

THE

CASOR

MAGAZINE

A Publication of The Academic House of **CASOR**

-Everyone is doing it  
Overcoming sexual  
immorality, binge  
partying, internet  
fraud

-Jambito  
A Christian student's  
first year experience  
on campus

-Daniel's secret  
Daniel exposed  
to us in our day

-Trouble at home  
Coping in the midst  
of a family crisis

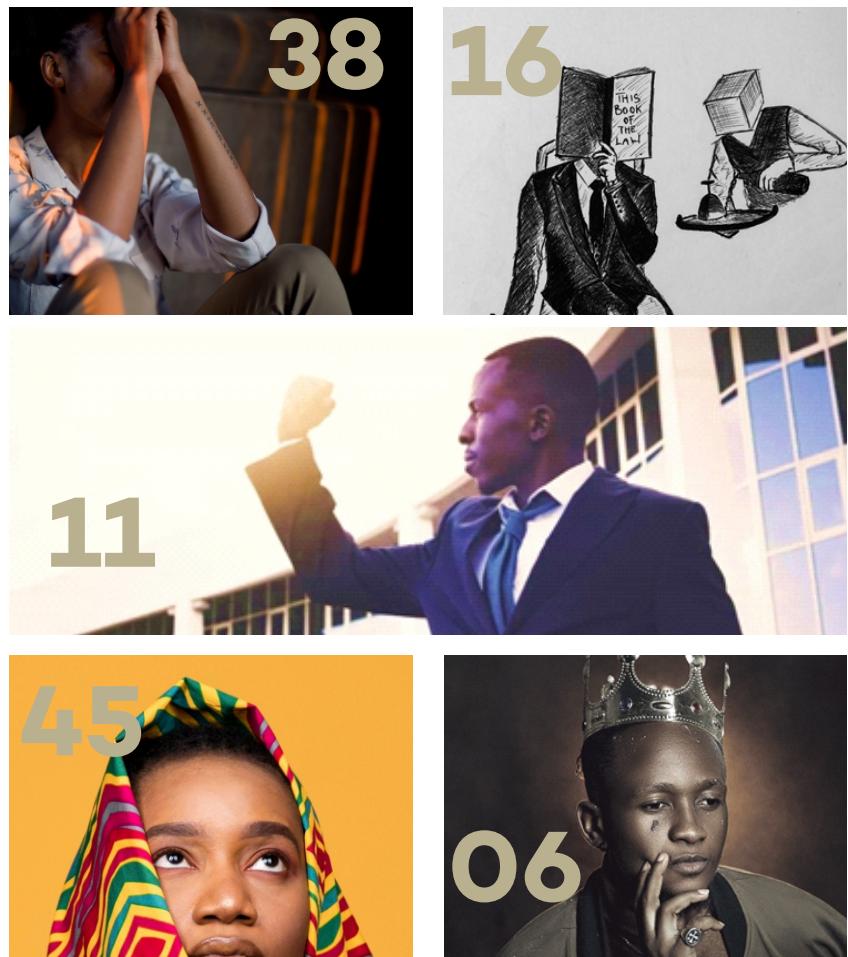
# The Wholistic Student

Daniel 5:14

NOV.2023



## TABLE OF CONTENTS



- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>08</b> Jambito                       | <b>22</b> Real Friendship              |
| <b>10</b> A fellow Christian Friend     | <b>24</b> My Friend                    |
| <b>11</b> When your Ambition Serves God | <b>36</b> Relevance                    |
| <b>11</b> Everybody is doing it         | <b>38</b> Take Me back to the Garden   |
| <b>14</b> I will not Defile Myself      | <b>40</b> The Power of Love            |
| <b>17</b> Troubles at Home              | <b>42</b> Side Hustle                  |
| <b>20</b> Nothing Else                  | <b>45</b> 3 Virtues you Must not Loose |
| <b>19</b> Real Friendship               | <b>48</b> The world is our Stage       |
|   | <b>51</b> 8 Must Watch Films           |



*"Thou art careful and troubled about many things: But one thing is needful..."*

**JESUS CHRIST**

I have come to learn that the forming of the wholistic student is not in many places but in the secret place. The secret place is the meeting place with God. A devoted altar that bears fruits to every other aspect of our student life. As students, we are involved in many activities, different worlds, but our devotion to the Father must burn not just for a while but continuously; for as long as we live (Exodus 29:38-42).

From the account given in Luke 10:38-42, Mary and Martha were both disciples (students) of Jesus. They both lived in the same home (hostel room). Martha did well to welcome Jesus and make him comfortable in their home but Mary understanding that her purpose in that environment at that particular time was to learn, sat at Jesus' feet with only one goal in mind-to consume the bread that proceeded from Jesus' mouth.

The world and university system tells us that there are many things to be concerned about; many things to be involved in, but Jesus is saying '**one thing is needful**'. These words that He speaks to us are truth and life. Our sitting with the great Teacher determines the result(s) we get in other aspects of our lives including our service to Him, in rain or sunshine.

Often times, we've been asked why we use wholistic rather than holistic. Some schools of thought do not list this as an acceptable variant spelling. While holistic is used frequently in academic and medical writing, wholistic proves handy in emphasizing the wholeness of a thing and they can be used interchangeably.

**In this edition, you will find expressions from young, vibrant youths who are far from home and learning anew; experiencing success and failure and finding balance with Jesus at the center of it all. And they came, every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whom his spirit made willing, and they brought the LORD'S offering to the work of the tabernacle of the congregation, and for all his service, and for the holy garments. And they came, both men and women, as many as were willing hearted... unto the LORD. (Exodus 35:21,22).**

***Enjoy the complete package!***

*Ademola Praise Jola*

*The Wholistic Student (Daniel 5:14)*



**REV. PROF. E.S. AKUSO**  
PATRON, CASOR ABU-ZARIA

*The Wholistic Student (Daniel 5:14)*



**REV. CLIFFORD OCHOI**  
CASOR AREA COORDINATOR

# DANIEL'S SECRET

BY REV. PROF. E.S. AKUSO



Over time God has always made a very clear distinction between those who are His own and the others. All those

connected to Him are blessed with all things that pertain to life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3). We are all created in the image and likeness of God. God's nature is in us. Part of His nature is excellence and outstanding success. As His children, we are expected to demonstrate this nature in all our endeavors. God cannot produce a moron, mediocre or failure. His spirit in us is the spirit of excellence and distinction. Unfortunately, we see many so called children of God trailing behind unbelievers especially in their academic pursuit but this is an error. God wants us to know our authority in Christ and to begin to take our rightful position by manifesting the spirit of excellence.

## DANIEL EXPOSED TO US IN OUR DAY...

In our text we have the story of Daniel. The secret for his outstanding success in the Royal Academy of the Chaldeans in Chapter one is given here. In the school he was found to be ten times better than his contemporaries (Daniel 1:19-20). In chapter 5, we are told the secret (Daniel 5:11-14). Daniel was endowed with an excellent spirit, knowledge and understanding. He excelled far above all the magicians, astrologers and wise men of Babylon. He excelled above all the presidents and governors in the land because the spirit of the living God was with him. Daniel is described as a man in whom is the spirit of the holy gods, having something in him beyond human. An excellent spirit was found in him, which was a great ornament to his wisdom and knowledge. He was of a humble, holy, and heavenly spirit. He had the spirit of zeal for the glory of God and the good of men. This excellent spirit and understanding announced him and brought him to the limelight. He was sought for by the king because of his uncommon intelligence. He brought glory to the name of the LORD. This is exactly what is expected of every believer. You cannot settle for less. You are not to play the second fiddle to anyone.

God's desire for you is to be blessed with understanding more than even your teachers. The psalmist says, "*I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation. I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts, (Psalm 119:99-100, KJV)*. Keeping God's commandments brightens your understanding above all. You cannot be diligent in seeking God and obeying His commandments and be lacking in understanding and knowledge. The preacher re-echoes this thus: "*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction*" (*Proverbs 1:7, KJV*). As a student the first secret to your academic success is the fear of God which is the solid rock under the ground that supports your academic pursuit. When you diligently seek God and hearken to His commandments you are blessed and lifted up to the family of eagles: "*And the LORD shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the LORD thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them*" (*Deuteronomy 28:13, KJV*).

When you have Jesus and you are connected to Him, the difference is always very clear. Peter and John had no secular education but demonstrated uncommon knowledge and understanding and declared the word of God with convincing authority that made the rulers to wonder: "*Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marveled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus*" (*Acts 4:13*). Christ in them transformed them from ignorant to knowledgeable men. You need Jesus if you want to be a wholistic student.

There is however a price you must pay for excellence and academic breakthrough. You should note the following...

TO be continued...

# JAMBITO

BY IDOKO HANNAH



I would have started by telling you how it all began, outlining every in chronological order. But then I don't want to bore you with too many details. Scratch that! I'm starting from where and when it began, else how would you know all the details and draw lessons from my Jambito year on campus?

The day I found out that I had gotten admission into the most prestigious ABU ehn, my joy Was beyond description I was so excited that you could at that point ask for my ATM card pin and I will say it without thinking twice Don't mind me there was no money in the account.

I am one with big hopes and dreams, oh you can catch me daydreaming, planning how my future will turn out to be, and when you ask me, I'll tell you everything shamelessly. I was not ashamed of my dreams but I was ashamed of the one who put them in me, God.

The day I left for school was the first day I received such weight of counsel from my both parents, they urged me to be like Daniel in a strange land, he had no parents there with him, no one to monitor and scold him but he stood for his faith, unwavering and undisturbed by the threats and temptations around him. Strange how those counsels went through one ear and came out through the other. I paid no attention for they were words I was used to. I forgot to say that I knew the Daniel story like the palm of my hand, it wasn't new to me even though it made no sense to me. I didn't care, I'm not him and he isn't me! We are both in different generations.

Do you know how they say that the days of your first year on campus are your Odogwu days? Don't laugh at me. I lived large that year, I don't cook, and big girls buy food. I bought things for people, I just shouldn't be told that a friend was lacking something, I would buy it and extra!. I bought unnecessary things for myself. I would call home and talk like someone who's in distress and is about to die and they would send me money because they wanted me to be comfortable. I was told that the school was the largest University in sub-Saharan Africa, I believed I'll need to take bikes at every point so that I can reach my destination on time. Until one day I took my bike and later realized that the bike man went round the block and dropped me, then pointed at where I was going for me to walk the remaining. It was not funny. I felt cheated because I was not observant.

I remembered the day I was coming back from night reading, you know how Jambitos do their thing now? So I had no idea that the hostel usually gets locked at midnight, when I got to the gate and found it locked, I pleaded with the security guard on duty and she refused to let us in screaming at us to go back to where we were coming from. I had to go back to the class, where the mosquitos dieth not and the cold is not a respecter of people. On my way back to class I met security and they bundled us to the security office, I slept there! Since then I learnt to be more conscious of my time and not spend the nights out of my hostel.

I grew up in a very religious and humble home, we had devotions every day, I was not given the freedom to be wayward so I promised myself that when I got to school I'll be free like a bird in the sky, I'll do whatever I like, whenever I like and however I like it done. Valentine's Day came, the oppression!! I forgot to mention what took me by surprise the day



I stepped into the room allocated to me. It was a very sunny day, I was already frustrated by the long line at the bank and I wanted to do was rest in a quiet place. Instead, I walked into the room and met seven more ladies in there, with everyone doing her own thing, I struggled to get settled that day. I remember how that night I couldn't sleep properly. So back to the Valentine's Day story,

everyone received gifts but I didn't, I never felt so alone in my entire existence. This further pushed me into the decision to become wayward and there was nothing any could do about it. So I thought.

Somewhere along the line, I met a senior student on campus who told me for free her life experiences and how it'll never pay to deviate from the right path and from that day I made a decree within my heart that I will never defile myself with the portion of unbelievers and people who lacked honour for God and His instructions. I will walk in path of righteousness.

I'm journeying through school, mindful of the days I have left but more conscious of the lesson I've learnt these four years. It is important to be an all-rounder and more important to represent Christ wherever I find myself. Like Daniel be good in spiritual things, my academics, be a good and reliable friend, my goals and financial life and then to stand for Truth wherever I find myself. I learnt to be a Wholistic Student shamelessly.

# A FELLOW CHRISTIAN FRIEND

BY OKORO WISDOM

The Decision I once was betrodden.  
You and I were never in doubt of the  
Gospel's Power.

In God, In His Only Begotten.  
We have always, a sure Foundation for  
our Tower

My insomnia can reach its peak.  
My Troubles might peg through the  
solitude of share pain.  
My arm was constantly on the reach  
For the personality of which my cares  
will rain

In your heart, you bore my destiny as a  
treasure  
And my salvation from sin was first.  
That you would deliver to nothingness  
my earthly pleasure  
And to my eyes, set my priority to the  
test.

Our Company blossoms in  
moderation and bliss.  
Blessings beyond the worth of my best  
works.  
Truly, I have found the epitome of  
Grace.  
We have the reigning joy of the  
overcoming cross.  
In disjoint wounds, we never add salt.  
We have a stronger meaning for our  
propitiation.  
And every anger or hurt between them  
is brought to a halt.  
Truly, the Holy Spirit has played the  
best rendition.  
And so I beseech my brethren to do the  
same.  
Be a Christian Friend who follows this  
wise,  
Of Peace, Charity and unfeigned faith  
without shame.  
Be this Friend and see the Perfect Body  
rise!



# WHEN YOUR AMBITION SERVES GOD

BY MOSES JOSEPHINE

Ambition, often defined as an intense drive for success, power, or fame, takes on a different meaning when viewed through a godly lens. The Bible, in 1 Thessalonians 2:11, encourages us to embrace a unique form of ambition—one that emphasizes leading a quiet life, minding our own business, and working diligently. This perspective involves aligning our desires with God's will, fostering a deep connection with Him, and serving others. In this exploration, we will delve into the essence of godly ambition, the importance of selflessness, and the principles guiding our pursuits.

## Godly Ambition: Rooted in Divine Will and Selflessness

At its core, godly ambition revolves around positioning our hearts and minds toward God's purpose for our lives. Unlike worldly ambition that seeks personal gain, godly ambition centers on fulfilling God's plan and radiating His light. Our motives come under scrutiny: Are we seeking recognition, wealth, or success for ourselves, or are we driven by a genuine desire to honor God and contribute to His kingdom? The call is to embrace selflessness, mirroring the humility and self-sacrifice demonstrated by Christ.

## Aiming for Kingdom Priorities

Matthew 6:33 provides a guiding principle: "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." This command directs us to prioritize God's reign and righteousness, trusting that our needs will be met as we align our ambitions with His purposes. Godly ambition is not about amassing wealth or fame, but about wholeheartedly seeking God's will and reflecting His love in our actions.

## The Power of Humility

Matthew 23:12 and Philippians 2:3 remind us of the significance of humility. "Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted," reads Matthew 23:12. Philippians 2:3 underscores the importance of esteeming others above ourselves, discouraging rivalry or conceit. By humbling ourselves, we create space for God to elevate us and use our ambitions for His glory.

## Seeking the Eternal

The world may offer temporary pleasures and possessions, but Luke 9:25 reminds us of their impermanence: "For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself?" Godly ambition shifts our focus from transient pursuits to eternal values, safeguarding us from the empty pursuit of worldly gain.

## Serving Others and Sharing the Gospel

Romans 15:20 and Philippians 2:4 highlight the significance of directing our ambitions toward serving others and advancing the gospel. "And thus I make it my ambition to preach the gospel," writes Paul in Romans 15:20. Philippians 2:4 encourages us to prioritize not only our interests but also the interests of others, promoting unity and selflessness.

## Overcoming Destructive Desires

James 4:1-2 and 1 Timothy 6:9 caution against succumbing to harmful desires and the pursuit of wealth. "Those who desire to be rich fall into temptation... plunge people into ruin and destruction," warns 1 Timothy 6:9. Godly ambition steers us away from such pitfalls, helping us cultivate contentment and gratitude while avoiding quarrels and covetousness.

In the pursuit of godly ambition, our hearts and minds must be attuned to God's will and guided by His principles. By seeking first God's kingdom, practicing humility, serving others, and prioritizing eternal values, we align our ambitions with divine purposes. As we embrace this transformative perspective, we discover fulfilment in delighting in what God delights in and experiencing His abundant blessings.

The man who does  
not read books has  
**no advantage** over  
the one who cannot  
read them.

MARK TWAIN

# EVERYBODY IS DOING IT

BY SPLENDOUR SAMUEL

Have you noticed that a lot of persons do some things simply because everyone is doing it without checking to see if it's right or wrong? Peer pressure has taken its toll on many. Premarital sex has become the norm in our society that nobody dares question it. The world has become accustomed to immorality that the truth almost has no stand.

Generations before now, premarital sex was a taboo. What we see in movies and other videos alike were tagged "sacred" but reverse is the case in this generation as almost everyone right now is doing it. Scary right? It would interest you to know that 3 out of every 5 teenagers or youth ranging from age 14 and above have had sex. The number of abortion keep rising daily.

Cases of lungs infection due to smoking is also on the rise. This is not a strange occurrence as smoking has unfortunately become the trend for young guys and even ladies! Internet fraud popularly called "yahoo" has taken the place of legitimate money-making schemes and jobs. Legitimate jobs are now seen as "time wasters"



Some even take it a step further by going fetish and diabolical popularly called "yahoo plus." Youths no longer want to be in church for the fear of being guilt tripped in such a generation where the truth is scarce, the Bible urges us to be steadfast and hold unto God firmly. Christians were not made to blend in. We were made to stand out. We're bulbs, not oranges.

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

The bible urges us not to follow the patterns of this world. This is because it does not mirror the one in whose image we were made. However, we are encouraged to continually transform our minds.

In our world today, we are plagued with different images portraying immoral activities which in most cases are capable of swaying even the strongest of men. Images and other avenues for portraying ungodliness like music has the ability to

unconsciously stick to our mind and can eventually raise doubts. This is why the bible in *Proverbs 4:23* – says “guard your heart with all diligence for out of it comes the issues of life.” Make conscious efforts to be on guard and at alert at all times lest you fall prey to the devil.

### Tips to Help you Stand Out

1. Make intentional decisions to be the light and not blend in with others even when others would feel uncomfortable. Matthew 5:14, 16a - Let your light so shine before men.
2. Keep friends with like minds, godly friends as the case maybe. 1st Corinthians 15:33 - Do not be deceived; evil communication corrupts good manners.
3. Watch what you watch. Be wary of sites that promotes immorality.
4. Guard your heart.
5. In cases where immoral images and videos are inevitable, run back to the word of God. Purge your heart. Romans 12:2. Renew your mind.
6. Stay on the word of God. 2 Corinthians 3:18. Keep beholding.
7. Attend fellowships.
8. Subscribe to godly sites only.
9. Do not entertain ungodly conversations.
10. If you're tempted, pray!

Remember, you are in the world but not of the world.

PS: Just because everybody does it, doesn't make it

SELAH

# I WILL NOT DEFILE MYSELF

BY JESULOWO CHRISTIANAH IFEDOTUN

The King asked many questions  
To prove our skillfulness and  
understanding  
Our ideas, our insight clear and rare

Our minds enlightened  
For our wisdom came from true light  
We sought guidance from the most high  
But in this land  
In Babylon  
This vast universe  
Where darkness prevail with the idols of  
this age,  
As the king feasted  
We were offered delicacies  
Grand and dainty  
Wine  
Red and tempting.  
A decree by the king  
Contrary to our belief  
Your word is our beacon of light.  
To the Kings decree  
We will not compromise,  
To peer pressure, we will not yield  
In the face of temptations, we will stand  
strong  
For your precepts are our Blueprint  
“Ten times better” our Testament

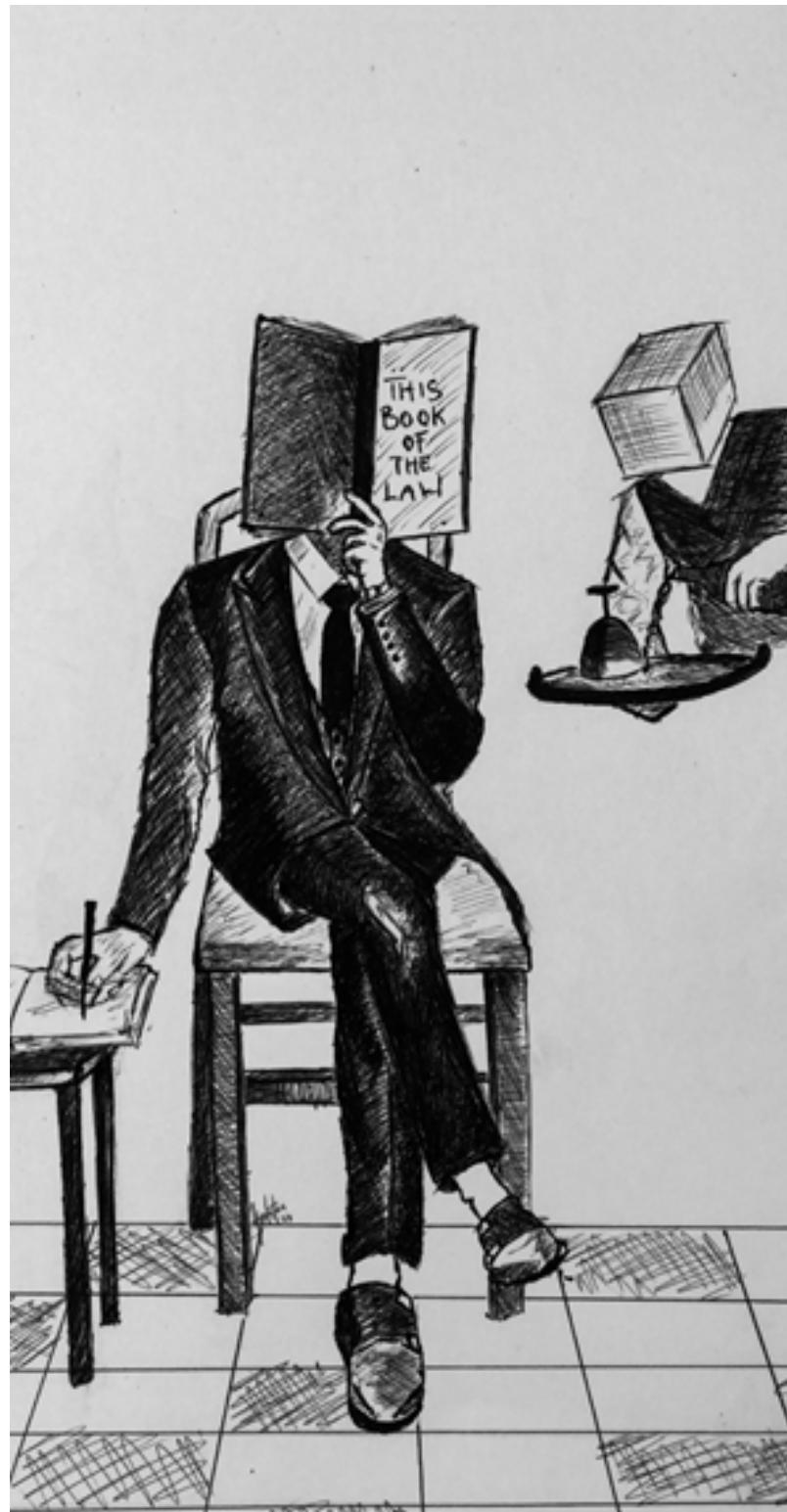


ILLUSTRATION BY @IFEDOTUN

# TROUBLE AT HOME

BY MUKTAR YUSUF

"Ahh, what a calm afternoon break" he thought to himself as he sat under the cool shade of a mango tree just after a morning full of lectures. RING! RING! RING! His phone blurted out "who is it?" He asked within himself as he peeks over to see it was uncle Rabiu. "Wait a minute, I haven't spoken to him in years why is he calling?

Maybe he wants to assist financially." The young lad reasoned as he picks up the call. They started off the conversation with casual pleasantries though his uncle sounded like he lost a loved one then he asked. "I heard you are now a Christian. Is this true?" The young lad paused and reminisced within himself;



ILLUSTRATION BY @YITZHAK\_ART

just a few years back, his late dad's younger brother, uncle Usman, asked him this same question and threatened to remove him from the family household and cut him off from the inheritance his dad left to him, the firstborn son if indeed he had committed such act of infidelity. He denied the Lord

shamefully like Peter did. Why did he do so? He was still a child in the faith yet to grasp the truth. He was between worlds. He was between two monotheistic faiths yet to understand the truth about grace. He was yet to fully understand the Gospel. He was a sinner and a coward yet thirsty for the living water.

After recalling the events that happened years ago, now girded tightly with the belt of truth, the young lad replied without any fear. "Yes I am". After hearing those words over the phone, his uncle's heart shattered and he sobbed. He then said, "It's your mommy's fault. She allowed you mingle with Christians and denied you Islamic education." The young lad's heart began to pound like a drum about to burst. This wasn't out of fear but of anger. Memories of the pain his widowed mother went through, the trauma she went through alongside maltreatment from both friends and family flooded his mind instantly. He blurted out furiously, "leave my mother out of this!"

"Your dad was a devout Muslim. If you go this way, your prayers won't reach him." His uncle said amidst tears. The young lad thought within himself, "What will

praying to or for the dead do? They are dead already." He then said to his uncle, "Look uncle, I have made my choice. If you want to face anyone, face me and leave my mother out of this." Haven said that, he ended the call. This doesn't bode well, does it? The waters are stirring up but who knows what it would amount to? The lad has to be prepared to be a man.

So, the question is how do we deal with family crisis while in school? Crisis will always come up. They would always come up as long as there are sinners and saved sinners there will be conflict. What we can do is to keep praying and not faint. We keep praying to the end that we are aligned to the will and agenda of God for our lives and the world at large. We have to submit ourselves to God's wisdom and trust in Him because He is Sovereign. He upholds the universe, He structured every atom and molecule with precision. He is never wrong.

Just like Joseph whose family sold him off. He understood God's plan for him. He was to reveal God's glory and that gives great joy knowing that all things work together for good to those that love God. Trust in God. Stay with this light that you have seen. Do not depart from it even if it cost you your family, academic pursuit, dreams and ambitions. Nothing and no one can be compared to the worth of our God. Trust Him.

Amen.

### The Wholistic Student (Daniel 5:14)

to another's strength.  
Your judgments are like fire.  
God, who is like you?  
You caused me to experience  
even from the depths of the earth.  
Therefore, I will praise you again,  
and comfort me on my son.  
I will sing to you with a lyre,  
Holy One of Israel.  
My lips will shout for joy  
for your faithfulness, my God.  
I will sing to you with a lyre,  
because you have redeemed me.  
Therefore, my tongue will proclaim  
for those who intend to harm me  
your righteousness all day long.  
I will sing to you with a lyre,  
for those who intend to confound me  
will be disgraced and confounded.  
**A PRAYER FOR THE KING**  
Of Solomon.  
God, give your justice to the king  
and his righteousness to the king's son.  
He will judge the world with justice  
and the nations with righteousness.  
May the hills, righteousness bring well-being\* to the people,  
and the mountains, justice.  
May the sun radiate  
and the hills, righteousness throughout all generations,  
and the mountains, justice.  
May the king be like rain, throughout all generations,  
like spring showers that water on the earth.  
May the righteous flourish in his days  
and evil be banished abroad  
until the moon is no more  
until the sun is no more  
until the stars from the firmament.  
\*righteousness

Do not conform to  
the pattern of this world,  
but be transformed by  
the renewing of your mind.  
Then you will be able to  
test and approve what  
God's will is—his good,  
pleasing and perfect will.

ROMANS 12:2

*The Wholistic Student (Daniel 5:14)*

A close-up, low-angle portrait of a young woman with dark, curly hair and round glasses. She is wearing a light-colored, possibly white, t-shirt. Her gaze is directed upwards and to the left, with a contemplative expression. The background is a plain, light color.

# NOTHING ELSE

BY IJIE CHELSEA

Strength and grace resides in the firm of her cheeks  
Her bag pack heavy with responsibilities as she straps on her shoes  
ready to take on the day  
Many have grown fond of her ways, her politeness, her smile from  
her very smart mouth,  
She is purpose, wisdom and drive  
Her parents are proud of her. Her siblings look up to her but her  
gaze remains on her God who sustains her faith  
She has learnt her nothingness so she keeps her gaze above  
For though her bag may be full with gifts, gifts are nothing  
compared to eternal life  
She has known confusion and loss. So she has learnt to depend  
and trust  
Trust, which was sometimes a chore taught her the essence of  
faith  
Nothing separated for she commits her all to God  
A diligent soldier, she walks circumspectly as a wise one  
On days when everything feels like a lot  
On days when it feels like a storm and her winds get troubled  
She learns to know peace on her knees  
Her mouth she fills with the sword of the spirit. Memorizing the  
words, she is guarded with the shield of faith  
Every day she fights her flesh and work on renewing her mind  
Like a champion, she rises every time she falls  
She lives for nothing else but to give her father pleasure  
She lives with the purpose of waiting to hear the words 'well done'  
She is a student mindful of her home and nothing else



# REAL FRIENDSHIP

BY OYEBANJI DAMILARE

## What is Friendship?

Friendship is one of the important relationship that we have on earth. Many don't really know the vast perspectives of friendship. Many confuse friendship with acquaintance. A friend is different from an acquaintance. A friend is someone you love and trust. When you look at every other types of relationships you find out that love and trust are essential in them also. Family relationships, romantic relationships etc.

You notice love and trust is essential in every of those relationships. Love and trust are bedrocks to any friendship. You can find a friend in your mother, brother, father etc. Finding a friend in those close to you is the best relationship you can ever have with them.

## How to choose a Friend?

Friendship is a very influential relationship. Hence, it is important to know how to choose a friend. Know that choosing good friends is one the

best choices one can make in a lifetime. Have you ever noticed that no matter how strong the background discipline of a child is, having bad friends can change all the discipline? Your company matters. Those you have around you as friends matter. Hence, there is a need to choose your friends. Be intentional about those you call friends. Let your friends be a reflection of who you are and who you want to be. Here are some attributes that makes good friends.

**Dressing:** There's a popular saying that goes thus, "*the way you dress is the way you'll be addressed.*" The way a person looks gives the first impression and attribute about the person. You can tell a bit about a person from their looks and dressing. You can tell if a person is calm or aggressive from their facial expressions and you can tell if someone is neat or rough from their appearance and dressing. Your fashion style matters. Not all fashion styles are befitting. Be intentional about the looks and dressing.

**Talk activity:** This is a very important aspect of choosing a friend. A person that talks too much is a very difficult person to trust. A person that rarely speaks is also very difficult to trust for you don't always know their mind.

That's why in friendship, talk activity should be moderate. Knowing when to talk and when to keep mute is important. The ability to put caution to how much you divulge information or even burst out your emotions is a very important ability in friendship because friendship entails keeping secrets for your friends.

**Jealousy:** A jealous person is bad to have as a friend. It is an attitude that kills love and breaks trust. A jealous friend would never be happy for you. A jealous friend would not want you with anything better, like or close to theirs. So at the slightest hint of jealousy in someone you're choosing to be your friend, put certain restrictions in place for attitude grows.

### **The Purpose of Friendship.**

Your friends manage your life either consciously or unconsciously. They give advice and also help in making your choices. They keep your worst secrets. They know your weak points. Your friends, in times of needs are most times your first contact. Your friends are a reflection of who you are and what you are a depositions of. Be a good friend.

# MY FRIEND

BY OYEBANJI DAMILARE

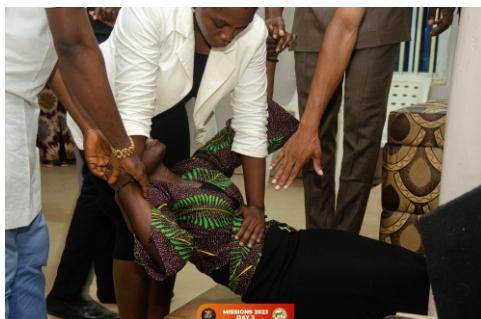
The peak of all relations  
The best of all connections  
The sweetest part of living  
So much underrated

I see you as the glow  
The shine of polished leather  
The beauty of a finished project  
The sweetness of a ripe fruit

Knowing you is my uplifting and also my downfall  
You are the special seasoning to my soup  
And also the break of the gall bladder  
The same fire that can light the room is also the one that can  
burn it down

It is easy to find you but hard to know you  
It is sweet to have you and sad to lose you  
The simple one that understands my complications  
The best and the worst that know my best and worst  
My Friend

## PHOTO DUMP



## ...Continued from page 4

### **1) Have a clear focus**

As a student you must know why you are in school. Ask yourself these pertinent questions: 'why am I here? Where am I heading at? What is God's purpose for bringing me to this institution at this time? What must I do to achieve this purpose?' In other words you must have a clear focus of what brought you to school. You must have direction before you can become a candidate of distinction. The preacher says: "*Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he*" (*Proverbs 29:18, KJV*). You need a clear vision to excel in your academics.

### **2) Don't be distracted**

School life is full of so many distractions. Our campuses have become centers of immorality, drugs, indecent dressing, yahoo yahoo, occultism, pleasure seeking and loose living. You meet with people from different backgrounds who will want to entice you to follow their ungodly ways. As a Christian student, you should never allow yourself to be distracted or compromise your faith. Daniel was in a similar situation yet he . . . "*purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself*" (*Daniel 1:8, KJV*). Daniel couldn't compromise his faith even in the school environment. He wanted to make a difference and at the end he excelled ten times above all. Even our Lord Jesus during His earthly ministry refused to be distracted by worldly enticements. He knew His mission and wanted to accomplish it to the latter. He rejected the offer of earthly kingship: "*When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him a king, he departed again into a mountain himself alone*" (*John 6:15, KJV*). Dearly beloved, what is distracting you from your God ordained purpose on campus today? Have you defiled yourself with the king's meat? Retrace your steps and cry unto God for mercy if you want to become a wholistic student.

### **3) Time management**

As a student you are bound to be confronted with so many things to do at the same time. If you don't manage your time well, you may soon burn out and achieve nothing tangible in life and in your academics. You should learn to manage your time wisely. Try to keep a time log, a detailed list of your appointments, free time, errands, work time, fellowship time etc. Focus on the most essential ones in order of priority. Apostle Paul admonishes thus "*See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil*" (*Ephesians 5:15-16, KJV*). You are to make every minute count. Time is a central skill of success. Your ability to manage your time, to focus and channel your energies on your highest value tasks, will determine your level of success. You are to prioritize your priorities.

**4) Keep the right company**

Your association determines your speed and breakthrough in life. If you hang around people who don't add any value to your life academically, you cannot succeed. The scriptures say, "*He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed*" (*Proverbs 13:20, KJV*). In your choice of friends, be prudent. Make friends with only those who can help you advance academically and spiritually. The word of God further cautions us thus, "*Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness?"* (*2 Corinthians 6:14, KJV*). Run away from any evil association that will make you fall from grace. God must be at the centre of all your relationships. Daniel's friends were people of like minds. They were all godly and could not sacrifice their faith for anything else

**5) Have good knowledge**

Knowledge is very crucial in destiny pursuit. Without knowledge and understanding you can never make reasonable progress in your endeavors. Having a good knowledge of all your lecturers, the course credit system, the library, examination rules and the students' handbook is key to your success academically. There are no two lecturers that are the same. Live with them according to knowledge and give them what you know they want in exams. A wise student should know how to calculate GPA and CGPA. You should know that stealing in the library and exam malpractice can lead to expulsion. You must also have a very good knowledge of your environment to avoid getting into trouble.

**6) Don't be satisfied with the status quo**

In order to excel academically you must seek to maintain a high standard in all your endeavors. Always require the best performance. Seek to better yourself always no matter the height you have attained. Do not settle for anything good but go for the best. Aim for the highest class of degree. Never be satisfied with the average (*Philippians 3:13-14*). Think big because you become what you think (*Proverbs 23:13-14*). Hate failure in all its ramifications and avoid time wastage with useless things such as social media, movies, hang outs etc., so that you can improve on your studies and achieve the desired result.

**7) Get correct information**

The correct information at your disposal which is not available to others is another secret you need if you want to excel in your academics. You must have some secrets which others don't have before you can perform better than them.

For instance Job “was the greatest of all the men of the east.” In Job chapter one. He revealed the secret of his greatness thus: *“Oh that I were as in months past, as in the days when God preserved me; When his candle shined upon my head, and when by his light I walked through darkness; As I was in the days of my youth, when the secret of God [was] upon my tabernacle”* (Job 29:2-4, KJV). Job became greater than all men because he had information which was secret to him. If you want to be on top in your class you must be ready to buy books, read widely because readers are leaders and get the latest materials in your field of study. Always make it your ambition to be ahead of others.

Conclusively, the will of God for all his children is for them to excel in all aspects of life. His thoughts for us are for good and not for evil. He wants us to have a glorious future. When we fail or are not pulling our weight in our academics, God is not happy. As God's children, He has raised us up together and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus far above failure and wicked spirits. You have been destined for dominion. You are to make the clear difference in your school to show the others that the Spirit of the living God is in you. You cannot afford to be the tail. You are to lead while others follow, not the other way round. Today the chain of failure is broken and the spirit of excellence is coming upon you in Jesus' name. In every aspect of life you will stamp your authority and distinguish yourself in Jesus' name.

**See you at the top!**

**BY REV. PROF. E.S. AKUSO**  
Patron, CASOR ABU-Zaria

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

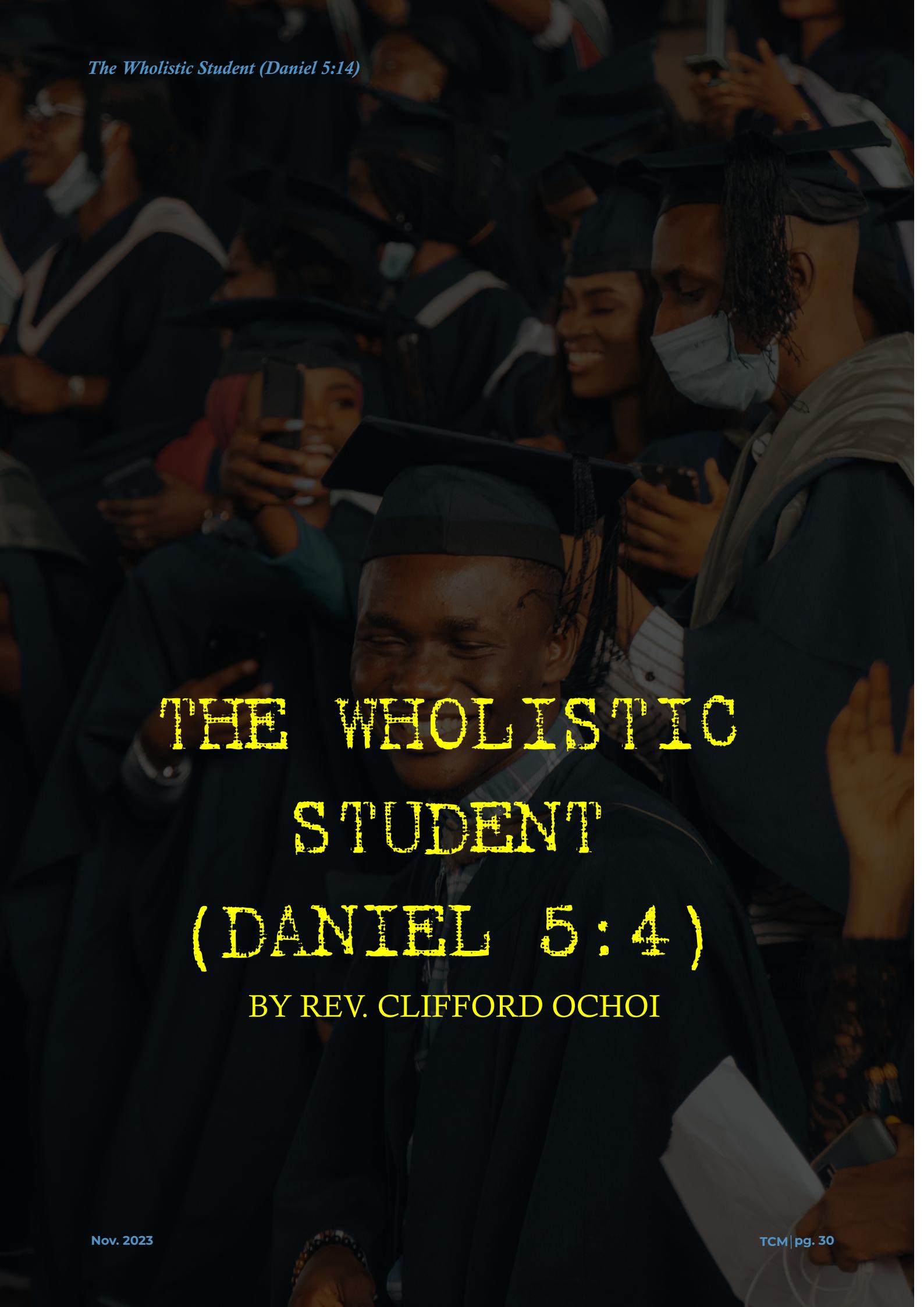
Tribute to our beloved sister, Glory Ihua who,  
was taken into the warm embrace of our Savior, Jesus Christ  
(1996 - 2023)



**God be with you till we  
meet again!  
Keep love's banner  
floating o'er you,  
Smite death's threatening  
wave before you;**

You left us too soon Sister Glory but with the pain in our hearts and laments on our tongues, we will not mourn like unbelievers who have no hope. Our hope is in Jesus who died and rose on the third day showing us the way to life eternal. We will not forget your great and selfless service to the house of CASOR as a member of the choir, welfare and more recently- Evangelism secretary. Our sincere prayers are with your family and everyone who knew you that they may know Jesus' peace and comfort in this trying time.

*Maranatha*



*The Wholistic Student (Daniel 5:14)*

# THE WHOLISTIC STUDENT (DANIEL 5:4)

BY REV. CLIFFORD OCHOI

Education remains the tool for social change. Wholistic education transforms and equips the individual all-round to think creatively, reflectively as a productive agent of social change. Conceptually, holistic education seeks to develop the total person: intellectually, physically, emotionally and spiritually. These are the people our contemporary society need, especially in the wake of global economic and moral challenges.

The tension and unrest created by Russian – Ukrainian war, the present Palestinian and Israeli war, which most people predict may escalate to 3rd world war, and of course, the political instabilities in the Africa context with pockets of coups and takeover of governance, our world is yet to know peace. Therefore, there is dire need of ambassadors of holistic learning furnished with a pure mind of what is needful to address the besetting abnormalities. Our world is gradually losing the sublime sense of rightness, justice and fair play. There is a brazen disconnect from the wisdom of God, the fear of God which were the basic watchdogs of our collective sensibilities. The system is completely derailed, colluded and compromised; hence, the need for wholistic individuals, well informed to rechart the course to the right path. Look at what is happening in our Nigerian electoral system, the judiciary, the military , economy and all spheres of life; you will bemoan the reality that Nigeria has gone into coma, requiring the youths with revolutionary minds to champion the rescue mission needed to refurbish the engine of our dear country - politically, educationally administratively, economically and spiritually.

A holistic student is one whose domains have been harnessed and developed effectively for assumption of functional roles in the society which (s)he is living. A wholistic student is neither a dummy, a mediocre nor a liability to his/her generation. He/she is an indispensable active participant, an influencer, a trail blazer, a pace setter and a driver of change in the making.

UNESCO defines wholistic learning as “a learning approach that activates the learner's intellect, emotions, imagination and body for more effective and comprehension learning”. Learning only prepares one for more learning, we learn from the cradle to the grave either formally or informally. The day you stop learning, you start decaying. unfortunately, both the Nigerian state actors and non-state actors have failed to learn from their past and we are held spell bond by its tantrums and abysmal failures. While wholistic education prioritizes the development of the learner's self – awareness, self-esteem, confidence, values and emotional intelligence, as beneficiaries of these lofty provisions, you must be prepared to give back to the society the knowledge you have acquired in the most positive and productive manner, else, you stink together.

This kind of education is needed in our contemporary period for self-actualization, fulfilment, generational impact and sustainable development. Real learning occurs only when all the dimensions of human faculties are addressed.

As penned in Daniel 1:4, King Nebuchadnezzar of ancient Babylon, knew the importance of education and what a trained individual could do. He needed informed minds to work with him and bring the needed development, not ignorant people. This is what brought Daniel and his friends to limelight. From the highlight of Old Testament narration, Daniel could be rated as the protagonist of the book of Daniel. His story made us to know that there is a spiritual dimension in wholistic learning that makes one exceptional: humble, disciplined, outstanding, prominent, relevant, relational, wise, productive, effective, religious, inspired, resilient, godly, holy, righteous, responsive, stable emotionally, God-fearing, bold, composed, unassuming and sought for in his generation.

Imagine, when Daniel was brought to the king, he asked him, “Art thou that Daniel.....” (Dan 5:13). Daniel was already popular by his distinct character and disciplined life style. From the on set, Daniel had submitted himself to learning as a child of God. He proved himself both in school and outside the institution that he knew God and could propagate his knowledge of this great God in a foreign land, far from home, as a captive in Babylon. His spirituality had set him apart. The bible say ye are the light of the world, a city on the hill cannot be hidden (Matt 5:14). Daniel never hid himself; so, this is not the time to hide your talent, your convictions and your spirituality which will radiate the light of God in your generation to the glory of God. That is why you are sent to that place to beam the light not in arrogance, but with humility and godliness. Daniel never challenged the master of the eunuchs who was in charge of them. Before this moment, verse 8 of chapter 1 says, he had proposed in his heart not to defile himself with the King's delicacies. That is, Daniel had settled the issues in his heart, never to do something detrimental to his conscience. He called his body, his heart and his appetite to order.

He locked his heart against compromise and he was well prepared to obey the scriptures. He never played with the issues of defilement. That was the beginning of his journey to relevance, impact and wholeness. The bible says the fear of the lord is the beginning of wisdom. The wisdom of God is not acquired accidentally, when it was attested of him in chapter 5:4 that the wisdom of the gods dwelt in him, it did not begin there. He started it from the beginning. Therefore, as a wholistic student who wants to leave a legacy in his generation, must first and foremost address his/her heart to the fear of God then God's wisdom will envelop such. Daniel remained stable in his faith, transgenerational in influence and leadership. His testimony remained untainted as he served four generation of administrations amidst challenges to his faith.

Daniel, unlike some, “tongue – spoken believers” today, who do not have aversion for tainted values, never traded his cherished faith and conviction for a morsel of bread in the King palace , even when he had the right to eat what was freely offered to him. What a wholistic student?

Some of you reading this piece, your condition promises change for the best tomorrow. You may find yourself in ASO rock, or bigger and higher offices than you ever imagined. Yes, God will promote you as His ambassador. Do you want to be a person of influence? Do you want your legacy to be transgenerational? Then, hear these:

1. In every generation, God always have people, the point person(s) and they are always a minority. Daniel was one who never mind the sway of the band-wagon. He stood for his convictions and made the difference. It is only by standing that we can make the difference. “Therefore, put on the full armor of God, so that ..... You may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then ...” (Eph 6:13-14) NIV. Yes, your commitment to the fellowship is very glaring. You run around, you pray a lot, you speak in tongues, you give your life and your valuables to other, which is good. But, when it comes to standing on the solid values of the kingdom, where do you belong? Have you done everything possible to stand? The bible says above that “having done everything to stand...” we must come to the level where we can do everything wherever we find ourselves to stand because it is in standing we can change the world and make God proud.

Do not be simply singing and dancing believer that have no stamina to stand on the truth of the word when hunger, rejection or persecution come knocking, on account of your faith. As God will be sending some of you abroad, stand therefore. Do everything possible never to compromise your faith, always be ready to prove to the world that God's words is profitable to all and must be heeded. So, be like Daniel in your generation; dear go and make a difference. Hear what the king said in Daniel 5:4 “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”.

The king had a limited understanding and attributed this spirit to other gods. But it was the spirit of the living God, the third person of the Trinity, whom Jesus promised to live in all those who believe in him as lord and savior (Jh 14:16,17). This is the spirit that protects and guides into all truths. He was the fourth person in the fiery furnace (Dan 3:24,25).

Certainly, as good as secular education and knowledge is, it cannot bestow on one this spirit and wisdom. This can only come as one yields to God, accepts Jesus as lord and savior, confessing his/her sins and receiving forgiveness and pardon. Daniel did not only pursue secular knowledge; he also pursued the knowledge of God. He and his friends became too volatile to their enemies to handle in Babylon. As you pursue your studies, also pursue God. You will be sought for as you make your mind to stand in the days of evil, with the full armor of God. The armor is more than armored tanks combined. It will insulate you from all satanic attacks and make you a voice in year generation. Let it not said about you that you have acquired Masters or Ph.D in secular disciplines while you scarcely could obtain a first school leaving certificate in the spirit by rating. It amounts to being prominent without proficiency, without depth in the spirit. It is counterproductive and only produces rots in the system. A wholistic student has zero tolerance for corruption, defilement and tainted articles.

2. A wholistic student ought to be bold, confident and build relationship with his constituency as a prerequisite for influence and impact. Daniel, our case study, was a relational person. Do you have a problem building relationship with others? You can learn from Daniel. He did not joke with relationship. And at the same time, he could speak up when things never fit into his ideal perspective. Daniel leverage on the wisdom of God to navigate the course of history in captivity. This wisdom turned things around both for himself and for the community he served. Through wisdom, you can relate with people and turn difficult situations around. Stop building emotional walls that are capable of stopping you from confronting issues that will lead to personal joy, collective peace and deliverance. Daniel's relationship with the officer in charge gave him leverage to obtain permission to stay off the general meal served to everybody as ordered by the king. The order was punishable by death if violated. Daniel prayed but he also used persuasion and diplomacy.

This approval was necessary to please his God, his conscience and his conviction as earlier mentioned. He lived for God and his conviction. Nowadays, we have people who live their lives without scruples. They struggle to make it in the world by all means without struggling to make it to heaven. The bible says having done everything to stand..... stand therefore. They do not care about their conscience and the well-being of the organization or the people committed into their hands. To them, everything goes, every door is an opportunity for entrance. They do not think about making a difference.

In a related development, Daniel also has a good relationship with the king himself. The king was coaxed by his adjutants to sign a dangerous decree purportedly affecting Daniel and God's people in Babylon. On realizing their ill-motives, he labored all day to save Daniel but to no avail. On that fateful night, while Daniel was thrown into the den of lions to be eaten up and silenced, the king went on fast and could not sleep because of Daniel. God heard his prayer and Daniel was finally delivered from the lions, and the king was visibly happy for it. This is nothing more than mutual relationship.

I pray for you as you move to the next level of your life, may you cultivate the skills of mutual relationship. You can relate higher. There is no point fanning issues that bring strife, quarrels and differences with colleagues, friends, unbelievers and family members. It will hinder you from making impact and the enlargement of the kingdom of God. The bible says, the man of God must not quarrel (2 Tim 2:24), Abraham could not hear God as long as there was constant strife between his herdsmen and Lot's. When Lot separated from Abraham that day, God spoke to him and asked him to look up from there (Gen 13:7-15). Strife put a limitation on your life and brings your face down in humiliation, preventing you from looking up. From today, you shall look up and see where God is taking you to.

God gave Daniel a testimony in Babylon. God can give you this kind of testimony as you stand for him in a world whose values are completely at variance with God's. Don't allow your testimony to be watered down by the allurements of this world that are transient and ephemeral. This is your chance!

*The Wholistic Student (Daniel 5:14)*

# RELEVANCE

BY JOSHUA HANNATU IYAMI

It is usually said that for every man, there is a replacement. That is not far from the truth as no man is indispensable. However, there are men that can never be replaced. They have grown to become indispensable at what they do. When they finally drop the baton and leave the scene for others to rise, their absence would be felt. Even when their positions are already occupied, the paths they threaded and the service they rendered can never be replicated by another. The vacuum would always be felt. This is because they made certain choices. They made the choice to be indispensable.

There are men who have walked this earth and are gone but are still alive in the heart of men. This is because they choose to be the best in their place of service. They were diligent and served effectively. Their lives serve as blueprint for us to follow. Men like David, Gideon, Deborah, Ruth, Tabitha, Esther etc

Choose to serve God diligently. Give God your all. Serve Him faithfully. Decide to be active where ever you find yourself. Above all, walk with God, not only for God. Men who leave their footprints in the sand of time are men who walked with God.

Their first love was God. We are first called to be with him before any other thing. History never forgets men who gave their all in walking with God.

Surround yourself with like-minded people. As iron sharpens iron, so does one man sharpens another. Those around you should be those who are intentional about the Christian walk as they will help you stay on the path of life. Also don't just desire friends, be a friend first. Give and it shall be given unto you.

Lastly, learn to draw strength from God and to rest in His love at all times. When the world draws nigh with the desire to swallow you up, lean on the Lord and not on your own strength. Cry out for help. Run to Him. Draw strength from Him. Learn to lean on the Lord for he alone is your shield and buckler. He is your high priest and your present help in the time of trouble. Don't die in silence. Help from God and men only comes to those who call out

**“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths.” - Proverbs 3:5-6.”**

# TAKE ME BACK TO THE GARDEN

BY DUSU JAPHETH NTERE

Lost! It is suddenly my identity  
Flesh has consumed me with a  
kitchen spoon, lustful desires have  
enveloped me in a tight hug.

Is the Devil to blame?

"Didn't your heart wither and crave  
those things?"

"Didn't you surrender and give in to  
your lustful thirst?"

There was a time when earthly  
pleasures were mud never to be  
entangled in.

I've gradually taken a step back and  
like a stray dog from its master's leash,  
I have answered mud's silently loud  
beckoning.

"Let your light so shine before men that  
they may glorify your father in heaven"

It suddenly rains on me like a hammer  
driving a nail into a wood. I have not been  
the light to the darkness.

...Truly in vain is salvation hoped for from  
the hills and the multitude of mountains

...And having made peace through the blood  
of His cross, by Him to reconcile all things unto  
Himself.

Take me back to the garden from whence it all  
began, reconcile me with my God and I shall  
forever be wrapped in his love and enjoy the  
beauty of his glory.

# The POWER OF LOVE

BY ASHIEZE HILLARY

**Text:** John 3:16, I John 4:16-17, John 15:13

**AIM:** To teach us that the love of God is everything the believer needs to be outstanding

Love is the visible signature of God's ownership on His special creatures. It is the most important gift anybody can receive. Love is the most powerful weapon in both the physical and spiritual realms of existence because love conquers all things. It has the power to exercise influence or authority or both on the loved person and the person loving. Love commands attention because it transforms life and brings us to the class of God because God Himself is love.

## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- 1.What is love? And what is your favorite Bible verse about love?
- 2.Discuss what love is and what it is not based on the passage 1Cor 13:1-7
- 3.Discuss how God is love and how we are called to love one another 1Jn 4:7-12
- 4.Discuss how God's love was demonstrated through Jesus sacrifice Jn 3:16-17
- 5.Discuss how love is an action, not just a feeling 1Jn 3:16-18
- 6.Share personal experiences of putting love into action

**CONCLUSION:** The power of God to save is rooted in the power of His love for man. His love is in His word. God's love for man still shines through His awesome protection, provision and intervention in very grim and incredible situations



Whatever you do, work at it  
with all your heart, as working  
for the Lord, not for human masters,  
since you know that you will  
receive an inheritance from the  
Lord as a reward. It is the Lord  
Christ you are serving

Colossians 3:23-24

# SIDE HUSTLE

BY TERWASE MARANATHA

A common challenge to every student especially in the tertiary institution is finance. Money gets used up as fast as we breathe in air. Personal bills, project works, transportation, and numerous contribution, etc. These and more never let our lean purse breathe, swallowing up every penny seen and almost drilling holes in our purse in search of more.

With this hardship that has become has spread faster than an epidemic, some people aren't a bit affected by it. They make payments as they come effortlessly. Leaving you to wonder

the possibility. You get tired of calling home now and then when your monthly allowance gets used up even before the second week of the month runs out making you look so demanding. As a Christian student, you need something to ease your parent's burden of sending you money for everything including stuff as little as a recharge card, transportation for lectures, and little contribution to school etc. Having something to do for yourself comes with its kind of fulfillment.

As Christian students, think of practical ways in which you should make money but not by scamming or cheating your fellow students but to provide for yourself a substantial source of income while in school because everything about you should give glory to God, your academic and business inclusive.

The question most students face is not the ignorance of knowing they need something done but what exactly they should do. Here is the joy of entrepreneurship, the list runs endless. You have a large variety to pick from depending on your abilities, likes and dislikes, passion, and areas of interest.

As a bright student, you could organize tutorials and get paid for them, private tutoring, and even students assignments, and projects because the laziness of students in our generation knows no bounds and you could leverage them.

You could be the student's savior in a lengthy lecture by selling snacks. If there is anything a student can't do without are groceries and stationaries as it is a basic need of our fellow students. This could be a good source in income as the demand is high.

Your skills and talents are very handy here, you love to cook and at good at it? You could cook based on pre-order, you could decide to take orders only on certain days to accommodate other activities that are essentials to you. Some other skills include hair making/barbing, event planning, public speaking, photography, etc

Digital skills are another option that is

very flexible like graphics design, creative writing, content creation, etc. The advantage of this is that, it gives you the opportunity to work based on your one timing and make help you make effectual use of the online spaces.

These and more could help you aid your finance. When getting a side hustle as a Christian student there are factors you must put into consideration. Which are:

1. It shouldn't interfere with your time with God as this the very reason for your existence.
2. It shouldn't interfere with your academics which is why you are in school.
3. It shouldn't make you lose interest in schoolwork because of the money you are making.
4. It shouldn't make you look down on people because you can do certain things.

In earnest truth, combining your academics with business is no small task, because "acada" on its own is a big one. Therefore, a strive for balance is required, and a high level of discipline. Remember, it is called the side hustle meaning secondary because you still have the main hustle which is the primary reason you are here; your academics. Time management is key, allocate time to all you have to do and stick to it. Do not let the want of money take away your academic time. For example, with a skill such as hair making which is time-consuming, you could decide on selected days where you do this like you could say the weekends and

### *The Wholistic Student (Daniel 5:14)*

concentrate on your academics on the weekdays or you could decide on two to three hours daily. Embrace discipline and you would be fine. For it is the driving force of balance. You can only balance your work and academics when you've mastered the act of discipline which is an enemy to procrastination, indecision, and mediocrity.

### ARTICLE

In conclusion, getting a side hustle is not just a need but a necessity that gives you the needed stability. A solution to your financial issues could be a solution to your academic issues as you are free from worry, anxiety, and pressure from the lack of it that tends to occupy your mind.

Think about it!

*The Wholistic Student (Daniel 5:14)*

# THREE VIRTUES

**YOU MUST NEVER LOSE**



**BY: DAVID OBODOAGWU**

I tag this piece three virtues you must never lose because, every wise person who desires to go far in life is expected to have these virtues. But if you are wise and feel that you do not have them, then, its wisdom to learn them today.

### To start with, what is Virtue?

Virtue is simply a particular good quality or habit that a person has.

### Okay! So what are these three virtues I must never lose?

The three virtues we'll be discussing are found in Judges 19:30b and they are as follows:

#### 1. The Virtue of Consideration (Acts 10:19; Matt 1:19-20)

The Virtue of Consideration is simply the quality or habit of carefully considering or meditating over a matter or a subject, in order to gain full grasp of it. Many people who are currently in very tight corners whether financially, in relationships or any other area of life, did not pay attention to the echoes of their mistakes, bad results, etc.

They knew something was not right but they never bothered paying close attention to these things until they became very bad. If you consider the men in our passages, you'd realize that it was while they were meditating over their peculiar challenges that the Lord spoke to them.

Today, I want to call your heart to this virtue. If you're already going in the direction of those who don't care enough to think upon the peculiarities in

their lives, maybe you want to turn around and begin to consider the scenario in your life as well as the feedbacks that come from the world around you. Don't just run without checking to be sure you're still on track.

#### 2. The Virtue of Seeking Advise (Proverbs 20:18)

Our scripture says, '*every purpose is established by counsel: with good advice make war'*

You'd agree with me that wars are won not by might but by strategy. Many people today are suffering and wallowing in self-pity and regrets because they refused to take advice. They always thought they knew better, nobody had any idea what they were planning or going through, as such they have become a shadow of themselves today.

Beloved, again I call your heart home to virtue. Learn the wisdom of the wise. Seek advice from those who have gone ahead of you, especially in the areas where you desire to venture into. Remember "*every purpose is established by counsel: and with good advice make war*"

As you purpose to seek godly counsel today, I pray that the purposes of God concerning you will be established in Jesus' name.

#### 3. The Virtue of Execution (John 13:17; James 1:22)

This last virtue is the virtue to do. In John 13:17 Jesus said "*if ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them*".

### *The Wholistic Student (Daniel 5:14)*

The world's greatest leaders today and in history are not celebrated because of what they know but because of the feet's they pulled. They are celebrated because of the things they did. No one ever becomes great simply by acquiring knowledge rather they become great because of what they decided to do with the knowledge they acquired. You may not necessarily be where you are today because you are weak or less a human. It could simply be because you've only learnt how to acquire knowledge but never execute.

### ARTICLE

Today, I call you into a life of execution. Start engaging the things you've learned over time and see how great you'll eventually become. Always remember that in execution, you'll make mistakes and these mistake are never so you could stop but so you could increase your learning and to become a better person.

Today, as you make up your mind to cultivate these virtues, I pray that the Lord Jesus Christ will supply grace sufficiently to you. Gracias!



*The Wholistic Student (Daniel 5:14)*

# THE WORLD IS OUR STAGE

BY: JASON CYPHER JAMES.

Can you imagine Paul the mighty apostle as a tent maker? Who would think that with all the mighty works that Paul had done, He would have time to make tents? Throughout his ministry of planting churches, he worked as a tent maker. In each new location, he set up shops and earned his daily wages. Paul was so inspired by encountering Jesus that communicating the gospel became the most important role in his life. Tentmaking may be his resource to do this effectively but the goal is to take Jesus to every people and every culture.

Throughout the Scripture, you would see the emphasis on individuals doing ordinary tasks that at first glance look arbitrary and insignificant. But upon closer examination, their work ties into the broader narrative of God's plan, telling a story that begins in Creation and continues to unfold today. Someone like David who before he became King shepherded sheep. Traveling between pastures, guarding his flock against prowling lions, and writing music during his downtime. God often uses our humble beginnings to do great things. You can say that about the fishermen in the New Testament, Jesus called to follow him while they were hard at work fishing. He gave them a new way to understand their profession, saying: "*Come with me, and I will teach you to catch people*" (*Matthew 4:19, GNTD*).

Similarly, our jobs don't always feel fulfilling or significant, but they help us tell a greater story. They may be preparation for a future opportunity, developing useful skills or character traits. They may be the means through which we pursue our deeper passions.

They may look very ordinary, but play a pivotal part in what God is actively doing in the world. Our careers and jobs are strategic gateways that God has planted us to his plans, and as God becomes the one thing we desire, our priorities shift. Our definition of "meaning" becomes expansive. We begin to see our lives contributing to something far beyond ourselves.

Would think that Sports could be a means for preaching the gospel but while many of these talented professionals use their fame for personal gain, some have used it to highlight something larger than themselves: their Lord Jesus Christ; giving him glory in every sphere.

Like the saying "*The world is our stage*" and whatever sector we find ourselves we have to perform. Take the example of Stephen Curry; a Professional basketball player who currently competes for the San Francisco Golden State Warriors. He was drafted in 2007 as a first-round pick and has played on several national teams, competing in the FIBA World Championships and World Cup. Widely regarded as the greatest shooter in NBA history, he has incredible stats in most categories, including a 90.8% free throw percentage, which is the highest in the league. Instead of being drunk with these titles, Curry saw it as an opportunity to be outspoken about his faith.

Since the beginning of his professional career, Curry has always worn a blue wristband during games that say "In Jesus' Name I Play" and wrote scripture references on his shoes.

Similarly, Albert Pujols, a three-time MVP, and two-time World Series champion, gives credit to God for all his victories. He is quoted saying, "It doesn't matter if I hit a home run. It doesn't matter if we win a game. It doesn't matter if I go four; what matters at the end of the day, as long as I glorify His name, that's what it's all about." As young people, we can take the example of Gabby Douglas the 2012 Olympic gold medalist, who won the all-around competition at only 16 years old. She went on to be part of teams that won gold in the 2016 Olympics as well as the 2011 and 2015 World Championships.

Douglas is well-known for her stellar performances and her composure under pressure but even more so for her steadfast faith in the Lord. She points to her faith as the reason for her success and always says "**He [God] is the secret of my success. He gives people talents**"

We know this to be true because Peter says that we all want to do something purposeful with our lives.

But for many of us, this proves to be more challenging than we had anticipated. The job market prevents us from starting meaningful careers. We complete a degree only to realize we chose the wrong field or lack the funds to launch a creative venture.

We have dreams, ideas, and passions, but they don't materialize how we expected. Life is more than what to eat, drink and wear. And it's no mistake that you came to the country you're in, born to your family, and living in the place you are right now.

There's more God wants to do in and with your life, and just like God asking Moses "What is that in your hands?" For Moses, it was a staff and we know the miracles God used it to do. But for you, what is that in your hands? the lord demands it for his glory and with the leading of the Holy Spirit the stage of this world is no comparison with the eternal weight of glory that awaits us who performed to the glory of our King.

## 8 MUST WATCH FILMS FOR CHRISTIAN STUDENTS

BY ABDULLAHI PAUL USMAN

### #1 WAR ROOM



The fact that the beginning of life starts with warfare where thousands of sperm cells struggle to reach the ovum which will be fertilized and later become an offspring. One can say War Room depicted this. One striking feature of the film is the power of prayer which worked wonders in the heroine's family. One would never have imagined that if the battle of the spiritual realm is fought, that of the physical world is just a piece of cake. The movie sparks up the habit of prayer in believers because of the tremendous effect it has on one's destiny. War Room discourages students to take their lives into their hands but rather hand it to God. No amount of human knowledge and reasoning can be compared to the limitless wisdom and knowledge of God when it pertains to the issues of our life. Not until we realize the battle we are faced with every day would we be able navigate life's storms. It is a battle of words which proceeds into thoughts in our hearts and finally manifesting in our actions on the outside. However, the question here is, whose words are you depending on, yours or God's?

### #2 BREAKTHROUGH



In a world full of mockers and people who look down on others, it does not take time before one succumbs to people's ridicule and drown themselves not only in inferiority complex but in self-condemnation and indifference towards others.

Breakthrough is one movie that resounds the message of love among believers.

The hero- John lived through his adolescence feeling unloved by those around him. Even when they express their love in every way possible, he interprets it otherwise. Consequently, he dwelled on the camaraderie of his peers to give himself some level of self-worth and recognition. The film took a new turn

## *The Wholistic Student (Daniel 5:14)*

some level of self-worth and recognition. The film took a new turn when John battled for his life after an incident where he was almost left undiscovered in the depth of an ice snow. One intriguing feature of this movie is how the power of love was stretched among John's family, friends and even acquaintances. Every line of the movie screams love over other works of flesh which could not withstand the love of Christ. The movie brings to the fore the effectiveness of heartfelt prayers and intercession for others especially when they are faced with life-threatening situations. Through this movie, students can relive and drown themselves in the love of Christ. It is a movie that never loses its savor in the heart of believers because love is one message that people never get tired of especially in a world of increasing violence.

## #3 A WEEK AWAY

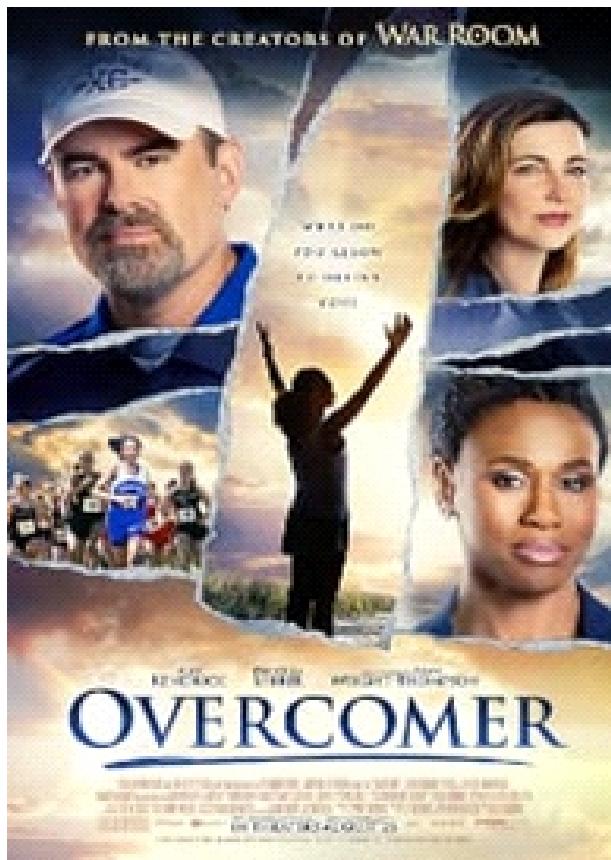


Escaping from the harsh realities of life, Kevin, a frivolous lad decides to go camping with a bunch of Christian students. However, he soon finds out that his decision will expose his true identity if he does not play his role of an imposter very well. Soon enough, he had to choose whether to hide his identity or find himself anew in Christ's love. It's one movie that reminds believers that Christ's love gives no room for discrimination.

## ARTICLE

Invariably, just like one sheep that is brought back to the fold to meet the ninety-nine, Kevin finally finds a place to call home in his new family. If you feel like a black sheep in the midst of your brethren, this is one film you need to watch as it brings to our remembrance that Jesus loves you irrespective of your feelings and as always, he loves sinners but hates their sin.

## #4 OVERCOMER



A teenage asthmatic girl battles to overcome inferiority complex, fear and several indulgences. Raised by her grandmother in a small neighborhood, starved from a father's love and fed with lies about her dad, she grew up with contempt for him.

In a sudden twist of event, she found herself by his hospital bed where she had to hang on to his every word to win a marathon race.

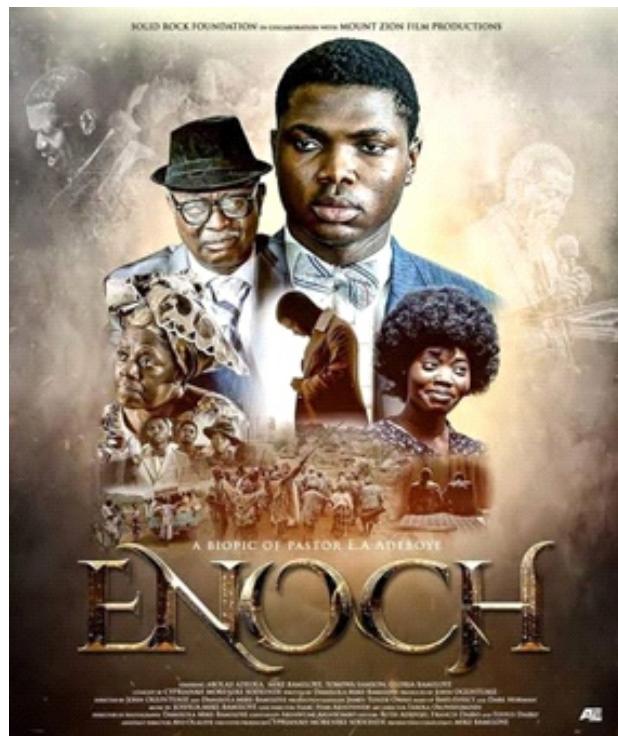
“Overcomer”, upholds the virtue of forgiveness which is one of the central messages of the movie. To be triumphant in the hurdles of life, one need to lay aside every weight that pulls us down and run the race set before us. With God words radiating in our heart, victory is sure to be ours.

## #5 HEAVEN'S WAR



Are you thinking your soul is not been contended for by the prince of this world? Or are you lost in a world where line between what is considered good or bad has been severely blurred? Heaven's war vividly paints the battle that is waged every moment for your soul. It exposes the crafty and cunning nature of the devil and his agents in this world, seeking to drown you in their abyss of lies. Sit back and see the wiles of these sweet-mouthed agents come to ruin. All you have to do is to acknowledge that you need God's help.

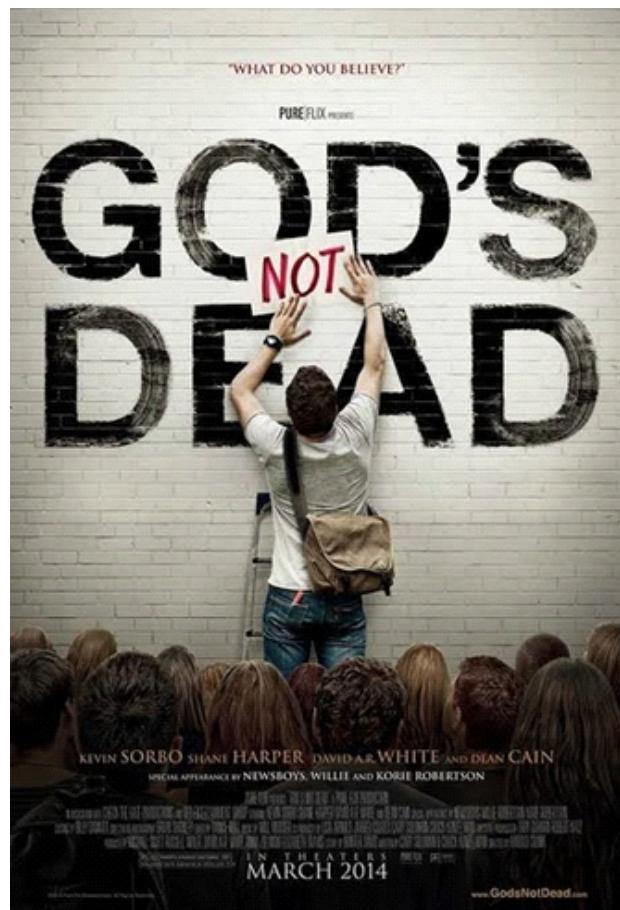
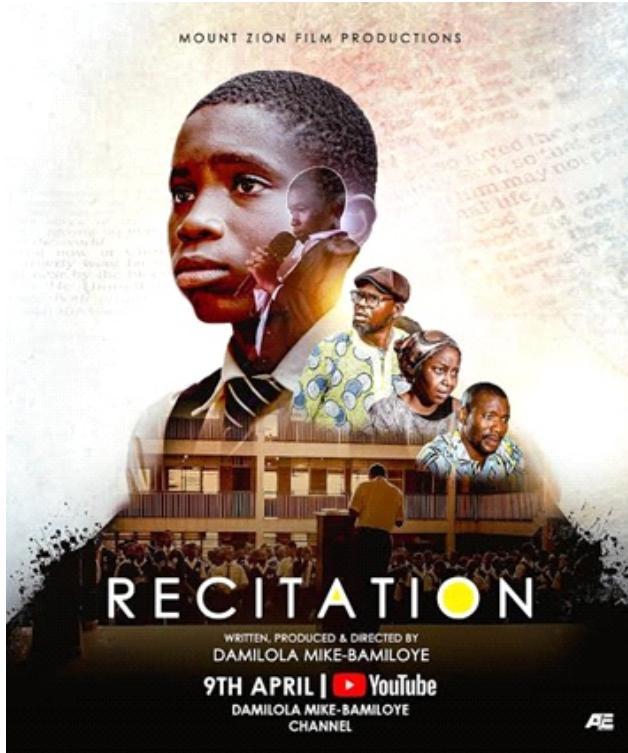
## #6 ENOCH



Another Mount Zion movie block buster, where the life of the general overseer of the Redeemed Christian Church of God is chronicled, showing his rise from grass to grace. Have you been struggling with humility and obedience to God's instructions? This movie is an eye opener to the numerous benefits that awaits us when we yield to God's plan for our life.

## #7 RECITATION

When the Bible affirmed that all things are possible to them who believe, it was not just a figurative statement. Recitation retells the story of Moses in the Bible who struggled with his speech from another angle, bringing to the fore what God said about glorifying Himself in our weaknesses. Just believe and trust Him to make all things work together for your good.



## #8. GOD'S NOT DEAD

Do you seek for a conviction of God's existence in your life? Have you been asked to denounce God or act in a way that does not portray you as His own? This movie is one which reminds us of God's presence in every struggle we are faced with. It rekindles and assures us that the one in us is greater than whatever the world brings.