I have been seeing many Christians struggling and trying all their possible best to become successful and great in life, but to no avail. So what is the way out? What can you do?

Trying to get things done with your strength is like chasing your shadow. You can never catch it, trying to grasp it by sleeping on it, and it disappears. How can an apprentice become a master without surrendering to his/her master? How can you learn without surrendering to your teacher? How can children grow without accepting the teaching and instruction of their parents? You can never get to the top or achieve all what you need for your life without surrendering your life for Him (God). It sounds like a paradox, but Jesus crusification and death on the cross shows that the key to conquering death and suffering is through submission and surrendering of his life to God.

The consequence of trying to do thing by ourselves can be traced back to the Garden of Eden. Adam and Eve want to be wise and be like God, so they can do things on their own, but the reverse is the case, their action leads to suffering and course from God to mankind.

Noah surrendered to God without questioning God what the ark meant for, he build and ark and he was saved with his households (Gen 6, 8). Abraham surrendered to God by leaving his country for a land which has not been revealed to him, he also obeyed God’s voice by

sacrificing his only son ISAAC, and it was counted for him as the father of all nations (Gen 12, 21). Success, goal, prosperity, wealth, achievement, vision, mission can only be attained through total surrendering of someone’s life.

*“Abide in me, and I in you, as branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. 5; I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth much fruit; for without me ye can do nothing” (John 15:4-5).* I pray God should open man’s heart so they can know this truth*. “…except ye abide in me, … for without me, ye can do nothing”.*

The word **ABIDE** mean to listen, live in, believe in, total submission and surrendering. The next verse says *“if a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and man gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. 7; if ye abide in me and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you”.* Wow! This is a great promise from Jesus Christ. If you want to grow and go far, surrender yourself to Him today.

A story is told of a lorry driver who was suppose to apply the break twice before the lorry will stop due to the heavy load on the lorry for safety. One night the driver fell asleep while driving, all of a sudden he woke an saw he was already closed to the vehicle in his front waiting for the traffic light, he match the break once but the lorry could not stop until he hit the vehicle from the back. The driver was accuse and taken to the court. The judge asked him, “Do you see the vehicle waiting for the traffic light? He replied, “YES”. The judge asked him again, “do you apply you break? The driver again said, “YES”. He continued, “But because I was sleeping I had no time to apply the break twice that is why there was a crash.

The parable of the ten virgins is focus on the coming of the son of God. It all teaches about readiness for His coming. The parable brings to full view the visible church and it is clear that all who goes to church are termed Christian. All who went out to meet the Bridegroom were virgins. They all waited and anxious for the arrival of the Bridegroom. They all have lamps and look decent, physically attractive, beautiful and morally pure, they have abstained from sin and offer their body as living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God. They have lived a Christianity life and resisted the temptation of the flesh but the different in their character was proved by the result, despite they look alike and have their lamp burning.

According to the Jewish customs. Wedding ceremonies are held in the evening. The bridegroom goes to meet his bride and bring her to his home, by torch light the bridal party proceeds from the bride father’s to the bridegroom house where a feast is provided for the invited guests.

While waiting for the arrival of the bridegroom, they were ten virgins holding their lamp in their hand preparing themselves to join the procession when the bridegroom comes forth for the bride. After some hours while waiting for the appearance of the bridegroom, they became weary and slept off. Suddenly the bridegroom appeared in the midnight, all the sleepers awake and see the procession moving on with bright light and song of praise. The ten virgins also awake and trimmed their lamp in hast to join the procession, but five of them did not anticipate so long a delay and have not prepared for the emergency, they have no extra oil to light their lamps, but while they went to buy, the procession move on and the five wise with extra oil light their lamp and enter with the bridal party.

The parable is preparing all souls for the time of harvest; all creatures will be harvested as we harvest our crops and plants in the field. It will happen unaware, no further notice, no announcement or information, and keeping it in mind that, as you enter your field to harvest your yam, corn, potatoes, pineapples, fruits and bring it to the church for harvest celebration. God will also send His angels to harvest mankind any moment from now. Keep watching and be prepared.