. Look at this armor-bearer, his master is not on the list - Joab - he had might. But off course, it doesn't mean you should just be some dim witted

person and say, "I am loyal but dim-witted." To be an armor-bearer of Joab meant that you were also brave. Because this man was at all the battle fronts, isn't it so? So he was not just any Tom, Dick or Harry. The armor-bearer of Joab was a man who faced all the fierce bullets. I am not telling you to take the person who is your houseboy and make him the provincial leader because he is loyal to you. It is not cooking food, he must add to the loyalty elements of greatness. If not, people would ask, "Where does this one come from?" There must be might in anyone in leadership but the might must be built on loyalty. Loyalty is the character, mighty is the attribute. Loyalty is what he is, might is what he does. If your heart is correct, it is only the beginning.

In Rwanda, somebody came to congratulate me for having written so many books. I said, "no, I am just starting, this is just the beginning." Someone came to congratulate me for writing books that are so deep, I said, "no, these are just the surfaces, wait until I am seventy, what will be distilled through in the next 16 years of knowing God. Wait for the depth that would come through the books when I am 90, what would be distilled through another 36 years of the rugged pursuit of God. I am just beginning, I am just beginning." Are you too just beginning? Do you see the enormous potentials ahead, are you excited? God has called us not only to fabulous things but also to great things. He has called us to total sweetness, do you catch a glimpse of Him and your heart is sweet? There is more, there is more on this side of heaven not to talk of the glory that would be there. There is more, there is more. What was the case in the Old Testament is not the same in the New Testament. The prophet is the whole man. In the Old Testament, Samson could commit his immorality and stand up and carry the gate, the might was upon him but that is not in the New Testament. In the New Testament, the man and his message are one. So God is not just looking for something to use, God finds something that's a treasure in the person.

One thing that people whom God uses have in common is sacrifice. So God is not looking for something to use, God finds a jewel in the person. David had weaknesses but listen, when you begin to study the spiritual Science of the heart, David has no equal; so you could disqualify David on his faults but when it came to the heart, nobody sought God as David sought and nobody knew God as David did. When you read language like, "how lovely is your dwelling place Oh

Lord, Almighty, my soul yearns, even faints for the court of the Lord, my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.” Now how many people know anything near that? Psalms 84:1-2. In fact I have written here, Lord let me know this experience 24-7-98.

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Psalm 42

As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you oh Lord.

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Has your own soul ever panted? “My soul pants for God, for the living God, when can I go and meet with God, my tears have been my food day and night.” Do you know anything like that?

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Psalm 64

“Oh God you are my God, earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you my body longs for you.”

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When does your body ever long for God, when did your soul thirst? This was incredible depth, incredible relationship with God. It was there, it was settled, but outsiders would say, that man committed adultery once. Oh, that David? One day he committed adultery with another person’s wife, finish. But God sees in this issue seventy years of reaching out to depth which people know nothing about. The man may be judging David based on one hour. And when you look at

David's repentance, the repentance that many know nothing about - "against. Thee alone have I sinned and done this great wickedness". He knew repentance at depth many know nothing about. As Watchman Nee says, "David in this fall was greater than many who had never fallen."

So God sees the treasure, He sees the depth, He sees the sacrifice. Others see one's fault and that's all. Miriam saw this woman from Upper Nile that Moses married; when Moses was on the mountain laying prostrate before God for forty days and forty nights, no water, no food, wrestling for Israel, was Miriam there? When Moses was on the mountain for forty days being shown the heavenly pattern, she only said, no, you have married a woman who is not an Israelite. So God looks at the overwhelming profoundness, at the intimacy, at the sacrifice, at the depth, at the breath, at the height reached in the pursuit of God, and somebody is talking about something on the surface and making it cover the whole sky.

Some of you will like to criticise Theodore, okay, first forty-day fast in Cameroon, second forty day fast from outside Yaoundé, third forty day fast, fourth forty-day fast, fifth forty-day fast, where is your own? This prayer crusade, the other prayer crusade, this other prayer crusade, another prayer crusade, this financial sacrifice, the other financial sacrifice, this person built up, God might soon say, gird your loins and you would be called to answer.

The selfish person just looks at the thing round his small world. It reminds me of a child who didn't like the moon, when the moon was shining, he was very angry, so one day he took a dame gun-this gun that brings smoke when you shoot - one day he loaded his gun, then as the moon was shining he shot at the moon. There was so much smoke, for a while, he looked and didn't see the moon, he danced, I've shot the moon, I've shot the moon, he entered the house. After a few seconds, he came out and the moon was shining as ever before. That is God's evaluation. God puts the whole history of David; his loyalty as a shepherd of his father's flock, when the bear came David could have run, he risked his life to kill the bear. When a Lion came, David risked his life out of

love for his father and killed the Lion. He was faithful with his father's flock. And when it was Goliath, David carried his life in his hands and went against the fierce warrior and soon brought his head. God saw all the times when David could have killed Saul but he would not. David's word was, "the Lord's anointed, the Lord's anointed."

When someone came and told David, "oh, I've killed him," David said, "oh, you killed the Lord's anointed," the man thought David would reward him for killing his enemy. Although the man was not the one who killed Saul, his head was cut off for telling a lie. He thought it would bring him profit. Look at David's giving to the Lord, unparalleled. Everything he captured, he gave to the Lord. In giving, unequalled out of his commitment to God, he received God's pattern for the temple. So when God sees, He does not go, because He has seen in the man something to use, He has seen a man after His own heart. I want to insist that it is the total man. God sees God in the person, God sees that which is of God in the person. God sees His likeness in the person. And the spirit goes for that which is spirit created.

What Causes Shallowness?

There was little soil, so the soil was shallow, isn't it so? Roots talk about a man's history with God. The book: The Sower, the Seed and the Hearts of Men should be read and re-read. Roots talk about a man's history with God that is underground because when you see a tree, you don't know what is underground, do you? It is only the times of testing, of winds, of storm that what is underground is manifest. During times of testing what is underground is manifest.

What type of roots?

I told you of trees that produce superficial roots, just on the surface and trees that get their roots right down. On the surface, on the surface like somebody who is seeking for crayfish, does he go into the depth of the ocean, does he have great risks? No! One day in Yaoundé I saw someone, he had six or seven giant rats, he was carrying them on a stick on his shoulder. I thought the man ought to go to the bush. If he was carrying one small lion, yeah; but he wanted to feel important because of six giant rats, you'll not be a celebrity. If you kill one small lion of three days old, your name would go into the papers. Now what are you hunting? I want to ask you a question. What are you hunting? A thousand giant rats or a lion? I remember one policeman who prayed when we were having the retreat in Boston a few years ago, 'Lord show me the way to lion country' Because if you are hunting on the outskirts of Ibadan, you would not shoot a lion. Show me the way to lion country.

The one who is to shoot a lion has to have a personal dissatisfaction for that which is easy. The person who is to shoot lions - when a man decides to multiply his partial fasts. He eats at midnight for the two meals tomorrow, waits till 6pm to have breakfast, 9pm to have lunch and 11:30 to have super and then waits till the next day, he had his three meals at night. We had a classmate who belonged to the other religion, that religion that fasts during the day. The fellow actually put on 2 kilos during the fasting period. He ate so much each night that he ended the fast with two kilos more.

Are you multiplying your partial fasts? Okay, you are multiplying your giant rats say, "I had sixty now they are ninety." Okay let's forget giant rats, maybe you are multiplying porcupines. There is a man in Limbe who has 800 porcupines; he has a whole farm of porcupines. So you can go there and buy porcupines. He was a former Minister of Communications. So he is communicating in porcupines. Listen brethren, the man or woman who is superficial goes for quantity and not for quality. Once upon a time, a certain person was running a press, he wanted to publish 250,000 books that year, so he took a book that was a few pages and produced 70,000 copies, took another book that was a few pages produced 80,000 copies and gave himself the impression that he accomplished his goal. His magazine is now filled with those thousands of books. He was fooling himself - Do you get what I am saying? Are you going for quality or you

are going for superficial quantity? You say, oh my disciples are 20 now, How many follow you? I now have 80 disciples. How many follow you? One light hearted person told a sister, “your frequency at prayer meetings this year makes your disciples hiss you.” What’s wrong with that statement? They are not her disciples. Because if they were, they would be at the place of prayer. If she spent a year at the place of prayer, her disciples should spend a year at the place of prayer. If they are not there, then they are not her disciples.

Someone talks about a certain preacher who was driving and found a man drunk in the gutter, he stopped his car and went there, the man said, “oh my pastor, I am very sorry to be in this embarrassing situation, you converted me three years ago.” The preacher carried him to the car and said, “Indeed I converted you, that’s why you are back to the gutter, if Jesus had converted you, you would have run a straight course.”

One young man asked another at the University of Fourah Bay, “Are you going for this girl because you love her or because you fear competition, because she is so available, nobody wants her, so you will have no competition?” It was very thought provoking. Do you want that which is won easily, cheaply? Do you want a girl who before you quake, she has quacked or you want a girl who will tell you go and wait for one year and then come back. It reminds me of something: I read in Readers Digest - A certain man wanted to marry a certain girl. The girl said no, no, but he kept on. When she decided in her heart that she would marry him, she told him, “if you’ll be kneeling by my bed at 5 a.m tomorrow morning and ask me to marry you, I will say yes”. The man was outside at 4 am, at quarter to 5 he was already on the floor kneeling. He did not want to miss her. We need a few such tough girls to give colour to the scene of cheap women running after cheaper men. I am just provoking the children, yet I mean it. The girls have become so cheap, they beg the boys, they propose, they fight for them. They don’t give a man the opportunity to sweat. Many even want to pay the bride price. Leadership must have quality.

If he can do a 40 - day fast, he should not do a 28 - day fast.

If he can do a 28 - day fast, he should not do 21 - day fast.

If he can do a 2 - day fast, let him not do a 14 - day fast.

If he can do a 14 - day fast, let him not do a 10 - day fast.

If he can do a 10 - day fast let him not do a 7 - day fast.

If he can do a 7 - day fast, let him not do a five - day fast.

If he can do a five day fast, let him not do a 3 - day fast.

If he can do 1 day complete fast, let him not do 3 - day partial fast.

By commitment to select that which is the more difficult way, the platform is laid for greatness. By choosing the harder way, the platform is laid for greatness. Along the more difficult way, character is built. God is more interested in character than He is in Charisma. Both words begins with, 'C'. Nevertheless, when there is character, one can have Charisma. Where there is solid character, God would add the Charisma.

The building blocks of God are character, Gifts come and go or when they come it lacks enduring use; Character guarantees a future - that the person's character

will continue even after he is not there. Who were the top figures on the 'Born-Again' scene of Nigeria 25 years ago? How did they end? If you are very careful, and examine most of them, they are extinct even though they are still alive. The others have died before their time.

There are two characteristics that you see when God removes people, it is either pre-mature death or a crash in ministry. Listen brethren, did Adam make it? No, Adam failed. Did Noah make it? No, he got drunk. Did Abraham make it? No, after Sarah died, since God had restored him totally, he married many women, he did not really finish strong. Towards the end he had to send those women away with their sons in order to create room for Isaac. Did Isaac make it? No, he died a meat lover and was prone to being deceived. He said, "the voice is that of Jacob, but the body is that of Esau." Instead of saying, "come and tell me, there is confusion." He said, "no, let me bless and eat my meat." Instead of calling people to investigate, his appetite for meat told him, "settle the matter quickly." Can you imagine that the Patriarch said; let me eat meat, then bless? This man had eaten meat all his life but in the end he attached the blessing to a pot of meat. You may think it is a light matter, but it tells you of a man with a life long history of worshipping his stomach. His God was not only meat it was well - cooked meat. Bush meat. And he was married to a sly woman who connived with the son to cheat him and he had a son called Jacob (Deceiver). Rebecca said, 'Jacob go and bring me those goats, I will make the food as your father loves.' And who can outclass a woman in cooking what the husband loves, she knows. Jacob said, "If my father catches me, I would be cursed," the mother said, "don't worry, the curse will be upon me." Jacob said "okay, if it's a curse, it would be on my mother, if it's a blessing, it would be on me" Jacob had nothing to lose.

Only Jacob died strong.. Jacob saw into the future when Manasseh would settle on the wrong side of Jordan, finding their inheritance on the wrong side of Jordan, refusing to go into the promised land of God. He said this first born would not really be first born. So with prophetic sight he laid hands on Ephraim who was the second - born, who was to cross and settle on the right side. And this Manasseh who was going to say, "We have found our inheritance on this side of the Jordan", he made the second. So of the three Patriarchs, he was the

one who finished strong. The others crawled through until they finished. Even Abraham the father of faith gave us Islam because of Hagar. That is why the battle with Islam is so fierce because it is the faithlessness of the man of faith.

Listen, I am talking to some of you, God called Abraham and told him to stay in the Promised Land, there was famine in the Promised Land and God was in the Promised Land and Abraham ought to have stayed in the Promised Land because God was there even though there was famine. But Abraham left the Promised Land, left God in the Promised Land and went to Egypt because there was apparent blessing in Egypt. I want to ask you, Is God's presence enough? Is God's presence enough? There was famine in the Promised Land and God was in the Promised Land, therefore the Promised Land was where Abraham was to stay because God was supposed to be his dwelling place.

Are you moved by outward circumstances? Are you moved by outward forces, are you moved by outward gains, are you moved by apparent success, are you moved by apparent success, are you moved by apparent numbers?

Famine? Yes: But God was in the Promised Land and had Abraham fixed his gaze on God and stayed in the Promised Land because God was there, in spite of the famine, God would have provided for him and there would have been no Islam today. I want you to see how one man can affect billions. Maybe you stand at the place where your decision would affect billions someday. What choices are you making, today? Does leadership go for that which is easy or that which is in the heart of God? Shallowness is choosing the easy way, choosing apparent success, apparent gain instead of the choice of God. Even the wealth Abraham brought from Egypt was taken by Lot. Lot chose the better part and what happened to it? It was all lost in Sodom. Finally what did Abraham get out of Egypt? Nothing in time, nothing in eternity. It was a total blunder.

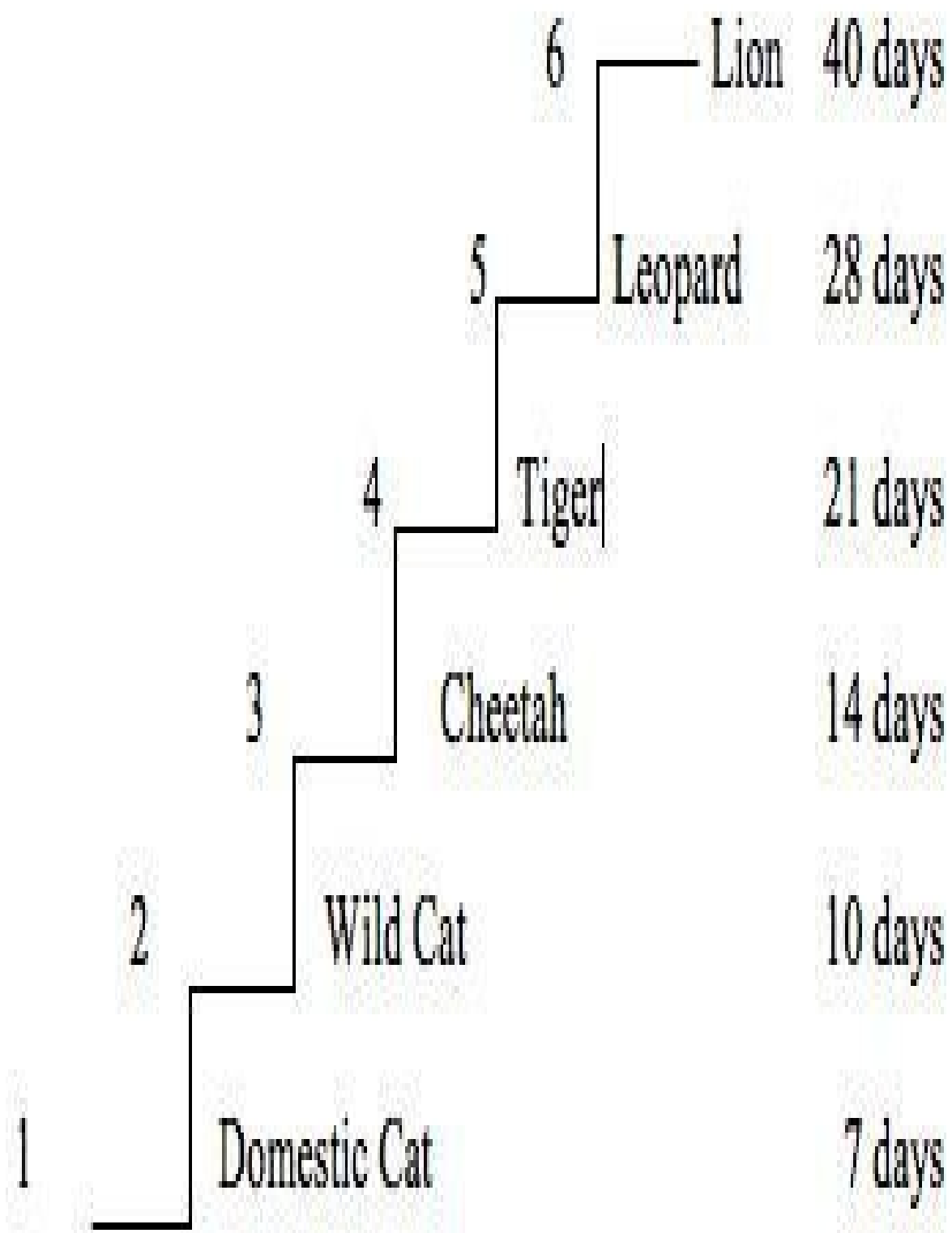
Is God enough?

Is God enough?

I want to ask you, Is God enough?

Is God's presence enough?

Let me say this to future leaders. When you make your goal, do you fill it with cheap things that you can accomplish very quickly and have a long list of giant rats or porcupines? Is there a Leopard there? Even in the cat family, the Cheetah, the Leopard and the Lion, all these are cats. The Leopard the Cheetah and the Lion are all in the cat family. Now which Cat do you go for, the domestic Cat that is tamed? Do you dare go for a cheetah, do you dare go for a Leopard, do you dare go for a Lion? There are prayers that are like domestic cats, there are prayers that are like wild cats, there are prayers that are at the level of Cheetahs, there are prayers that are at the level of Leopards and there are Lion prayers.



These are all levels of fasting. Yeah, you, Say, “I am a man of fasting.” Is it fasting at the domestic cat level, or is it fasting at the wild cat level, is it fasting at the Cheetah level, is it tiger fasting, is it Leopard fasting, is it Lion fasting? Permit me to use my Personal insanity just for the sake of being provocative, because that’s my talent. I want to suggest that the fast begins on the seventh day. Do you know why? Because when Moses went to seek God, it was on the seventh day that he was called into the presence of God. I also know that for the first seven days in the fast, is difficult to hear God’s voice because of the voice of your stomach asking for food. You know you have all kinds of funny feelings the first seven days. Sometimes it can be the first 3 days, sometimes the first four days or five days. You also know that most fast are broken between day one and five. If you manage to survive therefore it is difficult to break a fast after the seventh day unless there is something, after that the body gets into the fast and from there you can begin to hear God’s voice, because you have withdrawn from the drug called food. The withdrawal symptoms of the first six days can be very painful. Let’s level it like this because this is not from God, this is from Zach Fomum and it is for the argument of the present.

That is one phase. I want us to look at another phase. You can have a forty day fast that is domestic cat level, another forty-day fast that is wild cat level, another forty-day fast that is Cheetah level another forty-day fast that is tiger level, another forty-day fast that is Leopard and another forty-day fast that is Lion fast. What makes the difference? The holiness of the fasting person is what makes the difference. If somebody is living in sin and does a forty-day fast, it is a forty-day domestic cat fast. If somebody does a forty-day fast with a

Eternal Rank units

6,000,000

6

Lion

40 days

500,000

5

Leopard

40 days

4,000

4

Tiger

40 days

3,000

3

Cheetah

40 days

200

2

Wild Cat

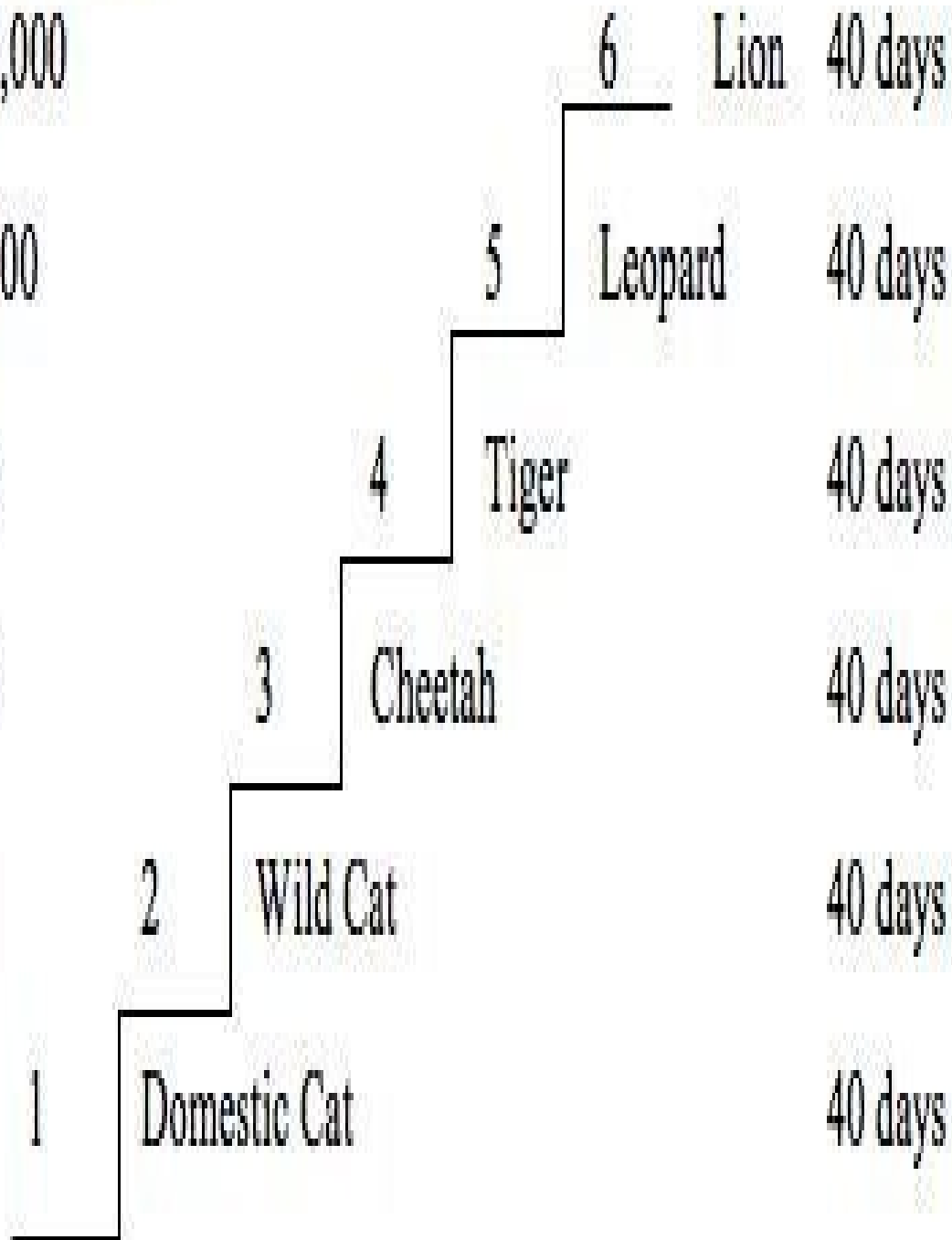
40 days

10

1

Domestic Cat

40 days



A bitter heart towards somebody, it is a forty day wild cat fast. If somebody does forty day fast while loving the world, while infatuated with the things of this world, it is of low value, isn't it? So, he can do the forty day fast; there can be a forty day lion fast by a man radically sanctified, full of the Holy Ghost and bleedingly consecrated and utterly humbly before God. A Lion fast is done by a man humble before God, pure of heart, full of the Holy Spirit, utterly consecrated and giving all the glory to Jesus alone. So we say they all did a forty day fast, but before God, some did a domestic cat forty-day fast, some wild cat forty - day fast, some Cheetah forty - day fast, some tiger forty - day fast, some Leopard forty - day fast and some Lion forty - day fast.

These are eternal rank units. So they come out of the same fast, someone has 6 million units while one has 10 units because he went into the fast with sin. The question is, who is going into the fast? It is the first time I am presenting the whole matter of fasting along this line. On the 1st, Prisca and I and Sister Esther are going to start a forty - day fast, pray for us. We want to initiate John and Mary into the forty - day fast. They've both done a 21 days fast. We want John to do a 40 day fast before he leaves the house and Mary wants to do a forty - day fast before she is over fourteen because she is fourteen. I know I will be the person struggling through, even crawling through, but after I have crawled through, the devil would suffer more for my fast, because of the history with God and the price paid with God that I take into the fast. These are things that cannot be gainsaid. That is why brethren, there is the critical need to build spiritual history with God. The critical need to build history with God.

Theodore, I miss you most at the prayer meetings in Yaoundé. Every prayer meeting reminds me of the fact that you are not there. And let me talk to the brethren, do you know why I miss Theodore? Because he prayed from start to finish in a prayer night. Every commander is looking for soldiers he can rely upon from the beginning to the end of the battle, isn't it so? Some are only aggressive in the first three hours, after that, they move to the back. Some even leave the place to go and sleep and often they oversleep. Who here often withdraws from prayer nights to go and sleep? Listen my dear brother, you are

courting disaster because the characteristic of warriors is that they are faint, but pursuing. They are faint but pursuing. They have decided that they would rather die on the battle front, they would not withdraw. The person who withdraws to sleep has a wrecked spiritual career. God cannot count on him.

Surely my captain may depend on me

Though but an armour bearer I maybe

Surely my captain may depend on me

Though but an armour bearer I maybe.

Surely my Captain may depend on me even though I am just an armour bearer.
When the armour bearer is not there, the captain is stranded.

Faint but pursuing, faint but pursuing, the overcomer, faint but pursuing, faint but pursuing, faint but pursuing. Listen, it's when all else are tired; when you jog, you are tired, you stand and somebody continues to go little by little, soon, you will not see him again. The person who keeps going when he is tired will soon be out of sight to the one who stands still. It is disaster to get out of the war when you are tired. The height at which great men reach and kept was not attained by sudden flight, but while their companions slept, they kept toiling upwards into the sky.

I want to tell you commanders, even if everybody withdraws to sleep, keep

fighting, even if there are only two people, keep going, don't stop because there are only two people there. Keep going. This year we prayed 96 hours, a siege of 96 hours, the total break was 2 hours. We are going to end the fast with a ten day siege, we are going to withdraw to where Emilia lives, a few of us will pray for ten days. We are going to pray for 200 hours and have 40 hours for rest in the ten days. We just want to lay some price before the Lord as a claim for new depth, for new breadth and for new heights in the work God has called us to do in the nations. You train the army, by increasing the endurance limit. I read something in a magazine about the training of freedom fighters. It says, the task before them would demand up to the last ounce of energy. If a freedom fighter has to pour out the last ounce of energy, what of the soldiers of the king, what of the army of the one who bled and died in order that the lost might be lost no more. Are you the one that rejoices the leader of the prayer meeting when you are there because you pray from start to finish? It is sometimes painful to look into a crowd of 200 people and there is not one person to depend on. They all pray at different times of the night but there is nobody who can be depended upon to pray for almost everything, every subject the whole night. Strangely enough, of all our children, at the moment, Paul is the person who would pray through the night. If I want to call somebody in the house to pray with me for the whole night, it is Paul I would call, just because he would pray from start to finish. One night, he prayed 38 times. But there were people there, heavy weights, who did not shoot. What is war all about? War is about burying bullets into the enemy, isn't it? Is that not what war is all about? War is about burying bullets into the enemy. To have a well loaded gun and not pull the trigger, even if it's a machine gun of 20, 30, 60 rounds is useless. So those at the prayer meetings who do not shoot and shoot and shoot and shoot are of no consequence before God. I've often thought that they are bribed. The devil tells them, "You have a weapon, if you draw the trigger, I am finished, please do me a favour, just be there, but don't pull the trigger". I wouldn't be able to understand on this side of heaven, first of all, why so few believers come to the place of prayer, often 10% of the church. The thing that shocks me the most is that of the 10% that come only 10% really pray. The percentages may vary but it's about the same thing. Many people go to prayer meetings not to pray. Are you not surprised? Can someone explain to me, I've thought about it and cannot understand. It's like Zach Forum comes here and refuses to teach. Can you understand that? If I say, "today, I don't feel like teaching," he should be shot. Would you understand if I come here and say I don't feel like teaching? Would you pardon me? If you pardon me, you should be shot for allowing a criminal go free. Similarly until you tell me, I don't understand how a person can come to the place of prayer and then refuse to pray

when prayer is the only thing the devil really fears. He spares the devil through the night. Even when a baby fires, the devil trembles, when a baby prays the devil trembles. Even the weakest bullet in prayer devastates the enemy's kingdom. So when you have somebody, even with a small gun who fires throughout, there is total confusion in hell. That's why sometimes one wants to take just the young believers and leave the old ones who have become too heavy. The other day I was saying to myself, one day I am going to call a prayer meeting of people only a year old in the Lord. We'll have a wonderful time because their small revolvers will sound all through.

When a soldier no longer enjoys burying his bullets into the enemy, he has retired from the army even though he is in uniform. And listen, when they say a soldier has retired from the army I don't understand. You may retire from the Nigerian Army but there is no retirement from the army of Jesus. You are raptured from the battle front, the trumpet blows and you are caught up in the air to be with Jesus. Could three people pray that all the saints who have allowed the enemy to pocket them so that they do not shoot and keep shooting at the place of prayer would repent. And that Ibadan Convention two of June 1999 would be your personal covenant to pray from start to finish ruthlessly, aggressively, totally in all the prayer meetings that you attend everywhere on planet earth.

Ibadan Convention two of June, 1999. Your covenant with the Lord, that wherever you are on planet earth and you are in the place of prayer, you would pray violently from the start of the prayer meeting to the end.

You know what I've written here brethren? I've written, non-violent praying is no praying at all. Non violent praying, just as non-violent preaching is no preaching at all. Non-violent teaching is no teaching at all. Non-violent loving is no loving at all. Non-violent embracing is no embracing at all. Non-violent handshake is no handshake at all. All that is not violent has no place in a soldier. Soldiers are born for violence. They are born in violence. They grow in violence, they fight in violence, they are raptured from the violence spot.

When John was in primary 1 or 2, he began to sing a dangerous song, I don't know where they learned it.

I am in the Lord's army 1, 2,

I may never fly over the enemy

I may never shoot in the artillery

I may never mount on the cavalry, But

I am in the Lord's army.

I had to intercede because this man was prophesying disaster. A soldier who would not fly over his enemy, who would not shoot in the artillery, what type of soldier is that. He used to sing it until one day I heard the wordings, I said hey, I banned the song and went into intercession because it's a spirit. There are spirits behind songs. And one day he said, "I would be at the bottom of the class, after all some people are at the bottom." By the grace of God, he is changed. In the mock he had the price for Chemistry and Biology. He should by the grace of God get good 'A' levels.

What I am saying is that parents should listen to what their children are saying and war through. Can you imagine a soldier who would never take a position over the enemy, who would never shoot, what type of soldier is that? But unfortunately there are many in the church like that their joy is that they went to

a prayer meeting not that they prayed. It cannot be tolerated.

When preparing for a prayer meeting, a leader should take the list of all who are going to be there, that is why a leader should have the list, and he should knock out all their non-warfare songs. There is a church, I think in Australia, they decided that they would withdraw all the warfare songs from the hymn book. They said the church should not be militant. They have withdrawn all warfare songs because the songs are too aggressive, God is a God of peace.

Is God at peace with the devil? Say, I will fight, I was born to fight and I was born to win and I was born to press on to victory. I don't want cheap victories, I will pay the supreme price.

You know today when people are playing the guitar, they look for a chair to put their small legs on, the son of Jesse put his leg on a bear and sang for God. He put his leg on a lion and played the guitar. That is might. If I were a girl, I would be looking for such a man. When we were in high school our faces were very smooth and childish, there was one girl who said, "Your faces look like those of girls, how can I marry such? I want a man who when he frowns, I see the frowns, I see the face and I tremble."

Is there something of a soldier in you or are you softer than your wife? The story is told in Yaoundé that thieves were knocking at the door, one man ran behind his wife and said, "Darling, Darling what shall we do?" That's the day a woman knows she made a mistake because she has to shelter somebody who is less than a woman.

Father I pray in the Name of Jesus Christ, that soldiers would arise and fight God's battles in prayer. O God, O God I pray that soldiers would arise and fight God's battles from when the prayer night begins to 5 a.m when it ends having

shot throughout the night, Lord. Father, raise a new kind of soldiers that would fight violently from start to finish, that would bury endless bullets into the devil, I pray that there will be those who pray 50 times each night, who fight in total violence, all striking at the target O God, O God, deliver us from soldiers who have sworn not to shoot. Deliver us from spies deliver us from weaklings, deliver us before the enemy arise O God, O God.

Today, I was asking God that everyone here would represent 10,000 people, 10,000 believers in a few years from today but do you have what it takes to lead 10,000 people? Are you prepared to train for it, are you prepared to sacrifice for it? Could somebody pray that the place of prayer would become the place of warfare and that there would be total refusal of that which is easy to come by.

What is underground is determinant. Recently when we were holding the course for provincial leaders and national missionaries, the Lord began to open my eyes to what happens before a person's conversion, the impact of the pre-conversion period. There are some people who gave their lives to the lord Jesus the first time they heard the gospel. What does that say? It talks of a good heart towards God. Why is there such a difference among believers?

In our work, we are in a stage of studying how to win large numbers for Christ. In one country, we sent a missionary couple late 1993, it's a big city of about 8 million people like Lagos. After the world convention in Lagos last year, we sent two other couples to the same city. They are separated by at least 30 Kilometres and we told each couple, function as an independent missionary couple of an independent work. One couple went in 1993, another in 1998, the third in 1998. The missionary director just returned from that country. I told him spend 3 days with the first couple, then spend 2 days with each of the other two couples because they are to function as independent missionaries Since 1993 December, in the same city, the adults and children in the first area are 100, in the second location from December 1998 to 1999 the adults and children are 125 and the third location has a total population of 150 adult and children from December 1998 to June, 1999. It is the same city so you cannot say the city is hard for one

person, the only difference is that one of the missionaries stopped his doctorate course to go to the mission field, we placed him nearest to the University. In six months they have overtaken the other people.

I asked our missionary director what the problem was. He told me the problem is the wife of the first missionary. The man is a good man married to a bad woman. This sister ex-communicated the president of the national work. The president of the national work is a native, a medical doctor who is the medical supervisor of a group of parastatals, a senior man, he had children, who are already mature, some of them abroad. He is not feeling quite well, so, the wife took power into her hands and ex-communicated the leader because he attended a political rally.

There was war in the country and the president wanted support, so he said the civil servants should come to reinforce because the rebels were coming in. This man went as a leader. Because the sister supported the rebels (when I talked with her, she said the rebels would take over, I told her the rebels would not take over because we decided the battle in Yaoundé); she ex-communicated the leader of the work. Now this man has facilities, cars, he has a big house, a big yard and the joint meetings are in his house. They told him that on Sundays when they meet, he should be upstairs to hear the word from a distance, but he is not to greet any believer.

When I heard about it I was very angry, I sent the missionary director there to go and install the man back in the church. He landed there when they were having a meeting and the man was in his room, when he brought the man down, the whole assembly clapped, just to tell you that the assembly was starving under the iron hand of a woman. You know there was one woman in the Bible who held the place with iron hands. But the result of it is that they are just a hundred, adults and children since 1993. The country is very open to the gospel, that's why in 6 months those other couples are where they are and have even registered their work with the authorities in their parts of the city. They who came first have no registration.

I am telling you about the human element in the divine work and the frightful nature of the impact of the individual. Who you are and what your impact is can be very far reaching. The human element in the work of God. I want to ask you, what difference would it have made if someone else were leading in your place? I know it's a troubling question but nobody can make progress without asking himself, if I were not the wife of this man, where would we be? Would he be far ahead of where he is now and would he be where he is now or would he be far behind? Where would he be if another woman were his wife? What would have happened to him if a more consecrated woman were his wife? Have you blocked the opportunity that another woman would have used to make him reach untold height? What have you done to that woman, has the best of her blossomed, has she under your leadership got to the greatest heights possible? Or with a more consecrated man the woman would have been a woman of the stars and because of you she is a woman of the mid air? What has been the impact of having you as a husband, have you trailed the pathway of total obedience along which she is following and entering into God's wealth? Or you have dragged your feet about obeying God in everything therefore she has not blossomed?

There was a time I said to myself, my wife would have been happier married to another man. A man less demanding, more understanding, less aggressive, less forceful, less exacting, easier to please would have made her happier. But recently I said to myself, she would not have made the spiritual progress she has made by being put constantly on trial, so I don't regret. Let's war here so that we will be promoted on that day. So leadership, for the sake of the eternal rank of the people, do not lower the standards. Husbands, for the sake of the eternal ranks of your wives, do not lower the standards. The vision you have seen, do not surrender it.

What I am going to share about roots is totally new to me. It's less than two months in my knowledge. The Bible says the seed that fell on good ground represent a good and honest heart, isn't it? In this version it says "a noble heart" Luck 8:15

But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

A good and noble heart!

Listen brethren, the heart condition before someone comes to the Lord Jesus Christ is important. It is true all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. But some have fallen short by one inch. Someone who is 5'5 ft is disqualified from the Nigerian Army because of 1 inch, 5 ft disqualified; and the pygmies are all disqualified. When someone has fallen short but is 5'5, he has fallen short by one inch isn't it so? Another person who is 3 ft has fallen short by 2 ft 6 ins, does it matter? As far as the 'fallen short' is concerned they have all fallen short but they have not fallen short equally. All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, but all have not fallen short equally. All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God but they have not sinned equally. Ten girls may be married, none who is a virgin, but one might have committed immorality once, another one has committed immorality a hundred times with a hundred men. They are all non-virgins but the degree of corruption is not the same. So not all sinners have sinned to the same degree.

All lost people do not know the same experience of practical corruption. All are corrupt but some are even more corrupt. So, the Lord began to show me that some people, when they hear the gospel the first time, they believe, it means there is no resistance in their hearts towards God. There are other people who hear the gospel, look at God, look at their sins and say, "no, gospel wait, let me go and finish my sins". So they were lost without light and now they are lost with light. They were lost when they've not heard the gospel, now the gospel has been presented to them and they have rejected it. They are now lost because they rejected the gospel. After they heard the gospel and they did not believe they sank to a lower condition, because nobody is the same after he has heard the gospel. Before people hear the gospel it is different but after they hear the gospel, people are divided.

Two people A and B were lost, they heard the gospel; A believes, B does not believe because of what the gospel might cost him. B is now in a more dangerous condition than he was before he heard the gospel. He is now more hardened. Later on he may hear the gospel and believe but his spiritual history would be different. There is a root in him that is negative, that root of first saying no to the Lord. There are people who don't believe the second time, they keep sinking, keep sinking no, no, until God has to corner them, so the man comes to the Lord, more shattered, more battered and more broken.

A sister in Cameroon was telling me this story; she came once when we preached the gospel and was convicted, when she got home, she told the man she was living with to go away because the man was living in her house. The man refused, so the man convinced her and they continued to sin. Three months afterwards she came to the meeting and believed but she had already been pregnant and committed an abortion. Between the interval when she first heard the gospel and the second time when she came, she had been pregnant and committed an abortion which would not have taken place if she had given her life to the Lord that first time.

It is folly to think that the conditions are the same. There is now a depth of inward corruption, there is now inward rot, there is now inward decay, there is now this murder on her conscience and in her roots which would not have been there if she believed that first time she heard. As we were dealing with this, one brother said, the first day I preached the gospel in once city, he heard the gospel, his wife was sitting by his side. I said, "stand up and confess your sins aloud," he was newly married and feared that if he confessed his sins aloud his wife would hear his horrible past and may leave him. So he decided to murmur his sins. He told us, "It has been twenty years of my fearing my wife and it has wrecked our home because when she was wrong I Would not tell her. The first time I denied Christ for fear of losing her and I have feared her since then." After twenty something years in the Lord, his wife governs him, commands him, does to him what is even beyond imagination. He said, "when I was entering the kingdom I entered as it were through the back door for fear of my wife so I didn't confess

my sins.”

The condition of a man's heart before he comes to the Lord is a serious matter. Some people when they believed, they were asked to stop certain things but they refused and so the seed was choked. The heart was hardened right from the beginning. So the human heart bears something of the attitude to the gospel the first time it was heard, of the attitude to Christ at the time of coming to Him, of the attitude to Christ in the first steps of obedience.

You can group people into those who heard the gospel for the first time and just believed, those who heard the gospel and resisted a bit before believing, those who heard the gospel and resisted much before believing and all these have an impact upon the heart condition of the man, upon the heart condition of the woman. I told you about that which the Holy Spirit creates spontaneously, I mentioned the fact that when I saw Brother Tim our hearts just bonded. It was as if we had known ourselves for years. We just knelt down and prayed, something of God happened. It was not the fruit of human reasoning or negotiation. So when a man meets God and the immediate response is yielding, the relationship is different from the one who says, “This Jesus, I enjoy this sin, let me go and finish before repenting. Jesus, following you is a bad story, let me go and first of all have my last enjoyment in the devil, since you offer no enjoyment”. There are people who have told me, “we would come, we would believe” and they have said this for twenty years. One man came to my office to beg for money. I first preached to him twenty four years ago. He always comes around when he is bankrupt but he has resisted the gospel for twenty-four years. But I also made up my mind that each time he comes, I will give him money so that the ball may be permanently in his court.

What did you do the first time you heard the gospel, did you embrace the Saviour or because of your love of sin you postponed it? Was there a good and noble heart towards Him the first time you heard the gospel? For how long did you keep Him waiting after you have heard the knock, or you came to the Lord one year afterwards and just continued as if all was right with one year of

hardening of your heart, with one year of rot, with one year of disobedience, one year of worshipping the devil, one year of saying “Satan, you are better than Jesus”. Brethren, was there one year of delaying, one year of giving yourself to illegal passion, one year of forbidden independence.

Did you give the devil one more year to carry out advance destruction in your being? So that there is some incapacity towards God, which were inflicted by the enemy between that time that you heard the gospel and the time that you believed. So that when you look inside you, there are some things which ought to be there. Because as you linger in the enemy’s camp, he clipped your wings and quenched your hunger for God so that when you came, that initial flame was not quite a flame any more.

I am sharing what I received recently from the Lord. The reason why some people don’t go as far as they ought to go is that the light of the Lord came to them, but they rejected it for some time and gave the devil the opportunity to do his master works. So they bear scars in their bodies, scars in their hearts, diseases in their bodies, hardening in their hearts. Because they doubted God’s love, they have come into the Christian life but there is a tendency to doubt God. Because from the beginning they listened to the devil and doubted God, even now they have a tendency to be seduced by the devil. Because they gave the devil one day, one month, one year or ten years more, they gave him opportunity to impose the havoc that could not have been there.

Brethren, I did not know until last month that this hinders the Christian life very much. In that meeting as people began to share because they were more open than the people here; one brother told me in another circumstance, he was at the university, religious but living in immorality. On a weekend, his “girl enemy” came and they committed fornication, he left her in the room and went to church- the normal religious service, only that that day, I was the preacher. By the time that message finished, he knew it was finished, he came under the mango tree where people received the Lord. Some of you know Djoungolo; he walked from Djoungolo to the university campus. His problem was the girl in his

room. The wages of sin! But he made up his mind that he would get there and send her out. When he got there, she came to welcome him. She was less of a hypocrite, she knew you cannot do such a thing and go to church. But he was more of a hypocrite, to him you could do such a thing and go to church. He didn't know what he would meet in church. She came out to greet him, he said, "look, I am born-again, no more". In those early days people knew what it was to be born-again. It was radical, it was total. She got angry but he insisted, "you are going, pack." He was very hostile so she packed. The devil entered his heart, when the girl was about to leave, he kissed her breast and from that moment, the spirit of immorality entered his heart. He never went to bed with a woman, but for close to twenty years he wrestled with immorality in the mind and was only delivered two years ago. It was a fatal kiss. He struggled with immorality in his heart for nineteen years because he turned back to his vomit on the day of his new birth. He delivered himself two years ago of demons of immorality after he dealt radically with the sin book - Pray that the saints would understand.

If it is that frustrated people come to Christ, then there are many more people who should believe. It is not believers who are frustrated, it is the world. We have a solution, they have none and even if a bullet gets to the believers, having hit the wall, the force of it is already broken, they have the full force of the frustration. Let us tell them that they are lying and say it aloud. In Cameroon, unbelievers say you "touch» the salary, they won't say you earn it. Because they just take it and give to those you borrowed from. In our department, one day while they were asking whether money was already in the bank, I said "why are you worried about this salary? I am still spending the money of two months ago". They all disappeared into their holes. We are not frustrated, we have a solution to the world's frustration.

I invited the Lord Jesus Christ into my heart in 1956. I was studying under the plum tree in the yard and my father had given me a tract "someone died for you." The tract told me about the substitutionary death of Jesus Christ and that if I received the Lord Jesus Christ my sins would be forgiven and I would go to heaven. So standing there, I received the Lord Jesus Christ and I was full of joy. Then the man wrote in the track that if you had received the Lord Jesus, you should go and tell your best friend. My best friend was in the next village, a boy

called Rueben. So I just ran to his village like a madman, entered their house and shouted, “someone died for you, someone died for you.” He thought I said a relative of his was dead, he got totally confused but before he asked further questions, I was gone, I had fulfilled my assignment. That was 1956, I was ten years as a believer without knowing repentance because the man told me to receive Jesus Christ, he didn’t tell me about sin. He told me that Jesus died for me. So it was in 1966 that God opened my eyes to the need of dealing with sin, repentance towards God and faith in the Lordship of Christ. That is why I said in 1966 I received Jesus Christ as my Lord.

It tells us what watchman Nee says, “What matters is the type of minister sent and the type of converts produce. Now you see different qualities of ministry in the nation, different types of attitude to sin, different attitudes to the world, different attitudes to the love of the world. It is a reflection of what type of worker is sent and what type of convert is produced. Now what type of worker are you and what type of converts would you produce? Brethren that is a serious matter. What type converts are you, can you lead somebody to separate himself from what you never separated yourself from? Can a carnal believer produce a deep convert, can a superficial man produce a deep work? Can a sin loving believer produce a holy people? What matters is the type of worker sent and the type of converts produced. If you lead to the Lord, would you be doing the Kingdom of God good, would it be quality?

I have handled the sin-book three times because as you walk in the light of the Lord, that light shines not only on the present but it shines also on the past, requiring deeper and deeper restitution. Have you ever asked yourself if you dress to attract men? Do you dress to cover your nakedness or you dress so that men may see you and you walk to draw attention? Have you asked God, “let your light shine on my motive for dressing,” Is it to excite men? One girl said, “I dress so that they may see what they would not have.” Then I told her, “You are a prostitute,” when all these things are deep down, rotten under, the tree cannot be deep. The person is shallow and all superficial repentances cannot do anything until you dig deep, remove all the rot, pull it all out and manure the hole with the word and then new roots would grow. There are no short cuts to depth. The person who is deceived in part is deceived in whole. You can dress well to

honour somebody. But to dress to honour somebody and to dress to seduce are two different things. The Lord weighs the heart but the motives cannot be hidden.

Not memorizing the word talks of a low ministry of the word and it should end. Because the Bible says, “Thy word have I hidden in my heart that I may not sin against Thee.” What do you have in your heart? I will like three people to pray that the church in Nigeria will have a commitment to the word. Part of that commitment is storing it in the head. It is critically important because it is part of the laziness of our generation. If you are praying, then you are saying in December, you will recite a chapter or two.

About six or four believes were locked up in a cell, of course their Bibles were taken, then they took the pen and paper to write their own Bible. The youngest of them was ten years in the Lord. They finally wrote 24 verses correctly. Their total bible, all the six or four of them could write, the youngest being ten years in the Lord was 24 verses. “Thy word have I hidden in my heart so that I may not sin against Thee. » It is a lazy spirit. I want to tell those of you who are younger, you have the opportunity of your life. It was in the 3 years that I did my Ph.D. that I read the bible 15 times. If I did not do it then, I would be very far back. In New Delhi, I was talking to a grandmother of 76 who had read the bible 276 times. She fell and broke her hip. As I was reading, she said, that is Ephesians 3, go to 4, I started reading 4, she told me the verse and said leave that one. This woman of 76 was controlling me verse by verse through the Bible she had read 276 times. Her husband had died ten years earlier having read the Bible 275 times. They are the grandparents of Isaac Shawl who is the director of Delhi Bible Institute- a very dear brother in the Lord.

It is lamentable that many of you do not read the Bible, you do not read the books. You read nothing. You don't even read your textbooks. Let me provoke some of you who want to get a third class or ordinary pass and put them on the wall for Jesus. Is Jesus an ordinary pass or a third class Jesus? Maybe you think that when we start the University, you will bring your third class and say, “My

father is an elder in the ministry”, as if that is a qualification to support your third class so that you are admitted for a postgraduate course NO! We shall not think of your father being a regional director or a miracle worker, we shall just look at your academic performance. A poor attitude to the word does not tell me that the same people can be rigorous towards their academics.

Now we read about the mighty men of David. You are going to be mighty for Jesus in what? In what do you plan to build monuments? If we are to have CMFI hall of fame, your name would feature there for what? I can't understand how somebody can be living without the desire to make history for God and for himself, with all the provocations in the scriptures for crowns, for rewards. You plan to be first in what?

Somebody who taught us in Secondary school went to the University of Ife, Nigeria, from Cameroon, a Cameroonian. He became a draughts champion. He was doing a B.Sc. in Economies. Somehow, it was discovered that he was a champion in eating large quantities of food, so they called him double champion.

You are going to be a champion in what? You are straining to be ahead of others in what? Because it does not happen by accident. Or are you people without ambitions?

Bible reading should precipitate a crisis, something deep and settled. In the last nine bible readings, something had happened in my walk with God with each reading. I can show you from my bible different transactions with God on key issues. It has not been reading to cover the Bible, it has been reading for transactions with God. May God help you to read for transactions with Him. A leader is normally ahead in a series of things, he is not ahead in everything but he is ahead in a wide range of issues. Even in that in which he is not ahead, he must know enough to command and supervise. His enemies, if they are honest, must acknowledge his superiority.

When I was in Uganda the other day, a young man of around 45, his wife is a medical doctor, drove us throughout the time I was there. As we were riding he said, "I have two things to present to you, the first is that, I went to one market and saw one woman there who approached me and I found out that I knew her. The second time I went there she told me that she wanted to see me, so the third time I met her, she told me that before we parted in 1977 she was pregnant and she gave birth to a boy, who was twenty years plus. He remembered he had gone out with the woman for four months but could not remember her name again. You see how lightly men take women. He used a woman for three to four months, even left her pregnant but could not even remember her name. When he met the boy he was a carbon copy of himself and had a Muslim name because the boy was a Muslim. He didn't even know the woman was a Muslim. But he is a dear man who has made a lot of progress. He also told me, "two days ago, I told my Pastor I was quitting his church and last night I discussed with my family because my church is going nowhere and Michael Nyisomeh is the best teacher in town. Then there is the impact of your books, from now on I become part of CMFI. I am at your service to command". So we have a colossal man joining the Ugandan work. Many people will come along with him. He is one of the key leaders around town and the son of an Anglican Bishop. So those were the two issues, he asked that I pray for him because he had told the woman that he could not bring a Muslim to his family.

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**1 "Garri" (cassava flour) and "okra" is a comparatively cheap
Cameroonian local dish.**

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Spiritual Dryness

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There should be a distinction between shallowness and spiritual dryness? In medicine, when you make a wrong diagnosis, and follow it for treatment, it is a disaster. Sin causes death, “the soul that sinneth, it shall die”. Sin brings the wrath of and the judgement of God. Undernourishment brings spiritual dryness. Spiritual dryness is caused by undernourishment. Only what was done by Christ will last. I pray that the Holy Spirit would tell you that you are dispensable to the world. If in approaching the world you think you are indispensable, then you are the most deceived person. Your very worth is in the Lord. In the world, you are just being used. Say, “in the world I am dispensable, my place can be taken over by another, today while I am there, I thank the Lord for the privilege of serving”. That’s all there is to it. “Even in the church I am dispensable, even in the work I am dispensable. Paul was dispensable, I am dispensable, I have the privilege to serve, I will hold back nothing, I will put in everything”. We are privileged to serve, nothing more. Do you beg to serve or you want to be begged to serve?

There are various levels of dryness. It is in the Lord’s purpose that we serve from overflow. The overflow is what we give to others. Immediately there is no overflow, we keep back what is there for ourselves. But some sick people start using up the reserve that should be kept for themselves when there is no overflow. When it stops to overflow, you stop to give, you stop to accept additional responsibilities, you no longer give to others. You keep the little that is left so that the devil does not give you a technical knock-out. But if you pretend to be a Superman and you begin to dig the bottom of the well to give, you get dry. From the time the overflow stops, any drop creates dryness and there are various levels of dryness. The drier some people are, the more activity they carry out until they get empty. When they continue in spite of the fact that they are empty, they start throwing mud on people like a well that is empty. If

the dry person is among buoyant brethren, they may cover him but if he is in a lonely spot the devil comes to smash him. God allows it because he is already poisoning the people.

A fast is a time of extreme pouring out, particularly a forty day fast. It is a fight of full range confrontation with the devil. Normally, man finishes the fast exhausted, weary and weighed down by the battle in the unseen. If he plans another battle immediately after that, he will be knocked out. It is not in the strategy of God to go from battle to battle. You go from battle to rest, nourishment and preparation before you go to the next battle. After the fast, the person should walk before God on his knees because the enemy would revenge and he loves to meet proud people.

A person in need cannot give because what will he give? If a leader does not know when to run away from the people because the overflow has stopped, he will poison the people. Some people are dry and they don't know it. If you are ministering at the same level at which you ministered last year but you are feeding a little less, you are dry. If more is going out than you are taking in, you are dry. It is even more dangerous if you are ministering to more people and your intake decreases. You are then drawing from the reserves of the previous years and if you are attacked, you will crumble.

When the assembly drops in number, the first reason is that the leader has dropped in his power to feed the people. These facts cannot be negotiated, the size of the assembly carried is often related to the overflow of the shepherd. If some who provide contributing loaves are available, then the assembly can grow because of added resources. But if additional people come in and start reducing the ration of those originally there, finally the whole assembly would be dry. If the principal shepherd has eighty people that he carries, there is another who carries forty, and there is another who carries thirty, then they can minister to one hundred and fifty. But if they send the one who carries forty to the mission field and nothing is done, then they may lose forty members or the assembly should decline in riches proportional to what he has left. If you do not see such

dynamics as a leader, you are deceived. If A and B are feeding C and then Mr. D whose presence brings a minus of thirty comes in, then the assembly begins to crumble. If Mr. D. takes thirty away and his wife takes fifteen - a couple can join the assembly and then the assembly begins to crumble - the assembly suffers. There are additions that are massive liabilities.

Inexperienced people just count numbers, not asking what the addition would do to the assembly. Sometimes such people come and the whole assembly suffers. They suck from the assembly go and throw it away and come back for more. Then people start wondering if there is sin in the assembly. Immature people see everything in terms of sin. The easiest problem to handle is the problem of sin because the person just needs to repent sincerely and everything is settled. But the problem of dryness can have devastating impact on the church for a long time.

Not only can a person be empty, he may have poison. He may come there and poison the people, he may come there and poison the people, he may come and slowly turn the people from the leader. A person may come in and bring forty units of blessing but take away forty-five units of blessing by his presence so that immediately he comes in, you find the work very heavy on you, the spirit of liberty in the assembly disappears. If a person has lost God for five years and then comes in, his bankruptcy level is devastating. It is like a very dry sponge, when it comes in it would soak so much water that there will be very little left for others.

We have said that when the overflow ceases, ministry should stop. That is what many brethren do not practice. They are no longer overflowing but they multiply meetings and preach and then deceive themselves that it is in season and out of season. Is it ministering death in season and out of season? When a shepherd has no overflow, then he must leave his flock to another and go and seek God. That is why I was saying from the beginning that we are dispensable. You should know that you are dispensable. Therefore going away to seek God in order to nourish yourself will not cause a tragedy, even if you have to go away for two

weeks the church will go on. The people are also happy when you are not there because when the cat goes out the rat governs. If you love the flock, immediately the overflow ceases, leave them, go and seek God, then come back to them in the freshness you have just acquired from God. If you spend the whole night and could not get a sermon, tell the people, “brethren I am empty, I have no sermon, please spare me from killing you and killing myself. Has someone a testimony?” It may lead to greater blessing than you twisting some message. It would kill. The law of ministry is truth and where truth is ignored, death comes in. Who has said there should be a sermon at every meeting anyway? People can pray and sing and go out rejoicing.

The problem with some people is that dryness started three or four years ago. They ought to stop ministering for one year. Such people have a little and they throw it out in the name of ministry and soon their problem becomes malignant. They have malignant dryness. A man who has malignant dryness is a caricature of his past self. It is a spiritual phenomenon, if there is no overflow, it would not work. That is why even to serve tables, you have to be full of the Holy Spirit. A man has to testify. We have to ask, what has this person been through, where is he? If somebody has just been restored from backsliding and you give him heavy work, he will be in trouble. He needs to build up. He should sit and be nourished. If not, there is activism without life.

One frightful thing about marriage is that, if the wife is overflowing but the husband is a ‘dry bone’ both of them are in difficulty. So when your wife backslides, you are in deep trouble, after ten minutes of praying with her, your spirit is dry, but when she is fresh and overflowing, when you touch her, you touch depth. It comes through easily. If your wife backslides it is not her business alone, you are implicated. The two shall become one. So when a man does not watch over his wife and command her to go on retreats, she will sink the boat.

When the marriage is sick, that is two people who are dry. When a marriage doesn’t work, it is always an indication that both of them are dry. Dry people

don't replenish each other, one quarrel, two quarrels, then they are empty. If they come into the church, immediately they enter, the church suffers loss. A sick marriage is the greatest burden that a Pastor can carry. That's why if you have many such marriages within the church, the church cannot advance.

A sick couple causes far greater harm than three single people who are sick and they are very difficult to treat. It is worst when they have agreed to pretend. I am not calling for perfection in marriages but when there are no sparks any more then it is broken. How do you know it is broken? They don't pray together, they cannot come before God together. The diagnostic mark of a broken marriage is that the couple does not pray together. One person may pray a lot but the other is so sick that if you pray with him you may collapse so to guard yourself from collapsing you keep off. You know you pray with some and the prayer lifts you up whereas some draw so much out of you. You pray with some people and you feel like praying some more while you pray with others and you feel so drained. That's why the husband has to watch over his wife. Watchman Nee says, "workout your marriage with fear and trembling." When a person has dynamic encounters and doesn't meet God any more, he carries out all those analysis of scriptures he may have thirty in June but he is dry because he is not drawing from God. I want to suggest very strongly that when there is a marriage that is not working, it is because one or both of them are spiritually dry.

One thing is that when one is spiritually dry, he loses appetite for God, for spiritual things. Dryness is different from thirst. Spiritual thirst is a wonderful condition. A spiritually dry person does not even want God. He has lost it. Prayer bores him, the Bible bores him, Christian literature bores him. He rather likes people of the world. Consecrated brethren become a big problem to him. When dryness has become malignant, those who love the Lord become problems because they cause the person to immediately see himself. He begins to build again some relationships he had earlier broken. He begins to envy people of the world. The very thing that he renounced becomes sweet. The dry person does not thirst for God, does not hunger after God, does not gasp for the Lord. The dry person does not spontaneously witness, his lips are heavy. The dry person has an unusual capacity to want to buy more and more. So you may find your helper fighting against your consecration.

The dry team up. There is an association of dry people and the leader is their target. Such people like singing but they hate messages. Dry people become very active on the surface, very light hearted and very mobile. They just touch everybody but touch nobody. They are everywhere but nowhere. In that condition, they create many projects for making money. They are back to loving money with all their hearts but deceive themselves that it's for the Kingdom. When money enters their pockets, they forget God. But often, dry people don't earn much money, their projects get grounded, God is not there to fuel the projects.

One mark of a dry husband is that he becomes very dictatorial, he gets angry very fast he will like his wife to walk on her knees before him. He will not touch the child, the wife has to do everything. He puts on the air of a supreme boss. The love of good food is one characteristic of dry people. They quarrel with their wives over food. When appetite for other things becomes very keen, they want sex, they want pleasure. The Bible becomes a dull book. They insist on their rights. Submission is like death.

HOW TO GET OUT OF SPIRITUAL DRYNESS.

The way out is shock treatment. Anyone who takes a normal regiment and hopes to get out of dryness is joking because the little he gets would be given out. He should be considered as somebody with spiritual leprosy and should be excluded for emergency treatment. There should be shock treatment. The first shock treatment should be bible reading. Depending on the depth of the problem, the person should go away first of all for ten days to read the whole Bible through. He should come back, touch people a bit and go back for ten days of prayer retreat. He prays even if he doesn't feel like it. He prays against his feelings. Prays against his reasoning. One thing that helps is for him to pray in tongues for four hours the first day, increase it to five hours the second day, six hours the third day until he prays in tongues for fifteen hours. Praying in tongues is a good

way to break through. He prays until it is as if he would die if he prays further, but he would not die.

In shock treatment, you forget about feelings. If you are the spiritual authority ministering the shock treatment, know that you are dealing with a desperate case, any poor treatment would produce a malignant condition. If he prays in tongues for one week or ten days, then put him on the longest fast of his life, as he is hungry during the fast he would trace the way he has never walked. Along these channels the person may touch God and begin to draw from God.

When he recovers, he must be given a time to stabilize without any heavy weight being put on him. Bible study alone would not bring you back to God, prayer alone would not bring you back to God, fasting alone would no bring you back to God. You need a combination of drugs, because people might want to choose the easiest thing that they can do. And I want to tell you about this praying in tongues, sometimes it is better than bitterness, it is so distasteful all your being react against it, that is when you must continue. For the person who is prepared to follow the prescription, he will not only be restored, he will break new grounds and continue with God in victory. So the wise person knows when he has a little overflow left, he runs away from people to go and replenish.

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Introduction to Sanctification

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Now a person may not be dry, he is cut off from God, that is what sin does. It looks as if it is dryness but it is godlessness. It is death. When all the sins a person committed before he was converted are not dealt with radically from the roots, they are not dug to the roots, then repented of radically, they are just trimmed at the branches and new ones are allowed to grow, you produce a convert that is blocked. Can you build a solid foundation on your past that has not been dealt with? Is something not deficient with your foundation in Christ? You refuse to dig deep, you do not repent to God for the things you knew were sins even as an unbeliever, which you still went ahead to do. Many people just say, "I was an unbeliever, therefore I did this." Who told you it was because you were an unbeliever? Where does it say an unbeliever should commit fornication, is fornication allowed for unbelievers? Is abortion allowed for unbelievers, is adultery allowed for unbelievers? So people should not just say, "In the world I committed fornication" and treat it lightly as if in the world this is the norm, it is not the norm. It is an abomination even in the world. If your child has not yet believed and she says, "I slept with a man there." Will you be happy and say since you have not believed that's alright, will you say that?

So, you are already rotting and decaying for violating the law of God on grounds that even lost people are not allowed to violate. Even in the world, it is not cloth that testifies to a girl's virginity, the girl took the prize and the husband was to pay extra bride price. So it was of value, and this was among pagans. If pagans value virginity, where is the ground for sleeping around in the name of being in the world? What does the world mean. Some people are making as if being in the world is a licence to allow the corruption of their hearts to come to fullest manifestation, God forbid.

When Peter denied the Lord, he wept bitterly. Where are your tears, where are your bitter tears over the calamities that you committed before you came to the Lord Jesus Christ? Did you weep? Have you seen your sin in the light of Gods law that was violated, even against the light that you knew then? Because you were violating light that you knew then, light that you received then.

Some of us grew in Christians homes so there is no justification for any sin whatsoever. Even before we believed, we knew all of it in our heads. The son or daughter of a sorcerer might have said he did not know. But to you who came out of a Christian home, any kiss in the dark is evil beyond telling, any letter to three boys: “I love you more than oxygen”, “I love more than carbon monoxide”, “I love you more than carbon dioxide”, is not allowed. In fact, the Bible says that the children of believers are sanctified, it is not the sanctification that comes from holiness but they are placed in a position of special privilege because of their parents. To carry that special privilege and go and commit evil is tragic beyond telling. The Bible says that if the daughter of a priest commits any immorality, she has to be stoned. This is a frightful responsibility for the child of a believer who commits sin. The harm that is done is deep beyond telling.

Therefore, for someone who grew up in a Christian setting and knew the requirements of God, the sins committed even before he believed have the same consequences as the ones a man commits after he believes. Just to say, “Well, it was unbelief” is terrible. As I travel round the world, I find that the church does not know how to repent. What is often lacking is godly sorrows. Ask God to show you what heaven thinks about it. In dealing with sin, it is important to tell God, God show me how this sin appears before you. Until we see sin through the eyes of God, we have not really seen it, ‘Show me how this sin appears before you.’ He would give you a revelation of Gods perspective of your sin.

Paul says in 1 Tim. 1: 12-15.

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“I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that He considered me faithful, appointing me to His service. Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief, I was shown mercy-because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. He did not know and then go ahead to disobey, but many of us knew but went ahead to disobey. The grace of our Lord was poured on me abundantly, because I acted in ignorance and unbelief along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance, Christ Jesus came to save sinners of whom I am the worst.”

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He acted in ignorance and unbelief but he described himself as the worst of all sinners. He did not say, ‘well, I did not know.’ Even though he acted in ignorance and unbelief he described himself as the worst of sinners. If the person who acted in ignorance and unbelief is the worst of sinners, the others are what? Then those who acted knowingly are worst than the worst. I want you to see brethren that most of us are worst than the worst. Look at Num. 15:30-31.

“But anyone who sins defiantly, whether native-born or alien, blasphemes the Lord and that person must be cut off from his people because he has despised the Lord’s word and broken his commands, that person must surely be cut off his guilt remains on him.”

Brethren, you see, this matter of saying, “I would sin and then repent”, is not there. To knowingly sin is to blaspheme the Lord. That is why it is said that all sins shall be forgiven except blasphemy. It is not provided in Holy Scriptures for that thinking which says: “ well, I can commit this sin and ask the Lord for forgiveness afterwards.” Anyone who sins like that has a questionable conversion. When a person says, “I can sin and then ask God to forgive me,” it points to the fact that he may not be converted. If your son says, I will put a knife into your heart and afterwards seek your pardon,” is that a true son, what are the chances that that child can find his way back to the father’s heart?

When you study the whole tenure of Holy Scripture, the total language of scripture tells you that, when the sin of a believer is talked about, it is sin that is committed unknowingly and not that someone knows that this is sin, commits it and says that God will forgive. A person is not quite the same after he has knowingly sinned. There may be damages that may not be repaired. If I say, "Papa, I love you, I will pierce your heart and ask you to forgive me because it is your duty to forgive," when such a son comes to your presence what do you do? You instinctively raise barriers. What have you done to the Saviour? Has it ever occurred to you that to sin knowingly is blasphemy? So the roots under the ground are rotten because of the past that was not dealt with.

The sins a man commits before he hears the gospel destroys him at 10% but those committed after the gospel was heard would destroy him at 100%. The sins committed after a person has believed damage him 1000 fold because it is bringing Him up to public shame.

"It is impossible for those who had once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit, who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the coming age, if they fall away, to be brought back to repentance, because to their loss, they are crucifying the son of God all over again and subjecting him to public disgrace".

Have you noticed in your walk with God that after you committed some sin, things were no longer the same again? Have you noticed that there were some sins that you knowingly committed after which you become a different person? Something that was between you and God is no longer there, it is as if after that there was a permanent distance between you and the one who is your Saviour. He is still your Saviour, but it's not the same. Have you realised that you committed some sin and things got broken and it's as if after that sin, you no longer know how to plug into God, you are like a plane that no longer knows how to land? After you committed that sin, a certain coldness, a certain distance, a certain numbness settled between you and God. Do you know what I am

saying from experience? You read the Bible, but the Book is no longer the same, you keep reading all the same. You know between husband and wife, at some point the relationship can be broken, that even the embrace says, “something is lacking, it’s empty,” the joy in intimacy is not there. They go through the same acts, through the same motions, but there is a distance.

If your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off, if your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. What is He demanding? Radical solutions to sin. It is better for you to enter heaven with one eye than with two to perish. Somehow, we don’t believe Him. The Lord demands radical solution to sin. Are you applying radical solution to the sin in your life, what have you cut off? There was a brother working in a place in the U.S. with a very attractive woman. He was married and the woman was married. He felt attracted towards her and she was attracted towards him, he resigned his appointment and left the job. It was a very well paying job, he was capable, he had no problem with the bosses, but there was that woman that attracted him, he left the job. He didn’t say let us stay here and pray. He did not draw near her and then say, O God help us.

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Matt. 5: 29

“If your right eye causes you to sin, gauge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.”

■

We read this and we think it is there to beautify the pages of the bible. A sister told me this story: she was married and working, the sister was attractive but her husband was not. Where she worked her boss was very handsome. One day the man just caught her and kissed her and she allowed it. She went home that day, confessed to her husband and resigned from the job. Your whole body can go to

hell; you can land in the Lake of fire.

If you were to deny the Lord, what would cause you to deny Him? Have you asked yourself the question? Is it fortune, female or male, is it fame or is it gold, is it girls or is it glories? Of these three:

Fortune

Female / male

Fame

If you are to land in hell, which is likely to take you there? Have you passed the question and had an honest evaluation or are you joking with the fire that would soon have you charred? If you don't evaluate and say, if I am going to hell, this is what will take me there, you are a fool. There was an Indian castle where thieves managed to break in and stole a lot of valuables and destroyed the castle. When the castle was rebuilt, a seven-fold wall was put where the thieves broke through to ensure that penetration would never be possible again. Have you put a seven-fold barrier where your cardinal weakness is or you pretend to be Mr. Strong?

One brother had a disciple and found out she was interested in him as a man, she was attractive, he immediately transferred her to his wife to disciple. He found that this disciple did not like him as a brother in Jesus Christ, but as a full fledged homo-sapiens and on his own part, her appearance did not leave him indifferent, he sent her immediately to be discipled by his wife, so that he may not have counselling sessions with fire. But some fool would say, "Oh I can have counselling sessions with fire, the Lord would protect me". Soon they only have the leftover of charred bodies. Is it money that tempts you or is it women, or is it fame?

I went to one country where we have a very solid missionary, when I went there last year, the work was flourishing, but when I went this year, the work had dwindled. They were ninety-one in December but in June they were seventy. Then I found out the man's old sin had resurfaced — the love of fame. He became the chief speaker at S.U. camps, the chief speaker at the Intervarsity conferences, the pastor general of the city or nation. There was no time for the flock, no time for the assembly. They had even made him to train the intercessors of that nation because, "no man prayed like him". His old sin-love of fame! Man of prayer, trainer of intercessors, he began to write articles for the journals - many Christian journals and his picture was conspicuous on them. His problem was not women, women don't tempt him, his problem was not money, money does not tempt him but glory. Then he printed his card, put his worldly title in bold print then at the bottom put Pastor. I took the card and said, "Look this is the old man".

The glory, the glory! The thing is that people think women and money are the problem. But glory is equally or perhaps more devastating because if you go with a woman, you will soon be excommunicated from the church, if you steal money, other lovers of money would fight you to death but you can keep your desire for glory and you would not appear at the bar of the elders. You can be a lover of fame without being tried by the church. Many are the victims, many are the slain. Have you identified the serpent in your life, is it a serpent of gold or of the opposite sex or of fame. People from all denominations were going to this brother for counselling, six hours, seven hours, international counsellor. I read to him, "I have kept the vineyard of others, my own vineyard I have not kept".

Fortune, female/male, fame! If the problem were only men, there would be no fall because men hardly fall for men. It tells you how much rot is under that must be dug up, confessed and then forsaken. Then to the underground manure by the word has to be applied so that new roots might grow to provide a tree that can stand the storm. As long as you cover the underground, the roots will just rot. There needs to be a digging and a removing of the rot, a confessing and forsaking and a restitution carried out and then there will be a manuring with the

word so that new roots that can draw food deeper and broader would grow.

Progress cannot be made by lying. If you are to be true, you would say, my problem is my battle with freedom from sin. The problem is not “self” because nobody begins to bother about “self” until sin has been dealt with. It is not recording time or the use of time. It is what Paul says in Colossians 3:5-6, “Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature, sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry! Because of these the wrath of God is coming on the sons of disobedience”.

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Mark 7: 21-23

“For from within, out of men’s hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils came from inside and make a man unclean.”

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Pauline list Col. 3: 5-6

Jesus’ list Mk. 7: 21 – 23

Sexual Immorality

Impurity

Lust

Evil desires
Greed (idolatry)
Evil thoughts
Sexual immorality
Theft
Murder
Adultery
Greed
Malice
Deceit
Lewdness
Envy
Slander
Arrogance
Folly

Lewdness may mean behaviour that has sexual undertone. The striking thing is that sexual immorality is recurrent on both lists. People who deceive themselves cannot come to the deliverance of God. The passages give the Pauline picture as well as the Jesus picture of the phase one of where the fundamental problems are. Have you passed that stage and when did you pass it? If you have problems with any of these things on the lists, then your problem is sin. Dishonest people cannot know God's dealing and they can stay in the same place for twenty, thirty, forty or fifty years. Progress in the Christian cannot be by imagination but by reality. What is your level?

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Rev. 1:6-7

“The Lord our God said to us at Horeb ‘You have stayed long enough at this mountain. Break camp and advance into the neighbouring peoples in the Arabah, in the mountains, in the western foothills, in the Negev and along the coast to the land of the Canaanites and to Lebanon as far as the great river, the Euphrates”

■

You have stayed long in the kindergarten of God, break camp.

■

Deu. 2:1-3

“Then we turned back and set out toward the desert along the route to the Red sea as the Lord had directed me. For a long time, we have made our way around the hill country of Seir. Then the Lord said to me, ‘you have made your way around this hill country long enough! Now turn north”’

■

Many people want to look at the Christian life through a fog, that’s why they talk about a good and honest heart, when a man is not honest, after twenty years all is still mixed up. The good soil is a good and honest heart.

The Lord puts immorality on his list of three Fs, so that people may confront the

issues, because even at seventy David had the problem. What predominates on the lists is the opposite sex. People have excellent ideas in their heads but in the practice they are bankrupt. In the list of the Lord, problem number one is the opposite sex, problem number two is fortune. Theft, murder, greedy, deceit and envy are all manifesting fortune. Malice, envy and deceit could be any of the three. Slander is fame. You speak evil of someone to pull him down so that you may be up. Arrogance is also fame. Folly could be all over. Jesus says the problem is:

Female/Male

Fortune

Fame

So the courses in

Nursery 1 are deliverance from sexual immorality.

Nursery II are: deliverance from money, the love of things.

Nursery III are: deliverance from the pursuit of fame.

After these a person can now go to the primary school of God. Ask yourself, for how long have I been in the kindergarten cheating in money matters, even small sums of money? Is it that you don't concentrate to pass from the kindergarten but you have gone ahead to study primary school courses, secondary school courses, high school, master's degree courses and doctorate degree courses and

now you are confused. Deliverance from sexual immorality involves tenfold deliverance:

Sexual immorality in motive

Sexual immorality in thought

Sexual immorality in look

Sexual immorality in touch

Sexual immorality in taste

Sexual immorality in feelings

Sexual immorality in word

Sexual immorality in deed

Sexual immorality in possession

“I want to dress that they may see my body or see how beautiful I am” I want to catch a glance from all the other men - Sexual immorality in motive, in desire, in thought, in look, in touch, in taste. You look at yourself in the mirror and say, “God did not make a mistake”. Some say, she was dressed for conquest, he was dressed to kill. You don’t want to go to bed with the person but you just want to feel his presence; possessions that excite immorality or immoral books, immoral literature, pornography or music that excite sexual desire that is the first lesson in the school of sanctification.

The body is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord. God raised the Lord up from the grave and he shall raise us up. Do you not know that your body is the member of Christ? Shall I take the body of Christ and unite them with prostitute? Never, do you not know that he who unites with a prostitute is the

same with her in body? for It is said the two become one flesh. But he that unites himself with the Lord is the same with Him in spirit. Flee from sexual immorality, all other sins a man commits are outside his body but he who sins sexually sins against his body. Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, which is in you, whom you have received from the Lord? You are bought with a price therefore honour God with your body.

If as a minister of the gospel, women admire you, it is because you are corrupt inside, rotten inside. There is no barrier of the glory of God. A woman may be exceptionally beautiful, if she is radically consecrated, nobody lusts after her. A girl may be exceptionally beautiful, if she is radically consecrated, none lusts after her. People lust after the immoral, people desire that which is like them. Are you ready to let God show you what he thinks about your relationships? If all that transpire between you and the opposite sex were to be written across the sky, would you stand it?

From the time Jesus becomes a problem to a person, the walk with God ends. When sin comes in, the walk with God ends. When sin comes in the walk with God ends until it is rooted out. If it is not dealt with the walk with God may stop for twenty years.

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Job 31:1-3

“I made a covenant with my eyes not to look lustfully at a girl. For what is man’s lot from God above, his heritage from the Almighty on high? It is ruin for the wicked, disaster for those who do wrong?”

■

“A covenant with the eyes”. I want you to make a covenant with your eyes this

day that having been delivered from sexual immorality; you would not look lustfully at a girl or woman because it is a choice. If in the first glance, you notice that someone is attractive, you have not sinned, but when you turn to look, it is a sin because you do not turn unconsciously but to feed, study, investigate probe and satisfy. It is this second look that wants to admire that is a look away from Jesus, a look away from the cross, a look away from God. The second look is the look of covetousness and that look can seal itself on your heart for the next twenty years. The look that is forbidden.

Some of you have asked the Lord for a heart free from sexual immorality in the past, why did it not last? There are two things. The first is that I want a heart free from sexual immorality but I want to continue to practice financial falsehood, it would not work.

Female/Male

Fortune

Fame

If you are prepared for radical termination with sins of female but want to indulge in sins of fortune, that of females will also fall, or you want to indulge in pursuit of fame, it will fall. God cannot give deliverance to the teeth when the hand and the belly are bound. Either you are prepared for the three-fold deliverance or have no deliverance at all. That is where it collapses. People want God to deliver them from one and not the others.

I told the brethren to pray once, 'may every woman looking at me see in me absolute ugliness except the one you have ordained to be my wife'. People didn't like it. If you want to be admired by men in general, it means you want to turn those men from looking at Christ, God cannot bless you. Those who walk God's way would say, "Lord, I do not want to distract anyone from a fixed gaze at

Jesus”. Now you have to enter into that life, “I do not want to distract anyone from the narrow way, I do not want to distract any one from a fixed gaze at the upward call of God in Christ Jesus”.

When people tell you that your dress is beautiful, they are telling you that you have failed. You have taken someone’s eyes off Jesus to analyse and draw conclusions on your clothes and proclaim it. This is the spirit that is in the world. The purpose of the gospel is that all might belong to Jesus Christ. The purpose of the gospel is that every gaze should be on Jesus, all worship for Jesus, all attention on Jesus, that Jesus Christ alone might be seen, honoured worshiped adored, praised and exalted. Look at all that is invested into making the hair, to be a Christian seducer. You furnish you house so that when people enter, they say, “You deh oh”. You may be dressing so that you are one in town or one in the fellowship. We are dealing with fame.

The sons of Zebedee were after fame. Glory, glory, fame, fame. To tell you the deep corruption of most women who do not dress to please their husbands but the whole world of men. They also dress to compete amongst themselves. You will give account on that day for everyone you distracted from the Lord, from the cross, from the narrow way, from the upward call of God. You can do great things for God but all these things would reduce your eternal rank. Sin is expensive, expensive in time, and expensive in eternity.

The question is, whose glory? If in our ministry, we seek glory for ourselves, the Lord would stand in our way. May it be written on every heart that Jehovah will not share His glory. God will crush all proud spirits; God will pull down all who tamper with His glory. You may have an apparent humble exterior but with a very exalted pride of heart. Do you see God puncturing your self-exaltation? “I would not share my glory with another” Isa. 42:8 God says, “touch everything else but if you touch My glory, you are finished”.

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Isa 48:11

“I will not yield my glory to another”

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So if you want to take it, He will defend it He will crush you and bring you to dust. God goes to war to protect His glory, that is why Lucifer crumbled. It could be that we should reverse this order and say.

Fame

Females

Fortune

The fierceness of God’s fury is directed against all who touch the glory. Do you want to succeed so that God would be honoured and you too remembered? You are in deep trouble. God cannot share His glory with man. Look at 1 Kings 18:36

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“At the time of sacrifice the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: O Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and I have done all these things at your command.”

■

(1)“You are God in Israel, God take the first place (2) Let it be known that I am your servant (3) Let it be known that I have done all these things at your

command. God take number 1 place but give number 2 and 3 to your servant. I am not competing with you.” At that moment Elijah got conscience stricken and that was why he changed the prayer in verse 37.

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“Answer me, O Lord, answer me so that these people will know that you, O Lord are God and that you are turning their hearts back again.”

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He saw his insanity and immediately dropped out of the picture and when he dropped out of the picture so that it may be God, God, the fire of the Lord fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the soil, the stones and licked up the water.

Are you standing in God’s way, 90% of the glory for God and 10% for you or 95% for God and 5% for you? The person who steals all the glory and a person who steals 10% of the glory are the same. They are both thieves J.5:41

“I do not accept praise from men” Do you accept praise from men? It is forbidden to accept praise from men, it is worse than adultery. It is worse than bank robbery. “Your dress is nice! Oh, thank you”, and you are dead spiritually and the flow towards God is cut.

Jesus warned them sternly, “See that none hears about this” He did not only warn, he warned them sternly. He didn’t say, “Don’t tell anybody” which really means “make sure you tell”. How warned them sternly “see that no one knows about this” Mt. 9:29-30. If somebody says you are beautiful, warn him sternly. Rebuke him sternly and tell him that on this occasion, he is forgiven, next time, he will be in deep trouble.

The thing is more serious.

■

“I do not accept praise from men, but I know you, I know you do not have the love of God in your heart”. How many years have you gone by without the love of God in your heart manifested by your accepting the praise of men? It does not call for neutrality. You should take weapons and wage war against it before it destroys the love of God from your heart. Do you think your wardrobe could change if you stopped dressing to win the praise of men? What would change practically in your life if you forewent the pursuit of the praise that comes from men? Just write, “Lord I acknowledge that the following would go if I stop pursuing the praise that comes from men.”

■

What would change? If you are serious with God, effect the change because it is hypocrisy to say it would change in my heart but outwardly, there would be no change. Jesus did not tell the rich young ruler “make sure that you give away all that you have in your heart,” that is hypocrisy. As God began to work on us, we were holding a retreat in Douala. Three sisters came under conviction and said they would not wait for the message to finish. One sister set aside two thirds of her wardrobe to be eliminated but the one third that was left were twenty-eight dresses. You may only have one or three but your heart is intertwined, your roots are totally grown into that dress, the love of God is not in your heart.

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1 John. 2:15-17.

“Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world, the cravings of

sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does come not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away but the man who does the will of God lives forever”

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“The boasting of what he has and what he does”, but I put it this way, the boasting of what he is, what he has and what he does.

In Uganda, the tribes are big. I do not know what the population is now but the Bagandas were four million. One American who worked for the Campus Crusade for Christ, a man of great insight (I was a young minister of the gospel then) said I should not take the Ugandan confession of Christ seriously because no Ugandan is converted until the tribe is broken. He said, the final thing in a Ugandan is his tribe, then Jesus is on top. If you touch Jesus, he would not be as offended as when you touch his tribe. Until the tribe is broken, it is false conversion.

I presented figures to you about a man who in a city from 1993 to 1999 has a hundred people both adults and children and people we sent six months ago in the same city have more believers. He cannot succeed. Even if the brother is sick, it is a spiritual matter. He wrote to me “You often said to me that Cameroonians are corrupt but I want you to know that the people of this country are a thousand time more corrupt than the Cameroonians.” In the next letter I wrote to him that he should pack and come back home, he had failed. After that the devil knocked him and the work is grounded. A tribalist cannot succeed, because first of all he has a corrupt heart toward God, the One who made of the Jews and Gentiles one. He has a message against the cross and the cross would fight him. It may not be tribal, it may be national. If the gospel has not freed you from the clutches of your nationalism or tribalism, you are a slave indeed. If the gospel has not freed you from such slavery, how can you participate in heavenly values? Ask yourself, face it this day before God. Have you been delivered? Maybe you are the hypocrite that only God can tear down. Is Jesus fitted on top of your more final foundation?

Jerusalem lost the leadership to Antioch because Jerusalem was a Jewish Church. In Cameroon, I am seeing a very interesting trend. When people have gone among their own people, they have not made outstanding breakthroughs. Those natural advantages tend to be barriers in the long run. Do you see a gradual transfer of leadership from Peter to Paul among the Jews, Peter remained among the Jews, Paul went to the Gentiles. He did not sin.

If you are called to work in the Old Western Region, you are called not to hate the Yorubas. You can hate, you can be neutral, you can love a bit and you can love violently. Real success lies in loving violently. A man on the neutral ground cannot cause great things to happen. The secret of Hudson Taylor's success was total identification with the Chinese people. The success of C.T Studd was tied to total identification with the Africans. To become all things to all men, that we may save some. If you go somewhere and they fry cockroaches in butter, if you don't eat it, just pack your things and go back home, you have buried your mission on the dining table. What if Jesus had insisted on heavenly food? May the Lord convict you with the message of the manger. If you don't confront what the Lord judged in his first message - the birth in the manger, in the message of his birth, he put a question mark on the glory of this world. If you miss that message, you may miss every other message because everything in the life of the Lord Jesus was a message. How can you believe when you receive praise from each other? Praise from man destroys faith in God. The eye that is fixed on praise from men is dead to faith. The eye that hungers for praise of men cannot have faith. So while you were enjoying the praise of men, you cannot have faith in God. So when you receive praise, you hate faith.

Faith

Hatred for the praise of men

As you hate the praise from men, so your faith grows and as you love the praise of men, your faith diminishes. Is this the source of your unbelief; is that the reason for the absence of faith? The enemy has given you another thing to love — the praise that come from men. May God open your eyes to see that this may be the root of your problem. It may explain why you are not where you should be in faith because praise from others poisons, kills destroys annihilates faith in the Lord.

So praise from men destroys love of God, praise from men destroys faith in God. So the one who loves praise from men has said bye-bye to both faith in God and love of God. If men praise me, I've got my full reward, there will be nothing more for me in heaven. So the person who praises you is your fiercest enemy. The wicked thing that anyone can do is to praise you. He has disqualified you from the praise of God and eliminated you from the praise of heaven. Could there be greater hatred, that you hate a man so that you reduce all his work to zero in heaven? Praise on earth eliminates all possibility of praise in heaven. So to love the praise of men is to woo eternal recklessness. The two and a half tribes said "we have received our inheritance here, we do not want to go over."

When men say this thing is wonderful, something is wrong with it. God and man cannot sit on the same bench and award the same mark. What man praises is an abomination before God.

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Luke. 16:14-15

"The Pharisees who loved money heard all this and were sneering at Jesus. He Said to them "You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of man, but God knows your hearts. What is highly valued among men is detestable in God's sight."

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Lovers of money! No lover of money can love God. What is highly valued among men is detestable in God's sight. When Samuel went to anoint the King, the first son came, he looked so elegant, Samuel looked at him and said, "The Lord's anointed. Have you ever seen a very beautiful girl with a very beautiful heart? When you go to cultivate the outside, you cannot cultivate the inside as well.

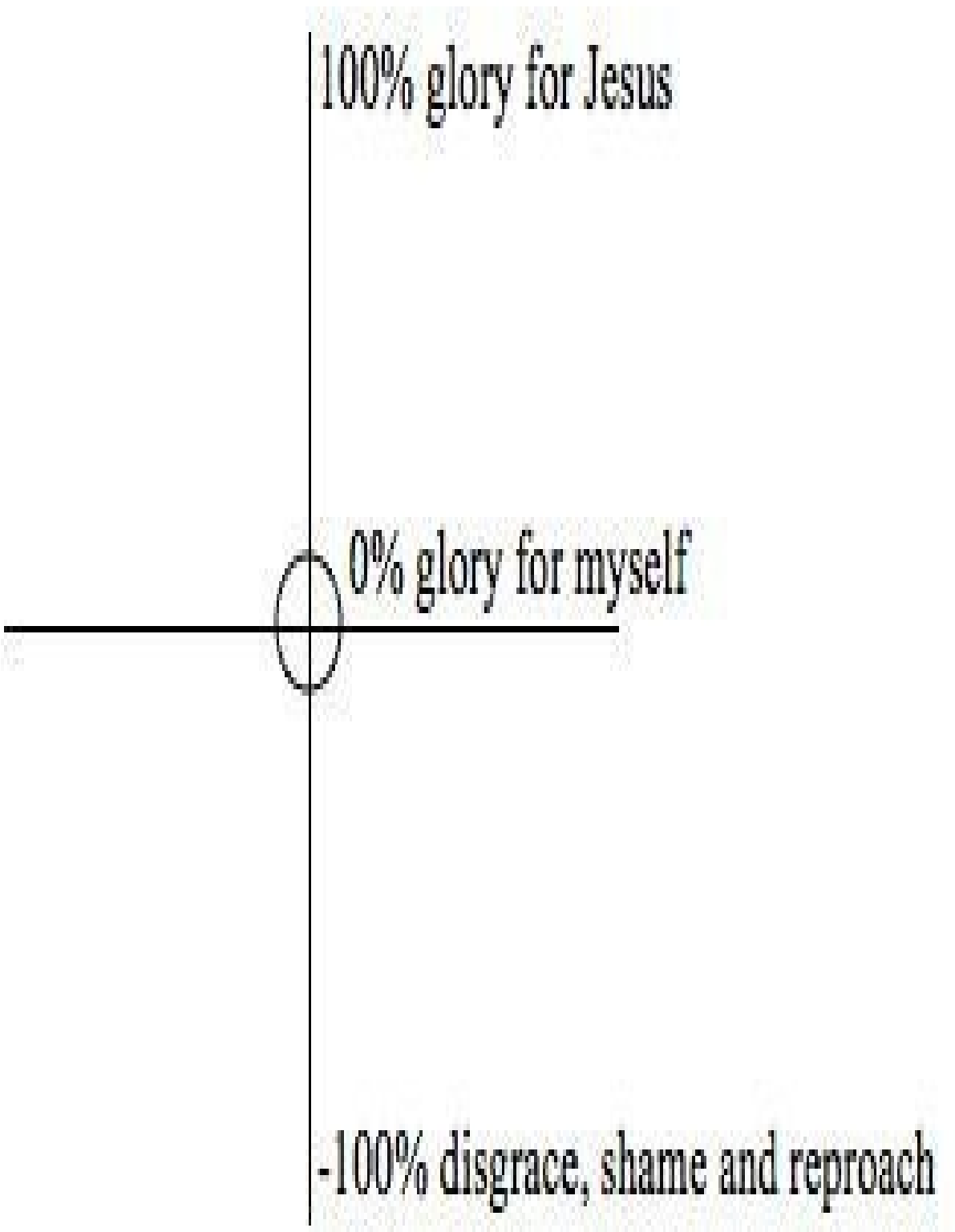
How much time do you take for heart culture every day, do you look at the beauty of your heart and try to remove spots from it? Or do you just go and buy all the cream to apply to your face alone? Do you examine your heart? An ugly heart in a beautiful body? Wait for seventy years. You have a wardrobe full of clothes, what do you have of the beautifying lotion from heaven? Do you have a packet of the heavenly lotion? The first lotion is love, then joy, peace etc.. Do you have the packet with the nine lotions for heavenly beauty, have you applied the love lotion, then the joy lotion, then the peace lotion, then patience lotion, then the kindness lotion, then the goodness lotion, then the faithfulness lotion, then the gentleness lotion and the self-control lotion. For that self-control lotion, you better carry a big bottle so that it does not get finished.

Brethren say, 'don't put on lipstick', this and that but they don't say 'you must put on the heavenly beauty lotion.' We concentrate on telling people what they should not put on, but we don't tell them what they should put on. God says, "I want the beauty of the heart". What is your mark on the beauty of the heart? We have all the laws, all the taboos against what people should not put on. I want to say that "thou shall put on the heavenly cream of love, the cream of joy, peace, patience, gentleness". Before you leave the house, you put all these nice lotions, and then you come out with heavenly beauty. But I want to say that this is not only for women because all the taboos are against women, if there is one law against men, then there would be ten against women, because the men are the ones passing the laws. The beauty kit of heaven is for men and women.

At the Ibadan Convention of June 1999, we bring into the focus of our work, the

beauty kit of heaven with nine lotions: the lotion of love, the lotion of joy, the lotion of peace, the lotion of patience, the lotion of gentleness, the lotion of kindness, the lotion of goodness, the lotion of faithfulness and the lotion of self control. We proclaim this beauty kit of heaven equally from men and women. God looks at the heart and men look outside because from the heart it comes outside. When a man has applied the beauty lotions of heaven, he does not need the one from the earth. Just to see something about the fall, many girls say, “I want to marry a proud man.” A girl who is disloyal to her father would be disloyal to her husband.

Before Ghana last year, I thought that it was 100% glory for Jesus and 0% glory for myself and that this was the ideal I was to labour to attain.



100% glory for Jesus

0% glory for myself

-100% disgrace, shame and reproach

In Accra, God reached out and touched us and brought new perspectives. I had to modify some clauses in my separation from the common. 0% is the only midway. If I am content with 0% for myself, I have only reached the middle way. I must have 100% that is, the shame, the reproach and the disgrace. The reproach of the cross, the shame of the cross, the disgrace of the cross.

“To the old rugged cross

I will ever be true

Its shame and reproach gladly bear”

Its shame, its reproach. At 0% there is no shame, no reproach, you must have no glory. They praise the men of the world but if it is 0% they just leave you and say nothing about you. If you are to get the praise of heaven, you must be at 0%, you must be at -100%. They say this man of the world is a wonder and you are horribly dreadful. They praise him but they condemn you absolutely, totally and completely. They say, “We enthrone this one and we bury you.”

You see something about it in the story of Joseph. The butler was restored to his post but the baker was hung. They did not just restore one and leave the other one. The reproach of the cross, the shame of the cross, the ignominy of the cross. Are you ready for that? If they pass us saying nothing about us, heaven will say nothing about us also. Does the world see what to condemn in you? Are you protecting your job? This is a test case. You may decide to keep quiet so as to maintain the job. Those of you who are in business, have you sacrificed eternal rank on the altar of trying to get funds for the kingdom? We shall soon be at the judgement seat of Christ, where we shall see fire consume what was supposed to be great deeds.

The only hope for Nigeria is believers whose consciences cannot stretch. Can God enrol you in that army, do people tremble when they come to you because they know you would not budge, or you are known as somebody who would understand? Before they used to tremble but now they know that the boss has changed. Does God approve of your monies? Does the Holy Spirit endorse all your financial transactions? Forget about those in government. Are you true in financial dealings, can you say God, even when I was given money to make a meal, I was true, even when I was given money to arrange transport, I did not steal a little? Some of you are in charge of the finances of an assembly. Does some of it end up in your pocket? Do you round up figures to your benefit? Do you get personal expenses to be paid for from the money of the Brethren? Are you true? If you are dishonest about ten Naira you are just as fake as the person dishonest about a billion Naira. Is there any dark area in your finances, is there any shade, do you run heavenly approved finances in everything? Can you say that God is my witness that all my finances are perfect, true before God?

Why is fortune always put first? Many people who give sacrificially to God confess the lack of absolute integrity. People give millions to God only to cheat over a few hundreds and damage everything to show that the root of the love of money is very deep seated. Does your life pass the test of money? The love of money, the root of all evils. People have to be tested. God keeps testing people. Any leader who does not test people would find out what you lay on untested structure would fall. Do not test people in the realm of women, the problem of many people is not immorality in act, it is immorality in their minds, but you can pick many people who cheat about a few Nairas.

Some crooks eat what the brethren give them and brush their teeth so that nobody knows. When you paint a dark picture of the people you are leading, you destroy yourself. When you hide what you should expose to the credit of the people because of your dishonesty with money or your greed for more, you destroy yourself.

That day would be a frightful day! Do you eat and wash your mouth and then put

on sackcloth to make the brethren appear utterly selfish? You have a worm.

Just as you received a heart free from adultery and fornication, you can receive from the Lord, a heart free from the love of money and you can receive from the Lord a heart free from the love of fame. Everything that the believer has is received from the Lord free of charge. I want to say that in the school of holiness, the first deliverance that God gave me was the freedom from the love of money. I have no temptation in anything with regards to money since 1986.

Freedom from the love of money overflows from the knowledge of God. You know that God cannot fail, then you can believe Him. Do you know God as the one who would not fail, do you know how to enjoy God's abundance even when you have no money? The Lord can give a heart free from the love of money just as He can give a heart free from sexual immorality in all its forms, just as He can give a heart free from the love of self. Are you ready for these gifts of God?

If you want to deal with sin, you just don't pick something here, something there and confess, go to the roots. God blots sin out when it is dealt with God's way. You have to face your financial dealings from the day you became a believer. Without such thorough dealings, to say that "I received a pure heart," would not work. Because you cannot take a pure heart and put it on sand, it would not settle. If you jump over it and say "pure heart" you would find that in reality nothing has changed. They were mere words. But it is even worse because now, you don't have faith to work on the pure heart because you have played games with it. If you could take time to deal with money and things and deal with glory, praise, self exaltation in details bringing everything before God and you confess and forsake it, you can ask God to give you a pure heart and He will give you.

With regards to money and things, when you receive a pure heart, one thing that happens is that you see from a long range when temptation is coming so that you can command it off. It is as if light is shining from all directions, there is no way someone can come hiding, you see the sin from a distance. So you can see a girl

who could have trapped you from a distance and say, “Lord I thank you for that girl, I place her attractive looks under the blood of Jesus so that they would not be a snare to anyone, certainly not a snare to me.” I want to say (not from theory) that if the confession is deep and thorough, it works. If the confession is deep and complete and God is asked to give a pure heart, the pure heart is given and everything changes. One thing that happens is that if a man is praising you, it’s as if a knife is going through you. You cry out for him to stop. Before, you loved the praise, now the praise is like a knife in your heart.

If you present your work before men, there may be room to congratulate yourself, if you present it before God, you can only know sorrow, let the holy spirit reveal what your attitude towards money, towards things have been since you believed so that you may know how to repent, let the holy spirit show you what your attitude has been to glory, to fame, particularly the calamity of using God’s name to exalt yourself. It may take weeks, after you have written it all out, confess it to the Lord, seek cleansing and receive a pure heart watch after the pure heart.

The problem of many people is that they receive the pure heart and then they lose it. What does Paul say, “Put to death! That’s how it is maintained. You receives a pure heart and then you apply rigorous discipline. When you receive a pure heart, you watch over it. When you receive a pure heart, you have received gold, precious stone. When you are given a million Naira, will you enter just any taxi? You are more careful than ever before, because of the jewel that you are carrying. From the moment that you receive a pure heart with respect to the opposite sex, a pure heart with regards to love of money, a pure heart with regards to fame, you become fivefold. Conscious about anything that would tamper with it.

When you receive a pure heart, you have received God’s jewel. Utter discipline is the way to keep it. You watch over yourself, you watch over your heart, you watch over everything, you do not want to take the slightest risk. You ask God for the capacity to see in all the six dimensions. You know where you can

compromise and you build a wall. You run from all appearance of sin, you run from all places that tempt. That is how it is maintained. You invite someone to look into your finances so that if there is anything disturbing, it is exposed at once. When you do that for a sustained period, holiness would become spontaneous and then there is freedom.

Immediately you enter the holiness of God, it is followed by rigorous discipline. If it is a matter of talking and you know that after meeting people you chat carelessly, immediately after the meeting, you run away. Because at all costs you want to maintain what you have gained. You put maximum distance between you and free people who chat. You act quickly. It is such actions that rob the usurper. The secret is acting at once, don't postpone it. If you must repent, go on your knees and do it at once, do not say afterwards. The conviction may no longer be there.

In a pure heart, the holiness entered into is maintained by prompt obedience to the Holy Spirit. Because while the convicting power of God is upon you, there is also the anointing to obey. If you obey immediately, you have the power to do it, but when you drag it, the anointing to repent departs.

I also want to say that at that moment there is no shame, it is as you delay it that it becomes a matter of your honour instead of a matter of obedience. The way of sanctification is the way of instant obedience. The sanctified life is the life of instant obedience to the Holy Spirit moment by moment in everything. The sanctified life is a life of rendering total obedience to the Holy Spirit moment by moment. If then it is so, then you can enter into the sanctified life now, then as He points things in the past to deal with you would instantly deal with them so that you do not postpone and the enemy does not rob you of the opportunity. In the handling of the past, you must obey Him, point by point as He shows you.

Blessed Father, I lift up my hands, I receive from you, a sanctified heart. I thank you Father that you have given me a sanctified heart. I thank you Father that you

have given me a pure heart. My Lord, I enter now into a covenant with you of rendering total obedience in everything to the Lord Jesus Christ, moment by moment. I thank you Holy Father that the Spirit dwells within me to give me the power to work this out in practice. I will not fail, I cannot fail. The Holy Spirit will strengthen me. My Lord, I will obey. I will obey in simple matters, I will obey in things that are a bit difficult, I will obey when my whole life is at stake. Thank you Lord because the Holy Spirit is the guarantor of my obedience, therefore that obedience is settled until you come. My Lord, thank you because from this day until you come, I will obey you in all things. Lord because it is so settled, I give you all that I am in utter consecration. I give you all that I have not 10%, not 50%, not 90%, but all. It is all yours Lord and Lord I give you all that I will ever be in all of the future until you come back. It is all yours Oh Lord and Lord, I will give you all that I will ever have in all of the future until you come, it is also yours Oh God. So from this day, I totally sanctify by the Lord Jesus Christ my all in unreserving consecration forever. You will command, I will obey. Thank you Lord I am qualified now to come to heaven and enter without shame. Listen brethren, there are people who think that after they have disobeyed God, they would remain in the same place. It is not possible. If I am at a point, I obey then I climb up, if I disobey I don't stay at that level I go down. Nobody is the same after he has disobeyed and none is the same after he has obeyed, when you obey, you move up but when you disobey you move down. Say "When I obey, I am promoted, no, when I obey, I promote myself, when I disobey, I demote myself." The will of God is an encounter for promotion or for demotion. Every time God's voice is heard, it is heard for promotion or for demotion. Pray that this should be stamped on your heart.

There are decisions that you come to here, you will write them down because they are not theories, and give to somebody to watch over you. We want experience and the way to experience is obedience. Many theories in fine heads cannot change anybody. There was a man who came to Kampala in the medical school in 1973, he was giving a lecture on how smoking was related to cancer of the lungs and he was talking, giving statistics and he was smoking one cigarette after another. So he was saying "I want cancer of the lungs, this is how to get it." Truth that is known but not obeyed works against a person. Why? It demotes him. The one who knows how to do good but does not do it, to him it is counted as sin. Immediately the truth is spoken to me, I stand at crossroads either for promotion through obedience or demotion through disobedience. If I ignore it, I

have disobeyed. A man is not the same after he has heard the word, he either obeys for promotion or disobeys unto demotion. I am not the same after I have heard. If a house is burning and someone tells me, "Zach Fomum, your house is burning", I can pretend I did not hear, my charred corpse will tell the story. The word of God has more power than the law of gravity. If I jump carelessly and I say I will not fall because I don't believe the law of gravity, I will still fall. I don't have to believe it for it to act on me.

When I read the word of God, I will either obey for promotion or disobey for demotion. That is why you started with some people but the gap is now so wide, isn't it? Have you ever asked yourself "Why am I not where I ought to be, why is it that people who believe after me are ahead of me?" Obedience leads to progress. How does a wife get into the husband's heart? The man says do this, she disobeys, do that she disobeys, each disobedience pushes her further away and each obedience brings her nearer. When you tell your wife, do this and she obeys, she moves nearer, but when she disobeys there is gap. Obedience brings us nearer. Say "Obedience brings us nearer and disobedience pushes us further away." And we can see a relationship with God wrecked by mountains of disobedience and a relationship with God made near by obedience. Oh that that would settle in your heart.

Leadership has to do with the power to set goals according to God's purpose in time and leading the people to accomplish these goals. So the leader sees God's purpose. On the other hand, I want to say that only 10% of leaders are born while 99% are made. The person who is ahead of the people is a leader, they would follow him.

Not one thing against me. But Lord, I stay in this nation and I stay in this world to fulfil your command that disciples should be made of all nations for the glory of Jesus. My Lord, I have consecrated myself not to be dead sacrifice, Oh Lord, I am a living sacrifice, to live for you in order to ensure that all over the world, disciples are made for the Lord Jesus Christ. I live henceforth so that all over planet earth, disciples who will obey the Lord Jesus Christ in all things

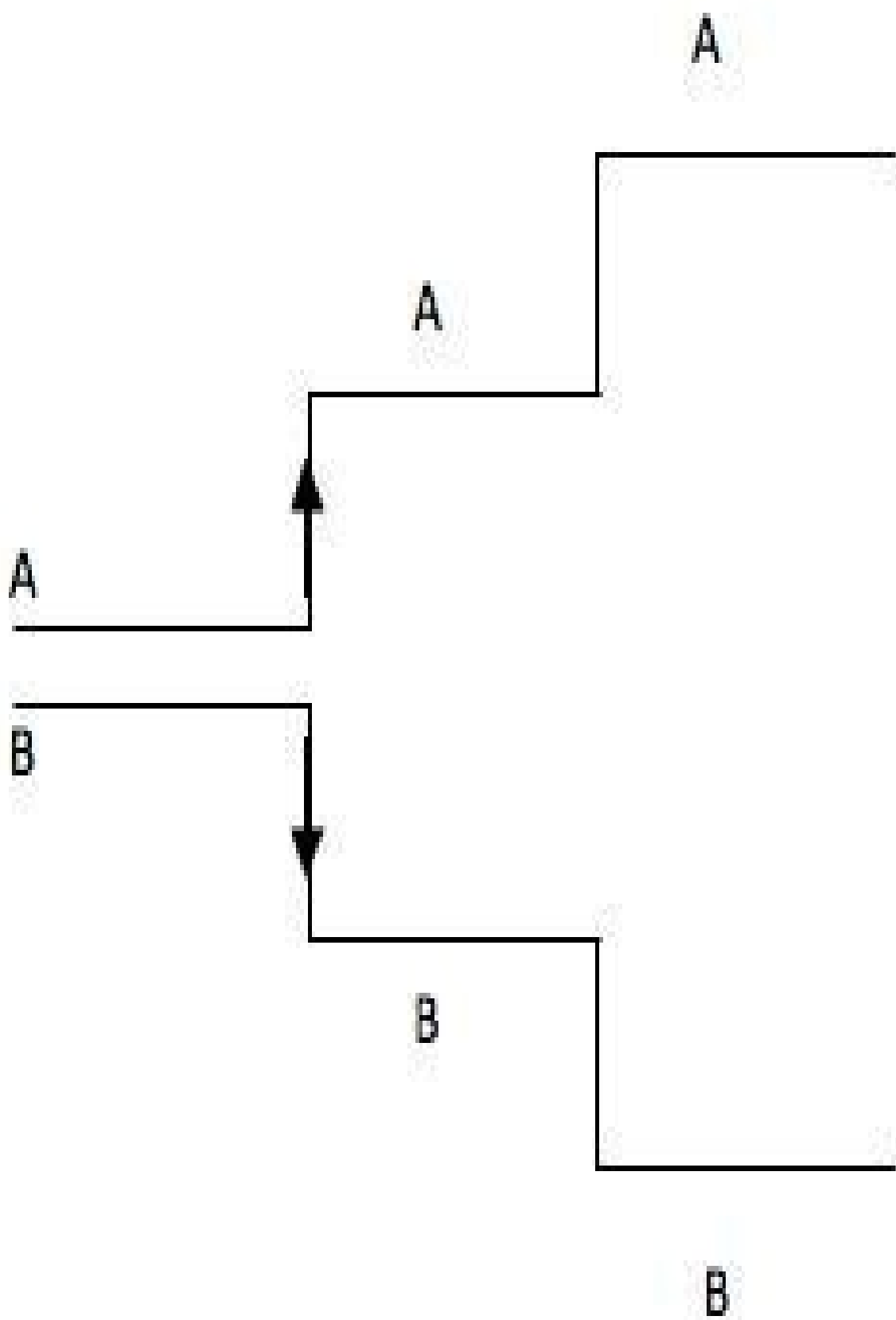
particularly in making disciples who will in turn make disciples are established in Him. So my Lord, I consecrate all that I am and I consecrate all that I will ever be and I consecrate all that I have and I consecrate all that I will ever have on the altar for your total glory and for the work of bringing all people to become disciples of the Lord, Jesus Christ. Afresh oh God, anoint me afresh oh God, the anointing of yesterday is not enough for today and the anointing of today will not be enough for tomorrow. Like the manna of old, I will receive a fresh anointing everyday and all my ministry shall be in the fullness of the Holy Spirit. I shall not fall short, I cannot fall short, I cannot fail, I shall not fail. You have won oh Lord, you have succeeded, you have succeeded. My family will know the overflow of this, the part of the city where I live will know the overflow of this, the nation where I live will know the overflow of this, the nation where you have placed me will know the overflow of this, the continent of Africa will know the overflow of this, the planet earth will reckon with the fact that I am sanctified, consecrated and filled with the Holy Spirit. For the exclusive glory of the Lord Jesus Christ. Lord for what will immediately be manifest and for what will manifest fifty years from today, the glory is yours Lord and it shall always be Amen.

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Bearing Fruits

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Do you know why you are here? We are here to find out what to obey, we are here to know what God's will is so as to obey. We read the Bible in order to find out what to obey, we listen to a message in order to find out what to obey, we read books in order to find out what to obey. Obedience is progress. Often we have written notes in order to be academicians or I don't know but progress is not made in the Christian life by hearing. Progress is made by obeying. There is brother A and brother B. When the will of God is revealed, brother A obeys and brother B disobeys. There is immediately a difference in their plane of walk.



The concept of Leader I and Leader II. There are two types of leaders. Leader I is the leader in the strict sense of the word while leader II is the administrator. Leadership has to do with setting goals according to God's purpose in time.

Joshua was more of an administrator, the goal had been set, he just had to take the people there. That is, he was the executer of the goals that Moses conceived. "Go fight the Amalekites." Then he went, put the people together and mowed the Amalekites. Leader II, the administrator, is the one who ensures that the goal is accomplished. Leader I sees the vision spells it out clearly, then Leader II starts looking for the people, the structures looking for everything and makes sure that the goods are delivered. Leader I says, "Go to India and bring gold" and he stays at home. Leader II is the captain of the ship, he looks for the ship, puts the people together and goes to India to bring the gold. So Leader I is essentially a man of the future, he is primarily a seer, he has long a range vision. He sees God's purposes in many years to come and lays hold of them in the spirit. If you tell him to gather the people and get the things done, he would spoil it. He must have an administrator. So the administrator ensures that what is seen materialises. He translates the dream into reality. But if you leave him on his own, he will not. But if you tell him what God has said, he will ensure that it happens.

When leader I decides to be an administrator there is confusion because he does not have the gifts of the administrator. The administrator knows how to bring people together. If the leader is a visionary, the administrator is down to earth. The leader is the "seer", the administrator the "doer" but often there is some mixing.

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Very Important!!!

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If you have not yet received Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, I encourage you to receive Him. Here are some steps to help you,

ADMIT that you are a sinner by nature and by practice and that on your own you are without hope. Tell God you have personally sinned against Him in your thoughts, words and deeds. Confess your sins to Him, one after another in a sincere prayer. Do not leave out any sins that you can remember. Truly turn from your sinful ways and abandon them. If you stole, steal no more. If you have been committing adultery or fornication, stop it. God will not forgive you if you have no desire to stop sinning in all areas of your life, but if you are sincere, He will give you the power to stop sinning.

BELIEVE that Jesus Christ, who is God's Son, is the only Way, the only Truth and the only Life. Jesus said,

"I am the way, the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me"
(John 14:6).

The Bible says,

"For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all" (1 Timothy 2:5-6).

“And there is salvation in no one else (apart from Jesus), for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).

But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God...” (John 1:12).

BUT,

CONSIDER the cost of following Him. Jesus said that all who follow Him must deny themselves, and this includes selfish financial, social and other interests. He also wants His followers to take up their crosses and follow Him. Are you prepared to abandon your own interests daily for those of Christ? Are you prepared to be led in a new direction by Him? Are you prepared to suffer for Him and die for Him if need be? Jesus will have nothing to do with half-hearted people. His demands are total. He will only receive and forgive those who are prepared to follow Him AT ANY COST. Think about it and count the cost. If you are prepared to follow Him, come what may, then there is something to do.

INVITE Jesus to come into your heart and life. He says,

“Behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door (to his heart and life), I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me ” (Revelation 3:20).

Why don't you pray a prayer like the following one or one of your own

construction as the Holy Spirit leads?

“Lord Jesus, I am a wretched, lost sinner who has sinned in thought, word and deed. Forgive all my sins and cleanse me. Receive me, Saviour and transform me into a child of God. Come into my heart now and give me eternal life right now. I will follow you at all costs, trusting the Holy Spirit to give me all the power I need.”

When you pray this prayer sincerely, Jesus answers at once and justifies you before God and makes you His child.

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Please write to us (ztfbooks@cmfionline.org) and I will pray for you and help you as you go on with Jesus Christ.

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Thank You

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For Reading This Book

If you have any question and/or need help, do not hesitate to contact us through ztfbooks@cmfionline.org. If the book has blessed you, then we would also be grateful if you leave a positive review at your favorite retailer.

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We would like to recommend to you the next book in this series: The Centrality Of Prayer

ZACHARIAS TANEE FOMUM



The Centrality **of Prayer**

The World University of Prayer and Fasting is an institution that was received from God by Professor Fomum to train the people of God in prayer and fasting. This book is drawn from the lessons he gave during a session in 2007 at this institution.

What God will accomplish in the life of an individual, a spiritual leader, a church and work of God is proportional to the place that will be given to prayer.

Neglecting prayer is an unspeakable tragedy. Admonishing against neglecting prayer and exhorting to a life of prayer is the main burden that the author wants to communicate to his readers.

If you want to become a person of consequence, see radical conversions to Christ, transformation in your children, change in your sheep, your church burning for God and His cause, and the work that God entrusted to you prospering, this book is your need of the hour.

Read it.

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About the Author

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Professor Zacharias Tanee Fomum was born in the flesh on 20th June 1945 and became born again on 13th June 1956. On 1st October 1966, He consecrated his life to the Lord Jesus and to His service, and was filled with the Holy Spirit on 24th October 1970. He was taken to be with the Lord on 14th March, 2009.

Pr Fomum was admitted to a first class in the Bachelor of Science degree, graduating as a prize winning student from Fourah Bay College in the University of Sierra Leone in October 1969. At the age of 28, he was awarded a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry by the University of Makerere, Kampala in Uganda. In October 2005, he was awarded a Doctor of Science (D.Sc) by the University of Durham, Great Britain. This higher doctorate was in recognition of his distinct contributions to scientific knowledge through research. As a Professor of Organic Chemistry in the University of Yaoundé 1, Cameroon, Professor Fomum supervised or co-supervised more than 100 Master's Degree and Doctoral Degree theses and co-authored over 160 scientific articles in leading international journals. He considered Jesus Christ the Lord of Science ("For by Him all things were created..." – Colossians 1:16), and scientific research an act of obedience to God's command to "subdue the earth" (Genesis 1:28). He therefore made the Lord Jesus the Director of his research laboratory while he took the place of deputy director, and attributed his outstanding success as a scientist to Jesus' revelational leadership.

In more than 40 years of Christian ministry, Pr Fomum travelled extensively, preaching the Gospel, planting churches and training spiritual leaders. He made more than:

700 missionary journeys within Cameroon, which ranged from one day to three weeks in duration.

500 missionary journeys to more than 70 different nations in all the six continents. These ranged from two days to six weeks in duration.

By the time of his going to be with the Lord in 2009, he had preached in over 1000 localities in Cameroon, sent over 200 national missionaries into many localities in Cameroon and planted over 1300 churches in the various administrative provinces of Cameroon. At his base in Yaoundé, he planted and built a mega-church with his co-workers which grew to a steady membership of about 12,000. Pr Fomum was the founding team-leader of Christian Missionary Fellowship International (CMFI); an evangelism, soul-winning, disciple making, Church-planting and missionary-sending movement with more than 200 international missionaries and thousands of churches in 65 nations spread across Africa, Europe, the Americas, Asia and Oceania. In the course of their ministry, Pr Fomum and his team witnessed more than 10,000 recorded healing miracles performed by God in answer to prayer in the name of Jesus Christ. These miracles include instant healings of headaches, cancers, HIV/AIDS, blindness, deafness, dumbness, paralysis, madness, and new teeth and organs received.

Pr Fomum read the entire Bible more than 60 times, read more than 1350 books on the Christian faith and authored over 150 books to advance the Gospel of Jesus Christ. 5 million copies of these books are in circulation in 12 languages as well as 16 million gospel tracts in 17 languages.

Pr Fomum was a man who sought God. He spent between 15 minutes and six hours daily alone with God in what he called Daily Dynamic Encounters with God (DDEWG). During these DDEWG he read God's Word, meditated on it, listened to God's voice, heard God speak to him, recorded what God was saying to him and prayed it through. He thus had over 18,000 DDEWG. He also had over 60 periods of withdrawing to seek God alone for periods that ranged from 3 to 21 days (which he termed Retreats for Spiritual Progress). The time he spent seeking God slowly transformed him into a man who hungered, thirsted and panted after God. His unceasing heart cry was: "Oh, that I would have more of God!"

Pr Fomum was a man of prayer and a leading teacher on prayer in many

churches and conferences around the world. He considered prayer to be the most important work that can be done for God and for man. He was a man of faith who believed that God answers prayer. He kept a record of his prayer requests and had over 50, 000 recorded answers to prayer in his prayer books. He carried out over 100 Prayer Walks of between five and forty-seven kilometres in towns and cities around the world. He and his team carried out over 57 Prayer Crusades (periods of forty days and nights during which at least eight hours are invested into prayer each day). They also carried out over 80 Prayer Sieges (times of near non-stop praying that ranges from 24 hours to 120 hours). He authored the Prayer Power Series, a 13-volume set of books on various aspects of prayer; Supplication, Fasting, Intercession and Spiritual Warfare. He started prayer chains, prayer rooms, prayer houses, national and continental prayer movements in Cameroon and other nations. He worked with leaders of local churches in India to disciple and train more than 2 million believers.

Pr Fomum also considered fasting as one of the weapons of Christian Spiritual Warfare. He carried out over 250 fasts ranging from three days to forty days, drinking only water or water supplemented with soluble vitamins. Called by the Lord to a distinct ministry of intercession, he pioneered fasting and prayer movements and led in battles against principalities and powers obstructing the progress of the Gospel and God's global purposes. He was enabled to carry out 3 supra – long fasts of between 52 and 70 days in his final years.

Pr Fomum chose a lifestyle of simplicity and “self- imposed poverty” in order to invest more funds into the critical work of evangelism, soul winning, church-planting and the building up of believers. Knowing the importance of money and its role in the battle to reach those without Christ with the glorious Gospel, he and his wife grew to investing 92.5% of their earned income from all sources (salaries, allowances, royalties and cash gifts) into the Gospel. They invested with the hope that, as they grew in the knowledge and the love of the Lord, and the perishing souls of people, they would one day invest 99% of their income into the Gospel.

He was married to Prisca Zei Fomum and they had seven children who are all involved in the work of the Gospel, some serving as missionaries. Prisca is a national and international minister, specializing in the winning and discipling of children to Jesus Christ. She also communicates and imparts the vision of ministry to children with a view to raising and building up ministers to them.

The Professor owed all that he was and all that God had done through him, to the unmerited favour and blessing of God and to his worldwide army of friends and co-workers. He considered himself nothing without them and the blessing of God; and would have amounted to nothing but for them. All praise and glory to Jesus Christ!

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