THERE IS HOPE

Teacher Shola Akinkunmi (Captain, Soldiers of Christ Band)

"But those who trust in the LORD for help will find their strength renewed. They will rise on Wings like eagles; they will run and not get Weary; they will walk and not grow Weak"

Isaiah 40:31

I love this song from our sister Church, the C&S Movement Church, Surulere District, Lagos which says:

"Ki lo se o, to fi nro 'nu (2ce), Ki lo se o, to fi nro 'ra re pin, Tuju ka o, ko wo Agbelebu, Diro Mo Jesu, Oun Lo Le Mayo re kun..."

Whao, ladies and gentlemen, I want to divinely re-assure you that there is hope for the hopeless and strength for the weak. Isaiah Chapter 40:31 says "But those who trust in the LORD for help will find their strength renewed. They will rise on Wings like eagles; they will run and not get Weary; they will walk and not grow Weak".

When the Israelites were afraid at the Red Sea, they thought it was finished and that they were going to perish in the hand of the Egyptians. They were in hopeless situation but God came to their rescue. He gave them victory.

What challenges are you facing or going through? God is there for you. He is the Father of the Fatherless.

Abraham never believed he was going to have a Child from Sarah, despite God's several promises; but surprisingly, God's promises came to fulfilment. He gave them Isaac. Gen 17:17 says "Abraham bowed down with his face touching the ground, but he began to laugh when he thought, 'Can a man have a Child when he is a hundred years old?



Can Sarah have a Child at ninety?" Our God is able and is Omnipresent. Isaac was born against all forms of human comprehension, science and calculations Gen. 25. Surprisingly Abraham had seven other children after Isaac. A man (Abraham) that thought he never could bear a child not only had a Son but became a Father of Nations as promised by God.

God blessed Abraham and his descendants. Even while Jacob was serving Laban, God's blessings flowed over to Laban and his family. No wonder, Laban didn't want Jacob to leave as and when due because of God's promises to Abraham and his descendants. Gen. 30

The Widow at Zarephath had lost hope. She thought she was to eat her last food with her child and die. But God turned her emptiness to abundance through His grace. 1 Kings 17:14 says, "for thus saith the Lord God of Israel, the barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the Cruse of oil fail, until the day Lord sendeth rain upon earth", and it was so.

Luke 1:38 says with God all things are possible, meaning, there is Hope in the Lord. Are you Sick, are you Jobless, are you denied promotion at your work, come to Jesus. There is Hope.

Tough times don't last, but tough people do. My dear brethren and sisters, whatever challenges you are passing through now, is just for a while. After the darkest part of the night, is day and light. Always know that your present challenges or problems, is temporary and has a terminal date. It will soon be overcome with Jesus.

For you to have hope and inherit God's promises, you must necessarily do God's will and embrace the following advice:

- a) Read your bible always: When you pray, you talk to God; but when you read your bible, God talks to you. For you to understand God, you must let your bible be your daily guide.
- b) Sin: My brethren let us always abstain from Sin, no matter how little it was. Isaiah 59 says God answer prayers, but our Sin makes him to stay away. God made Saul King of Israel and was with him until he disobeyed God. A word is enough for the wise.
- C) Prayer: Brethren there is an adage which says, More prayer more success, little prayer little success, but no prayer no success. We must pray ceaselessly. Let us pray until our goals are accomplished; even thereafter we must continue to

- pray. Ephesians 6 says that we are not fighting bone and flesh but principalities of this World; so we must pray. The Bible tells us that Jesus prayed and the sweat from his body was like blood. This was in spite of all the power and authority given to him over the earth and heaven. If Jesus could pray like that, what about you- a mere mortal!
- d) Faith: Prayer without faith is nothing. When we pray, we must believe that the prayer has been answered. God is not always happy when you are fearful. You must believe. You must have faith. You must be courageous.

Our Church that is celebrating 25th Years is also a very good example. We have faced many challenges. The Church started under the bridge at Wuse Zone 2. There was even a time that flood carried away all the Church properties. But today, we have a big and contemporary Cathedral. It is indeed worth the while to celebrate *God's Faithfulness*. My dear brothers and sisters, there is Hope for a better future. Ireti Si Wa.