



FOREVER ON TOP

The top is your permanent position.
You are moving from the top to the top.

**NIYI
MAKINDE**

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To Tope Osikoya,

I know you love and care for me so much. You stress yourself many times so I could be comforted. In the days of nothing and little, you served genuinely and willingly. You know what I say when I am not talking and you know what to do when I am not there. You are a good man! No hype! Tope, you are a loyal son and a special gift to me. Certainly, you will reign and the global world will listen to you. Come up hither, for you shall be on top forever.

Contents

| | |
|--|-----|
| <i>Special Recommendation</i> | ii |
| 1 Forever on Top | 1 |
| 2 Repositioned to the Elevated Top | 31 |
| 3 On Top by God's Blessings | 61 |
| 4 Constant Activation of the Blessing at the Top | 73 |
| 5 Shining at the Top | 83 |
| 6 Two Kinds of Work You Must Have | 99 |
| 7 Remain in Your Spiritual Family | 122 |
| 8 Let Your Actions and Results be Top-Level | 134 |
| 9 You Are a Nation and a King Meant for the Top Forever | 147 |
| <i>About the Author</i> | 160 |
| <i>Also by Niyi Makinde</i> | 162 |

Special Recommendation

I want to encourage my dear reader of this book to endeavor to read these two books written by me so as to get great insight into this subject. The two books are:

1. On Top
2. High Flyers

The insights in those two books combined with the insights in this book will really empower you to get on top and remain on top.

Forever on Top

Deut. 28:13 reveals you shall be above only and not be beneath. A careful study of these words shows that to be *above only* isn't a suggestion, it is a command and decree. God commanded and decreed that you shall be above only. In other words, the decree and command have gone forth that you should forever be on top. It is not about being on top but being there forever. In other words, it is not about being above, but being above only. So, at your current age, you are above and in fifty years from now as long as you are still alive, you should be above. That is what it means to forever be on top. God doesn't expect you to be on top last year and beneath this year. Such is against his command and decree over your life.

The fact is that regardless of the profession, field, nation or continent you find yourself, you must be

on top and remain there forever. Now, you need to be prepared for more work and responsibility if you will truly remain on top because remaining on top is harder than getting to top. You must not just be a top doctor, top lawyer, top engineer, top pastor, top singer, and so on for some seasons, you have to be such forever. In other words, you must continue to remain relevant at the top. You must not be envious when others are ascending to the top but you must not come down either. I always tell people to be happy at the progress of others but never to relax because of whatever you have achieved before now.

It is those who are ready to keep moving to elevated top that will forever be on top. I wrote about elevated top in a chapter of this book and I believe that will really inspire you. There is a top after every top. Do you know that staying on a level for too long is equal to coming down? Think about that! To be stagnated for long will be equal to being beneath one day. You have to know that today's achievement doesn't guarantee remaining on top, it is tomorrow achievements that guarantees being forever on top. If you will be above only, you must be going above only.

Position Doesn't Guarantee Staying on Top Forever

Many years ago, I was a member of my fellowship central executive council at the university. The executive position was tenure based and each person was only privileged to serve thrice. It is interesting to know that the executive members were appointed not elected. There was always a joint effort of different committees both at the fellowship level and at the national level to ensure the smooth transitioning of leadership. Somehow, on the day of the transitioning, two things happened to me – first, I joined my co-executive to hand over to another tenure and the second thing that happened to me was that I wasn't appointed an executive to be part of the new tenure. Well, many things were responsible for that and different quarters reacted against that but I remained focus in my service to God. I remember how different people spoke to me but in it all, I never subscribe to their rebellious schemes but remained faithful service.

Yes, it was as though two people were against me and vowed to bring me down but in it all, I saw beyond the normal and natural. I had an insight into what was really happening to me and got to know that those people were not actually against me, God only orchestrated that situation to teach and train

me certain lessons. That is the reason I really loved those people in spite of what they did to me. I knew that they were not the one against me, God saw my future ahead and decided to orchestrate a situation that would teach and train me certain lessons that would be useful for me and those I teach. I will mention the lessons soon. When issues happen, I always try to see beyond the normal. That was the reason that in spite of all that happened, I kept a strong relationship with one of those people and even permitted his gift to have expression on our ministry platform for years. I didn't see any of them as evil but they were only used by God to orchestrate an event that would bring me into life lessons faster.

You see, it is very bad when God is using a situation to teach you and you are fighting men. I learned long ago never to consider what people are doing to me but consider the lesson God is teaching me. Recently, I saw a behavioral change for negative in someone, I tried to find out what was really happening and got to discover that there was someone in the life of that person that was really poisoning the person's mind against people. Normally I should be very angry, but I remained calm and showed love. In fact, I intentionally decided never to open up the matter to discuss with anyone. All that was said privately was made known to me but I continued to show genuine love to such. It would be wrong of me to fight or

get angry at such because maturity enlightens that you don't fight or get angry at people anyhow, you should find out the lesson God is teaching you. And amazingly, I got the lesson God intended to teach me through that situation. Let me counsel you to stop getting angry at people or fighting people when issues come up, find out the lesson God wants you to learn and continue to show love to everyone. You must never permit what people said behind you to hurt you. You can't be in front and people won't talk about you. So, if you are ahead and visible, you should know that people will always talk about you. Some will talk about you positively while some will go negative. In all, you must never permit what people said about you to stop what you are doing and never display hatred towards anyone. It should be your practice to show love to everyone. There is nothing like frontbiters, you only have backbiters. So, anyone backbiting you is already behind you. So, love people and face front!

Back to my story, that experience taught me a lesson that you don't need position to be on top forever. The reason is because it is even possible for you to have a position and not be on top. In other words, a person may remain in a position but not remain on top. Position doesn't guarantee being on top forever. Position may put you on top for a season, may be by being elected or appointed.

But to forever be on top, you will need more than position. There are presidents of countries that are no longer needed or called upon after they left office because they were only after the position. But to remain relevant after you have left office is more than occupying a position. If position is what you hold on to so as to remain on top forever, you missed it. I have come to the awareness that when God wants the top to be your permanent position, He will do anything and everything to get your position away from you so that you can develop the capacity that will keep you on top without position. In my observation of different people, I have discovered that some people gets angry with God and men when the process that will guarantee the top to be their permanent position is initiated. That is the reason many people miss out when the process begins because they can't complete it. It is only the mercy of God that will justify those who won't fall out. One of the reasons we tell people to ask for the mercy of God is so that they will be helped when their humanity wants to come in to. An emotional attachment to position is a sign that you can't forever be on top.

How I Learned How to Be on Top and Forever Be on Top

I narrated earlier how I wasn't included among the new executive. Many instigated my heart to be rebellious but I turned down their opinion. I was faithful in service and ready to do anything committed into my hands, it was then I got to know the lesson God was trying to teach me.

It will interest you to know that the lesson God intended to teach me was to learn how to be on top and forever be on top without position. You see, I have come to a point in my life that I know that being on top isn't about position. In fact, the top itself is a position without position. During that period, I learned never to be hungry for position but to be such person that position will pursue. There are people that if any position is taken away from them, it will be as though their lives have been taken away from them. That is not the kind of person you should be. You should be someone who isn't a position monger but one that can get to the top and remain on top even when there is no position. I say this with all humility, I don't need any position anywhere on earth to be on top or remain on top. And what I have learned during that time till now, I am going to share some with you so you also can apply the same to your life. Does that mean you

should not have position? No! What I am trying to get into your mind is that you should never attach your being on top or remaining on top to position. You need to learn this so that even when you don't have any position, you will still be on top. How then can you get on top and remain on top when you don't have position?

The insight to the above question is to understand certain things a person must engage so the person can get to the top. Let's get into it but bear in mind that I will teach you those things I applied that got me on top when I wasn't included among the executive. The insight you are about to get are applicable anywhere you find yourself and will also keep you on top forever. I must also add that what is shared here is also applicable to those who have positions too. Let's get into it:

1. Envision How the Unit, Department, Company, or Organization You Find Yourself Will Move Forward

When I had no position, I gave my mind to start thinking about what can move the department and fellowship forward. I didn't seek the fall of anyone there but desire to find out certain things that can move the place forward. I wasn't envious or jealous of anyone. I kept doing that without even knowing that I would be made a leader at the General Executive level. The moment I got those vision of what can be done to move the unit or department I belong forward; I didn't break protocols but would visit the leader of the unit to share the vision with such. I already learned that if this kind of thing would work, I must be ready to lose the ownership of the vision and let the leader take the glory. I would tell the leader to present the vision to the people without mentioning my name to the group. The leader should say it without stating that it was from me. The goal was to move the unit and department forward not to take any glory to prove to anyone that I was the brain behind the vision. I noticed that putting this insight to work made things work faster and made those leaders I worked with to really love me to a point that they always want to share their opinions on

matters before everyone get to know. Those leaders I worked with saw my relevance and were open to my influence because they knew I wasn't seeking anything other than the progress of the unit under their leadership.

This is where many young champ missed it. They want to be seen as the brain behind events. They want people to know that they are the ones making things happen. But it doesn't work that way. Only few leaders will have the free heart to give that vision expression. It doesn't mean those leaders are evil but they are humans. For me, I am a kind of person that permits anyone who shares a vision for anything takes the credit for it. In fact, if anyone does anything, I tell people and give the credit to whoever do it. But I need you to know that everyone can't be like me though there are many like me. You can't get to the top or remain at the top by striving to take the credit for everything. I have proven this to be very true. People will create space for you at the top when they see that you seek their progress. Don't be angry when another is made the leader anywhere you find yourself. Rather than striving or competing, why don't you genuinely get the vision that can move that place forward. So, if you don't have any position but have a vision that can be executed to make a place go forward, you will rise to the top.

Let me share this secret with you – try to study

anyone on a team closer to any leader anywhere, you will see that there is something that person is doing behind the scene that isn't known to everyone. If you find yourself anywhere, you can create the space for yourself at the top by sharing things with the leader that can move the place forward. This is applicable in any company and country. Sometimes ago, there was one particular guy who used to be around me like that but a lady discouraged from doing certain things, eventually the guy subscribed to that opinion and stopped what he used to do. What that led to was that someone else who saw the need to do that thing reached out to me and I started giving my attention to that person. Eventually, that new person started sharing things that could move the task and unit forward. That was how that guy was replaced and another took his place.

You must be careful never to force your idea or vision on a leader but bring it up as a suggestion. It is through suggestion and sharing of vision that you influence anyone above you. If you want to have attention, share a vision that can advance who you are talking to or the company you find yourself. Those who share vision can't lack attention. So, I always use my mind to think what can move a person or place forward and the moment I got it, I will share it with such in privacy not public.

Joseph didn't tell Pharaoh to give him a position,

he only shared a vision and plans of what can be done to save lives and the king gave him a newly created position and that puts Joseph on top. You have to be careful not to display “I too know” when sharing stuffs. Be genuine. Don’t be selfish, seek the progress of others.

Don’t just seek to share visions that can move others forward, be there to help them plan and implement the plans too. Give your support to others so your idea can be a reality.

2. Be Highly Confidential

You must be highly confidential and not go about displaying that you are the brain behind certain things. You can’t influence any man any longer the day he gets to discover that you brag up and down that you are the brain behind something he does or achieves. This is what adults need to learn when relating with young folks. You must be ready to lose claim of ownership to an idea and avoid taking credit for an achievement when you share an idea or vision you want them to implement when you didn’t employ them. If you don’t apply this when dealing with people, especially young people and leaders, you will lose influence over them. Sometimes, you need to give people the time to grow and mature, when they grow, they will acknowledge you. The

top will be your permanent position when you keep your silence over some issues. The time you should use in talking and arguing, seeking to take some credit, invest such in something that can add to your progress. You need to discover that both in scriptures and life, all peacemakers are confidential people. Being confidential over certain things is a proof that you don't take advantage of people. If you have to explain everything, you can't forever be on top.

An armor bearer must not be a talebearer. He who can't control his mouth shouldn't be around the throne. Catch this – anyone at the top who hasn't given you a position but continually gives you his ears to speak to will soon offer you a position. You can't forever be on top when you are loosed with information. The top requires somethings to be secret and private. Don't be a leaking mouth.

I remember one day that particular year, I visited the newly appointed leadership for the tenure and had some discussions. Later, a brother asked what I went to discuss with the president. Well, I told the brother part of what we discussed that doesn't need to be confidential but didn't open up the real matter. You know God told Samuel to tell Saul part of what he wanted to go and do but never to tell him the real thing which was to anoint David.

Many years ago, I thought I was too secretive until

I discovered later that the reason some people are very closer to me and free to share their private lives with me was because I was confidential. They know that whatever they share with me, they can't hear it elsewhere. If you can't control your mouth, you can't remain on top. When God starts lifting you up, you must know that you don't dish out all facts. There were things Jesus told the multitude, there were things He opened up to his disciples. In fact, there were things He told three out of twelve. You remember that when Peter, James and John were coming down from the mountain of Transfiguration, Jesus warned them never to tell what they saw with anyone (which includes the nine disciples, their wives because Peter was married and so on). And this three people obeyed Jesus' word. Meaning, there were things those three knew that the other nine didn't know. Jesus only pulled three out of twelve to himself that he knew were confidential. Learn from Jesus, the closest people to you as a leader should be confidential people.

Every follower should apply this. When your leader tells you to keep some privileged information you are told, you have to obey. Don't have a leaking mouth. The moment a leader noticed you can't keep secret; you can't be trusted with confidential matters again. Most people think leaders hate some people without knowing that some of those people

are saying and doing behind what shouldn't be heard. Imagine, if it was Judas Iscariot that Jesus took alongside with others to the mountain. I hope you know that Judas met with the Pharisees behind to give them certain information about Jesus. Why was it that Jesus wasn't closer to Judas Iscariot even though he had the money bag? The reason was because Jesus knew all men. Jesus knew Judas's heart wasn't right. Judas was only after personal gain. He was in ministry because of what he can get. Judas Iscariot was meeting with outsiders to speak rubbish about his Master Jesus without the awareness of the other disciples but Jesus knew. Let's imagine Jesus told Peter something and instructed him to keep it secret. And Peter went ahead to tell Judas Iscariot, I hope you know that Peter had told the wrong person and that way, he betrayed the trust of His Master.

Catch this, you will never see someone like Peter meeting in a corner to speak against his leader, mock his leader or even betray him. Such is only known with people like Judas Iscariot. Anyone that finds it easy to speak about your leader negatively isn't qualified for your intimacy until you see a change. Imagine, Peter was a defender when they came to arrest Jesus. Let me share some insight with you. When in a leadership team, love everyone but read the weather. Jesus was closer to Peter, James and John. If Jesus tells this three a secret and one of them

went out to share with others, that person is forever disqualified to hear more confidential matters. That insight shows that you don't dish out all facts to everyone equally. I remember a particular man who became a senator in Nigeria who already promised the citizens that he would open up his salary details, when he became a senator, he didn't do that. why? When he got into the system he learned that certain facts must be confidential. I guess he learned late that opening up certain things to the citizens will generate controversy. Let me be real – don't be confidential with corrupt or illicit practices. Don't be confidential with evil.

3. Be Swift to Take Responsibilities

You can't forever be on top if you are waiting to be told always the responsibility to take. You have to grow to a point that you are willing to take responsibility the moment you see it. Nobody told David to confront Goliath, he saw the need for it and stepped out. Some people are aiming at position while some are after responsibility. You may already have the position, if your inner eyes are not opened to see certain things to be done and swiftly step into taking actions, then, forget about it, another will soon take your place at the top. Many can't forever be on top because they haven't been delivered from

the mentality of 'being used'. I remember those days, I stepped into doing somethings that some people can't do. They can't do it because in their mind, they don't want to be used. That mentality is one of the reasons many won't rise in life. In fact, I discovered that, that mindset was the main strongholds the devil built in the mind of many people in some tribe that hindered some people from stepping into greatness. Looking at my life today, I thank God I stepped out to take the responsibility others avoided. The question in my heart is where are some of those people who didn't want to be used? Well, many are nowhere to be find on the radar of greatness. Today, I can boldly say that I wasn't used those years, I was being trained by God for my future. And if at all, I was used, I was used by God through men. Here is my mentality: I want to be used of God. I want to really serve because I know that in doing that, I will continue to rise from the top to the top. I know I don't need position; I only need an opportunity to serve. If I can get the opportunity to serve, I will surely rise to the top. And if I can continue to serve, I will forever be on top. Check those who are on top that are admired by many, they are people who will never permit their personality to disrupt their responsibility. If you will go far in life, you must be careful who you listen to. Never permit who doesn't know where God is taking you to counsel

you against where God is taking you to. During my campus days, I remember a fellowship member who told me this *“bro. Niyi, you are the one that can do that. I can’t do that, I can’t permit someone to come and use me...”* That guy is out of anything ministry today. He was one of those passionate guys but he is nowhere to be found at the top today.

God will use responsibilities to train, expose and empower you. You can’t desire to remain on top and be avoiding responsibilities. Taking responsibilities is one of the way up. It is responsibility that gets you to the top in the first place and it is also the same that will keep you on top. There are people that are just too arrogant to take some tasks. I wasn’t such person. I was ever ready to serve in any capacity I found myself. Many people have the anointing on them but are too sluggish to taking responsibilities. You remember that David was anointed already by Samuel to be king, yet David had to step out to confront Goliath when others were hiding.

I will never forget this experience that year. I served under the leadership of those who were junior to me in rank during the former tenure in that place. Well, since they were lifted above me and now made the leader, I had to humble myself to do whatever they ask me to do. Well, those people too were humble and none of them maltreated or dishonor me. But I also didn’t carry myself big. I

was very humble to attend any meeting they call. There are people you think are humble that are very proud. They are too big to serve at certain level. No! I remember someone who worked in a company and the head of the unit left the company and this person was supposed to be promoted to the position of that guy. Eventually, they brought another person to head the unit. This person was very angry but I had to encourage him to give his best to that unit. At the end, he gathered more working experience and some technical skills through the new person brought to head the team. To remain on top, continue to find out the responsibility to take. Position will keep running after anyone that keep taking responsibility.

4. Be Humble

Humility starts from the way you think. All through that period, I ensure that I never think I was better than anyone. In fact, I ensure that I never give my mind to the mistake of others. The fact is that I gave honor and respect to those in power even though some of them were mentees and junior to me in rank in the past. Yet, I never talk or address them as such. Well, it has been part of my life from the beginning of my life never to call anyone name directly without adding an initial to it. In my case, I usually add the

christianiese initial – *brother and sister*. The fact was that my biological younger sister and brother were older than some of these people, but I ensure that I gave them the respect they deserve.

Humility is not stupidity. Humility will cause people to keep you in your place. There is no champion forever, but humility can keep you a champion forever. Humility will cause men to have mercy on you when they should wound you. In other words, your humility will generate sympathy and pity from those who should hurt you. Let me state here that one of the things I really enjoyed during those period was the fact that the president of the new tenure was very loving and humble. That man showed me love and that strengthens my relationship with him till today. If you don't have position but take responsibilities and have humility, you will forever be on top.

5. Encourage Others and Be an Example of What You Teach

Learn to encourage unity not disunity. The first way I did this was through the example I set. I ensure I attend every meeting. Actually, I stayed with a group of people who were also members of the fellowship. There is no one that could say I was rebellious or sowed the seed of rebellion in

his or her heart. In fact, matters that I knew could lead to rebellion I kept within my heart and only shared and discussed matters that would sponsor the commitment of others.

Many of those around me reported some leaders to me but I used to close the chapter to the weaknesses or fault of the reported persons but would correct the reporter and encourage the person. This way, we were able to form a power team in our house. I remember when it was clear during the handing over day that I wasn't included among the executive, a brother left the church angrily that politics was brought into the fellowship and that he would never attend that fellowship again. I had to meet with the brother and told him to forget about the whole matter. We went back to fellowship together the following week and that brother ended up becoming a pastor in that same fellowship when I was leaving fellowship.

You can't be on top forever when you are spotted rebellious. Everyone in the tenure knew I was very supportive and did the right thing. There was no one that could say I was the reason for some ineffectiveness or disunity. In fact, I always go all out to unite people. I was a unifier. You can't remain on top if you are not a unifier. Sometimes, you have to swallow insults and encourage unity.

6. Be Generous

You may fight a generous man but can't win him. Generosity is one of the doorway to stability. If you will enjoy stability at the top, you must be generous with whatever you have. Now, Jesus taught that you shouldn't let your right hand know what your left hand does. Let me tell you this: find out anyone that people rally around, that person is generous in a way. You can't be generous to many and not be surrounded by many. Most times, you may not know the high level of giving a person does because the person isn't talking about it. During those years, I gave myself to being generous. It wasn't that I had plenty like that those years, but from the little I had, I was intentional to give out of it. Well, I had always been generous before then, but was intentional with it after I learned the lesson that it was my position that was taken away, my generosity wasn't taken away.

Generosity may not take you to the top but can keep you at the top. In fact, let me say that politically in some countries, especially in Africa, generosity is a weapon of electoral victory in the hand of many politicians. Being generous is about caring and meeting the needs of people. People always look up to the top. If you are on top, then, prepare your heart that there will be people that will look up to

you for help. You are not God that they look up to, but since you occupy a position that is above, some will surely look up to you. You must be ready and willing to help and assist people.

7. Give Support to Others

To forever be on top, you must give support to others. What a man sow he shall reap. If you support other people, others will also support you. During that time, I went beyond my department and found a way to give support to others. Now, when you give support to others, there will be those that will be against you and read unnecessary meaning to your actions. You must be wise not to permit that to affect you. I remember during that time, a member of the central executive in that tenure wasn't happy that I was effective in participating in various activities. Rather than getting annoyed, I gave more support to others and was very committed. I remember a brother appointed as the chairman for the final conference in that tenure suddenly became sick a week to the conference. I had to step in to cover many things up for him. And thank God for the president of that tenure who gave the free hand to step in and carry out some responsibilities. You may not have a position but you should be seen working. When you support others, those people will rise up

later to support you.

8. Develop Yourself

You can't remain on top when you are not growing. You can't be growing daily and not be going higher. I must say that one of the times I was more intentional with my personal growth was during that time. I gave myself to reading, listening, observing, questioning and so on. I grew to a point that responsibilities started looking for me. It was during that time I exposed my mind to administration. I studied how to create structures and systems. I studied how to communicate better and how to lead effectively. In fact, I learned about project management. Imagine a student learning about project management. I exposed my mind to certain statutes and ethics that can advance me. Some of those things I learned were put to work in executing some building projects the moment I became the president of the new tenure. Well, I must mention here that I ended up as the president of the new tenure. How did that happened, you may ask? I think I will say it is God. But if I am to give the credit to any man, it will surely be the president that handed over to me. He was such a loving and secure person and it will interest you to know that both of us are in very good relationship today. In fact,

our relationship has gone beyond surface level to a deeper one.

You can't be on top forever if you won't grow beyond your current level. People may love you but can't place you on top when your mind lack the weight and capacity for the top. The top isn't a place to flex but a passage of work. Work on your mind, grow to a point that the top will pursue you to come and dwell there. The easiest way to develop yourself for the top is to listen and read from those who have stayed longer at the top.

9. Be Relational with Those on Top

If you will be relational, you must be friendly. I remember when I was removed from the central executive council, a lady was given the position that many presumed should be given to me. It is shocking to know that someone had poisoned the heart of that lady against me. I didn't know anything but was just friendly and kind to everyone around me. I related with that lady and was very much ready to assist in any way I could. In fact, I remember when her birthday was approaching, I spoke with her about plans and she told me she didn't plan any party, I told her we would do party and that we would come to the place she stayed. What did I do? I mobilized everyone in our house and we went to her

place after service in church. Oh, I love the people we lived together, they were very loving, loyal and cooperating. We celebrated her birthday and she still make reference to that whenever we are privileged to see till date. I must say that I was relational with everyone in that tenure.

You see, celebration, commendation and appreciation will always strengthen your relationship with people, especially with those at the top. If you know how to celebrate, commend and appreciate people, you will always have a space in their heart. You may be gifted and knowledgeable than some people, but you must open your mind to find out the things they are doing specially and better. The moment you find that out, celebrate and commend such. You must avoid too many correction and condemnation if you want people to keep relationship with you.

Giving whatever can advance another is a tool for connecting with people. Sometimes, what a person need isn't money but counsel. Sometimes, what a person need is your support. The moment you spot a need; you must be ready to step out to attend to it. When in any relationship with anyone, especially when relating with top people, don't be a taker, be a giver. If you are just a taker, you will block access to those on top. Be a giver not a taker. Those on top already have many people taking from them, if you want them to treat you specially, give to them.

I am a full time minister, but I give to people to a point that some of those people have told me they are the ones that should give to me not the other way round. But I do. I have only trained myself never to let my right hand know what my left hand has done. Everyone should engage this: Don't blow the trumpet for whatever you give to people.

10. Be Prayerful

The tenth thing I was taught by God is prayers. I learned that sometimes people fell from the top because an invisible force pushed them down. So, I gave myself to prayers during those years. Yes, I pray before then, but I was more intentional with it. When you are given to prayers, both your head and horns are lifted by the Lord. If you want to forever be on top, you must have a spiritual back up.

Putting all these to work really made it easy for me to learn the lessons God was teaching me. And I can tell you that all these principles work anywhere and anytime.

Powerful Insights

- **To forever be on top is to be above always and only:** Constantly remain part of the top five or ten percent in your field, country and the

world.

- **Be unequal:** You will be equal if you do things like them. If you will forever be on top, you must be unequal in thinking, planning, doing, and results.
- **Be on high:** To be exalted is different from being highly exalted.
- **Visualize the topmost top:** All authorities should see you as an authority in your field, country and the world at large.
- **All stars are on top but all sands are beneath:** Capture the image of someone you admire that is already at the top. Start seeing yourself in the level of that person. When God wants to show you your future, He will show you the image of someone that is already at the future you are heading to.
- **Champions don't fight to win; they fight to remain:** You must sustain the mentality and responsibility that will keep you on top forever.
- **Remaining on top:** Have a revelation that will constantly keep you on top. I mean a revelation that will show you what God will continually do for you and what you should continually do. It is revelation that keeps you permanent at the top. Both connection and recommendation can get you to the top but can't keep you at the top. You need a revelation that qualifies you to forever

be on top.

- **Keep moving from the top to the top:** You will keep moving from the top to the top when you continually see the next big thing you should do or step into. Every time you achieve another level of success, you have moved to another top.
- **The hand of the giver is always on top:** Rain doesn't fall from beneath but from above. Those who give are the ones that will always be on top.
- **Challenges are God's opportunity to build character in us:** What you are going through today will furnish into your life the character of where you will be tomorrow.
- **Have proofs that will qualify you for leadership automatically:** The coinage for Samsung is: Samsung, leadership by products. It is not leadership by age or degree but by products. What leading results are you producing? What makes a leader is someone that goes ahead of others. You should be a leading doctor, lawyer, pastor, mechanics, designer, etc. You must love knowledge but go after proofs. Be a leader that has proofs.

The Release of the Prophetic on You

The way the hand is always above the head when lifted so shall you always be above your colleagues.

The way the sun, moon and stars always shine from the top, so shall you always shine from the top.

The way the fruits of trees are not seen beneath, so shall your fruits always be on top

The way the head of man and animals are never put beneath or behind so shall you never be beneath or behind.

The way the cloud is forever above, so shall you forever be above.

The way the horn of a unicorn faces up even when it bows its head, so shall you always be above everywhere and every time.

Working out a Vision

Many people have visions but only few work it out. Having visions without working it out won't add anything to you. Vision here is both a picture of the future and picture of action. It is not just about seeing the future but also seeing the actions. If you can't capture an image of what it is to be done, then, you can't be on top.

Repositioned to the Elevated Top

Isaiah 58:14 says *“Then you shall delight yourself in the Lord; and I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth, and feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father. The mouth of the Lord has spoken.”*

This is powerful, insightful but practical. The above text says God will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth. Another translation refers to high hills as high places of the earth. In other words, God will carry you to the high places of the earth.

The high places of the earth refer to the top places of the earth. God wants you to be at the top places of the earth. Notice God promised to cause you to ride on “high hills” or “high places”, that means that there are top places meant for you on the earth. You see, there is a top above every top. If you are on top already, you have to know that there is another top above you. And God expects you to rise to that top

above you.

The top above you is known as the elevated top. You must keep rising from the top to the top.

There are heavenly places and high places of the earth. The heavenly places are in the spirit realms but the high places of the earth are earth realm, industry realm, profession realm, where decision and dominion dwells.

Let me break it down:

1. There are pit places of the earth: There are those in the pit of life. They are not even among the crowd, not among the ordinary or average people. These are beggars, homeless ones, addicts, etc. All beggars, homeless ones, addicts, jobless ones are in the pit of life. This is a place of hardship and struggles.

2. There are low places of the earth: These are people at the bottom or beneath in life. This class belong to the ordinary and average people. They are not beggars but they are not rich. They are not miserable but they are not great. They are just normal people living normal life. This class are the crowd.

3. There are high places of the earth: This is the class of the top people, top politicians, top business men, top billionaires, top pastors, top professionals. These are known people and are not part of the crowd. They have been singled out of the crowd.

A gateman will be in the low places of the earth while a CEO will occupy the high places of the earth. Remember that high places are top places.

A messenger dwells in the low places of the earth while an intrapreneur dwells on the high places of the earth.

The high places or top places of the earth grants you access to sit and relate with kings, great, prominent people on earth.

You may be in the low places of the earth today but you can ask the Lord to take or carry you to the top places of the earth. Refuse to be beneath, rise to the top.

Deut. 28:13 says *“And the Lord will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not be beneath, if you heed the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, and are careful to observe them.”*

God’s word says you shall be above only and not beneath. In other words, you will be at the top places of the earth only, you’ll never be at the low places of the earth. Since God’s word says you shall be above only, it therefore means that you should forever be on top.

Catch this: The top must be your permanent position in your field, industry, kingdom and in life. You must think and talk that the top is your permanent position. You must forever remain on

top and never come down again.

Joseph was an example of a man who got to the top once and remained there forever. He got to the top at the age of thirty but remained there till his last breath at one hundred and ten years. For eighty years, Joseph was on top. You are going to have permanent residence at the top. No coming down.

Two General Facts

1. The bottom is crowded; the top has few people; but elevated top is occupied by very few people

In life generally, the top places are mostly free, ground level are generally crowded. That is natural and as it is in the natural, so it is in the spiritual. For example, you want to travel abroad and you didn't book on time and you want to book economy class, they will say, "oh, it's filled. You need to book maybe like two or three weeks ahead to have a sit in economy class. If you book late, you may have a space in business class but it will cost you more money. But it's had to hear that the whole first class space has been booked. There's always space of course in first class most times simply because it's more expensive. So, while the economy class is crowded, the first class isn't always crowded.

Whatever is expensive or of great value isn't

always crowded. For example, you go to a hotel that has plenty rooms and they say the single rooms are all booked, what is available now is the executive suite, the VIP or presidential suite. The VIP or presidential suite are always available, but just that you need to pay more. You see, great height and places meant for important people are not always occupied.

In Mark 2:4, the friends of the paralytic man noticed the ground was crowded, there was only one space left, that was the roof and they went and broke the roof because, nobody was staying there. That is one thing you must understand - that the top place is mostly free, the ground is always congested. Everywhere downward in the room was crowded but the top of the room was empty. Rather than looking for a space among the crowd, the friends took him to the top and it will interest you to know that the man was the last to enter the room but the first to get a miracle simply because he was positioned at the right place.

Whatever it will cost you, get out of the crowd in your industry or field, get out of the crowd in your city or country, and get on top. Some people need friends and partners like the paralytic man. You need people that can help you break the roof (the barrier, blockages, hindrances, limitations) to the top. While others were struggling to get a space in

the crowd, the friends of the man repositioned him. May you be repositioned to the top so you can get favor, miracles, lifting early in life.

Some people need to pray to God to reposition them because they had been in the crowd for long. Some people need to pray that God should send helpers and partners like the friends of the paralytic man who will help them to be repositioned. You need to pray to God to send you helpers and partners who will not mind going through the stress of breaking the roof for your sake so you can be repositioned. Remember that the man who was at the pool of Bethesda for thirty-eight years said he had no man. But the paralytic man in Mark 2 had friends, had men, had helpers and partners who were not family members but were his God sent to help him. While the man at the pool of Bethesda said he had no man, the paralytic man in Mark 2:3, had four men who carried him. I want you to be provoked to pray to God to send men that will help you get repositioned. You need to be carried out of the crowd. What happened was that one of the four men looked to the top of the room and saw the roof, and he thought, why can't we get this man to this empty space on top. So he told the other partners to carry the man out and break a part of the roof. They didn't break all the roof, they only broke a part of it and placed the man on the moulded wall on

top. Jesus looked up and saw the man and he got his miracle.

Mark 2:5 reveals that Jesus saw the faith of the men that broke the roof. In other words, repositioning is a proof of faith. Being repositioned is a sign that you have faith. God must send men and women your way that will help you to be repositioned so you can get what you need early without delay.

2. Going from the bottom to the top is breaking barriers, but going from the top to elevated top is breaking records

You must break record in your field. In Geography the higher you go, the cooler it becomes.

It's very easy to understand because when the sun hits the earth, the earth reflects back the heat and the rays of the sun. So, the ground level is hot, when you go up, the heat reduces. When you fly very high, at times if you look at the temperature reading, the aircraft monitor would be telling you about -25 degrees up there. The higher you go in life, the cooler it becomes except that the hotter it may become from envious people. Everything else would be cool but envy would be heated. You have to be warned about that. Confrontation and enemy kind of distractions may become heated.

What is an Elevated Top

1. An elevated top is God's strategy to keep you above only (Deut. 28:13)

There are people who go up and down. They are up yesterday and down today. But there are people who go up and up. They keep going up till they reach the greatest height God has for them. You can't be at the same level forever. Sometimes, yesterday's greatness is today's lowness. In other words, if a person stays longer at the same level and failed to move up, soon the place he occupied that was once up will be regarded as down.

When God wants to keep you above only, He causes you to move from the top you are to another top. In other words, God elevates you to a higher level. If you are already on top, let the Lord elevate you higher and you'll see that your current top is lower in status. You will be above only by moving from the top to the top.

2. An elevated top is the place of more advantage (Proverbs 22:29)

The place of more advantage is a vantage position. What's a vantage position? It's a position or place affording some advantage others may not have. A vantage position is an advantage in a competition or conflict that earn you superiority. This position is more advantageous than that of an opponent. The fact is that this position is always loaded with opportunity that is likely to provide superiority and prosperity.

The top place is a vantage position from where you see farther, clearer and brighter. It's also a position or space that afford you the privilege others lack. It singles you out of the crowd and common people. This grants you privileges that belongs to extraordinary people.

One day I heard Pastor Paul Enenche share that he served briefly as a member of the board of regents of Covenant University, the equivalent of governing council and during the convocation of students in that institution, there were twenty to fifty students graduating with first class from one department. You know I remember my days at the institution I attended (Olabisi Onabanjo University), it's maybe like one first class in a whole session, hardly will you see up to five first class students in the whole

session. You know during convocation, they will make every other person else to stand up and release the declaration for their graduation but those who got first class in each department were asked to shake the hands of the Vice-chancellor on behalf of the rest. Those students who got the handshake were in a vantage position and as such, their colleagues would clap for them and celebrate them.

At a convocation, they mentioned those who graduated and they stood up and released them but those who had first class were to come up and shake hands with dignitaries. Then, they came to all those who got PhDs from all faculties and all of them were also meant to come out and shake the hands. At a point, they were told to stop coming out because they were many. But one of the dignitary saw a woman with an amputated leg who had PhD also coming on the line along with the others that were told to go back, so the man just whispered to the Vice-chancellor and said, “please, let them finish shaking their hands, they have come so far and their efforts to arrive at this level must be commended.” So, he announced it. All of them had their handshake and then, the man went and shook the hands of the woman with the amputated leg and told her that he was going to assist her fix a prosthetic leg. The point is that if she did not fit into the class of those who needed to come out for the handshake, nobody

would have noticed that there was an amputated leg among the crowd and nobody would have said, “he would pay the money to fix the leg”.

To be in the pit or bottom in life, there are opportunities you will lack. You see, being at the top puts you in a position of advantage.

Let me use the law profession as an example, when there are cases before a judge and everybody is seated and there's a Senior Advocate of Nigeria (SAN) there, he sits in front and as the most senior, they would take his case first. If you like, you have enough age to born the SAN, the fact is that you can't sit where he sits because you are older than him or her in age, for as long as he is a SAN and you are not, he is your senior. Even if you got into the profession before him, that is SAN, and they will take his case before yours. That's how it is everywhere in life. Don't be angry with those at the top, let your anger provoke you to rise to the top. I want you to desire to rise to an elevated top and refuse to be in the pit or bottom.

This clearly informs that you must go for whatever will put you in a vantage position in your field. Some people need to further their studies and get more certification to be in vantage positions. Some people need to put in more work to get into a vantage position.

3. An elevated top is the place of more possibilities and nobility (Genesis 41:39-45)

This is a place of more possible achievements. Struggles reduce here while progress increase here. This is a place of more nobility where your rank and importance increase. An elevated top affects who you are and what you do.

When you go up, things that used to look big become small. Have you ever flown in an aircraft very high, you will see a big house looking like a matchbox, you see a cow looking like a matchstick, you see a car running like an ant? When you were down, it looked so big, when you went up, it looked so small until you're wondering, "why did it look so big before?" There's a certain level and realm that talking of billions sounds like talking in thousands, it doesn't shake you. There was a time, if they mention twenty million, you will move and shake. In your mind, that amount is a whole big money. But a time come that you ascend a realm and level where talking ten trillion will not shake or move you and you're normal and calm because you're operating in a realm where big things are looking small. Get ready because God is elevating you to the top where billions and trillions will be normal to you. You are stepping into the realm that you can execute possibilities because all that is needed is available.

You need to deal with every micro mentality in your life and mind so you can ascend to your top faster. In other words, you must avoid small thinking and start thinking big. You have to start seeing yourself in the image you had always imagine yourself to be. The reason many won't ascend high is because of micro mentality. They keep thinking like dwarf. Many have permitted their background and wretched experiences to affect their possibilities. You need to stop thinking and talking like the poor, jobless, sick, small, average, and start thinking and feeling like who you desire to be. If God takes you to the top in the spirit realm but your mind can't picture an image of you that represents where God has taken you to, then, forget about it. If you can see yourself high, you will start training for it, prepare for it and get the needed skills and abilities for it. You can't think small and go high. If you will go high, you must never think small. The easiest way to think high is to start seeing yourself in the image and position of those you desire to be like. As God takes you high, let your thinking also reflects you are on your way to the level and position of those you want to be like.

4. An elevated top is the place of consistent favor on the increase (Proverbs 22:1, Proverbs 19:4)

There is a position a person will be that certain favor will be naturally far from such. The position of poverty can't access certain favor. Yes, the poor can be favored but there is certain favor that can't be natural and consistent when a person is poor. For example, proverbs 19:4 says wealth makes many friends. The favor that attracts many friends is natural to the wealthy and rich. But poverty separate a man from his friends. The poor may be friendly but his poverty will chase away friends. To be favored is to be liked and loved. Wealth and riches naturally attracts its kind. The poor will always befriend the poor, but the favor that makes rich befriend a person with wealth. There are people that don't seems to have plenty money but have many rich and great people as friends. The reason for that is because those people may not have plenty money but they have certain things people don't know are wealth. So, a person may not have plenty money but have wealth and that wealth will always draw many friends to him.

You may not be the general overseer of your church but can be a general manager of a company. You may not be the vice president of your country but can be the vice chancellor of a university. You

may not be the founder of a company but can be the brain behind their trending and profitable innovation. You can't be in any of these and not be favored. How will you be the most effective worker and not be favored by your boss. Favor is natural and consistent at the top. Greatness does not beg for favor; it comes natural to it. The one who is in the pit, even his neighbor does not want him. Poverty is a destruction; mediocrity is a calamity. Proverbs 14:20. Proverbs 19:7. Now, the reason this is very important is because if people run away from you, can you preach to them? If people avoid you, can you influence them? We are to exist in this world as Kingdom influencers. There's nothing we want to seek that is for the purpose of just seeking it but for the advantage of the Kingdom.

When you are at the top, you are not just going to be accessing consistent favor on the increase, other people will also continually seek your favor on the increase. That's a good position to be. You get favor naturally and others also get favor through you. There are people seeking favor here and there but there are those favor is seeking here and there. Those in the pit of life and bottom in life are always seeking favor, praying for it, fasting regularly to get the favor of those on top. But the person on top attracts favor naturally with his phone call. You see, it's easy for the president of a country to

attract the favors of governors and co-president in another country. But it may be difficult for a local government chairman to attract the favor of a president naturally consistently. That's the reason you must rise to the top.

You see, when you are at the top, top people like you will give you special invitation to their events. One time, a man did wedding for his daughter and they got four different venues for people, meaning they divided the categories of those coming into four. First, they created a venue for Very Important People (VIPs). The VIPs consist of the president of the country, vice president, former presidents of that country, senate presidents and speaker of House of Rep, governors, senators, business billionaires, some Federal Ministers, ambassadors, highly influential pastors in that country and so on. Second, they created a venue for Special People comprising of some ranked military men, local government chairmen, some CEOs, professors, head of corporations, and so on. Third, they created a venue for family and friends. Fourth, they created a venue for everybody.

Here is what I want you to catch, don't be angry that you are not invited to an event, you are the one that needs to trust God to take you to the top. When you get to the top, even, if they don't like you, they will still invite you because your presence may be powerful than that of a multitude. There are special

events you will be invited to simply because you occupied a position that draw attention. Imagine the fourth venue created for everybody. You will see that they may not put much check for those entering there, but you have to present a card before you can be permitted to enter into the VIP venue. As I write this, it's my prayers that God will single you out of the crowd and position you among the VIPs. It's my prayers that you will not be in the position of everybody. This I am writing is for you. You know I checked the time now as I write this and saw that it's 2:43am. You know I made up my mind early never to live a life of mediocrity. So, if it will require me to wake up at night, I will wake up. The only thing most people do at midnight is to sleep but if you don't want to be in the class of everybody, you must seek God to reposition you to the top and give yourself to the work that will take you there.

A man was invited to an event in a country where dignitaries like presidents, ambassadors, top people in their fields and nations were invited. The man said while he was there, some top people that are already at the top in their realms came him and said, "I've been watching you, I'm now seeing you in person. I've been trying to see how I can see you". The man was found there and they were found there because of where they were in their realm, industry, field and nations. Those people were qualified to be

in that place and because they were in that place, they could access somebody that they felt they couldn't have accessed otherwise. The man said they got his phone numbers freely and easily. So, there are certain places you must be found so that you can cut across certain levels of impact and networks.

Those who get to the top will always find it easy to access others at the top in their fields, industries and nations. Connections, networks and relationships with top people like you will become natural because you will attend same meetings and meet at same events. You need to trust God for an opportunity that will position you to travel and attend certain meetings. When you attend those meetings, you must intentionally network and connect with new people and friends, exchange phone contacts and learn to reach out just to keep and feed the relationships.

Recently, someone told me he got a job that will require him to travel to different countries. And the young man told me he would love to work with another company because of certain benefits with that other company. But as he spoke with me, God told me to tell him to go for the job that will get him busier and travel a lot. I told him what I got and he concluded to go for the Job. Here is it, God later enlightened me that that job that will afford the young man to travel a lot

is a way of repositioning him so that he can be exposed and get the opportunity to connect and network with other people in other countries. So, the opportunity to attend certain meetings is a way of repositioning him to an elevated top so he can be in places where favor will be naturally consistent. I hope you know that when the Bible says Joseph got favor before Pharaoh, how that favor manifested was that he got a job. You must be sensitive not to miss an opportunity God is presenting you to access favor on the increase. I pray that before you finish reading this book, God will take you where you belong! You are moving to the place where favor is consistent and natural, where relatives and friends won't be running from you and you won't be chasing people with words. You are stepping into that place where people would be running towards you even when you are not calling. Be ready to draw favor, preference more than before.

5. An elevated top is the place of more responsibilities and opportunities (Genesis 41:39-44)

Responsibility grants access to new opportunities while opportunities also gives additional responsibilities. Joseph got a responsibility that granted him an opportunity to be lifted. It's always responsibility before opportunity. That one got the opportunity to step into the palace and become anything he wanted to become and got the responsibility of administering the whole of Egypt. What you can do is the doorway to where you're meant to be in life. There's a place you are meant to be in life, the question is, what can you do?

What about David? David got opportunity to go to the palace and the responsibility of being the ADC of Saul because he was at the top of his game. 1 Samuel 16:18,21. That opportunity and responsibility came because he was found at the top. If he (David) was just found on the ground or among instrumentalists, nobody would ask for him or recommend him. The top place is a place of opportunities and responsibilities. What you know how to do is the way into what God has designed for you to do and become.

There are many opportunities waiting for you in months ahead if you can take responsibility now.

Opportunity won't come your way if you aren't doing something now. Joseph kept attending to people till a day an opportunity to attend to the king came. Perform your task well at your level and God will lift you up to where you need to be.

6. An elevated top is the place of more influence (Genesis 41:40-41)

Influence is spiritual but it becomes natural when you do the needful. Being at the top in what you do makes you to become an influence over nations and institutions. That is, "I give you the whole of this nation, influence them. I give you the whole of Egypt, anything you want to tell them, tell them, anyone you want them to worship, let them worship." You see, when God gives you influence, you are put in charge to control how people think, act and behave. Influence makes people permit you to have your say and way.

A lecturer has influence over his students. For example, a person is teaching, he came to teach law students and he's giving a story inside the teaching that is pointing people towards God and teaching morals that would live with these people. That is the purpose of influence. The higher you go, the more you have the opportunity to reach out to a greater number of people and that opportunity becomes an

influence that can become positive. A friend of mine once told me they used to have prayer and word session every Monday morning at his workplace and that it's mandated for all workers regardless of your religion to participate. The CEO of the company initiated that. The fact is that the CEO is indirectly using his company as a platform to influence his workers in a godly way. A CEO that has five thousand workers has a congregation of five thousand people. In fact, by virtue of the numbers of workers in some companies, some companies have more number than many churches combined together. As a CEO, your company should have a time for prayers and the word where your workers are taught the word of God. A man once talked about a Gynecologist, he said "the beginning of every clinic session was prayer, every surgery in the theatre would be prayer before commencement. That is, he had an identity that was not hid."

Many years ago when I used to watch football, there was this Brazilian player who was also in an Italian club (AC Milan), his name is Kaka. This player always put on a jersey and under it, he wrote, "I belong to Jesus". Whenever he scores a goal, millions of fans around would link him with Jesus. The Jesus that all the demon possessed people hate, I belong to him and if you love me, you must love my Jesus. If you see this cup I am holding, then

Jesus has a hand in it”. Who said that you need to join a cult before you can make a mark in your world? Who said that you need to join the occult or become a member of a secret society before you can be successful in life? The Jesus’ people are supposed to be the most successful people on the face of the earth.

You are going to be elevated to the top because you need more influence to impart people for God. You need to affect more people and mind. You need to make up your mind never to be an influence over few but over nations. An entire nation was willed to Joseph to influence. Get ready because God is cooking you for something big. You will influence the way people think, talk, work, give, serve God, honor, discipline, and so on.

7. An elevated top is a position of affluence - abundance and superabundance (Isaiah 45:1-3)

You will have superabundance if you have many streams supplying abundance to you. It’s the combination of abundance from many directions that lead to superabundance.

You don’t need to be a thief if you will reach the top of what you do. In Genesis 41:41-44, we saw how abundance came to Joseph and we also saw that in Daniel 2:46-48. ‘I’m taking you up literally as

a king of the earth but I'm going to decorate you with resources. For what purpose? He will build My Cities. God said, 'I want to take you up and give you money and I want you to use that money to spread the Gospel' Zechariah 1:17. I want to take you up like I took David up and David used his resources in 1 Chronicles 29:1-4 to build His Temple.

You see, there is a position of affluence you don't think your way into, God has to bring you there. Joseph wasn't doing any strategic thinking to come before Pharaoh. God created the opportunity and He got it. God brought Joseph into a position and condition that made superabundance possible for him. For some people, God will change your job to get you into something much. God may take away your job to get you a new one. So, when God takes away your job, praise Him and obtain his mercy so you can come into the plenty he has for you faster. Remember, God took away the job of Joseph at Portiphar's house so he can get him a better job with Pharaoh.

Let me share this secrets with you. If you are a giver - you tithe, give seeds and offerings - and suddenly come to a point that you experience dryness or scarcity, it may not be the devil working, it may be God working out your next level. God has to take away the old to give you the new. If you can give God a short time, He will turn things around for you

and you'll suddenly come into blessings.

8. An elevated top is a position of more recognition and dominion (Esther 10:3)

Mordecai a former gateman stepped into recognition and dominion when he became the second in command. You remember that there was a time Mordecai was remembered for his good and was set on king's horse and taken round the city for recognition. But a time came that he got more recognition and dominion when he was lifted to the top. Do you remember that after Haman took Mordecai round the city and got him hailed by the people, he was still returned back to his former level as the gateman? The recognition he got didn't bring him into dominion. But one day, Mordecai left that level and never returned again. Dominion isn't demonstrated in the pit or bottom; it's only demonstrated on top. When God takes you up, you become a generational opinion leader, a generational decision maker and a generational voice of note. The top permits you to have a say in your generation. No one can say, 'What is that one saying?' And what you say matters. I pray that the voice of authority that my God is giving you, no devil shall cut it short. You shall speak and your generation shall hear.

Benefits of an Elevated Top

First, you must bear in mind that there is a top above every top. In other words, there is another level above every level. Whatever level you have reached, you can still reach beyond because there are people who have achieved what you haven't achieved.

So, when you are on top yesterday and God lift you higher again, it therefore means you have moved from the top to an elevated top. It's just like school. Secondary school is like being at bottom, but then you gained admissions to university and got your first degree. Getting that degree is like getting to the top that those in secondary school aspire to get to. But then, there is Master's Degree program after first degree, so going for Masters is like an Elevated Top above first degree. So, whenever you get to another level, God has taken you to an elevated top.

When you ascend to an elevated top, you become an example and model to those at the initial top. When those on top are willing to learn from you, hear from you and study you, then, you are elevated to a higher top than theirs. One of the benefits of elevated top is to display new dimensions of excellence, success and greatness to your generation. Matthew 5:16, Isaiah 61:9.

God wants you to display, demonstrate and advertise new, unknown and fresh wave of excellence,

distinction, top quality, success and greatness to your generation. This is what I mean, we are designed to confirm to the world that since God is up, He's called the Most High, those who belong to Him are designed for the top. We cannot be the children of the Most High and occupy the most low places of the earth. Matthew 5:14. People should see you and be able to connect you with God. They see that God is Most High and you're not low, they see that God is all wise God and you're not a fool, they see that God is powerful and you're not a weakling. It's not possible for the duck to be claiming the paternity of an eagle. There would be paternity dispute. It can't walk well, let alone, fly. It becomes an abomination of eaglehood, an insult to the eagle family that they have an offspring that is crawling saying it's an eaglet, no way. That is how God feels when you move about with mediocrity and say the Almighty is your father. When you're just substandard, average and low, and with everything you do, you're at the back, and you sing, "my father in heaven, I glorify your name, I bow down before you", then you get a response from Heaven, "what are you singing? I cannot understand, you say I am your Father and you're looking like that?" Let the thought dominate your heart that the top place is your permanent place.

Many years ago, a member of a church visited his

pastor and the pastor asked “what are you doing?” The man said he’s a lawyer. “So how’s your practice?” It’s doing fine. “How many years at the bar?” The man replied that he’s spent twelve years. The pastor asked, “why are you not a Senior Advocate now?” The man couldn’t reply, the pastor asked again, “why are you not a Senior Advocate of Nigeria? Those who are Senior Advocates, do they have two heads?” The man responded and said, “I’m working towards it”. The pastor instructed him to work towards it very fast. What do you need?” Asked the pastor and the man said “I need some cases at this place, some cases at the supreme court. I need an office like this and that”. The pastor said okay. I give you one to two years. The man went back, after two years, the pastor asked him again “how far he has gone with the plan?” The man joyfully responded and said, “office is ready, this and that is ready, he has the cases and has now put in the application”. The pastor told him to go and return back with his achievement. In a short time, the man returned back to the pastor with his SAN. The fact is that the man put himself under pressure to get that done so he can rise to the elevated top in his field. Sometimes, you need to be put under pressure to get to an elevated top.

One time, a man met his friend. The friend has PhD in virology, BSc Microbiology, MSc Immunology. With all these, the man was on level 9 at Federal

Ministry of Health. The man told his friend, “you have immunology, virology and microbiology, it is your type that should be doing research for HIV cure at John Hopkins University”. Somehow, the friend woke up and took steps to begin the process. Later on, the friend came to the man and said he has been given admission for post-doctoral fellowship at John Hopkins University. He went there and came back.

You see, the problem is that many people aren't taking steps that will bring progress to them in their fields. They are not attempting to step higher and go beyond their current top where they are. Some people need to join certain fellowship in their industry. Some people need to apply for Forbes and be part of the community. Some people need to attend a business school. Some need to travel to some places so as to advance in their work by learning from those ahead. Stop wasting time and stop sleeping when you should be making research. At this stage of your life, you should be asking questions and seeking meaningful answers. You should be seeking the better and faster way to do certain things in your industry so you can pioneer that discovery. Quite unfortunate that many stop learning when they left school and only kept working and earning salary. Some people failed to know that since they are career persons, they should go for their Masters. If you are a career

person, don't imitate a business person who isn't willing to further his or her studies. If you know you are a career person, school yourself more and get more certification. Business people should go professional and listen to consultants and experts. Some people need to learn that certain materials they need have been taught on YouTube, so they just need to listen to it.

If you're in business, stop toying around ten thousand naira, twenty thousand. I'm not asking you to steal, I'm asking you to do all that is legitimately possible to stop crawling where you're crawling and move to the highest level and the aim of it is, not just that you have ten people working for you, move to a hundred people working for you, a thousand, ten thousand people where you're determining positively, the destiny of many people.

On Top by God's Blessings

Deut. 7:14 says *"You shall be blessed above all peoples; there shall not be a male or female barren among you or among your livestock."*

From the above text, God's word reveals that you shall be blessed above all peoples. In other words, you will carry a level of blessing that will compel many to call you blessed.

Catch this prophetic words God has for you

1. According to Deut. 28:3, *blessed shall you be in the city and in your country.*

2. According to Deut. 28:6, *blessed shall you be when you come in and blessed shall you be when you go out.*

3. Genesis 27:27b says *"Surely, the smell of my son is like the smell of a field which the Lord has blessed."*

Henceforth, you will smell blessings everywhere you appear.

4. Malachi 3:12 says *“And all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a delightful land, says the Lord of hosts.”*

Get set because henceforth, you shall be called blessed and many will delight in you and in your land.

5. 2 Samuel 6:11-12 reveals *that the Lord blessed Obed - Edom and all his household.*

Henceforth, the Lord will bless you, everything and everyone connected to you.

Note that you may need to put these prophetic words in your tongues during your personal prayers.

What is God's Blessings

1. Blessing is an invisible force that produces tangible evidence.

2. Blessing is divine empowerment on your life to succeed and prosper.

3. Blessing is that magnetic force that makes whatever is in your hand to become whatever you need to accomplish something.

4. Blessing is what God puts on you that makes your efforts productive

5. Blessing is what is on you that makes you become what God design you to become.

Understanding Different Ways to Attract the Blessings of God

1. The connection between blessings and evangelism. Romans 10:15

- Blessed are the feet of those who bring glad tidings.
- There is a measure of blessings attached to preaching the gospel.
- Every time you step out to preach the gospel to someone, you have indirectly told God to fulfill His word by blessings you.
- Preaching the gospel is a way of telling God to help you.
- Believers pray for God's blessings only but won't step out to preach the gospel. Many of us are guilty of this, but a change is happening now for we will all boldly step out to share the gospel with others.

2. The connection between blessings and giving. Acts 20:35

- What you give has more blessings than what is given to you.
- Giving your tithe produces blessings
- Giving to parents produces blessings

- Giving to an anointed vessel produces blessings

3. The connection between blessings and service.

Exodus 23:25

- Blessings is God's rewards for service.
- God won't thank you for serving Him, He will only bless you.
- Blessings is God's salary to those who serve in the house of God
- Bear in mind that time of reward isn't the same, but your reward will surely come.
- You're not serving a man but God. Stop expecting your pastor to thank you for whatever task you carry out in the church, expect God to bless you.
- It's either you receive thank you from men or blessings from God. Choose one.
- God doesn't bless at the end of the month, He blesses in due time.

4. The connection between blessings and obedience to divine instruction. Psalm 94:12

- Obedience is a way to blessing.
- The man that isn't instructed and the man that won't obey will end up the same.
- Incomplete obedience is the same as disobedience.

5. The connection between blessings and connecting with the blessed. Genesis 30:27

- God blessed Laban for Jacob's sake. Associating with the blessed brings about blessings.
- Be the blessed to others and also seek the blessed to be in relationship with you.

6. The connection between blessings and the pronouncement of blessings by biological parents. Genesis 27:26-29

- Parents can release blessings. Parents can also release a curse. Jacob cursed Reuben but blessed others.
- Regularly seek the blessing of your parents. Do things that will make them happy and see how blessings will flow out of their belly.

7. The connection between blessings and the pronouncement of blessings by a spiritual authority. Numbers 22:6. Hebrews 7:7

- Men of God have the power to bless. God bless you in the mouth of a member of your church isn't the same weight as God bless you in the mouth of your man of God.
- The lesser is always blessed of the better.

- Regularly seek the blessing of your man of God.

8. The connection between blessings and repentance. Psalm 32:1-2

- When you change the way you think and behave, change your ways, God's blessings is released.

9. The connection between blessings and helping the poor. Psalm 41:1-2

- There are blessings attached to helping the poor as seen in the above scripture.
- Helping the poor makes God delivers you in time of troubles. What you do for the poor is what God will remember later when troubles come to fight you.

10. The connection between blessings and trust in God. Jeremiah 17:7.

- Blessings is certain when your hope is on God alone.

11. The connection between blessings and attending the house of God (church). Psalm 84:4

- Some children followed their parents to a meet-

ing where Jesus was and Jesus laid hands and blessed those children.

- Yes, we are the church but appearing before God with other brethren is a special way of inviting God's blessings into your life.

12. The connection between blessings and doing the right things. Psalm 106:3. Proverbs 20:7.

- Righteousness will always draw blessings.

13. The connection between blessings and the fear of God. Psalm 112:1-3, 128:1-4.

- The above scripture states the blessing reserved for the man that fear the Lord.

14. The connection between blessings and patience (waiting for the Lord). Isaiah 30:18.

- Waiting for the Lord isn't wasting but a blessing.

15. The connection between blessings and impartation. Mark 10:16.

- Blessings can be imparted.

16. The connection between blessings and hearing

plus doing the word of God. Luke 11:28, Rev. 22:7,14.

- Hearing and doing the word attracts blessings

17. The connection between blessings and prayers.
1 Chronicles 4:10

- When you have little blessings and you want more, you can pray for it.

Note the following:

1. God's blessings is forever. Psalm 45:2
2. There is always the most blessed. God can make you the most blessed. Asher was the most blessed of sons. Deut. 33:24. Jael was most blessed of women. Judges 5:24. David spoke about Christ that He was the most blessed forever (Psalm 21:6).

The Uniqueness of God's Blessings

God's Blessings are always transgenerational. It goes beyond the blessed to his children and children's children. Isaiah 61:9

Let's examine the connection of blessings to some people.

1. The Life of Mary (Jesus' mother)

a. Both Angel Gabriel and Elizabeth declared to Mary that "Blessed are you among women." Luke 1:28, 42.. You too should be regarded as blessed among people

b. Blessed is the fruit of your (Mary's) womb. Luke 1:42. Blessed are all the children that come from her - From Jesus to James and Jude his brothers and so on. All the biological children of Mary were blessed. Your fruits (children) too must be regarded blessed.

c. Blessed is she who believed for there shall be a fulfilment of those things which were told her from the Lord. Luke 1:45. Mary believed against all odds, you also should regularly believe God's words regardless of the situation.

d. All generations shall call me blessed. Luke 1:48. Trust the Lord to make you a transgenerational blessing so all generations can call you blessed.

2. The life of Abraham

a. God said to him, "*I will bless you.*" Genesis 12:2. Like Abraham received earthly blessings from the Lord, you also should receive God's blessings.

b. God said to Abraham "*You shall be a blessing.*" Genesis 12:3. You must be a blessing to those around you and wherever you find yourself.

c. God told Abraham, "*in your seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.*" Acts 3:25. Let families of

the earth be blessed through your product, services, creativity, wisdom, prayers, etc.

d. God told Abraham *“In you, all the nations shall be blessed.”* Galatians 3:8. Countries should be blessed through you forever and ever.

Note: You can inherit the earth through the blessings of God. The earth can become your inheritance through the blessings of God. Psalm 37:22

Understanding the Blessing and the Top

When God blesses you, you will rise to the top.

When God blesses the works of your hand, it will rise to the top. Job 1:10.

When God blesses your days, you will live all those seasons and your days on earth at the top. Job 42:12.

You must understand that blessings can increase. So, the level of the Blessings on you determines the top you can occupy in the high places of the earth.

You must seek increase of blessings upon your life so you can keep ascending the top above you.

There is a required measure of blessings for every top places of the earth.

A Study on Jacob

Jacob was blessed five times and each of the blessing keep moving him to go higher on top.

- The first time Jacob was blessed by Isaac, the blessing pronounced on him set him above his brother Esau and other brethren. Genesis 27:27
- The second time he was blessed by Isaac, the blessing repositioned him on top of other nations. Genesis 28:1-4
- The third time he was blessed by God, he was repositioned above all the families of the earth. Genesis 28:13-15
- The fourth time he was blessed by God, he was set above princes. Genesis 32:26-29.
- The fifth time he was blessed by God again and that repositioned him to a higher top above the kings. Genesis 35:9.

You shall be blessed above so you can get above.

We see in that text that, that God said you shall be blessed above all the peoples of the earth.

More blessings qualify you to go higher. This is why you must crave for more blessings so you can go higher regularly.

You need to be sensitive to what the Spirit of God will stir you up to do to access more blessings.

You may be moved to pray more.

You may be moved to sow seeds.

You may be moved to do something in the house
of God.

Whatever you are led to do, ensure you do it.

Constant Activation of the Blessing at the Top

Genesis 49:25-26 says *“By the God of your father who will help you, and by the Almighty who will bless you. With blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lies beneath, blessings of the breasts and of the womb. The blessings of your father have excelled the blessings of my ancestors, up to the utmost bound of the everlasting hills. They shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him who was separate from his brothers.”*

There are two insights I want to share with you. Most Christians who go to church every Sunday don't actually understand these. As you read this book, you need to catch these insights and apply it to your life.

Understanding the Difference between the Old-Timers and the New Generation

Who are the old timers? The old timers are the elderly people in the faith while the new generation refers to the young people. The old timers are people within the age of 50 years and above. The old timers are also those we read about in the Bible and the giants of faith that are long gone.

The old timers have results while the new generation have revelation (insight) and prophecies.

The difference in action is that the new generation are always excited with fresh revelation and rejoice while waiting for the revelation to manifest itself. But the old timers will receive the revelation and afterward get into prayers (most often with fasting) with the revelation.

Why the old timers get results? They prayed the message they heard into manifestation in their lives. Most young believers aren't intentional to pray the message they heard in church into manifestation in their lives.

The old timers understand the process of birthing both revelation and prophecies. While the new generation will always keep prophecies in their notes, the old timers will always take their prophecies into prayers to bring forth into manifestation what God has said.

Young people (the new generation) need to learn the path of the old timers. They should receive revelation and prophecies and seek to birth the manifestation of it in prayers.

Some people need to go take their prophecy book and start praying those things God promised them into manifestation. It's through prayers that you bring what is in the womb of prophecies into manifestation.

Some people need to declare three days or seven days of personal prayers to pray their prophecies into manifestation. You may schedule two hours daily for prayers seeking to birth what you have received into manifestation.

Identify anyone among the younger generation that you see achieving great results, they may not appear prayerful, but if you have access to their privacy, you will know they are intentional prayerful people. You may not see their prayers in public but you'll see their results.

Now, this kind of prayers you don't stop until you receive the spiritual signals that what you are praying about is settled. Anytime you are praying and you sense a feeling to pray more, it therefore means you must not stop. If you don't know what to pray about, keep praying in tongues. Keep praying in tongues until scriptures start jumping out of your spirit to declare and right words to declare start

flowing out of your mouth. Be like the old timers, pray! The people in scriptures prayed, the people with results and impacts prayed, you should pray too.

Why Men Miss Seasons

a. They are not transformed in their minds

To be transformed is to change the way you think. When your thinking change, your speaking and doing will also change.

You need to be filled with scriptural way of thinking which is also divine way of thinking. You need to discard certain mindset by parents, culture, environment and so on. The scripture is loaded with the thoughts of God, so as you meditate on scriptures, the thoughts of God will be clearer to you.

A new season can't recognize you if it meets you the way you used to think.

A young lady who graduated from a university sometimes two years ago said to me recently that she concluded that anyone ahead of you in life that give you attention out of their time should be well appreciated. She confessed that she used to think some people are just pretending to be busy but when she got into real life, she discovered life will make

you busier when you take it seriously. After I heard her words, I concluded that entitlement mentality has departed from her and her thinking had changed. That's the person that won't miss seasons. Such will always maximize every opportunity she has and won't miss seasons of opportunities.

You must trust the Lord to send knowledge and understanding that will change your thinking to you.

You must also trust the Lord to send people, books and teachings that will change your thinking to you.

You may need to pray to God to send whatever He has to change your thinking.

b. People miss seasons because they are not swift to carry out certain responsibility

a. If you won't miss seasons of blessings, lifting and promotion, you must constantly find out what to be done.

b. A slow doer will always miss seasons of events in their lives.

c. People miss seasons because they get distracted. If you aren't focused to accomplish something, you will always miss seasons. Don't be distracted by the challenges around your life. Whatever you are going through is for a short time, so focus on the needful.

d. People miss seasons because they aren't sensitive to what their new season requires. A leading

from God is enough to settle a season of life. Sometimes all the Spirit of God will do is to remind you of something you have neglected or abandoned that needs to be done for relevance in your life. So, be sensitive to the leading of the Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit can't miss a season, so if you follow Him, you won't miss seasons.

What is Constant Activation of Blessings at the Top

Constant activation of the blessing at the top refers to constant flow of the blessing on top. In other words, blessings must constantly flow towards your direction regularly.

The text in opening of this chapter is a revelation of the blessing pronounced on Joseph by his father Jacob.

“By the God of your father who will help you, and by the Almighty who will bless you. With blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lies beneath, blessings of the breasts and of the womb. The blessings of your father have excelled the blessings of my ancestors, up to the utmost bound of the everlasting hills. They shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him who was separate from his brothers.”

Let's identify the various blessings stated in that passage:

1. The blessing of heaven

This manifest as favor, riches, divine empowerment on you and so on. This come directly from God.

2. The blessing of the deep on earth

This manifest as resources on the earth. Gold, silvers, diamond, oil, cars, houses, jets, money, and so on. This comes through your work or gifts from people.

3. The blessing of breasts and womb

This manifest as people. There is a blessing that makes rich and there's a blessing that brings people. This is the blessing that brings people. Remember that babies come from the womb and suck breasts. So, the blessing of breasts and womb ensures that you have people in your life. This is the blessing you see manifest in ministries and churches that have multitudes. A business person that carries this blessing will have many workers and multitude of clients or customers.

4. The blessing of your father.

This is the blessing of a father - biological or spiritual. In the case of Jacob blessing his children, he wasn't functioning biologically but spiritually. He blessed them as one with a prophetic unction on his

life.

Jacob said the blessing on him was more than the blessing of his ancestors. Catch this, whoever carries the blessing of the former generation has more blessing than the former generation.

You can see the four categories of blessings on Joseph.

The father of Joseph blessed him many times but this was the last blessings he pronounced on him.

These four categories blessings should be activated on your life. And we shall examine how to activate each.

1. The blessing of heaven.

Proverbs 10:22 reveals the blessing of God that makes rich. This blessing of God is the blessing from heaven. This blessing can make you rich spiritually, mentally, materially, and so on.

When God promised to bless Abram in Genesis 12:2, He meant to bless Abram with the blessing from heaven. In Genesis 22:17, God told Abraham that in blessing, He would bless him.

To constantly activate the blessing of God, take time to reread chapter three to find out what's required to be blessed. You will discover the things that are in connection with the blessing. And each of those things can activate the blessing in your life.

Let's just emphasize three among many you must not stop to keep the blessing flowing to you.

a. Praying. 1Chron. 4:10

b. Giving. Acts 20:35, Malachi 3:10

c. Serving God. Job 36:11

You can't apply these three things shared with you and not activate the blessing of God on your life.

2. The blessing of the deep. Job 1:10

God blessed the work of Job and as such Job had plenty possessions. The blessing that makes rich rests on his work and riches came from his work.

If you lazy never expect the blessing of the deep.

If you are not creative, diligent, hardworking, networking, etc., you may not enjoy this blessing. You must be giving to searching out information to constantly get this blessing.

3. The blessing of the breast and womb

I will recommend you read the book I wrote titled "Managing Divine People."

Be loving and kind to people to sustain this blessing. People stay in the lives of those who love them and are kind to them. You can't be hurting people and sustain this blessing.

Sometimes, when a person leaves your life, a blessing has left your life.

When God sees that you're kind to people, He'll

keep multiplying favor upon your life and keep sending new people to you.

4. The blessing of your father

Seek the blessing of your biological father and spiritual father. Every blessing by a father will always add to you. Never joke with the blessing of a father.

As long as a father figure keep pronouncing blessings on you, the flow of blessings will continue. Through blessings by a father, Jacob the father took the firstborn blessings that belongs to Reuben and transferred it to another.

Through the father's blessings, the younger (Jacob) received the blessing that belongs to the elder (Esau).

Some people see spiritual fathers like political godfather. They thought spiritual fathers is just a way of dignifying some people but that is wrong. Spiritual fathers are set in place to represent God the Father to men on earth.

Spiritual fathers are the second in the class of fatherhood next to the Heavenly Father.

The Heavenly Father sets spiritual fathers so they can be His voice to people and His hand on the heads of people. Blessings will keep flowing to you when you cherish the blessing of a father figure.

Shining at the Top

Isaiah 60:2-3 says *“For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; but the Lord will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you. The Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.”*

Prophetic words

1st Prophetic word: God’s glory shall be seen upon you from now. In other words, you will do things that will bring glory to God.

2nd Prophetic word: The Gentiles (strangers and new people) shall come to your light (they shall begin to hear about you and visit you).

3rd Prophetic word: Kings (Dignitaries, important people) shall come to the brightness of your rising.

Two things to note:

1. Kings (those on top) can't come to you when you are at the bottom or at low places in life. Kings only come to those on top. You must be on top. You have to be on top to be visited by those on top. You must make up your mind to occupy important position in life, in your industry and nation. You must seek out the skill or qualifications you need to acquire that will reposition you for the top. You must understudy what those you desire to be like in your industry or business are doing that you can also emulate. Some people need to get some certification in their industry to be repositioned. You must never be at the low places, you must be on top. You must be the head and leader wherever you find yourself.
2. Until you shine on top, you can't draw attention. You must not just be on top, you must shine on top.

What Does it Mean to Shine on Top

1. To shine on top is to be the example others (both those on top and bottom) wants to copy. 1 Thessalonians 1:6-8

- That means whatever you do and who you are is attractive, excellent and desirable.
- Paul mentioned that the Thessalonians Christians were examples to the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.
- Your profile should be full of achievement that will create desires in others to desire to be like you. And as men desire to be like you, you represent God to them.

2. To shine on top is to be a Godly influence to others. 1 Timothy 4:12

- To influence is to affect the way people think or act.
- Some people believe that there's no benefits in serving God. When someone serving God begins to prosper, that person becomes an influence and change the way those people think and acts towards God.

3. To shine on top is to attract souls into God's kingdom with our testimony of success, excellence and greatness.

- Your testimony can't give people salvation but

can stir up their hearts to give attention to you.

- Somebody said that unbelievers don't have Bibles and even if they have Bibles, they don't read the Bibles. The Christian is the Bible that the unbeliever reads. No wonder you do some things sometimes and they say, "you claim to be a Christian". As Christians, we are to bring souls to God with our testimony of success, excellence and greatness.
- When people know that God is the secret behind your success, they will be attracted to your God.
- It's easy to invite successful and great people like yourself to God. A nonentity can't easily win a dignitary into the kingdom.
- A governor can easily win the soul of another governor into the kingdom. A CEO can easily win another CEO into the kingdom. How can a beggar win a governor into the kingdom?

4. To shine on top is to function as a voice and force

- God positions his people, He positioned Daniel, Joseph, Esther and Joseph of Arimathea, in their days so that they can serve as voices for the Kingdom. When it is time to speak concerning Godly values in the National Assembly or whatever it is, you're able to do so as a voice of the Kingdom

so that it is not only the voice of the world, the secular system, the antichrist or the anti-God that is speaking where there's a need to speak.

- You must be heard and be reckoned with by people.

Get this

In Matthew 5:14-16, we are shown we are the light of the world, a city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Jesus proceeded to say, let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your father in heaven.

There are six things the Scripture makes clear:

1. We are the light of the world.
2. We are a city set on a hill (that is top places of the earth).
3. We must not be hidden
4. You must let your light so shine
5. Men must see your good works
6. What you do must bring glory to God

You are set at the top and expected to shine for others to see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. The purpose of your shining is to bring glory to the Father.

How to Continuously Shine on Top

1. Capture a picture of the next level God wants you to be. Habakkuk 2:1-3

- Someone need to capture the picture that God wants him to be the governor of a state while another need to capture the picture that God wants him to take over the industry.
- Until you capture a picture of where God wants you to be, you don't yet have a vision for the top.

2. Find out the steps to take and begin to take the steps to reaching the next level God wants you to be little by little.

- Nobody gets to his or her desired destination in a day.
- Direction is superior to vision.
- The direction will show you the requirements and process to go through.
- Direction will show you to learn new skills.
- No direction, no destination.

3. Be the best and do the best among the best. Proverbs 22:29

- The top is a place for the best. So, when you get

- on top, keep doing and being the best.
- Excellence is being the best and doing the best.
 - Excellence doesn't beg for attention.
 - When you're excellent, people may envy you but they can't despise you.
 - To be excellent is to excel in performance.
 - Laziness and excellence don't go together.
 - If you want to get to the top, you don't walk on the ladder of mediocrity, you walk on the ladder of excellence. Ecclesiastes 9:10.
 - Adequate preparation for your task is always needed.
 - Always think ahead about your task and find out how it can be done the best.
 - Never be replaceable. Be needed and noticed.
 - Shining at the top is not by words but by works. Your work is the secret to shining at the top.
 - If you have no work you're doing, you can't shine at the top.
 - Even if you don't yet have a job, find something to do. Never be idle.

Dealing with Darkness

There are certain signs that shows that a person or people is covered with darkness. Invisibility is a sign of darkness. You see, whenever anyone isn't visible – that is, not seen and noticeable, it's

either the person is in the wilderness or in darkness. The wilderness is a representation of process of life that people go through. There are people not yet visible not because they are in darkness but because God still kept them in the wilderness for them to be trained and kept till their appointed time of manifestation. Luke 1:80 reveals that John the Baptist was in the wilderness until the time of his manifestation to Israel. Sometimes, when a person or what he does isn't noticeable or attract attention, it could be because the person hasn't been released from the womb of process. There will always be a process that makes a product ready. You see, the process that makes a product ready isn't visible to consumers, it's the product that is visible to them. And of a truth, process shouldn't be visible, it should be hidden. It is the perfect version of a product that should be visible. When the process, training, exposure of a person is complete, that person will surely come into the time of manifestation.

Now, there are people that aren't in the wilderness, they are in darkness. Darkness shall cover the earth and gross darkness the people but God's people should not be covered with it. Both you and what you do must be visible. No visibility, no prosperity. Whatever can't be seen shouldn't expect blessings, profit, patronage to flow towards its direction. You can't be demanded for when you aren't noticeable.

You see, darkness or cloud of darkness cast over people, products, companies, ministries, families only work on the mind of people. Darkness cast over people influences the mind of the person that should be seen and on the mind of those who should see such. We are going to deal with two aspects. We will deal with certain signs that manifest in the life of a person that is covered with darkness. I will also show you certain signs that manifest when the people that should see you are covered with darkness.

I want to give you certain signs you will see that will make you know that darkness is cast over a person.

1. When you hate publicity

I believe that in the age we are in, darkness is cast over anyone that hate social media. You can't be seeking visibility and hate publicity. Publicity enhances visibility. If you don't value advert or marketing, you can't be visible and when you aren't visible, how can you shine at the top?

I have met people in life, especially pastors and leaders who in their hearts desire certain level of influence and wants to reach some far places but failed to give intentionality to publicity. In fact, many of them hate to be shown or talked about publicly. Yes, you may love a quiet life, but quiet

life doesn't mean you should hate publicity. If you will not show the world you and your work, they won't see it. And in the market of influence, if you can't be seen, you don't exist.

Most times, when I hear some people, I know they are lying. You will hear some people say that I don't like to be seen or known, in fact, some will say I don't like publicity, yet in the core being of their hearts, they know that their heart is yearning for visibility, so when they can't achieve it, they will talk against it by pretending not to like it. That's wrong. You don't talk fowl and pretend not to like what you desire. You see, everyone loves to be seen and noticeable. If anyone says I don't like to be seen and noticeable, the person is lying. Yes, you may be a shy person when the eyes of many are on you, but to say you don't like being noticeable or seen, you are lying. God is not against being noticeable, that's why Jesus said let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works. Shine your light by doing and showing good works. If you are doing your work but not showing it, darkness is on your mind. Most people know how to do their work, but don't know how to show it. That's the reason only them know that they are doing well but the world can't say they are doing well because the world doesn't know. It's what you show that people will see. If you can show you, they will know you.

The brothers of Jesus spoke to him in John 7:3-4. See what Jesus' brothers said to him *"His brothers therefore said to Him, "Depart from here and go into Judea, that Your disciples also may see the works that You are doing. For no one does anything in secret while he himself seeks to be known openly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world."*

I love the words I caught from this scripture. I hope you know that when the brothers of Jesus told Him those words, he didn't rebuke them that he didn't want to be known, he only mentioned that His time hasn't yet come. What time was He talking about? The time to be known (season of His visibility). Obviously, the brothers of Jesus knew that Jesus wanted to be known for what He was doing. That's it! If Jesus wasn't against being known, why should you be against being known?

I hope you know that Jesus was already doing somethings but his disciples (multitude of followers) didn't know. Jesus' brothers were not referring to the twelve disciples here but multitude of his followers. Jesus was performing some miracles indoors that were only known to His family, so his brothers counseled Him to go to places where He would be seen. In their words, they said "no one does anything in secrets while he himself seeks to be known openly." The issue isn't that some aren't doing things but they are doing it in secrets. Another

way to explain what Jesus' brothers meant was go public.

Let me break and compare scriptures to you here. His brothers saw Him performed some miracles and told him to go and do it in public before His followers. What was his response? He said "my time has not yet come." So, notice his response was about time. When you read John 2, you will see that Jesus mother came to him that the wine at the wedding finished. She was indirectly telling him to perform the miracle of turning water to wine. What was Jesus' response? He said "His hour had not yet come." Evidently, His mother had seen Him turned water to wine in their house before and she came to Him to perform in public what He had done in secrets in their house. His mother was indirectly telling Him to go public with what He had been doing in privacy. I hope you remember that His mother told the servants to do whatever He tells them to do! Why didn't she go to the servants to tell them that? It's because she saw that He had told his brothers to do somethings in privacy which they did that led to the miracles indoors. You see, that sermon Mary preached to the servants to do whatever He asked them to do, had been preached by Jesus Himself to His brothers in privacy. So, what He told His brothers privately, His mother told the servants at the wedding publicly.

Many years ago, I heard from Dr. Mike Murdock never to keep wasting your time to teach one person alone in privacy, you may do that occasionally. He said go public with teaching many. Most preachers just want to preach to their members alone without knowing that those outside also need their message. If they understand this, they will take social media seriously. Business people, companies and big organizations know the power of social media today and they keep spending money on it so that their visibility can increase. Painfully, it's those that are not yet noticeable that won't see investing on social media as something important. If you don't get what you are doing or what you offer on social media or other enhancing media, darkness has been cast on you. Visibility is worth contending for, spend and invest in it. Sadly, most people only resolved to praying that they should be visible but aren't investing financially and creatively on publicity. Remember this, it's what you show that will make you a show. Don't just pray to be seen, show yourself and your works. I hope you know that nobody will help you do your publicity except you pay for it. That is why you must be bold to show and talk about what you do publicly. If people will see your good works, you must be willing to show your good works. Most people waste their time showing their face and name on social media rather than showing their

works. Most people keep uploading new pictures when some others are uploading new adverts for their works. Be wise and be smart. Go public and let the world see what you do. Stop deceiving yourself, nobody (except your parents, siblings or spouse) will praise God for your fine face. Be intentional to start showing your good work.

2. When you fear publicity

Certain things aren't myth but real. However, you must not just permit the fear of the unknown to affect, you must be audacious and strong in faith that nothing will harm you. I remember few years ago, I was one of the few young people that started putting pictures on flyers for programs. In my early days, such wasn't common among young people in Nigeria, we only know such with some popular preachers and music artistes. But then, we had been organizing programs for more than five years, so after about five years, I was moved and inspired to include pictures of speakers on flyers which was done. Oh my! You need to hear all kinds of words that were directed to me. In fact, family members spoke a lot and their words were driven by fear of attacks and so on. I remember how someone closer to me, an elderly one at that told me to be full of prayers because the spiritual attacks that will follow that publicity would be too much. But while they

spoke those words, I never permitted fear to set in because my heart had been loaded with scriptures. Scriptures like *“touch not my anointed and do my prophets no harm”*, *“In gathering, they shall gather but not for my sake for whoever gather for your sake shall be scattered.”* You know faith is stirred up when you are loaded with words from scriptures rather than words of men. Anytime fear of a thing wants to come in, always open your mouth to declare what you want and keep meditating on those scriptures

Few years ago, we put on a billboard for a program and my picture was there. I remember a young brother called me almost crying that his father said “did I know the implications of that and can I bear with the attack that comes with it.” I had to shut that down and told him I can’t be attacked. You see, if you fear spiritual attacks, you will remain in darkness. You’ve got to let aside your fears and get into publicity. Satan hates publicity of good people and things. If you are at the top but failed to engage publicity, you can’t shine at the top.

It is time God’s children starts engaging publicity. Satan loves bad things to be projected and good things to be hidden. Let’s go all out to show the works of God. It is easy to be recommended for the top when you are noticeable.

3. Fear of Criticism

You can't be shining and not be criticized. Every divine promotion will always attract opposition. If you don't shine, you will be mocked and if you shine, you will be criticized. You must never fear the criticism of people. I remember many years ago, when we started engaging publicity minimally, we were criticized and I was called all kind of names. But I deafened my ears to those words and remained focus. You see, the more you are criticized, the more you publicize. Never allow the criticism of haters to affect your publicity.

You must develop strong mind that believes that criticism is also a medium of publicity. Don't attack or fight your critics, if you do, you are doing free publicity for them. Just leave them to keep criticizing while you continue publicizing. The criticism of haters and your publicity has double your noticeability. Why? You are publicizing and your haters are also indirectly publicizing you. Shine in the presence of your haters for God wants you to shine. Never stop doing what will cause the glory of God to be seen on you. Let your impact be felt everywhere and every time.

Two Kinds of Work You Must Have

1. You must know your personal (daily) work.

This makes you an employee or entrepreneur. What do you do for living? This is the work that brings you daily or monthly income. Take this work seriously.

You must do this work in a way that your employer, customer or clients will always need you.

Never work anyhow. Be intentional.

2. You must know your kingdom work.

Every believer should have a role to carry out in God's kingdom.

The church is the representation of God's kingdom on earth. If you have no work in the church,

you have no work in the kingdom.

Be a worker in your church and also win souls. Soul winners are the good workers.

A chorister that sings in the church is shining before men. The preacher that preaches is shining before men. The person who clean the church that is known to the church leadership is shining before men.

Have the heart to serve God in the kingdom and you will bring glory to God.

Whatever you are doing in the kingdom, be consistent with it.

Regularly pray that God should help you to carry out your task well so that even when you should be weak, you will be strong.

Avoid Rigidity

What God said yesterday can persecute what He says today. Be flexible and never be rigid!

Those are too rigid can't change when the season demands a change. You can't remain on top when you aren't flexible to adjust to changes.

The person of God doesn't change but His methods changes. He said I am the Lord your God and I change not. It is His personality and principles that doesn't change, His methods always change.

If you can't change, you will soon be changed.

Rigid people are easily replaceable at the top when the season changes. With a new season come a new people with new methods. If you don't know how to adapt new people and new method into your system, you will soon become history.

Many years ago, I know a brother who said he won't change the way he used to dress. Later when the people he was mentoring that season grew, they eventually left him and moved to other stars to mentor them. Nobody wants to cue behind something or someone that isn't moving.

Learn from God. God is not rigid. When Moses convinced Him on reasons He shouldn't kill the Israelites, the Bible says God repented. To repent means to change the way you think.

You can't forever be on top when you are not aware of the changes and improvement taking place in your industry or country. You must be connected with people smarter than you so you can be on the watch for the changes taken place in your realm.

Be a Top Person Forever

There are top doctors, top pastors, top CEOs, top technicians, top churches, top companies, top hospitals, top nations. Be among the top. I wrote about the book titled "High Flyers!"

You must not be a top person for a season or for

some years, you must be that top person forever. God's word says you shall be above only. That means it is not permitted for you to be above yesterday and beneath today.

I heard Pastor Paul Enenche once shared that when he was in the board of regents of Covenant University, whenever there was board meeting, he would read as if he was going for exams because the visionary has the vision to make that University to be part of the top twenty university in the world by the year of 2020 at that time. He said he would read about Havard, Oxford, Cambridge, John Hopkins, ten top universities in the world to find out what made them top so that when they say, 'talk', he won't be speechless. Oral Roberts said, "everybody wants to say something but not everybody has what to say". After listening to his point, I concluded that if you want to remain on top, you have to intentionally study those who have stayed longer on top to really find out the secret of their longevity on top.

Don't just pray to be on top forever, find out the secrets of those who are already there to know the principles and systems they applied that kept them there for long. God will do His part when you pray but you also should be ready to do your part.

You are not ready to be on top forever if you haven't studied the top five to ten percent in your industry or profession realm. How will you be part

of the top five when you don't know what some top five have done to remain there. Many believers are too lazy to search out facts that the only thing they know to do is prayer. Let me tell you, many believers don't pray as much as some of us do, yet, we give ourselves to getting facts here and there. I must tell you that I am giving to searching out facts. I am a ministry person but I am well informed about the structure of the top ten percent of churches and ministries in my country, Africa and the world at large. Let me even tell you, I have read and can tell you the point of breakthrough and secret to the longevity of the top ten preachers in my country, Africa and at the global level. And I must say that this I am talking about isn't about reading some facts about God's general. I am not talking about that. I am talking about certain facts that are not commonly and generally shared.

If you research about top people, you will discover that everyone that had stayed longer on the top radar are secret students of some top people too. Yes, I know God lift people, but you may need to find out what some people did that God used to lift them up. Make up your mind that you will be part of the top ten percent in your industry.

Pastor Paul Enenche shared a point I believe every public speaker and preachers need to learn from. He said "When we go for meetings with our

Father in the Lord (Bishop David Oyedepo), many times, you will have few minutes notice to make a presentation, if you're lucky, you can have overnight to make preparation. But he has trained himself that irrespective of the notice, what would be prepared in a short time can be a week delivery that is pushed into forty minutes."

You see, the engagement when you get on top is always different. You must always be ready when you are on top. Even for what you aren't prepared for, you must be ready. If you are always ready, you will always catch up with every opportunity that come your way.

Rise to Your Next Top

You're a city set on a hill not a village located in the pit or a clan located in the valley. Whatever is your profession, God designed that you rise to the top of it. Whatever you do with your life, the top of it is your place. Are you in the academic realm? You're to become a Professor, then the Head of Department, then the Dean of the faculty, then the Deputy Vice-chancellor, then the Vice-chancellor. Are you in the legal realm? What is your practice? If you're practicing on the bench, rise all the way to become the judge at the highest level. If you're practicing at the bar, ensure you rise to become the Senior

Advocate of Nigeria, just rise to the highest level. If you're a Medical Doctor practicing, go all the way to rise to the top in your field. Be the top doctor in your field. If you are a businessman, go all the way and become a multi-billionaire businessman with employees under you. As a politician, rise to the highest possible level, go to the level where you're an influence in that realm. God said you shall be above only, you shall not be beneath. That is a commandment and it's as good as "thou shall not kill". Do everything you need to do so that you rise to the top.

I made up my mind that there's nothing I would have done in life that will keep me in the pit, nothing. When I was at the University, my level adviser lectured one of the lecturers in our department at undergraduate level. As at the time I got to 400 level, that level adviser had not yet completed her PhD while the lecturer she taught at undergraduate already got her PhD. About three years later, I visited the school only to discover that the student to the lecturer was now the Head of Department. In other words, the student was ranked above her lecturer. The reason that student rose to the top above the lecturer that taught her was because she proceeded to get her PhD while her lecturer was still holding on to Master's Degree.

Whatever you do, if you're not upgraded, you

become outdated, outmoded and antiquated. As a medical Doctor, you're running a private clinic and you're just settled as a private practitioner, it's okay. You can run a private clinic but at least become a consultant general practitioner, at least get something and just move forward.

Refuse to settle for less. Put yourself under pressure to rise to the top. Obey the command to be above only and never come down. Find out the requirement to rising to the top in your realm and fulfill it. never come down again.

The Power of Routine

It is only those who don't give up day and night that will eventually breakthrough. I want to talk to you about faithful in the routine. There are times in life we feel like we're going in circles. We're doing the right thing, but not making much progress. We don't see anything changing, and it's easy to lose our passion and get discouraged. But one test we all have to pass is being faithful when nothing new is happening. When you're working hard, but not getting the credit? You're being your best, but your marriage isn't improving. You're honoring God, but not seeing increase. When you trust him when it feels like you're going in circles, will you stay passionate when you're doing the same thing again

and again?

God rewards faithfulness. When you're faithful in the routine, something is happening that you can't see. Your character is being developed. Your spiritual muscles are getting stronger. You're being prepared for where God is taking you, and the routineness of life is not exciting, but it is necessary. You won't become all you were created to be without being your best when it's mundane, doing the right thing with a good attitude another month. You could see it as boring. "When is this going to change?" But you understand this principle, you're being prepared, and when God can trust you to be faithful in the ordinary, then he'll take you into the extraordinary.

Faithfulness keep you going when nobody is encouraging and celebrating you. When you're faithful in average days, then you will see exceptional days. But sometimes, we're frustrated because we know we have more in us, but we're not seeing it happen. We don't understand why we're not making progress, but God will always put bigger things in your spirit before they come to pass, and you may be dealing with something mediocre, but God is preparing you for something great.

David was anointed to be the king as a young man, then God sent him back to the shepherd's fields. He had a king's anointing, yet he was taking care of

sheep. Your anointing will supersede where you are right now. God called David to rule a nation, but he was doing a menial task. Day in and day out, nothing exciting, boring, routine. He could've gotten discouraged, "God, why isn't it happening? You said I would be the king". If he had not passed this test of being faithful in the routine, he would've never taken the throne, and like David, you may know you have more in you, you can feel those seeds of greatness, but you're doing something menial, something beneath your training. You're being overlooked at work; nobody takes your advice. At home, nobody says thank you. It's just another ordinary day. I'm asking you to be faithful where God has you now. Be faithful in the routine.

This is where David excelled. Out in the shepherd's fields, he didn't slack off, he didn't show up late. He didn't have a sour attitude, thinking, "When I get to where I'm going, then I'll give it my all. When I take the throne, then I'll show people what I'm made of". No, he showed what he was made of when nobody was watching. He understood he wasn't working unto people, he was working unto God, and he was excellent where God had him even though he didn't like it, and that's what led to the throne, all those ordinary days of being his best. Are you being excellent where God has you now? "Well, you may say, this is not where I want to be. I don't want to

work for this supervisor, I know more than him. I don't want to live in this apartment, I want my own house. Many wants to get to the stage when they are not faithful where they are. Here's the key. You'll never make it to the stage if you're not faithful where you are. You won't see promotion if you're not being your best where God has you right now.

Faithful in the routine is what prepares you for promotion, and you may feel like you're going in circles. You're not making much progress, but the right attitude is, "I may not like where I am, but God, since you have me here, I know this is where I'm supposed to be. So, I'm going to keep being my best, giving, serving, helping others right where I am". If you live from big event to big event, waiting for something exciting to keep you encouraged, you'll be disappointed. Learn to enjoy where God has you right now. This is the day the Lord has made. It may be routine, it may feel like you're no closer to your dreams than you were years ago, but when you do the ordinary with a good attitude, that's getting you prepared for the new things God has in store, and sometimes, the reason God is not changing the circumstances is he's using the circumstances to change us, and if we'll start passing these tests, being patient when it's taking longer than we like, staying in faith when we're not getting our way, having a smile even when we're uncomfortable,

we're growing, we're developing, we're showing God that we trust him, and like with David, that's when you'll not just be anointed for the throne, you'll take your throne.

When Joshua was leading the Israelites toward the Promised Land, they came to the city of Jericho. It was surrounded by a huge wall, 15 feet wide, 35 feet thick. There was no way in the natural for the Israelites to get past that wall and make it to the Promised Land, and Joshua prayed and asked God what they should do, and God told him to have the Israelites march around the city of Jericho. I'm sure Joshua thought, "God, we need to get in the city, and you're telling us to walk around it? You want us to go in circles?" They marched the first day and nothing happened, second day nothing happened, third day nothing. The whole time, the people thought, "This is a waste of time. This doesn't make sense". Six days they walked in circles, ordinary, routine, didn't see anything changing. On the seventh day, God told them to march around seven times. The last time, they were to let out a great shout and blow their trumpets, and when they did, those huge walls came tumbling down, a great miracle. But even though the walls fell, the Israelites should have had trouble getting past all the rubble, the debris, the walls were so big. But researchers have found the walls fell in such a way that it created a perfect ramp. Some fell

on the inside, some on the outside, and just like an overpass, the Israelites were able to go in and take the land, and when you're faithful in the routine, God will make things happen that you couldn't make happen. You may have been doing the right thing for a long time. You feel like you're being left out, you're being fallen behind, but God is closely watching you. He sees you walking around the walls. He sees you doing the right thing even though nothing is changing.

Your time is coming. It's going to happen suddenly, unexpectedly. What looked like an ordinary day is going to turn out to be an exceptional day. You thought you'd have to march around another month, another year, suddenly those walls are going to come down. God has explosive blessings. No wall is too big, no obstacle too high, no enemy too powerful. One touch of God's favor can catapult you years ahead. The Psalmist said, "You can run through a troop and leap over a wall". God will get you to where you're supposed to be. But why did God have them march around in circles seven days, do the same thing over and over? It seemed like a waste of time, didn't make sense. He's God. He could've brought the walls down the first time Joshua asked. But marching around that city was a test. God wanted to see, would they be faithful in the routine? Would they trust him when they

were going in circles? Would they do the right thing when it seemed ordinary? You're not always going to understand why something isn't changing, why you're not making progress, why those people won't treat you right. Don't get caught up in the whys, it is simply a test. Keep being faithful where you are, and those walls will come down. When they were marching around the city, God told them to not say a word. They couldn't whisper to each other, they couldn't discuss the situation. God knew if he didn't keep them quiet, they would've talked themselves out of it. "Why are we walking around? Joshua has lost his mind. I'm tired, I'm hot, I'm thirsty". If they would've gone around the walls with a negative report, even though they were doing the right thing, it would not have happened.

Sometimes ago, I read an interesting story from Joel Osteen. He said "My father and mother started Lakewood with ninety people in 1959. My dad had been overseas holding meetings with tens of thousands of people, but he knew he was supposed to come back and pastor Lakewood. But for thirteen years, it was like my father was hidden. The church didn't grow, and my father was a great minister, he was dynamic, he was anointed, but all these gifts, all this ability was going unnoticed. He wasn't being celebrated like he'd been overseas. He wasn't seeing growth and increase. But those thirteen years

my father was hidden, he preached to the ninety people like he was preaching to ninety thousand. He gave it his all. He was there three services a week, never took time off. He lived to pour in to those ninety people. He could've gotten discouraged, "God, why am I not seeing any growth"? Instead, he was faithful in the routine, faithful when he wasn't being celebrated, faithful when he wasn't making much progress. He was spinning. What he couldn't see was if he was coming up higher. His character was being developed. He was showing God what he was made of."

I found the story above interesting because it spoke to me at a certain stage in my life. If you're not faithful when you're hidden, how can God trust you to be faithful when you're out in the open? And the scripture says when Moses could be hidden no longer, his mother put him in a basket and sent him floating down the Nile river. Out of all the people that could've found him, it just so happened Pharaoh's daughter was at the riverbank taking a bath. She heard the cries coming from the basket, she took Moses in and raised him in the palace as her own son. Moses went from being hidden to being noticed by one of the most influential families of that day, and when you pass the test of being faithful in the routine, there will come a time where God will say, "You can be hidden no longer". He will

cause the right people to see you, the right people to celebrate you. You'll not only be noticed, but you will be celebrated.

Those thirteen years Joel Osteen's father was hidden, but in 1972, it was like God brought him out into the open. The church began to grow from a couple hundred to thousands and thousands. But you may feel like you've been hidden, overlooked, ignored. Stay encouraged, God is about to bring you out. His face is going to shine down on you in a new way. You're not going to have to make it happen. Like Pharaoh's daughter, the right people are going to find you. Doors are going to open that you couldn't open. Promotion is going to track you down.

Keep Doing the Right Thing till the Right Time Comes

In John chapter 2, Jesus was at a wedding in Galilee. His mother came to him and said they had run out of wine. Jesus told the workers to fill up the stone pots with water. There were six of them, they held thirty gallons each. That was one hundred and eighty gallons of water that they needed. If the workers took a three-gallon bucket down to the well, that would take sixty trips to get that much water. I could imagine the workers thinking, "What are we

doing this for? We need wine. Why are we pumping water”? They could’ve talked themselves out of it. Instead, they kept doing the ordinary, pumping the water, filling the pots again and again, trip after trip, faithful in the routine. It was water when they pumped it out and water when they poured it into the pots. Would’ve been easy to stay in faith if, when they drew it out of the well, it suddenly turned to wine. Or if when they poured it into the pots, they saw the miracle right then, they would’ve been excited. But nothing was changing. It was routine, ordinary, looked like they were going in circles. But when God can trust you to be faithful getting water, faithful when nothing is happening, faithful when it seems ordinary, then he will take you into the extraordinary, and you may be believing for wine, but all you’re seeing is water. Be faithful in your water days. Someone may say, “Well, I’m just doing the ordinary. I’m just going to work, being my best, raising my children, honoring God, but I’m not making any progress.” Don’t be discouraged by what you don’t see. You’re in your water days. The good news is, wine is coming. It’s going to happen suddenly; it’s going to be unexpected.

After these workers filled up the pots, after they were faithful in their water days, Jesus told them to draw some out and take it to the host of the party. When they did, it not only turned into wine, but

when the host tasted it, he said, “You have saved the best wine for last”. When you pass this test of being faithful in the routine, God has saved the best for last. What’s in your future is going to be more rewarding, more exciting than anything you’ve imagined.

Now, I’m challenging you to stay faithful in the routine, stay faithful when you’re going in circles. Remember, the spinning is working for you. It’s getting you prepared for the new things God has in store, and many of you have passed this test, you’ve been faithful day in and day out. Well, I believe and declare, like Joshua, the walls that have held you back are about to come tumbling down. Like Moses, you may have been hidden, but you’re about to come out into the open. God is going to turn your water into wine, take you into the fullness of your destiny in Jesus’ name. Your right time of manifestation is near. Blessed be God forever and blessed are you.

Never Stop Seeing

You stop being on top the day you stop seeing. To remain on top forever, you must keep seeing forever. That is seeing beyond the moment, seeing the next five to ten years while in the present day. Vision helps you to consider the ultimate instead of being consumed by the immediate. There are people who are so absorbed by the immediate that they don’t

have any plan for the future. It is saying to yourself who am I? Where will my life be in the next five years? Where will it be in the next ten years? Where will it be in the next twenty years?

The vision of today determines the reality of tomorrow. What is not your vision today cannot become your reality tomorrow. What you mind envisions determines where you end. What you don't see coming will never come. If you don't see it coming, it will never come. A life left to chance has no chance. If you live your life to chance, that life has no chance. It is a life lived by vision that is guaranteed a destination. If you don't know where you are going, you will not like where you will end. Where you are going is your life assignment. James Allen once said, "You cannot travel inside and stand still outside". If you go forward by vision, your life will go forward with motion.

A man had a vision to construct a large building that cost millions of dollars. He made plans and constructions started. This cost millions of dollars, the money was not available when the building started but vision is a commander of provision. Everywhere there is vision, it will command the provision. Don't think of what you have first, think of what you want and then what you want will take care of what you have.

What do you see coming? That is what shall come

your way. While the brothers of Joseph were whiling away their time at home, Joseph was busy dreaming about the future. What are you dreaming about? Are you dreaming about the future? Or you are regretting your past?

The fact is that what does not cross your mind cannot cross your life. If it cannot cross your mind, it cannot cross your life. If it does not occur to you, it cannot occur for you. If you can't imagine it, it cannot emerge. When your heart is empty, your future is empty. It takes a loaded heart to have a loaded future. You can achieve whatever you imagine. A man once said if you can see the invisible, you can do the impossible. Whatever you can't achieve is what you haven't seen.

Possess a Firm Conviction

You must be a man or woman of conviction not a person that is easily movable by what is moving everybody. Joseph was a man of conviction; he knew what he wanted. David was a man of conviction too. When he came to the battlefield and his brother Eliab said, "What are you doing here"? David said, 'Leave me alone! Is there not a cause? If you don't see any reason why I need to bring down this man, I see reason! That's conviction!

Conviction is powerful. Until you take a stand,

you cannot stand out in life. To stand out, you must take a stand. It is better to live by conviction than to live by consensus. There are so many people who don't have the mind of their own, they are waiting for people to do things before they know what to do, they are waiting for people to say something before they know what to say. Get this, to be driven by the crowd is to be drowned by the crowd and lost in the crowd! If your life is under the control of the crowd, very soon your destiny becomes buried in the crowd.

It was Martin Luther King Jr. that said, "The one who does not stand for something will fall for anything." Your generation must know your stand. What do you stand for? When your name is mentioned what comes to the minds of people? Catch this, if you don't have the mind of your own, your generation will not mind you. Have you seen people when they say, "Don't mind him, he is not important! What is that one talking, don't mind him!" If you don't have a mind, they will not mind you. And listen to this, if you don't have the mind of your own, you will end up living your life by the direction of other people's minds.

Many people don't have a conviction of how to live, walk, dress, etc. This is how everybody is walking today, let's walk like them, all right. Two weeks later, they have changed the walk, it is to the

other side now, okay let's walk like that. Oh, this is how everybody is dressing now, just walk about naked and you see them dress naked. People are just waiting for what to follow. A man told a story which I found interesting. He said "One day, I wore a dress and put a pocket square in a way and one man said to me, "This is no longer reigning, people don't put this in the pocket anymore!" So I asked him a question: 'Who determines what reigns? Who is the determinant of what we wear? I told him and said, 'If it is not reigning, I will reign it!' I found that story interesting and concluded that it's better you do things your own way. Don't be moved by trends, be creative and also reign a style.

God is looking for pacesetters. He is looking for trendsetters, trailblazers, road pointers and those who will take the lead and then others will follow. And you must make up your mind to be that person. The fact is that leaders are very few, visionaries are very few, people who stand for something, not easily bowed by people's opinions are very few. Most human beings are human opinion dependent; they are dependent on what people say. Most human beings are approval addict, even if they are doing the right thing and people say that it is not right they will abandon it because they want people to be happy with them, that is the way of irrelevance. That is the way not to matter in life. God is looking

for people who are ready to take a stand even if they are going to stand alone. If you will remain on top forever, ensure you have a strong conviction so you won't be swayed away by trends and other people's opinions.

Remain in Your Spiritual Family

Biologically, if you are the firstborn of a family, you lose your position and heritage the moment you disconnect from your family. Imagine that the firstborn of a family told everyone in the family that he no longer belongs to the family, automatically, another person will take his leadership position in that family. No position can be vacuum. This is the exact thing that takes place in a spiritual family too. When God puts you in a spiritual family, He positions you there. As long as you remain in that spiritual family, you remain on top forever.

Spiritually, one of the ways to forever be on top is to remain connected to your spiritual family. When I say spiritual family, I'm talking about the spiritual company of people you find yourself and your covering. God puts His people in families so

that nobody is solitary spiritually. Paul referred to the churches he wrote to as his children. In other words, he's a spiritual father and covering to those churches.

Your spiritual family offers you a spiritual company and spiritual covering. God establishes spiritual families that offer us spiritual company (the Church and the brethren) and spiritual covering (the Pastor or your spiritual father). It is always one spiritual company with one spiritual covering.

How to Discern Your Spiritual Family

1. You discern your spiritual family by revelation

Your spiritual company will be revealed to you by God. That is, you don't choose your company (place of worship) and you don't choose your covering (your spiritual father or pastor), God gives them to you. You have them as revealed you by God. (Jeremiah 3:15). God has ways through which He shows you who your spiritual father is. Your spiritual family headed by your spiritual father isn't your choice but God's choice.

2. You discern your spiritual family by finding out the place that strengthens your passion and spiritual aspirations

Every time you listen to your spiritual father or pastor, something is stirred up within you. Your spiritual family is identified by that place that resonates with your passion and spiritual aspirations. That is your kind of spirituality (Psalm 42:7). It is that location where the deep is calling to your deep. There's something inside you that is in agreement.

3. You discern your spiritual family by finding out who and where your heart is connected to

Your spiritual family is identified by that place or person with whom you feel a deep sense of spiritual connectivity. It feels like an umbilical connection, the way it is for mother and baby. In that place, you feel a deep sense of spiritual connectivity. With that person who is meant to be your spiritual father or pastor, there's that deep sense of spiritual connectivity. For example, you see Joshua and Moses in Exodus 33:11, Moses was on top of the mountain but Joshua was so connected to Moses that he could not even depart from the foot of the mountain. There was that deep connection. Also, the example of Elijah and Elisha. In 1 Kings 19:19-20, you'll see that Elisha met Elijah once and there was such a connectivity that he abandoned everything that he had been doing with his life and followed the stranger that he just met. That is a magnetic connectivity. He abandoned everything

and follow this man for life until something dropped. Your spiritual family is that place or that person with whom you feel the deep sense of spiritual connectivity. It didn't matter what others feel or don't feel. There may be others around Elijah when this happened but it didn't matter. The sons of the Prophets were all around but it didn't matter. This man just ran because of that connection.

4. You discern your spiritual family by finding out that place that looks like home and school

Your spiritual family is identified by that place that feels like home and school to you. You're at home when you're there and it feels like something is missing when you're not there. How is it like home? It is the place you go to report the devil when you're challenged. Acts 4:23. The head of the spiritual family isn't just a father to you but a teacher also. Your spiritual family is where you come to church or a special meeting and the message is going on and you're receiving the Word of God through your spiritual father or pastor and hearing God through that voice

5. You discern your spiritual family by finding out where and who represents God's voice to you

You don't struggle to encounter God in your

spiritual family. Your spiritual family is identified by that place where you hear and experience God easily. While the message is going on, you're hearing something. (Isaiah 30:20-21). While your teacher is teaching, you're hearing the voice of God inside your teacher's voice. Isaiah 30:21. Your spiritual family is your Bethel, the place of encounters, the place of open Heavens and the place to hear God. Your spiritual family, your spiritual covering especially is identified by the person whose voice or picture God uses to speak to you. God speaks to you using his voice or face where necessary. In this case, you're in your house or your closet, doing something else and God is using the voice of your spiritual father or pastor to speak to you and give you direction. 1 Samuel 3:3-10. Samuel was hearing the voice of God in the voice of Eli. God's Priest was Eli. God was speaking to Samuel but it was Eli's voice he was hearing until Eli had to tell him, "No. I perceive it's God talking to you." God uses the voice or the face of your spiritual covering to speak to you.

Let Your Spiritual Family be Easily Discerned Around You

Your spiritual family is identified by that place or person whose spirit people can discern around you. Like Elijah and Elisha, people said the spirit of Elisha thus rest on Elisha (2 Kings 2:15). It is like you carry a measure of their spiritual DNA. Even at times, you're not even aware yet. There are people that have been directed to me, they say, when they move, talk and walk, somebody would tell them, "do you know Apostle Niyi Makinde?" And sometimes, they will say, "no. I don't know him yet." They will say, "Okay. You better go and know him because there's something about you that is like something he carries." There are people who have connected their spiritual family because a certain residual spiritual DNA is detected.

There's something that makes it clear that this is where you belong. There are people forcing themselves to be in the wrong places because they want to be attached to some popular figures. I learned early that you don't choose your spiritual family and when you are connected to that spiritual family, people can detect the manifestation around you if you are deeply connected. I ministered at a church in Lagos about two years ago and a friend of mine in the United States of America called me

to say as he watched the video of my ministrations, he thought he was watching Pastor E. A. Adeboye. I smiled because I understood what he said. If you are truly connected to a spiritual father, the spirit of that person should reflect around you. May you not let any devil waste your life. There are people well connected to me that the moment you hear them, you can trace them to our spiritual family. I remember how a lady told me that every time she listened to her pastor in church every Sunday, it's as though she's listening to Apostle Niyi Makinde. The reason for such is because that pastor is deeply connected to his spiritual family.

I remember a story Pastor Paul Enenche shared one day. He said one Pastor told him some years ago that he came across their church that year, a newly roofed powerful building. The pastor said he asked somebody, "is this the Winners' church?" And the person replied no. The pastor asked, "does this person here have anything to do with Bishop David Oyedepo?" They said yes. Later they asked the pastor why he asked the question. He said, he just sensed something here that looks like what he feels around Bishop David Oyedepo. That shows that Pastor Paul Enenche carried the spiritual climate of his spiritual father. As a pastor of a church, you should carry the spiritual climate of your spiritual covering. I told one of my spiritual sons who is a

founder of a particular ministry recently that people should be able to connect to the grace of his spiritual father just by connecting to him. You don't have to preach or speak like your spiritual father but let the atmosphere of his grace be evident and visible around you.

Insights that Will Keep You on Top through Your Spiritual Family

This is taken directly from the physical family setting. You need to understand this and put it to work so you can remain on top forever.

You don't disown or disconnect from your family because of parental correction or misunderstanding of you. That your father corrected you or did not understand you does not make you disown your family. You don't disown your family because of a misunderstanding or conflict with your sibling. Nobody left his father's house because his brother looked for his trouble. Nobody should abandon his spiritual family because of one of the members of the that family. You don't disown your spiritual family because of delay in expectations or other challenges of life.

Many are ignorant of this. You don't disown your spiritual family because another family appears fanciful or attractive. Have you done that before?

Where somebody says, “my father’s house is too poor” and then goes to another family and says, “can you just adopt me?” That is signature for frustration. Get this, the Bible shows that, God is the one who sets the solitary in families (Psalm 68:6). In Jeremiah 3:15, God said, “I will give you shepherds.” You don’t give yourself, you don’t use even physical attributes to determine who is your spiritual father, pastor or where your church is. It is God’s decision for you. You don’t even use tribal, state or language affiliations or any form of affiliation, it’s deeply spiritual.

What is Rarely Told to the New Generation

To the new generation:

Spiritual fathers are dispensers of instructions, inheritances and impartations. Fathers impart blessings and programs destined through their utterances. If you will advance fast and go far in kingdom advance, you don’t function as a mobile member of different spiritual families. Just as you can’t have two biological fathers, so also you can’t have two spiritual father. Yes, you can have different teachers and instructors, that is, you can listen to messages and read books of other ministers, it’s allowed (1 Corinthians 4:15). But you must remain connected to your spiritual father. You must be certain of the

spiritual family you belong if you won't be tossed to and fro by various winds and waves that sway the emerging generations away easily.

You can't claim you are connected to a father whose voice you don't and won't listen to. If you are not always eager to hear your spiritual father, it's obvious that your heart isn't truly connected. You may learn from many spiritual teachers and instructors but you must remain connected to your spiritual father by listening to such regularly, reading from such always and intentionally ensure you are always around the person as opportunity permits by attending major meetings your father calls and occasionally creating time to visit. It's by doing these that you are able to catch the spirit of your spiritual father. The spirit you can't catch, you can't carry. Instructors are plenty, fathers are few.

With an instructor, you have instruction, with a father, you have inheritance. Nobody ever goes to an instructor to look for inheritance. That your teacher is sharing his property doesn't mean you will inherit part of it. You can get the instruction of an instructor but you cannot get the genetics of an instructor. If it is genetics, you get it from a father.

With an instructor, you get instruction, with a father, you get both instruction and impartation. Instruction tells you what to do, impartation gives you the power to do it. Instruction may tell you

what to do but impartation empowers you to do what needs to be done. While you may keep learning from others, you must be deeply connected to your spiritual father so you can receive the inheritance and impartation needed for your advancement. May you not miss your divine portion.

You catch and carry the spirit of your spiritual father by catching and receiving the words that flows out of him. The word of a man is the transmitter of the spirit he carries. Jesus said the words I speak to you are spirit and life. Catch this secret - when your spiritual father is hosting a major meeting, his spirit and mind is loaded with new spiritual things and heritages that will be distributed to everyone in that spiritual lineage. It's by attending that major meeting that you become a firsthand partaker of that spiritual flow that are newly released to a father. Study your spiritual family very well, there will be one major meeting or program that your spiritual father will always host annually that signals the shifts within his spirit. That's a program or meeting you don't miss. It's through that program or meeting you become a partaker of the new things God has deposited within him. Let me say this, it's not about the message he shared majorly at that meeting, but it's about the spiritual deposit flowing out of him through pronounced blessings, fresh utterances upon his lips, heightened angelic atmosphere he

comes with and the spirit climate that accompanied him there. All these are products of fresh encounters and those who gather at such meeting becomes partakers of such.

Spiritual fathers are not godfathers like people have in politics. Spiritual fathers are the representative of the heavenly Father to men. Spiritual fathers represent the voice of God to their spiritual children and represents the hand of the Heavenly Father on the head of their spiritual children. When your spiritual father speaks to you, you must reckon it that your Heavenly Father is speaking to you. And when your spiritual father lay hands on you, you must reckon it that your Heavenly Father lay hands on you. This insight is what separates the old timers from the new generation.

It's only those who are deeply connected to their spiritual father that carry the spiritual atmosphere of the man. May the younger generation not miss their divine portion in these last days. Amen! What's the conclusion? Know your spiritual father and be remain connected to such.

Let Your Actions and Results be Top-Level

You bring the lost out of darkness into the light of the Gospel through quality, superior and top level results. Top level achievement is a light that shines for the world to see. We don't only preach with our mouth; we preach with our results. You don't only preach with your mouth; you preach with your results. You don't only point people to God with your utterance, you point people to God with your excellence. I can tell you the truth, your result is more evangelistic than your preaching. What people see that you have become because you're following God, what they see that God has done in your life is more evangelistic and will convince more people than what you're saying with your mouth.

Your results draw more attention than your speech. St. Augustine said, "your action speaks

so loud, I can't hear your voice." Your action is just so loud that even your voice is not as loud as it. Someone said, "preach the Gospel always and when necessary, use words". Use words when necessary but the most important thing is, keep preaching and when it's necessary, add words to your preaching. The meaning of that is that your life, your action and results are your most important preaching. They were watching for you to fail, you didn't fail, they were watching for you to sink, you didn't sink, they are seeing you flying at the top and keep seeing you at the top of in your field and realm. They know that you know your onion, so they can't look down on you and can't talk down on you.

I want you from this moment forward to stop driving away people from God by failure. Stop turning people away from God through failure, mediocrity and underperformance. Stop making people turn away from Church because your life is mediocrity. There are people who would follow you even when you haven't said anything. When everything about you shows that God is with you, even though you haven't preached to them, yet they want to follow you.

Make it easy for unbelievers to listen to you by your results of quality and outstanding performance. Make it easy for unbelievers to hear you by your top-level results. The reason is because I'm not a

mediocrity and not a failure. I have failed before but made a decision never to fail again in my life. That's why I give my best to work and ensure I never stop growing.

Be a Voice that is a Force

You must be a voice that is a force in the world. Suppose you're the Vice Chancellor of a university or the deputy Vice-Chancellor of some sort or something and then they want to make a law or a decree that is anti-God where you are, you would say, "no way! Not while I'm here." When there was the need for somebody to speak on behalf of the Kingdom, when there was a need for a voice to stand and say "No", it was not the voice of a low or average man or a mediocre that was needed, it was the voice of an authority. For example, you're in the Senate as a child of God, not Christian by name because there are some who call themselves Christians but are worse than devils, they are sitting where the Church is being persecuted and where all manner of decisions are being taken against God, the Church and His people and they sit there like a dumb ass eating money and all manner of terrible things. They are there, useful to nobody, their nation and community, not even useful to their constituency. They are only loyal to their tummy and belly that will

rust in the earth after death. I am not talking about those kind of people. I am talking about rugged men who will stand for the truth, people who are almost like Pastors except that God called them into the politics. They have the anointing of the Priest and the mantle of a King. Royal priesthood means kingly priests, priestly kings. We need senators that can stand up with their eyes flaming with fire and boldly declare “not when I’m here, you don’t pass this nonsense law” and when he stands to speak, there are others who couldn’t speak before, whose spines had become stiffened, and they also will stand and say, “that’s true. What he said is correct. We wouldn’t pass such a law”.

You must be a voice in your generation. You must be a voice when it is necessary to speak out on behalf of the Church, the masses and the Gospel. When it is necessary to speak out, your voice must be heard!” It is because there’s a bankruptcy of voices of the Kingdom at strategic places that useless laws, decrees and policies are being made against God and the Church and nobody is speaking. That is why you need to move to the top and that is why the devil wants to keep the Church in the pit, so that when it matters, there’s nobody of substance that can say anything. Even as we are now, voices are needed but there are many people who are dumb and deaf, all manner of things have dumbed them. I pray that

your voice shall be heard!

Wherever you are, you are a kingdom star. Stars are seen on top in the sky. You're a Kingdom star in football or in the entertainment industry. If you are number one at the top and you come out and say, "no, this kind of thing can't happen in our nation, it will be easy for people to give you attention. Billionaires, trillionaires and quadrillionaires are top people. You can be a Kingdom star in the realm of business, that's a billionaire owner of a bank, properties development billionaire, oil and gas billionaire, billionaire in manufacturing and so on. If you have the employment of fifty thousand people under you and rubbish is going on in your nation and you step out and say, "you know what? I'm a stakeholder in this economy, I have employed fifty thousand people under my employment more than most state governments and I have a say in this country. This rubbish cannot go on." Do you know you'll surely be heard? But because there are no people at the top who know what to do and what to say when there's a need to say something, rubbish goes on unchallenged. Who is looking forward to hearing anything from a mediocrity? Who wants to hear anything from a failure and a pauper? Someone who has achieved nothing with his or her life can't be heard. What is that one saying? Shut up there, my friend! And there are

people who would talk and they would never say, “who is that one?” You need to step into a realm where you can become a voice for the Kingdom. You need to step into that dimension where you can become a voice even in your community. So, being at the top is not just a position, it’s an assignment. It’s not just for convenience, it’s an assignment. Consider it a ministry to be at the top, a Kingdom assignment. Being at the top of your game, the highest realm you could be in your own field, see it as an assignment for the Kingdom to be able to stand for the Kingdom, to speak on behalf of the Kingdom, when necessary. Refuse to be that person whose voice can be despised.

Be an Influencer over Institutions and Nations

God wants you to be in position to positively influence institutions and nations. Can I ask you a question? I would like you to picture the managing director of an organization that has one thousand employees and then picture the messenger who is the least officer in that organization. Let me give you these two scenarios; The gateman has a child dedication in the church in two weeks’ time and he gave invitation to everybody in the office. In fact, there are people he would be afraid to give an invitation to. At best, he would see his colleague

gatemans, if they come because low people hate themselves, I'm telling you the truth. He may see one or two of his colleagues that may come to Church with him. Now imagine the managing director distributed the card to everybody in the organization and say "I will be dedicating my child in my church this Sunday. Can we all meet there, please?" Everybody would be there. What would happen? They would enter the service and at the end of the service, they would go towards the man to congratulate him to ensure that he sees that they came. This is the exciting part of it; while somebody was in that service, he saw the power and presence of God, he heard the Word of God and he asks himself, "so, something like this exists in this church and I am in this city and not aware?" When the call for salvation is made, the man would respond. Where the man couldn't directly preach, his position of influence has directly or indirectly dragged them to the Kingdom to be preached to.

What do you want to achieve by being in the pit and dwelling in the valley? How far do you want your life to affect your generation? You're the only person that can answer this question. As for me, I made up my mind longest time that I cannot be in the pit. I'm at the top and will remain at the top. I made up my mind that everything I would do with my life; I will ensure I give it the best shot of it to

ensure that no devil would claim ignorance of my existence.

When you are at the top and you invite friends and co-workers who are also at the top in their realms, regardless of their religion, they will come because of who is inviting them. Great people attend the occasion of other great people. Giants attend the occasion of giants. Top people attend the occasion of other top people.

Remember Jonah preached to the Ninevites but he couldn't command them to fast. If the prophet had told them, some may do it while some would reject it. But their king gave the command to fast and even animals fasted. It takes someone at the top to influence an entire nation, industry, profession, institution, etc.

During the American civil war, Abraham Lincoln was the president and he was the one who said that no one can be president except he understands the Bible and holds a copy of the Bible. He forced the nation to fast three times in the course of the American civil war. He told them, he said, "whatever be your religion, fast, wait on the Lord, let's ask God for mercy, let this crisis end." He gave time to fast, thrice. Can any sergeant in the army say that? He just come up to say, "people of America, I saw a vision where God said all of us should fast". They will say, maybe it's hunger that is worrying

you or they might tell him that he's afraid of the war. "Carry your gun, go and fight. If you want, you live, if you want, you die, are you not a wastable material? That's why you're a soldier" but the commander in chief stood up before the nation and gave a command and the whole nation obeyed. I want you to rise and be a commander in any realm you have found yourself. I pray that you shall rise up in command, influence and authority!

Be a Symbol of Godliness

Your life should be enlightened and illuminate the world on the possibility of combining greatness with Godliness. The world needs to be enlightened that somebody can be great and be Godly. There's a time I used to say I am great, global and Godly. I still hold on to that today. There's the combination of greatness and Godliness, authority and integrity, prosperity and character (Job 1:1-3). People think that if you want to be a star, you cannot be Godly, that is a lie. What young people have as stars in the world today are ungodly celebrities and billionaires, people moving about in sports, music or movies. Most people are even gay that tattoo everywhere and have married about four to five times. So, since the person is a star, such then becomes a model to the young ones. Mostly, models to young

people are people with baby mamas everywhere. Young people are always eager to follow the steps of popular celebrities. So, there's a crisis of model, people don't know who to follow because people that are doing well, most of them are satanists. I can tell you about some of the world's greatest billionaires. Sometime ago, a billionaire said that he doesn't know and care if there's hell but if there's hell, he doesn't mind because it looks like most people in the world would be in hell, so it's better to be in the company of people. That is what one of the world's richest men was quoted as saying that. I'm talking of people that have followership on Instagram, Twitter and all manner in tens of millions of people following what they say every day. So, God is saying, "I want a Kingdom billionaire that is on the top billionaires list of the world that doesn't have baby mamas everywhere." God seeks a billionaire, great and Godly figure that has a wife and children and no traceable extra marital child from anywhere, not even in hell. Such a man that loves his wife and children, carries his Bible publicly, goes to Church and he's not ashamed and doesn't make any apology. To show the world at least that being rich does not mean you have to be a sinner, that being a star does not mean you have to lose your character. We saw Joseph, Daniel and Job, they were prominent and notable. These people

combined greatness with Godliness. That is what God wants to achieve. There's a crisis, a shortage, a leadership role model crisis in this generation. There's such a crisis everywhere and God is saying, "I want to raise people" and I believe that as you read this, you will pick that challenge. Like D. L. Moody said when they said God is looking for a man who would not care who takes the glory but would be used of God mightily, and he said, "by God's grace, I want to be that man. Lord, will you use me?" I want people who would be saying, "Lord, I want to be your representative in my generation, I want to go to the topmost top and let people know that becoming rich does not slow you down from going to Church. Becoming important does not mean you stop fasting or not do cleaning work in Church anymore. Being prosperous doesn't mean you can't be an usher anymore. That these things are effortlessly combinable.

I heard that one of the top billionaires in this country, in his field – the construction industry is still an usher in his Church and the wife is still in the choir. I'm talking of someone who can write an appreciable figure and put 9 zeroes at the back and it will cash. I'm talking of someone who has never taken any bank loan to do any job. He has enough resources. He said, he's working strictly on the covenant that said, "thou shall not borrow", so

he won't even borrow from a bank. He's standing as an usher, his wife is standing in the choir, wearing choir uniform with everybody. A multi-billionaire wife, yet humble. There are people if they have ordinary one million, they will stop joining church workforce. Those are people who don't understand the Kingdom and the Gospel. The higher God takes you, the lower you become in yourself. Kingdom authority imparts humility. You would be telling God, "who am I that you're raising like this? Who am I that you are doing this to me? What did I do differently from others that you're taking me up like this?" That's humility. May God use you to show that greatness can be combined with Godliness and nothing spoil!"

I want you to decide and determine to forever be at the top in life as part of your Christian duty. Deuteronomy 28:13. "It is part of your Christian duty to forever be on top. So, there's a decision to make. Things can fall by chance but they rise by choice. It is not possible to go up by chance. You find yourself up and they say "how?" You say, "I didn't even know how I came here". Things may fall or drop by chance but if they will rise, it is by choice. You need to make the choice and the determination for things to rise. You've got to diligently seek to know what to do and do all it takes to forever be in the realm of royalty and authority. That is, anything

I need to do, I want to know and once I've known what to do, I will do them diligently until I find myself up.

You Are a Nation and a King Meant for the Top Forever

Genesis 17:6 reveals God promised to make nations and kings come from Abraham. That is, “Abraham, other people give birth to children, baby boys and girls but because of my covenant with you Abraham, you’re going to give birth, not just to babies but to nations and you’re going to give birth to kings. Everyone coming out of your loins is either a nation or a king”. No wonder we have the nation of the Jews today, we have the Arabian nations today and all manner of nations that came out of the physical loins of Abraham. It will interest you to know that the pioneers of the three main religions – Jewish, Islamic and Christianity are from Abraham. As a child of Abraham, don’t forget this as long as you live that it is either you are a nation or a king. I pray that every spell of smallness on your

life is broken right now in the name of Jesus Christ. Kingship, royalty is your portion!

Deuteronomy 14:2 reveals that you're a special treasure to God above all the people on the earth. You're like a precious metal. God is saying, "You're my diamond in the earth, you're my gold, you're my topaz, you're my carbuncle." Like you know, ordinary stones are plenty but diamonds and gold are precious but scarce. Gold and diamond are the kings of the metals. God is saying, "I put you in charge". God says you are a special treasure above, not just are you gold but you're on top, above and over. That is by the law. Throughout Scripture, nothing permits the child of God to be at the back bench in life, nothing permits them to be in the low places of the earth.

Deuteronomy 32:9-12 reveals that every child of God as far back as the old testament is a covenant eagle, not vulture or chicken killable and wastable by the roadside. You will see many times that vehicle crushed chicken, hen, duck, dog but very rarely would you hear that a vehicle crushed an eagle. The vehicle can't find the eagle to crush. If this can enter your head alone, you're an eagle, not designed for the ground but designed for the sky. Not easily findable and wastable. Deuteronomy 32:13 reveals that God will make you ride in the heights. In other words, God will cause you to ride in the high places of the

earth. The books of the Prophet reveals that you are destined for the top forever. You know, the Scripture is made up of the Law and the Prophets, especially the old testament. That was why at the mountain of transfiguration, God brought somebody from the Law, Moses and then the Prophets, Elijah, to bear witness. Now, in the prophetic books, we are destined to be on top forever, even by the prophetic agenda of God. Isaiah 2:2-3. Anything that belongs to the Lord - the House of the Lord, institutions that belong to God and His people - they are designed to be exalted above other equivalent mountains. They are meant to be at the topmost top places of life. Micah 4:1.

Those on Top will Com to You at Your Top

Isaiah 60:1-3 reveals that as you shine your light, Gentiles and kings shall come to you. You're so important, relevant and crucial that kings shall come to the brightness of your light. Isaiah 60:8 reveals you are meant for flight, not meant for the floor. Isaiah 60:22 reveals that there is coming a season that we will have individuals that will produce the result of a thousand people. We are coming to a point where we will have individuals that will have organizations and institutions that have the capacity of nations. Do you know that there are

nations on earth today that have a population of four hundred to five hundred thousand people? They are full-fledged nations. Now, we have institutions on the earth, Church-based institutions that have thousands of employees, thousands and millions of followership. Those kind of institution will always compel kings to come to them.

Kenneth Copeland saw Malachi 3:17-18 and Isaiah 58:14 and that took him into the sky for flight forever. He caught those Scriptures and that changed his status forever. You must trust God to fulfill His words in your life so you can keep soaring on top and keep drawing the attention of kings to you. It takes remaining on top forever for you to keep drawing the attention of kings to you forever.

God has to do something for you that will continue to draw the presence of highly important people to you.

Your Potential Keeps You on Top

Potential is key to purpose and vision. Proverbs 22:29 says “Do you see a man who excels in his work? He will stand before kings; he will not stand before unknown men.”

What you're wired to do determines what you will be hired to do by God and by your generation. You have been wired for things, what you're wired to do

is what you will be hired to do both by God and by your generation. What do I mean by 'wired'? Let me use the aircraft example. There's a difference between the helicopter, the fixed-wing aircraft and the jets and all that. This is because the helicopter is wired differently, it has a purpose to land and takeoff anywhere but it cannot fly too fast or too high and it has a limitation by its wiring. You can't take a helicopter and say, you are traveling to America or going to the United Kingdom except you're ready to sleep on the road for four to five days. This is so because of its wiring. Then, you have the jet, it's wired differently. Then, you have the cargo plane. The cargo has no window, it's not meant to carry people, it's meant to carry load, it's wired differently. Then, you have the big Airbus, Boeing 777, it can carry three hundred to four hundred people, wired differently. Then you have the fighter aircraft, it's wired differently. This one is movement forward, it's devastation backward. If it passes, people perish. It's wired differently. If you see the pilots that can fly the fighter aircraft, they are very rugged. They can fly it sideways, they can turn it upside down, very rugged. And as they are, so are we.

We have different wirings. The question is what is your wiring? Your aptitude is what you do and what you can do determines your altitude, it determines how high you can fly. What you can do affects how

high you climb in life. So, this is a point you look into yourself and your potentials and it can begin to create visions.

Proverbs 18:16 says “A man’s gift makes room for him, and brings him before great men.”

This scripture isn’t about being generous alone but also about deploying your natural gifts and potential appropriately. Joseph led in the house of Potiphar, he managed it well, went further and managed the prison well and then, he became the manager of the whole nation of Egypt. David had the potential of bringing down lions and deer and that gave him the vision that Goliath was destroyable. Daniel had the potential of dreams and dream interpretation, that took him to the palace. So, you watch yourself, “what are the gifts in me? What are the potentials I carry and how do I take my potentials to the highest level?” It becomes a vision. What God has given me the capacity and ability to do, how do I move it to the highest level of it? It becomes a vision.

Recently, an aunty of mine told me that he would be surprised if I was not a preacher. I asked why, and she said I loved reading Bible at my younger age and loved preaching to my co-kids. She was saying what she saw. Those close to you, including yourself can make certain comments about you based on what they see consistently that could have a bearing with what you may do. And of course, second Sunday in

July 2023 makes it twenty years I have been in pulpit ministry. I heard a story of Children in America because most times, parents encourage the children to play different games and so when the child is young, I heard that they would put various of the balls in front of crawling child, “this is table tennis, badminton, lawn tennis, football, baseball, handball or any of the other balls” and then the child will crawl and go and arrest the basketball for example. They will change the arrangement; he will still crawl to where the basketball is. This action signal that this boy is a basketballer. So, they will grow and guide him in that game, direct him, arrange him and point him in that direction. You know, children are arrows according to Scripture and the purpose of an arrow is to be aimed, you aim them well. That is why it is important to understudy and know your children so you can guide them and aim them at their direction. Then, this child grows up and then the child begins to go for basketball and before you know it, he is a world renowned basketballer because that potential was discovered in childhood. What you love to do has a connection with what you will live to do. I’m not talking of negative things, nobody should say, “I love to eat” which means you will live to eat, no. May you receive the grace to discover everything you have put inside me.

The problem is the wrong mentality the society

has. No profession or field should be despised. I remember when I was to get into full time ministry, many including those closer to me felt I was senseless. They couldn't relate how I would get into full time ministry immediately after university. But I had to be audacious to get into the place I saw my potential would manifest. Many who mocked and criticized me are silent today and friendly to me. What I did was never to permit what people said about me to affect where I should be.

Seek Illumination

Isaiah 60:1, 8 reveals a connection between light and flight. Light of revelation is essential to flight. Galatians 2:2 reveals that you will go up by the light of revelation that you have. Until mentality is upgraded and renovated, destiny is never upgraded. It is the renovation of mentality that occasions the elevation of destiny, and renovation happens by revelation. The renovation that happens by revelation will produce an elevation and also a revolution. When you give revelation for the renovation of mentality, you're going to have elevation and revolution. Let this not just sound poetic to you, settle down to meditate on these words. Ensure that any dust that has settled on your mind, any archaic and primordial mentality that the devil has put in

your mind to make you accept defeat and remain in the pit, to make you accept the low level of life and to make you to continue to exist as a struggler, let this revelation blast it out of your mind.

If you can see where you should be, you will soon arrive there. Those who are there today were the ones that saw there yesterday. There's something you'll see within you that will keep you on top forever. There are many things that God would be talking to you about, lifestyle adjustments, adjustments in behavior, associations and relationships that will facilitate your going up. I see you up because that is where you belong. Catch a light that will change your mind and take you where you're meant to go.

Dealing with Limitations

Identify the limitations of your life and deal with them at the place of prayer through Scripture. That is, you have seen a pattern in your family, people rise to a level and they come down; you have seen a pattern in your own life that you move up to a certain level and all of a sudden, your journey is arrested. You can transact ten million, five million, fifteen million but it will never reach twenty million not to talk of fifty or one hundred million or a billion, it's just around the same level. Even someone who

can give you a job of up to a billion or a hundred million, he will still put you at that level because there seems to be something on your head. You have to identify your limitations before you can deal with it. Leviticus 26:13 says *“I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that you should not be their slaves; I have broken the bands of your yoke and made you walk upright.”* They put something on your neck or your back, so that you’re not meant to walk upright. They limited your greatness, He said, *“I am the Lord your God, I will partner with you to break the yoke and cause you to stand upright.”* I decree your yokes are broken now. In the name of Jesus, you shall cross and exceed the limits of your fathers! You shall go where others have not gone in the name of Jesus! You shall escape the limitations of your generation. You may need to rise in prayers to deal with any limitation. Break and crush into pieces with the help and power of God whatever is saying you won’t go beyond a point or level.

Pick a Model from Those who Have Stayed Longer on Top

A wise man said, “if I have seen any farther, it is by standing on the shoulders of those who have gone ahead of time.” You play your role well when you have connected with good role models. You play your role at your best when you have been able to connect with good role models. You go through Scriptures and see the example of Peter and John, the inspiration they drew from Jesus. You look at Peter especially in Acts 9:40-41, how Jesus raised Jairus’ daughter became a pattern for how Peter later raised Dorcas from the dead. He saw it. What of Elijah in 2 Kings 2:8? What Elisha did was what he saw his master did. He saw it from his father and it became his vision. You break limitations when you engage imitation and observation.

T. L. Osborn watched William Brown ministered after T. L. Osborn had come back from India as a ‘failed’ missionary and he saw the ministration and all manner of miracles were happening and the voice of the Lord began to speak to him, “you too can do that”, that was what Jesus did, the Apostles did the same. Long story made short, Osborn went from there, locked up himself in prayer and the same order of miracles became his order by watching a role model. Benson Idahosa was on the grounds

of Oral Roberts university, also Bishop Oyedepo visited same Oral Robert University, he looked and said, “this can happen anywhere. The effect of that was the Covenant University he also built.

I once heard Pastor Paul Enenche shared this “When I was growing up as a young man, I had three models for marriage: The first were T. L. Osborn and Daisy Osborn. They were just like that and ministered together. The second were Charles and Frances Hunter. They were in the healing ministry and they modeled how to heal the sick. The third are Kenneth and Gloria Copeland. I saw these three models before I ever got married. How a man and his wife can be in ministry and serve God together and have a beautiful marital relationship. I looked at it and said, “this is the kind of life I’m going to live” and God has given us the grace to see such kind of things.”

The reason so many people in our generation don’t achieve much is because they’re busy attacking those they should learn from. They’re busy criticizing people that God put in front of them. It’s a terrible demon in this generation. Pastor Paul Enenche also shared about their sanctuary and how he got inspired. He said “I saw God’s servant, Bishop Oyedepo started a 50,000-seater auditorium, the Faith tabernacle. I saw the foundation, I saw the ground breaking, I saw the building rose, we drove

round it. When the roof was being done, we were there. We had services in it when the roof wasn't completed yet. The rain beat us under it in August, I believe it was 1998. So, when it was time, when God said we were to build a 100,000-seater, there was no batting of the eyelids, I have seen it before. If it's possible there, it is possible here. I saw how that place ran one service, two services, three services. That means 50,000-seater can be filled until it has three services. It means that 75,000, 100,000-seater, any seater can be filled too."

What a mighty God we serve. I pray the good things you see around you that you desire in life shall be reproduced in your life! That is how inspiration from higher vessels affect your life. Pick models from those who have stayed longer at the top and you will also stay longer at the top. I pray you shall forever be on top. Amen!



About the Author

Niyi Makinde is an apostle, author and crusader. He is the author of hundreds of books on multiple subjects. He writes with high inspiration and creative wisdom. Great leaders recommend his books. As a minister, he is widely known for healings and miracles.

Apostle Niyi Makinde is the pioneer and president of Rebirth Global Church, a network of churches across the globe. He is also the pioneer of Connect Global, a larger body of churches and ministries across the globe. He hosts the annual Connect Confluence, a global gathering of many believers, various churches and ministries.

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Also by Niyi Makinde

Apostle Niyi Makinde has written many other insightful and powerful books, among which are:

1. Divine Instructions
2. 12 Laws of Divine Instructions
3. Breaking Life Code
4. The Revolutionary Apostle
5. The Power to Prosper
6. The Power to Become
7. 53 Laws of Excellence
8. Church Shift
9. Business Sense
10. Dealing with Human Enemies
11. Wisdom for All-Round
12. Wisdom Power
13. Prayer Force 1
14. Multiply
15. Tithing
16. You Are Different
17. Phronesis for Dating
18. Dating, Marriage and Sex
20. The Power to Get Wealth
21. Spiritual Fatherhood
22. Managing Divine People
23. Understanding Honor
24. Flourish And Grow 1

25. Faith Dimension 1
26. Ministry Laws 1
27. Secrets to Supernatural (Financial) Abundance
28. Running like the Deer
29. Prayer Force 2
30. Making Things Happen
31. You Are a Seer
32. 79 Insights Into Favor
33. New Creation
34. Prayer Education
35. 20 Facts about the Human Spirit
36. Supernatural Visions
37. Understanding Church Systems
38. 11 Facts about the Human Mind
39. The Holy Spirit
40. Dominion in the Realm of Abundance
41. Soul Winning Manual
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43. Faith for Abundance
44. New Levels
45. Wisdom for Abundance
46. The Power of Meditation
47. Understanding Supernatural Dreams
48. Stop Multiplying in Affliction
49. Communication Ethics in Ministry
50. Ministry Ethics 1
51. Warfare for Honor
51. Wave of Increase

52. Praise for Favor
53. Ministers Training Manual
54. Breaking Joy Code
55. The Power of His Name
56. You Are a wonder
57. Roar and Soar
58. The Minister and the Ministry
59. Grace Factor
60. Subdue and Dominate
61. Flourish and Grow 2
62. Overtake
63. Victory over Afflictions
64. The Power of Patience
65. Stand out to Step out
66. Shining like the Sun
67. 30 Channels of Wealth
68. Breaking into Laughter
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71. Stronger than the stronger
72. Battle for Wealth
73. Wealth Transfer
74. Maximum Protection
75. The Power to Be on Time
76. Power Activators
77. The Essence of Obedience
78. The Power of words
79. Planting a Branch Church

80. Power Dimensions 1
81. The Power to Live Long
82. The Power to Deliver
83. The Power to Bless
84. Raising the Dead
85. The Power to Heal
86. The Power to Separate
87. The Power of Diligence
89. Financial Prosperity
89. Business Success
90. On Top
91. How to Live Long
92. Warfare for Long Life
93. The Hand of God
94. On Pornography
95. 11 Streams of Healing
96. Fresh Insight
97. Money Sense
98. The Power of Prophecies
99. High Flyers
100. Be Creative
101. No Limit
102. Understanding
103. Dealing with Impossibility
104. Highly Favored
105. You Can Prophesy
106. Expand
107. Entering into Fullness

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122. Your Reality Today Daily Devotional (for teenagers)
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