



As we enter 2018...

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By Sister Ngozi

As a new year is about to begin, we have another opportunity to reflect on our walk with God. What has it been like to walk with God in 2017? At this point in our lives we all know what we have in our hands (Exodus 4:2). Through college, polytechnics and universities we have come a long way. The Lord has spoken to us individually and collectively and we have undergone the needed preparations for our vocation. The Lord has transformed our lives.

However, in this strange land, many of us still struggle to stand. Many have left their calling in order to put food on the table. Many have compromised the faith so as to make ends meet. How did Daniel and the three Hebrew brothers excel in a foreign land (Daniel 1:8)? I guess they had the option to eat fat and forget home but they never left their focus. How about us? Have we kept our resolve not to defile ourselves with a portion of the king's meat or are we following the crowd?

A few fundamentals we must constantly review as we continue in this race include:

Quiet time

- Family altar
- Couple prayers
- One-on-one witnessing
- How much you enjoy the assembly of the believers
- Your tithe of time, treasure and talent

Not how powerfully you preach, what is your position in church hierarchy, how famous you've become among brethren and how successful you are in the world view.

Interestingly, contemporary Christianity is defying the bedrock of the Christian faith. They have given heed to the philosophies of men and with the help of social media are trying hard to uneducate Christians from the very foundations of our Christian culture. As we reflect on this year, 2017, I hope we will do well not to buy into the redefinitions of our age-long traditions. For example, the call to abolish tithing, the idea that the church age is over, and the conversation that prosperity should no longer be preached.

Brethren, as much as individual preachers have overemphasized these topics, making

them redundant, these are still relevant teachings of the scripture. You and I know that Jesus always wanted the prosperity of all people, therefore He "went about doing good and healing all that were infirmed," (Acts 10:38), so that people will be strong, rejoicing and doing exploits in the world, as was the case with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, etc. And John declared, "I wish above all that you prosper and be in good health even as your souls prosper," (3John 2).

I have no patience with a myopic interpretation of the scripture. It is like a halftruth, which is a symptom of dishonesty. As such, we must be careful with accepting philosophical teachings in place of what we learned at the feet of Jesus through the Holy Spirit. What the new age teachers are doing is to take off the carpet under our feet. And when they succeed, they will go ahead to destroy the foundation beneath. "Let he that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he falls." (I Corinthians 10:12). Today, even high church clerics are calling for the rewriting of the Holy Scriptures, such as, rephrasing "Our Lord's prayer" while others are busy redefining marriage and family settings. Brethren, it's time to be active and "...contend for the faith that was once

delivered to the saints" (Jude v. 3). Let's rediscover our first love for the Lord and uphold righteousness. Are you called to teach, evangelize, prophesy, help, heal, etc.? Do so diligently as to the Lord.

Let's use this season to pray, reflect and plan our activities for the next year. Set your priorities right. Place God ahead of all and your family next, then care for yourself physically, emotionally and spiritually. Be where you are called to be and make the difference you are asked to make. Do so prayerfully and diligently. Prayers and hard work must go together for us and our next generation.

For those of you who will make a resolution for 2018, like Daniel, Shedrack, Meshach and Abednego did in Babylon; my advice will be, resolve to be faithful in both little and big things.

Have a merry Christmas and a happy, prosperous New Year.

Christmas Outreach to the Homeless



Packing for and delivering of materials to the *Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless* in New Jersey. This was an outreach of the NACF-North America. Thanks to all our contributors and helpers. The materials were received with mush gratitude. God bless you all.

NIFES @ 50 Celebrations

Events for NIFES Golden Jubilee Celebration

Attention: NACF UK & USA

Introduction

NIFES did not begin with us or with our immediate generation. We have a 'Godly Heritage.' It is in the light of this that we shall celebrate NIFES Golden Jubilee come the year 2018. Plans and preparations are underway to make the celebration a unique one hence this document to guide and enable NACF in Diaspora to equally be part of the celebration.

Below are Governing Council approved events to guide you to celebrate NIFES @ 50 during your forthcoming 2018 NACF Conference. You are free to adjust to suit your peculiarities and context.

- 1. Jubilee Theme: The celebration theme is NIFES (a) 50: Celebrating God's Faithfulness.
- 2. Church Based Events: Prior to your Conference or during the Conference you can visit Churches to share testimonies of God's faithfulness in and through NIFES all these years. The visits are to have the Churches pray for NIFES as well.
- 3. Get-together/Dinner/Public Lecture/Special Event

A session of the Conference should be dedicated for a combination of Public Lecture and a Dinner /Fundraising Night. A Public Lecture topic: NIFES and Nation Building should be treated. The lecture should address three key areas of our work which are: building tomorrow's leaders, national rebirth and national unity. A guest speaker who knows NIFES is preferred. Your creativity to make this special event a unique and memorable one is highly welcome. A 30 minutes special documentary that will capture the story of NIFES from 1968 to date will be produced and send to you. This will become one of your publicity tools and will be played during the special event day. Subsequently, this documentary will be a special feature for publicity and mobilization resource.

- 4. Endowment Fund: N250million is targeted to be raised and invested as a means of sustainable funding of NIFES operations. Please kindly mobilize NACF members to be part of this as well.
- 5. Conclusion: The above is a guide and yardstick to celebrate this special occasion in the life and history of our movement. Please do all you can to make this golden jubilee celebration golden indeed. Feel free to introduce any other events you think will enrich the event. There shall be a headquarters representative to be part of your conference. Please do well to keep us updated with your plans and preparations. Remain blessed.

From Bro. Rex Onuh, NIFES National Director

NIFES National Conference Center Pillars - OPERATION CAP

May I use this opportunity to thank all our associates who have contributed to the casting of one or more pillars at the conference center being constructed at Kwali, Abuja. May the Lord replenish your purses and keep you strong now and always. If you are yet to cast a pillar, the cost is 50,000 Naira each. Don't be left out. You may pay into the NIFES account at FIDELITY BANK – NIFES – 4110017012. God bless you. - For NIFES Hqtrs.



NACF CONTRIBUTIONS

We will like to encourage all our members to pay up their annual dues of \$100.

Here is the account information at Bank of America: Account Number (381050203961) Routing Number (021200339).

Please let Sis. Lanre know when you make a deposit so she can match the name with the deposit for record keeping purposes. You can also pay by PayPal at nacfnorthamerica@gmail.com.

If you prefer to write a check, please mail it to Lanre Abegunde 40 Iroquois Road, Levittown, PA 19057. Phone 2156305456.

