



**MINISTERS'  
TRAINING  
MANUAL**

NIYI MAKINDE



NIYI MAKINDE

MINISTERS TRAINING  
MANUAL COMPLETE



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# Acknowledgement

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# UNDERSTANDING YOUR DUTY AS A MINISTER

## YOUR DUTY

Ministers are to equip and edify the Saints, not to condemn other ministers, or check them out for what they say. You need to know that no minister can have all the knowledge. There are things you say, preach and teach, that some other minister also considered to be erroneous. Many ministers who identify other ministers to be erroneous are themselves erroneous in some aspect. I have proven that.

Matthew 19:7-9

**[7] They said to Him, “Why then did Moses command to give a certificate of divorce, and to put her away?”**

**[8] He said to them, “Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.**

**[9] And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery.”**

Obviously, it was not God that told Moses to add divorce part to the Law. Moses himself added it because of the hardness of the people. Do you realize that Jesus didn't condemn Moses but condemned the people? I love Jesus. If one of the ministers today was Jesus, such could have said, "don't you know that Moses didn't hear that from God?" But No! Jesus just taught them the right thing, without condemning and/or criticizing Moses. He even justified Moses before the people.

There is difference between an ignorant minister and a false one. Some ministers made doctrinal errors because they didn't know. If they had known, they would not have taught such. I have heard an elderly minister say, "What I taught four years ago was erroneous". I was shocked at his sincerity. Obviously, such belongs to the ignorant class, not false. Since you know the right thing, why not teach the right things and stop all these critical approaches in your presentation.

As a Minister you must know that a prophet will not equip the Saints like an evangelist does. They are not the same, and as such, their method of talking, writing cannot be the same. You don't expect an Apostle to equip saints the same way a pastor does. Their tasks are different, but they are all doing the same thing.

You may not like Dr. D. K. Olukoya for his prayer, but I need you to know that people are getting blessed through it. You may dislike Pastor W. F. Kumuyi for his teaching, but people are blessed. There is nothing you know now that someone else had not known before you.

## **DON'T BE DECEIVED**

Thirteen years ago I heard a minister say "any minister that doesn't preach Christ, don't listen to him", In other words, all



we should listen to is about Christ. He said, “All ministers should only preach and teach Christ and Christ alone”. I obeyed that instruction for about two years. Eleven years ago, I was stirred to listen to Reverend Sam Adeyemi. He talked about Christ, but beyond that he shared some leadership principles from scriptures. He taught principles from Moses, Joshua, Paul among others. Contrary to what I heard, I listened to him on leadership. I am not mocking anyone, but just sharing practical wisdom. Many of those brethren who failed to receive teachings in other areas of life are just there, living ordinary life. Here is the issue I have with some of those insincere preachers: they listen to other people; they seek the counsel of others. I remember the wife of a preacher, who said we should only listen to preachers who preach Christ. She told us at a meeting that she and her husband visited Pastor Adeboye and sought his counsel. Yet, they will say he is preaching works.

### **MINISTER CAN DEAL WITH DOCTRINES, BUT DON'T BE CRITICAL ABOUT IT**

Your duty is to teach and preach, not criticize. Do you realize that Paul instructed Timothy to teach about giving? He didn't instruct him to teach only about Christ. You need to teach on character, marriage, prayer, fellowshiping with others, among others. As you grow, you must realize that every minister is called to do something.

As a minister, watch who you criticize, because as you grow, you may later realize that God wants you to function in a particular aspect that those you have criticized are functioning. Few years ago, a brother and I went to the hospital to visit someone. That brother only listened to and read Andrew Wommack, and he condemned the teachings and statements

of many preachers. I was quiet. I gave him a message to listen to and he just received it reluctantly. Two years later, we met again, he now listen to the same minister he criticized and condemned. Eventually, he invited that same minister to his church to minister. I gave him the message of that minister; he listened to him once and later downloaded all his messages, and became his follower. I only saw that minister once, but he went and had an intimate relationship with the minister. I was very happy when I heard it. I later remember that this brother had condemned the teaching of this minister, but God had seen ahead that for that brother to advance he needed to receive the seed in the minister he condemned. Therefore, watch who you criticize, because as you grow, you may later realize that God wants you to function in a particular aspect that those you have criticized are functioning. I jokingly asked him if he still listens to the first minister he loved to listen to. He replied, “No”. Imagine, it was the teaching of that person that he no longer listen to, that he listened to that gave him some basic scriptural knowledge which prompted him to criticize other ministers.

As a minister, be careful of what you speak against, because five years ago you were not listening to the minister you listen to now, and five years from now, I am sure that you may not listen to him. Why? You would have advanced in ministry, and will need some advanced knowledge that may not be found with the preacher you are listening to now. Therefore, learn, teach, preach and minister, but above all don’t criticize or speak in a way that will prove some ministers are erroneous. It is immaturity for a minister to speak in a way that collapses other ministers in his or her preaching and teaching. If you do, remember a generation is coming after you.

Many aspects I have found ministers incorrect, incomplete and imbalanced, but you will never hear me speak about such. God never called you to correct the errors of others, but to edify and equip the saints. You do yourself harm when you begin to treat the errors of others. If you do, you stink! Face your business!

## YOU ARE TO MAKE MEN, NOT MONEY

### **YOU ARE TO EDIFY AND EQUIP PEOPLE**

You are in ministry not to make money, but to equip and edify the people. God didn't call you to make money in ministry, but to make men. It is a shameful thing to see a minister heavily possessed with manipulative strategies to make money in ministry, rather than being filled with the Spirit and Word.

In the business world, you see people as money, but not in ministry. People are not money in ministry, because they are neither your clients nor customers. Believers are not customers, but God's children. Yes, you will need money in ministry to do some things, but your primary purpose in the ministry is not for money. Anyone in ministry needs to know that God is the ultimate provider for the ministry, not men. You must know that God will supply all the money you need through men. Therefore, you must never focus on men as your source, but on God.

### **IT IS MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE**

Believers should always seek opportunity to give, because it has more blessings. There is power in giving, and when men give from their heart, there is huge blessings attached to it. It is better you let men give from their heart, rather than seeking deceptive tactics to manipulate the people, just to extort money from them. You can tell men to give, but don't try to sell anything spiritual to them. You cannot buy anointing, grace, revelation with money, neither can you sell it. You need to learn from Peter who rejected the money offer from Simon the sorcerer. You remember Simon the sorcerer offered money to receive the power so that whoever he laid hands on could receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, but Peter rejected it. You need to be like Peter, who had control over his spirit, to reject money from a carnal person. Rather than seeking to get money from people, why not seek to transform lives? When the lives of men are transformed and imparted through your ministry, there is nothing they cannot give to you.

There is no amount that is too big to give by people, who have been transformed and blessed through your ministry. Sometimes, the impact that leads to real transformation in people takes time. It can even take years, but on account of faithfulness and focus on your task, you will see the transformation in the people, and they in turn will freely give to you.

## **STOP COMPARING YOUR CONGREGATION TO THE CONGREGATION OF OTHER MINISTERS**

Stop comparing your members to the members of other ministries. Each ministry is sown seeds, and it takes time for seeds to grow. Just keep sowing the seed of the Word, and you will see the growth and result you want. When you begin to compare your people to others who are heavily giving to other

ministries, you will eventually become desperate and carnal in your thinking. As a Minister, stop trying to find out what other ministers are doing that makes their congregation or members to give tremendously. It is a waste of time. Don't fool yourself! You cannot reap where you have not sown. There is no shortcut to reaping in ministry. You have to go through the process of raising people. Rather than invest your energy finding out what others are doing, why not use that energy to teach the Word, pray with them and for them in your privacy?

### **WHATEVER YOU DON'T HAVE THE CAPACITY TO DO, YOU SHOULD AVOID IT**

Don't try to do bigger things when your financial resources are minimal. I know in ministry, we don't spend money, we spend faith, but faith is not foolishness. You should plan according to the provision you have. If you have a budget of five thousand dollars, but you only have two thousand dollars, God is simply trying to tell you that all you need is two thousand dollars. If you are diligent to sit and cut your expenses, you will realize that the two thousand dollars will be enough for all you need. Therefore, you don't need all the money you need to start God's work or execute a vision; you only need all you have to do it. Sometimes, you don't lack money in ministry; you may lack planning, effective management, among others. God is not a one that wastes resources. Yes, He gives in abundance, but He will not give in to one who wastes the resources He gives. Whatever little you have in your hand, with faith and the anointing of God, it can become abundance.

### **DON'T INSULT YOUR CONGREGATION OR PEOPLE BECAUSE THEY GIVE LESS**

Don't tell them they are stingy. God didn't call you to insult His children. If they are not givers, pray to God to touch their heart, teach them about giving, and pray for them to prosper in their works. When people have, they will give more than you expect. The life we live in the Kingdom is a generous one. So, pray, teach and bless them.

As a minister, God did not bring the people to bear your financial burden and settle your financial challenges. He brought them to you so you can help them out through prayers and teaching of the Word. You need to look away from the people as your provider, and look up to God as your provider. When you do not have any cash in your pocket or account, don't think of calling your rich members, look up to God, and you will be surprised at what He will do. Miracles of provision are real. God can bless you anyhow through anyone. Stop looking to men as your source of provision. Doing such will limit the manifestation of divine provision in you. You are not in ministry to beg from men, but there to help, equip and edify men.

## **BE CAREFUL OF HONORARIUM**

As Peter admonished, cast all your cares upon God for He cares for you. Don't think of honorarium when you are invited. God did not send you to places to minister because of honorarium. He sends you to bless men. Sometimes, God will put your future reward in places where you were not given honorarium. Ensure that you always minister to people with the heart ready to be a blessing without thinking of the reward they will give you.

## UNDERSTANDING HONOUR AS A MINISTER

### **HONOUR IS A FREE GIFT YOU CAN GIVE ANY HUMAN**

If you are too big to honour, you are too small to be honoured. If there is no honour in your heart, you cannot receive honour on earth. What do you know about honour? It is sad to discover that you want men to honour you, but you are not ready to honour men.

### **HONOUR IS RESPECT AND ADMINISTRATION YOU GIVE TO ANOTHER**

Honour is a reward you give to another for who they are. The truth is that God's minister should be honored, because he is a channel through which God blesses the people, but the minister of God needs to know that he is expected to honour men, too. You are not ready to receive honour when you are not ready to give it out.

All believers need to understand that they are not to give "honour", but "double honour" to God's ministers. Paul wrote to Timothy "let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of



double honour, especially those who labour in the word and doctrine” - 1 Timothy 5:17. As a believer you must give double honour to God’s ministers. Scripture reveals that honour should be given to governing authorities, but double honour be given to God’s ministers.

Two years ago, a minister of God visited the palace of a renowned and prominent king in the South Western part of Nigeria. The king boldly told the minister to sit on his throne while he sat beside the minister. The minister of God objected, but the king responded that, “we know there is the creator of the universe and that creator known as “Olodunmare” in Yoruba language has representative on earth. So, he, the king acknowledged that minister of God as the representative of God on earth. So, why will God, the creator, visit my palace and I sit on the throne?” Never! Eventually, the man of God sat on the throne while the king sat beside him. The king here is actually the Ooni of Ife. You can make your research to confirm this fact.

That king is one who understands who a minister is. Several Governors and Presidents had visited him, but he sat on his throne, but when the minister of God visited, he stood from his throne. That’s one who understands what “double honour” really means. When you give double honour to men of God, it’s not worshipping of men, but acknowledging that you believe that God works through men. If you cannot honour the man of God that you see, how do you prove you honour God that you cannot see with your eyes?

**AS PEOPLE GIVE DOUBLE HONOUR, YOU MUST NOT  
IN TURN DISHONOUR THEM**

You need to be humble to respect and honour the people. Everybody you come across deserves to be honored. It's only novices that will dishonour people, or think of themselves as too important, because of the honour given to him.

Peter admonished us (all believers) to "honour all people, love the brotherhood, fear God and honor the king" 1 Peter 2:17. If you cannot obey the Word, by honouring everyone, how do you expect men to honour you? You are to honour all people: young and old, believers and unbelievers, illiterates and scholars, among others. You should be an example of honour to others. It is a great thing when a minister speaks the language of honour regularly.

## **DON'T EXPECT TO BE HONOURED WHEN YOU ARE NOT HUMBLE**

Your words and actions must show that you are humble. Humility is actually a state of the heart. Proverb 15:33 says "The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom, and before honor is humility". Obviously, before you receive honour from men, you must be humble. You cannot be humble and not be honoured.

Sadly, ministers seek to be more anointed, sharpen their gift, access more supernatural visions, grow in knowledge, but quite a few seek to be more humble. To be more humble is to be more honoured. Any minister that cannot be corrected is far from being honoured. Any minister that addresses people anyhow, sees people as those who are not in his class or level, addresses people as those who are not qualified to sit or stand beside him, such is far from honour. I see the way many ministers treat those below their status and my heart aches. Greatness is demonstrated by the way you treat others, especially the

younger ones or babes. Therefore, as a minister, don't seek to be honoured, rather seek to be humble, and eventually, honour will come your path. How do you address older men and women? How do you address young believers?

Paul gave few instructions to Timothy, as a minister addressing a minister:

1. Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father (1 Timothy 5:1).
2. Exhort younger men as your brother (1 Timothy 5:1).
3. Exhort older women as mothers (1 Timothy 5:2).
4. Exhort younger women as sisters with all purity (1 Timothy 5:2).
5. Honour widows who are really widows (1 Timothy 5:3)

Have you heard this statement - you may be older than me in age, but you are not older than me in grace? We can be equal in age, but we are not equal in grace? Yes, I know we are all equal as sons of God, but not equal in ministries, gifting, wisdom, influence, favour, among others, but rattling up and down that we are not equal is another thing. The people also know, you don't need to tell them. I have proven that the Spirit of God bears witness to the authority of men. I just laugh when I hear such self-engrossed, self-pride statement. This is actually the reason many ministers failed to honour others. Do you have to dishonour people because you are gifted or lifted? I always know that whoever does this is on the path to self-destruct. Dishonour is a killer, it will destroy you; honour is a lifter, it will lift you up.

The breakthroughs of many are delayed because of who they chose to dishonour. God is a lifter, but He will lift you up

through people. God will never lift you up through the people you dishonour. Sometimes, the person you chose to dishonour may actually be the access to where God plan to take you to. If I can know who you honour, I can know what you will access. Men represent things. Some represent money, others represent influence. Another represent connection, while some others represent high status. Now, when you honour men, you don't only honour their personality, but what they represent. You easily attract whatever a man represents through honour. Honour is a force of attraction. If you give it, you will be attractive!

## **YOU CAN KNOW MORE THAN OTHERS, BUT YOUR KNOWLEDGE IS NOT A LICENSE TO DISHONOUR**

One day, I was informed how a Prophet dishonoured an elderly pastor in a group; I was displeased at the quietness of the others. I had to summon the courage to confront such act of dishonour. Dishonour is a bad odour. You will only attract what you honour, not dishonour. That you honour doesn't mean you should not say the truth. You can always say the truth in an honourable way.

One day, a brother went on Facebook and posted that the teaching of his church pastor wasn't correct. He said, "My pastor said this and this..." Actually, what the pastor said wasn't correct, truly, but as I looked at it, I saw the seed of dishonour in that person. Is that not foolishness? You went online to talk about your pastor's teaching on social media, in a negative manner, and several people began to comment, insulting the pastor. This brother was foolish enough to even reply the comment of those people insulting his pastor. Yet, he will still see the pastor and smile, laugh and act hypocritically. I was awe

knowing that this brother was a minister, and later got to know he has a ministry. That's absolutely wrong! Truth is that, you don't keep company with such ministers. Don't honour a man before him and dishonour him behind. No! As a matter of fact, you should always honour a man behind him, more than you do before him.

## **BE AN EXAMPLE OF HONOUR TO OTHER BELIEVERS**

1. Honour God with your heart and substance. If you honour God, He will honour you.
2. Honour your parents. Many honour outsiders and dishonour their parents.
3. Honour the fathers in faith. Children should know more than their fathers, but never be too ignorant to permit your knowledge make you despise the fathers.
4. Honour the governing authorities. Romans 13 is not talking about spiritual authorities, but governing authorities. That's honouring those who are in governmental power: you should honour them.
5. Honour all People. Everybody you come across should be honoured.

## UNDERSTANDING PRAYER

### **TRAIN YOURSELF TO PRAY, EITHER YOU FEEL LIKE OR NOT**

Pray when you feel like praying, pray when you don't feel like praying and pray until you feel like praying. You said you don't like praying, but you like the word, may I ask, what are you doing in ministry? I was shocked when a minister told me four years ago that he didn't like praying, he just loves worshipping God through songs and God relates with him at that level. So, he said, everyone should know how he connects with God, either through prayers or songs. I couldn't imagine such words coming out of his mouth. I thought: who's this? Who trained and appoint you into the ministry? No! This should not be. As a believer, you don't need prayers to connect with God.

There are other classes of ministers that only pray when they have ministrations. That's absurd! As a minister, there are two things you must give attention to. The two are "Prayers" and "the ministry of the word". You can give attention to other things like reading books, listening to other ministers' message, attending conferences, seeking counsels from fathers in faith or

mentors, among others, but you must give priority to prayers and the word. What are you doing on pulpit when you cannot be consistent with personal prayers and Bible study? Too many lazy folks on pulpit.

Out of twenty four hours, how many minutes or hours do you spend in prayers?, Many don't pray, because they didn't feel like praying most times, but I wish such will know that many of those who pray also don't feel like, too. They have only trained themselves to pray either they feel like or not.

In a book I read years ago by W. F. Kumuyi, he said, "speak to God on behalf of men, before you speak to men on behalf of God". In other words, pray, before you preach, and pray after you preach. The kind of preaching and teachings that causes the heart of men to burn are birth in the place of prayers. Prayer is key! If any church will succeed, it must be a praying church. The early church gathering was born in prayer.

There was a sexton who was devoted to his pastor, then, a new pastor was brought to the church. Someone asked the sexton what he thought of the new pastor. The man replied, "I like him pretty well, but when it comes to praying, the former pastor ask the Lord for things that the new pastor doesn't even know the Lord got". Have you heard pastors who say that prayers cannot do some things? Those are people thinking like natural men. I used to talk that way, too, in the past, but not now. I once said prayers cannot change a nation. But I have found out that when men get into prayers and they pray in the will of God, there is nothing that cannot change. Never say prayer cannot change some things. It's good to say prayers only cannot change it, but that prayers cannot change it is total ignorance. When King Herod beheaded James and arrested Peter, why did the church get into prayers? With the constant prayers of the church, we

saw how Peter was delivered!

## **CROWD PULLERS ARE PRAYING MEN**

Someone asked Dr. Edward Payson, “Edward, you have a great ministry, things are happening under your ministry, please tell us the five most important thing in the life of a minister”. Edward replied, “number one, prayer: number two, prayer; number three, prayer; four, prayer and number five is prayer”. The truth about prayer is that it is not measured by length, but by weight.

There is power in consistent prayers. Some days, you are digging holes; some days, you are planting poles; some days, you are stringing wire. One day, the circuit will be completed, and you make contact. To desire the successes of great ministers is good; however, before you desire their successes, go and learn their secrets. There is no secret to the move of God. Every move of God comes in answer to prayers. We all love Martin Luther’s success, but only few knew his secret. He was once asked what his plans for the following day were. He replied “work, work, from the early until late. In fact, I have so much to do that I shall spend the first three hours in prayers”. The motto of same Martin Luther is “He that has prayed well has studied well. If I rest, he said, I rust”

## **JESUS PRAYED**

Do you realize that there is nowhere in the Bible Jesus was found studying the scripture, except that we knew he read the book of Isaiah in the synagogue and quoted, explained and clarified several verses from the Old Testament, which I believed were product of secret study. We found many places in the Bible, however, where Jesus was found praying. After He



was baptized by John at Jordan, He prayed. He prayed on the mountain after His disciples departed. He prayed in the garden of Gethsemane. Even after his resurrection He still blessed His disciples.

## **BE KNOWN FOR PRAYER**

As a minister, is your church is known with good music, nice protocols, good lighting, quality sound system, picturesque facility, but not known with prayers? Truth is that all those things are good, but do you realize they have those things in club houses. As a matter of fact, they have more quality of those things at cinemas. Prayers! Prayers!! Prayers!!! This is what the early church was known with. The church of Jesus is a praying church. You say the church lacked power. Well, that could be true, but the truth is that power didn't leave the church; it was prayer that left the church. If the church can get into prayers, power will manifest itself again, like before. Too many people are praying, but are not praying right; the reason is because they are not well grounded in the word. Truth is that the Word and prayer go together. God will use the word to get us into prayers, and will push us back into the word in the place of prayers.

Jesus was both 100% God and 100% man. He walked this earth as a man. He ate, slept, drank, trekked and sat, but beyond that, Jesus prayed! If Jesus prayed, who are you not to pray? Jesus said, "men always ought to pray and not lose heart". Luke 18:1. You notice, He didn't say ministers. If God expects men to pray, then, what about His ministers? It's shameful when a minister says God has moved him from the season of prayers to the season of rest. Which rest are you talking about? Paul counseled the believers at Thessalonica to "pray without

ceasing". 1 Thessalonians 5:17. He told the people of Colosse to continue earnestly in prayers - Colossians 4:2.

## **MESSAGES ARE RECEIVED IN PRAYERS**

Logical teachings with accurate exegesis are produced at Bible study, but messages are received in prayers. So, you must learn to combine both Bible study with prayers. In prayers, you communicate to the Father and exercise your authority in Christ Jesus. Sometimes, if you have read or studied a topic and you seem not to understand, it may not be because you didn't read enough; it may be because you didn't pray enough. When you see a talkative minister who talks anyhow, at any time, such is not a praying minister. Praying people are quiet people except for those who lack knowledge.

## **PRAYER IS ABOUT YOUR HEART**

Your mouth doesn't reach out to God, your heart does. It is what comes out of your heart that God hears, not what comes out of your mouth. You don't need to speak louder with your mouth, for God to hear you. You only speak louder to give voice to what is coming from your heart, and to give dictates to angels. While God responds to the words of your heart, angels respond to the words of your mouth. That is the reason you need to be careful of what you say with your mouth. This season, rise, pray and pray until you pray!

## UNDERSTANDING THE PLACE OF FASTING

### SCRIPTURAL TRUTH ABOUT FASTING

What do you know about fasting? When last did you fast? I am glad to discover that in the last few years, clarity has been made concerning fasting. The following are scriptural truth about fasting:

1. Fasting doesn't move God. Fasting moves you.
2. Fasting doesn't bring the power of God. It's the Spirit of God that brings power.
3. Fasting doesn't change the mind of God. It only aligns you to the will of God.
4. Fasting will not change your circumstances. It only helps you to see your circumstances differently.
5. Fasting is not a substitute for knowledge or actions.

While the above are scriptural truth, you need to understand that fasting is a dynamic tool that is necessary for effective spiritual adventure in God. In the Old Testament, God commanded

the Israelites to fast on many occasions. Obviously, fasting was a command to the Jewish people. You don't have to wait to be led to fast, decide to fast.

## **FASTING IS ABSTINENCE FROM FOOD**

Fasting is abstinence from food, water is not included. You can drink water when you fast. Well, I am not talking about Facebook fasting or internet fasting or TV fasting, I am talking about abstinence from food. I think it's erroneous when we say people go on Facebook fasting or TV fasting. Those are not fasting but a decision. You should make decisions to avoid internet or the likes. Don't tell us you are doing fasting when you are still eating. You are deceiving yourself.

## **WHOEVER CLAIM TO BE OF CHRIST SHOULD FAST**

Fasting! Fasting!! Fasting!!! There is need for ministers to lay emphasis on this again. Scripture reveals many of the Prophets who were known with fasting. Jesus fasted. The early church believers and ministers fasted. Why will you not fast? In Matthew 9:14, the disciples of John came to Jesus and questioned him, "why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?" I am amazed to hear ministers refer to the disciples of Jesus as those who didn't fast. Obviously, such exegesis didn't fit the accuracy of scripture. You notice the disciples of John fast Why? Simply because John, their teacher taught them. John the Baptist didn't condemn fasting, but mandated his disciples (followers) to fast often (you notice, they fast often). The Pharisees also fast often (regularly), because it's included in their laws. Many failed to read further. They failed to see that Jesus replied them in the next verse that "the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and

they will fast” Matthew 9:15. You see that Jesus referred to His disciples as those who will fast in days when the bridegroom is no longer with them. We are in the days when Jesus referred to. Therefore, whoever claims to be of Christ should fast.

## **AVOIDING THE EXTREME PATH TO FASTING**

There are three people in scripture that did not eat for forty days and night. The three were Moses, Elijah and Jesus. These three were supernaturally empowered. Nobody should decide to go on a forty days dry fast now. Don’t kill yourself. Don’t claim you are led to go on a forty days dry fast. It’s ignorance.

You can fast for forty days but take time to eat or break after some hours, days or weeks as you decide. I have done forty days fasting, sixty days fasting. I have even fasted for one hundred and twenty days, yet I never did dry fast (if there is anything like dry fasting). I always take my time to break the fast at a time I decide or when I’m led by the Spirit of God to break the fast. I have fasted for a day without food. I have also fasted for three days, but for the three days that I didn’t eat, I was led of the Spirit of God to do that. In those moments, supernatural strength is supplied that you won’t even know that you haven’t eaten.

It will be erroneous to prescribe fasting for some kinds of problems. It’s wrong for a minister to say ‘for this kind of problem or challenge, its three days fasting’, or for this kind of thing, ‘it’s seven days fasting’. All these are not scriptural. Many fell into errors when they began to specify kinds of fasting into certain issues.

## **THINGS TO DO WHILE FASTING**

You have to do the following when you fast:

1. You should read and meditate on God's word. You must give attention to meditation during fasting.
2. You should be opened to receive Scriptural promises from the Holy Spirit. These promises are handed over to you as your personal revelation, awaiting manifestation.
3. You should get into prayers. Prayers made during fasting grants supernatural breakthrough. When you pray during fasting, you utter words of dominion.
4. You should be attentive to instructions. The Spirit of God will guide you and you must obey. Obedience is superior to intelligence.
5. You should be diligent to talk to God more than you talk with men, during fasting.

## **IN THE NEW TESTAMENT WE ARE NOT COMMANDED TO FAST, AND WE ARE NOT COMMANDED NOT TO FAST TOO**

Acts 13:1-3

**[1] Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.**

**[2] As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."**

**[3] Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away.**

According to the above scripture, five men, both Prophets and teachers were gathered to minister to the Lord. We evidently see that they fasted and prayed.

Apostle Paul admonished couples that “Do not deprive one another, except with consent for a time that you may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again so that Satan does not tempt you because of your lack of self-control”. 1 Corinthians 7:5 Believers are expected to give themselves to fasting.

## SEVEN TRUTHS ABOUT MINISTERS AND MINISTRY

### *SEVEN TRUTHS ABOUT MINISTERS AND MINISTRY*

1. God did not call and send you to raise money, but to raise men. Focus on the vision He has given you, and He will send the provision.
2. Never put in high-leadership position whoever sees you as his or her friend, brother or boss. Love everybody, but put in top leadership position only those who see you as a father. God doesn't impart your spirit on those who see you as a friend, boss or brother. While everyone can partake of your grace, only those who see you as a father can carry your spirit.
3. Obedience is better than sacrifice; instruction is superior to intelligence. Saul disobeyed God because he wanted to please the people. Never be foolish to disobey God's instruction because you want to please the people.
4. Whenever people challenge or rebel against your authority like Koran, Dathan and Abiram did against Moses, don't



- react or defend yourself. Just report them to God. You don't approach God as the Father in this kind of matter; you approach Him as the Judge of the earth. Tell Him to show His side as the Judge and stand back to watch the drama. God the Judge will fight for you in a way that you will pity them.
5. You are not in ministry to be popular or famous. You are in ministry to be impactful. Advertisement and media publicity can make your name and programs known, but it is God's pronouncement and announcement on you that makes your authority to be known. Publicity can make you popular, but divine endorsement makes you an authority.
  6. In the secular world, your association determines your destination, and your network determines your net worth. In ministry, your revelation determines your destination. When God wants to give you the revelation of the future, He will send a Prophetic person into your life. When He wants to give you the strategy to enter that revelation, He will send an Apostle to you. Apostles are proton figure that can function as Prophet to get the revelation and function in the cadre to receive the strategy.
  7. In life, the quality of the information you have determines the measure of your impact. In ministry, the measure of the impartation in your spirit determines your impact. To go far and fast in ministry, God will direct a person with an apostolic spirit and strategies to impact you.

## UNDERSTANDING THE PLACE OF PROCESS

### **ENJOY THE PROCESS**

Enjoy the process! God is preparing you for the blessings your capacity cannot handle now. Cooperate with Him. Learn new things, expand your capacity and THINK BIGGER.

If you can think about yourself for some seconds, you will discover that you are changing. You are no longer who you used to be, you are now becoming what you want to be! Your body and status may not change but one thing is changing - and that's your mind! Could it be that the new thing that should happen to you now is the internal visualization of your self-image? There is a way you see yourself that needs to change! Until you re-imagine yourself, you will always be your old self, at the new level. Your inner eyes need to see your change before you experience it!

### **THINK AND TAKE ACTION**

The problem with many people is that they think too much and do less. Thinking without doing will amount to nothing.

Thinking makes you creative and innovative, while doing makes you productive. To be celebrated, you need to be productive with your creativity and innovation. Do your thinking!

### **MAINTAIN THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR LIFE**

Many things must change about you regularly, but some things must not change, for if they change, you are doomed! Your humility must not change to pride, sense of honour to dishonour, respect to disrespect, among others. As you change levels, you must maintain good value!

### **GIVE YOURSELF CONSISTENTLY TO LEARNING**

You may not be all you want to be yet; just as you may not have all you want to have now. In all, however, ensure you know all you want to know now! If you can give yourself to learning, you will know, and certainly, when you know, you will BE and you will HAVE!

## WHAT LEADERS IN MINISTRY MUST KNOW

- God permits you to be alone because those are the moment He reveals His presence, purpose, plans and power. You experience breakthrough speedily in moments of isolation. Your coming out however will be for manifestation.
- You will experience the greatest faith pictures of your life when you spend time in secret place. When you spend time in secret place, wrong pictures die, right pictures come alive.
- The secret place is where your humanity absorbs divinity. God's face shines on you here. God will show you your high place in life, in the secret place.
- You cannot please everyone. Don't permit criticism from others to bother you. Criticism is a sign of importance.
- Wisdom demands that you don't give attention to critics, because that is the first reason for criticizing you. You are superior to whatever you starve your attention.

- Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality. If you can make a vision a reality, you are a leader!
- Seeing leadership as influence alone may blind your mind to the fact that a leader should translate vision into reality!

## SEVEN INSIGHTS FOR MINISTERS

### *SEVEN INSIGHTS FOR MINISTERS*

1. Sometimes, all you will get is not answer to your challenges, but comfort from His presence. His presence is more powerful than any answer. God's presence makes the difference between those who stand up and those who fold up when hard times hit. You go on not because you don't feel the pain, but because you have the comfort of his presence.
2. God designed you to enjoy the finished work of Christ and the finished works of others. The finished works of Christ is for your upward movement while the finished works of others is for your forward movement.
3. There is no specific course that can study the totality of man. We have the physiology of man, psychology of man and spirituality of man. If you will advance fast in life, study the spirituality of man and other aspects will fall into place. The amazing thing about the Bible is that it offers free course to all the three aspect.

4. When you drive away someone from your life, you drove something away. Men are things. Men are more than humans or personalities. God hides His possibilities in men. Every man in your life represents something that God has given you or will give you. You must be skilled at coping with the differences of every man. You must know God is the creator of differences and diversities in men. The capacity of men differs; sometimes, it may take you ten thousand men to replace one person that left your life. Learn to manage God's gift of men to you!
5. True prosperity is the ability to use God's power to meet the need of mankind in any realm of life. Money is the lowest form of power that exists in the world. The highest form of power is the power of prayer. God gives riches. Your prayers will not bring money to you, but prayers can cause God to release riches on you. It is riches that bring money. Riches are invisible power that manifest in different ways on earth. It is with your financial intelligence that you will convert riches into money.
6. A man can program your destiny through prophecy. You can do it yourself and program your life by it. You just say it and it will happen. When God wants to shift the seasons of your life speedily, He directs a spiritual figure, whose words carry heavy weight to speak words over you. When the word is released, everything in the physical will be compelled to adjust, adapt and respond to the invisible weight you carry everywhere. You are about to shift to the next dimension by prophecy!
7. The purpose of all you have been through is to reveal you to you. And until you know you, the world cannot know you. It is from what you are going through that you discover

your inner strength and potential. While you thank God for all you have been through, you need to pray to get out of the negative you are going through. God has promised you, but you have to fight for every prophecy over your life to take its delivery in prayers. You are next in line for national and global recognition.



## RAISE OTHER MINISTERS

### **MY EXPERIENCE AT THE CITY OF PORT HARCOURT**

Few years ago, I was in the city of Port Harcourt. My stay there brought about great adventure and exposure. Exposure, I mean having raw experience of creative miracles and the supernatural, at a higher level beyond what I saw and heard at the University.

Then, one night, I was instructed by God to leave. This came at a time I was already becoming stabilized and established in that city. I really wished I could stay there longer, but I had to yield to the instructions. Then, I said to God, “will I leave without leaving an imprint in this city?” I really prayed to God one night to do something extraordinary before I leave the city. I prayed that God should send someone my way that would continue what I started there.

Five days to my departure, I saw a young boy of seventeen years preaching to some teenagers in an open space. I guess the oldest among them would be fifteen years. I listened to the young man preached to them as I lingered in my movement. All he repeated often was “Jesus is good! Jesus is kind! He is

great! You should love Jesus! He will give you money! He will bless you! Shout I love Jesus!” His active congregation clapped and shouted as he requested. Then, he asked them, “How many of you are blessed today?” They all lifted up their hands. Then, he announced, “See you here tomorrow”. Make sure you come early. I will continue from where I stopped today. I thought within me, what did he teach today that he would continue tomorrow? Then, I knew that I needed to step in and act. I said in my heart, if I could get this young boy and pour into him, he can eventually set this city aglow for God.

As they finished the meeting, I called the young preacher and told him to visit me in my house. He promised to visit me at 2pm the following day and be with me till 3:30pm before he proceeded to their daily meeting which holds at 4pm.

As he came in, we got into discussion and asked if he knew what it means to be saved. His response showed he didn’t know. I asked, how he got saved, then he replied that he got saved the day he started going to church and changed his character. I smiled and simply said, “Great man, you are not yet saved”. So, I showed him in the scriptures how to, and he made the confession. So, I taught him how to get others saved. I instructed him to go teach what I just explained to him that day and get others saved.

I later asked, “Are you baptized with the Holy Spirit?” He asked what I meant and I explained from scriptures to him. Then, within ten minutes, he became hungry to be baptized. So, I said I will pray for you now, and on your seat there, the Spirit of God will come upon you and you will begin to speak with other tongues. Like a glow, the young man fell off his chair and began to blast in unknown tongues. His spiritual vocabularies increased with intensity.

After he stood up, I instructed him to go and do the same thing that was done to him to others that same day. I told him that spiritual things are done by faith and knowledge. I laid my hands on him and called forth the ministry in him. I told him to lay hands on people for the baptism of the Spirit and showed him from scriptures. I had to speed him up because there was no time, as I was about to leave in four days' time. I told him the Spirit of God is in him and my spirit is with him wherever he goes.

When it was 3:45pm, I released the young man to go rush to his meeting. He went to the meeting. The next day, he visited me early morning and said, "Apostle, the Holy Spirit is real, but it was God that saved me yesterday. Our two hours meeting turned to more than six hours meeting and eventually, over five hundred people gathered around me. I asked, 'what?', "where?" and "how?" He told the story, when I got to the meeting, I told all of them that today, they would be saved and will receive power. He said, he explained just like I did to him from scriptures how to be saved and told all of them to confess Jesus as their Lord. After they did, he explained to them the need to be baptized with the Holy Spirit to they can receive power just as he was showed from scriptures. So, he told all to stand and prayed that the Spirit of God should come on them. He said, suddenly, by the time he opened his eyes, all of them were on the floor speaking with other tongues. I stood up as he spoke as I was in awe and he also stood up. He continued: sir, after a while, all stood up, except one teenage girl. The girl stopped speaking in tongues and was on the floor with her eyes closed. She was lifted, but she wasn't opening her eyes. So everyone in the meeting began to shout "she's dead, she's dead...They rushed to call the parents of the girl, everyone gathered, and

by the time he looked, crowd have gathered around him. The teenagers narrated their experiences and how they all spoke with tongues. The community was amazed. Then, they went to call an orthodox minister who carried the girl and prayed that God should raise the dead, but she didn't open her eyes. The people took buckets of water and poured on her, but she didn't open her eyes. The young preacher was already sweating and shivering. After a long while, the mother of the girl turned to the young preacher and said "you killed my daughter, you will..." Just while the woman was insulting the young preacher, the young girl opened her eyes and stood up. Everyone who stood there was in awe, shouted and clapped. The young preacher took his Bible and was about to run home. As he was about leaving, everyone began to give the young preacher money. They gave him huge cash and this time, they told him to come the next day for his meeting. As he was going home, everyone began to say words like "he is anointed"; "he is powerful"; "he has calling upon his life". So, this time, I was happy for him, and said, I'm happy that God has used you, but the young preacher said to me "Apostle, I came back, so I can get more power". I replied to him, "I don't give power, Holy Spirit does; you don't need power now, you need knowledge now". He knelt down and said whatever I need, give me, sir. The point is that what took someone twenty years to do can be done by someone, within twenty four hours. God amazingly used this young man to do the unusual in his environment. I desire that God will use you to do the unusual in your environment.

## COUNSEL TO MINISTERS

### **AS A MINISTER TAKE HEED TO THE FOLLOWING FIVE INSIGHTS:**

#### **FEAR GOD**

The fear of God is the first sign of wisdom. The reverence of God in your heart is a proof that you are wise. If your thoughts, decisions and speech are devoid of the fear of God, you are not wise. The fear of God is not some mundane, religious or heavenly conscious matter. It's a consciousness and awareness of the invisible God that rules in the affairs of men.

#### **LOVE PEOPLE, JUST AS THEY ARE**

It's foolishness for you to think because people don't do what you think they should do or behave the way you think they should behave, that they are evil. Our knowledge forms our belief system. If they know what you know, they will believe what you believed and do what you want them to do.

Don't insult your parents, friends, family members because they fail to meet your expectations. You violate the law of

relationship when you do so. When someone closer to you hurts you, rather than telling the world about it, why don't you discuss with such in privacy or you keep quiet and let go? There are things you do that others will also consider absurd, but they let go. The proof of maturity is ability to overlook people's mistakes. Free your heart! God created human diversities. Learn to relate with different types of people. Don't expect everyone to think and behave like you. You don't need another "you" in your life. You need other type of people. I have discovered that God sometimes (not always) deposits the treasures you need and desire in people that irritates you. God does that sometimes to keep you humble. When you react against their irritation, you will lose the treasure. Bees that brings honey sting. Often, the person that hurts or offends you most has the money, wisdom, connection, influence you need. You drive the bees away, the honey goes. Two people you should not relate with are the scoffers (proud and arrogant people) and the wicked (evil men). As a believer, you must continue to relate with sinners. If Jesus related with sinners, who are you not to love and relate with sinners? You just have to be such that will not be influenced negatively by sinners.

### **SERVE! SERVE! SERVE!**

You can faith your way to the top, work your way to the top and serve your way to the top. Of the three, service is the easiest and fastest lifting strategy. To get you to the top, God will often put in your heart to serve someone or somewhere. This will require humility. If you are too big to serve, you are too small to rise. You can plan and work to succeed, but you serve to be great! In serving God, you serve men. Those who serve are not foolish, they are smarter. Service is a proof that you have

the seed of greatness in you. Service, I mean working with the sincerity of your heart. At your workplace, work as though you are serving there. Service will make people trust you with their privacy, secrets, gifts, tasks, among others. At your workplace, let your boss know that you are working for the progress of the company or organization, and not necessarily the salary. When you do, you have suggested to your boss indirectly and silently that he should trust you with bigger duties and positions.

### **PRIORITIZE, MAKE PLANS, EXECUTE PLANS AND MANAGE TIME**

Identify something important to you that you want to achieve in every year. Make that your priority. Then, plan and take actions. Ensure you give time to all you do. God can prioritize for you, by instructing you on what to do first but He won't plan and execute for you. God will not manage your time for you; He can help you redeem time. Henceforth, be time conscious. You must regularly ask yourself, "what next?"

### **ACQUAINT YOURSELF WITH THE SCRIPTURES AND LEARN FROM MEN ALWAYS**

Read your Bible, and be doer of the Word. Read books with quality information that will empower your mind. Watch videos that will build you. Listen to teachings that will feed you. Don't waste your time reading bad news on social media. Listen to other people's view. I have learnt a lot by listening to other leaders and friends. Every man will always need counselors. Among your friends, identify your counselors. Identify your confidants amidst them. Your friends are not ordinary people, so share with them and learn from them. Learn more every time, than all your previous years.

## MINISTER'S MATURITY

### JEALOUSY

Never be Jealous or envious of people, colleagues and/or ministers' gift, capacity, influence, money, progress. Be yourself. We can't all have the same thing; we can't be the same and we can't do same thing. Some will definitely be able to perform better than others in some areas but the truth is that we can all do something. Remember the master gave five talents to one servant, and gave two to another. Whether you like it or not, some people have more gifts than some others. Some will have more influence than some; another will be enriched financially than some others. You don't have to be jealous, rather, begin to see what you have as the completion of others and what they have as your completion.

You can't make progress when you are jealous, and often what you are jealous of are the things you have. With time, they will be manifest. You need to know that some of the people you are jealous of started before you. Imagine a young lady of twenty-one years old who is jealous of her friend who has a baby and is already called a mother and respected because



of her baby. She has forgotten that her friend she is jealous of was impregnated and she became the shame of the society, but she decided to keep the baby. The point is you want to be in her state to be called a mother, but where were you where she was in shame? I am sure if she was the mother, she would have terminated the pregnancy. Never be envious or jealousy of what God is doing with others in ministry, because when they passed through torment and hell, you were not there. The truth is that the lady complaining will also have her baby at the right time - when she is married, and do the right thing. It's unfortunate that she is blind to the fact that God kept her from shame. Instead of her to be grateful to God that she was not impregnated prematurely, she's complaining.

There can't be progress where there is jealousy. Progress occurs when you see the invisible, but jealousy occurs when you see the visible. The visible is manifestation. It is revelation that produces manifestation. Jealousy is a blockade to revelation. When you are jealous, you are only open up to what another man is doing, you can't see what you should do. So, when you see someone do something that could make you feel jealous, just thank God for them.

One of the ways to get out of jealousy is to pray for the people you are jealous of, that God should keep blessing them. You think that is difficult, because God can't bless them more than you. You think like a man, and you just view God as a man. God is not a man. It is what He will do for others; regardless of your prayer, He will do it. So, when you pray for them, you are not helping them, you are helping yourself; you can't attract what you are jealous of. If you are jealous of the progress of others, you can never attract the kind of progress. You should not expect in your life whatever you don't respect in man. If

you don't respect God's gift, influence, wealth in a man, that thing can never respond to you.

Matthew 7:12

**[12] Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.**

The above scripture says: "also unto others what you want others (some other in another place) to do to you". The explanation is simple - do unto these people what you want those people do to you. Do unto the people here, what you want other people there to do to you. Do unto people in this environment (city), what you want them to do to you. It means if you respect the people here, those there will respect you. If you speak well, acknowledge the grace upon the people here, the people there will speak about you well, acknowledge your grace. Not that you do it in their presence. It is simple - if you honour certain people, certain people will honour you. It is a heart thing. If your heart flows right with some people, the heart of some people will also flow right with you. If you want slander, speak evil of some in the city, some will also do same to you in another city. If you support the vision of some people, some people will also support your vision.

## COMPETITION

Never compete with anybody. Never do things to meet up with the level of someone. You will always be second to whosoever you compete with. The end of competition is frustration. You can never meet up with whoever you are competing with. The life of others should never challenge you, it should only encourage, motivate, inspire you. Whenever you want to compete, you have lost the battle before you began.

Apostles Paul liken a minister to an athlete, not a competitor

- the meaning of which is that you are running the path of purpose alone, not competing with anybody. Jealousy is when you wish to have what another person has. Competition is when you want to meet up with the level of a man, and be ahead of them. Never strive to be ahead, if God hasn't placed you ahead.

## **CRITICISM**

Never criticize the progress of others. Never speak ill of others. Be wise not to be too quick to expose the errors or mistakes of people. God wants you to learn from every mistake of people He exposes to you. Often, God wants you to stay quiet on mistakes of others He reveal to you. You must always ask yourself: 'why has God shown this to me?'

Avoid friendship with any minister that criticizes people easily. It's possible to spot errors easily, but don't talk and don't use it to misbehave. Anyone who speaks or says the error he spots should not be your friend, because one day, he will stab you behind you.

## **DON'T BE MR KNOW ALL**

Never assume you know, more than everyone. Don't try to always want to correct everybody. Don't pretend you know when you don't know. Sometimes, to prove to others that you are not Mr-know-all, you will need to ask questions you don't know. Everything you don't know, there is someone around you who knows it. Don't be the one that will always want to answer questions except you are specifically asked. If you are this kind of person, people will find it difficult to be around you. This is because everybody wants to be heard.

Be careful not to be judgmental. Don't proclaim judgment

on every matter. Don't be the judge of another man. You can judge matters, but not talk. Never say to any minister that he ministers better than others

## **ARROGANCE**

Some pastors will say I don't fear people, I only fear God. All the new creation teachers that teach us to insult elders or other ministries, because they are not doctrinally correct, are wrong. Paul even admonished Timothy to address older men as fathers, how much more ministers of God? We are all the same in Christ, but we are not the same in the kingdom. Jesus made us to know there is the least in the kingdom. Moses and Korah, Dorthan and Abiram are never the same. You can approach a man of God to share your perspective in a polite way, but don't just insult them. Whatever you do to some, some will also do to you.

You must always wear the spirit of honour. Never be too arrogant to speak behind a man of God - be humble and honour men. Never get closer to a man of God you cannot honour.

## **CONTROVERSY**

Never embark on arrogance in ministry. The source is when you always want to justify your points, opinions and revelation. Why argue on revelation. Revelation is meant to produce result. Anybody can argue with revelation, but you can't argue with results. Ministry is not a debate.

## **COMPARISON**

Don't measure your success by the results of others. Comparison will blind you to the progress you are already making. You are making progress; you are just making it at your level. Paul

made it clear that they that compare themselves to others are not wise. Comparing your results or impact in ministry to that of others is a sign of foolishness and immaturity. You may learn from others, or find out what they do, so as to improve where you are, but the moment you begin to find out what others are doing, with the yardstick to compare yourself to them, then, you are going off track.

### **SMALL BEGINNING**

Don't measure your beginning. Big staff is combination of small things. The scripture says "Though your beginning was small, yet your latter end would increase abundantly." Job 8:7.

### **RELATIONSHIP**

Don't be a fool going across places calling anybody your son. Everybody cannot be your son. Everyone knows their father and pastor. You only call your son those you birth in Christ, or raise up, or those who come to submit to your ministry. You can't be mentor to anybody. So, don't call everybody your mentee. Food makes the body to grow, knowledge makes the mind to grow, and the Word and tongues makes the spirit to grow. When those you call your son and daughter, who you never invest in, get knowledge, they will react. I admonish young ministers or leaders not to call anyone their mentee, son and daughter. Let them acknowledged you as such. When they acknowledge, you have been announced. Don't advertise yourself, trust God to announce you. Advertisement is not announcement.

I have been learning about mentoring since 2007, came into discipleship 2010 and then came into fatherhood 2013. I do mentoring, discipleship, fatherhood with people, but I don't tell

them. I just know that when you grow up you will know what I am doing. So, I don't call people my mentee, disciples or son or daughter. I call them my brother and sister, but they know who they are to me. They know when I say he's my brother or sister, it is more than that. I am not saying it is wrong, but I am only saying some things are not ethically sound or correct.

I mentor some fathers that are older than I, they respect me and I respect them likewise. I don't call them son or mentee. Peter was older than Jesus, but Jesus said I call you friends. It was after resurrection He called them children. When you get to the age or stage to call people sons and daughters, you will know. Many people have come to me to mentor them, which I accepted but I don't go about calling them mentee. A sister came to me one day and asked me if I don't address her as a church minister, who she is to me. I replied: "you are my sister"; whereas, she's a daughter to me, in the faith. Why God will not send people the way of some people to mentor is because He knows you will use it to claim glory and control people's life.

Also, the fact that people come to ask questions from you regularly doesn't make them your son or mentee. I understood this while on campus, many come to ask me questions. They don't see me as a mentor or father, but a pastor or fellowship leader who has knowledge. It will be wrong to now begin to call them son or mentee. You will hurt emotionally when you discover that they don't see you as a father. If you are not careful, they are setting you up for enmity with colleagues in ministry. For example, a lady called me one day. She called me her father and also called another person her father. So, she calls two people father now, and she has many mentors, too. So, I gave her audience and we both sat to talk, then the other person who happens to be a minister saw us talking then my sensitivity was

activated, I just perceive the thoughts in his heart; he thought: 'what is this man discussing with my daughter? Why does he assume that he know things more than others?' When I got that, he was looking at us, and I got into his thinking. At first I was angry and wanted to break my relationship with that pastor, but the Lord warned me. It wasn't his fault, but that of the lady. He only acted immaturally. So, don't be deceived when people call you mentor or father, they do so to other people.

Don't create problem for yourself and others minister by calling every minister your father. Every minister can't be your father. Know your pastor, mentor, father and stick to them. Don't go about calling everybody your father. Some of them think you mean what you said, without knowing that you only said that to honour them. You can call a great man one of the fathers in faith or you say "our father", not "my father" Bishop Oyedepo is "our father", but not "my father", but we must respect him, because he's our father in the faith. If you don't want to set yourself up to be claimed by many minister, you need to be wise.

## UNDERSTANDING AND ENBRACING THE DIVERSITY OF GOD

### **ONE MAN CANNOT KNOW ALL ABOUT GOD**

Your knowledge of God is just a part of the sub-total of the knowledge of Himself He has revealed to men. We know God more and better, when we permit each one of us to express his or her scriptural-experiential knowledge of God. Who God is to you may not be who He is to me. Certainly, He is one God! But our knowledge and experience of Him is diverse. Whatever knowledge we have of Him should never contradict How He describes Himself in scriptures.

### **THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD IS DIVERSE**

He is God to every man in the world; He is the Father to all believers (not Father to those in the world); He is the Judge of the universe, to those who need execution of justice; He is Ruler of the universe to kings and princes; He is a healer to the sick; He is a provider to the beggar and poor; He is rewarded



to those who seek Him.

The reality is that, all that He is can be seen in Scripture, but He won't be all that He is to one man! Obviously, one man cannot experience the totality of God's expression of Himself. For that to happen, it means such a man will live beyond centuries to witness and experience events as orchestrated by Him, just to reveal another dimension of Himself.

### **NO BELIEVER CAN EXPERIENCE THE TOTALITY OF GOD'S EXPRESSION**

For believers, we have all of God within us, and we have access to the totality of the knowledge of God in scripture, but, no believer can experience the totality of God's expression. We are His image! Each man should be an expression of God's personality on earth.

Jesus didn't experience all of God, but He expressed all of God! For example, Jesus was never sick, so, God was not a healer to Jesus, but to those who were sick, Jesus healed them. This means Jesus expressed the healing dimension of God as a man on earth, but never experienced healing Himself, because He was never sick.

Believers need to develop the consciousness that just like Jesus, they don't need to experience every dimension of God, rather, they should express it! You don't need to experience healing as a believer, because it's possible for you not to be sick but you can release the healing power on the sick, because Jesus said they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover. Therefore, who is God to you?



## About the Author

Niyi Makinde is a leadership expert, quotient coach, consultant, author and a Christian minister with an apostolic calling.

His passion is to raise Christian ministers and leaders like himself, as well as to help organisations and businesses maximize their potentials. Apostle Niyi Makinde has been in Christian ministry for over fifteen years. He is the President of Rebirth Global Church, a network of churches across the globe on a mission to empower believers to fulfill their God-given tasks on earth.

He is an apostolic oversight and covering for many other ministries, networks and churches.

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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
19. Managing Divine People
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
42. Maintaining Sound Health
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
52. Wave of Increase
53. Praise for Favor
54. Ministers Training Manual
55. Breaking Joy Code
56. The Power of His Name
57. You Are a wonder

58. Roar and Soar
59. The Minister and the Ministry
60. Grace Factor
61. Subdue and Dominate
62. Flourish and Grow (2)
63. Overtake
64. Victory over Afflictions
65. The Power of Patience
66. Stand out to Step out
67. Shining like the Sun
68. 30 Channels of Wealth
69. Breaking into Laughter
70. The Power to Dominate
71. Enjoying Health
72. Stronger than the stronger
73. Battle for Wealth
74. Wealth Transfer
75. Maximum Protection
76. The Power to Be on Time
77. Power Activators
78. The Essence of Obedience
79. The Power of words
80. Planting a Branch Church
81. Power Dimensions (1)
82. The Power to Live Long
83. The Power to Deliver
84. The Power to Bless
85. Raising the Dead
86. The Power to Heal
87. The Power to Separate
88. Your Reality Today (Yoreto)

