**Walking in the Favor of God**

Gods approval, acceptance, support, provision, divine energy and joy.

Noah and Mary the mother of Jesus found favor in the eye of the Lord.

**Genesis 6:5-8 - ESV**

5. The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. 6. And the Lord regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. 7. So the Lord said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them." 8. But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.

**Psalms 32:8-9 - ESV**

8. I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. 9. Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you.

Listening to God. Learn to identify His voice.

Gods voice is consistent with the scripture

May conflict with human reason

Clashes with fleshly desire

Challenge your faith

Calls for courage

He speaks quietly

He speaks personally

**How Gets our attention:**

He makes us restless

Blessing us

Unanswered prayer

Disappointments

Failure

Financial Problems

Sickness or Injury

To walk in God’s favor, I must listen to him.

**Learning to listen to God is lesson number 1**

**Proverbs 3:5-7 - ESV**

**5. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. 6. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. 7. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and turn away from evil.**

Genesis 6:9 - ESV

9. These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God.

God said to Noah; **Listen** to me, **trust** me and **Obey** me.

Genesis 6:11-13 - ESV

11. Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence. 12. And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. 13. And God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

I have really thought out about my testimony today as I will try to participate this time. I have to confess that I am not comfortable at all with testimonies. It is because of my background or how I was brought up where speaking about oneself is considered pride. So, I searched and asked around and the answer I got was there is a fine line between being pride and declaring the blessings and favor God shows in our life. So my story is not really much about something I received or a favor but more like a realization or a revelation to a situation.

The situation in short is yesterday I conducted a zoom meeting or hosting a zoom session for an Interview Session for a vacancy in the office with our members or parties as they are often referred to. The parties are made up of nine counties or nine national fisheries department or Ministries. The members consist of Palau, FSM, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Kiribati, Solomon, Tuvalu, PNG and Tokelau. Being a host involves letting in the Interview Candidates to the meeting at different times when called upon while making sure the others are left out in the waiting room.

So, my Job is basically like a security personnel who lets in the right candidate at the right time. When one candidate is almost done, I get the next candidate in line while waiting for the Chair of the panel to signal me. I have to listen; I have to have the next person in standby mode in short, I always have to be alert. Unlike a security guard who only stands outside the meeting house, I am also in the meeting house as a participant except that I don’t really participate in the interview process. I have the absolute power in the tips of my fingers to close the whole meeting, to record the meeting, hear, and see the people in the meeting when they are meeting as they are right in front of me on my computer screen. I can even speak if I want to but I am not expected and may have to from time to time when needed.

As I am there listening, I am beginning to see some cunning politics playing out in front of me and I am not happy. And the position somehow has a direct impact on my job here as well. In order words I had my preference and even have my own expectation of the outcome as well. To cut the story short the outcome wasn’t what I expected, and it is because of what I think is happening. The meeting went on till late and by the time I reached home I was tired and disappointed. I took the disappointment home, quietly and quickly ate my dinner and went to bed early. Around 1:49 am I woke up and couldn’t go back to bed. So, I went to this room which we don’t use as we like to sleep in the living room and prayed. I prayed and prayed and said I will leave everything to God’s hand. The trust part is kind hard and still is. I even told my wife about it and said I wasn’t going in to work today. I eventually went to work couldn’t even talk about it at work as well. I couldn’t even tell the person who is going to be affected because that is part of the ethics of my Job. Just like Doctors and Lawyers who have ethics and cannot go around telling other people that such and such person have this and that disease or such person did this to this person and will be jailed etc (maybe not a good example) but what I am trying to convey is that I cannot tell everyone in the office the result of the interview because its confidential and the result will have to be announced by the Ministers in three weeks’ time. I cannot really tell the CEO now that he is not the one. I managed to mention that I wasn’t satisfied with the Interview but had to say that result will be announced by the Minister.