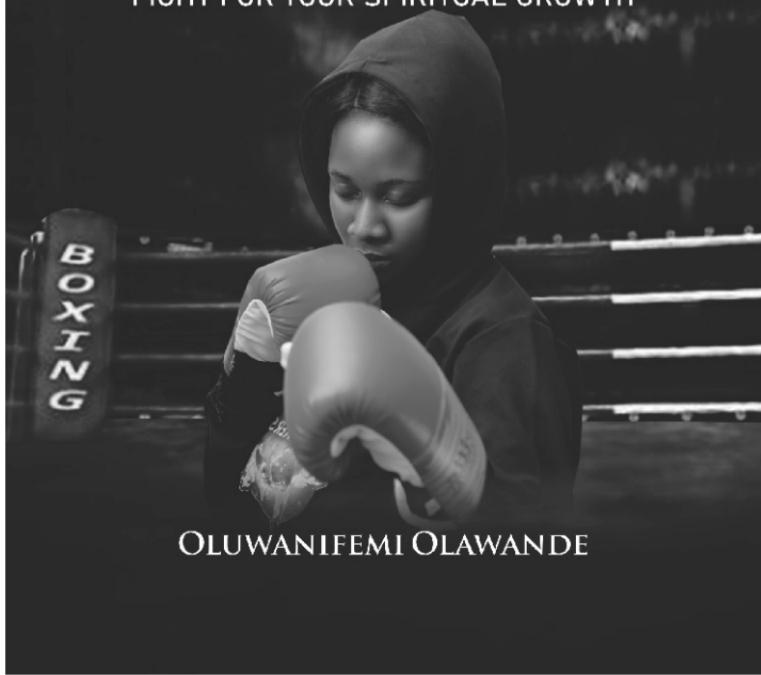


# BATTLEGROUND

FIGHT FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL GROWTH



OLUWANIFEMI OLAWANDE

## **BATTLEGROUND**

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# CONTENTS

DEDICATION  
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS  
FOREWORD  
INTRODUCTION  
**IT'S BATTLEGROUND**

**CHAPTER ONE:**  
THE WEAPON OF AWAKENED DESIRE

**CHAPTER TWO:**  
THE WEAPON OF GROWTH

**CHAPTER THREE:**  
THE WEAPON OF A BURNING VISION

**CHAPTER FOUR:**  
THE WEAPON OF THE MIND

**CHAPTER FIVE:**  
THE WEAPON OF PURITY

**CHAPTER SIX:**  
THE WEAPON OF ASSOCIATION

**CHAPTER SEVEN:**  
THE WEAPON OF ORDINATION

FINAL WORD  
MY LOVE NOTE TO YOU

## DEDICATION

To God Almighty, who gave me the privilege to receive the wisdom for this book. I also dedicate this book to everyone who is intentional about their spiritual life.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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I sincerely appreciate every man or woman who has helped me to attain my purpose in God and to be a blessing to my generation. To every pastor, Bible study teacher, friend, sharpener, tutor I have ever had, I say God bless you.

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To Pastor (Mrs) Hannah Bowale, I am always grateful that I was allowed to sleep in your room

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To Oyetomi Adisa, my beautiful mentor who will not rest till I become who God ordained me to be. Thank you for your constant prayers and support, may God continue to bless you.

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My able editor Ifeoluwa Aduradola, thank you so much for what you do and for doing this for me and for the Kingdom. I am indeed grateful.

To every member and administrator of the Prophetic Woman, you're the reason God called me. Thank you for being a source of inspiration and blessing at all times.

God bless you all.

# FOREWORD

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N ifemi is a passionate lover of God, a woman burning with a desire to see the Will of God done and so it's not a surprise she has authored a book to help people build a better relationship with God.

The 'BATTLEGROUND' is a simple book filled with deep truths. Anyone can pick it up and read it. This book is a revival handbook that will set many on fire for God and expose the wickedness of the enemy that limits us in our pursuit of God.

The world we live in is Antichrist; it is a dark world and that is why Christ calls us the Light of the world. The world does not love God so it seeks to destroy anything God.

Our approach to the things of God must always be aggressive and violent. It is a dangerous thing to approach the things of God casually.

We must war to keep our relationship with God

burning else we will wake up one day and find that we are far from the Father.

The enemy is always seeking to steal our love and passion for God. His wicked desire is to quench our love for God.

In this book; Nifemi reveals 7 weapons for sustaining a burning and productive relationship with God.

This book is not just another christian book. This is a book sent by the Father to the body of Christ. Your heart will burn with desire for God as you read it. You will be radically changed by the Spirit of God. There will be many lightbulb moments. Don't be surprised if you break into a song or tongues.

I encourage you to 'intentionally' read the book. Please; don't read it casually. Revival is what you are holding in your hands. May you be forever changed as you read this book.

Thank you Nifemi for obeying the Father. You have blessed us with a burning script from the heart of the Father.

**TOMI ADISA**

# INTRODUCTION

## IT'S BATTLEGROUND

For so long I desired an up-shoot in my spiritual life. I would pray and sometimes it seemed the prayers were not being answered. I kept struggling, going back and forth and oh! I had a lot of excuses to explain why it was normal to be cold sometimes.

By mercy, I was privileged to have the Holy Spirit teach me the power of intentionality and in this case, consciously fighting for my spiritual growth. I began to understand and to realize that I am not of the world but I am in the world and this human body would naturally be comfortable with sin, lust and spiritual coldness. Immediately, I got into action despite the uneasiness. I realized then that God had been waiting for me and was more interested in our relationship than I was. That encouraged me to continually fight for my Fire.

Dear warrior, you need to understand that sustaining a healthy relationship with the Holy Spirit is a FIGHT. We are on a battleground on earth till the day we breathe our last. As long as we live in our earthly vessel which is the flesh, we must contend with it so it doesn't prevail.

If you leave Mister Flesh alone, you will sleep, eat and never achieve anything in life, let alone growing in the things of the spirit. You must fight the good fight of faith. You must fight for your fire. You must fight for a burning heart for God at all times.

*"Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses." 1Timothy 6:12 (KJV)*

To fight simply means to contend or engage in a war or battle. Your spiritual growth can only be attained by intentionally fighting the fight of faith. The fight of faith is the fight for your love for God, your fire, the fight to burn for God consistently. You must wield every weapon He has given you to fight the devil. To wield your weapon means that you engage your weapon in fighting, either by using your wisdom, knowledge, skills or tactics in winning the battle.

The moment I began to fight for my fire, I realized that God had been waiting for me. He had been beckoning to me to come to Him but I was not seeing it. My intentionality started to birth a fresh revival in me. God is chasing after us to come into a deeper relationship with Him and to guard that relationship jealously. He desires to reveal Himself to us. The first battle to Win is the fight against IGNORANCE. Ignorance must be defeated. Can you imagine the devastating effect of fighting a battle with no strategy for victory? How can you fight when you don't know who your enemy is?

*"Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for WE ARE NOT IGNORANT of his devices." 2 Corinthians 2:11 (KJV) "so that we might not be outwitted by Satan — for we are not ignorant of his schemes." 2 Corinthians 2:11 (TPT)*

We must not be ignorant that we are on a battleground with the devil and he is on a hot pursuit to destroy us. Since the fall of man, war was declared between the devil and the seed of the woman. If you are the seed of a woman then the devil is at war with you.

*"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise His heel." Genesis 3:15 (KJV)*

You won't survive in a war if you are ignorant that it even exists. You won't make it far in a war without a fiery passion for victory. To win in the battleground of life, you must have passion and determination for victory, as well as a strong emotion. You must give all it takes to win the war. You must be conscious of the tactics of the devil and how to overcome him with the wisdom of God. Go into every battle with a strategy.

*"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion walketh about seeking whom he may devour"* **1 Peter 5:8 (KJV)**

Everyone is on the battleground with the Devil who is fighting tooth and nail to break us. It's either you fight him or you bow to him. We must come to this understanding if we really want to win this war.

The devil has been made the prince of this world and the atmosphere is saturated in carnality so there must be a contention for dominion. He is constantly going about like a roaring lion looking for Christians to cut off their communication and relationship with God because as believers, we are strong when we are in tune with the Father. The moment the devil is able to break that link, it will be easy for him to manipulate believers.

Everywhere you go, there are enough advances and pollution against your spiritual life. It's a battle for territory and if we must express the kingdom of God on earth we must contend with the devil for the territory. The lion doesn't just roar. It is a technique to maintain his territory. We must strive to win in this battle for our spiritual growth. It is the survival of the fittest. For we must on the last day be bold to say like Paul;

*"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:"* 2 Timothy 4:7 (KJV)

As a child of God, you must therefore jealously guard your relationship with the Holy Ghost, and your passion because the devil is after your passion to fight. It is war, it is no joke. We are to fight and endure hardness as soldiers of Christ. One major tactic we must know is that the Devil is aware of our victory in Christ. Unfortunately, many Christians are ignorant of this important information. Sin made us slaves to the devil but the moment we confess our sins before God, we become joint heirs with Christ.

Be confident that you are fighting from a place of victory. Stop focusing on what the devil is doing and focus on your authority and victory in Christ Jesus. All you need to do is to fight, and you are a winner already. You must disbelief the lie of the devil that says you cannot always be on fire for God. This book will bring you into the consciousness to fight for your relationship with God and to stay victorious on a daily basis. Our focal victory is to never break our relationship and communication link with God.

If you are ready to sky-rocket your move with God and maintain constant and consistent victory over every fiery dart of the devil against your life, then you are holding the right book in your hands.

I pray your hearts will be open to understanding the weapons to fight the enemy in this fierce battle. I pray that this book ignites a fiery passion in your heart to wield your weapons against the devil and fight for your spiritual growth. Amen.

desire

# THE WEAPON OF AWAKENED DESIRE

# 1

## THE WEAPON OF AWAKENED DESIRE

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**"As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?" Psalm. 42:1-2 (KJV)**

If you have consistently desired growth, you must develop a BURNING DESIRE to maintain your relationship with God. There is a limit of growth a person can access if passion isn't laced with intentions. Having a strong desire helps you maintain stability when giving up becomes the best option.

### **DESIRE IS PASSION**

Have you ever had a strong emotion for someone, a new car or a new dress? Has your heart ever ached to reach

out to someone or something that you have missed for a long time? Have you ever longed to be with someone that you begin to cry? That is Passion. Oh! I know passion. I have left a meeting and travelled home to another city because I hadn't seen my daughter in weeks and I could no longer bear the ache in my heart.

Passion is any great, strong, and powerful emotion you feel towards someone or something. Passion is love. It's what you feel for your spouse, your children, your close friend and sometimes, your job.

Have you ever had passion for God? Has your heart ever ached for God? Do you remember when you newly gave your life to Christ, how you were overwhelmed with passion for God before you suddenly lost it in that intensity? Do you remember those days when it was just you and Jesus and you wouldn't mind missing your meals because you were fellowshipping with God? Ask yourself, is the intensity still as strong now or maybe even better?

I remember while growing up, I used to frequently go out to answer altar calls to give my life to Christ, but I also had the bad habit of taking it back. On a beautiful evening in October 2007, God intentionally called out to me. I had a personal encounter that left me weeping on the floor and since that day I never looked back again. I was filled with love and desire for God. I made a decision

from then to allow Jesus live in me forever. I found it difficult to eat, I would fast almost every day from that time. Just like when the disciples asked Jesus in John 4 if He would have meat and He replied that they had no idea how full He was with the meat of evangelism He just had. No wonder it was recorded of Him that the zeal of His father's house has eaten Him up. That is fire.

*"Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work."* John 4:34 (KJV)

*"And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up."* John 2:17 (KJV)

That passion and emotion you feel will continually draw you closer to the Father. That fire you received at salvation must be continually refueled. Sometimes we get carried away and our love begins to wax cold. This happens because we don't refuel it.

Love not serviced can easily wax cold. When you love someone, you think about them, you speak to them constantly, you talk about them to those willing to hear, you give to them, you serve them, and you do anything they request of you no matter how inconvenient it is.

It is the same way with God. You must speak to Him, talk about Him, think about Him, and read about Him. You must constantly refuel your love for God. Do not lose

your passion. The devil always attacks our passion because fighting is useless without the passion and desire to win.

Passion is refueled when the partners communicate love to one another. You refuel your passion for God by communicating love to Him and by acting out His love language. To know His love language, you have to study Him, through His WORD – the Bible. The Word is the express image of the Father, so you must be in constant communion with the word to refuel your love with the Father.

The Word itself is love and just by reading it, you are demonstrating your love to Him. The Word is also how He communicates with us, so we cannot ignore the Word in our communication and relationship with Him. The Word is God's love letter to us. Every part of the Word is the evidence of His love towards us.

## **HOW DO YOU SHOW GOD YOU LOVE HIM?**

It is important to know how He expects you to show Him love per season. I would personally accept acts of service and gifts over words of love and affirmations but my husband would rather accept words of affirmations.

It would then be unfair to my husband to give him gifts alone and expect that I have expressed my love to him in totality. If I buy him gifts but do not vocally express my

love and thanksgiving for the things he does for me, I haven't shown Him love. To express our love to God, we must act out in obedience the things He expects of us per season. When God expects that we show Him love by publicly expressing it through evangelism and we think we can give an offering instead to neglect the other, then we are not loving Him. We must pray to know how to love Him per time, per season. That is how to refuel our love and desire for Him.

## **LOVE NOT WORKS**

Have you met people who work in the church but are not even Christians? Yes, I have. The fact that you work in a church or your house is a venue for church programs doesn't mean you love God. Attending different spiritual meetings round the week is not an evidence of love. Whatever you do must be borne out of love for Him.

Sometimes we assume that loving Him is to go early to church and to be the last to leave. Any work or labor for God that is not borne out of love is mere works and will be burned in fire. God is more particular about our love for Him than our works. Love will make you do His exact will.

So many people are doing their will and not the will of the Father. No wonder the scriptures say many will come and say "Lord, we did all of this in your name" and

He will say “depart from me.”

*“Knowing the correct password—saying 'Master, Master,' for instance—isn't going to get you anywhere with me. What is required is serious obedience—doing what my Father wills. I can see it now—at the Final Judgment thousands strutting up to me and saying, 'Master, we preached the Message, we bashed the demons, our God-sponsored projects had everyone talking.' And do you know what I am going to say? 'You missed the boat. All you did was use me to make yourselves important. You don't impress me one bit. You're out of here.” Matthew 7:21-23 (MSG)*

The very first letter written to the church in the book of Revelation was for the church to return to loving God despite the fact that their works were acknowledged. The church must go back to the emphasis of the love of God over duties. When we love sincerely, our works will be aligned and will speak His person. The Father is seeking those who will worship Him in spirit and in truth. He is earnestly seeking lovers in deed, words and in soul.

*“Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks; I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are*

*apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted. Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent."* Revelation 2 vs 1: 5 (KJV)

The church of Ephesus was busy with works and activities. They labored for God but they did not have love. They were working for God but not working in God and Jesus was instructing them to go back to their first love.

There was a time they sincerely loved God and their relationship with God was more than the programs they were organizing or the accolades they were receiving from ministrations. God is more interested in our relationship with Him than religion. When Jesus called His disciples in Mark 3, He called them first to be with Him. The purpose of our desire is God, God must be our purpose. Loving Him must be above our religious works. He created us first for relationship and communion with Him.

*"And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils:"* Mark 3:13-14 (KJV)

At instances in my life when I realized my love was waxing cold, I had to deliberately fight back for it. I was involved in so many activities and people who saw me then would think I was at my peak with God but I knew something wasn't as it was anymore. I knew my love was waning.

I would write Him love notes and love songs daily. I would surround myself with notes to awaken my desire for Him till I knew I was back and better. It is still possible to return to the way you were burning when you newly accepted Christ or when you received the baptism of the Holy Ghost and it is even possible to increase your burning passion in God. There is room to burn again in love for God. Pray to the Father today to teach you to love Him and to help you to love Him.

Per adventure you have never had that personal life transforming encounter with Him, He is chasing after you today and that's why you're reading this. He wants to fill you with an overwhelming love so you burn with love for Him and never wane. Yield to Him right now and let Him fill you with His Love. Cry to Him and He will answer.

## **DESIRE IS HUNGER**

Desire can be understood as hunger and thirst in the scriptures. Hunger and thirst are the currency to receive anything in the spirit, if you sincerely seek after it. Have

you ever been pregnant and started craving for *Amala* from *Buka* (outdoor canteen) in the middle of the night that you couldn't help but wake your husband to go search for it round Lagos? We call it pregnancy cravings.

As much as our physical bodies crave for food, there are cravings in the spirit as well. These hunger pangs for God make you desperately seek Him even when it seems uncomfortable. That Hunger is your fire and you must fight for it.

*"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness for they shall be filled" Matthew 5:6 (KJV)*

How desperate are you for God? How much of God do you really desire? How far can you go for God? Have you ever had a burning hunger for God? How many times have you given up on your relationship with God? These questions are indicators of your hunger level. Hunger is a spiritual force for desperate desire for God.

Hunger will not make you give up on your request because you know you will be filled. Just like a pregnant woman seeks to satisfy her cravings, hunger will make you seek Him desperately and continually until you find him. If you want God desperately, you will seek Him with all your heart.

*"O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul*

*thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is; To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary. Because thy lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee.*" Psalm. 63:1-3 (KJV)

David was a man who was desperate for God, no wonder He was called a man after God's heart. He compared his desire for God to a prolonged thirst where there is no water. Thirst is dryness. Thirst can lead to death because the human body survives and thrives on fluid.

To declare your thirst for God is to declare your existence and survival on God. If we can desire God and depend on Him the way we depend on water, then we understand His importance. When God sees a heart of desire, a heart truly desperate for Him, he shows up.

To be desperate is not a simple act. I have seen people desperate for the fruit of the womb do crazy things. When Hannah became desperate, she prayed like a drunken woman and made an offer with God He couldn't refuse. When God sees a desperate heart, He shows up big. The book of Jeremiah strongly explains that we can only find God when we seek Him with all of our hearts.

*"And ye shall seek me, and find me when ye shall search for me with all your heart". Jeremiah. 29:13 (KJV)*

Hunger will make you seek Him, it will make you pursue Him. Hunger can be birthed by circumstances, from encounters and it can be intentionally created. Whichever way it is gotten, it must be maintained. The moment you stop getting hungry, you lose access to being filled.

When you stay hungry and thirsty, you are liable to continual filling, so you don't lose your fire. Learn how to rekindle your hunger and invest in materials that awaken your hunger for God. Intentionally stay hungry and thirsty for Him.

We must return to our passion for God and the things of God. The Lord indulges us today to arise and to shine so that the Gentiles will come to our light. Let the hunger pangs in you arise. Arise in the glory of God with fiery passion to eliminate darkness.

Can you pray to be consumed with a burning hunger for God, a kind of hunger and thirst that cannot be satisfied and you never get tired of being hungry? The fact that He said He will fill you doesn't mean your thirst will be quenched and you will never hunger again but that you will remain hungry. Can God be your highest pursuit in life, can He be your greatest desire in life?

I have a special note to those who have been with Him before and now, but the burning desire is no more. Seek

the Holy Spirit, seek His presence, His person, His power and His will. There are depths in God that can only be revealed in desperate hunger and desire for more of Him.

You must constantly long for God desperately and be willing to go any length to have Him. Seek Him in prayers, study the word, remain in constant communication for His will and you will be filled.

If you're doing well with God, you can be better. There are many secrets and mysteries to be revealed in God. Let fresh hunger pangs rise in you to know the expectation of the Father from you in this season. It's a daily working to submit to the dealings of God. There is a revelation for each day, search for it in your secret place.

Remember it is a fight, so you must suppress yourself to that hunger to receive. Put your body under subjection with fasting and self- denial just so you can attain your place in God who is your highest calling.

As deep in the spirit as Apostle Paul was, he still prayed "that I may know Him", what kind of desire was that? That is the posture for every believer that sincerely wants to grow in God. Seek to know Him and to love Him.

## REFLECTION

- How was your relationship with Christ before now and how is it presently? Has your love gone cold or you have stayed burning over the time?
- If you have gone cold, think about what might have happened and determine to avoid them forever.
- Write those things that you believe has helped you remain in constant love for God and intentionally do them more.
- What are the things you must begin to do now that will increase your burning desire for God?

## CONFESIONS

As the deer pants after the waters, my soul begins to pant after God continually.

My heart follows hard after God.

I will never lose my passion, I will never lose my desire.

I am in live with Jesus all the days of my life

I am on fire for God



2

# THE WEAPON OF GROWTH

# 2

## THE WEAPON OF GROWTH

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My first daughter is about two years old and we literally have to pursue her to sit still or stay put. She would open the door and walk outside the house and expect us to run after her screaming, "I'll catch you."

My heart skips whenever I see that she climbed the stairs up and back down without supervision. Keeping an eye on her has become a very difficult task. But I remember there was a time I was so agitated to see her walk.

My mum told me I started walking before I turned 1 year old, so I expected it from her as well but it didn't happen that way. I was anxious but she did not walk until few weeks after she clocked one. I imagine how our heavenly

father anticipates our growth immediately we are born again. We must be aware that knowing and understanding your growth radar is a great weapon for spiritual growth. The moment you know, and you are aware of what you can do and achieve, you're on your way to success. That is why it is important we understand and believe that growth is a process and maturity in God is attainable. You must be intentional about your spiritual growth, monitor it and be consistently willing to grow.

## ATTAINING MATURITY

*"For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:" Ephesians 4: 12-15 (KJV)*

Our highest goal is to mature into the measure of the stature and fullness of Christ, that is, spiritual maturity. Our highest calling however, is to become as He is in word, deed, character, speech and in totality. We must grow up into Him and must be intentional about it. Just

the way we check our growth level in our place of work or businesses and are very keen on promotions, we must monitor our kingdom growth as well. Evaluate your spiritual growth frequently. It's a posture to show God your growth is important you as it is to Him.

As mentioned earlier, growth is a process. God nurtures His children from babyhood to adulthood. It is a pity some fall out of process while others stay stagnant. Nobody would be happy to have a child that doesn't grow. My agitation about my daughter's growth was not only about her walking but all her milestones.

The first time she stood up straight I took a picture. Her first day in school, I cried because it was so overwhelming for me to see my baby independent and ready for school. I imagine how God feels when we have been born again for years and we are still crawling in faith or we still can't hear His voice. I believe these are the things that bring tears to the Fathers' eyes. We must gain stature in the spirit.

## **GROWTH IS A PROCESS**

Every animal undergoes developmental stages. A man is first conceived as a result of the fusion of a sperm and egg to form a fetus. It then develops to form an embryo, which eventually gets delivered as a baby. The baby grows up to become a child and an adult man afterwards. Biologists explain developmental changes

significantly with the butterfly in a term called metamorphosis where the adult butterfly lays an egg, the egg becomes a caterpillar and later becomes a beautiful flying butterfly.

The Bible speaks of 3 levels of growth according to Hebrews 5: 11-14 and Ephesians 4: 11-13.

## **BABYHOOD**

When a child is born, he is born into babyhood. Every believer must begin at this level after salvation because God is a God of process. The moment you give your life to Christ, you are first a baby as you have just been born again. When a baby is born, he requires warmth, proper care and milk from his mother. A baby depends on adults to survive and cannot stand on her own. A baby would easily fall while trying to stand. A baby blabs and cries a lot and he is easily irritable.

## **HERE ARE SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF A BABY CHRISTIAN:**

1. A baby Christian is ignorant of the principles of the oracles of God and needs to dwell on the milk of the word of God constantly in order them.
2. A baby Christian has a form of godliness without knowledge.
3. A baby Christian gets tired of praying or dwelling in

the things of God because he or she is dull of hearing.

4. A baby Christian is unskillful in the word of righteousness and cannot apply appropriate scriptures to his or her daily living.

5. A baby Christian cannot stand on his or her own on the day of war and can easily fall into sin due to lack of knowledge.

6. A baby Christian needs constant carrying, support and follow up.

Believers' classes where the milk of the word and the principles of Christianity are taught with adequate follow up should be emphasized and encouraged strongly to help new converts grow intentionally. We still have so many babies in church that although they have given their lives to Christ for a while, still haven't grown because they lack the milk to grow and are not surrounded by adults who can follow up on them.

They still fall easily and are easily gullible to false doctrines. Some have been victims of manipulations by so-called men of God who are still babies themselves. Adults must help babies grow, it is a duty for every matured believer to help younger believers to grow and not to reject them because of their mistakes. Our duty is to correct them and help them to be strong.

*As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word that ye may grow thereby: 1Peter 2:2 (KJV)*

The babyhood level is very essential because it is the foundation of a deep Christian journey. Take complete nutrients from the word of God to help you develop, i.e. study the word all-encompassing not neglecting one for the other. As we do not ignore our proteins to take in only carbohydrates, we must not ignore a part of the Bible for the other or else we will be deficient. Our foundation must be strong and firm, we must bear strong roots downwards so we can last in faith.

Our ultimate teacher is the Holy Spirit, so we must be very observant of the things the He will be teaching us daily so we can grow. Make it a duty to learn something new every day and learn to write it down for the day of its use. One beautiful thing about babies is their total dependence on God, which He also expects from us adults. He wants us to always trust and depend on Him.

To take no thought of what we will eat, drink or wear, to take no thought of tomorrow but to trust in Him. My daughter will often throw herself down from the table when she knows I'm watching because she knows I will catch her. Our God is not an irresponsible Father, He will always catch you.

Are you a baby in faith? There is room for growth if you

can dwell on the sincere milk of the word of God. Spend time studying the Word, attend meetings that equip you and pray to the Father to help you grow. Enjoy your Bible study time, use different versions and write down your lessons as the Holy Spirit (our teacher) is always ready to teach as long as we are ready to learn.

If you are not surrounded by adults who can help you, use the Holy Spirit in you with the word of God. Even if you have adults around, always check with the Holy Spirit in prayers. The day you gave your life to Christ, you received the Holy Ghost and He speaks to you.

## CHILDHOOD

A baby becomes a child when he is no longer being carried about and is able to stand or act without supervision. A child is more grown and knowledgeable than a baby. A child has started to walk, might have even experienced some dimensions and encounters in his or her walk with God, but the Bible says they are easily tossed to and fro because they are not yet firmly rooted.

A child is not completely ignorant but lacks discernment. They believe any man of God or anything they hear and so can easily fall.

*"That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;" Ephesians 4:14 (KJV)*

Children are also easily offended. If you don't let them have their way, they get upset and start to cry. A child believer will tell God that if He doesn't answer his or her request he or she will go back to the world. A child believer will leave a church because the Head of department they serve in church scolded them.

It's a pity that so many people stop at this level of growth and are comfortable where they are. We have so many people who haven't allowed the Holy Ghost do a complete work in them before taking leadership roles in church and adapt the mindset of independency. They no longer take to corrections. They become arrogant and proud because they are eloquent and have some knowledge of the scriptures. They pray, study the Word and attend church meetings but have no solid strength to stand in the spirit and hold on to eternal things.

The advantage of being a child, which can be a disadvantage sometimes is that they are very inquisitive to learning. They would sometimes just copy whatever they see the adults doing because they want to be like the adults even if they are not sure what the adult is doing is right.

My almost two year old daughter will kneel with me when I'm praying and raise her hands when she sees me do so. She will wear my shoes and carry my bags on her arms with the car keys. She would watch me dress her

baby sister and try to do the same. Children are always hungry to learn, they go from one church meeting to the other, which is why sometimes they fall into error. As a child, you must still always check with the Holy Ghost and pray more for the spirit of discernment.

*"Now I say, that the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all; But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father. Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world"* Galatians 4:1-3 (KJV)

The danger of staying as a child is that a child is a servant till he becomes a son. Until you become a son and can lay hold on your inheritance in God, you might still be under the bondage of your ignorance. Stay more with the Word and spend time fellowshipping with the Holy Spirit.

Don't relax as a child and stop repeating your classes. You repeat classes when God is set to promote you. He permits you to go through some tests and exams which will work out patience in you but because you do not take to the things the teachings the Holy Spirit gives you, you fail your tests.

## **ADULTHOOD**

An adult is a grown man or woman.

- An adult is discerning of good and evil and is able to

make wise judgements.

- He knows when God speaks and how to communicate to God well.
- He is grown and bears the fruit of the spirit.
- He is a Christian who has allowed the Holy Spirit work on him character, break his will, prune his thoughts and control his desires.
- An adult is discerning to know what is happening in a place or in a season.
- An adult is constantly looking at Jesus as the standard and is liable to strong meat.
- An adult is a dead man. When the Holy Ghost begins to suppress your desires and influence it with the desires of the kingdom and you find it easier to obey then you're an adult.

*"For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."* Hebrews 5:12-14 (KJV)

Strong indicator of your growth in God is that your mind, desires and motivation is God. You are dead to your own desires and carnality. You are less worldly and completely spiritual. Your opinions and conversations

are influenced by the word of God.

*"By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward. By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible." Hebrews 11:24-27 (KJV)*

Moses had come of age, he became a son and came into his identity. He received the understanding of what his real identity was and was ready to suffer the consequences that came with it. Maturity in Christ reveals a believer's identity and makes him responsible.

A mature believer will not threaten to go back to the world because God didn't answer his request. He knows that God is sovereign and he fears and trusts Him no matter what. A mature believer understands the nature of God and can hear God even in the dark.

An adult is also eligible to get married and have children, therefore an adult in the Kingdom can teach and mentor others to grow. An adult can also become a father to others in faith. He is responsible for the growth of children around him and God begins to entrust him with greater assignments.

God's desire for us is that we grow from childhood and we become sons so that we can fully hold on to our inheritance in Christ. It is joint-heirs that will inherit the Kingdom not babies or children but joint sons. We must mature so that we can discern good and evil, know the principles and oracles of God by heart and also be able to recognize His voice anywhere or anytime.

Are you a baby? It is not too late to grow. Are you a child? You're doing great but there's more. Are you already an adult? I rejoice with you but please don't feel too relaxed yet, we are still at war and a warrior doesn't sleep on the battleground. Keep fighting, the fullness of the measure of Christ is our goal.

The word of God is our milk for growth and our weapon for war. The adult must never reach a point of diminishing returns where he/she feels they no longer need milk. The adult needs milk even in more quantity than the baby. The milk that sustained you to as a baby till you became an adult must be upgraded to strong meat to sustain you as a adult.

## **NO COMPARISON**

Just as I was comparing my daughter's growth with mine and got disappointed is the same way believers sometimes are disappointed when they compare their spiritual growth with others, ignoring the fact that growth is a process and can differ in individuals. The

Bible says those who compare themselves are not wise. Understanding your spiritual growth level is no agenda for comparison. You must never begin to judge your walk with God with that of another man. Don't judge yourself and feel inferior because you do not have encounters like a Sister Mary in your church. The Holy Spirit must always be your teacher to teach, reprove and correct you.

Likewise, do not look down on anyone because you feel they are not as 'spiritual' as you are but instead help them grow. Adults should not send babies away from the church neither should they condemn them as even Christ has not condemned us. Do not judge or condemn anyone. We only boast in the righteousness of Jesus not in our diligence or humility or obedience. Remember that the slow and ugly caterpillar you see today will become a beautiful flying butterfly tomorrow.

## QUICK GROWTH

*"For he will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth." Romans 9:28 (KJV)*

We live in a generation that loves things done quickly, we have zero patience for process. We want everything done fast but sometimes we are not willing to pay the sacrifice. Growing from one level to another doesn't mean it must take ten years. It really depends on how

you are able to learn and give time to learning. The Holy Spirit can also do a quick work in you. He can cut short time in righteousness if you give yourself to His dealings with you. It might stretch you, take you out of your comfort zone, require a lot of sacrifices and obedience from you but if you can submit to the dealings, He is able to take you to the place you are meant to be in a short time. Paul can plant, Appolos may water but It is God that gives the increase.

Become conscious of your growth henceforth and fight for it. This is war, you can't fight this war without a strategy for your growth. You must never stop growing because the moment you stop growing, you start dying. Fight for your growth.

## REFLECTION

- Are you a baby, a child, or an adult?
- Create a meal plan for your growth henceforth
- How many hours will you begin to spend with the Word henceforth?

## CONFESION

Spiritual maturity is attainable. I can attain spiritual maturity through the Holy Spirit living in me. I will work daily unto perfection of the full measure of Christ. The Holy Spirit is doing a quick work in me cutting short time in righteousness



3

# THE WEAPON OF A BURNING VISION

# 3

## THE WEAPON OF A BURNING VISION

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*"I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved. And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it". Habakkuk 2:1-2 (KJV)*

**A**s a little girl growing up in a small town in Ogun State, Nigeria, I remember vividly playing with other children in the neighborhood echoing the name on the flier in our hands "Bonnke! Bonnke!." We were playing , singing and dancing to the rhythm of the advert song of awareness for the evangelist who was coming to our town in a few weeks. "I see a blood washed Africa" was the popular label of the German

Evangelist, Reinhard Bonnke who left his home country with his wife and baby to Africa to preach the gospel. All he had was a vision of a saved Africa and He ran with it. His name is forever in our history.

We have all been made for a purpose and there is an agenda of God in your hands but you must see it to run with it. Every man has a mandate and a purpose on earth which you must discover. There is an assignment with your name on it. When you discover your purpose, place and expectation in God, it will keep you on your feet. The reason why some contemplate suicide or give up often is because they do not have the sight of what God has in store for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose.

Vision is a mental imaginary conceived belief of the future. Vision is a requirement to achieve great things in life. A person with no vision takes life as it comes and has no compelling force for achievement. It is said that if you can see it and run with it, you can achieve it.

It is good to have a burning desire for God, but you must give that desire a purpose. What do you see? Where do you see yourself in God? Why do you desire God? Do you have a compelling vision that motivates you to keep chasing after God? You must come into the understanding of who you are in Christ and the mandate of the Kingdom upon your shoulders. When you do, you

will find it difficult to live like every other person with no vision because vision brings direction and motivation. Your vision is your fire, fight for it, fight to always see.

There was a man whose vision motivated his walk with God even unto death. His name was Saul, later renamed Paul. His encounter was recorded in the book of Acts 9:3-21 (KJV); *"And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?*

*And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do. And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man.*

*And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus. And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink. And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord. And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called*

*Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth, And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight. Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem: And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name. But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:*

*For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake. And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized. And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus. And STRAIGHTWAY he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God".*

Saul was busy with his ambition until he had an encounter that kept him on his feet for God till death. He had a vision that directed the rest of his life. The moment Apostle Paul received the vision of the Lord Jesus Christ and knew what he had to suffer for Jesus, he could no longer be at ease. Even when it was prophesied that he

would be imprisoned, he didn't budge, he gave a striking response instead;

*"And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there"* Acts 20:22 (KJV)

Only vision can make a man leave all he has to follow God even with threats of death. Vision keeps you going irrespective of circumstances, discouragements or environment. Vision makes a man avoid excuses and begin to chase after God irrespective of the sacrifices he need to pay.

### **VISION CAN BE RECEIVED**

*"It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter."* Proverbs 25:2 (KJV)

God is author of all vision and His desire is that we search out His vision for us by His Spirit. He said He knows the plans He has for us and He also said He will give us the desires of our heart. God is glorified when we seek out His plan for us. God has amazing gifts for us and He puts in our reach.

Just as Habakkuk stood on the tower waiting to hear Him speak, waiting for the vision to run with for purpose, we are expected to wait on God to tell us how to put those gifts to good use

*"But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things*

*which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God".  
1 Corinthians 2:9-10 (KJV)*

When God gives you a vision, it is always bigger than you can imagine, so depend on Him to give you a vision, so that you can run with direction. Search the spirit for your vision to be sharpened, so as to see yourself in God. The issue is that not many people wait on God like Habakkuk to hear what God will say. They just talk and do not wait for the action word but God is always speaking.

We must pray for a compelling vision. We must stand upon our watch like Habakkuk to wait on Him for His desire so we can run with it. He has great thoughts and plans for us which we will find when we search within the spirit. We must become who is demanded of us by the Spirit come what may. We must give everything it takes to be in the will of God for our lives.

*"Woe to them that are at ease in Zion, and trust in the mountain of Samaria, which are named chief of the nations, to whom the house of Israel came!" Amos 6:1 (KJV)*

Woe is unto those who are lackadaisical about their place in God. . We must walk the earth with purpose. We cannot be too relaxed because the devil is not sleeping

neither is he joking. His mission is to take as many as possible to hell but ours is to restore the kingdom of God on earth. We will travail till God's will is established upon the earth as it is in heaven.

There are individuals, families and nations waiting on our manifestation to enter into their glory. Simeon and Anna were continually in the temple in Luke 2, praying for the consolation of Israel before Mary could receive the savior as a seed. Daniel had to arise in the prophetic to pray the deliverance of Jerusalem even though there was a prophecy.

I received a vision by the spirit to deliver women from the pit of spiritual stagnancy and I understand that it is a battle against the pleasures of the world, a battle against the devil himself. It's a vision bigger than me. I cannot be relaxed, I cannot be at ease. There are territories to take over for Jesus and my mission is that women must rise and burn for God.

What is your vision? What is your mission? What is your strategy?

## **VISION CAN BE CREATED**

When it seems like you do not have a vision like Habakkuk, Paul or like Rehinhard Bonnke, create your vision. A group of people came together with a common goal to build a tower that will get to heaven. God came down to look at them and He made a striking statement.

*"And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do." Hebrews 11:6 (KJV)*

Vision the kind of relationship you want to have with God and the things you desire to do for God. Prepare your goal and desire in God. Reflect on the levels of growth in chapter 2 and determine where you want to be. I tell you that it is the Holy Spirit working within you to conceive spiritual things. Whatever you can conceive or imagine as your height in God is your vision, run with it till it becomes your manifestation.

Do your desire spiritual maturity? Do you desire to be enlisted in God's end time army and as a general in His army? Vision it, that's your fire..

*"The most pathetic person on earth is one with sight and no vision"* Helen Keller

## **TAKE YOUR BIRTHING POSITION**

Your vision is first conceived as a seed inside you, its fruit is the manifestation that everyone will see. Just like the seed of a woman, no one knows when she conceives but all will see her child when she gets delivered.

It is not enough to have a seed or to be pregnant to birth, the most important process is the delivery. You must run

with the vision God has put inside you to become who He has ordained you to be.]

Your Vision is your wonder conceived and birthed in the spirit. Your vision is a child in you waiting to be birthed. Before a woman gets delivered, she undergoes the delivery process which is recorded as the highest pain experience. She opens herself and bends her knees.

There is a posture you must concede to birth your vision, there is a posture to birth your wonder, it is to travail. Before you can birth your wonder, you must travail. To birth your child (vision) there must be groaning in prayers, fasting and obedience. You cannot conceive a vision and wait for it to manifest without your sweat and action, you must run with it by bending your knees in prayer and opening your heart to obedience.

*"who hath heard such a thing? Who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? Or shall a nation be born at once? For as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children."* Isaiah 66:8 (KJV)

Without travailing, you cannot bring forth. The extent of your travailing is the extent of your birthing. You must fight, give yourself to your vision till it manifests. Let's look at two prominent figures in the Bible who had to travail in the place of delivery.

## ELIJAH

*"Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit."* James 5:17-18 (KJV)

Elijah declared that there will be no rain, three years later God told him it will rain and Elijah declared it. I expected that Elijah will go and rest since the word of God cannot fail but Elijah didn't go to sleep, the Bible recorded that he went on top of mount Carmel, bent himself down upon the earth and put his face between his knees in prayers till there was a manifestation of what the Lord had shown Him.

## JESUS

*"Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done. And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground."* Luke 22: 42-44 (KJV)

Jesus was about to fulfill His purpose and it was not an easy one, it was filled with pain, blood and the ultimate sacrifice, so he took a birthing position and prayed in agony. He was in so much pain that He requested of the

Father to take the cup of suffering away. The Bible says angels had to come to strengthen Him but they didn't take the cup away. Jesus still drank of this cup to birth His destiny and that is why we are all saved now.

There will be pain before you deliver because there is pain in travailing. Every circumstance you're in, every pain you've been through is to push you to conceive and birth your vision. Give your pain a purpose, turn it into a product. Let your pain make you push to deliver.

It is not enough to have great dreams and vision but to run with it. To achieve my vision, I deliberately set goals for my study, my prayers and the things I must do for God because I have the revelation of the scriptures concerning me. The world is earnestly waiting for my manifestation. I have the understanding that I must arise and I must shine because Gentiles are waiting for my light.

Darkness has overcome the world and if I don't shine as the light of the world, my purpose will be defeated. I must wait on God for instructions and the right advice He will give me for the people He has sent me to. One of the ways I'm running with my vision is by giving you this book.

Pray for a compelling vision that will keep you awake at night till you birth it. When you have a vision you're

running with; a compelling agenda from God, a mandate handed over to you from heaven, bigger than what your mind could have conceived, it will keep sending you to His presence. Your vision is a strong weapon you must wield to aid your fight for your spiritual growth.

## REFLECTION

- Do you have a mandate for the kingdom of God that keeps pushing you?
- Where do you see yourself in God's kingdom and what is your highest desire in God?
- What goals have you put in place to help you achieve your vision in God?
- Write down every pain you have experienced and the lessons you have drawn from those pains. Also, write down the possibilities that came as a result of those pains.
- Instead of complaining, begin to turn your pain into purpose today.

## CONFESSTION

My eyes are open to see what God expects of me in this final hour and I will run with it God has a plan for my life. I have a place in God's Kingdom. I am important to God, and so I must arise in my ordained mandate. The world is waiting for my manifestation.



4

# THE WEAPON OF THE MIND

# 4

## THE WEAPON OF THE MIND

*"Stop imitating the ideals and opinions of the culture around you, but be inwardly transformed by the Holy Spirit through a total reformation of how you think.*

*This will empower you to discern God's will as you live a beautiful life, satisfying and perfect in his eyes."*

Romans 12:2 (TPT)

My friend, Oyedola once shared a story with me about her experience during her National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) program in Nigeria. The National Youth Service Corps is a program by the federal government of Nigeria that enables the Nigerian graduates serve their nation by working for the government for a year. Oyedola was teaching in a public school in a rural community. One day in class, she asked

the students what they would like to achieve in future. One of them enthusiastically replied and said "I will like to be an *okada* (motorcycle) rider". Oyedola was stunned and sad at the same time. She tried to re-educate the innocent boy for a mind transformation, but the boy's mind had been limited to his environment and he hasn't been able to imagine great things. The greatest men around him were men who owned motorcycles and were using it for businesses.

A man is a tripartite being made up of the body, soul and the spirit. An important department of the soul is the mind which includes your subconscious, imaginations, and thoughts. It is the element that enables a person to think, feel and reason.

Often times we allow our environment and culture to limit us from where we ought to be, we restrict our minds by our circumstances and environment. Those negative things we think and ponder over, sometimes stand as a limitation and obstacle to where God wants to take us to.

***"Whatever the mind of a man can conceive and believe in his heart, it can achieve"* Napoleon Hill**

This used to be my most popular quote growing up and it worked for me. The mind is a very powerful constituent that you must wield positively to aid your

spiritual growth. Whatever you can conceptualize in your mind and groom has a high occurring possibility. The mind has the ability to hold you at ransom with limiting beliefs that can hinder your growth, which is why the Scriptures lay emphasis on mind transformation.

Very often, we give a lot of excuses for why we don't have a solid spiritual life. We blame marriages, child bearing, change of environment, our jobs, etc. All these must never continue to limit us.

You must drop all excuses, past failures, the things that have hindered you and pick up new beliefs and positive thoughts. Have a mind transformation. No matter how many times you have failed or fallen, you must believe there is so much more ahead for you in God. You must pick up the mind of Christ if you will attain spiritual maturity. Understand that things will not always be comfortable, that is why it's a fight. You must pull through the hardness and never allow a pull back.

*"Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier". 2 Timothy 2:3-4 (KJV)*

## THE SUBCONSCIOUS MIND

How many times have you heard random songs while walking along a store and minutes later after you were

away from that location, you found yourself humming the same song? That's the subconscious mind.

Our subconscious mind is very receptive to words and sounds. The subconscious mind retains information without you actively instructing it to do so. It is active at all times and has a large memory bank. To renew your mind, you must saturate and engage your subconscious mind intentionally with spiritual materials. There are times we take things into our subconscious unknowingly.

There are songs you would probably never believe you know the lyrics but as a result of hearing them over time even without fully paying attention, it has stored up in your subconscious. You must then be intentional about the portals of your mind, which are your ears and eyes. You must be very intentional about the things you see, hear and think about.

*"So above all, guard the affections of your heart, for they affect all that you are. Pay attention to the welfare of your innermost being, for from there flows the wellspring of life."* Proverbs 4:23 (TPT)

**In wielding your subconscious for your spiritual growth, you must do the following;**

## **1. PROTECT YOUR MIND**

Whatever you fill your mind with the most is what you

believe the most. Faith comes by hearing. You must guard your mind and make sure you do not take in anything that can corrupt your spirit. Avoid corrupt movies, television shows, music or conversations.

They form obstructions to your growth. They hinder your sensitivity in the spirit. You must also be careful of those who speak to you and those you listen to. You must be sensitive, do not allow negativity into your mind.

*"Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."* Proverbs. 4:23 KJV

## **2. REFUEL YOUR MIND**

Let the word of God dwell in you richly at all times and you will be sure of a positive mind. The word of God is our surety for a reformed mind. Fill your mind with positive thoughts, lovely and pure thoughts, listen to sermons and spiritual songs all day, engage in spirit-filled conversations that will leave you challenged and push you to be better. Have conversations with God all day. Have a scripture or scriptures to meditate and confess daily. Put scriptures and confessions on your walls, doors and mirror so you see them every day.

*"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."*  
Philippians. 4:8 (KJV)

Faith comes by hearing and hearing the word of God. Your faith is stirred when you take in much of the word of God. You begin to have more faith in God and in yourself when you drink in God's word and allow His word renew your mind.

### **3. ATTEND POWER MEETINGS**

Your church must be a place you refuel and renew your mind. You must be intentional about the pastors you listen to and the church you attend just the way you wouldn't allow your children attend just any school. Invest in revival meetings that will charge you up and help you grow. There you will meet others that will charge you up and challenge you.

*"Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend."* Proverbs.17:27 (KJV)

### **ENOUGH EXCUSES**

Excuses are great limitations to our growth. I used to give a lot of excuses, At first it was marriage which prevented me from having my frequent retreats and personal time with God, then pregnancy and then nursing wouldn't allow me fast. Gradually, I realized I wasn't the way I used to be, not until the Holy Ghost made me understand that it is possible to fall away from steadfastness.

*"Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things*

*before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness" 2 Peter. 3:17 (KJV)*

One of the tactics of the devil is that he keeps giving ideas to make you sin, give excuses or to be slothful. I started to fight with a reorientation of mind by preparing alternative measures to tackle every excuse I had because it's a fight. I helped my mind believe that irrespective of my environment or circumstances there are always alternative measures to grow and I must inculcate it.

If I needed to fast, I would stay away from other things apart from food or stay away from food for short hours. If I needed to pray, I would put my baby on my back and go on prayer walks. I would attend revival meetings no matter how inconvenient it was and turn my driving moments to intercessory sessions. It doesn't have to be convenient, no battle is convenient but it must be done. No more excuses, drop all excuses today. There is always an alternative measure, find the alternative.

*"Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:" 2 Peter 1:10 (KJV)*

## **DELIVERANCE OF THE MIND**

I have good news for you. You can be delivered from your limiting beliefs and fears. Even though the devil is

going about looking for whom to devour and a lot of elect have fallen away from their steadfastness, if you yield yourself to God, you can be free from the guilt of your inadequacies. There is no limit to what God can do within you, and how far He can lift you. Do you believe this?

*"Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure". Philippians 2:13 (KJV)*

You can choose to do the working out by your flesh or you can decide to yield and submit to God to give you victory. It is God that influences us with His will. He gives us the desires of our heart.

The spirit of God influences our thoughts to activate the workings of the spirit. He is able to make you perfect in every good work. He is more interested in your relationship with Him than you are, so stop believing He doesn't care.

He cares a great deal and that is why He placed this book in your hands. He desires a great relationship with you and He is willing to do His part if you're willing to yield and submit. Believe this and you will be free from your fear of inadequacies.

*"Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy" Jude 1:24 (KJV)*

It is refreshing to know that God is able to keep me from falling and He will present me faultless till the end. Oh! Glory to God. Can you rejoice for this revelation? He is the one that can keep us from falling, not by our own works of righteousness. You can follow procedures and strategies but all is futile without Him.

### **STAY HUMBLE AND YIELDED**

One of our roles in our relationship with God is to stay humble, obedient and yielded. We must yield to God in submission and humility if we want revival on our altar at all times. He lifts up and revives the humble. He has a commitment to revive you when it seems you can't find your feet. He holds you up and prevents the devil from getting at you.

*"For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones." Isaiah57:15 (KJV)*

The challenge you have been having is not that God is not able, oh! He is more than able to keep everything committed into His hands, the challenge is that you haven't been yielding. Yield to God, yield to the Holy

Ghost to teach and reveal His word to you. Yield to Him to help you pray and don't leave till He's done with you.

Listen to this with your heart; those excuses are all in your mind, your limitations are all in your mind. You can get rid of them. There is always a way to get better. Stop focusing on what the devil is doing and start to focus on what God is doing in you. You magnify the devil whenever you worry about what he is doing. Begin to magnify God more and He will bring every other thing concerning you into obedience. Find the better way by the spirit and believe you can stay strong in God till the end. You don't need to rise and fall every time.

Strength is available even for the weak. He gives strength to the weak. Oh! Glory to God. As I'm writing this, I see God strengthening you and lifting you up. No matter how terrible you have been, He is able to keep you up never to fall again. Read this next scripture out loud:

*"He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint".*  
Isaiah.40:29-31 (KJV)

What a relief! What a deliverance from self- limitations.

Thank you Jesus for your work on the cross. That is why we have this victory over the devil and his tactics. Thank you for strengthening us. We can mount up with wings as eagles, even when we run, we will not be weary, even if we walk, we will not faint. Our victory is in Jesus. Hallelujah.

## REFLECTION

- List out all your excuses and limiting beliefs about your spiritual life and renew them with possibilities.
- Have you completely yielded your spiritual life to God and are you intentionally diligent with it?
- Write out scriptures that will increase your faith to growth and paste them around your homes.

## CONFESION

God is able to make me perfect in every good work to do His will. He is working in me, that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. Hebrews 13:21 KJV

Father I come to you with humility of heart, please revive my heart by your mercy. Amen



5

# THE WEAPON OF PURITY

# 5

## THE WEAPON OF PURITY

*"He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."* Prov 28: 13 (KJV)

If you plant a seed and cover it up, its inability to access the sun will prevent its growth. After it struggles to access the sun and it can't, it dies. That is what sin does to a believer's spiritual growth. To become who God expects you to be, you must pay the sacrifice of purity.

Sin is like a covering that prevents a believer from accessing his source of growth- if the believer doesn't repent. The wages of sin is death. You must

fight for constant purity, a life devoid of sin, so as not to be separated from the Father.

## THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

Jesus told a parable in Mark 4:18-20 (KJV)

*"And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word, And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful. And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred."*

The seed becomes unfruitful whenever the cares of the world, lusts of the eyes, lusts of the heart, the pride of life and other craftsmanship of the devil are allowed into the heart.

The reason why some people are not growing spiritually is because they have allowed their desires and presumptuous sins as a covering over their spiritual life and those sins are representing thorns and weeds, choking their nutrients from growing.

So, no matter how much they are watered with

word and prayers, there is no evidence of growth. Continual covering up of sin will lead to death because the Bible says, the wages of sin is death.

## SACRIFICES FOR GROWTH

At a point in my life, I had to stop watching some telenovelas because they were thorns to my spiritual life. Prior to that, I was instructed to break my relationship because I was in it as a result of my desires.

I was asking God for more of Him, I wanted us to move to the next level of our relationship and He was directing me to break off every relationship He wasn't involved in. It was difficult for me but I had to do it. I wasn't permitted to speak, think or to act like every other person. I took out a separate room where I could pray and spend time with God without disturbing anyone.

Fasting became my lifestyle and I gave myself totally to God's work. Sin became an abomination to me and the moment I stepped into obedience, I began to have significant changes in my walk with God.

Begin to ponder on the sacrifices you must pay for

purity. What are those things you must begin to do now to keep you clean and pure?

Some of us will have to change our environment, friends, communication and the things we watch or listen to so as to remain holy and blameless. Christ is coming for a church without spot or wrinkle. If indeed you want to be a part of the church Christ is coming for, then you must do whatever it takes to stay pure till He returns. You must go before Him with clean hands and a pure heart.

*"Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully".*  
**Psalm 24: 3-4 (KJV)**

Some Christians believe they can continue in sin and expect grace to abound but No! It doesn't work that way. Sin separates us totally from God, so we must be far from sin if we will have a beautiful relationship with Him.

There is no excuse for sin. There is no temptation that is enough to sin. God has promised to deliver us from all temptations and He wouldn't allow us go

through any test we can't overcome. There is always a way of escape out of sin.

*"Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it". 1Corinthians 10 vs 12-13 (KJV)*

## THERE IS HOPE

*"For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease." Job 14:7 (KJV)*

No matter how dead your seed is, maybe you are very deep in sin and you have covered up your sin for too long, it's time to return to the Lord because He is saying to you that you are redeemable. As long as you still have life, there is hope for you. You can still grow and become who God expects you to be.

## REFLECTION

- How long have you been struggling to grow but you keep finding yourself back to the zero point?
- What is that secret sin you have battling with

even as a Christian? It's time to seek help, uncover your sin before it destroys you.

- What sacrifices must you begin to intentionally make for your spiritual growth? What relationships must you stay away from henceforth?
- What structures must you put in place to keep clean hands and a pure heart?

## **CONFessions**

My eyes will not behold evil or immorality. My ears will not hear unrighteous conversations and my heart will only think pure thoughts. I consecrate myself before God and I make a commitment to remain pure henceforth in Jesus' name. Amen.



# THE WEAPON OF ASSOCIATION

# 6

## THE WEAPON OF ASSOCIATION

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*"And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."* Hebrew 10: 24-25 (KJV)

**D**uring our Twelve Hours Praying in the Holy Ghost meetings (a prayer marathon), whenever we are getting exhausted, our pastor would tell us to get a neighbor to pray with or a group of people to hold hands with. In no time, the tired people will be strengthened and prayers will become fiercer than before. This happens because we draw strength from our partners.

You can only go so far by yourself but you can increase in productivity when you are with the right people. We live in a world that thrives on networking. They say you must know someone that knows someone to get things done. In Christianity, your association is also very important. The church you fellowship in, the meetings you attend and the people you relate with must be chosen carefully.

A single man doesn't declare war on kingdoms without men who will fight with him. Warriors fight as a team not as individuals, so you need people. As believers, we are supposed to provoke one another unto good works, encourage ourselves in faith, and help the weak and wounded soldiers to get back on their feet. Don't just isolate yourself, the Christian faith is not an isolated one.

No man thrives in isolation, we need one another to survive spiritually. You don't need a crowd; all you need are people with the same vision as you.

## THE CHURCH

*"We don't heal in isolation, but in community." S. Kelley Harrell*

The Church is a place of healing, refilling and reviving. You need to belong to a church. The Church is the body of Christ where believers fellowship together. The

Church is God's tool for strengthening believers and establishing His Kingdom. It is a place where the weak come for strength and the sick come to be healed. The Church is a place of fellowship and the Bible says this fellowship is like ointment flowing all over you.

*"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore."*  
Psalm.133 1-3 (KJV)

An important characteristic of the Church which we must emphasize is unity. The Holy Spirit did not come until the disciples were together in one accord. Afterwards, they broke bread together and fellowshipped in unity.

The power of God is always available to heal, strengthen and empower when believers dwell together in love and unity. This is why you must prayerfully choose a church that will help you grow and never trivialize going to church or a meeting especially a Holy Ghost meeting.

I can't write all the experiences I have had in the fellowship of other believers, sometimes I could go to Church confused but will have light on those confusing

issues before I get back home. Sometimes, I go with a low spiritual battery and return home refreshed and revitalized. I have received scolding through teachings in Church, which I have been too negligent to hear on my own.

I have received direction on challenging situations after an encounter in a Holy Ghost meeting. Be a part of a Church and be committed. Stop trivializing Church meetings. God doesn't take it casually and you must not as well take the church casually. Go with expectations and your expectations will not be cut short in Jesus' name.

## POWER CIRCLE

The kind of people you have in your circle is very important to your growth, either physically, spiritually or even in career. Your self- development is a function of who and what you listen to. You must be purposeful, energetic and intentional about your relationships. Your relationships must keep you on fire.

*"Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend."* Proverbs.17:27 (KJV)

The Bible talks about friends who sharpen one another to grow. You can surround yourself with spiritual covenant brothers or sisters who ignite you with their

conversations, quicken you to pray, and study, who can pray with and will give you godly advice. There will be times you might feel low and all you need is someone to help you pray or pray for you or invite you to a program. I have such sisters and brothers in my circle that I can easily talk to.

They strengthen me and I'm accountable to them. I have covenant sisters also. We challenge and task one another to strive for the best. Sometimes we could just be having casual conversations and suddenly the spirit of God takes over and there are prophetic insights. Intentionally pray for such friends, they are strong influences in your walk with God.

This doesn't make me totally dependent on them but keeps me in a position of responsibility to them as well. Don't just look for people to depend on but build capacity to be a source of strength to others as well. Be someone's power source, a firelighter and be vulnerable enough to draw strength from someone else as well.

The Bible also speaks about teachers who show us the way to go. We call them mentors, counsellors, disciplers and spiritual fathers. It is essential that you must have people who have gone ahead of you that can guide you and put you through crossroads in life. It is a privilege to learn from their own errors and experiences. They must be people who can correct you when you're going wrong

and stay as a covering over you. Anyone who cannot be corrected is headed towards destruction but a man who takes to correction will go very far in life. Don't just choose any teacher over your life, pray to God to show you your teachers.

*"And though the Lord give you the bread of adversity, and the water of affliction, yet shall not thy teachers be removed into a corner any more, but thine eyes shall see thy teachers. And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left."* Isaiah 30:20-21 (KJV)

Scriptures say in the multitude of counsel there is safety. It is not a sin to seek counsel but it is dangerous to seek counsel from the wrong people. There was a Jethro for Moses, even though he spoke with God face to face. There was a Moses for Joshua who mentored him before he became a leader. To every Elisha, there is an Elijah, to every Timothy there is a Paul and to every 12 disciples there is Jesus.

Don't just feel entitled to a mentor or spiritual guide without an attitude to serve and offer values. Relate with your teacher with potentials to offer and be ready to add value to the relationship. Don't seek a mentor to pour into you when you have no value to offer, such one-sided relationship gets weary early. If you want a productive mentor to mentee relationship, you must be willing to

serve and add values. Be submissive enough to learn and serve someone who will help you grow spiritually.

You can also learn from books, sermons, videos of those you cannot access. Its not every thought leader you will have the opportunity to be in the room with but you can learn from them through their meetings, seminars, books and other means they use to bless lives.

The great Kathryn Kulman, Kenneth Hagin and other men of God are gone to be with the Lord but their books and videos still stir us up in faith. You will save yourself from making errors by reading and learning from written or shared experiences of those who have walked your path before.

## COMMIT UNTO FAITHFUL MEN

*"But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers."* 1Kings 19:4 (kJV)

*"And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away. And the LORD said unto him, Go, return on thy way to the wilderness of*

*Damascus: and when thou comest, anoint Hazael to be king over Syria: And Jehu the son of Nimshi shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room." 1Kings 19:14-16 (KJV)*

When Elijah felt all was lost and there was nothing more for him but death, the Lord gave him an assignment to go and train Elisha in his stead and also informed him of 7000 other prophets. This became an encouragement to him. Before then he was alone and lacked motivation but the awareness that he was not the only one motivated him. When Elijah started coaching Elisha, he had a reason to live.

*"And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." 2Timothy. 2:2 (KJV)*

You are someone's encouragement. Paul instructed Timothy to commit all he learnt from him (Paul) unto other faithful men who will commit unto others. Having mentees and people you are encouraging will put you on your toes and motivate you as well. Look for people around you that you can impart and help to grow in areas of life that you're doing well henceforth.

Stop hoarding knowledge. If God is teaching you something you believe others can learn from then share it, you might just be saving someone from a great

mistake. Share your experiences so others can learn from your mistakes. If you can influence two persons unto righteousness and those two influence others, it won't be long before we heal and save the world.

## REFLECTION

- What kind of stream (Church, pastor, mentors) do you drink from?
- Write a list of your power circle.
- Are you a firelighter to others? Is your relationship a blessing to your friends? Do you influence them positively?
- Pray for new relationships if you do not have a power circle.
- If you have, call or send messages to them to appreciate them being in your life.

## CONFESIONS

My eyes are open to right relationships. I see my teachers, pastors, brothers, sisters and spiritual partners in faith. I am not alone.

I am a possible influence to those that surround me. I start fires in the heart of men for God. My conversations are spirit -filled to provoke people unto good works. I have the tongue of the learned to speak a word in season to him that is weary.



# THE WEAPON OF ORDINATION

# 7

## THE WEAPON OF ORDINATION

In spiritual maturity, there will be deep moments between you and Abba where He begins to speak to you about destiny and current Kingdom agenda. At this point, you become a partner with heaven and your ordination begins to expand.

Your ordination is your set ministry in the Kingdom of God which could be in any field as He gives you the opportunities. It could be in technology, education, family, religion, the media entertainment or business.

This is where the Lord begins to place demands on you for responsibilities. If you were praying for 30minutes and it was sufficient before, it won't be sufficient anymore as more demands will be on your ordination.

At this time, you must be very conversant with how God speaks to you. Hearing God is essential in attaining spiritual growth. You must be sensitive enough to hear Him quicken you to emergencies and be conversant with exactly what He expects of you. One of the ways by which He quickens us is by burdens and intercessions.

### **BURDENS AND INTERCESSIONS**

*"And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn".  
Zechariah. 12:10 (KJV)*

Have you ever had a nudge in your heart to pray for someone and later you hear the person was almost involved in an accident or evil but got delivered miraculously? That is a burden for intercession.

There is a system in the spirit whereby the spirit of God inflicts a burden upon His own to stand in prayers over nations, kingdoms or persons. Burdens are heavy responsibilities placed upon our spirit over entities. Intercession means to stand in the gap with prayers for someone.

It's like going into battle on behalf of another, fighting a battle that is not yours. You will sometimes see yourself

not being able to stop praying and crying over the salvation of someone who might not even be close to you. The spirit of grace and supplication compels us in prayers for a stretch time till we have a victory note in our spirit.

The Holy Spirit sometimes awakens us to intercede over people and at times like this, we must rise up and pray without delay. The deliverance of those you are burdened about might just be on your shoulders. It is a privilege to be a partaker of the burden of the kingdom. Sometimes we ignore the nudges and might not even be aware of the repercussions but things are being lost in the spirit due to our disobedience.

Every growing believer must be very sensitive to burdens. Something happens when we pray, something shifts when we pray. No prayer is in vain but it is dangerous not to pray. When you feel a desire to pray, take it urgently and pray but do not depend on your feelings alone to pray, you do not need to feel like before you pray.

I remember one very busy day, I was so busy with tasks that I didn't finish until about 4:30am. I was about to catch a quick nap before day breaks properly, when all of a sudden, I had a strong prayer burden. I went out for a one and a half hour prayer walk and after praying for a while, I began mentioning my dad's name and speaking

over him. Later that evening, my dad called to share the testimony of how God rescued him from a near plane crash. I went down on the floor immediately to thank the Holy Spirit for inflicting me with the burden to pray and I was so grateful I obeyed. In the same vein, we must intercede for nations that are yet to know Christ as well as missionaries who are being persecuted around the world.

*"For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth." Isaiah 62:1 (KJV)*

The Kingdom is in search of those who will stand in intercessions over the salvation and deliverance of persons, organizations and nations. When you have a prompting about an anomaly in a system such as child trafficking or corruption, don't just talk about it and sleep on it, let compassion rise within you and intercede.

Our agenda is that the Kingdom come and God's will be done upon the earth. Till it happens, we cannot be at ease in Zion. We keep asking God to do things for us but as we begin to mature you start asking, "What can you do for Him?"

The answer comes with burdens and nudges to take over cities for Him in prayers but we lose it to insensitivity.

Sometimes God speaks in the most uncomely ways. Stop ignoring those burdens, Arise and Pray.

### **STRENGTHEN YOUR ORDINATION**

I believe as we approach the end of this book that you are now liable to strong meat. There are many depths in God than you know now, there are undiscovered mysteries in God that He wants to reveal to us as we grow in our walk with Him so it is essential that we are constantly in check. It is important that we are always in tune to receive from Him and that our spirituality is heightened always.

It is necessary as well that we stay hungry and humble to always receive from the Spirit. Whenever you notice a break with the Father, make amends immediately and do not procrastinate. We must never break our link of communication with God, breaks with God are openings for the devil to creep in.

### **THESE ARE SOME MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN YOUR ORDINATION:**

#### **1. PRAYERS**

Prayers are legitimate grounds to build up ourselves especially when we pray in the spirit. Our strength is renewed in prayers. We are supposed to pray without ceasing, to always be in constant communication with God. Take time to stretch yourself in prayers and always increase capacity. Plan special vigils with God and keep your appointments with Him. When you cultivate the

attitude of prayer, you will have access to divine mysteries and into the mind of the Father.

*"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;" Ephesians 6:18 KJV*

## **2. FASTING**

Fasting is abstaining from food or pleasure to consecrate yourself before God. It's the spiritual strategy to bring our body under subjection and to awaken our spirit man. Whenever you notice that you are losing your connection, probably lust starts to creep into your heart, you should immediately declare a fast to suppress your flesh to prevent you from sinning. Our fight is not with flesh and blood and our weapon isn't carnal, so our spirit man must be sharpened and at alert at all times.

*"And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting." Mark 9:29*

If you will fulfill God's mandate over your life and run with your ordination, then you must develop a lifestyle of fasting and praying. It must be a lifestyle; you can have at least a day in a week to fast and wait on God. God already promised that those who wait on Him will mount up with wings as eagles.

Whenever I wait on God in fasting, it always feel like my spiritual antenna are more in tune and my spirit is able to

pick more clearly from God.

### 3. RETREATS

Whenever you use up your gadget batteries, you need to recharge them for more effective use. If you continue to use it without charging, it won't be long before it goes off and become useless. It is the same with your spiritual battery.

Whenever you have been out ministering or been spent in whatever way spiritually, there is a need to retreat. The retreat period is a recharging period. Withdraw from your normal routines and consecrate unto God. There is a system to encounter God when we withdraw from every other thing and focus on God.

Moses encountered the Burning Bush at the mountain of the Lord. Jacob had his encounters with God at times he withdrew from his family. Jesus would often withdraw from the people into the desert to refuel Himself. When Elijah was running away from Jezebel, the spirit of God instructed him to go into the wilderness. That was where God strengthened him from his weakness and gave him the new assignments for the next phase of his ministry.

I once read on social media about the silence in airspace. It's so much that you begin to hear the noiseless things like your heartbeat and the cracking of your bones. When we withdraw from the noise in our environments

and our hearts, we begin to hear things we couldn't hear before. We hear God on another frequency and this the attitude God expects from us daily. Try to take out time once in a month, quarterly or even yearly to have retreats. Plan your weekend getaway with your lover God.

#### 4. OBEDIENCE

How far can you go to obey God? Abraham was willing to sacrifice his son in obedience. Jesus died in obedience. I once heard the story of a couple who went into a lepers camp to win their hearts for Jesus. When the gate keeper told them they wouldn't be permitted to ever come out again, they told him "*all Jesus said was to go, He didn't say anything about returning*".

Obedience can be hard sometimes but the best way to stay in God is to be in constant obedience to his instructions per time. Obey God constantly and completely not partially and you will receive your reward. Jesus who is our role model was crowned as a result of His obedience. The Bible says He was obedient even unto death.

*"But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."* Philippians. 2:7-8 (KJV)

Obedience is a sure ladder for spiritual growth.

## REFLECTION

- What do you do then when God drops promptings in your heart or do you just ignore them?
- Do you have a day set aside for fasting and prayers?
- Have you had promptings to pray for people and they came back to testify?
- When was the last time you had a personal retreat not organized by your church? Plan another for this month.

## CONFESSTION

I am sensitive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and I arise as a prophetic intercessor over my marriage, my home, my business, my family, my nation and other nations of the world. I will no longer be at ease until the Kingdom of God is established upon the earth.

# MY LOVE NOTE TO YOU

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While writing this book, I got to a point where I felt discouraged. I had no passion to continue or to even fight back for my zeal. After I abandoned this project for a while, the Holy Ghost began to teach me all over again how to indeed fight.

As I reviewed the whole book again, I was able to relearn. I understood that there will be times when there will be no encouragement to fight but I must encourage myself in the Lord.

There will be times the teachers themselves will need to be retaught so I must stir up my

remembrance of these teachings by the Holy Spirit to us all.

*"Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth. Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance" 2Peter 1:12-13 (KJV)*

My assignment to you is to stir you up in remembrance of these things. Even though you know them and I believe this book has helped to remind you, I encourage you to put other measures around you that will always stir you in remembrance to fight for your spiritual growth because sometimes we tend to forget. Journal as much as you can, learn the act of writing down but most importantly write them on your hearts where no one can ever take them away.

We must endure hardness as good soldiers of Christ and never get distracted. We must win the world for Jesus and show forth light to the Gentiles. We must manifest the Kingdom in all that we do.

Lets' show the world what being a believer really is.

It is possible to live a daily life of retreats, and also manifest in your mountain of influence.

*"And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."* 1 Corinthians. 2:4-5 (KJV)

I pray that your hearts burn within you to do the will of the Father. I pray that you're greatly influenced by the spirit of God and I declare He is doing a great work in you right now.

He is perfecting you and getting rid of carnality within you. You become more like Christ in words, deeds and character. Prayer becomes easy for you, fasting becomes easy for you in Jesus' name. You're surrounded by the right relationships in Jesus mighty name'.

AMEN