

Becoming a **BETTER YOU**

A Guide to Personal Development

AYO ODUNAYO

BECOMING A BETTER YOU

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For further information or permission contact

Victory Publishing House

29, Victory Avenue,

off Elekahia – Rumukalagbor Link Road,

Port Harcourt,

Rivers State, Nigeria.

Telephone: +234187312464, +2348039748415

Website: www.chapelofvictoryintl.com

e-mail: pastorodunayo@gmail.com

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Tel: 07030298365



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DEDICATION



This book is dedicated to the Almighty God, the author and finisher of our Faith and to the Pastors, Ministers, Elders, Deacons and Deaconesses of Chapel of Victory International Churches who were the first to benefit from this teaching in 2007 when I returned to Nigeria from a cross-posting work in Malaysia.

Chapter One

A BETTER YOU

The best goal in life is to become a better “You”. This goal will result in continuous personal development in virtually every area of your life.

You should seek to be a better man or woman, boy or girl, young man or lady. You should work on being a better professional, a better husband or wife, a better business person, a better student, etc. as a Christian or Minister, you should pursue being better everyday.

God wants you to become a better you.

...Seek that you may excel **1 Cor. 14: 12b KJV**

A very important area of life to become better is in your Ministry; your personal Ministry to the Lord, to His kingdom and to His people.

Ministry is you. It is a person that constitutes the ministry and makes it whatever it becomes. You are more important to God than your work or service; hence the focus on your person is the key to a successful ministry.

What Ministry Really Is

It is a calling by God to minister; to serve. It is first a calling to Him, to be with him, to learn from Him, to learn his ways and to be prepared by him for service.

And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, **Mark 3:14 KJV**

This is what Jesus did with his disciples. When he called them, it was first that they should be with him, be transformed and imparted by him and when he is sure that they were ready, he would send them to preach.

Ministry is first about you, about your relationship with God and about your personal development. The priority of ministry must be YOU; your calling to God as a person to walk with him. You must pay attention to your personal development in order to serve the Lord effectively.

*before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations. **Jeremiah 1:5 KJV***

When God called Jeremiah, he first focused on him before he sent him out as a prophet to the Nations. He first sanctified him. That is a process of cleansing, purification and setting apart for God's holy use. This is key to success in life and ministry - preparation, personal preparation, personal purification, personal development and personal empowerment. You must not miss this preparation phase for ministry. Allow yourself to go through the phase of preparation, when your life has to be thoroughly cleansed, purified and spiritually developed for the task ahead.

Spiritual preparation is foundational to successful ministry.

What is successful ministry?

1. It means to accomplish God's purposes. This carries the understanding that you know what God's plans and purposes are for the ministry assignment in your hands. If you are not sure of his purposes, then you cannot measure success.

2. It means to serve effectively; producing a decided and desired result. To be effective requires training, development, equipping and taking personal responsibility over your assignment. No organization with clear vision employs or deploys without equipping her workers. This is what effective ministry requires.
3. Successful ministry means breaking forth, enlargement and increase.

*Sing, O barren, thou that didst not bear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child: for more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife, saith the Lord . [2] Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes; [3] for thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited. **Isaiah 54:1-3 KJV***

From our Isaiah scripture you will notice that the breaking forth - success, comes following the acts of enlargement, deliberate personal steps for increase.

When you enlarge the place of your tent, then the promised breaking forth will take place.

Personal Development

Personal development is one of the important steps of enlargement that must take place to allow you to break forth and become a better you.

Personal development is about you focusing on yourself to equip yourself, train yourself and get better at what God has called you to do.

The word “development” in our context means “gradual growth”. i.e. growing incrementally, growing step by step, etc. Growth itself refers to increase; increase in size. It carries with it the understanding of something or someone increasing or becoming larger, bigger, better, wiser, more skillful, more knowledgeable, more effective, getting better results, etc.

From all we have said so far, we can say that development has to do with gradually increasing and becoming better and more skillful in life and ministry.

What would personal development mean to you?

The word “personal” is an exclusive word that talks about a person. It describes something that does not

involve anyone else. It is something that has to do with self-effort, self-motivation, etc.; and efforts that excludes all other persons. Personal development is a self-effort to grow gradually; self-effort to acquire additional skills, knowledge and other forms of empowerment in order to become better in your life and ministry. Becoming better is personal and requires personal effort to become increasingly a better person.

There are different elements of personal development that combines to produce a better you.

These include:

1. Spiritual development.
2. Character development.
3. Emotional development.
4. Intellectual development.
5. Physical development.
6. Relational development.

In the remaining chapters of this book, we will discuss these six elements of personal development and how you can become a better you through them.

Chapter Two

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Spiritual development is foundational for success in becoming a better person. It is about your spiritual growth and is a fundamental key to success in life. It is about growing in your spiritual content, growing in your spiritual sensitivity, growing in your understanding of spiritual things, growing in your spiritual antenna, in your word intake, word level, word command and prophetic grace and growing in your personal relationship with God.

Your spiritual development increases the grace of God upon your life and this will become more and more visible as you minister with God confirming his word in your life with testimonies, miracles, signs and wonders.

*And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen. **Mark 16:20 KJV***

Elements of spiritual development

1. **Develop a personal intimate relationship with God through a personal time of fellowship and communication with God.**

Abraham developed an intimate relationship with God that made the Lord to reveal to Abraham his plans regarding Sodom and Gomorrah.

And the Lord said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

Genesis 18:17-19 KJV

Intimacy develops through regular contact, regular loving communication, submission to His ways and will etc.

Moses also had a growing intimacy with God by maintaining God's presence around him.

*And he said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest. And he said unto him; if thy presence goes not with me, carry us not up hence. For wherein shall it be known here that I and thy people have found grace in thy sight? Is it not in that thou goest with us? So shall we be separated, I and thy people, from all the people that are upon the face of the earth. And the Lord said unto Moses, I will do this thing also that thou hast spoken: for thou hast found grace in my sight, and I know thee by name. **Exodus 33:14-17 KJV***

When you don't develop a personal intimate relationship with God, you will sooner lose the glory of his presence in your life and ministry. You can pretend the Lord is still there but that presence can only last for a period of time after which people will discover that the glory has departed.

Don't pretend – work on your relationship with God. Spend more regular time with God. Learn to fellowship with God intimately without distraction through word study and prayer; and learn to listen for God's voice in your heart.

2. Develop a growing prayer relationship with God.

A prayer relationship helps to develop your intimacy with God. It grows your fluency in communicating with God and in hearing from Him. A prayer relationship strengthens your hearing and understanding of God's voice.

A prayer relationship is developed through discipline, discipline to pray regularly; discipline to stay long in prayer and discipline to take everything to the Lord in prayer:

Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Philippians 4:6 KJV

Train yourself to pray regularly and passionately. Discipline yourself to pray in the spirit.

But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

Jude 1:20 KJV

A growing prayer relationship with God can be developed when you begin to give time to intercession. Intercession is when you pray for other people and other issues other than yourself, like praying for a friend or

neighbor to be saved, praying for your country, praying for your church or praying in tongues over a matter that suddenly becomes a burden in your heart.

God is always looking for Intercessors who will stand in the gap to stop divine judgment over individuals, families or even nations.

*And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none. **Ezekiel 22:30 KJV***

*And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him. **Isaiah 59:16 KJV***

May God find you an Intercessor today.

3. Develop a growing worship life.

God saved us that we may worship him and live a life that pleases him. Worship is the art of adoring God through our songs, praise, and testimonies of his goodness, submission to him and obedience to his word.

*Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created. **Revelation 4:11 KJV***



Worship through songs of praise and adoration connects your spirit to the Lord. It brings lifting to your soul and makes your heart to be filled with awe for the Lord. David gives us a pattern of worship in Psalm 100.

*Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. **Psalm 100:4 KJV***

A growing worship life is one that is not restricted to the church during services but that involves private praise and worship in any convenient place including the home. In order to grow in your worship life, you have to be personal and intentional. Let your life be an example of praise & worship.

*O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker. For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. Today if ye will hear his voice, **Psalm 95:6-7 KJV***

*Sing aloud unto God our strength: make a joyful noise unto the God of Jacob. Take a psalm, and bring hither the timbrel, the pleasant harp with the psaltery. Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day. **Psalm 81:1-3 KJV***



*I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations. **Psalm 89:1 KJV***

4. Grow steadily in the word of God.

Spiritual development involves growing in the knowledge, understanding and revelation of God's word.

Apostle Peter in his letter in 2Peter chapters 3 asked us to grow in the knowledge of Jesus. This comes by growing in the word.

*But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever. Amen. **2 Peter 3:18 KJV***

And Apostle Paul also admonishes that you should be filled richly with the word.

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. **Colossians 3:16 KJV***

It is the level of your knowledge, understanding and revelation of God's word that determines your level of grace, enlightenment, light and freedom.

*And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. That is what determines your boldness in God and your faith. **John 8:32 KJV***

*So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. It is the word of God you take in, that builds you up and gives you an inheritance. **Romans 10:17 KJV***

*And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. **Acts 20:32 KJV***

How do you develop in the word? Study, meditate, put to heart, and give yourself to the word.

*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. **2 Timothy 2:15 KJV***

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

Hebrews chapter 5 from verse 12 to 14 makes it clear that frequent use of something will result in being skillful in that thing.

When you develop yourself in studying, meditating, memorizing, and confessing God's word, you will become very skillful in the word.

5. Grow steadily in faith

Faith is the substance of things hoped for and the conviction of things..., Hebrews 11:1.

Faith is an integral part of your spirituality. Without it you cannot walk with God and cannot please him. You can't come to him unless you believe and you can't get anything from him without exercising your faith.

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. James 1:5-7 KJV

To develop yourself spiritually, you need to grow in faith. You do this by exercising your faith in God for things you need by the principle of asking and receiving. You

progress in your faith walk by believing God for things for other people. Simply put, you grow in faith as you learn to believe God for personal needs and as you learn to believe him for people and ministry needs.

Stop complaining over matters of lack or over life challenges that may come your way, but rather believe God for the situations to change and let your confessions (professions) align with your faith expectations.

So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them. Mark 11:22-24 NKJV

Faith is built on the promises of God in his word and faith grows through the knowledge of the word of God.

But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; so then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Romans 10:8, 17 KJV

Confession of faith deepens your convictions and strengthens your faith. You have to consistently confess the word for your faith to grow and for you to experience the manifestation of what you believe. Don't keep your mouth shut but speak what you believe and you will experience the results of faith.

*We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak; **2 Corinthians 4:13 KJV***

Perseverance is a characteristic of faith. It means being and trusting that what you have asked God for will come through no matter how long it's been coming or you have been waiting. You persevere in faith with praise in your mouth. Abraham waited, doing many things as he waited.

(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations; according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead,

*when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. **Romans 4:17-21 KJV***

While persevering, Abraham refused to give consideration to his physical condition or that of Sarah but rather focused on giving glory to God for his promise. This is the way to wait for Gods promises.

Chapter Three

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

As we have seen so far, to become a better you requires that you focus on yourself and on your personal development. This enables you to reach your utmost in life.

A foundational and fundamental step to develop yourself is by developing spiritually. This was the subject of the last chapter of this book. It is a non-negotiable key to your success as a Christian, and to become a better person.

In this chapter we will discuss character and emotional development as another key element in your personal development task.

What is Character?

Character is what you are when no one is looking. It is the traits in you that are shown in the way you react to various situations and challenges of life. i.e. when you are handling a lot of money; when you are dealing with women; or when you are facing a destabilizing situation. Your reactions and traits in any of these or other numerous situations will depict your character - the type of person you are; whether you are honest, a thief, an easy person, a patient person, etc.

Character is your behavior; your conduct. Behavior is the particular way a person does things, or conducts himself or herself in a place or in a situation.

Character depicts your personality; it shows who you really are.

In many cases a person's character is interwoven with his or her emotional releases. This means that the way a person releases or manages his or her emotions will define the character.

Emotions that affect or character include emotions of anger, joy, fear, sadness, disgust, surprise, trusts, anticipation, pride, shame, etc. Character can be classified as good, moral character or as bad character. We will discuss these in the next few minutes.

Character can be classified as good or bad. A good character is also called moral character. We will discuss good and bad characters in the next few pages of this chapter.

The Power of Character

1. Character will distinguish you from others
2. Character will keep you on top
3. Character will showcase you to the world
4. Your character will define your name.

*A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favor rather than silver and gold. God is jealous of his name and guards it and if you want to have a good name, then you must be a person of good character, a person of good moral value. **Proverbs 22:1 KJV***

A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth.

Ecclesiastes 7:1 KJV

It is important to keep a good name and value your name above any life struggle. This is what should motivate your conduct in all situations. Examine yourself and what name you are called amongst your

contemporaries? What name are you called in the office, amongst political associates, in your neighborhood, in the church and even amongst Christian leaders?

Your conduct defines your name.

5. Your character will define your reputation.

Reputation is what you are known for. It is people's opinion about a person based on what has happened in the past. Reputation is an estimation of a person in the minds of the world. It is a person's character in public view.

Reputation is sometimes built on perception and or false information. This is why it is important to work for a good reputation through very clear and unambiguous right conduct and moral character.

A Christian leader must strive to avoid situations and circumstances that will impact his reputation negatively. In Daniel chapter five we have a rendering of the reputation of Daniel in a foreign land, Babylon.

Then was Daniel brought in before the king. And the king spake and said unto Daniel, Art thou that Daniel, which art of the children of the captivity of Judah, whom the king my father brought out of Jewry? I have even heard of thee,

*that the spirit of the gods is in thee, and that light and understanding and excellent wisdom is found in thee. **Daniel 5:13-14 KJV***

The king of Babylon had an opinion of Daniel because of what he had heard about him. Daniel's reputation was that of a man of excellence, a man in whom the spirit of God dwelt, a man of wisdom, knowledge and understanding. What have men heard of you? What reputation do you have amongst people from your past records of relationship with them?

Are you perceived as a king; as a godly person or as a ruthless and harsh person? Are you known to be prudent and careful with money or known to be greedy and money minded? Are you viewed as a lovely and kind father or pastor or as unfriendly and uncaring? What people think of you defines your character and what they think of you largely comes from what you have done in the past.

To be a successful leader requires that you mind your reputation by the things you say and do both in private and in public.

Good Character Traits

The word “good” can be defined as something that is of a high standard and that is morally right. A good character is the traits of high quality, high standard, uprightness and desirable virtue in an individual.

The character traits that we will discuss in this section are amongst the things that constitute good and godly character.

1. The fruit of the Spirit.

This actually summarizes what God wants to see in every Christian. It is the fruit of a genuine encounter with God and with His Spirit/ the Holy Spirit. It spells out nine traits that can define you and present you to the world as a person of good character.

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, [23] Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. **Galatians 5:22-23 KJV***

2. Integrity.

This means wholeness; derived from honesty, reliability, fairness, uprightness, etc. Integrity means to steadfastly adhere to strict moral, ethical codes. It is a

state of soundness and being unimpaired. A person of integrity is a person of his or her words.

*[4]... He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not. Integrity means being straight forward, not slippery, not deceptive but predictable in his ways. **Psalm 15:4 KJV***

A Christian must be known for his or her clarity in dealing with situations. He or she does not pretend but is upright in all things.

March Aurelius Antonius, a Roman Emperor (161 - 180 AD), a Philosopher said: "If it is not right, do not do it, if it is not true, do not say it"

The above summarizes integrity.

3. Trust worthiness.

This means being dependable. It means someone you can rely to be honest, good, sincere etc. it means having the trust of a person such that you can predict things the person can do and things the person won't ever be involved in. This trait was demonstrated by Abraham to God and God could trust him that he would handle his children properly in the future.

*And the Lord said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him. **Genesis 18:17, 19 KJV***

4. Truthfulness.

Truthfulness means being saying only what is true, giving the true facts about things, truthful and full of truth. It means standing for truth and defending it. A man of character is a man of truth. He speaks the truth always and is not afraid to speak the truth in all circumstances.

*He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. **Psalm 15:2 KJV***

Truthfulness means speaking the truth even when people may feel hurt but doing it in love and out of love.

*But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: **Ephesians 4:15 KJV***

5. Righteousness.

This has to do with righteous and godly living. The trait has to do with doing right rights, speaking right and standing for what is right. It means staying away from anything that can defile or impure life one's character and conduct.

*Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth. **Ephesians 4:28 KJV***

It means putting on the new man in Christ Jesus. It means having the right kind of communication.

We can glimpse what this entails from Colossians chapter 3 verses 3 to 14.

6. Honesty

This is interwoven with being truthful; always telling the truth; never stealing or cheating or lying. Honesty is a key requirement to be appointed over God's business and is required before God and men.

*Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. **Acts 6:3 KJV***

Providing for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.

Honesty is the correct to deal with non-believers so that we can be distinguished. It is the right life of a Christian.

*That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing. **1 Thessalonians 4:12 KJV***

*Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation. **1 Peter 2:12 KJV***

7. Faithfulness.

This is the ability to stay with someone and provide support without betrayal. It means ability to follow carefully and accurately, in a loyal way; in a way you can rely on. A faithful person is a consistent person; an accurate and careful person.

He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will

commit to your trust the true riches? And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own? **Luke 16:10-12 KJV**

Faithfulness is divine requirement for service and is both a motivation for service and a prerequisite for reward of service.

Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful. **1 Corinthians 4:2 KJV**

Then came the first, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds. And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities **Luke 19:16-17 KJV**

Faithfulness is proof of loyalty to a person or a course. It is being able to stick to a person or course you believe in despite contrary forces around you trying to convince you otherwise.

All my state shall Tychicus declare unto you, who is a beloved brother, and a faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord: Whom I have sent unto you for the same purpose, that he might know your estate, and comfort your

hearts; With Onesimus, a faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They shall make known unto you all things which are done here **Colossians 4:7-9 KJV**

Bad Character Traits

The word “bad” refers to something of a poor quality, of low standard, unworthy or unacceptable. A bad character is the traits in a person that is of low moral standard and of unworthy or unacceptable qualities.

There are numerous traits that can be categorized as bad and unworthy of a Christian. These are generally the character of the yet to be transformed believer.

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. **2 Corinthians 5:17 KJV**

The old nature is so diverse and it will take a separate book to discuss the traits of bad character conclusively.

In this section I will lead you through scriptures to have a look at some traits of bad character. We start with the summary of them all, described in the book of Galatians as the works of the flesh.

*Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envy, murders, drunkenness, reveling, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. **Galatians 5:19-21 KJV***

Take personal time to look at the list above and deal with any that affects your life.

The following scriptures deal with traits such as Cheating, lying and stealing.

*That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified. **1 Thessalonians 4:6 KJV***

*Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor: for we are members one of another. **Ephesians 4:25 KJV***

*Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labor, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth. **Ephesians 4:28 KJV***

An important trait to highlight, though included in the summary in Galatians chapter five is **Sexual immorality**. This is having sexual relationship outside and f marriage.

*For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus. For this is the will of God, even your sanctification that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honor; For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness. **1 Thessalonians 4:2-4,7 KJV***

Back-biting is a character trait that will make you to loose many good friends as quickly as they discover that you are a back biter.

*Lord , who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbor, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbor. **Psalms 15:1, 3 KJV***

The list goes on and on and includes being a **double-speak** and or a **Rumor monger**. Other vices that speak of bad character are being involved in **destroying others** by your conversations,

presenting yourself as better than others and having the habit of **“Pull Down” syndrome**. This is the habit of always making others look not good enough for the positions they occupy.

The divine conclusion for all those who do not deal with their bad habits is in the following scriptures:

... that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. **Galatians 5:21 KJV**

Tools for Developing Godly Character

1. The law of identification and recognition.

Identify your weakness, recognize it and acknowledge it. What you don't recognize you cannot change. You have personal responsibility for your change; so be true to yourself.

Ask personal questions- What must change in me? Lying, not being straight forward with people, Lack of loyalty, Emotional immaturity, etc. Do a self-sincere search.

Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates? **2 Corinthians 13:5 KJV**

2. Deal with it prayerfully. Ask the Lord to bring change to your life.

Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Philippians 4:6 KJV

You have to pray passionately for change to experience change. Prayer is a statement of faith in God's ability to help you in this process. You pray because you know god can help you. Prayer helps to fix your attention on the areas of your life that you need to pay attention to. Prayer helps you to work positively towards change and transformation.

3. Confront the defective character you have identified.

I. Seek and take feedbacks seriously.

ii. Confront the defect by the word and prayer. Character development requires your personal commitment to change. It requires that you face the issues in your life and work on them. God's word is an unfailing instrument of change. Scripture affirms that it is able to save the soul. This is talking about change.

*Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. You therefore confront any character that needs change with the scriptures. **James 1:21 KJV***

- iii. Meditate on the word of God for Godly character that should manifest in your life.

Take time to identify and list passages that deal with change and character and mediate in them until you can confess them from memory.

- iv. Read books to learn more about godly character and how to develop them.
- v. seek counsel when the issue you are dealing with is strong and or refusing to go easily.

*And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. **Romans 12:2 KJV***

- 4. Be patient and work on yourself until change comes

*If a man die, shall he live again? All the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come. **Job 14:14 KJV***

Chapter Four

EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Emotional maturity is being able to handle your emotions in different situations and circumstances of life. Such emotions include shouting, anger, fear, crying etc.

It is very necessary to develop your emotions in order to respond appropriately to issues and situations. Your emotional development is proof of your maturity.

Emotional development has to do with your mature emotional response to People, Situations & circumstances and to issues.

Emotional development is marked by your ability to handle anger when responding to people and issues, your ability to handle breaking down with sobbing

and crying over matters, being able to handle deaths of loved ones, being able to handle those who are hurt, being able to receive comfort and being able to receive criticism, truthful feedbacks and corrections appropriately.

How of Emotional Development

In order to grow and mature in life and be a better person, you need to develop yourself emotionally.

- i. Learn to be patient.

Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer; Romans 12:12 KJV

Be patient in difficult situations. Just learn to relax and wait for the Lord. Learn to be patient with people. Put off wrath, put on long suffering.

Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Long suffering is ability to bear difficult or uncomfortable things for a long time.

Colossians 3:12 KJV

- ii. Learn to receive feedbacks positively. Receiving feedbacks means taking corrections with a positive attitude; taking criticism as a feedback and not as an attempt to bring you down.

This is being able to listen when corrections are given to you and not trying to fight back, get angry or breakdown into emotional bursts of weeping and crying. When you become used to correction and turn deaf ears, you position yourself for a fall.

He, that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy. Proverbs 29:1 KJV

He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.

Proverbs 28:9 KJV

If anyone turns a deaf ear to my instruction, even their prayers are detestable. Proverbs 28:9 NIV

- iii. Develop inner strength (capacity) to handle emotional upsets

An emotional upset is when you are disappointed by people unexpectedly. It is necessary to develop yourself to manage such unexpected failures from people.

*Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord. **1 Corinthians 15:58 KJV***

One way to develop your capacity to handle upsetting situations is through prayer. Pray consistently for yourself regarding this.

*Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. **Philippians 4:6 KJV***

Secondly, learn to forbear. Just bear with what does not meet up with your expectations.

*Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. **Colossians 3:13 KJV***

Bear with people's stupidity, carelessness, incompetence etc.

iv. Learn to control your anger - be angry and don't burst it.

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For

*the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. **James 1:19-20 KJV***

Manage your angry reactions.

There will always be reasons to react angrily for as long as you deal with humans, so you need to develop your capacity to absorb the rings that could stir up anger such that you can react when the anger bursts. Control your anger deliberately by speaking to yourself that you don't have to be angry. Deliver yourself from anger bursts and be in charge of your emotions.

*And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will. **2 Timothy 2:26 KJV***

Chapter Five

INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT

Becoming a better person is God's goal for you, so that you can serve Him and impact others. God calls you to himself to impact your life and build you up in order to send you out. You are then sent to impact the life of others.

Your effectiveness in life therefore is a function of how you are received by the people God brings your way. Your level of intelligence determines your message, your performance, and your product. Your level of intelligence determines the level of people you can attract or retain in your ministry, work, and social life. It is therefore important to pay attention to your intellectual development.

What Intellectual Development is About

Intellect is the faculty of reasoning; it is a person's mental powers or ability; a person's ability to understand or think. Intellectual development is about growing in your mental ability, your reasoning capability; ability to recognize...

It is about growing in your intellect, thinking ability, ability to recognize opportunities, solve complex problems and make significant impact in people's lives.

The heart is the key to intellectual excellence.

*And he saith unto them, Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, it cannot defile him; because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats? And he said, that which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man. **Mark 7:18-23 KJV***

Everything starts and ends in the heart.

*O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. [35] A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. **Matthew 12:34-35 KJV***

The heart is the preparation place for intellectual development and excellence.

When the scripture talks about the heart, it means everything about a man's reasoning faculties. This is where intellect resides is developed. God needs you to develop your heart (your reasoning and emotional faculties inclusive) in order for you to grow your capacity for success.

Phases of Intellectual Development

According to encyclopedia.com Intellectual development refers to the changes that occur as a result of growth and experience in a person's capacities for thinking, reasoning, relating, judging, conceptualizing, etc.

There are two phases of intellectual development for everyone;

1. From Childhood to Adolescence - a time for the formation of intellect and cognitive skills.
2. From Adolescence to Adulthood - a time for maintenance, decline or improvement of intelligence.

Childhood Intellectual Development.

This is an important phase in the life of every person. As earlier mentioned, this is when the intellect of a child is formed and the cognitive skills are developed. Cognitive skills refer to ability to learn, reason, solve problems, remember things, pay attention etc. These abilities are developed during this phase in a child's life.

Parents must commit to developing their children deliberately in this phase of their growth.

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6 KJV

Churches should also provide the necessary environment for the children to develop high intelligence and cognitive skills. Cognitive development is essential to developing intelligence of children.

Stages of cognitive Development

Swiss biologist and psychologist Jean Piaget (1896-1980) developed a four stage model of cognitive development after observing his children and how they made sense of the world around them. His proposition was that children go through 4 stages of development in the same order.

These four stages are:

1. 0 – 2 years: Within this age, a child develops sensory motor intelligence, smells parents, feels shapes, etc. To assist in the development of these skills, a child should be provided with toys for understanding recognition of shape, provided musical toys, should be carried and made to experience joy and happiness.
2. 2 – 5 years: in this stage, a child develops pre-logical intuitive intelligence. Parents and or teachers should introduce reasoning, provide toys to challenge intuition allow the use of building blocks / Lego and provide problem solving scenarios for the child.
3. 6 – 10 years: within this age is the development of concrete operational thought, constructive thinking and ability to focus on one thing.

4. 10 years to Adult: This is the phase for full development. A child can focus on several things at a time. This is the final formative age when we get it or miss it. This is also the stage of maintenance, decline or improvement of intelligence.

You can improve your intelligence as an adult, even when your childhood had been deprived, abused or uneducated. This is the fifth stage, the stage of Post formal thinking, the stage of personal development. For example, Apostle Peter was a fisher man when he met Jesus, he had passed the 4 stages of formal cognitive development, yet his life was changed; he became one of the foremost apostles of the gospel. What this tells us is that your greatness in life cannot be limited by the missed opportunities of childhood. There are still abundant opportunities with God to become successful in life and these opportunities can be realized through personal development. You can re-engage your brain through a post formal thinking process. Post formal thinking is ability to hold in the mind complex array of different information and views. Get involved with things that can waken up your intelligence and be deliberate to become a new and better person.

Stimulation of Re-development.

You can stimulate yourself for re development in other to reach higher potential of your mental ability. It's never too late to become better. How can you stimulate yourself to become a better and more successful person?

1. Through a Stimulating environment such as going to a university, engaging in a demanding professional work, absorbing interests that require external knowledge, etc.
2. Through deliberate Mind development activities such as reading, memory recall exercise, learning to play a musical instrument, taking new routes, trying new things, doing things the Lord way, connecting with different people, meditation. Etc.
3. Through thinking; connecting new information to formal knowledge; selective thinking deliberately, planning, monitoring, evaluating, and thinking for yourself.

Areas of Mind Development

1. Develop your sensory intelligence. This is your capacity for perception, creative thinking, boosting of your memory and your vision.

2. Develop your Effective communication skills. This is by becoming better in listening, talking, giving feedback, receiving feedback, etc.
3. Develop your will power and concentration. Your will power is the self-control you apply to do something or to restrain yourself from doing. An example of lack of will power is where you are weak at saying NO to hunger during fasting.
4. Develop your study skills; study, recall and apply
5. Develop your reading skills; read quickly, read widely, appreciate, analyze and apply what you read.

Keys for Intellectual Development

1. Diligence. Be diligent in your work. It takes diligence to stand out and stand tall.

*Seest thou a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men. **Proverbs 22:29 KJV***

2. Study. This is a very important key to intellectual development. Educate yourself and improve on the level of education and knowledge you possess. When your education improves, your knowledge in broadened.

3. Association. When you widen the scope of your association, you widen the opportunities for your intellectual development. Don't stick to the old associates that have not helped your horizon but go all out to meet new people from a wider circle of life.
4. Thinking deliberately. Deliberate thinking helps to force your reasoning and ability to retain things. Take time out to think and not to sleep.

For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he.

Proverbs 23:7 KJV

5. Active involvement in creative work. This is a master key to developing yourself. Don't be an onlooker but be active in learning by getting involved.

Chapter Six

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Physical appearance, disposition and comportment are very important key to succeeding in life. Your appearance determines your acceptance. It either opens doors or closes them to you.

A person's physical appearance determines what doors may open to him and what group of people may welcome him; and it is not all kinds of people that are acceptable in a king's palace.

At a certain time in the land of Babylon, the king made an order for young men to be gathered throughout the land for training. However, it was not a free for all as not all young men were qualified to be admitted into the King's university. They all needed to meet the physical appearance criteria.

Take a look at the scripture below and see the various criteria of the king of Babylon.

*And the king spake unto Ashpenaz the master of his eunuchs, that he should bring certain of the children of Israel, and of the king's seed, and of the princes; Children in whom was no blemish, but well favoured, and skillful in all wisdom, and cunning in knowledge, and understanding science, and such as had ability in them to stand in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the learning and the tongue of the Chaldeans. **Daniel 1:3-4 KJV***

1. They must have no blemish.
2. They should be well favored.
3. They should be skillful in matters of wisdom,
4. They should be intelligent and knowledgeable.
5. They should be broad in science.
6. They should have a good carriage and comportment.

Physical appearance was an important part of the criteria for admission into the King's school. We can see it better from the New International version and New Living Translation.

*young men without any physical defect, handsome, showing aptitude for every kind of learning, well informed, quick to understand, and qualified to serve in the king's palace. He was to teach them the language and literature of the Babylonians. **Daniel 1:4 NIV***

*"Select only strong, healthy, and good-looking young men," he said. "Make sure they are well versed in every branch of learning, are gifted with knowledge and good judgment, and are suited to serve in the royal palace. Train these young men in the language and literature of Babylon." **Daniel 1:4 NLT***

From both translations we can conclude that the physical appearance criteria were that the people must be strong, healthy, good looking and having no physical defect.

The way you appear will affect the way you are received and treated by people. It will affect people's opinion of you and it may affect the opportunities that open up for you.

Another example of the importance of physical appearance to success in life can be viewed from How Jesus was described in Luke chapter 2.

*There the child grew up healthy and strong. He was filled with wisdom, and God's favor was on him. Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and all the people. **Luke 2:40, 52 NLT***

Jesus did not look haggard and sickly but was always looking strong and healthy and growing in status. He was physically presentable as well as being strong in spirit, increasing in wisdom, having Favor with God and being full of grace.

Your ministry will need you to be physically presentable for you to attract quality people.

Esther the queen had an attractive physical appearance, a good comportment and a beauty that could not be ignored. All these with God's Favor as a covering made her irresistible to the King.

Now the young woman pleased him, and she obtained his favor; so he readily gave beauty preparations to her, besides her allowance. Then seven choice maidservants were provided for her from the king's palace, and he moved her and her maidservants to the best place in the house of the women. Now when the turn came for Esther the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her as his daughter, to go in to the king, she requested nothing but what Hegai the king's eunuch, the

*custodian of the women, advised. And Esther obtained favor in the sight of all who saw her. So Esther was taken to King Ahasuerus, into his royal palace, in the tenth month, which is the month of Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign. **Esther 2:9, 15-16 NKJV***

She was given beauty preparations that improved her physical appearance and presentation before the King. Your appearance draws favor or displeasure.

How to Improve Your Physical Appearance.

1. Dress well and be presentable. If you are a Minister, appear mostly in Suit, shirt and tie. You may also appear in proper Native attire. Put on good shoes. Always insist on good dresses.

*Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon: and he shaved himself, and changed his raiment, and came in unto Pharaoh. **Genesis 41:14 KJV***

Joseph did not appear anyhow before the King of Egypt.

2. Talk carefully not carelessly

*So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; **James 1:19 NKJV***

Tame your tongue and speak with grace. Minister Grace shows in the way you act, in the things you do and the frequency of your talking. Avoid unnecessary chitchat and loss of self-control during discussions. Learn to listen more than talking.

3. Be humble

But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

James 4:6 NKJV

Humility is the way of lifting. A proud person gets detested by people but a humble appearance opens doors of favor.

4. Be approachable

*A man who has friends must himself be friendly,
But there is a friend who sticks closer than a
brother. **Proverbs 18:24 NKJV***

Being friendly is a physical disposition. When you are friendly and approachable you set yourself up to be blessed and to be a blessing.

5. Carry yourself appropriately.

This is talking about comportment. You should comport yourself with self-respect and self-discipline. You should avoid careless disposition.

Chapter Seven

RELATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A very important pathway to success in life and ministry is through your relationship with people. A good relationship with people carries with it lots of advantages that can be turned into opportunities for your progress and lifting.

Your relationship with people also plays a key role in your ability to keep the people God bring into your life. This is why you need to spend quality time in relational development that is, growing in the quality of your relationship with people. Effective and fruitful relationships with people do not just occur; they have to be worked on and developed.

Pointers To Working and Developing Fruitful Relationships.

You have to be submissive and obedient to leadership, you also need to maintain your connection with people and as a pastor you must learn to connect with members and new people. This must be done deliberately and purposefully. The following pointers will equip you in developing lasting relationship with people.

1. Manner of approach; not rash but gentle and respectful.
2. A bridle tongue in communication
3. Care and concern about followers

The Power of Good Relationship.

1. It builds bonds with others in the church. People stay where they find love and relationship; first with the pastors and leaders and next with the church members.

We must commit time to develop relationship bonds with church members and amongst leaders and pastors.

2. It breeds trust

3. It breeds friendship
4. It develops strong bonds of commitment and faithfulness. If you want commitment from people when you are not around, then invest in relationship.

How to Build Fruitful Relationship

1. Show genuine care for the welfare of others. A good example of this is Joseph, while he was in prison. When he saw his fellow in-mates looking sad, he was concerned about them and his persistent enquiries yielded a solution that was an answer to their worries.

And Joseph came in to them in the morning and looked at them, and saw that they were sad. So he asked Pharaoh's officers who were with him in the custody of his lord's house, saying, "Why do you look so sad today?" **Genesis 40:6-7 NKJV**

Building relationships require giving comfort to people, finding answers to the questions, asking after their well-being etc. seek the comfort of the people around your life and pray for them without ceasing.

2. Look out for people

Relationships are built when care is demonstrated towards people. You can do this by always looking out for the people you want to build relationship with; in church weekly meetings; Sunday services, home cell meetings etc. Look around and identify who is emotionally disturbed, who has an issue or who is not in your church service that day. A pastor must keep track of who is absent and reach out to such person. Look out for people through phones, text messages and by personal contacts.

3. Be there for the people

Relationship grows when you are faithful and loyal to people. Being there for people is inclusive of availability, reliability and providing unblushing support to people when things are rough or unpleasant. These are attributes that develop and deepen relationship.

David and Jonathan's relationship became fruitful as a result of Jonathan's deliberate investment in David and standing with him at his difficult seasons. Jonathan was there to provide protection, encouragement and astute loyalty during the period his father, King Saul was planning to kill David.

*And Saul spake to Jonathan his son, and to all his servants, that they should kill David. And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where thou art, and I will commune with my father of thee; and what I see, that I will tell thee. And Jonathan spake good of David unto Saul his father; and said unto him, Let not the king sin against his servant, against David; because he hath not sinned against thee, and because his works have been to thee-ward very good: For he did put his life in his hand, and slew the Philistine, and the Lord wrought a great salvation for all Israel: thou sawest it, and didst rejoice: wherefore then wilt thou sin against innocent blood, to slay David without a cause? And Saul hearkened unto the voice of Jonathan: and Saul sware, As the Lord liveth, he shall not be slain. **1 Samuel 19:1,3-6 KJV***

Jonathan stood for David before the king, and spoke good concerning David; he also spoke to prevent the king from killing David. He would not betray his relationship and he would do anything to protect it. This is what it means to be there for someone. It is an important key to develop good relationships.

4. Be gentle respectful in your communication.

Your approach to people and response to people can either build a fruitful relationship or keep people away from you. You should avoid being rash, rude or proud. You should bridle your tongue in communication.

This should be to all people whether young or old, whether servants or masters, whether children or parents.

Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth...Eph 4:29 KJV

But now ye also put off all these things...Colossians 3:8 KJV

5. Be loyal to your leaders.

Loyalty builds fruitful relationship. Loyalty means showing allegiance, providing help and support, being faithful and consistent. Loyalty is demonstrated through consistent submission and obedience to leadership. Loyalty requires your humility and demands trust in your leaders.

Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do

it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you. Hebrews 13:17 KJV

You also develop fruitful relationship by being loyal to those you lead. This is demonstrated by being there for them, being supportive to them and not doing anything harmful to them when they are not there.

Loyalty is a relationship of Love and Care towards your leader and towards those you lead.

When Solomon's son Rehoboam became King, his loyalty to the people was tested through the rebellion of Jeroboam. Rehoboam did not show a heart of loyalty to the people by choosing to increase the burdens on them. He therefore lost their willingness to follow him as their king.

And Rehoboam went to Shechem: for all Israel were come to Shechem to make him king. And it came to pass, when Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who was yet in Egypt, heard of it, (for he was fled from the presence of king Solomon, and Jeroboam dwelt in Egypt;) That they sent and called him. And Jeroboam and all the congregation of Israel came, and spake unto Rehoboam, saying, Thy father made our yoke grievous: now therefore make thou the grievous service of thy father; and his heavy yoke which he put upon us, lighter; and we will serve thee. And he said

unto them, Depart yet for three days, then come again to me. And the people departed. And king Rehoboam consulted with the old men, that stood before Solomon his father while he yet lived, and said, How do ye advise that I may answer this people? And they spake unto him, saying, If thou wilt be a servant unto this people this day, and wilt serve them, and answer them, and speak good words to them, then they will be thy servants for ever. But he forsook the counsel of the old men, which they had given him, and consulted with the young men that were grown up with him, and which stood before him: And he said unto them, What counsel give ye that we may answer this people, who have spoken to me, saying, Make the yoke which thy father did put upon us lighter? And the young men that were grown up with him spake unto him, saying, Thus shalt thou speak unto this people that spake unto thee, saying, Thy father made our yoke heavy, but make thou it lighter unto us; thus shalt thou say unto them, My little finger shall be thicker than my father's loins. And now whereas my father did lade you with a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke: my father hath chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions. So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam the third day, as the

king had appointed, saying, Come to me again the third day. And the king answered the people roughly, and forsook the old men's counsel that they gave him; And spake to them after the counsel of the young men, saying, My father made your yoke heavy, and I will add to your yoke: my father also chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions. Wherefore the king hearkened not unto the people; for the cause was from the LORD, that he might perform his saying, which the LORD spake by Ahijah the Shilonite unto Jeroboam the son of Nebat. So when all Israel saw that the king hearkened not unto them, the people answered the king, saying, What portion have we in David? neither have we inheritance in the son of Jesse: to your tents, O Israel: now see to thine own house, David. So Israel departed unto their tents. But as for the children of Israel which dwelt in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them. Then king Rehoboam sent Adoram, who was over the tribute; and all Israel stoned him with stones, that he died. Therefore king Rehoboam made speed to get him up to his chariot, to flee to Jerusalem. So Israel rebelled against the house of David unto this day. **1 Kings 12:1-19 KJV**

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An Important Step in Your Life

An Important Step in Your Life

Have you ever asked Jesus to come into your heart? Have you received God's forgiveness and turned from your life of sin to live a new life in Christ Jesus?

May I invite you to make Jesus Christ the shepherd of your soul?

The Bible says, "...that if you shall confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you shall be saved. For with the heart man believes unto righteousness and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." (Romans 10:9-10).

To receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of your life, please pray the following prayer from your heart:

"Dear Jesus, I believe that you died for me and rose again on the third day. I confess to you that I am a sinner and I need your love and forgiveness. Come into my life, forgive my sins and give me eternal life. I confess you as my Lord and my Savior. Thank you for my salvation. I walk in

*your peace and joy from this day forward, in Jesus name,
Amen.*

Signed:.....

Name:.....

Date:.....

If you prayed the prayer above, or you have a testimony
from reading this book, write to me and share your
testimony.

E-mail: pastorodunayo@gmail.com

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HOW TO REACH US

Postal Address:

Victory International Ministries Inc.

Aka

The Chapel of Victory Intl Churches

P. O. Box. 6983, Port-Harcourt, Nigeria

Website: www.chapelofvictoryintl.com

Twitter: twitter.com/RevOdunayo

Facebook: facebook.com/RevAyoOdunayo or

www.facebook.com/ChapelofVictoryInternationalChurches

Headquarter Church

Champions Cathedral

#29 Victory Avenue,

Off ElekahiaRumukalagbor Road,

Rumukalagbor, Port Harcourt.

Rivers State, Nigeria

+2349090732398; +2349096264609

CHURCH BRANCHES / CAMPUSES

Chapel of Victory Intl Churches,
Rumuodomaya Branch
Km 12, Airport Road,
By Gas Filling Plant,
Rumuodomaya, Port Harcourt.
+2348033126237

Chapel of Victory Intl Churches,
Orochiri Branch
Ikwerre/English Language Church
No. 6 Minijiri Street,
Orochiri, Port Harcourt.
+2348037604777; +2348056379081

Chapel of Victory Intl Churches
Mile 4 Branch
Eyiah Lane, Off Ada-George Road,
Rumuepirikom, Port Harcourt.
+2348100259979; +2348179829538

Chapel of Victory Intl Churches
Elelewon Branch
Plot 10, Akarakpo Lane,
Off Location Road, Rumuodunwere
Elelenwo, Port Harcourt.
+2348037178034

Chapel of Victory Intl Churches
Rumuekini Branch
26 School Rad,
Rumugbatanwa Family Hall
Port-Harcourt.
+2348035413193

Chapel of Victory Intl Churches
Yenegoa Branch
11 Toolda Road,
By Bukka swallow Restaurant, Ekeki
Yenegoa, Bayelsa State
+2347057267660

Chapel of Victory Intl Churches
Benin Branch
Orhue Street,
Opposite Continental Group of schools
Aso Bus stop, Benin, Nigeria
+2347066010723

Chapel of Victory Intl Churches
Abuloma Branch
No. 175 Abuloma Road,
By Harmony Guest House,
Port Harcourt.
+2348182189844; +2348032765301

Chapel of Victory Intl Churches
Obigbo Branch
No. 2 Azubuike Road,
off Isaiah Eleto, Oyigbo
Port-Harcourt
+2347032394811; +2347019208317

Chapel of Victory Intl Churches
Kaani 1 Branch
Eeagbara Square, Gborkpara
Kaani 1.
+2348065179761; +2348039313669

Chapel of Victory Intl Churches
Rupokwu Branch
Market Road,
Rupokwu
Port Harcourt.
+2348065179761

Chapel of Victory Intl Churches
Igwruta Branch
Road 6, Omumhia New Layout
Igwruta,
Port-Harcourt
+2347051928102

Chapel of Victory Intl Churches
Ikorodu Branch
247 Isawo Road,
IyanaMuda Bus stop, Agric
Ikorodu, Lagos State
+2348033427127

Chapel of Victory Intl Churches
Behind new Zuba Park,
Near SDP Bridge, Agwandodo
Gwagwalada, Abuja
Nigeria
+2348037524905