



NIYI MAKINDE

THE FATHER OF THE NEW APOSTOLIC MOVEMENT

THE GREATEST

JOINING THE **LEAGUE OF THE MOST RELEVANT**
AND **THE MOST INFLUENTIAL** PEOPLE ON EARTH



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About the Author

Also by Niyi Makinde

To Pelumi Elusakin (Pastor P)

What a worthy son in the faith! You are reliable, committed and obedient. You're ever willing to do anything for God's kingdom. You are conscience-conscious and trustworthy. With you, nothing missing. I see you as a future kingdom general and a global financial giant. I love everyone but can't trust everyone. Pelumi, I love and trust you! Welcome to the 'Greatest league!'

PREFACE

I am glad this book is in your hand right now. I started writing this book over four years ago. It is God that makes great; no man can make himself great. God said to Abram,

“I will make you a great nation... I will make your name great...”

(Genesis 12:2). Anyone you see that emerges into greatness in life has such privilege because God destined so. The reason you must take this book seriously is so you can become all God wants you to be. A person can be destined to be great but never become great. Why? Many fail to know early that they have a role to play in becoming who they are designed to become. If God says, “You shall be great,” but your actions say “No,” you won’t be great.

After God told Abram that he would be great, he (Abram) stepped out to embark on the journey God commanded him. If Abram stayed when God said he should get out of his country, family, and father’s house to a land He would show him, he wouldn’t become great.

God promised a great name for Abram, but he needed to obey God. Obedience to God is required for Abram to become the great one he's destined to become. There's a difference between a good name and a great name, a good nation and a great nation. Proverbs 22:1 says,

“A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches...”

Also, Ecclesiastes 7:1 says,

“A good name is better than precious ointment...”

According to the Bible, a good name is better than billions and perfumes.

I remember a brother once told me that he would rather choose great riches (millions and billions) than go for a good name. His argument was that he would use the money to get a good name. I accepted his words until a day I heard a couple say they would never pray to have a child like the wife's family relative that's a billionaire. They said they would rather trust God to give them a child like someone who's not as rich as that billionaire relation. I tried to find out the difference and discovered that the billionaire had a bad name (reputation).

Both a good name and a great name are a brand. But a good name is what you make happen by yourself, while a great name can only be made happen by God. You earn a good name by your behavior, speech, and how you treat other people, especially those who are not up to your level. But you get a great name by vision, grace, and exploit. Your vision, grace, exploit, results, and accomplishments get you a great name. You see, you can't have the listed except God gives it to you.

This has nothing to do with your religion. You don't need to be a Christian before you get a vision for your life. Unbelievers also receive visions too.

That's why you must constantly obtain mercy because mercy is a universal substance, not just for Christians. Mercy is for humans, not just for Christians. Mercy delivers from evil daily—accident, demotion, etc. Mercy grants promotion where you should be demoted. Mercy brings double honor where you should be ashamed. Mercy prevails over judgment. That's why you must obtain mercy early and daily all the days of your life.

Whether you have a good name or bad name is up to you. But to have a great name is up to God and you—up to God because He has to start it, but up to you because you have to be obedient to God and be action-oriented so as to know what's expected of you. I always tell people: Don't just have a great name; also have a good name. If you are going to have a good name, you must display character and behavior that are worthy of acceptance and emulation.

You can't be a miser and have a good name. Generosity brands your name. One of the ways to have a good name is to be generous toward others. If you are not kind, caring for others, supportive, humble, enduring, content, etc., you can't have a good name. It's one thing to be good; it's another thing to have a good name. It is what you think and how you think in your heart that makes you good, but it's what you do towards others and how you treat others that gets you a good name.

A good name is about having a good image. You don't pray to have a good name. Rather, you should pray for illumination (understanding) so you can constantly see what's needed to do so you can have a good name. You can pray to have a great name because that comes and starts with God.

If you don't have a reputation of excellent delivery, quality skills, good customer treatment, excellent performance, etc., you can't have a good name. A good name requires goodness to flow out of your life. Anything negative you are known with will affect your name. Gossiping, slander, etc.,

exaggeration, lies, deception, manipulation, etc., are vices that will affect your name negatively.

The other day, a man gave a job to a skilled worker, and the friend of the man told him that if the skilled worker tells you he will complete the work in two weeks, give him four weeks because he won't finish it at the stated time; he will delay it. The skilled worker was truly skilled but had a reputation of delay, and as such, his name is affected. He has a good name for being skilled but has a bad name for delaying work. I have discovered that if you have a good name in five areas but have a bad name in one area, that one area will overshadow the other five areas.

...and have made you a great name, like the name of the
great men who are on the earth.

— *2 Samuel 7:9*

God told David that He made him a great name like the name of other great men on earth. You may be small today, but God can do for you what He did for David. You see, you can't be great except God makes you so.

I want to boldly say this here—it is not only Christians that God makes great; He can decide to make anyone, including unbelievers, so. The only thing is that there's no unbeliever that can be great in the sight of the Lord. A religious fanatic may argue this, but that's the truth. I hope you know that there were great men at Sodom and Gomorrah when God destroyed it with fire. Those were people who didn't regard God, yet great men were amidst them.

In fact, in Genesis 19:11, you will discover that small and great among the people attacked the house of Lot. How could great people be in such a wicked place? Who made them great? Well, whether you believe it or not, it's God. I hope you know God raised Pharaoh up to display His majesty?

He said about that Pharaoh that “*I raised you up for a purpose—to show My glory in all the earth.*” The Most High rules in the kingdom of men and gives it to whoever He wishes. That wicked Pharaoh couldn’t have become a king without God’s approval. Whatever that Pharaoh became on his throne was by God’s approval.

How can you explain it that God called a Gentile king His anointed? Calling Cyrus God’s anointed is like referring to a Hindu worshipper as God’s anointed. You see, there are matters that are not based on God’s decisions. For example, after God sent Jesus Christ to the world, the salvation of anyone is no longer based on God’s decision but man’s response. It’s whoever responds with believing and confession that will be saved.

But on the matter of greatness, it’s based on God’s decision. When God decides to make you great, nothing and no one can stop Him—except you. You are the only one that can stop God from making you great when He decides to make you great. If you won’t obey Him and take actions based on the insight and direction in your heart, you won’t be great.

1 Chronicles 29:11 reveals that greatness belongs to God. Based on this, He can decide to give it to anyone. God will give you greatness and make you a great name like the great names in the realm of governance, medicine, tech, ministry, architecture, etc. The way God will make your name great like the names of the great men on earth is by putting an idea, vision, insight, solution, etc., in your heart that, when acted upon, will set you in a class of your own.

TWO SIDES OF GREATNESS

1. Greatness in the Sight of God

Luke 1:15 reveals that it was said about John the Baptist before he was conceived that he shall be great in the sight of the Lord. There are those great in God's sight. Those are people who are regarded important, relevant, and influential in God's sight. Anyone in this category is considered to be able to do something on behalf of God on earth. You must not just be great in the sight of men; you must be great in God's sight. Can God consider you important? Are you seen as relevant in God's plan? Are you up to date in the move of God? If yes, that means that you are great in the sight of God.

Do you know that there are people whose greatness reaches the heavens? Such people are regarded important and influential by God and angels in heaven. These persons are the ones considered for execution of heaven's agenda on earth. Some people's greatness doesn't go beyond this world. But before John the Baptist was born, they already felt his greatness in heaven. There are people whose importance, relevance, and greatness aren't limited to the earth space; such people have influence in the heavens. The names of such people carry weight in the realm of the spirit.

In Daniel 4:22, it was said about Nebuchadnezzar that his greatness has reached the heavens. In other words, it's known in heaven that Nebuchadnezzar was the superior king on earth. The heavens knew him to be the king of kings. The heavens knew the weight of the influence and importance of this king. They knew the whole earth looked up to his direction. Even though Nebuchadnezzar was a Babylonian king, yet the heavens knew about his greatness.

You can't be great in the sight of God and not be great in heaven. When you are great in God's sight, you can be considered by God to be sent on an assignment. There are visions, impact, and grace that are reserved for only those who are great in God's sight. I remember when God spoke to me that all my spiritual children shall be great in the sight of God. The revelation I have, which is a covenant of God to me, is that anyone who is my son or

daughter in the faith will not just be great on earth but also great in the sight of God.

Forget being great in the sight of God if you won't have an assignment you do for God. If you are just a member of a church but you don't have something you are doing specially for God, especially to God's people and in your church, you can't be great in the sight of God. What are you doing for God in the kingdom that will make you great in His sight? Let me warn you to be careful of pride. There are people that the moment they are rich, they can no longer serve in God's house (the church) again. Any greatness—lifting, importance, relevance, and influence—that you'll have that will bring you to a point where you are too big to serve in the house of God, may you not have it.

I saw the video of a governor of a state in Nigeria who was serving as a steward (usher) in his church. I was in awe. The governor was collecting the offering basket from people in the church. At another time, I saw the vice president of a country functioning as the secretary of a group in his church. How many people can do that? The moment you keep having more promotions and liftings in the world, you must be careful not to drop the kingdom assignment given to you.

2. Greatness in the Sight of Men

This is when humans consider you to be important and relevant in the society and world. This aspect is good, but being great in the sight of God is better. In the days of Noah, there were many great people but were all destroyed by water. Success and greatness go together. When you are result-oriented, generous towards people, caring for the needy, honest, valuable, and productive, you will be great before men. In the sight of men, you are as great as your results and achievements.

You see, the life you live will affect your greatness in heaven, but it is the result you command on earth that will determine your greatness in the sight of men. You may not be good, but if you have tangible results that can't be overlooked, men will call you great. If you are reading this, don't just command results that will make you great before men; you should also strive to live a life that will make heaven recognize you.

Let me also say this: There's a level of greatness you will have in God's sight that's dependent on what you accomplish for God. You may not be the richest in the world, but if you win the highest number of souls, your greatness will be incomparable in heaven.

Are you prepared for greatness at all? Many are not prepared for greatness, so they react against people when they aren't comfortable with their relevance. When you become great in the sight of men, you should bear in mind that some people will misunderstand you; they will gossip you, betray you, slander you, etc. You can't have greatness and not be hated. Someone somewhere must just hate you and become uncomfortable with your relevance and influence. With greatness comes envy.

If you don't want to be envied or criticized, then don't bother seeking to be great. Can you be great and be mature enough to be comfortable around those who aren't comfortable or happy with your progress? You don't want to be criticized? Then don't bother about greatness. Greatness will put you in the sight of people as you are lifted by God, so you must be prepared that it's not everyone that will be happy or joyful about your progress. When you are hated, can you be focused? Greatness always attracts hatred. Some will love and admire you, while some will just be insecure around you. Don't be carried away by the smiles of men. Be focused so your greatness will be unstoppable.

OWN YOUR HOUSE EARLY IN LIFE

It's very bad to obtain mercy late in life. If you don't build or have your house before you are fifty years old, you didn't obtain mercy early. Have you read the scripture that says *unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain that build it*? You see, anyone that builds a house, it's God that builds it for such. You don't build your house because you have money; you do because you obtained mercy. There are rich people whose minds weren't opened to build a house when they got money early in life. They were spenders who lived luxuriously, renting magnificent buildings without thinking of owning their house. Either you build or buy, just have your own house. You see, having your own personal house (property) is a proof of mercy. I know low salary earners who have built their houses, while I also know high income earners and business people who didn't have any personal house they own.

In fact, I know an elderly real estate contractor who built houses for others for over thirty years but, even at age sixty, can't point to a house that he owns. I wept the day a retired police officer told me he didn't have a half plot of land, not to talk of building a house. He worked for years, yet lives in a rented apartment at over sixty years. If you are reading this, I want you to obtain mercy early in this aspect so that at your younger age, in your thirties or forties, you will have your personal properties—either built or bought.

It's God that builds houses for people, and it's the mercy of God that will make God do such for you. I have the release in my spirit to say this here—this I haven't told anyone in my life. I have built houses for two people, so I know what I am saying in this regard. Though I hope to do more in the future, and those two people I built for aren't my family members. From my experience, I have discovered that when a man obtains mercy to build or

buy a house, the mind of that person will be opened to it, and the resources to make it happen will flow in.

If you are reading this, you may still be young or even going through some challenges, I want you to ask God to show you mercy early in the aspect of owning your house. Having the vision early to build or buy your house is the beginning of ownership mentality. You must be careful not to be too comfortable in a rented apartment. That you can afford to keep paying the rent could trap you from breaking into ownership mentality. I know some people don't like the stress of building themselves; that's why such people should trust God for resources to buy their own property.

When mercy shows up, the guidance and resources to build will be available. In regards to building, you take steps one after another. Don't compare yourself to another. Someone may buy a land and start building immediately and complete it within three months. Another person who doesn't have the opportunity, resources, and advantage that first person had must not compare himself. You may need to start small and keep developing it gradually till you are able to finish it. In building a house, nobody cares how you started; it's finishing and completion that matters. You may not have the resources to start and complete at once like another person; just start and keep developing it. Mercy will always finish what it starts.

I see you owning your personal house in the area you desire it to be. I see you buying more lands and houses that will become wealth to your children. I see you building houses for people and buying properties for those who need it. You are unstoppable.

You must fight the impossibility mentality that suggests to you that owning your personal property is an expensive thing. In that same city or state,

you'll be blessed and own your property. The resources to build or buy will come to you. It will be easy for you.

One day, an apostle of Jesus Christ who happens to be an intimate friend of mine and I traveled to Abuja. We met one of his friends who had conversations with us. During the discussion, I heard certain things his friend said, and that just turned me off. His words show he lacked faith in his heart to own his personal property in Abuja. He also has impossibility mentality.

He told us that it's easy to build a house in the city we came from (Abeokuta) but difficult in Abuja. I hate hearing such. I didn't have issue with that if he was saying that to pass information to us about the state of things in Abuja. But what I picked was that he was saying that to defend himself and protect his ego. He was indirectly passing it across to us that the state of things in Abuja is the reason he may not build or buy a house in Abuja. He was just saying that to prepare our mind for the future so that we would not be bothered in years ahead if he has no personal property in Abuja.

Another thing I picked from his statement was that he was indirectly telling us that we should not be overly excited that we built anything in the city we came from; if we want to really know our capacity, we should come to Abuja to build. You see, I am not the kind that misinterprets people's words or assumes for people; I don't and won't do that. What made me believe what he was indirectly saying to us was that after we left, my friend said the same thing I was thinking in my heart when his friend was talking to us. By the mouths of two or three witnesses, the truth shall be established.

You see, I don't like to listen to the words of faithless people when it comes to projects. Both faith and fear come by hearing. Both possibility and impossibility come by thinking. Being real or practical could be a proof of

faithlessness. My friend made a statement I will never forget. He said if he lives in Abuja, he would be building houses like he's doing in the city he lives (Abeokuta). I responded immediately that that's true. I believe the words of my friend.

I remember when I went to Port Harcourt to live there for three months. I got there without knowing anyone, stayed with a stranger. But in less than three months, a house was given to me by a couple who were blessed through my ministry. It was the day I got the house that God commanded me to leave Port Harcourt. Till date, I didn't know where the house is. I am sure the couple would think I am an angel that disappeared.

You see, there is no land too big for you to conquer. There's no city you can't build or buy a house. It all starts with your belief system. You got to believe that regardless of the cost of owning a house—the type you like to have, not just any kind of house—God will provide for you. It is to you according to your faith, and you shall have what you say.

I want you to open your mouth and say, "I already have my properties in this city. I build houses in expensive cities of the world." I want you to imagine the kind of house you desire. Begin to declare that you build, buy, or get that house in that city. Soon, the mercy of God will get you your desired personal property in your desired city.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT EARLY MERCY?

Oh, satisfy us early with Your mercy, that we may rejoice
and be glad all our days!

— *Psalms 90:14*

Mercy is the willingness of God to do something for you. In life, it's either you are a victim of judgment or a beneficiary of God's mercy. James 2:13 says,

"For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment."

Mercy triumphs and prevails over judgment.

There are certain things that are proof of mercy. When you go through problems, challenges, difficulties, and battles in life at your early stage, it could be a proof of early mercy. Everybody will go through something but won't go through the same thing.

You see, there's an issue we have that needs to be explained here. The issue is that successful and great people don't share their challenging stories. They went through issues, mockeries, shame, dishonor, lack, failure, etc., but don't share all of these when they rise into greatness. If they share their life-challenging stories, their lives couldn't serve as encouragement to those who are facing adversity of life.

Well, I used to be displeased when I heard some people talk as though they didn't go through anything that caused them pain until a day I saw a scripture. Some people just like to sound superhuman, and I can't just relate with that. I love to be plain and don't like to form. I went through things that made me cry, brought shame, and pushed me to hide my face for some seasons. I didn't commit any sin but faced adversity and challenges of life that could question where was my God. I faced it and conquered it.

For about four years, I couldn't afford money to rent my personal apartment after I left university. I prayed, fasted, and trusted God to provide, but the money didn't just come. At a time, I got some money and invested the

money in a business hoping to get more money so I could use the money to settle certain aspects, but I eventually lost the money.

Because you would forget your misery, and remember it as
waters that have passed away.

— *Job 11:16*

I stopped getting angry with people who talk as though they never went through some pains or challenges in life before they became great when I came across this scripture. It became obvious that some people already forgot their past pains, challenges, and sufferings. The Bible says you will forget your misery, and if at all you ever remember, you will remember it as waters that have passed away. That means you will remember it once happened to you but can't happen to you again. Many people already forgot what they went through, so we shouldn't blame them that they aren't sharing their experiences and past pains.

One of the proofs of mercy is that who should help you may not help you. Sometimes, the person wanted to truly help you, but it was God's mercy on your life that said "no." That's the reason you must never hate anyone for not helping you. I remember years ago, there were people I thought would assist and support me, but they never did. I used to think some of those people were not caring, but as I grew, I learned that it was the mercy of God at work in my life that blinded their eyes of understanding from seeing the need to assist and support me. It didn't make sense then, but it does now. God has His crafted way already designed for you to get out of your situation. You have to know that walking with God demands that you don't try to figure out everything.

Many people don't know that the reason God permitted certain pains to happen in their lives is so their lives can encourage others in their situation

in their future. But when that future came, they hid their pains. That way, God's purpose for taking them through that school of pain couldn't be executed.

I believe that you may not be able to share certain details about what you have gone through, but you should be able to share the part that can give glory to God and give strength to those in your similar condition. Truly, there are past experiences you won't be able to share because some were your mistakes or the mistakes of someone closer to you—so, in order not to embarrass yourself or the person who made those mistakes, you may conceal some details. But there will always be part that you can share that will encourage those going through your situation.

I think one of the reasons the *Gen Zs* will have issues is because they are only privileged to listen to celebrities and podcasters who are just talking to trend, but the real great and successful people aren't sharing their pains, challenges, adversities, etc. I call on great people to start sharing their pains, challenges, shame, etc., of the past. It's not enough to share success stories; it's time to go real and share how you overcame real-life issues that almost destroyed you.

I want to explain to you what early mercy really means. That's the other side of mercy that many don't know. When we talk about early mercy, we often refer to early provisions, early opportunity, early promotion, early prosperity, early success, early breakthrough, etc. Yes, all these are correct, but there's the other side of this that many don't know. And as such, when God shows them early mercy, because they aren't familiar with this other side of early mercy, they feel sorrowful about their situations and circumstances. Yet, that they are going through that situation at their early age is proof that they have obtained mercy early from God.

What is early mercy in the other way round? Early mercy is early problem, early challenges, early adversity, early failure, early rejection, early betrayal, early loss, early suffering, early mockery, early shame, early lack, etc. You see, this other side of early mercy is what you may be going through now. You may not be going through it, but you know someone going through it. If you know anyone going through pains and challenges, I will want you to share this book with that person so he or she may understand what God is currently doing in his or her life.

If this is already happening in your life, I want you to just know that God has shown you His graciousness and willingness.

Why do people go through all these early and we call it early mercy? You see, there are certain things that must be part of your life before success, progress and greatness can come. You need vision, experience, understanding, humility, relational skills, listening skills, learning heart, forgiving heart, diligence, etc. All these are needed in your life. But there are some of it that you don't see the need to have, yet you must have it. So, when God really wants to save you, He will cause you to go through pains, situations and circumstances that will lead to possessing the listed qualities so you can progress, succeed and step into greatness.

When God sees that you boast or brag too much about the little things you have or accomplished, for your future to be saved, He knows you must not continue like that. So, He will permit a painful situation that will humble you to happen so you won't be able to brag or boast again. When God wants to train you to forgive people easily in your lifetime, He causes you to be betrayed or hurt by the closest or dearest person or people to you. It's in that season God will take you through the school of forgiveness so you can learn to forgive people easily. God will use that situation to purge certain negative vices like vengeance, brutality, hatred, the mafioso mindset, unforgiveness, assassination, etc. out of your heart.

The other day, I noticed one guy who used to dominate discussion among his friends suddenly became quiet and was asking questions to learn. I was short of words. I asked a brother closer to him, What happened to this guy? He's now gentle? I was later told by that brother that the guy has gone through life and he now knows that he doesn't know everything. As I was told that, I knew God must have orchestrated a situation that humbled him so he can develop a listening skill and relational skill.

When I was at university, the moment I returned home from lectures, it's either I jumped on my bed to rest or played around some guys gisting and playing. But when I left school, I went through situations that made me value reading books the more. I read through scriptures that *through knowledge shall the righteous be delivered* (Proverbs 11:9b). And here was I going through situations I needed to be delivered from. So, every opportunity to get knowledge was always engaged by me.

God is not a generalist. He knows what fits your personality. He knows what you'll go through that will reshape, remold and reset you. When God shows you mercy early, He will bring you into a situation that will cause you to fast and pray regularly. There are experiences that you will go through that will cause you to know that the race is not to the swift. God knows what you need that will pass the right experience to you. And when He truly shows you mercy, He will introduce the situation that will launch you into what He has for you.

Let me end with this: there are certain relationships God will want to plant into your life that can't come into your life until there's a divine set-up for unbearable situations. How could Joseph meet the chief butler if he wasn't lied against at Potiphar's house and sent to prison? Sometimes, the reason for some challenges is so you can come into the relationship God has prepared for your lifting. Ask some great people today how they got into some relationships and you'll hear them tell you it was a problem,

challenge, adversity that brought them together. May mercy continually speak over your life. May you be blessed of the Lord all the days of your life!

One guy told me recently how he couldn't pay his house rent. I smiled! I have been there before but mine was that I didn't even have money to rent the house. I added the balance for the guy for him to pay his rent. But here's it — I discovered that the guy's vision increased. You see, there are visions you can't receive in comfort. You can only receive them when going through pains.

You know, during seasons of challenges, when you get into prayer to send you help, God often answers your prayer by sending you visions of a greater future — visions that are too big for your mind to believe but because you got it in the place of prayers, it will come with a conviction that it's possible to be achieved. I remember many years ago when I was in need, I would get into prayers to tell God to send me help and turn my situation around. But I noticed that during the prayers, it's scriptures that promise great future that would come. In fact, there were occasions I would pray to God to just bless me and turn my situation around but it would be vision of a program to hold that would come to my heart. And most times, I just wonder why would I pray for help and it's programs that God would be sending to my heart?

You see, God isn't focused on what you are going through, He's focused on where you are going to. God cares for you and He will surely sustain you. Could it be that the challenges, problems and situations you are going through is the price you need to pay to receive a vision, relationship and opportunity that God has placed on your path?

Prayers of God, why me? have to stop if you are reading this. It's you and God can permit you to go through a situation that you can't handle. I learned

early that when going through tough situations, I shouldn't be asking God what's happening, I should rather thank God and ask Him what should I be doing. Asking God what's happening when you should be asking what you should be doing is a waste of time.

If you are reading this and you are in a painful situation, I pray that the help of God will be sent to you. But I need to say this: during some seasons of your life, you may pray for help and divine intervention in your matter but what you will likely get from God will be comfort of the Holy Spirit. I have been there before. There were occasions I had to preach and keep quoting scriptures to myself. Sometimes, I will just be quoting we must be imitators of them who through faith and patience inherit the promise. So, I would say to myself, Niyi, be patient, your future is bright... What are you saying to yourself when going through pains? Keep declaring God's words into your life and situations and you'll see how change will surely happen.

Honor everyone and relate with everyone but don't lose guard. When you make it, love everyone regardless of how they treated you in the past.

GOD'S FAVOR MAKES YOU A CANDIDATE OF GREATNESS

God is fair but His favor is not fair. It's favor that influences the decision of God to lift and promote someone when there are others better than that person. God's favor makes you God's choice for greatness. When you see the lowly become the chosen, it's favor that's speaking. It's not intelligence or brilliance that makes the important, relevant or influential; it's God's preference. This isn't saying you should not be intelligent and brilliant, but placing emphasis on that deciding factor that separates men from men.

When God prefers you, everyone has no option but to accept you. No man is powerful to reject God's chosen. The secret to being great in the sight of the Lord is to obtain favor from the Lord. There's a favor you will obtain from God that will make you to be a subject of discussion in the heavens. I want my name to be discussed in heaven regularly. I want the heavens to keep assigning more tasks to me. That will only happen when I obtain more favor from God.

Human favor is different from divine favor. It takes favor with God to step into greatness. The fact that a man loves you shows that you have favor with that man. But favor with man won't give you greatness. It is only the favor of God that guarantees your greatness (relevance and importance) in life. Have you seen someone who was once considered a nonentity become an authority? That starts with the favor of God. God's favor makes the failure a model of success and makes the less privileged to become the decision maker. It's good to be responsible and have abilities, but being responsible and having different abilities without obtaining favor will end in frustration and birth a life without proofs. May your life not lack proofs. The favor of God on your life is a proof that you have obtained mercy from God.

I want you to crave for the release of divine favor on your life. You may pray for it till you are sure it has been released. Favor makes God pick interest in you till a point He pushes you into greatness. If you are already great but desire to go beyond this current level of greatness, you may need to pray for increase of favor. You want increase of greatness? Then ask for increase of favor. I must say that whoever will emerge the greatest should have the greatest favor. You can't be the most favored and not be the most important and relevant.

Stop comparing yourself to others. Stop competing with others. Start asking for God's favor to increase on your life so you can accelerate higher in

greatness. The more your favor, the more your greatness.

One of the reasons we are committed to serving the Lord, doing the Lord's work and participating in church duties is so we can receive rewards from the Lord, and favor is one of the rewards. There is a favor given to you freely but there is another kind of favor that's earned. That one comes as a reward for what you have done. Don't just see prayers as the only medium to receive more favor; I want you to see serving in the house of God and participating in kingdom responsibility as an opportunity to get more favor from the Lord.

You can't be doing the work of the Lord, serving in a department in your church and not be liked by the Lord. And one of the definitions of favor is to be liked. Do you want the Lord to like you? Give yourself to the work in His house (the church).

GOD MAKES YOU GREAT BY EXALTING AND MAGNIFYING YOU

And the Lord said to Joshua, 'This day I will begin to exalt
you in the sight of all Israel...
— *Joshua 3:7*

God told Joshua that He would exalt him in the sight of all Israel. When you read from the Old King James Bible, you will discover that what God told Joshua was that He would magnify him in the sight of all Israel. To magnify is to make big or bigger. It is within God's power to make you big in the sight of people. In other words, God can do something that will make everyone see you as great and big. When God magnifies you, everyone will begin to see you in a big way. You may not yet become big, but when God

places a magnifier on your life, something about you will communicate to the minds of people that you are big.

You know when a person puts on a magnifying lens (glass), the person will see a small letter, word, or image as big. In actual fact, the letter, word, or image remains the same and small, but the magnifying lens makes it appear big to the person who wears the glass. You may still be small, but God is going to put a magnifier on your life so that everyone who sees you from now will not see you as small but as great and big. When God wants to exalt a man, He puts a magnifier on that man—that way, He magnifies the man in the sight of all men.

There is a due time, a right timing, for your greatness to manifest. When the time comes, God will lift you up for all to see that you have been promoted and exalted by Him. 1 Peter 5:6 says,

"Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of
God, that He may exalt you in due time."

The hand of God will lift you into greatness in every due season when you humble yourself under God's hand. It is God who lifts and promotes men into greatness.

For exaltation comes neither from the east nor from the west
nor from the south. But God is the Judge: He puts down
one, and exalts another.
— *Psalms 75:6-7*

When you constantly humble yourself before God, His justice system will see to it that you are lifted into the realm of importance and relevance. God doesn't put people down by pushing or bringing them down. No! He puts

people down by leaving them at the level they are and lifts up their equals or someone below them to rise above them. Promotion and lifting into the realm of importance and relevance doesn't come from people or places; it comes from God. The east, west, and south in that verse are representations of people and places. It's God who decides who will be great or not.

For You have hidden their heart from understanding;
Therefore You will not exalt them.
— *Job 17:4*

One of the ways God makes people great is by opening their understanding to see what others do not see. When God decides not to exalt you, He will not show you what He shows those He has decided to lift into greatness. The greatness you won't see, you can't have. You must constantly trust God for open eyes to see the unseen so you can step into the greatness that God has for you. We can't be equal in greatness because we don't have equal understanding. That's why King David told Solomon that in all his getting, he should get wisdom. Many don't know that it is your understanding that determines what you'll do with your vision. The size of the manifestation of your vision is dependent on the size of your understanding. If you have more understanding than you currently have, you will increase in greatness. Understanding makes you see the role you should play in the greatness God throws at you. You can be greater than people, places, even greater than your future, but you can't be greater than your understanding. If you are given to praying for understanding and meditation very well, light will constantly break out to your heart.

**UPGRADED MINDSET FOR CONTINUOUS
GREATNESS**

Nobody is the biggest forever except God. But you can become the biggest all through your lifetime. Joseph remained above only all through his lifetime since he became the prime minister. It's time to rise to the zenith of greatness. It's a league. Welcome to that league. Relevant people are those who matter in time. It's either you are relevant or outdated. If you don't know how to evolve, you can't be relevant. You evolve by making improvements. If you will not improve, you will not evolve.

Before you rise into greatness, you may be belittled, dishonored, maltreated, sidelined, etc. You may not be involved in great activities or even invited to some occasions. When this happens, don't be angry or offended. Just focus on your future. When God lifts you, the same people who don't feel you are worthy to be around them, at their events, or even in their office will be the ones craving for your presence and chasing you with calls, texts, visits, etc. Rather than getting angry when you are belittled, why don't you rejoice in the Lord and focus on your future? You focus on your future by focusing on the tasks that will move you towards your future. You should always ask yourself, "What should I be doing now that will move me towards my future?"

Few years ago, I got a call from a brother. The reason for the call was just to express his pain that he wasn't invited to a party. You know I hear a lot of things and settle different matters. The brother felt the genuine love he had for the host of the party wasn't reciprocated. He felt he was made unimportant and irrelevant by that action. I had to just tell him to forget about that and see it as a thing of the past, but I strictly warned him to beware of offences and hatred. I told him, it's a test that you must pass, so you must never hate anyone but keep loving all men. I told him, if you can't control your mind on this, you may need to approach the person to ask why you were not invited. I believe that discussion cancels assumptions. Whether he reached out to the person or not, I don't know.

Surprisingly, another person sent a text to my phone the afternoon of the following day, saying he was very sad at the way he was treated for not being invited to the same party. I was shocked! For some minutes, I thought about the call I got a day before and the text I got from another person. On one part, I understood their pains. I think it was the genuine love they had for the person who had the party that created the pain. But on the other hand, I concluded that they needed to upgrade their mindset about life and people. Why be angry about not being invited to a party? I had to reply to the person's text with an upgraded mentality about life. Part of the words I sent in my reply was:

Never dwell on the pain of your feelings. That feeling will trap you in stagnation. Rather than having emotional pain for not being invited to an occasion, see not being invited to an occasion as an opportunity to focus on your life.

The person replied to my text with, "Thank you very much, sir." Some minutes after I read his reply, the Holy Spirit inspired some words in my heart to tell him. I took my phone and called him. I told him the following words:

“ Ask the Lord to show you mercy early, work hard, and be rich so you won't be forgotten or neglected where you should be invited in the future.

You see, it's what is in your head that makes you the head. Why be angry that you weren't invited to an occasion? That's not the mindset of a person who wants to be the greatest. If you won't focus on your life early but set your heart on thinking about issues, you won't become the greatest. The proof that you focus on your life is that you focus on your task. If you aren't invited somewhere, why bother? Can't you focus on your work and task? If

you are in some countries of the world, will you have the time to be attending parties here and there?

I hear people say, "Forgive and forget." But I must sincerely tell you that I easily forgive, but I don't forget. I don't forget what is done to me, nor do I forget how I am treated. Observation and memorization are part of my strong psychology. Well, maybe it's because of the kind of memory that God gave me. Some people can forgive and forget, but for someone like me, I will forgive you, but I don't forget issues and situations. Biblically, what you see in the Bible is to forgive offences, but the Bible never states you should forget. Well, maybe you will quote, "Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old..." Laugh! You see, you must be quick to forgive if you will go forward and far in life. When you forgive another, you are helping yourself.

I once heard Rev. Sam Adeyemi say Bishop Oyedepo told him to always forgive in advance. Anyone you can't forgive, don't be closer to. You can't be closer to someone and offences won't come occasionally. What sustains relationships is the ability to overlook offences and forgive. This is an aspect couples need to master. We may have misunderstandings, but we may not fight. To fight is a choice two intimate people can do without. Silence, patience, forgiveness, or forbearance are powers over fighting. Any relationship that will last will require you to practice advanced forgiveness.

A few years ago, an insight was inspired in my heart which says "Forgive offenses but don't forget the lessons."

This has been my guiding light for years. So, I have been able to train myself to recall the lessons I learned rather than the issue that happened. When someone offends me, I don't pay attention to the offense; I find out the lessons to learn. You pay attention to offense by thinking about the hurt and how to retaliate. Well, I'm glad to tell you that that is the behavior of a

carnal man. A wise man whose mind has been renewed by the word of God will not think on offense but find out the lessons he needs to learn.

You see, every situation will either bring you a blessing or a lesson. Here is my mindset: whenever someone hurts or offends me, I may be pained, but I will see it as an opportunity to learn something new. There are lessons hidden in every offense; it's only those who easily let go that will see the lessons. And I must tell you that the lessons you learn today are what will draw blessings to you in the future. Today's lessons are tomorrow's blessings. Refuse to dwell on hurts, unmet expectations, offences, etc., and start dwelling on what God has for you. Nothing should be too big for you to let go. Anything you let go can never rise above you. One of the strategies of the devil is distraction. He shoots distraction into people's minds by flooding their hearts with thoughts of how they were treated, hated, rejected, sidelined, etc. They are not aware that behind painful situations are gainful lessons that are needed for their future's blessings.

GREATNESS ATTRACTS ENVY AND STRIFE

You can't be lifted and not be envied. Someone must envy while another will be envied. I always tell people in private to be in the position of the envied and not envy anyone. Those who envy others are not always happy at other people's success, progress, and greatness. You can't be great and not be envied. As the Lord keeps lifting you, you will be envied. That's why you should prepare for what I call the battle of envy. As long as you have progress, success, or greatness, you will go through this battle.

What should you do when you are envied? Forgive and focus. Envy will make people wish you evil and hate you. I remember when I got into ministry, how some people said everyone should watch out for me within three years and see if I wouldn't crash down. Well, years have passed, and I

keep soaring higher daily. What's my secret? I simply forgive those who hate me and focus more on my task. Whatever can't steal your focus can't steal your success. Envy brings hatred, evil wishes, and plots against you.

Many years ago, I used to be closer to a brother. We played together, ate together occasionally, and talked about life and ministry until one day, the Spirit of God warned me, "Be careful of this guy; he's faking it, he's not comfortable with your success and progress." What! I was shocked. I had to tactically pull back from him until we were far apart. What if I wasn't sensitive to know what was happening? I would have lost guard. See, I don't lose guard at all every time. When you begin to rise into greatness, you need to be surrounded by genuine friends. That's why, as you go higher in greatness, your network of connections will keep increasing, but your real friends will be few. You need people that will see you rising and will not be envious of you. You need friends who will not be intimidated by your success and progress. You need friends that will constantly be happy as you keep rising, not those who will be trying to outdo you.

Who you want people to be towards you, try to be such to them. Train yourself never to be envious of anyone. Cheer people up when they are succeeding, support them, contribute to their success. Never be sad that someone has more than you. Never think a person isn't qualified to have what they have.

Strife will surely come, but it must not come from you. To strive is to struggle or compete with another. You must never struggle on anything or compete with anyone. Never strive with anyone, but others are permitted to strive with you. On strife, either you behave like Abraham or Lot—it is your choice. If you want to go far, choose to be like Abraham; never strive with anyone. Rather than strive, let go. You will end up greater than what you let go. If Abraham decided to strive with Lot, he would win because God's covenant would back him up. And covenant always wins. But

Abraham chose never to bring himself down by choosing not to drag with Lot.

One of the ways to pass the test of selfishness is to let go of what is yours. You break the yoke of strife when you let go. Fighting for what you should let go of will keep you stagnated at the level you are.

PASS THE TEST OF BETRAYAL

Forgive but don't forget. Forgive betrayal but don't forget the lesson. Many people don't forget the offenses, but they forget the lessons. Don't be foolish! If you forgive, whoever betrayed you can never be greater than you. But if you don't forgive, your betrayer can end up becoming greater than you. Don't hate people—hate their bad behavior. The reason some things happen is so you can learn some lessons in life. It's just that someone must be the victim of the object to pass the lesson across to you. After the lesson is learned, don't hate the person. But hate the character of betrayal displayed by the person.

You must avoid character assassination. Spoiling a person's image is assassination, so choose not to discuss who betrayed you. Choose to be quiet rather than discussing issues here and there. Sometimes, the one who betrayed you is a good person, but circumstances just arose beyond control.

There are lessons you will learn by mistakes. The mistake may be yours or from another, but somebody must make a mistake for certain lessons to be learned. In all, let God help you not to be the one that makes mistakes. Mistakes must come, but shouldn't be from you. Don't hate anyone who makes a mistake that hurt you. You have the right to hate, but also have the choice not to hate. So, don't hate the person. Love the person. But never forget the lesson.

The proof that you have learned your lesson is that betrayal will never happen again the second time. You know affliction shall, if it arises again the second time. So, if you have learned your lesson, you will be well guided by the decisions you make and actions you take so you won't experience it the second time.

At some point in your life, you will be faced with the test of betrayal. I have gone through this season about four times in my life, and I passed. Betrayal is about breaking trust. There's a level of greatness you can't access when you don't pass the test of betrayal. If you find it easy to break trust, people can't trust you. And there's a level of greatness you can't be taken to until you're trusted.

Greatness compels submission. When you are great, people can submit to you because they need you. But when you become the greatest, they'll submit to you because they trust you. There are people I love but don't trust. Same also with you. There are people that you love but don't trust also. When you have the opportunity to betray people but fail to, those people will trust you to any length. You see, it's better when others betray you than for you to be the one that betrays others.

Every time you have the opportunity to break a trust, just know that it's a test you need to pass. Get this: others are permitted to betray you, but you must never betray anyone. In fact, you should always prepare for the betrayal that comes from others so it won't shock you when it happens.

I already wrote a book on betrayal; you may do well to get it. Don't betray anyone in your life, and don't be the reason another person will betray the person who trusts them. If anyone ever betrayed you and you forgive the person, an occasion may arise for you to stab the person, and when you remember what happened in the past, you may be tempted to hurt the person. This you must not do! Never repay evil with evil. Be known for

doing good. Do good to all, even when you should repay them with evil. You're blessed!

GREATNESS: GOD'S DIVINE SETTLEMENT

But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.
— *1 Peter 5:10*

Grace makes great. The God that makes great is the God of all grace. There's no grace you need to be great that God cannot give. The above scripture shows that settlement comes from God. It says after you have suffered a while, God will settle you. I want you to know that greatness is part of the things God settles people with. When God decides to settle you after you have suffered a while, He will place greatness on your life. I don't know what you have gone through or are even going through now, but I want to assure you that divine settlement is going to come. Settlement is a form of reward for all you have done or gone through in life. I want you to know that your challenges and sufferings are not in vain. Your adversity is not in vain. God is getting ready to settle you. You will be blessed by God and rich again. You will be wealthy and flourishing. The pain of lack and debts is getting over. God is coming for you big in a way that will marvel you.

Many years ago, I went through some challenges and, somehow, I came across this scripture and it spoke to the core of my being. It says "God will settle you." Instantly, I just knew that my situation would end one day. I knew that glory would come out of my life and my problems would be a thing of the past. Truthfully, it has happened. I want you to know that God

will establish and settle you. He will settle you with honor, grace, blessings, fruitfulness, and much more with greatness. Your life will be great, and you will end up as the greatest. Those who belittled you today will see a better you in the future. Your current shame will soon turn into glory. Your mockers will soon see you on top. You are going to become an example of greatness to the world. You will end up in relevance and influence. You are out of obscurity, and you are brought into limelight. You will shine brighter and keep rising higher. I want you to expect the settlement of God because it's closer to you than you think. God will settle you, and the whole world will celebrate you.

YOU ARE THE GREATEST

For you to have come across this book shows God wants you to become the greatest. It's God that makes great; it is also Him that makes greater and the greatest.

I will make him my first-born son, the greatest of all kings.

(GNB)

— *Psalms 89:27*

In the above scripture, what God meant was that He would make him the greatest king. Well, scripturally, God was referring to David in that passage, but symbolically, God was referring to Christ Jesus. I want you to know that prophetically, that scripture is referring to you and me. The same God that makes great can also make greater and greatest. God is ready to make you the greatest.

Is it possible for many people to become the greatest? Yes! If ten people are in a place, God can decide to make four or five of them the greatest. So,

when such people gather together, it is not merely the gathering of great people; it will be the gathering of the greatest people. I also want you to know that God can make all of them become the greatest.

There's a confluence we have every first week of the year. It's tagged CONNECT CONFLUENCE. We've been having the meeting for years, but there's something peculiar about this confluence. It is what God told us in the past since the inception of the meeting, and we are gradually seeing the green light of that program. God had revealed that those who will always gather at the meeting every year are individuals that "the great will admire and listen to." I didn't fully understand that until I started writing this book.

Who are the people that the great will admire and listen to? They are both the greater and the greatest. Think about this: who do you think the great will admire? Amazing! Over the years, I have always seen everyone who attends our annual CONNECT CONFLUENCE as people that the great will admire and listen to. But one day, while writing this book, it became clearer to me that those who gather at the annual confluence are more than the great. Suddenly, the light broke out into my spirit—those who will always gather at CONNECT CONFLUENCE are the greater and the greatest.

What! I paused writing and stood up on my chair. Another light broke out to me: CONNECT CONFLUENCE is a gathering of the greatest. Wonderful! I shouted! From that moment, I began to see everyone attending the confluence as those destined to be the greatest. A few years ago, a lady told her friend that her pastor told her not to attend the confluence. Funny how pastors can be so denominational! I laughed! That pastor didn't just stop her from attending a program; he only hindered her from gathering among the greatest people on earth.

It became obvious to me that what God is doing with us is about the quality of men and minds present at the confluence. There are gatherings of the

great, but CONNECT CONFLUENCE is the gathering of the greatest people on earth.

Why have I shared this about the confluence? I have shared this to explain that God can make many people the greatest at the same time. He makes great and also makes the greatest. This is what this book is all about. In this book, you are going to learn about becoming the greatest. And if you truly apply what you'll learn here, nothing and no one can stop you from becoming the greatest. I see you as the next to become **the greatest**.

CHAPTER 1

THE PATH TO GREATNESS

You shouldn't read this book without reading the preface. If you read the preface before this chapter, you have read twenty percent (20%) of this book. Like I mentioned in the preface that this book took me more than four years to complete it. If you are reading this, you are destined to be part of the most relevant and the most influential people in the world.

Some years ago, barely three weeks after I submitted my final year project book to my project supervisor, I traveled to the city of Ijebu-Ode to stay with a dear brother and friend who was also my colleague at the university. While at my friend's place, the reality dawned on me that I was done with school and had to move on to the next phase of life. I was overwhelmed as I couldn't figure out the next line of action that would lead to the enviable future I had always imagined. I wasn't confused, neither did I get clarity as to the steps to take, but I only had a silent conviction within me that my future was bright.

Somehow, I intended to stay with my friend for a week, but it turned out to be more weeks, and eventually, I stayed longer for close to three years before I left that city. You may ask, why did I go to the city in the first place? Well, I can boldly tell you that I didn't even know that a person should ask for God's leading when it comes to their city of residence. All I

knew was that I had that inner knowing that I should be in Ijebu-Ode. I can tell you confidently that my move to that city became a step further into greatness for me.

Well, I have always had a taste of greatness at an early age, even though I didn't have a clear understanding of the word greatness. Let me explain my point – I felt great in Primary One and Two when I took the first position. You need to know the feeling I had. It was a few years ago, while planning for my wedding, that I discovered I had always taken the first position in class since my pre-nursery and nursery classes, though I slacked academically between Primary Three and Five.

I should also tell you that I felt great again when I was called out at our assembly ground and announced as the assistant timekeeper during the prefectship positioning. You may wonder what brought the feeling of greatness when announced as the assistant timekeeper. I may not have the answer to that question, but being included among the prefects made me happy and feel great.

I got into secondary school with a high desire to make my parents proud through my performance in school. During my first year at secondary school, I was chosen by our church's children's teacher to be the preacher at my parents' church during a district children's program. I was really happy. I believe I was happy because I had always gathered kid friends when I was between the ages of five and eight just to preach to them. I remember how I used to tie a rope to a stick or pencil just to form a microphone. How I wish I could remember those things I preached to those kid friends.

So, I really prepared for the children's program and eventually preached powerfully to the glory of God. Many testified it was really impactful. I noticed I felt great after preaching at the children's program, and that gave me some form of recognition. My name and face became noticeable to

many because the congregation I preached to at the children's program was a combination of children and adults from four churches.

Standing before the crowd to preach really created the image of greatness in my memory. Prior to the children's program, I had always preached to my classmates during my first year at secondary school, and that made everyone refer to me as *pastor*. All through my secondary school days, many didn't even bother to know my name, as they all referred to me as *pastor*.

Somehow, the image of greatness within me got affected when I was told to repeat a class during my second year at secondary school. It was very painful that I had to repeat and sit with my juniors in class and become their equal. I was really pained. It was during this period I knew the power of pain. Pain creates desire and hunger in the heart. Pain creates restlessness and eagerness to break out of the norms. Pain is a trigger for success and greatness. Without pain, you may be relaxed and lazy.

After I was told to repeat the class, I became serious with my studies. I started to wake up at midnight to read and sometimes read early in the morning. I attended evening tutorials, and by the end of the first term, the result showed I took the fourth position. I later became the class captain by the second term after I announced the impeachment of our unserious class captain.

By the time I got to JSS3, I became the head boy for the junior school of my secondary school. In fact, I emerged as the first head boy for the junior school in the history of my secondary school. The school was eighty-three (83) years old at the time I emerged as the first head boy. It will interest you to know that as at the time I became the head boy, the president of my country (Nigeria) and the governor of my state (Ogun State) were both old

students of my secondary school. Three monarchs out of four in my city were also old students of my secondary school.

Being the head boy of my school, I had the privilege of being hugged by the president of my country and also got a handshake thrice with the executive governor of my state. Those moments I had with these dignified persons increased the feeling and image of greatness within me.

As the head boy, I had occasions where I was interviewed by TV stations in my state whenever we attended occasions. I always ensured I went to a place where I could watch the evening news so I could see myself on television. We had a TV in the house but couldn't guarantee power supply, so I had to go somewhere this wasn't an issue. You need to see the feeling of greatness I felt most times seeing myself on TV, especially when my name was mentioned. The feeling was always great.

On two occasions, I heard my classmates and juniors mention to me before our convergence at the assembly ground that they saw me on the television. The feeling of importance and relevance washed over me whenever I heard such words from my colleagues and juniors.

Knowing the background I came from, whenever thoughts of smallness came to my mind, I used to recall my meeting and hug with the president of my country and also remember the handshake I had with the governor. I reminded myself that since I made it to TV for something positive as a teenager, I would make it in life. That was the way I used to encourage myself while in junior school.

I also need to add that I used to feel special when I saw students, especially junior ones, point toward me on the street in an attempt to talk about me to people. You would always see students point to me and say, "That's our head boy." The feeling of being special was always there when I saw people, especially parents, staring and smiling at me.

Myself and some of the prefects were the big boys in school. We could enter the principal's and vice principal's offices while others were scared to do such.

By the time I got to SS3, I eventually became the assistant senior prefect and completed my secondary school education. It will interest you to know that I stayed at home for almost four years before I gained admission to the university.

GLORY ENDED AND A NEW JOURNEY BEGAN

For about four years, I couldn't gain admission to the university. The first challenge was that I didn't pass my O'Level exams on time, and by the time I passed, the tertiary institution I applied to didn't give me admission. It was very painful that I had to stay at home for years while many of my colleagues were getting to their final year. Those years I stayed at home without getting admission to school really humbled me.

I saw clearly that all those experiences I had at secondary school that made me feel happy and great couldn't produce anything for me. It was during my stay at home for years that I discovered certain lessons, part of which is that whatever you achieve at any level shouldn't enter your head. Yes, you have achieved it, but you should also move on with your life. I later came to the realization that whatever great experience I had at secondary school should have been dropped the moment I left secondary school so I could focus on the new journey and path to a higher level.

The fact is that whenever you achieve anything or complete a phase of life, you must constantly ask yourself this question – what is next? You need to develop the capacity to let go of your past so you can embrace what is ahead. It really took a long time for me to let go of the past. But having

learned my lesson, I constantly apply that to my life whenever I accomplish a feat or complete a phase of life. I have trained myself never to dwell or focus my mind on whatever I have accomplished in the past so I can focus on what is ahead.

Another lesson I learned those years is that whatever you have become or achieved is not what defines your real greatness. It is what you will become or achieve, which lies ahead, that will define your real greatness. There is no greatness in past glory. Greatness only lies in glory ahead. And if you are going to have glory ahead, you must focus on what is ahead and let go of what is behind. That experience I had within those years I stayed at home before gaining admission to the university taught me never to carry on your head whatever should be put behind. You must constantly bear in mind that a new journey begins immediately after the success or completion of a phase. It is those who focus on what is ahead that will always end in greatness.

APPLYING THE LESSON OF PUTTING EVERYTHING BEHIND

By the time I left the university, I put behind me all the great experiences and accomplishments I had when I was in the university. To be realistic, I had great experiences at the university – I mean experiences that truly portray magnified greatness. At the university, I pioneered a faculty fellowship for my faculty. That fellowship brought all the Christians across all departments in my faculty together. That fellowship is still in existence today at my faculty.

I was also a president of my fellowship, monitoring six different centers. It will interest you to know that I started the campus fellowship of our ministry (Rebirth) when I was in my final year at the university. A pastor

friend of mine told me that some pastors and he sat at a fellowship secretariat to evaluate some things, and they came to the conclusion that I was the most influential campus fellowship president at the university. That I was told; I never said it myself because I knew we had the president of our joint believers' summit. But since they came to that conclusion, I just responded, "All the glory to God."

It will interest you to know that I operated behind the scenes during the Student Union Government election in my final year. I also invited a minister abroad to our fellowship. It was at the program it was revealed to me that I will invite ministers abroad to our ministry in the future. I can continue sharing a whole lot that happened. Is it to mention the miraculous that took place or how I took some guys to the power base of a city and dislodged the spirits there, which later propelled the king to set traditionalists to revive the spirits back to the power base? A whole lot happened that I can't mention.

Like I mentioned, the moment I left the university, I had to put behind me all those great experiences. I turned everything into a thing of the past. The lessons I learned before I gained admission to school had taught me that when a phase is completed, I should prepare for a new journey into higher greatness. I let go of all the great experiences of the past and focused on what was ahead, even though the future was still blurred.

A CATCH OF GREATNESS

Like I told you earlier, the moment I left the university, I decided to go to Ijebu-Ode since that was the leading I had. I remember I saw books by the legendary Dr. Mike Murdock and Bishop David Oyedepo at my friend's place. I read the books of Mike Murdock and learned a lot from him. But one afternoon, I went to the backyard of my friend's house and went along

with my Bible and a book by Dr. Mike Murdock. I was trying to read the book, but it wasn't flowing. So, I decided to read the Bible, and I just felt I should start reading from Genesis chapter one. I kept reading till I got to Genesis chapter twelve, verses two and three. I was blown away by what I saw there.

It was on that day that I caught the revelation of greatness. That verse was about Abram, but it was myself I was seeing in those two verses. As I read it, it felt as though someone was talking to me. It was later I learned that when a Bible verse is talking to you directly, God is the One talking to you.

Wonderful. I caught a revelation that God will make me a great nation and that He will make my name great. As I read it, a picture was formed within me. I saw the image of a great man of God in my country, and all I saw in my heart was that I will be great – big, important, and influential – just like that man of God. It suddenly became real to me that I will be very great.

It was many years after that I knew that what God gave me that day was a combination of revelation and illumination. A revelation can burn in your heart, but it is illumination that forms a picture in your heart. Illumination is understanding. The fact that I caught the picture of that great man of God that day as I read that verse is an indication that God granted understanding to me.

If you claim to have a revelation but don't yet catch the picture of that verse, you got the revelation truly, but understanding hasn't been granted to you and without understanding, you can't walk in the manifestation of what is shown to you. This is why you must pray for understanding to be supplied to you by the Holy Spirit.

You know, the disciples of Jesus who had been with Him for over three years couldn't understand certain things that were written in scriptures (the Old Testament books) about Jesus Himself until Jesus opened their

understanding. God must constantly open your understanding so you can capture the picture God is speaking forth into your heart.

You see, every time God speaks, He is speaking pictures, not mere sounds of words. It is understanding that will help you capture the picture that is spoken to your heart.

The day I caught my greatness was the day I caught the picture of myself and my future through the picture of that man of God in my country, which was painted in my heart. And from that moment, a new journey began, and the journey still continues till the moment of writing this book.

HOW GOD MAKES PEOPLE GREAT

Many years ago, I saw in the Bible that God makes nations great. The first sign of your greatness is that God will impart into your heart the image of a great person or people you will be like. You may end up becoming greater than that person, but God will use the image of someone you know to communicate your greatness to you.

God can even use hybrid images to show you your greatness. How He does that is by using the images of two or more great people to communicate how your greatness will be. When God begins to put in your heart that the greatness you see with two or more people will manifest in your life and future, what He is indirectly showing you is that your greatness is bigger than any one of those people. Can you pay attention to the image of your heart? One of the reasons God will always orchestrate occasions is so you can be exposed to the people or places that will be used by God to create the image of your greatness in your heart. At the end of the day, you will always be bigger and greater than whatever image you have caught, but

God will use the images you have seen before to show you how great you are.

We want to consider the subject of greatness, but essentially, the greatest side of greatness. Everyone is destined to be great, but everyone will not be great. The fact that you are reading this book is a clear sign that you are on the path to greatness and nothing can stop you. You are created for greatness and not meant to live an ordinary life.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE GREAT

1. To be great means to be important or relevant.
2. To be great means to have a lot of influence.
3. To be great means to be admired or envied.
4. To be great means to be very famous or well-known.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE THE GREATEST

1. To be the greatest is to be the most important or relevant in a sphere or place.
2. To be the greatest is to be the most admired.
3. To be the greatest is to be the most influential in a sphere or place.
4. The greatest is the biggest (in scope and size), highest (in number or figures), largest (in reach or size), newest/latest (in modernization, performance or improvement) and farthest (in reach to regions, nations or generations).
5. To be the greatest is to be the most envied by the great.
6. To be the greatest means to be the most famous or well-known.

REFUSE TO BE SMALL

Many times, I discovered that I got tired of certain things that I once celebrated. In other words, some happenings around my life that made me rejoice and feel successful got to a point I didn't cherish them again but wanted more. It was later I got to understand that when God wants to give you more or take you further in life, the hunger for more and the desire to go further than your current limits will set in. You have to constantly pick the sign that whenever the hunger or desire for more sets into your heart, it is because the season to get more is near.

In life, it is either you are in greatness or smallness. The opposite of greatness is smallness. You must resist anything that will make you small by all means. You don't become great by doing small things. If you take time to examine everyone that is great, you will discover that they are individuals who don't do small things but do big things.

Dare to do big things. Bigness and largeness are secrets to greatness. Do you want to be great? Then, do big things. If you truly reject smallness, let your actions show so. Those who end up being great are those who even do small things in a big way. Greatness and largeness go together. If God makes you great but your place is small, your greatness can't quickly show.

Why is it that it is those who have large space, large followership and patronage, large members or congregation that are considered great? The concept of large here is having increased numbers or measures. By all means, you must be large. I learned many years ago that doing big things is the secret to becoming great. Whatever you are doing, you must ensure you do it the way the bigwigs in your sphere are doing it.

STOP ACCOMMODATING SMALLNESS IN YOUR MIND

It is possible to be great in the sight of God but small in your mind and small in the sight of people. Mentality will always affect reality. There is a connection between visualization and realization. A person that will truly be great must continually upgrade the image of himself in his mind. If you keep thinking about doing things the way you used to do them, that is what you will end up doing. And if you continue to see yourself as a small person, that is what you will end up becoming.

People accommodate smallness in their minds because they fail to imagine themselves doing big things. You see, there is nothing you will do in the world that you haven't unconsciously done in your mind before. The fact is that you can't appear in a future you haven't seen. It doesn't cost you anything to imagine yourself doing the big things you have always admired the bigwigs in your sphere doing.

You don't just open your mouth to talk to yourself to stop accommodating smallness in your mind; you have to practically engage your mind through reflection and visualization. It doesn't cost you anything to imagine yourself doing big stuffs in life. Many years ago, during my university days, I used to practice imagining myself doing the same things that everyone I admired was doing. I can boldly tell you that many of those things I imagined have come to pass.

Stop repeating the cycle of smallness in your life by doing the same thing exactly the same way in your mentality and reality. Break your own barrier by yourself and attempt doing certain things way bigger than you. Stop doing what your equals are doing, or better said, stop doing things the way your equals are doing them; start attempting to do things the way those

bigger than you are doing them. The way to it isn't first doing but thinking. You must accept the fact that you have the power within you to make happen whatever you have imagined.

The moment you capture a picture of something big within you, the power to make it happen is already within you. Stop wasting your energy on doing small things. Start channeling your energy to doing big things. Channeling your energy to do big things will set you on the path to greatness.

Don't forget the secret: *constantly use your mind to imagine yourself doing things way bigger than you*. Keep imagining it and you will see it manifest in your life soon. As you keep imagining yourself doing big things, you will begin to recognize the steps to take that will lead you to that destination. David already imagined himself defeating Goliath before he went out against him.

RECEIVING HEAVENLY TRANSMITTED IMAGES

Spiritual things are powerful but are also explainable when understanding and utterances are released. Words are powerful, but in actual fact, words are images. If you never capture the image of what is said to you through words, then you lack understanding. Understanding is the power that translates words into images.

There is a difference between imagination and understanding. Your imagination is your inner eye, but understanding is seeing with that inner eye. In other words, to have imagination is to have an inner eye, but to have understanding is to be able to see with that inner eye. Just like a person can have physical eyes but be blind, so also, we all have imagination, but to see with it and recognize what you see is understanding.

All men have imagination, but not all men have understanding. It is understanding that takes away the blindness of the heart. The absence of understanding in a man will result in blindness in the heart of the person.

It takes understanding to catch heavenly transmitted images. When a person is blind physically, we say the person is blind, but when a person isn't seeing with the inner eyes, we say the person has darkness. Darkness is the blindness of the inner eye.

One of the reasons you should constantly pray that the eyes of your understanding be enlightened is so you can regularly catch the heavenly transmitted pictures sent into your heart. Your future is known to God already but can't be known to you except you see with your inner eye. It is your ability to capture the picture sent into your heart that grants you access into your future.

HOW YOU WILL RECEIVE THE HEAVENLY TRANSMITTED PICTURES

1. You receive it through your dreams

I mean the dreams you have at night when you sleep. Don't be part of those believers who say God doesn't use dreams to communicate to believers in the New Testament. You will never find a place such is written in the Bible. God can show you things, events, and solutions through dreams. Dreams are one of the ways God transmits pictures to the minds of people.

2. You receive heavenly transmitted pictures through ideas (visions)

What is known as an idea is just a mental picture of what is to be done. An idea is the same as a vision. Just like you don't need to be a Christian to breathe, so also, you don't need to be a Christian to have ideas. Both unbelievers and believers can receive ideas. Just like God sends rain on both good and evil people, so pictures can be transmitted through ideas to anybody.

Just like an unbeliever can also receive dreams, so unbelievers can also receive heavenly transmitted pictures through ideas. I know some preachers can argue this, but the fact is that idea is not a Christian matter but a universal matter. It is just that I don't like sharing some things so as to avoid controversy, but let me share this. I hope you know that God has put the system of evaporation there for rain to fall on the earth. After all, science has proven this. But you also need to understand that all systems and principles must obey God. So, prayers and God's sovereignty can control the fall or stop of rain.

Remember, evaporation was there when God held rain for three and a half years after Elijah prayed. You see, just as God set the system of evaporation in place for rain to fall, so also, God already set the system of inspiration there for ideas to be transmitted. Whoever can receive inspiration can receive an idea. Just like evaporation is assured as long as the sun shines, so inspiration is assured as long as meditation is at work. Meditation births inspiration, and inspiration births ideas.

3. You receive heavenly transmitted pictures through prayers

This aspect is only accessible to Christians. Have you experienced a situation in prayers that you keep seeing certain things in your heart during the prayers? If your answer is yes, then you are receiving heavenly transmitted pictures. Jeremiah 33:3 says,

“Call to me and I will answer, and show you great and mighty things which you do not know.”

Evidently, one of the things that happen during prayers are the things that He shows you.

In my personal walk with God, I have discovered that God grants visions and directions in the place of prayers through the pictures that we receive. One of the proofs of open heaven over a person is the release of heavenly transmitted pictures to the person's heart. When pictures of visions, directions, and future are communicated to your heart, then heaven is opened over your life.

Power is released when we take actions based on what we capture in prayers. The reason many prayerful people aren't making much progress is because they think that prayer will do everything, whereas it is the actions that they take after the prayers that determine how evident and visible progress will be. Those who back up their prayers with actions will always make evident progress. So, in prayers, you must constantly watch out for the pictures God is sending to your heart. Jesus said the Son can of Himself do nothing, but whatever He sees the Father do, that is what He does. The question is, “How does Jesus see the Father do things?” The answer is that most of the things are captured in the place of prayers.

If you want to constantly see what your heavenly Father is doing, constantly pay attention to the pictures that are supplied into your heart during prayers. As you close your optical or physical eyes in prayers, you must open your inner eyes to constantly behold what God is showing you. Paul mentioned that he constantly prayed that the eyes of understanding of the Ephesian believers be opened and enlightened. Why? He knew that the believers would amount to nothing and not maximize the spiritual benefits available to them in Christ if their eyes of understanding (inner eyes, imaginative

eyes) weren't opened. You can also pray the same prayers for yourself that the eyes of your understanding be constantly enlightened.

In other words, when your eyes of understanding are enlightened, you are going to be flooded with light—pictures in your heart. Watch out for the heavenly transmitted pictures that come during prayers, for your greatness is hidden in such.

4. You receive heavenly transmitted pictures through the prophetic

The prophetic here refers to two things, which are what you say to yourself with your mouth and what is said to you by another. In other words, you can prophesy to yourself, and another person can prophesy to you. Actually, every time you speak, you are creating pictures, and when words are spoken to you, pictures are created in your heart. So, when God sends heavenly transmitted pictures to your heart and you haven't captured them, He gives you a prophetic word or scriptural verse that can transmit that image into your heart.

It is through meditation and declaration that you capture that image. Let's go deep: every scripture you receive is actually an image, and until you capture that image, you can't fully walk in the manifestation of it. It is what you see that is given to you, not what you know. It is the word you see that God will hasten to perform, not the word you know. When it comes to being prophetic to yourself, two ways to do this are meditation and declaration.

In meditating on a prophetic word or scriptural verse, an image can be formed in you. That image, you didn't create but only captured as it formed in your heart. Declaration, on the other hand, is enforcing something that must happen with your mouth. As you say it, your mind begins to form the image of what you are saying.

The greatest prophetic aspect in relation to this is when God sends another person to prophesy to you. Humans tend to believe the words of another rather than what they receive themselves. Many people stepped into greatness when they captured the image of prophetic words spoken to them. The next time someone prophesies to you, ensure you capture the pictures behind the words of the person. If you are a believer that believes in prophetic words, you should have a book where you document prophetic words. Those prophetic words are what you should keep meditating on and declaring till the image is formed in your heart. If you keep declaring a prophetic word with your mouth, the image of it will be formed in your heart gradually.

CHAPTER 2

BECOMING THE GREATEST

There are two sides we must consider, which are GOD’S KINGDOM and THE WORLD. These two are not the same. You can be great in the world but not great in the kingdom. And you can be great in the kingdom but not great in the world. Yet, there are individuals who are great both in the world and in God’s kingdom. To be great in the world is having a magnified and dignified personality before men, but to be great in God’s kingdom is being special before God, His angels, and among the saints.

Well, I will discuss God’s kingdom in this chapter and share about becoming the greatest in the world in the next chapter.

WHAT IS THE KINGDOM HERE?

This simply refers to the King and His domain. God’s kingdom refers to everywhere that is governed by God—the Supreme King of the universe—from the highest heaven to Hades in the underworld. To speak in relation to the human realm, God’s kingdom refers to every space and sphere that acknowledges the Lordship of Jesus. Every person, group, community, religion, region, and nation that acknowledges Jesus as Lord is a representation of God’s kingdom on earth.

The church is not God's kingdom but a representation of God's kingdom. It must be known that anyone who acknowledges Jesus as Lord has the kingdom of God within them. From the moment a person acknowledges Jesus as Lord, that person automatically becomes a representation of the kingdom of God wherever he or she goes.

The church is a representation of God's kingdom on earth. Any group, community, region, or nation that gathers in the name of Jesus Christ is a representation of God's kingdom. So, in such a group or community where men gather in the name of Jesus, you must be rest assured that the great, the greater, and the greatest will emerge from among them. Be it a church ministry, Christian movement, ecumenical body, or network of churches, the greatest will always emerge.

It will interest you to know that becoming the greatest has nothing to do with position but has more to do with responsibility. The fact is also that more than one person can emerge as the greatest.

We must bear in mind that humans have their yardstick for measuring the greatest, while God also has His yardstick for determining who becomes the greatest. One day, I examined a church and asked someone a question. I was surprised to see that the answer I got showed me that becoming the greatest has nothing to do with position but with being consistent and productive with responsibility.

I asked a man who functioned in the administrative unit of a church the following questions:

- a. Who is the greatest chorister in your church?
- b. Who is the greatest instrumentalist?
- c. Who is the greatest among your pastors?

d. Who is the greatest in your technical unit?

e. Who is the greatest usher?

f. Who is the greatest prayer champion?

I asked more and was surprised at the question the person asked me before he answered mine. He asked, “Do you mean the best singer or the greatest singer?” I replied with a question also—“Why do you ask, sir?” He said there is a sister who knows how to sing very well, highly skilled, and has a very thrilling voice. He further said, “That sister is our best singer but can’t be the greatest singer because she lacks the character of greatness.”

I asked about the character deficiency, and he said the sister is not a people’s person, as she is often considered arrogant because of how she talks. This man said a lot about this sister, but he said something striking—he said, “This sister isn’t always happy when another singer leads a song perfectly and gets commendation. She just wants to be the only one commended and honored.” He also added that the sister isn’t willing to train another or give space to others to rise. Evidently, I understood his point.

You may be the best at what you do but not become the greatest. If you aren’t inspiring others, training and influencing people, creating possibilities and opportunities for others, you can’t be the greatest. Being the greatest isn’t about outshining others but becoming the platform through which others can rise and shine. The fact is that being the greatest is about becoming that platform where ordinary persons can become great and where the great can become greater.

The focus of this book is not to concentrate on one side but on both sides. You are going to be great in the world and also great in the kingdom.

WHO ARE THE GREATEST IN THE KINGDOM?

- a. They are the ones who have special authority given to them by God.
- b. They have special grace given to them by God.
- c. They have special revelation given to them by God.
- d. They have special responsibility given to them by God.
- e. They have special position in the church given to them by God.

To achieve the above, Jesus stated certain qualities the greatest in God's kingdom must have:

- a. Anyone who will be the greatest must be humble.
- b. Anyone who will be the greatest must serve.
- c. Anyone who will be the greatest must be loving.

KINGDOM DIMENSION OF THE GREATEST

1. The Greatest Believer

Matthew 23:11–12

“But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

The greatest believer is the one who serves. It's in the place of service that God will make you the greatest. Kingdom service is the highway to becoming the greatest. If you don't want to serve, you can't become the most influential.

Naturally, we may think that it's those who are served that are the most important, but not so. It is those who serve God and others that are the most

important. What service does is that it makes you needed. And when you are always needed, you are important, relevant, and influential.

There is an existing replacement for you already. If you doubt this, ask Judas Iscariot. Who replaced him was already among the other seventy disciples. If you are gifted and talented but fail to give yourself to service, you can't be lifted. The gifted isn't the lifted; it's service that makes you lifted.

The day you grow weary of service, God begins to prepare another person who will replace you instantly. Elijah thought he was the only one left until God told him there were seven thousand who hadn't bowed their knees. In God's kingdom, you are not the man on the scene because you are the best; you are on the scene because you are the chosen—and God Himself chose you. If you are in the limelight and constantly needed, you must never permit that to enter your mind to the point you begin to misbehave and act superior to others. I always tell people, when a man is messing up somewhere, another man is warming up elsewhere to replace the man messing up.

Recently, the executives of a fellowship submitted resignation letters to the leadership, and the following day, during the service, the Holy Spirit inspired the leadership to appoint certain members as new leaders for the church. The leaders resigned on Saturday; God replaced them on Sunday. The thought of those who resigned was that the leadership would beg them. They failed to know that it's God who sets leadership in place, especially in the church.

If you want to be needed always, give yourself to service. Kingdom life will become boring to you the day leaders in the kingdom say you are no more needed because you grew weary of service. When you are weary, you must always ask the Lord to strengthen you. The truth is that money doesn't

make you the greatest in the kingdom; it is service that makes you the greatest in the kingdom.

In the world, the rich may be the most influential, but in the kingdom (church), the servants are the most influential. Why? God bestows on servants the grace and anointing to carry out His assignment, which money or materials can't carry out.

2. The Greatest Acts

1 Corinthians 13:13

“And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.”

Love

Greatness and influence go together. The greatest is the most influential person. You can't emerge as the greatest if you don't have love. It is love that compels you to relate with everyone genuinely in spite of their weaknesses. In fact, if you are going to do anything worthwhile, you must be in love.

One day, I thought about the fact that every successful businessperson remains in business because of love. It is one of these three kinds of love that is responsible for their progress in business—*love for what they do, love for making money, and love for solving problems for other people*. It is one of these three that is responsible for their daily drive in business. Love is not just for people but for what is done. If a person only has love for solving the problems of other people, such a person will end up having

money. Someone once said, “Everything you are looking for is on the other end of helping others get what they are looking for.”

Thank God for faith and hope, but the greatest of these is love. Love for God and the brethren is the most important. You can’t influence others because you have faith; you influence them because you love them. Faith can win people—when you perform miracles by faith, you can win people—but love wins a soul faster.

Your love for God will make God bestow special favor on you. Your love for people will make them prefer you. Everybody wants to walk in faith, but the most important is love. You should walk in love. You will always love others when you realize that you don’t qualify for the love God shows you, yet He showed you love.

People will offend you, but show them love. You can’t claim you are in faith when you don’t love people. One of the real proofs of spiritual maturity is that you love others in spite of what they do to you.

Characteristics of Love

- a. Love forgives always: If you really love people, you won’t find it difficult to forgive them.
- b. Love bears with other people’s weaknesses: You also have your areas of weakness, so bear with the weaknesses of others.
- c. Love doesn’t stop giving: You can’t claim that you love when you are not a giver.

God so loved the world that He gave His Son. You can’t claim you love and not give. Those who love are those who give. A proof that God loves you is that He gives to you. A proof that you love God is that you give to God too.

CHAPTER 3

INCREASED GREATNESS IN THE WORLD

As long as you are reading this book, you are in the world. The world here isn't referring to the system and operation of Satan but the space and sphere that accommodate the presence of people. As long as you are among people anywhere on earth, you are in the world. When you are great in God's kingdom, God, angels, and the saints (Christians) will consider you great. But when you are great in the world, people in different spaces and spheres will consider you great depending on your level of greatness.

Psalm 71:21 says,

“You will increase my greatness...”

The above scripture shows that God can increase the greatness of anyone. And if God wants to make you the greatest, what He will do is to keep increasing your greatness till you become the greatest. Nobody who is considered the greatest anywhere or in any sphere rises to become the greatest without experiencing some form of increase in greatness in their lives.

You don't start out as the greatest; in fact, some didn't start out as great. Many of those who are celebrated today started out as failures but never

gave up. They were persistent and focused on what is right till they stepped into greatness, and from the moment they stepped into greatness, they kept having increases of it.

I want you to know that God will keep increasing your greatness till you become the greatest. You can't be the greatest everywhere. You are either the greatest in your sphere, country, family, or generation. For example, if you are a tech person, you can keep increasing in greatness till you become the greatest tech person in the world. Since tech is your sphere, you don't expect a tech person to become the greatest in the realm of banking. It takes someone who is in the banking sector to emerge the greatest in the banking sector.

If you are a lecturer but also a member of a church, you can keep increasing in greatness till you become the greatest lecturer in your institution, nation, or even the whole world. But you can't become the greatest in ministry because you are a member of a church. It is a pastor whose assignment is centered around ministry that can emerge the greatest in ministry.

Everyone can be the greatest as long as you have a sphere or jurisdiction of operation. It is only a lazy person who has nothing doing or learning that can't be on the path to being the greatest.

BEING THE GREATEST IS ON DIFFERENT LEVELS

Anyone who understands this part will never be envious of anyone. The Psalmist said, "*You shall increase my greatness...*" This clearly shows that he was already great but seeking to be greater. The fact is that there could be many people who emerge as the greatest, but they all have it on different levels.

FEW PEOPLE WHO EMERGED AS THE GREATEST IN THE BIBLE

1. Job

He was the greatest businessman in the East in his time.

Job 1:3 says,

“...so that this man was the greatest of all the people of the East.”

The reason Job was the greatest of all the people of the East was because he was the most successful businessman who had the highest number of possessions, properties, companies, and workers. Job had more workers employed by him than all other employers.

I hope you notice that Job wasn't the greatest on earth but the greatest in the East. Do you realize that among the workers of Job, there would also be the greatest among them? So you can't compare the level of greatness that the greatest servant of Job had to that of Job himself. And also, you can't compare the level of greatness of Job to that of the greatest man on earth in his time. Scripture didn't show us the greatest man on earth in the time of Job but shows us that Job was the greatest from the East.

2. Solomon

He was the greatest king on earth in his time.

1 Kings 10:23–24 says,

“So King Solomon surpassed all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom. Now all the earth sought the presence of Solomon to hear his wisdom, which God had put in his heart. ”

King Solomon became the greatest through his uncommon wisdom and surpassing riches. The wisdom of Solomon didn't just show through his teachings and answers to questions; his wisdom also showed through the magnificent building projects he did for both his house and the house of the Lord. Moreover, his wisdom also showed in the governmental structure he created in Israel and the operational structures of affairs in his palace.

It was Solomon who appointed governors for each tribe of Israel. In his time, he was a king who appointed governors, but today, governors are the ones appointing kings.

2 Chronicles 9:23 says,

“And all the kings of the earth sought the presence of Solomon to hear his wisdom, which God had put in his heart. ”

The kings are the representatives of the people. As long as all the kings of the earth sought to hear the wisdom of Solomon, it was the whole earth that sought the wisdom of Solomon. Solomon wasn't the greatest in invention, medicine, or agriculture, but he was the greatest king in that he had the wisdom and riches other kings didn't have. Evidently, he had more wisdom and prosperity than other kings, and as such, he was concluded as the greatest.

I always say that Solomon was the richest, wisest, and greatest of his time. The proof that Solomon was the greatest king was that he reigned (had

control and authority) over other kings and territories outside Israel. He was made a king in Israel but reigned over other kingdoms outside Israel.

2 Chronicles 9:26 says,

“So he reigned over all the kings from the River to the land of the Philistines, as far as the border of Egypt.”

I hope you see that Solomon reigned over all the kings.

3. King Ahasuerus

He was the greatest king on earth in his time.

Esther 1:1 says,

“Now it came to pass in the days of Ahasuerus (this was the Ahasuerus who reigned over one hundred and twenty-seven provinces, from India to Ethiopia).”

I hope you know that India belongs to the Asian continent while Ethiopia belongs to the African continent. This shows that this man controlled territories from Asia to Africa. This man also was the greatest man and king on earth in his time. This was a man who was manipulated to destroy all the Jews, and he approved it. If not for the intervention of God, the Jews would have been destroyed.

4. Nebuchadnezzar

The greatest king on earth in his time.

Daniel 4:22 says,

“It is you, O king, who have grown and become strong; for your greatness has grown and reaches to the heavens, and your dominion to the end of the earth.”

This man conquered the world in his time. He was so powerful that he wrote to all peoples, nations, and languages that dwelled in all the earth (Daniel 4:1). The effect of that was that whatever he wrote must be read by all peoples and nations and also translated into local languages for everyone to understand. That is a level of greatness that is enviable.

5. Mordecai

He became the greatest of all Jews in his lifetime.

Esther 9:4 says,

“For Mordecai was great in the king’s palace, and his fame spread throughout all the provinces; for this man Mordecai became increasingly prominent.”

Esther 9:3 says,

“For Mordecai the Jew was second to King Ahasuerus and was great among the Jews and well received by the multitude of his brethren, seeking the good of his people and speaking peace to all his countrymen.”

Mordecai was a gateman but delivered a responsibility beyond a gateman. He gave information that saved the life of the king and never sought to be paid for it nor recognized for it.

THE GREATEST IN YOUR FIELD OR SPHERE

Job 1:3c says

“So that this man was the greatest of all the people of the East.”

In every industry, profession, career, sector, sphere, field, specialization, and jurisdiction, there is always the greatest there. In fact, in every city, country, continent, global world, and generation, you will always discover someone as the greatest there. Job was the greatest of all people in the East. God can make you the greatest in your field, city, or country. You can become the most important and influential in your sphere of influence.

God wants you to represent Him as the greatest in your field. The greatest in a place will end up as the dominion in that place. Greatness is one of the secrets to dominion. You can't be lazy and expect to be the greatest. Laziness cannot end in greatness. All great people are hardworking personalities.

Ensure you know what is needed to become great. Solomon's wisdom made him great. Abraham's company made him great. Isaac became great through his farming business. Elijah became great through his prophetic office. Paul became great through his apostolic calling. Timothy became great by being the pastor of a church founded by Paul. Titus became great by being the pastor of a church. Joshua entered into greatness by succeeding Moses. David became great by killing Goliath.

One thing is certain, which is that everyone that participates in serving the Lord will receive grace from the Lord that will make them great. One time, the richest man in the world (John D. Rockefeller) became a head usher of a church. And you have some people who are not even the richest in their family that can't serve in the church. That's bad. There's nothing you want to be that someone hasn't been. Serving God in the church is a long-term benefit to keep receiving blessings from the Lord. When the Lord blesses you more, increase what you do for the Lord.

REFERENCED BY THE GREAT

Anyone who ever rises to the zenith of greatness is the greatest whose words and work will always be referenced by the great and greater. Can you ask yourself this question: What am I doing now that will be referenced in the future? If you can't answer this question, then you are not on the path to being the greatest.

EXAMPLES OF THE GREATEST THAT ARE ALWAYS REFERENCED

- a. **Jesus Christ** – He's the pioneer of Christianity.
- b. **Paul the Apostle** – He ended up as the greatest of all the apostles in his time. He planted more churches than others, wrote more of the New Testament books, raised more people, and so on.
- c. **Isaac Newton** – He made unprecedented discoveries in physics, including the laws of motion and universal gravitation.
- d. **Albert Einstein** – He developed the theory of relativity, revolutionizing our understanding of space, time, and the universe.

e. **Galileo Galilei** – A pioneer of modern science and astronomy.

f. **Tsai Lun** – The inventor of paper, a technology that transformed communication and knowledge transfer.

g. **Johann Gutenberg** – The inventor of the printing press, which revolutionized the spread of information and literacy.

WHERE DO YOU BELONG HERE?

There is a question that begs for two answers.

First, which industry, field, or sphere do you belong to? If you can answer this question, then you will have insight about the space where your greatness will manifest. This question isn't about what you studied in school but about where you have discovered that you belong in life.

For example, I know Bishop David Oyedepo studied Architecture at the Polytechnic. He belonged to the field of architecture, but the man discovered early that he belongs to ministry and captured early that his greatness would come from the realm of ministry, not the profession of architecture.

Yet, I know about a man known as Professor Yemi Osinbajo, who is a professor of law and also a pastor in his church but rose to the zenith of greatness as the Vice President of his country (Nigeria). For someone like him, the heights he rose to in politics and governance can't be compared to the height he rose to in his profession and church.

I always tell Christian people, especially young ones, that focusing on your profession or field isn't an excuse for being inactive and ineffective in the kingdom. Everyone should be given to serving the Lord and also representing the Lord well in their profession.

Secondly, where do you belong on the radar of greatness? Are you the great, greater, or greatest? It should better be asked, where do you want to belong on the radar?

You can be the greatest:

- a. In the realm of invention
- b. In the realm of spirituality or religion
- c. In the realm of politics and governance
- d. In the realm of music and entertainment
- e. In the realm of science and medicine
- f. In the realm of technology
- g. In the realm of business
- h. In the realm of education
- i. In the realm of media
- j. In the realm of agriculture
- k. In the realm of production
- l. In the realm of mining and extraction
- m. In the realm of engineering and building

This could be at various levels. Let's consider the various levels:

- a. You can be the greatest at a family level.

- b. You can be the greatest at a city level.
- c. You can be the greatest at a country level.
- d. You can be the greatest at a continent level.
- e. You can be the greatest in a generation.
- f. You can be the greatest at a global level.

Whichever is your level, ensure you rise to the zenith of greatness. The greatest are those who inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more.

PRACTICAL APPROACH

Let's pick the realm of media as an example. You can be the greatest in the realm of media at a city level or country level. The meaning of this is that you are considered by people in your city or country as the greatest media personnel or expert.

I know a young guy who, from his teenage years, used to tell me he belonged to the realm of tech. And the vision of that guy has always been to become the greatest tech person at a global level. That guy still sustains the vision till now, and I have clearly observed him — the kind of vision and discovery that comes to him are the kind that can truly make him the greatest globally in tech.

The other day, I saw a guy striving to see the execution of a vision he had for a community. Community here simply refers to a combination of different streets. The guy was passionate about seeing a great change in churches in that community. He organized a meeting to gather the churches

in that community together. At the end, he accomplished that. But that only made him the greatest in ministry at a community or street level.

You don't need any prophecy to know where you will end; your vision and pursuit are indicators of the level you will end.

CHAPTER 4

SECRETS TO BECOMING THE GREATEST

1. GOD'S DECISION

A CASE STUDY OF DAVID

Psalms 89:27 says,

“Also I will make him My firstborn, the highest (greatest, mightiest, most important) of the kings of the earth.”

The above is God's decision concerning David. Obviously, David was God's choice among men to become the greatest. I have learned that a person may not be the most talented, skilled, or strategic but eventually becomes the greatest in a circle or generation. Why? The reason for such is simply because the person is chosen by God to be the greatest.

Psalm 89:19 says,

“...I have exalted one chosen from the people.”

It is clear that David was chosen from amidst his brethren to be God's firstborn and greatest among the kings.

A CASE STUDY OF SOLOMON

1 Kings 3:12–13 says,

“Behold, I have done according to your words; see, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you. And I have also given you what you have not asked for—both riches and honor—so that there shall not be anyone like you among the kings all your days.”

Did you notice that God told Solomon that there would not be anyone like him before, nor shall anyone arise after him in the realm of understanding and wisdom? Did you also notice that God said He has given Solomon riches and honor so that there won't be any king like him all his days? Evidently, God gave Solomon all that is needed to be the greatest on earth.

2 Chronicles 1:12 says,

“Wisdom and knowledge are granted to you; and I will give you riches and wealth and honor, such as none of the kings have had who were before you, nor shall any after you have the like.”

After reading the above scripture, I concluded that God made Solomon the greatest beyond his lifetime. You see that God meant that in the realm of

wisdom, knowledge, riches, wealth, and honor, there won't be any king like him even after he dies.

Solomon attained greatness and wisdom more than all the kings who were before him in Jerusalem (Ecclesiastes 1:16). This Solomon surpassed all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom (1 Kings 10:23). That means Solomon became richer and wiser than all the kings on earth.

SOLOMON'S GREATNESS COVERED THE WHOLE EARTH

- a. All the earth sought the presence of Solomon – 1 Kings 10:24
- b. Kings and queens on earth heard his fame and came to him – 1 Kings 10:23
- c. All the kings of the earth sought the presence of Solomon – 2 Chronicles 9:23

Solomon described himself in Ecclesiastes 2:4–9:

“I made my works great, I built myself houses and planted myself vineyards. I made myself gardens and orchards, and I planted all kinds of fruit trees in them. I made myself water pools from which to water the growing trees of the grove. I acquired male and female servants and had servants born in my house. Yes, I had greater possessions of herds and flocks than all who were in Jerusalem before me. I also gathered for myself silver and gold and the special treasures of kings and of provinces. I acquired male and female singers, the delight of the sons of men, and musical instruments of all kinds. So I became great and excelled more than all who were before me in Jerusalem. Also, my wisdom remained with me.”

From the above, you will see that Solomon was acknowledged as the greatest on two levels:

- a. He became the greatest because his greatness surpassed all the kings who were before him in Jerusalem.
- b. He became the greatest because his greatness surpassed all the kings on the earth.

TWO THINGS THAT MADE SOLOMON THE GREATEST

- a. His wisdom
- b. His wealth

The greatness of Solomon surpassed that of all kings because he surpassed them in wisdom and wealth.

A CASE STUDY OF NEBUCHADNEZZAR

Daniel 2:37–38 says,

“You, O king, are a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory. And wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of heaven, He has given them into your hand and has made you ruler over them all—you are the head of gold.”

Nebuchadnezzar was a world power and ruler in his lifetime. But scripture shows us that God gave him all he needed to be what he became. This king was the greatest of all the kings of the earth in his lifetime. He was a king of kings. In fact, the Message Bible referred to him as the most powerful king on the earth. It is clear that God Almighty decided to make Nebuchadnezzar the greatest in his lifetime.

POSITION YOURSELF FOR INCREASED GREATNESS

God can decide someone to be the greatest, while you can position yourself to be next to such. Here is the insight you must catch: you must constantly find out the person God has chosen to rise to the highest level in a circle or generation. The moment you catch that, you must position yourself to be next to such a person.

A WAY TO BECOME THE GREATER

You need to agree in your heart that there are people that God has destined to be the greatest. This is the decision and sovereignty of God. You may not be the greater but end up becoming the greatest. Association or connection to the greatest can make you the greater. When you decide to be in friendship, relationship, or partnership with whoever God has decided to make the greatest, you will be next to such and become the greater.

Many people have become the greater because they became a friend to whom God decided to make the greatest.

Some have become the greater because they became a spouse to whom God decided to make the greatest.

Some have become the greater because they became a worker or partner with whom God decided to make the greatest.

Some have become the greater because they were born by the person God decided to make the greatest.

I have learned that associating with whoever God has decided to make the greatest—through friendship, partnership, submission, marriage, service, and birth—will end up making you the greater.

A CASE STUDY OF JONATHAN AND DAVID

1 Samuel 23:16–17 says,

“Then Jonathan, Saul’s son, arose and went to David in the woods and strengthened his hand in God. And he said to him, ‘Do not fear, for the hand of Saul my father shall not find you. You shall be king over Israel, and I shall be next to you. Even my father Saul knows that.’”

We have seen that God had decided to make David the greatest of the kings of the earth. And King Saul wanted his son Jonathan to be the king over Israel. But the understanding of Jonathan had been opened to see what God intended to do. So, Jonathan knew God’s hand was upon David and that he would end up as the greatest in Israel. Jonathan decided never to strive or compete with David. It was as though Jonathan had been enlightened by God never to compete with whoever He has decided to lift but to befriend, partner with, and support such.

Jonathan knew that the decision of God would prevail over the decision of Saul his father. So, he knew that whoever is next to the greatest is the

greater. He opened his mouth to tell David that he would be king while he, Jonathan, would be next to him. In other words, he was simply saying, “You would be the greatest, while I would be the greater.”

SEVEN WAYS TO BE POSITIONED AS THE GREATER AROUND THE GREATEST

1. Through birth

There is a higher portion of greatness that you derive when the greatest in a circle or generation is your father or mother. The children of the greatest pastors, governing leaders of nations, etc., have a higher level of importance they will get because of who gave birth to them. It is just unfortunate that many of them lack the mental capacity and character that could sustain the advantage that life bestowed on them through birth.

2. Through friendship

When the greatest see you as a friend, you will both end up reigning together. Becoming a friend with someone that is the most important in a circle or generation will end up making you more important.

3. Through submission

This refers to submitting to mentorship or fatherhood. When you make yourself a mentee or son to a person God decides to make the greatest, you will end up becoming the greater. For example, in ministry, there are ministers who end up becoming the greater (more important) in their nation or generation because of who they refer to as their spiritual father. Their

relationship with who God has decided to make the greatest is an endorsement over them to be accepted by everyone who regards who God made the greatest.

4. Through marriage

You can't marry the greatest and be lesser. A greater measure of whatever honor or influence is given to the greatest will be given to whoever marries such. Sometimes, whenever God wants to make a woman or man greater, He will orchestrate such to marry whoever He decides to make the greatest.

5. Through partnership

Many have been made greater because they were co-founders or investors with a person destined to be the greatest. This is why you must always be ready to give support to others because you may never know what is ahead of who you are supporting.

6. Through service

To serve someone is to work for someone. Many people have painted serving someone as a bad thing. There is a difference between serving and slavery. Slavery is what we should avoid and preach against, not serving another. When you serve another, you are simply working for another. Is it a bad thing to work for another person? Absolutely not. The PA to a chairman is actually serving the chairman. In serving another, you are either a volunteer or a staff member. Here is the insight I want you to catch—it is not a bad thing to serve someone; it is only bad to be a slave of another. Many don't know that there is a level of importance (greatness) that is

added to a person because of who he or she works for. The PA to the president of a country is more important than the CEO of some companies. What makes the PA important is not his office but who he serves. In fact, CEOs of companies will pursue relationships with P.A.s to the president of a country. Serving the person God has decided to make the greatest is an opportunity for you to become the greater. You can't be David's mighty man and not have David's mighty share. You may not share from his money or possession, but you will have a share of his influence, importance, and honor.

7. Through training or mentoring the greatest

When God wants you to be greater than the greatest of men, He will make you a mentor and coach to such. There is a level of importance and relevance that comes into your life because the most important among men regard you as important. If God can open your eyes to see the future ahead, you will discover that most of the people you coach or train today are going to be greater than you because God has decided to make them the greatest. So, for you to be the greater, He will bring those people your way and give you the responsibility to invest training and resources in their rising so that when they rise, they will regard you as important. This last point here is the most powerful, in that the other six make you the greater that is next to the greatest. But this last point makes you the greater that is above the greatest among men. When God gives you the opportunity to train and mentor people, give it your best and do all you can to contribute wisdom, connection, and resources to the rising of those people. Many have missed the opportunity of a lifetime because they refused to give attention to those God brought their way.

2. HUMILITY

Humility isn't stupidity. Humility isn't just taking the back seat but a state of the heart that considers everything you are and have as an opportunity given to you. It is either you are humble or fumble. People boast unnecessarily about their success and accomplishments because humility hasn't taken over them fully. When you are truly humble, others will talk about how magnificent you are, not you doing the talk. Even the Bible says,

“Let another man praise you...”

You can be great and become proud, but you can't be proud and become great. There are kings in the Bible that became proud after they were already great. The end of such was that they went down. But I have never seen anyone who is proud become great. The reason such can't happen is because the pride in the heart of the proud will push him to make decisions and take actions that will make people disregard him. You see, both pride and humility influence decisions and actions. When you are proud, there are decisions you will make that you shouldn't make. And once a decision is made, actions follow. The same with humility.

A few years ago, I visited someone, and when it was time to eat, we were moved to the dining space. I told the host to permit a brother there to join us at the dining table. The host signaled to me that he shouldn't join us. I kept my calm, but I wasn't comfortable at that dining space because I felt if this guy was rich, he would be permitted to join us. I had to eat the food just to be polite. But in my heart, I felt that guy should have joined us. While I understand that the host was trying to apply the laws of royalty, I also know that royalty must also embrace humility. Royalty devoid of humility will end up in stupidity. In fact, royalty should make everyone around it feel royal.

Sometimes, God made you great so everyone around you can have a firsthand exposure to greatness. Any greatness that doesn't make those around you feel great isn't greatness. If you are the only one treated great but you don't have the sense to make those who come around you feel great, you are not great. Any greatness that only reflects in the life of one person isn't greatness but smallness. Until your greatness rubs off on everyone around you, you are not great. It takes humility to make others feel great around you.

One day, I watched the burial ceremony of a billionaire through a TV live coverage. I was amazed to see the kind of people who carried the corpse of the dead billionaire. I am sure, in his lifetime, he might likely have considered those people to be ordinary ones who couldn't even meet the standard of living of his gateman. Those who carried his corpse may not even be educated fellows. The man, in his lifetime, may decide the hospitals to go for checkup but can't decide the people that will carry his corpse when he dies. Let's be humble and treat people well. Do you know who will watch your body at the mortuary when you die? Let's remain humble.

Matthew 18:4 says,

“Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is
the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”

Whoever is humble is the greatest in the kingdom of God.

In the kingdom (Christianity), you can't be the most important, relevant, or influential if you are not humble. God only gives the greatest influence to the humble. Pride is first the way you think. If you always think you are better, smarter, or more important than others, then you are proud. It is either you have pride or humility in your heart. You can't have otherwise. Humility is also how you think about God. If you don't put God first in

your heart, you are proud. Believers who don't consider fellowshiping with the brethren are proud. That's the reason they are not the most important and influential in the kingdom.

Moses and Jesus as a case study: the greatest prophet to the Jews till date is Moses, but that same man was known to be the meekest (the humblest) of all men. Jesus is the greatest being that ever walked on this earth, but scripture shows us that He was humble to the point of death.

Humility has benefits. One of the benefits is that you will have more grace. You see, more grace will always lead to more greatness. Your grace can't increase and your greatness not increase. God gives more grace to the humble. Another benefit of humility is that you will be lifted by God consistently. The humbler you are, the more lifted you are. There is no limit to where God can lift you to, but the level of your humility sets the limit.

HOW YOUR HUMILITY AFFECTS PEOPLE

a. People's hearts are drawn closer to you

When you are humble, people's hearts will be drawn closer to you. And the fact is that your humility will always show in the way you treat the most ordinary of men. People's intuition is active to know when you treat them with a sense of dignity. If you are such that addresses people anyhow, I am sorry to tell you that it is not your anger but your pride.

It is not anger that makes you insult or embarrass people but your pride. Anger may make you displeased toward someone's action or speech, but anger won't make you insult them or make them feel useless. Over the years, people with pride have hid under the covering of their anger. You often hear that he has anger issues and that is why he talks that way. No, that is not correct. Anger may express displeasure and disapproval but will

never express insult, embarrassment, or uselessness. If you ever make anyone feel useless or worthless, it is not an anger issue that you have—it is a pride issue.

b. People are loyal to you

Humility compels the loyalty of people. People, especially followers, find it easy to relate, follow, and submit to a humble person. Yes, I know people can be unfaithful and ungrateful sometimes, but you need to know that it is a lower percentage of people that have such negative vices. A larger percentage of people want to be loyal to anything and anyone that makes them feel important and supports their progress.

Humility will always be comfortable with the importance, relevance, and progress of others. When you check the root of envy and jealousy, you will see pride there. Humble people find it hard to be envious or jealous. Envy will always make you think that another isn't qualified to have what they have, while jealousy will always make you think that you should have what another person has. To think that another person isn't qualified to have what they have isn't just envy but also a manifestation of pride. Proud people aren't always happy when others are making progress.

When people can spot humility through your speech, actions, and presence, they will be loyal to you. Nobody likes intimidation. Intimidation adds to people's limitation. People want to be in safe places and safe hands. If people sense they always have a feeling of worthlessness when they are around you, they will not be loyal to you.

A skill you need to deploy in this aspect is to reduce how you talk about your success or family achievements when people are around you or when you are in public. You need to train yourself to focus on others when they

are around you and never shift attention or discussion to your success or children. Most leaders can't do without talking about their children, spouse, promotion, how they were treated well, or how their children are succeeding, but are not patient to let others have their expression.

Can you counsel people without mentioning your success or wonderful experience as illustration? You can talk about that when having a public speech, but when having conversations, you need to reduce that.

Majesty enhances humility; it doesn't disapprove it. In the multitude of people, there is honor. Can you have a multitude around you and still be humble? When you have a majestic presence—have convoys that accompany you, security and protocols all around you—will you still be that person that won't make anyone feel less important or worthless? The way you treat people matters, and that can also affect their loyalty. Treat people well, make them feel important, contribute to their progress, and watch how they will be loyal to you.

c. People will overlook your weakness

One day, the leader of an organization made a decision that affected some leaders of that organization. The entire organization accepted the decision, even though it affected some of their leaders. But I heard one of the leaders say he knew what he could have done, but for the humility of their leader, he threw down his sword. It was that day I knew that nobody overlooks the weakness of the proud, but they do with the weakness of the humble.

d. People will willingly accept your influence

With greatness comes influence. But when you are great and you also have humility, people will not only accept your influence, they will also tell you to influence their lives. Your humility will always exalt your influence in the sight of its recipients. The greatest among men will always have influence over the great and greater. So, one of the things that will make you an influence over those who already have influence is your humility. If you aren't humble, those who already have influence can't submit to you.

3. SERVICE

This refers to service to God and humanity. Don't expect to be the greatest if you aren't serving humanity something – you must serve them your gift, wisdom, etc. Just like food is served by servants, so also, you must serve something that will bring satisfaction to people in an aspect of life. The reason Solomon ended as the greatest was because he was available to answer people's questions, solve problems for people, and so on. If he wasn't serving the people his wisdom like waiters serve food in restaurants, he wouldn't be the greatest.

The power of service is that it will cause you to always be needed. May you not be a person that won't be needed. If you ever get to a point that people no longer crave for something you offer, you have lost it. Be wise and quit complaining that you are always needed or demanded for. That is the exact thing others want but don't have. If you give yourself to service, your presence will be felt, and what you offer will be needed.

Sometimes, some people may not pay you, but the fact that you work for them adds to your reputation. There is always a reward attached to every service. Money is the least of the rewards of service. There is a way you

serve that you end up having reputation and influence. Some access will only come because you are committed to service.

INSIGHT FOR EMPLOYEES

Employees need to know that if they are going to end up as the greatest at their workplace, they must engage the following:

- a. Perform more than their task at their workplace.
- b. Stay longer than their working hours at their workplace.
- c. Be available to carry out emergency tasks given to you by your boss at odd hours.
- d. Keep making improvement through learning, flexibility, and adaptation so they become irreplaceable.
- e. Keep finding out ways to bring improvement to the company or organization.
- f. Keep going for training and getting more certifications.

4. LOVE

Love is powerful in that it helps you to be highly relational. Those who practice love aren't transactional in their relationships. The code for love is to do to others what you want others to do to you. The others that will do things to you aren't those you do things for or to, but other people in other places. It should be said as: do to others in this place what you want others in other places to do to you.

To show real love to others is to act with consistent, unconditional care, trust, and respect for another person's well-being. Everyone has the power to show real love to others. If you love someone, you will show kindness to them. When you love, you will show you are always reliable. You can't love another person and betray such. You don't retaliate when you truly love a person. Whoever will emerge as the greatest must be able to let go of issues and offences.

GOD AS A CASE STUDY

God is love. Love is the greatest. A man of love is greater than a man of faith. Love is not needed when you are not offended; love is needed when you are offended. Those who practice love will always forgive or forbear. Forbearance is the level everyone should grow to.

Those who practice love will end up having enemies contributing to their lifting. Offences will always come. Offence is someone's action, while to be offended is your decision. You must constantly control yourself to a point that you aren't offended.

You can't be the greatest if you don't have love. That is why most people in the world who are even unsaved but are considered the greatest in their field are known for overlooking offences. If you don't learn how to overlook offences, you can't have quality relationships in your life. Paul the Apostle said if you don't want to be offended in this world, then get out of this world. You can't be in this world and not have someone offend you.

The real time your love is needed is when you are offended. Love isn't needed when you aren't offended. In fact, we don't know and can't believe that you love someone until they offend you and you still show love.

5. EXTRAORDINARY WISDOM

Extraordinary wisdom refers to mental strength, sense, and strategies. This is productive thinking. You will be considered the greatest when you display a superior level of wisdom in speech, actions, and results. Your wisdom must always end in works, not in words. To have extraordinary wisdom is to have superior wisdom.

SOLOMON AS A CASE STUDY

There are certain qualities that are seen with Solomon that need to be emulated. Solomon is known for the following, and you also should apply this to your life:

a. Raising the standard

If you truly have extraordinary wisdom, you will go beyond the older generation in works. Solomon achieved more than David. The real proof of this wisdom isn't to surpass in speech but in works.

b. Teaching and modeling

This is the proof of real wisdom. Wisdom isn't only in your words but in what you model. What are you doing that others can copy? That is extraordinary wisdom.

c. Building

You can't have the wisdom I am referring to and not build something worthwhile in your lifetime.

WHAT SHOULD YOU BUILD?

- i. Build businesses and companies: Solomon had many businesses and companies running the businesses for him. The greatest will have many businesses. He is not doing that to make money but to meet the needs of humans daily.
- ii. Build buildings.
- iii. Build structures and policies.
- iv. Build people.
- v. Build allies: Solomon married from every kingdom just to build quality relationships with other kings so he could be at peace on every side. Records show that he was very hospitable, for it is written how he received the Queen of Sheba.

6. GENEROSITY

If you are rich but not generous, you can't be considered the greatest. Prosperity plus generosity produces greatness. Greatness is about being a blessing to others. Those who give to others are the ones that will end in greatness. The generosity here is not about giving to God but giving to men. If you are prosperous but not generous, you will be oppressive. But if you are prosperous and generous, you will be great.

Charity is a purchasing power for greatness. Business people understand this and they are intentional with it. A rich man may be stingy towards his

family but not stingy towards his political friends and those in government. Why? He knows that his generosity is a proof of his greatness in the sight of the great. Most people only understand the power of giving to the rich but are ignorant of the benefits of giving to the less privileged.

Multitudes came to Jesus on their own accord a day after He fed them not because they wanted miracles but because they wanted more food.

Generosity isn't about giving money alone, but also about giving information, connection, access, platforms, and so on. If you aren't generous with what you have so others can rise through you, you can't become the greatest.

Generosity in the hands of the wicked is a tool of manipulation and oppression. But generosity in the hands of the righteous is a tool of deliverance from issues and problems.

DAVID AS A CASE STUDY

When they returned from war, he instructed that all they got be shared equally among his servants.

NEHEMIAH AS A CASE STUDY

He never took portions that belonged to the governors.

Generosity lengthens your days of greatness as the greatest.

Daniel 4:27 says,

“Therefore, O king, let my advice be acceptable to you;
break off your sins by being righteous and your iniquities

by showing mercy to the poor. Perhaps there may be a lengthening of your prosperity.”

Generosity makes the poor utter words of prayers to you. Those words are the dots of mercy in the day of evil.

7. IMPARTING THE IMPARTERS

Those who impart others are known as the imparters. The imparters fall into the category of the great and greater. But anyone who imparts those who impart others is surely the greatest. A pastor who raises other pastors will end up as the greater. But the person who raises the highest number of pastors will end up as the greatest.

The problem of some imparters is that they raised and imparted lots of people but failed to remain connected to those people. You must be relational and keep relating with those you are imparting even after they have grown.

There are many silent laborers who should be reaping the reward of their investment in people, but another is reaping the reward because they didn't remain connected to those they labored on. Yes, I know lack of accessibility and communication created lots of gaps in the last centuries. But in today's world, with the advent of mobile phones, you can reach anywhere in the world. An imparter must keep his or her image in people's memory every time by checking up on them and creating opportunities for meeting sometimes.

You must not just impart people; you must impart those who will impart other people.

There are certain qualities you must have before others can willingly accept your impacts in their lives. The qualities are:

- a. **Vision:** People love to follow a person who knows where he is going, and they obey such. If you have a vision that inspires others for the future so they can strive to become better, then you will easily influence people.
- b. **Integrity:** Integrity is being who you are both in private and public. This will cause you to earn trust and respect from those around you.
- c. **Influence:** This is the ability to make people do things willingly without forcing them. Influence affects the mind of people towards a fruitful effort.
- d. **Empathy:** This shows that you understand the struggles and challenges of others, and you communicate it to them that you clearly understand. Everyone desires to be understood.
- e. **Legacy:** When people see that you have a legacy of impact, they will believe in you and be willing to yield to your impact.

8. SUPERIOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

If you build a company, organization, product, or brand that is thriving and in demand in the world, then you have superior accomplishments. If you have superior results in life, you will have a place in prominence. The greatest are known for their accomplishments that are considered superior to their kind. You can't have superior results and not be considered as the greatest in your sphere. Never!

A superior accomplishment is an unprecedented one or a surpassing one. You should either break a record or set a record—or even do both. The greatest anywhere are always known for their accomplishments. There are people who became the greatest in charity because they cared for the highest number of poor, widows, and orphans.

Accomplishment is about doing something worthwhile and worthy of emulation. Let your accomplishments be louder than your explanation.

CHAPTER 5

THE GREATEST

The greatest among us are the ones that have the greatest battles. Nothing about them or around them shows they are going through any battle, but if they will sincerely open up to you, you will know they have the greatest life battles to deal with. Betrayals, setbacks, losses, contentions, policies set up to limit them, and so on, are battles the greatest are facing daily. All these are not for public display or social media show-off. The most prominent among men have learned to keep their battles private and fight secretly.

Battles are one of the things the greatest have to deal with to emerge into the most prominent space they occupy. They won't tell you, but they are often going through a lot. Never pray or desire to be the greatest if you aren't ready to fight any battle. Looking at the life of Solomon, it appears on the surface that he had no battle to fight, for his father (David) had fought all his battles. But as I looked deeply, I saw that Solomon had battles to fight with Adonijah, his brother, and all the men with him. He had to kill his brother so his kingdom could be established in his hand.

You shouldn't fight battles all the days of your life. Even David had a time he got rest from all battles. But to avoid fighting battles at all is to avoid rising into greatness at all.

Many years ago, I was betrayed by some people, had some setbacks in life, and also had financial challenges. That continued for a few years, and I eventually got over everything. It was many years after that I discovered that all that happened to me was a fight for greatness. I wasn't schooled early that you can't desire greatness and escape battles.

You see, challenges, problems, obstacles, setbacks, rejections, disappointments, unemployment, and betrayals should all be seen as a setup for your greatness. You don't complain, run away, or seek an escape route; you should face it and fight it.

Most times, people complain about what is set up to lift them into greatness because they aren't enlightened that it is for their benefit. You can't just desire the greatest glory and honor when you aren't ready to pay the price for it.

What you go through is the price you pay to become who you should be. The greatest battle of your life will provoke the greatest glory of your life into manifestation. You may feel some pain today, but the end is always glorious.

BECOME THE GREATEST IN YOUR MIND

Your mindset is your mentality. Your mindset is the configuration of your mind. It births your reasoning, thoughts, emotions, and feelings. It is basically your perception of life and living.

The mind is the most powerful organ in the body. Though invisible, yet its deeds remain conspicuous. It has the ability to control the whole human body. It can move your hands, cause your feet to run, and make your heart beat faster, among many other abilities. The heart pumps blood for living, but the mind pumps that which enables you to live life.

Your sense of reasoning is definitely evident in your speech, decisions, actions, attitude, personality, and relationship with men. Your mind is the source of your thoughts, which determines your actions, from which your character, behavior, and personality are built.

The bedrock of who you are is your mindset. Simply put, you are your thoughts. Even the Holy Book declares that as you think in your heart, so are you. Psychology and motivational speakers understand this fact.

Your mindset can be a product of diverse factors – background, exposure, experiences, movies, and even books among many others. Many a times, what all these factors provide, express, or teach aren't completely right and valid, hence the need for caution in what we allow, approve, and apply.

You can never do beyond your mindset except the Holy Spirit takes over you. A student whose mind has been configured to believe that there's so little that can be done by him to excel academically unless he takes the illegal route, which is malpractice, will by whatever means possible engage in them.

A woman who has been made to believe that men are dogs and can never be faithful in marriage will definitely have trust issues, and breakups won't be far-fetched from her dealings with men. Sex has been said to relieve menstrual cramps; no wonder so many innocent girls are victims already. Ignorance and naivety cost a lot!

A young man that grew up with a father that was apparently too bossy to take any shortcomings from his wife and children is most likely to end up a violent husband, dashing blows and hurtful words at the slightest provocation. His mind has been tuned to that setting.

A young lady that grew up in a family where she and her mother are used to buying unwholesome peppers and tomatoes due to their quantity may not

even change when she's more comfortable. One day I heard a lady say, "I would rather buy *akube* (second hand or used clothes) than buy expensive stuff that aren't durable." Really? It should be quality before quantity or price, and not the other way around.

The fact is that except a mind is fed with the right principles and knowledge, what we'll have is an impoverished mind. There's an urgent need for the education of the mind. We need to learn, unlearn, and relearn. Information needs to be updated! Minds need to be reconfigured! Knowledge needs to be tested and upgraded!

Poverty is a function of the mind; so also, is being wealthy. Insufficiency and confidence are both functions of the mind, likewise weakness and strength. Do we want good men? Let's develop good minds first because only a healthy mind can breed a healthy lifestyle. Invest in your mind.

WRITE THE GREATEST GOAL

Goals help you to track your progress and draw you closer to your greatness. There is a level of greatness you may reach without any goal. That happened to Joseph. Joseph never wrote any goal to become a Prime Minister, but the moment he became a Prime Minister, he had to start working with a goal set.

Hope you remember that there was 20% of all harvest that must be saved for seven years, which was managed by Joseph. The collection for those seven years was a goal to be achieved, and the distribution during the seven years of famine was also based on a goal set. There was a distribution method set in place for effective management.

You know that David never set a goal to kill Goliath. So, there are accomplishments that will happen by the sovereign decision of God and not

connected to any goal you set. That is why you must never limit God to your goals—but you should still set goals.

Goal setting is the first step in turning the invisible into the visible. You must always set your goals prayerfully. Praying to God to take control isn't an excuse not to set goals. In fact, what should God take control over?

Proverbs 21:31 says,

“The horse is prepared against the day of battle, but safety is of the Lord.”

You see, expecting victory and safety from the Lord when the horses are not prepared for battle is a joke. The victory won't come through the horse but through the Lord. But the preparation for the battle has to be made on your side.

So, getting a prepared horse is a sign that you are prepared for the battle. You should prepare your goals like a warrior prepares his horse, but you should depend on God for success like a warrior should depend on God for victory.

Most times, when a new year is closer, people present their expectations to God in prayers. I don't have anything against presenting your expectations for a new year to God, but I prefer presenting action plans to God for direction, correction, help, wisdom, and guidance.

Your goals will always carry your action plans. Yes, a man's heart must plan his ways before the Lord directs his steps. God wants you to prepare your goals and leave the orchestration of opportunities and advantages to Him. He knows how to move you into places, conversations, and relationships that will bring success.

Having the greatest goal isn't referring to finding out the goals of others so you can increase yours. No. It is about setting goals that are beyond your capacity. The greatest goals you set aren't just referring to goals that surpass others but goals that surpass your current level to handle. Don't be bothered in the beginning about how to achieve it; just write it, and how to achieve it will come later.

You may ask, "How can I set the greatest goal?" Here it is: look into your heart and write down the highest figures that come into your heart. If that figure is what you already figured out how to achieve, it is not your greatest goal. The figure has to be something you can't figure out how to achieve at this current moment. If you can identify that figure that will scare you, then you have your greatest goal.

You may get into greatness without any goal, but if you are going to remain in greatness and keep increasing in greatness till you become the greatest, you must set goals for yourself. The greater your goal, the greater your pursuit. If you won't have a goal, you won't have a pursuit.

When writing a goal, you must never write what is within your capacity to achieve. You must always write beyond your capacity so you can stretch. If you won't set a goal beyond your capacity, you can't stretch. Every one of us needs to stretch. You must be stretched. You need a goal that will stretch you—a goal that will stretch your mind, reasoning, staff members, bank account, etc.

It is essential to know that if you won't stretch, you may not expand. A rubber band that will expand must be ready to be stretched. You need a goal that will stretch you so you can expand. You can't remain the same when you expand. But to expand, you must be stretched. Set a goal that will stretch you—a goal that will give you sleepless nights because you are trying to find out the way to achieve it.

I always counsel people to write their goals for the year. Write a goal that will scare you when you read it. It may scare you in the beginning but will stretch you when you start. Can you be that person that will always come up with the greatest goal for the year in your industry, city, country, and so on? How can you expect to be the greatest when you are always having a goal that will make you equal to others?

To some, setting a goal that is beyond you is being unrealistic, but to someone like me, it is being stretched beyond your current level. We don't need any prophecy or revelation to know you will emerge the greatest when we see your goals. Goals show what you will pursue and also the future.

If you are after accomplishing at the level of others, you will end up like others. Getting out of equality starts with the goals you are pursuing. Your work rate and work ethics can be affected by the goals you set. Most times, we emphasize diligence and discipline to people who aren't pursuing anything great. I want you to know that you are on your way to becoming the greatest when you have the greatest goal.

WATCHVIEW – THE FUTURE AWARENESS

History shows repeatedly that the greatest can fall. The Egyptian Old Kingdom, the Minoans of Crete, the Chou Dynasty, the Hittite Empire, the Mayan Civilization – all fell. Athens fell, Rome fell, even Britain, which stood a century before as a global superpower, saw its position erode. If some of the greatest companies in history can collapse from iconic to irrelevant, that calls for a watchview so as to be informed if our greatness has a place in the future or not.

Some years ago, I read an article titled “Watchview.” It clearly stated that everyone needs to be aware of the future. Whatever level you are today, you

need to be aware of the future so you can know if what you are doing or building today can have a place in prominence and relevance in the future. When you are only concerned about the relevance of the present, you are indirectly burying yourself ahead of the future.

Until you have future awareness of your industry, profession, and sector, you may not know how to rightly be positioned for the future. If you are a Christian, you must not only pray about the future, you must be aware of the future. You must be intentional to read the projection of the future as it relates to your sphere or field.

If you don't have a watchview, you won't know you should be making some changes today. There are many things you may be doing today that may need to change so you don't become obsolete or irrelevant when the future arrives. The future will always come, but will you have a place in it? If you are celebrated as the greater or greatest today, will you still be celebrated as such in the future?

When a pregnant woman wants to know about the gender, weeks or months old of a fetus, expected date of delivery, and so on, she is expected to go for a scan. The scan will capture all these she really desires. Having a watchview is like going for a scan so you can know what is presently building up for the future.

HOW CAN YOU HAVE A WATCHVIEW FOR YOUR INDUSTRY?

- a. You pay attention to the changes you are prompted to make.
- b. You pay attention to the changes others are making.
- c. You have meaningful conversations with those in your sphere.

- d. You pay attention to those coming behind you in your sphere — they are the disruptors in the future.

YOUR IGNORANCE IS IN WHAT YOU KNOW

I used to think that ignorance is what you don't know until I saw in scriptures that what you know can be the ignorance in you. The man who doesn't know is ignorant, and the man who also knows the wrong thing is also ignorant. It is not that some people don't know; they actually know but know the wrong thing.

In the parable of the talents in the Bible, the three servants were given talents according to each person's ability. The first two multiplied theirs, while the third guy kept his one talent. When the master came, the guy with one talent came to his master and said, "... *I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you do not sow and gathering where you haven't scattered.*"

The reason that guy couldn't multiply his talent like others was because of something he knew. He knew the wrong thing about his master. The other two who multiplied their seed didn't have the mindset of that guy. The problem of the last guy wasn't what he didn't know but what he knew. His ignorance wasn't what he didn't know but what he knew. There was no way that guy could become the greatest just because of something he knew.

The man who knows nothing and the one who knows the wrong thing are on the same level and will have the same result. I can easily predict if someone can become the greatest or not just by listening to their perspective about different people. When you see someone who talks down on people, despises people, and insults people anyhow, such may be great but can't be the greatest. The greatest among men are known for treating people well.

Sometimes, it is something you know that is limiting your exploits. There is a way you know things should be done, but there is another thing you can know that will show you a better way things should be done. The reason many people keep going in the same cycle is because they are doing what they should not be doing. It is a knowledge they have within them that makes them do things how they do them. If they will break that cycle, there is a need to do away with what they know and embrace new knowledge.

GREATNESS REQUIRES YOU TO BE KNOWN

I always tell people that preparation should be done in private, not public. When a thing hasn't matured, it is not good to quickly expose such. Early exposure can destroy a thing.

There are certain things about you that mustn't be public until the time is ripe. But you also need to know that there comes a time that some things need to be made known. You cannot rise if you won't start. It is those who start that will shine. But beyond starting, you also need to know about showing. There is a level of shining that comes by starting, but there is a higher level of shining that comes by showing.

You can't desire to be known and reject being shown. It is what is shown that is known. The brothers of Jesus told Him, *"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."* John 7:4

It is what you show that you will be known for. Those who show are those who shine. We are known by what we show and present. The brothers of Jesus said no one does anything in secret while he seeks to be known. The way you make proofs of your greatness is by making it known to the world.

Greatness must have a name. When you make your greatness known, you are not after the fame but after the name. Revelation makes me aware of what's already there. Revelation is for you, while manifestation is for the world.

You can't be hidden and desire to be the greatest. The greatest must be known to the world. Claiming that you don't like to be known shows that you don't desire to be the greatest. The greatest is the realm of superiority. You can't be superior and remain hidden.

Some mindsets need to be dealt with. Many have been indoctrinated to think that being known is a carnal or satanic affair. Whereas Jesus commanded that you should let your light so shine before men so they can see your good works. How come we have people who don't want men to see their good works?

If your greatness won't be seen, then you are not making full proofs of your greatness. If you are reading this, I want you to know that you are destined for greatness and for the superior part of it—the greatest.

So, if this is going to happen, you must be willing to let the world know about you. Politicians who want to win elections must make themselves known to the voters. How can you win an election when you are not known?

I wonder why some Christians claim they don't want to be known. Let your good works be seen, not let your good face be seen. It is your work that the world wants to see, not your face. To claim you desire to be the greatest in a sphere or state but don't want to be known is a mere wish that can't fly.

My prayers for you is that you shall have

a. Greatest honor

- b. Greatest glory
- c. Greatest influence
- d. Greatest company
- e. Greatest children
- f. Greatest organization

CHAPTER 6

RECEIVE THE GREATEST FROM THE GREATEST

God is the greatest, and He is above all gods in the universe. He can never be compared to any of the gods. He is in a class of Himself. There is a way God thinks, or better said, there is a way the Greatest thinks. God has His thoughts, or better said, the Greatest has His thoughts. The thoughts of God are the Greatest thoughts. So, receiving the thoughts of God into your heart is receiving the Greatest thoughts into your heart. You can't continue receiving the thoughts of God into your heart and think like ordinary men. The thoughts of God in your heart push you to operate at a higher frequency of thinking.

Paul the Apostle said, "*God is at work in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.*" What is God working in you? He works thoughts in you. There is a way God thinks, and He wants you to think the same way. If God wants you to emerge the greatest in a sphere or space, He starts by flooding your heart with the greatest thoughts—visions, ideas, insight, strategy—of what to do in that sphere or space. If God can put in your heart what is not in the hearts of others, the process to becoming the greatest has begun.

It is what God is working in you that you will eventually work on earth. God's work in your heart is your work on earth. The works of God in your heart are ideas, visions, strategies, insights that will distinguish you on

earth. God's work on earth today is done in the heart of men. Your heart is the workspace of God. The fact is that your greatness on earth can be bigger than the greatness in your heart. It is possible! That happened to Joseph. There was no way Joseph could have captured that he would become the Prime Minister in Egypt. In fact, there was no such office. How could Joseph envision an office that wasn't in existence? Based on this, we see that it is possible to have beyond the greatness of your heart in reality.

Here is what you must catch—you must be adaptable to the greatness given to you on earth. God may accelerate you faster to a level you didn't capture in your heart and set you on high there. You must never consider yourself a stranger or inferior when set into greatness. "How did I get here?" shouldn't be what you should be thinking or asking when you are set into surpassing greatness that positions you as the greatest. You know, many people are emotional when they should be responsible. The moment you find yourself in such greatness that is beyond your imagination or expectation, you should constantly get into doing what will make you productive and valuable.

This is what you see with Joseph. He was result-oriented and delivered maximally to a point of being irreplaceable. When you find yourself at the highest level in any sphere, you shouldn't be asking, "How did I get here?" You should rather be asking, "What should I be doing now, and how will I be getting results here?"

CONQUER LACK

No matter how small what you have is, you must never have the consciousness of lack. It is not what you don't have that you lack; it is what you don't know that you lack. There is something you will know that will put an end to lack in your life. If you are going to emerge as the greatest in

life, in your sphere or nation, you must deal with lack in all areas of life. Lack isn't the absence of money alone but the absence of whatever you should know or have.

The other day, a billionaire was denied access to see the president of a country. That shows the man lacked access to the presidency. He had money but lacked access to the presidency.

Like I mentioned, dealing with lack starts with what you know. For example, the man that was denied access to the presidency actually lacked information or insight. If he knew that there were people he could meet who could give the president a phone call on his behalf, all he needed to do was to find out how he could reach such individuals.

The other day, a young pastor wanted to reach a great pastor who had national influence in a country. Many people found it difficult to reach that great pastor. So, this young pastor deployed a strategy—he began to send gifts to the personal assistant of that great pastor. Eventually, it was that personal assistant who requested from that young pastor if he would like to meet the great pastor. Do you see that? Do you see how he was offered to see freely who was difficult to be seen? But when you look at it intently, it was his ability to know what to do that granted him the access he needed.

Do you lack money, access, opportunities, platforms, attention, etc.? I want you to know that there is something you will know that will put an end to that lack. If you are a believer, don't just pray to God to put an end to lack in your life; you also need to find out what you should do to end the lack. Sometimes, all you need to do to end a lack in an aspect of your life is to have a conversation with someone.

One of the things you must constantly do is to ask God to put in your heart the right thoughts, insight, or even direct the right information your way so that an end can come to lack in your life.

WILL YOU STAY IN THE PROBLEM OR GET OUT OF IT?

One day, I heard a lady say she was tired of life and that the problem she was facing was more than what she could bear. I made enquiry about what happened to her, only to discover that it was one minor issue. What is a stepping stone to you is still a mountain to another.

I thought of it—that if this lady actually went through some of the things I had gone through, she could have committed suicide. I have gone through problems that I just knew I survived. I had to sit down to analyze how I survived some things and discovered that I actually engaged the power of speaking right words.

You see, you may not be able to stop a problem or challenge from happening, but you can choose to stay in the problem or get out of it. Like that lady, based on the way she spoke, she had agreed to remain in her problem. Isn't it amazing to know that the beginning of getting out of any problem doesn't cost you anything but to speak?

People trivialize what doesn't cost them anything. You know, most solutionists have mastered this psychological part, so they tend to give people in problems an approach that is technical so they can take it seriously. They know if they just tell you that simple thing, you may not take it seriously, so they will technicalize it so it can be appealing to you.

In the Bible, Naaman would have missed his miracle because he was told to do something simple in an ordinary place. He thought going to some rivers that are modernized and classy would be better for him. Thank God he heeded the counsel of his servant.

With the words you speak, you can remain in a problem, and with the words you speak, you can get out of any problem in this world. This is why most preachers teach about confession. They want you to use your tongue to turn your life in the direction of solutions instead of problems. When you are in lack, you can use your words to turn yourself in the direction of abundance.

Christianity is called the faith and the confession. *Homologeō* is the Greek word for confession. *Homo* means “same,” *logos* means “what is said.” Jesus is the Apostle over our same talk. Everything you say must be verbatim with what God said or be consistent with what God has said.

Has God told you anything? That is what should be in your mouth regardless of whatever happens. In fact, that is what should be spoken all the time. You don’t wait till problems start before you speak.

I have discovered that God will often speak ahead before situations arise. God spoke ahead to you because He wanted you to be preoccupied with the revelation rather than the situations. It is what is said to you that you should say, not what is happening. Whatever God has said to you, you should believe it. If you believe it indeed, you will say it.

Faith is when your words synchronize with your belief. When your heart connects with your mouth, then you release faith.

Confession is saying what God said, while declaration is saying what you desire. Many people don’t know the difference between both. If it is confession, it must be located in the Scriptures. The root of every confession must be Scripture.

If you hear someone say, “I have my car,” but cannot show a Scripture that supports or reveals that, then that person didn’t make a confession but a declaration. It is not wrong to say what you desire, but don’t call that a confession. Confession has to be saying what God has said.

Confession must be in the present tense. To make your confession, you don't say, "I will not be small"; you should rather say, "I will be the greatest." To say, "I will not be sick," isn't the right approach to making confession. It should rather be said as, "I am healthy in my flesh, bones, and marrow."

It should be personalized, not generic. You can't confess on behalf of everybody, but you can confess for yourself. Use your confessions and declarations to get yourself out of every issue.

BRING GREATNESS OUT OF YOU

A person who meditates expands his mind. As you meditate, new information will begin to fill your mind. You should meditate on your vision. When you meditate, your intuitive faculties are opened. You will know things before they happen. Change the program on your inside through meditation.

When you sit still, that's when you will know what to do. The reason for your problem isn't from the outside; it's from the inside. In meditation, you start with the end you are reaching for. God gives me a promise, and through meditation I will find out from the Holy Spirit the steps I need to take. If you get information through meditation, you will be far ahead of everybody.

Leadership is seeing ahead through meditation. The real work of life is thinking. Execution is just after thinking. Thinking is the business of life.

Moses knew the ways of God—means Moses knew how it would happen. What you carry out as implementation should be what you find out in your meditation. The Holy Spirit supplies new ideas and thoughts through revelation.

Think yourself into the new space. Everything is done twice—it's created in you and formed with your heart. For a building, the architectural design is done twice—first in the mind before anywhere else. Create the building in your mind. Go through all details, know where all the beams and staircases will be. You have to see and understand what is to be built in your mind before the building commences.

You don't connect an old building to a new building. God created first. God created man before He formed. For you to get results, you have to get into stillness. Anything you want to form, you must first create it. Create in your mind before you form on the outside.

Before you start things, identify the *why* of it. The *why* is what gives you uniqueness. With the inner man, we create; with the outer man, we form.

Top athletes are people with imagination. Reimagine your world. Labor to enter into rest. Labor in meditation to get clarity.

BE *APOSTOLOS* IN SCOPE

The word '*apostolos*' is a Greek word from which the English word 'apostle' is derived. The word '*apostolos*' refers to a person who was officially commissioned to a position or task, such as an envoy. It is said that in the ancient world, an apostle was the personal representative of the king, functioning as an ambassador with the king's authority and provided with credentials to prove he was the king's envoy.

All *apostolos* are seen as individuals sent from someone else with the sender's commission, the necessary credentials, the sender's authority, and the implicit responsibility to accomplish a mission or assignment.

The perspective of many about the concept of an *apostolos* is that he is a sent one. This is the perspective that is often proclaimed among Christians. This description limits the broader scope of who an *apostolos* is and should be. You must not just see yourself as a sent one but as one who has a broader identity to match his mission identity. We need to see who an *apostolos* is from a broader definition and perspective.

WHO IS AN *APOSTOLOS*?

1. An *apostolos* is someone that spearheads something new.
2. An *apostolos* is the firstborn among many. Firstborn here means he is the first to become something.
3. An *apostolos* is someone that has gone ahead, creating the way for others to follow.
4. An *apostolos* shows the way for others to follow.
5. An *apostolos* sees the new vision, creates the new path, and equips the new people.

Like I mentioned above, the picture or description of an *apostolos* that many people know is someone who preaches the gospel of Jesus Christ. Well, I hope you know that *apostolos* (or apostle) is not a Christian word. That word has been used in conversations, deployment, and appointment long before Christianity was birthed.

The fact is that if you are great, you may not be *apostolos*, but you can't be the greatest and not be considered *apostolos*.

Study everyone that is considered the greatest in any field, city, industry, and nation. You will always discover that they spearhead something new and went ahead to create the way for others to follow. Both the great and

greater will always watch the footsteps of the greatest so they can know how to navigate higher beyond their current status.

Since you desire to be the greatest, you should ask yourself: What am I spearheading, or what do I want to spearhead? You must ask yourself: What new path do I want to create for others to follow?

I want you to see yourself as an *apostolos* – not the type who will be a preacher (well, you can be if you are given the grace for such). I want you to know that you are sent to create a new path somewhere in the world and show the way for others to follow.

As you are reading this, you will bear with me that there are certain things God has put within you that, when acted upon, will create a new path for others to follow. There is a better way things can be done, and God is stirring your heart to be the first to step into it. You may not have seen that thing you keep seeing in your heart anywhere in the world – no correlating models – yet, you can't deny that you are loaded with something new. I want you to boldly take actions and do it. You haven't seen it in the world because you are the one God wants to use to pioneer or launch that thing you keep seeing in your heart. Step into it, and you will be amazed at what will happen.

INCREASE YOUR HONOR QUOTIENT

Most people smell dishonor. They lack the honor quotient, and as a result of such, they couldn't continue rising in greatness. I have discovered that the greater your greatness, the greater your honor for others should be. On the lane of greatness, you don't expect honor, you give it. Most people think that greatness is about being honored by others; no wonder they couldn't continue to be relevant and influential.

Both honor and dishonor smell. Honor smells good fragrance while dishonor smells bad odors. The Bible says,

“Give and it shall be given to you.”

It has been discovered that those who give honor to others always have honor given to them in return. The principle that says, “*What a man sows, he shall reap*,” also shows that you can’t sow dishonor to others and expect to reap honor from them.

Do you remember the scripture that says, “*It is more blessed to give than to receive?*” That clearly shows that it is better to give honor to others than to expect to receive it from others. Some people are power-drunk and honor-monger; no wonder they can’t go higher in the height of greatness. Nobody lacks what he or she gives. If you constantly give honor to others, you can’t lack it.

The proof that you have honor quotient is that you give it willingly and freely to everyone that comes your way. Honor quotient is an intelligence within you showing and leading you on how to give honor to different people you come across in life.

Age or status shouldn’t be the reason that you honor anyone. You should honor everyone you come across because you have a sense of honor. Peter the Apostle instructed in the scriptures that we should honor all men (1 Peter 2:17).

It is through honor you place demand on the grace of others. Honor triggers the grace of others to tell you what you need to hear. Your ears need to hear things. It is honor that will compel a grace to talk to you in a way you will understand.

Honor will make men do for you what they don't do for others. Honor will make men tell you what they don't tell others. Honor will make men recommend you for positions you are not qualified for. Honor will make men put you on platforms your experience, exposure, and level shouldn't access. Honor will grant you access to the privacy of men.

Honor will make men permit you to walk side by side with them. Honor will make men defend you and fight for you behind you. Honor will make the honorable do things and say things that will make men honor you. Honor will make men give you the task they should do. Honor will make men send you to represent them. Honor will make you be called to certain meetings. Uncommon men share uncommon meetings.

Honor will make men fight your battles with you. Honor will open doors to your grace. Dishonor will close doors to your grace.

I grew up in a circle of dishonor. Those people know things, but they are not known. The way they speak has closed doors to them. Don't mind them when they say that it doesn't matter to be known by men as long as God knows you. If you can discern well, you will spot envy in their hearts.

Check everyone who seems to dishonor others and is still making progress or advancing. You will discover that that person has some people he or she honors in secret. There are people you must honor in secret regularly. Secret honor brings public recognition and recommendation.

It is foolishness that makes people talk in a dishonorable manner in places. The way this secret honor is carried out isn't through greeting or bowing but through service and generosity. The generosity part is about giving gifts in secret, while the service part is about being available to do whatever responsibility is given to you. These are things people do in secret that prove they have a sense of honor.

Dishonor will make you say you don't fear anybody but God. God will even tell you, "I have told you in scriptures to fear some men." Romans 13:7 says,

"Render fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor."

Dishonor will hinder your light from shining. You are the light and have the light. Some people are the doors and keys. Some people are not the doors but can open the doors. When you dishonor those who have access to multiple doors, you can't shine. And if you shine, you can't shine beyond your city, workplace, and field.

One dishonor can close the door you opened through forty days of fasting and prayers. Honor can open a door to you that takes another person 21 days of fasting to open. Honor will influence the hearts of men for your sake.

The hearts of those who loved you will hate you the moment they spot dishonor in you. Dishonor can break the support structure in your life. Your support structures are your workers, mentors, lifters, friends etc. Dishonor will raise many enemies for you. Your success can create your enemies; dishonor can create your enemies.

Who honors you may not matter, but who you honor matters much. Those who honor you may not be instrumental to your advancement, but those you honor really matter. God may use someone who hates your success to help you but will never use one you dishonor to help you.

Dishonor is an odor. Whoever has it stinks. You may be successful but not elevated. Hard work may earn you the success; honor will elevate you. Hard work is what you do; honor is what you give. If you don't give honor to who deserves it, who deserves it won't give you what you deserve.

You may be doing fine in life and succeeding, but if you have dishonor, those who matter will exit your life. Your success or achievement cannot keep some people in your life. Your success will keep ordinary people in your life; your honor will keep honorable people in your life.

If you cannot manage your success, it will enter your head. And when success enters your head, you will despise, insult, and dishonor who you should honor. Whatever success that has entered your head is your past. Dishonor that emanates from success will keep you in your past. When you show honor to men, you are opening the door for your future success.

There's nothing you achieve now that somebody hasn't achieved elsewhere. This I tell myself always. When I hear people who say, "I will say my mind and nothing will happen," you have seen a person with the spirit and seed of dishonor. Wisdom will teach you not to talk all your mind. It is the mercy of God that will cause you to recognize those that should be honored early in life.

Honor can open doors to places your degree can't take you to. Yes, people can't recommend you when you have the character of dishonor. In your life, it is not everybody you should confront. You must be a distributor of honor.

Many who dishonor people often think they are too special. You are not special to those who are relating with people that are above your level. It is your sense of honor that will make you special to them.

If you are a company COO, are you special to a person who relates to or commands the respect of your CEO? If you have a Ph.D., are you special to a person who relates to or commands the attention of your Vice-Chancellor? If you are a commissioner, are you special to a person who relates to or commands the attention of your governor? It is honor that can make you special.

God Himself honors people. “*I will honor those who honor Me.*” That’s the God who gives grace.

HOW DO YOU SHOW HONOR?

1. Through your words
2. Celebrate them on their birthdays
3. Through your gifts

CHAPTER 7

LAWS FOR DAILY LIVING

1. THE LAW OF FAITH

We walk by faith and not by sight. The highest level of sight is faith. Faith here is seeing the unseen. A man once said, “If you can see the invisible, you can do the impossible.” We walk (move) by seeing the unseen and not by seeing the seen. Faith doesn’t mean you are blind; it only means you have seen beyond the seen.

The fact is that by applying the right knowledge, you can always use the laws of gravity, sound, light, electricity, motion, thermodynamics, etc., to your advantage. There are laws governing how faith works. The laws you don’t know, you can’t apply. Electricity has been around since creation, yet our forefathers didn’t have it because they were ignorant of it. When the law of faith is put into action, God’s power just flows. It is like turning on lights. You don’t plead with the electricity company to turn your lights on. They generate electricity, but the power to turn the lights on has been placed in your hand. You have to flip the switch. No electricity company will do that for you.

In the realm of the Spirit, there are spiritual laws that control circumstances in the physical realm. They ultimately determine the way a man’s life goes

because life is spiritual. You could put a light bulb in your mouth and it will never come on. But a light bulb that is plugged in properly also won't come on until you flip the switch. Likewise, God's power doesn't flow until we flip the switch of faith.

Sometimes you hear some Christians say, "I thought everything would be better since I have become a Christian, but things haven't changed. My condition seems to have worsened. What have I done wrong?" The fact is that the problem isn't about what you are doing wrong but what you aren't doing right.

You need to know that as a law, faith works all the time. You didn't wake up this morning wondering if there was enough gravity in your room today. The Bible says,

"The righteousness of faith speaks in this way..."

(Romans 10:6). This shows that the man who has been made righteous in Christ speaks faith. He doesn't ask, "*Who shall ascend into heaven?*" The faith man doesn't ask how it will happen. When things go wrong in your life and you want to change them, don't ask how God will do it; just open your mouth and speak your victory, breakthrough, lifting, and so on. If you don't speak louder, your faith can't be heard. If you know the laws of faith, you will use them.

You see, faith is voice-activated. All the promises of God are dependent on you speaking out your faith. The Lord created everything by words. Words are the parent force of everything, and everything will respond to words, whether negative or positive. Just like electricity can kill you if you don't use it properly, spiritual laws can also kill you if you violate them. When you speak forth all your problems, it is like picking up a live wire. That

same power that should generate a blessing can kill you. There is death and life in the power of the tongue.

The law of faith says you should believe that you are already what God shows you about your future. You must base your faith—belief, speaking, and action—on what God said and on what you know He will do. When your speaking aligns with what God said, you will soon begin to recognize the actions to take. All you desire to see in your life should be what you speak forth regularly. Look into Scriptures and speak those words over your life. You will see great change form over time.

2. THE LAW OF VACUUM

You should recognize a vacuum and fill it fast. Don't waste time praying when you already see what to do. The moment you see the light, make the move. Many people, companies, and ministries are behind financially and influentially because they didn't fill the vacuum. Don't be slow; be fast.

You must learn to fill the vacuum of knowledge by learning new things. Sometimes you need to go for some trainings so a vacuum can be filled. You should fill the space of a duty by replacing an irresponsible worker with a responsible one. It is always said that you should never hire who you can't fire.

In leadership, managing a person who should be fired, transferred, or replaced will eventually create a vacuum. If you are such that talks too much but fail to cultivate a listening skill, you will have a vacuum within you. In fact, spiritually, if you only see prayers as talking to God but don't understand that in prayers God also talks back to you, there will be a vacuum in your soul.

Every time you get into meditation, a vacuum will be filled—I'm referring to meditation on God's Word. Develop the habit of listening, reading, observing, meditating, questioning, researching, deliberating, etc., so vacuums within you and around you can be filled daily.

3. THE LAW OF IMAGE

The image you see is the image you form. The image you form is the image you serve. The clothes you wear, the cars you drive, the house you live in, the plane you fly, the phone you use are all products of man's imagination. If you don't like how your life, work, business, or ministry is at the moment, you can reimagine how it should be.

Do you know that the brain can't always distinguish between vividly imagined and real experiences? So, imagining creates future reality in your mind. There is the concept of mental acceptance. It states that you can't possess a thing in reality until you accept it mentally. You accept a thing mentally by relating with that thing in your imagination. You must learn to participate in your imagination.

I remember the first time I ever drove a car to travel to another city. As at then, I had not perfected driving. So, I sat down on my bed the day before I traveled, turned off the light in my room, and imagined myself driving out of my house and pictured every route I would drive through to get to my destination. I drove the car in my imagination to my destination. By the time I was done, I suddenly had the confidence that I could drive perfectly. The following day, I got into the car and drove to that city.

A way to engage this law is to identify what you want to resemble—what or where you admire. Afterwards, bring that into your imagination and possess it. For example, you run an organization but don't like the state of things at

the moment. Then, try to identify an organization you admire or want to adopt as your model. Imagine that that organization is now your organization—as you do that, you will begin to recognize what needs to stop, change, start, and be put in place in your organization.

4. THE LAW OF MOVEMENT

This is the law that deals with a person or company's inertia. Inertia here is the tendency to stay at rest or in motion. This inertia must be overcome by “force,” which is an action or strategy to change direction or have acceleration.

If you understand this law, you will know how to deal with two things—stagnation and wrong direction. Speed in the wrong direction is worse than stagnation because the time you will engage to redirect or go back will be much. If anyone or any company isn't growing, a force (new strategy) must be introduced and implemented. The fact is that the acceleration of anything is dependent on the force applied.

Do you know that a book on a table will not move on its own? A force has to be introduced if movement will be achieved. If you want anything to grow, move, or accelerate, you must introduce what will make it happen. You must learn to introduce a force that will compel compliance to your desire.

To generate movement for your life or work, you must know how to apply force. Force here refers to effort, resources, strategic focus, and so on. The greater the force you apply, the faster the movement you will have. For business people, you must know that every strategic move or action you take will result in a reaction from competitors, the market, or customers.

You must always consider the outcome or consequences before actions are taken.

5. THE LAW OF PRODUCTIVITY

Activity is not productivity. Too many people are active but not productive. The first way to accomplish productivity is to know the deadline for it. A task will take as long as the deadline allows, even if it could be completed faster. You will achieve a result faster when you discipline yourself to work with deadlines. To achieve productivity, it is deadlines that affect focus and performance.

To be productive, you should learn the 3/3/3 Method. This method states that you should spend 3 hours on your most important task, complete 3 shorter tasks that are important, and end with 3 maintenance tasks. Maintenance tasks are things that need to be regularly done.

Engaging this may create a structure for your workday. In the morning, you should spend 3 hours working on your most important task. Then, in the afternoon, do the shorter and the maintenance tasks. A main challenge you need to deal with here is to constantly find out what your most important task is daily. If you engage this, you will always be able to manage your day and be productive.

If you are going to be productive daily, you must engage these three points—planning, prioritizing, and performing. You see, prioritizing helps your performance. But you can't prioritize if you won't plan ahead. Planning helps you end the day before it starts. It helps you imagine the direction your day should go. The night before the next day or early morning when you are awake should be used for planning how your day should go.

6. THE LAW OF PROTOCOLS

This is not a single law but a system of established rules, customs, and procedures that govern formal conduct in specific environments. You should create protocols for your environment. You should set the correct etiquettes, precedence, and procedures to ensure smooth interactions and prevent misunderstandings.

Create protocols around everything you do and also learn to be swiftly informed about the protocols of every environment you find yourself in. You see, intelligence is from God, but protocol is your choice. Genius is ability, but protocol is attitude.

Protocol is acceptable and appropriate conduct in a specific environment. Protocol conveys importance and identifies difference. Those who ignore protocol can destroy favor and lifetime relationships. Protocol is the right and correct way you should act in a specific situation. It is acceptable to shout “Hallelujah” in the church but unacceptable to shout “Hallelujah” at an interview except you are told to do so.

Those who understand the law of protocols always observe a room before they enter it. You should be aware of the focus of others. I learned that until you know how to act under protocol, God will never take you as far as you are supposed to go.

KINDS OF PROTOCOLS

There are different kinds of protocols, but let me just share two here.

a. The Protocol of Executive Secret

In regards to corporate governance—either in a company, organization, or in government—there are issues that are not meant for third-party knowledge or for public consumption. If you lead an organization, you may need to provide an oath of secrecy for your workers or officials—both staff members and volunteers.

Many have lost their jobs, promotions, quality relationships, and even their lives for not being careful with how they discussed or revealed privileged information or executive secrets. An organization, company, or personality should clearly define the medium through which information will be passed to the public about their affairs. This medium has to be defined, written, and communicated to everyone in the organization.

If you work in any company or corporate setup, including governmental offices, you must know about this. Even regarding the services you offer, you owe clients the duty of confidentiality. Certain professions like lawyers, doctors, laboratory attendants, etc., must not be parrots or individuals with loose mouths. You owe your patients and clients the duty of confidentiality.

I was disappointed when a lawyer I engaged for a service disclosed a job I gave him to do to his friend. That's bad. Till date, he doesn't know that I knew. But that action just informed me that matters requiring a higher level of confidentiality should not be given to him.

Other jobs that don't require confidentiality can be given to him, but not a confidential one. Let me state again that you owe your clients the duty of confidentiality.

Some time ago, I was in Lagos and some people came around to greet me. One of them began to talk about national and governmental matters. He intentionally brought it up because one of those present in the room with me works with a top citizen—a former president of the country.

As the person continued talking, this guy was just silent and began pressing his phone. When they said anything that required his response, he would just smile and continue pressing his phone.

In fact, the nail was hit on the head—his boss' name was mentioned. But I noticed, he didn't contribute to the discussion. He didn't defend his boss, neither did he add to the discussion. I observed his decorum. My respect for that guy increased that day.

That guy too is a lawyer. I concluded within me that he understands what an executive secret is. His silence spoke a lot, and he is not a trust breaker.

You see, God can't take some people beyond certain levels because He knows they will break protocols that will relegate them.

In regard to executive secrets, you should be disciplined to hide corporate matters that should be undisclosed from your family and friends.

You must be so disciplined that even when a close person requires certain information from you, you don't disclose it until you are told to do so.

Many times, people have come to me to find out certain things—some asked directly, while some stylishly asked. But in all, I ensure my mouth is sealed. I always find a way to brush over the matter without leaking any detail.

If you can't keep executive secrets, you are a trust breaker. If you can't keep confidential or privileged information, then you can't be accommodated in sacred forums and can't be included in certain governmental forums.

I read in the Bible one day that "*Publish it not in Gath.*" If you will go far, especially in relation to top-ranking persons in the world, you must not discuss everything about senior citizens and leaders.

Every governmental or corporate body has an oath of secrecy enshrined in their work ethics. The source through which they let out any piece of information for public consumption is defined.

That is why they have Public Relations Officers (PROs) to disclose information to the public. There is a way those persons have been trained to communicate information. They know the limits of details to relate to the public.

You can't be a stakeholder if you won't be a secret keeper. There are matters you must never share as a stakeholder or leader in a corporate setting until a public announcement is made by the appropriate channel.

Let me talk to pastors and leaders in Christian organizations. I think because most of them haven't worked in corporate settings, they don't know about executive secrets.

The reason most members can't share their matters with their pastor or leader is because they know they are not confidential.

You must be such that people can put their secrets in your hands and feel safe. There are things I know about some persons, families, and even organizations that you will be shocked that I know but didn't share with anyone.

When you attend leaders' or staff meetings in your ministry organization, learn to keep secrets. Even God has secrets; that is why the Bible says, "*The secret of the Lord belongs to God.*"

When a member opens up to you about his or her family, don't bring that up as a discussion in your home. Keep it secret.

b. The Protocol of Recognition

One day, a deputy governor of a state was told to make a public speech where the president of the country was present. As he began to speak, it became obvious that he was ignorant of the protocol of recognition. I felt sorry for him because I couldn't imagine how a man could be the second citizen in a state but ignorant of this.

At another occasion, I watched how a medical doctor who was to make a public presentation recognized the guests at the event, and it became clear that he didn't understand this protocol.

You may be a professor in your field, but if you don't know about this, you can't go far. As the Lord keeps lifting you, you are going to find yourself speaking at certain occasions where dignitaries are found. You have to know this so you won't bring shame to yourself and to your God.

I will limit this protocol to that of Nigeria. So, if you are in other parts of the world, you may need to learn about the protocol of recognition in your country.

In Nigeria, when a governor, honorable minister, and former president attend an event, what is the order of protocol of recognition? You should know that all three should be accorded lots of respect because of their offices and roles. When it comes to observing protocol of recognition at public functions, here is the order of recognition:

First, you recognize the former president. Secondly, you recognize the governor, and thirdly, you recognize the honorable minister.

Why should the former president take precedence in context? The reason is because former presidents are accorded a lot of respect because of their previous positions. Even after they leave office, they retain their title of the highest honor in Nigeria as the GCFR, which stands for Grand Commander of the Federal Republic.

They also retain their official titles such as “His Excellency” or “Her Excellency” and are entitled to certain privileges.

There are five offices that take precedence in recognition before the former president in Nigeria, and those five offices are: President, Vice President, Senate President, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Chief Justice of Nigeria.

There is a book known as National Order of Precedence of Public Officers, which provides a written guide for protocol in public functions.

If you are speaking after a speaker who has recognized all distinguished personalities, all you need to do is say, “All protocols duly observed.”

In a situation where you don’t want to be confused, just start your recognition from the top to the bottom.

7. THE LAW OF STRENGTH

You must be a strong leader, strong church, and strong business. Your product must resist competition from other products.

If you will be strong, you must be highly valuable and irreplaceable. Knowledge is a proof of strength. Success is a proof of strength. Focus is also a proof of strength. You are as strong as what you know. You can’t be more successful and not be considered stronger. When you pray or desire strength, quickly identify what need to come as strength into your life. Do you know that the quality of people, relationship, access or connection you have also determines the level of strength that you have?

At a season in my life, a scripture kept coming to my heart. That scripture says “I will strengthen your heart...” I didn’t know how God would do that. But I noticed that during that season, several scriptures that activated faith

in my heart were revealed to me and also noticed that I received direction from God on what to do to get out of the situation I was in. It was later I discovered that that was the way God wanted to strengthen me.

You see, what I am trying to pass across to you is to have insight into what represent strengths in your life. There was a man in political arena in a country, that man was very strong and influential. He seemed to be unchallengeable and indestructible – very influential and considered an authority. I took time to study that man and I discovered that his strength are the people around him. You are as strong in your sphere as the people that you have raised. Some people will say that what you know is better than who you know, yet there are those who will say that who you know is better than what you know. Well, the two are important, it is your situation that will determine the one applicable to you. Why do I say that? When you have an exam or need to make a defense before a panel, it is what you know that matter. But when you need a job, who you know is important than what you know. But above these two, who you raised is better than the two. Because in raising people, you will have to combine what you know with who you know. The point is what you know may be your strength while who a person knows may be the strength of another. You also need to know that who you raise also can later become your strength. Know your strength and focus on it.

There is a particular preacher in Nigeria, the strength of that man is his excellence. His ministry is known for extraordinary excellence. The ministry of that man gets the attention of the world because of the excellence on display. Yet, there is another preacher that is only known for prayers. The strength of that man is his ability to make people, including the most lukewarm desire to pray. You can't listen to that man and not pray. You should know your strength and dwell on it. It is your strength that will

draw the world to you. Stop being intimidated by the strength of others, know thy strength and focus on it.

THE VEBLEN EFFECT

I learned early that the cheapest cannot be the greatest. Whatever is cheap is assumed to be ordinary, common, and less valued. Anyone who will truly emerge the greatest must work on the perception of worth. The worth people will place on you isn't your real worth but the worth they perceive. That is why it is either you create that perception or you permit people to create a limiting perception for you. The relevance and importance that will be bestowed on you isn't the one you deserve but the one people perceive or assume that you deserve.

Many are angry today because they know that they get less than they deserve while they see others who get more than they deserve. Whether you get less or more is dependent on how you are perceived. You must be the creator of your personal value or brand perception. If you catch this insight, you will know it is in your power to determine the price, the value placed on you, and the reward you will get.

You don't have to tell lies, exaggerate, or hype to make this happen; you just have to apply divine sense so as to know how to appear, present yourself, and place a price on yourself. I don't believe in lies, manipulations, and schemes. I believe in facts and truth. Your integrity should always match your greatness.

At age 23, Julius Caesar was a junior politician on the way up. But he had an advantage, which is his confidence and brain. While sailing across the Aegean Sea, he was captured by Sicilian pirates. They demanded a ransom: 20 talents of silver — that's about 620 kg, worth about \$600,000 in today's

value. Caesar told them they were being ridiculous. He couldn't possibly allow himself to be ransomed so cheaply.

The pirates hesitated; they were confused. Caesar insisted the ransom must be raised to 50 talents of silver — that's around 1,550 kg, worth about \$1.5 million.

Now, the pirates didn't know what to make of this. Normally, their captives tried to escape as cheaply as possible. They didn't understand what was going on. But if he said he would double the ransom, why argue? They let Caesar's men go back to Rome to raise the money.

And in Rome, in his absence, Caesar suddenly became very famous and well-known. No one had ever been ransomed for such an enormous sum before. He must be very special; he must be incredibly important. Consequently, the demand for such an amount of silver for ransom put Caesar on the political map and made him famous. He had just invented the Veblen Effect — although Thorstein Veblen wouldn't give it that name for another 2,000 years.

Interestingly, the Veblen Effect is an effective psychological strategy that has been used for thousands of years and generations. The best part is that despite the availability of so much knowledge, technological advancement, and information, the Veblen Effect refuses to let go.

The Veblen Effect is when consumers perceive higher-priced goods to be worth much more, simply because they cost more — like Rolex, Cartier, Bentley, Rolls-Royce, Aston Martin, Louis Vuitton, Christian Louboutin, Harrods, Cristal Champagne. None of them may actually be any better than their cheaper alternatives, but the price alone makes them seem more desirable.

Caesar effectively made himself a Veblen brand. He placed a much higher value on himself than anyone in Rome. But, as far as anyone in Rome knew, it wasn't he who had done it — it was an independent valuation, so it must be true. And because Caesar was now so highly valued, his men had little trouble raising the ransom. They returned to the island and freed him.

But Caesar wasn't going to allow the pirates to keep that sort of money at all. As an important and famous man he had become, it was easy to raise a huge force, which he used to hunt down the pirates. He took back all the money, plus everything else they had pirated, then executed all of them.

Thus, Caesar became both very rich and very famous. And in time, with that same combination of confidence and brains, he became ruler of all Rome and presided over the golden age of the Roman Empire — expanding it from Spain to Germany, from Britain to the Middle East.

Because Caesar knew that reality begins in the mind. So, the most important piece of real estate in which to stake a claim is the human mind. How you stake a claim in the mind is by creating a perception. And how you create that perception is by controlling the context. Control the context, and you control the mind. Control the mind, and you control reality.

Many believe that this is simply a marketing strategy to pass off un-aged scotch at a much higher price — through the Veblen Effect! That's how the Veblen Effect is a highly successful marketing strategy when correctly done.

To be the greatest, you may be treated anyhow the first time, but you must never be treated anyhow twice. You must live by standards that set the pace for how you should be seen, treated, and valued. You must make certain decisions that will make this happen. Live by standards and stand by them.

PRACTICAL LESSONS

1. Laziness is nothing more than resting before you get tired.
2. Only fools and dead men don't change their minds. Fools won't; dead men can't. Learn to make changes when need be.
3. Faith is when your hands and feet keep on working when your head and others say it can't.
4. You will never do great things if you can't do small things in a great way.
5. Faith is to believe what we do not see, and the reward of this faith is to see what we believe.

WHAT YOU SEE DETERMINES WHERE YOU SOAR TO

Destiny is unveiled only as far as your eyes can see. How far you see determines how far you ever go. I learned some years ago that Deut. 28:1 is a revelation of dominion over all. If you are going to be far above all nations, you must see far above all nations.

All that God will give you will be revealed to you little by little and given to you little by little. Whatever you have seen about your future as of now is not the totality of your future. Remember, we know in part because that is the part revealed to us. Regardless of any height you could have gotten to or the biggest picture of your future which you have seen, I am glad to tell you that you have only seen a part. There is still part of your future that is hidden from you.

God spoke about the Promised Land to the Israelites, but He gave them the Promised Land little by little. The problem of many is that they don't know

how God operates. They haven't learned that God will show you the greatness of your future but will hide the process you will go through. God shares dreams without sharing details. He expects you to meet with the details in the process.

Do you know that God told the Israelites He was taking them to the Promised Land but never told them they would have to fight the occupants of the land before they could possess it? It is interesting how God spoke as though the land was already theirs and there was no battle to fight. God told them He had given them the land but later told them they had to fight to possess it.

If they only lay hold on the first revelation that the land was theirs but were not ready to fight, God's word wouldn't come to pass in their generation. God's word will always come to pass when men cooperate with God to carry out their responsibility. But if humans on their part fail to take responsibility, the word will still come to pass but may have to be in the generation of those who are willing to take responsibility.

I always tell people: when you have a revelation of where God is taking you to, also find out from God the responsibility that you should carry out from now. God doesn't start with responsibility; He always starts with a revelation, vision, or idea planted in the heart of someone.

Whatever future you have seen is not up to half of the future designed for you by God. Some years ago, I knew the things I received from God as my future. I was very happy and often told those around me that if you knew what I have seen about the future, you would know it is great. I thought I had seen the end. And truly, the things I saw were very great — things I couldn't figure out how they would happen.

But as I grew and obtained more mercy from God, I received more vision and revelation about the future that surpassed all I had seen before. It was

then I discovered that whatever anyone has seen about the future is just a part or fragment of the reality awaiting them.

Jesus said, “*Greater works shall you do.*” But do you know that you have to see before you do? Everyone who ever did something great actually saw something great. Seeing comes before doing. Greater work shall you do implies that greater works shall you see. It is the work that you see that you will do. Even Jesus said, “*What I see My Father do, that I do.*” If you will not see, you will not do.

No one has a problem believing what they can see. Let your results make people see. There is a level of result that you will command that will put you in charge. God looks for people whose results will transfer the revelation of possibility to people in the world. Nobody doubts what he or she sees. God wants to use your life and results to conquer the doubts in the hearts of people.

When people still doubt if something is possible, it is because God’s children aren’t manifesting what is possible. Everyone who will go ahead of his generation must be able to see ahead of his generation.

All great men of God in the world that I know — Papa Adeboye, Bishop Oyedepo, Pastor Oyakhilome, etc. — were people who saw ahead of their generation. What they see today was what they saw far ahead of time. Stop focusing on your situation and condition. That is not your destination. There is a space for you in space. All you need to do is to see how to fly your spacecraft.

What you see determines where you soar to. The future you haven’t seen, you cannot seize. There is something you will see about your future that will cause you to endure whatever you are going through now.

We have mountaintop destiny in Christ; just obey God, and He will take you there. I believe you are destined for the topmost top in your industry, city, country, and global world. You are meant to be far above all nations of the earth. I believe this will happen for you, but you need to begin to see.

You must trust God to see two things. First, you must see where God is taking you to. This is very important. You can't see this all at once. God will keep unveiling it to you little by little. You must always embrace whatever He shows you as your new reality at the moment you catch the new vision.

One of the signs of promotion from God is a transfer of new responsibility, new assignment, and new vision. Most people are waiting for the manifestation but don't know that the responsibility, assignment, and vision are what bring about the manifestation of promotion from God.

A reality you must come to agree with is that God will show you more than He speaks to you. If you want to live your life based only on "God said," you will miss God many times, because often He may not speak but will just show.

Do you know that even the speaking of God is meant to show you something? God doesn't speak to you so you can hear; He speaks to you so you can see. You remember Habakkuk said, "*I will watch to see what He will say to me.*" Every time something is shown to you by God, He has spoken to you.

You have to train yourself to flow with what God shows you even in prayers, rather than only what you say in prayers. In prayers, God speaks to His children, but He speaks by showing them. Every time God wants to increase your greatness, He also increases what you see.

So, you have to be deliberate to catch what God is showing you. And the interesting thing is that no voice will tell you that this is from God. But the witness of the Holy Spirit in your heart will bear witness within you that this is God.

THE CURSES PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT

Certain things make people sweat. Hard work makes people sweat just like heat can make a person sweat. The other day, I had a running stomach and noticed that at a point, I was sweating. If a person decides to stay in the sun or in an atmosphere of heat, you should expect sweat.

One day, I decided to do some exercise for physical fitness and sweated after about twenty minutes. Many years ago, a guy who lied about a matter was brought before a panel to defend a fact that was presented to counter his lies. When he got before the panel, he began to sweat. It was later I learned that it was tension that produced the sweat.

I shared all these just to prove to you that a lot of factors can produce sweat. But I also want you to know that a curse can produce sweat.

I know a new-creation reality preacher will say, “No, a believer isn’t under a curse.” Yes, I know. I also hope that such preachers will know that when a person gets saved at salvation, his mind and body are not saved. At salvation, both your mind and complexion do not change. All that happened at salvation only happened in your spirit man.

So, the curse I am referring to is such that affects people’s mindset, imagination, thought-pattern, and philosophical views. The blessings on your life will determine the quality of thoughts that will always flood your heart — so also with a curse. Curses on a person’s life will also determine the kind of thought-pattern that will always flood the person’s heart.

You can't decide the thoughts that will come to your heart, but you can only decide the thought you will think on. Blessing or curse determines the kind of thoughts that will always come to your heart.

If you consider all the attributes listed earlier, you will discover that some unbelievers don't manifest such. This clearly shows that the curse you are delivered from at salvation isn't responsible for all these.

The curses that believers are delivered from at salvation are two curses, which are:

1. The curse of the Lord — Proverbs 3:33
2. The curse of the law — Galatians 3:13

It is essential for you to know that these two curses are not responsible for all the vices listed above.

If you read some extra-biblical book like The Book of Jasher, you will discover that even though Cain was cursed by the Lord, he lived long on earth, saw his grandchildren, had possessions of lands that were named after him, and prospered in his agricultural work. That was a man cursed by God.

The curses that create all those negative vices listed above are curses that came through the speaking of evil spirits, evil altars, utterances of witchcraft, pronouncements of men, etc. You remember that Jacob also cursed his son Reuben.

I hope you know that the curses that come through these various channels do not work on the spirit of men but work on their minds and bodies.

The other day, I had a dream where a man was cursing me seriously. That man dressed like a madman but was raining curses on me. I couldn't point to what I did, but I heard those pronouncements he rained on me in that

dream. When I woke up, I had to open my mouth to confess what the Word of the Lord has said about me.

I boldly declared my revelation from Scriptures about my life as against what was pronounced on me. You see, that experience I had was a combination of the speaking of evil spirits and evil altars.

If I didn't rise to counter it by declaring what God's Word has said about me, those words would eventually begin to have an effect on my mind and body. I learned early that what you say when you wake up from a dream is more powerful than what you saw in the dream.

Based on the experience I had in that dream, I want to boldly tell you that Jesus died so you can be delivered from the curse from evil spirits, evil altars, utterances of witchcraft, pronouncements of men — and even more than these.

But He handed over to you the law of faith — confessions, thinking on God's Word, applying God's Word, bold declaration, and prayers — to deal with that when any of such come against you.

If you claim that Jesus already delivered you from evil curses since you are saved and you had that kind of dream I had but failed to open your mouth to declare what should happen to you, you will eventually discover that what was pronounced on you will come to pass.

Jesus already made you free, but you also need to know that, as of today, it is the truth you know that will make you free. Jesus said, "*The truth shall make you free.*"

Every truth will not make you free; it is only the truth that you know that will make you free. What I am sharing with you is a truth you must know, that when applied, will make you free.

Many people know the definition of a curse but are ignorant of its manifestation. They don't know how curses manifest in the lives of people. They only see the effect of the curse but never bother to find out the cause.

The law of cause and effect shows that for every cause, there is an effect, and behind every effect, there is a cause.

A lot of people know the outcome of a curse but are not aware of the actions of curses. In other words, there are certain things that are the causes that produce the effects of curses. I am going to share with you how curses manifest in the lives of people.

HOW CURSES MANIFEST IN PEOPLE'S LIVES

1. Repeated Actions and Habits of Your Ancestors

You see, repeated actions of your ancestors will reproduce the patterns of your ancestors in your life. Evidently, curses manifest through repeated actions. So, anyone who wants to deal with a curse must not just pray about it but also find out the actions that must not be repeated in his or her life.

A curse is behind the spending habit of some people. I know some people will disagree with me here, but that is the fact because if you research the family history of that person, you may likely see the same spending habits with past generations. How come some people never met their grandpa, yet were later told they were behaving like their grandpa?

When you see a family that has a history of poverty, you may later discover that there is a lifestyle that has become a trend and flow in that family — one that somebody in the family needs to break. When you see a man beating his wife, before you bind Satan or lie against Satan that he is the one at work, you may need to investigate the family history of that spouse.

It is possible for you to discover that there is a record of family fights from generation to generation. Anything that is from generation to generation shows that a blessing or curse is on the family.

If a curse will not manifest in your life, you need to unlearn and resist repeated actions of your ancestors so you won't reproduce their patterns in your life. Satan isn't everywhere, so he isn't the one responsible for something simply because we attach it to him. You hear many people say it is the work of Satan when it is actually a curse manifesting as repeated actions of ancestors.

A few years ago, at a house my parents once rented and lived in as a family, I heard about a daughter of a woman who left her husband's house to live in that house. But I also remembered that when we were living there, the mother of that woman also lived in that house. What happened? She also left her husband's house to live with her parent. As at that time we were there, both the mother and her daughter were living together.

In other words, that woman returned to her father's house. Years after we left that house, I heard that the daughter of the woman also left her husband's house and packed to her mother's place — which was now her grandfather's house. If you understand this story, you will see that three generations lived in that house. The grandma stayed in her husband's house; the daughter of the grandma left her husband's place and moved to her father's house; years later, the granddaughter also left her husband's place and packed to her grandfather's place.

What a curse! But that curse prevailed because of some repeated actions — actions of dishonor for husbands, lack of endurance, "I will return to my father's house" mentality, lack of humility to apologize to husband, and absence of a fighting and winning spirit in the place of prayer over their marriage.

I told a guy some time ago that if he continued with his loose mouth, he would lose many lifetime relationships and favor. The guy later told me a back-end story about a relative of his. That story shows that the issue was a problem the family generation before him couldn't conquer.

One of the reasons we pray for mercy is so that your mind can be vindicated from a curse that wants to hold it down. You know, some people may think I don't understand the finished works of Christ. But the fact is, why do some people struggle to comprehend certain things even after they are taught? Hope you know the rulers of darkness may have a legal ground for controlling the life of someone. I know learning the Word of God after salvation brings transformation. But I also want you to know that some things hold people down from applying what they know.

To deal with this aspect, a victim of this should do two things:

- a. The person should pray against any manifestation of repeated habits and actions in his or her life.
- b. The person should seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit on what to do — routines to engage so as to end such habits and actions.

2. Experiences Without Exposure

Every day, you are having experiences. Having experiences is automatic. Whether you do something or not, you will have an experience. It is just that what you do daily can determine the kind of experiences you will have.

Another way curses manifest is to cage you in an environment. You will develop heavy attachment and love for your background so that your background becomes a picture spread across your imagination, mind, and memory.

I am going to be practical with you. When you notice you don't like relating with great people whose exposure, environment, and association will stretch your imagination, you are under a curse. A curse will make you uncomfortable around those that are more exposed than you. A curse will program your mind to misinterpret the actions of those whose exposure should liberate you.

Curses keep you in darkness, and that darkness prevails because you lack exposure. You see, there is a level of darkness that is destroyed by light from Scriptures, but there is another level of darkness that is destroyed by exposure to great people and environments.

A curse will ensure that you only have people like you — cursed people — in your life. Cursed people like you are those who don't have the required exposure that can produce greatness and who also resist such exposure if it shows up.

This matter of curses is a serious matter. A curse will make a person criticize the exposure that will uplift his or her life. Beware of criticism — it may be a curse recycling itself in your family that is pushing you to always criticize everything.

This curse also ensures that you are separated from everyone that should give you the opportunity or platform of exposure. It will cause you to pick offences against those you should love dearly. It will also cause you to offend relationships that should be lifetime ones.

The greatest part of this aspect is that it will ensure you don't have access to the required exposure needed to manifest greatness. You see, some people need to fight to travel intentionally to certain environments, programs, events, etc., just to expose themselves.

You have to intentionally travel out of your city or country so you can be exposed to a bigger greatness. You need to deliberately visit some places so new pictures and images of possibilities can flood your mind.

Social media should be a place you travel to occasionally for exposure. Social media has become the 21st-century tool for education and exposure.

When some ministries are hosting their programs, I always ensure I attend such online just to expose my mind to new realities in regards to structures and aesthetics.

Fight for your destiny. Don't keep having experiences without having exposures. Resist everything that may put you behind so you don't miss the required exposure.

3. Working Hard Without Thinking Through

This will always produce sweat. Thinking through is the secret to breakthrough. It is those who think through that see through.

Your life will keep rolling in cycles and buried in routines when you are only working but not thinking. Anyone working without thinking is either working out another person's idea or his old idea.

Hard work is good, but it should be backed up with creativity. Those who work hard always sweat, but those who think through convert the sweat to something sweet.

Regardless of what your work is, always think of how to improve it or replace it. It is either you improve your work or replace it. One of the two must be done regularly.

If you are on the path God has for you, you must constantly improve your work. It is not what you are working that you should be seeing; it is what you are thinking that you are working on that you should be seeing.

For your work, you must always ask yourself, “What shall I improve or what shall I replace?” This question gives you a view that will advance your work beyond the status quo.

4. Laziness, Idleness, and Lackadaisical Attitude

A curse operating on a mind and body will create these three in a person. And the end of these three is always sweat and struggle.

Most times, the reason some people manifest these three vices is because a spiritual force compels them to align so these three can manifest. When you see a person who loves eating, sleeping, playing, chatting, gossiping, etc., more than working, it could be that a spiritual force, which is a product of a curse, is at work in the life of such.

What is Idleness?

Idleness is the unwillingness to work. It is the state of being inactive, unoccupied, or not in use, which leads to lack of productive work. Idleness is failure to work. When you see someone who doesn't like to work, such is idle.

What is Laziness?

Laziness is not finishing work. It is the lack of motivation to finish something, despite having the ability to do it. A lazy person is not one

avoiding work but one who will start but not finish. It is an idle person that always wants to avoid work.

When you see a lazy person, he will be slow-moving and sluggish. A lazy person lacks the mentality of speed in relation to work. Laziness is failure to finish. Anyone who always fails to complete or finish a task is lazy.

What Is a Lackadaisical Attitude?

Being lackadaisical is lacking enthusiasm, determination, motivation, and effort. Anyone with this attitude will lack a sense of urgency and will be careless. A lackadaisical person will never show interest in what will advance him and will never put enough effort into accomplishing a task. This person doesn't take work, comments, reactions, feedback, rebuke, counsel, or opportunities seriously.

NOTE

Any of these in your life will hinder you from becoming the greatest.

All the three vices I explained above are often products of a curse influencing a person's mind and body.

I know of someone that whenever he gets a contract, that is when he will always feel sleepy. And he sleeps. At the end, he won't be able to work and often loses contracts.

I know of another person: when she has work, she won't do it but will spend all her time on social media. This could be a manifestation of a curse on the person.

5. Distraction and Procrastination

One day, I asked a brother why he couldn't accomplish something. He spent like five minutes to find out the reason but couldn't point to a reason he was hindered from accomplishing that thing. It was obvious that he permitted distractions and procrastination.

Distraction

Anything that prevents you from concentrating on something is a distraction.

This is tricky — distraction is anything that directs your attention away from what you should focus on. If you plan to do something or go somewhere at a time but couldn't do it because something or someone else came in, that something or someone else is a distraction.

It is absence of determination that gives space to distraction.

Anything that makes it difficult to focus on your plans for your day is a distraction. Distraction wastes your time and drains your energy. It makes you focus your energy on what will not add to your progress.

You can't be distracted and be productive — never! You need to get rid of distraction out of your life and space. You can't always be distracted from what you should be doing and end up as the greatest.

In fact, when distraction has a place in your life, you may likely end up as the smallest.

How Does Distraction Come?

- a. It comes as a suggestion to your heart — it suggests something you should quickly do now which is not part of your plan and won't aid the success of your plans.
- b. It comes as an unplanned visitation to your place — any visitation from anyone that you were not expecting and that will not add to your progress is a distraction.
- c. It comes as an unplanned invitation to a place — when you suddenly get a call to be at a party or place that won't add to your progress in life, just know that a distraction has been sent your way.

Procrastination

You can't be great, not to talk about becoming the greatest, if you are known for procrastination.

Procrastination is the act of delaying or postponing tasks that require your attention, often in favor of doing something more enjoyable or less important.

There are tasks you may not enjoy doing but must endure doing. This often develops into habits of leaving tasks until the last minute, even when you know it will lead to negative consequences like anxiety and poor performance.

Most times, you hear some believers praying against delay. But in actual fact, they don't have any devil delaying them — they delay themselves.

The same people praying against the spirit of delay fail to know that delay enters when they delay in decision-making, actions, and postponement of tasks.

Could it be that you are the spirit of delay you are praying against?

Procrastination is one of the main barriers blocking people from getting to the top. You see, procrastination is a self-defeating behavior pattern. There is something you must consistently do that will make you the greatest — that same thing is what procrastination wants to hinder you from doing.

You need to develop the “spirit of now” to conquer procrastination. Everything you have been pushing into the future, you should do now. Train yourself to always think that tomorrow is not for the work. Train yourself to work with deadlines.

The deadline here isn’t referring to the final day a task should be completed but the final time something should be achieved today. Be a “today and now” person. Avoid being a “later and tomorrow” person.

FORGET GREATNESS IF YOU WON’T INVEST IN OTHERS

When you achieve your goals, you have success; but when you impact others, you have greatness. Greatness is about others, not you.

If you focus on yourself, you have success; but when you focus on others, you have greatness. There’s a relationship between the amount of seeds planted and the expected harvest.

If you scatter only a few seeds in the ground, you cannot expect the barn to burst when it’s harvest time. Likewise, if you don’t invest generously in the lives of others when you can, you cannot expect them to invest themselves in you when you need it.

Believe it — sooner or later, you will need others.

If you want to receive more, then you have to give more. If you want to receive kindness and consideration from others, you first have to generously give kindness and consideration to them.

If you want friendship, be a friend. If you want love, give love. If you want others to bring you joy, then you must be the kind that brings them joy. No man lacks what he gives to others.

What should be avoided is being transactional. You don't give to others so they can give to you. You should train your mind not to expect returns from those you help. Return will always come but may not come from those you gave it to.

One day, a rich man heard about the debt of a young man. The rich man called the young guy, asked what he owed, and gave him a cheque to clear his debt and also added money to give the young man a fresh start.

The rich man told the young man this: "All I ask in return is that if you ever have the chance to help someone else out someday, that you would do the same."

Instantly, the young man replied, "The person I would like to help out is you."

He continued, "I am aware that your only son is sick and that you don't have quality time to spend with him. I am going to work for free here in your business to enable you to enjoy every day that you can with your son."

They both had the agreement, and the rich man had time to stay with his only son for almost four years unhindered, while the business kept growing even larger with the new manager.

This way, both men were able to generously invest in one another and meet their most desperate needs.

When you help others, do so because you are a giver or helper, not because you are looking for a return. Do it willingly even when there's no sign or promise of a payback.

You shouldn't give as a means of control. If you do, then you are a dictator and manipulator.

You must never allow the mentality of "what's in it for me?" to take over you.

When you watch out for others, they begin to watch out for you. The reward of generosity far outweighs the cost of it. By sowing before you reap, you have prepared yourself for future success.

CHAPTER 8

THE OTHER SIDE OF COVENANT YOU SHOULD KNOW

Some Christians are known for connecting to the covenant of God at work in the lives of some renowned men of God, yet it seems as though the same blessings and manifestations happening in the lives of those men of God are not manifesting in the lives of the connectors. Something must be missing that needs to be discovered.

There are many men of God that have God's covenant with them, but why is it that it is only the men of God that are rich that people often want to really connect to? I love to be practical, so bear with me. Could it be that people don't like to connect to a covenant that has poverty in it? There are people who, if a financially poor man of God with heavy miraculous anointing wants to lay hands on them, will reject it. But if a financially rich man of God with a record of immorality wants to lay hands on them, they quickly step forward and rejoice that a spiritual substance has landed on them.

It is clear to us now that doctrines of the Scriptures need to be taught to believers again. We are in a world where financial prosperity is considered a sign that you have God's grace and a heavy covenant that should be connected to. That is why I always tell pastors that they should trust God for financial prosperity.

There is a level of honor that your anointing alone can't command until you are prosperous. Spiritual adults understand that riches are not proof of grace and covenant on a man. But these are things that babes and unbelievers consider to know who is graced from who is not. Let me say this here – financial prosperity is not what makes a man of God.

I can say this now because I promised I was going to talk about this in the future. When I was poor, I knew the way I was treated by some people. But when God made me rich, I also know how those people relate with me now. So, if you are a pastor or believer, you must be rich financially so that babes and unbelievers can give attention to your grace and gospel.

There is the other side of the covenant that everyone should know. Most people only know about covenant realities, but they don't know about covenant sense and covenant responsibilities.

The other day, some pastors gathered to go sow seeds to a popular man of God just to connect to God's grace and covenant on his life. That was a time the man of God was building an auditorium considered to be the largest in the world. I know it was that auditorium that triggered their desire to connect. But I also know that none of them will reproduce that kind of accomplishment except they get the other side of the covenant I want to share with you.

You see, sowing seeds is good, and I do it a lot. A month will not go without sending to my spiritual father. I have his personal account, and I send to him. He doesn't need my money, but I desire the blessing of God on his life.

My revelation is that I don't even need to see him to be blessed, and he doesn't need to even pronounce any blessing on me when I give to him. I have a different revelation that I work with, and I will share it with you. My revelation is found in Genesis 12:3, God said concerning Abraham, *"I will bless those who bless you."*

That is my revelation. It was revealed to me many years ago that every time I give to my spiritual father, God will bless me. So, when I bless him, God will bless me. When I give something to him, God will give blessings to me.

This I engage a lot, and it is working. So, I believe in seed sowing and connecting to God's grace and covenant on a higher authority. What I received many years later from God was also this Genesis 12:3. God spoke to me also from this scripture that He will bless those who bless me. From that time, I know that I don't need to speak blessing over those who give to me.

God Himself has made the covenant with me that He will bless those who bless me. Whenever anyone gives to me or sows a seed to me, I always pronounce blessing because the Bible says, "*The lesser is blessed by the better.*" But I also know that beyond the blessings I pronounce, God Himself has made a covenant with me that He will bless those who bless me.

You see, when you give or sow seeds to a man of God, you are only activating covenant reality. If that reality will fully manifest in your life, you must have covenant sense and covenant responsibility.

For many years now, I have given to my spiritual father whom God has connected me to. But much more, I must also say that for many years now, I always listen to him and read his books so I can have the covenant sense he has. This way, I can engage the expected covenant responsibility that will translate the reality I activated through my seeds into manifestation in the physical.

Those pastors I told you earlier that went to sow seeds to that great man of God will think that it ends there. They will not bother to find out what the

man knows and the responsibility he engages regularly that brought about such ease and accomplishment.

I took time to study and find out the covenant sense of that man of God they went to give their seeds to. I discovered that that man of God has a law their organization runs by, which is that they must never spend beyond 30% of their monthly income on cost overhead.

I also know that that ministry gives their ministry tithe to the ministry of the spiritual father of that great man of God. Actually, it is Bishop David Oyedepo that I am referring to. His ministry gives tithe to the ministry of his spiritual father – Pastor E. A. Adeboye.

Let me break down the covenant sense of Bishop Oyedepo. As at the time of writing this book, they spend 30% on cost overhead monthly, send 10% of their income to the ministry of his spiritual father – that is 40%, leaving 60%. While I don't know the various channels of distribution, I am sure that they will be saving not less than 40% of their monthly income.

Imagine Winners Chapel, Ota saving about 40% of their total income every month for about twenty years. Do you think they will not have enough money on ground to kick-start the building of the new auditorium?

How many pastors who sow seeds have the covenant sense of saving for years? I hope you know that Bishop Oyedepo doesn't believe in borrowing. How many people who sow seeds can decide not to borrow? Now, I don't say you shouldn't borrow; I am only talking about Bishop Oyedepo.

You see, if you say that you are connecting to the grace and covenant upon a man, also try to find out the principles, ideology, and philosophical worldview of that man. Some of it you may not adopt, but there are some that you should adopt.

Without covenant sense, there won't be covenant responsibility. If you truly want a covenant to manifest in your life, find out the responsibility you should carry out. Don't just have the expectation of manifestation when you are not taking the responsibility that will birth that manifestation.

For example, the man of God I am connected to—I find out that he is a man of prayer but gives praises to God a lot. I had to adopt that covenant sense too to ensure that I give praises to God a lot. Don't just be giving to a man without finding out the doings of the man.

Covenant sense is about knowing what you should be doing consistently to guarantee the manifestation of the covenant. Covenant responsibility, on the other side, is doing those things you already know consistently.

One of the covenant responsibilities I do is to obey divine instruction. There are times I am given some dangerous instructions, but regardless, I know I must obey. I have the covenant responsibility to obey all the instructions I am given by God.

The key word in covenant sense and covenant responsibility is consistency. Covenant reality is consistent, so if you are going to see it manifest in your life consistently, you should know what you should be doing consistently and ensure you do such consistently.

A spiritual son of mine that is connected to me spiritually once told me that God instructed him to ensure he visits me at least once in three months so I can speak words into him and also pray for him. He mentioned that he received that. And ever since, he has been doing that consistently, and he keeps saying to me that his life always goes to a higher level every time he leaves my place after speaking and praying for him.

You see, another person may not need to visit me like that, but for him, that instruction has become a covenant sense and covenant responsibility to him.

I don't want you to be like those persons who just keep saying, "I connect to this covenant and grace," without finding out their responsibility.

I have a son in the faith who requested if I could be doing special teachings for him every week. I asked why. He said he received it that he should get everything within me into him, and that can only happen by listening to me and reading my books. As I listened to him, I knew that God was indirectly imparting him with covenant sense. I just told him, keep listening to every one of my messages he finds available.

You see, it is only those who have covenant sense and engage covenant responsibility that will consistently see covenant realities manifest in their lives.

LEARN TO APPRECIATE THOSE WHO GIVE TO YOU

Some years ago, I heard someone make a statement that got me confused for some hours. The person said:

“ *The first time you give somebody something for free, you create appreciation.*

The second time you give somebody something for free, you create anticipation.

The third time you give somebody something for free, you create expectation.

The fourth time you give somebody something for free, you create entitlement.

The fifth time you give somebody something for free, you create dependency.

And if you don't give them that thing for free the sixth time, you create hatred.

I took time to think about it, and I concluded that that is true for some people, but it is not a blanket rule for everyone. The above statement is only describing a section of people, not everyone.

The above statement insinuates that you should only give once and never again. Generosity towards people should be a lifestyle, but not to your detriment. As long as you are blessed by God, be a blessing to others. I would like to address two sets of people in this section.

The first set of people are receivers. If you have anyone giving to you, you must constantly appreciate such. Negative vices like anticipation, expectation, entitlement, and dependency should not be part of your life.

I always tell people that nobody owes you anything they don't borrow from you. So, giving to you isn't anyone's right but their choice. This is the mentality parents need to intentionally transfer to their children so they won't grow to be entitled to other people's resources and won't live in anticipation and expectation all their lives.

Parents should train their children to constantly be grateful to anyone who gives to them, especially those who give to them regularly. You must constantly show appreciation, not expectations, even when you are promised.

It is normal for you to have expectation when you are promised, but you must control your expectations and never permit them to control you. When you permit expectation to control you, you will constantly reach out to who promised you and may end up being considered as one pressuring your helper.

If at all you want to remind, it should not even be a phone call but a short message. If the person doesn't reply and you are sure that the message delivered, don't call. This is part of the laws people break in life.

Children should learn to appreciate their parents, siblings, or sponsors that give to them. One day, I heard a guy say, "Since his parents couldn't provide for him, why did they give birth to him?" Well, that is a statement of an entitled person.

If his parents had died, would he say that since his parents knew that they would die, why did they give birth to him? Rather than complain about those who give to you, pray for them and constantly appreciate them. Whoever gives to you actually did that because he chose to. Don't be ungrateful.

So, if anyone gives to you, appreciate the person that day and find a way to appreciate the person the second day.

The second category of people I want to address are the givers. You should avoid black tax. The moment people know that you are blessed or rich, they will want to come to you for financial assistance. And if you are not wise, you will be pressured and burdened because people will put their needs on you.

Give because you have. Don't borrow money to give to anyone. There are people who love to show in public that they are givers. They will give to outsiders but won't give to their parents, spouses, children, etc. You shouldn't be in this category. You should constantly regard your house first.

As a parent, don't discipline your children by not providing for them. Even when you know your children have developed entitlement to your resources, ensure you constantly provide for them. As a parent, the way you

train entitled children is by teaching them and patiently waiting for them to grow.

There are things that your children can't understand until they grow. So, patiently wait for your children to grow. Financial intelligence goes against billings by friends and allies.

Those who bill you all the time for their needs without helping you to invest your money shouldn't be in your life. That family member that calls you all the time for financial assistance just wants to feed on what you have and doesn't care about your future. You must never feel guilty for not helping such.

Let me repeat this: never feel guilty for not giving to those who bill you all the time. When you are now blessed and can give some millions without feeling it, then you can attend to everyone who bills you.

Always remember, when you are no longer there, people will continue with their lives. They may tell you that you are their last hope, but God is actually the last hope of every one of us. You should never permit anyone to make you feel that you are their last hope.

Give to people and help them as the Lord provides for you. But when you don't plan giving to someone that shows up in emergency, either just pray for that person or give the person what you can afford.

MULTIPLICATION BIRTHS THE GREATEST

Dominion requires everything God gives you to multiply. God gives seed alongside grace and wisdom for multiplication. Multiply all God has given you. To multiply is to increase exponentially. To multiply is to have a greater level of the same results.

Beware of satisfaction. Let not satisfaction make you forget your past. When you begin to make notable advancement, don't forget to keep God's command. Results can make you change the results that brought you there. If prayer brought you here, keep praying. If humility brought you there, don't stop. Never stop doing what brought you to the table of greatness.

The greatest part of results isn't the results but who you become when you get the results. A champion is one who has something to protect.

Pride of life is different from pride. If you don't have results, you can't have the pride of life. Pride is what you have when you don't yet have resources and accomplishments. Never credit the Lord's doing to your wisdom, intelligence, and power.

Stagnation is proof of death. Your relationships should expand. Your wisdom should grow. Multiplication can't be possible without space. Expression of dominion is acquisition of space. God opens space to us to multiply. Release your faith for space. The next level of your life requires a bigger space. Take space on social media. Take space in your city.

AVOID UNHEALTHY COMPARISON

“For we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.”

— *2 Corinthians 10:12*

It is unwise to compare what you are doing with what others are accomplishing. Ministers often compare the attendance in their church with the congregation of other churches. This is unwise.

If you are not experiencing growth or results as others are, you will tend to feel you are failing and will not see the other successes you may be accomplishing. Comparing yourself to the success of others will blind your eyes to the progress you are making.

Growth, increase, and blessings occur at certain seasons during your life cycle, and your growth season may be delayed for a time in the future. As long as you are not idle or lazy and you are doing the right thing in the right direction, your growth is guaranteed.

Don't compare your current level to where others have been; you should compare your current level to where you see yourself in the next few years.

What may be happening to you is that your vision is growing within you. Whatever grows within you will forcefully grow without you. All growth is first invisible before it becomes visible.

Your growth may not be obvious in the physical but real in the invisible. The organization or company has to grow in your mind before it grows in your world. Your mind is the first place growth will take place before you start growing in the physical.

Prosperity and success don't happen or come instantly. They are cultivated daily like flowers in a garden, needing water and sunlight.

If you are doing all you know to do but are yet to see the physical growth you desire, don't give up. Just know that you are being prepared for a season. When the season comes, everything that needs to align to make your growth evident will align.

TEN SIGNS THAT SHOW THAT YOU HAVE GROWN

You don't need to show your growth; your growth will show you. You only need to know your growth. People are discouraged because they don't know what represents their growth.

Below are ten signs to watch out for to know if you have grown. The moment you see any of these in your life, that is a sign that you have grown.

1. The new knowledge you now have

A sign that you've outgrown your former level is that you know more than you have known. When new knowledge is added to you, additional growth is supplied to you. You can't know and not grow. Your next level is waiting for you to know something new for you to ascend to the next level of your life.

2. How you now manage yourself, your time, and your resources

Growth brings effective management. Those who grow have been able to know what they should do from what they should not do. If you don't know what you shouldn't do, you haven't grown. Growth will make you define your focus.

Your time is precious to your advancement. Time is the currency God gave you to exchange whatever you desire. Growth will teach you that you must cherish resourcefulness more than the resources. Growth doesn't focus on having more resources; it focuses on becoming more resourceful.

3. The higher visions and action-oriented goals you set

You are comfortable at this level because you see yourself at this level. Big visions are signs of growth. The bigger your dream, the bigger your move. Your finances haven't grown because your budget hasn't grown. Millions can't flow into your account until you begin to think like a multimillionaire. Small vision makes a small future. I can predict your growth level if I can know your vision.

Action-oriented goals are signs of growth. Vision shows you what to do; goals show you how to achieve it. When you have a vision and you can state specifically how to achieve it, then you have grown. Anytime you have a vision, ask yourself, how will I achieve it?

4. Access to great people and places

You can't access some people and places at your current state. You have to evolve to a higher portrait of yourself. Your current status cannot attract some people; you need to grow higher to access them.

You will always attract people who are like you. So, the moment certain events begin to take place in your life and you have access to great people and places, then you have grown. You will grow into the greatness you desire.

5. Consistency of actions and productivity

Whatever can affect your consistency and productivity has affected your growth. It is your consistency and productivity that will market your growth to the world. Nobody will believe you have grown until they see the consistency and productivity around your life.

Understanding affects your growth. When understanding is furnished in your mind, you will know the benefits of consistency and productivity.

6. How you treat and relate with people around you

There are certain ways you treat or relate with people that disapprove you for the next level. Small minds treat people poorly. When you grow, you will start treating everyone around you well.

You can't grow and not honor people. Anyone that dishonors people is a person who is yet to grow. People will always congregate around someone that has grown beyond them to the level they desire to reach. The people in your life will increase the moment you grow in character.

7. How you react to limitation and smallness

You can't grow and remain small. You can't grow and do small things. Growth will always trigger you to do things according to your level.

You have to grow big in your mind before you do big in the world. You may attempt to do big things when you have not grown, but to repeat and do big things consistently is a sign of growth. Your growth will always make you react against being limited and being small.

8. The decisions you make

There are decisions you couldn't make at your previous level but can make now. People are afraid to make certain decisions because they have not grown. You will be sure of your future the day you grow. Indecision is a sign that a person hasn't grown.

9. Your new and productive schedule

Your schedule will change when you grow. Additional responsibility is a sign that you have grown. Growth will make you hardworking. People are lazy because they have not grown.

Anyone that procrastinates hasn't grown. There are many ingrown adults. They are old in the body but small in their mind.

10. The results you now command

What kind of results do you command now? That's a signal to your growth level. Growth will make you produce what you desire and aspire.

Grown people are result-oriented figures. They believe that the proof that they have grown is their results. Anyone that downplays results in life hasn't grown. That's the truth!

Your results in life will amplify your growth to the world. Your mouth may exaggerate your results; your actions will show it. Rather than exaggerate, show it.

BE FOCUSED

It is through focus that you grow into whatever you desire. Focus and consistency are the key to breakthrough. When you pray through over a matter, it is with focus and consistency that you bring your breakthrough into manifestation. Great things happen to those who are focused on what

they are doing. You can't know what you are capable of achieving until you are focused.

Focus takes your mind away from distraction. You don't just pray that distraction should leave your life, you focus your mind on something, and distraction will leave your life naturally.

There is a level you can't attain in life until you are extremely focused. You will only grow in the areas of life you are focused on. Focus makes you an expert in an area of specialization. Whoever finds it difficult to be focused will end up losing focus.

Imagine the planting of a tree. That tree doesn't change location. When a person is focused, that person has been planted. If you are not focused, you can't be planted. When God wants to plant you in a particular field, He enlightens you to be focused on that field. Prosperity moves towards the direction of focused people.

FIGHT AGAINST THE STATUS QUO

Years ago, I learned this: “Do it well and with all you've got, or don't do it at all.” If you will truly make a difference in life, you must fight against mediocrity.

In life, there's nothing as equality. There never has been, and there will never be. To try to force equality is against the law of nature. As humans, we are designed with unique individuality. We are equal as sons of God before our Heavenly Father, but we are not equal in physical ability, emotional chemistry, or any other natural form of measure.

Society tends to force social standards on everyone so there can be equality but fails to accept that equality can't be. One thing that can and should be

equally given to all men and women everywhere is the opportunity to make choices — and this is already given to everyone by the Creator.

You see, the difference in your life that sets you apart from the rest of the world are you to you. That's why you must fight status quo and refuse to settle for average. To rise in greatness personally, physically, and professionally, you must decide to stop measuring success or failure by the standard set in your society or sphere.

To fight status quo, you must be doing just a little bit more to be a little bit better every day. Why little steps? Because nobody gets there in a day, but just a little bit more makes a great deal of difference over time.

Making the determination to reach a little deeper, try a little harder, and not stop until you have achieved the goal you set out to reach will have your life turned around and headed in the right direction.

YOU MAY LOSE BUT DON'T LOSE

Regardless of whatever you lose, there will always be something left with you that you must not lose. If you lose a business but don't lose your hope, you will surely rise again.

Many years ago, an undergraduate failed a course in his final-year exam. He knew the struggle his parents went through before they paid his final-year school fees. So, going back to request another school fee for his extra year wasn't an option.

He said to himself, “I may lose my degree, but I won't lose my confidence and passion.” He went ahead with life, suffered, and struggled for years, but today, different institutions are begging him to receive their honorary doctorate degree.

Someone once said, “You may lose the battle, but don't lose the war.” In other words, if you lose today, be aware that you will live to fight another day.

Success and failure in life are not always measured by wins and losses but, in many cases, by the fact that you tried. If you ever quit because the results were less than you wanted them to be, then you are the loser indeed.

There are no limits for one who refuses to quit. Without a doubt, failure is an experience common to all of us. It will define you, or you will define it.

Not achieving an intended outcome will either crush you or cause you to rise to the occasion as you refocus your sights to reach for greatness. The fact is that not everything you do will turn out like you expect, but no one can keep you from trying again.

When you invest in others, you must understand that sooner or later, those you have invested in will disappoint you. You must never stop investing in others because of what some people have done.

Trouble and strife do not mean that you have been forsaken; they mean that you are human. If you allow trouble to run its course, you will discover that it strengthens you, and the resistance it provides will help to develop what was lacking within you.

When the battle is finally over, you will look within you and say, like those who have gone before you, “*It was good for me that I had been afflicted.*” (Psalm 119:71)

Just because you do not achieve what you set out to accomplish the first time doesn't mean you have failed. Only what you cease to try have you failed.

RECEIVE GRACE TO GROW

When men want you to grow to another level, they give you knowledge. But when God wants you to grow to another level, He gives you grace. Grace is the endorsement and authentication that you are qualified to move higher.

It is better to remain at your current level when grace has not come. The reason is because when you attempt to jump to a new level without grace, you will come across certain situations and difficulties that will require grace to confront them. And when you lack the grace, a small challenge may defeat you and silence you.

Grace is a force that will compel you to move from a low level to a higher level. Lack of grace will make a man remain at his current level. There is more grace, and God gives more grace. He gives more grace to the humble, and He lifts the humble in due season.

That means when God wants to lift a man, He will put grace on that man. Your grace is your lift. You have not grown to another level because you lack connection or money. Your real lack is grace. The complaint of people is a revelation of the grace they lack.

God gives more grace. That shows that grace is in levels. There is a grace that brought you to your current level, and if you will grow to another level, you need another grace. Regardless of the level you are currently at, God can add more grace to your life.

The position or level of kingdom men is a signal to the grace they carry. When people get to certain levels by merit, that is a signal that they carry grace.

You don't need to prove that you have grace. When we see how you grow from a high level to a higher level, we will know. Growth can show. When you grow, it will show.

Rather than trying to make a show here and there, why don't you ensure you grow? You can't grow and not show. It is growth that can bring the newer and better version of yourself out.

Your real you is not what the world knows now. Until you grow from within to without, the world may not encounter who you really are from within.

Those who lack grace will always struggle to grow. Lack of grace will compel you to copy to grow, and the fact is that you will always be second to whoever you copy.

The reason we pay attention to men when they speak is so we can contact their grace. The grace of men is released through their words. When you understand what they understood, you will carry the grace they carry.

What a joy to know that when grace comes upon your life, you will grow. Your inability to do certain things, reach certain heights, and accomplish great things is due to lack of grace. Grace makes things happen when your human ability is deficient.

JOINING THE LEAGUE OF THE WORLD'S RELEVANT AND INFLUENTIAL

Some people who don't like to read chapter after chapter will definitely miss this aspect, and what I want to share here is a main part of this book. If you read the preface of this book and you read this aspect you are reading now, you have read thirty percent of this book. The preface carries twenty

percent, while this aspect you are reading carries ten percent. Every other aspect of this book contains the remaining seventy percent.

Well, I deliberately put this aspect here so that it will be accessible to those who dig deeper. You don't access gold or diamond on the surface; you have to dig deeper to access it. If you are reading this aspect, you are surely going to get the secret to joining the most relevant and most influential in the world. Let me congratulate you for reading this aspect. The point here is short, but if you can see what I am sharing, you can't but be in the class of the greatest.

You see, it takes power to be part of them. In other words, if you are going to join the league of the world relevant and world influential, you need power. Power forcefully opens the door to be part of them, and power also compels the world relevant and world influential to gravitate towards you. You see, when the door of access doesn't open to join them, compel them to come to you.

Whether you like it or not, the world relevants belong to the same clique, community, fellowship, party, association, or group. You will come to discover as you rise that "the greater" and "the greatest" among men are not in isolation. You also need to understand that this clique or group is not one. There are divers. They spread across industries, tribes, religions, and nations. If you are going to be part of them—any of them—you need power.

There are different kinds of power: spiritual power, emotional power, physical power, financial power, political power, relational power, etc. But you see, if I just mention all the listed as the power you must have to be part of them, I haven't told you the real thing. That's the reason I want to congratulate you for reading this aspect. I am going to do a breakdown of this power so you can understand what you need and how to have it. There are twenty-five of them that I have discovered. Some I studied about, while

God revealed some to me. I will just share ten here because I am working on a book; I would like to share the others later. All these may not be applicable to you, but as you read, you will see the ones that are applicable. For you, it may be three or four out of the ten that are applicable. Just pick the one applicable to you and apply it to your life.

1. The Power to Connect to the Influential

Well, whether in your industry, city, country, category, or in the world, there are influential people. These are the visible, noticeable, famous, and celebrated ones. Some are celebrities in your sphere or country, while some are authorities in your sphere or country. Your ability to connect to these people will reposition you and rebrand your image in the sight of men. The moment people know you have access or a relationship with these influential people, their perception of you will change.

You may not yet be powerful, I mean influential, but the moment people see you with reputable and influential persons, they will begin to see you as an influential person. You see, power befriends power, and influence befriends influence. It takes a person God has worked on to relate with those coming up when God has lifted him.

Let me throw this insight to you: you will be seen as those they see with you. You can read that again. When some people visit certain powerful people, all they want to do is to take pictures or capture the moment with such powerful people. Well, they know what they are doing. They know that being seen with powerful people also affects the way people will see them. And how people see you will determine how they will treat you.

There is a level of honor that will come on your life when people get to know that you have relationships with some people. Actually, some people

don't honor you like that; it's who they know that you know that compels them to honor you. The belief is that if this person knows you, then you are not an ordinary person. It's not about who you know; it's about who knows you. So, your ability to make people know you is power. Read this last line again. I purposely put this last point in the middle here. I believe it's only those God has destined to be the greatest that will see this. As long as you got that last point, you are blessed.

You see, there is an ability that makes you know people, but there's also an ability that will make people know you. Those you know—do they know you? The power to connect to influential people is not about meeting them or knowing them; it is about making them know you. If they don't know you, you haven't connected to them. God wants you to be connected to the influential, and that will require them to know you.

A farmer understands that he must plant seeds before he harvests fruits. So, before influential people will know you, you must have done the needful. Their knowing you is the harvest; what you must do before they know you is your planting. Before you desire to be known by influential people, you must be a person of value. You must have developed your value system. In other words, they must be able to perceive what your connection to them will add to them. That means that you either have a higher level of understanding they can perceive or have greater results they can see. Don't make a move to connect to influential people when you don't have any value or results. Influential people also want to add relationships they can be proud of.

At your level now, if any influential person meets you, can they be eager to tell their spouse or friends that he or she met you? If your answer is no, you need to work on your values and results. To connect to influential people, reach out to them to celebrate them. For some, you may reach out to offer to do something for them that will help them. For another person, you may

invite them to your events or space. For another person, you may send them a gift.

I remember how a man desired to meet an influential man, but for some reason, it was difficult. So, he deployed a means: he began to send various gifts through his P.A. to the man, and occasionally, he also sent gifts to the P.A. of that man. In all the gifts, he always wrote a short note to appreciate that influential man for his influence in his life, and always ended with his name in bold font. After sending like five gifts, the influential man himself requested to see him. That's how he got connected. At the end of the day, the man himself gave him his phone number. I remember how a brother told me he connected to someone online. He was surprised to see the person's response to his message. And that's how their relationship started.

The moment you have access to those influential people you desire to connect to, you must bear the following in mind:

1. You must never forget their birthday.
2. You must take their birthday seriously.
3. You must never take any events they invite you to for granted.
4. You must not just attend such events; your gifts must be sent to them.

I will end with this: pray for wisdom on what to constantly do to sustain the connection God has opened to you.

2. The Power to Be Closer to the Number One

Every circle, category, community, and country always has the person who's the number one. One of the ways to access and influence the corridors of power is to be closer to that person who's the number one. That's why

accessing the number one often may be difficult because of various protocols attached to it.

Here's the insight: corridors of power often have to do with who is in power. Any sphere or sector where you desire your voice to be heard or your ideas to be considered, find a way to be closer to the number one figure there. This spreads across every industry. Those who are number one don't relate with everyone, so you are the one that will single yourself out of everyone so they can relate with you. If you won't be like everyone, do what everyone is not doing and have the results everyone can't have, the number one will be easily accessed.

If you are employed in a company, you have the chain of responsibility and authority. You'll know who to report to, and sometimes it may be difficult to reach the number one—the CEO. While you must not break protocols, you must also find a way to register your name and presence with the number one. Trust God to give you wisdom and favor that will bring you closer to the number one.

Sometimes, if you are a person of value, the people around the number one in any circle may not be comfortable seeing you having access to the powerhouse. You must be comfortable with their discomfort so you can remain focused. You must never report those around a power to the power. Powerful people know those around them. They know the character of each of them. So, don't think that they are around such because of the character. No! Sometimes, those around a powerful person are there because their intelligence, competence, and skills are trusted. So, if you report them based on character, you are indirectly portraying yourself as one who can't be trusted with privacy. You are suggesting that whatever weakness you see in privacy, you will also discuss in public.

You see, one of the ways to join the league is to target the number one. You should be known by the number one. You should be called by the number one. Just be closer to the number. Don't appear closer—be closer. Catch this insight: two things can also bring you closer—what you do in secret and the results you have in public. The secret honor and the results everyone can see will bring you closer.

3. The Power of Forceful Preference

This is an invisible element that will make you be loved. Actually, it's called favor. Favor is the power that makes me prefer you. There's favor with God and favor with men. The Bible says good understanding gains favor. Understanding shows you what to do so you can have favor with men.

There's a difference between preference and forceful preference. Forceful preference is when you compel those who should hate you to prefer you. In other words, there are people who should hate you, reject you, and push you far from them, maybe because of what you have done, the mistakes you made, or the issues that surround your life. When those people are now desiring you and prefer you above others, then you have a forceful preference. Forceful preference can also be called forceful favor.

To have the forceful favor, you must constantly force God to favor you. You see, you can make God favor you even though He didn't plan to do so. The way to force God to do that is by pleading for His mercy. As men, we should not be able to force God to do something, but because of the system of mercy, we can make God do things. The mercy of God is powerful. In relating with God, mercy is the power of forceful preference. That's why you mustn't think a man has come to the end of his life; wait till that man obtains mercy.

Men must also prefer you. Men must prefer you to be in their clique or circle. Men must prefer to support and endorse you. Men must give you the space to thrive and come into prominence. If men are going to do this, you need more than preference (favor); you need forceful preference (high favor).

You see, there are people you can't buy with gifts or charm with words; you need an invisible force on your life that will compel them to give attention to you. What can you give a man who has everything? That shows that you need a compelling force that will distinguish you from other men. The interesting thing is that you need to engage in the spiritual and applied insight to have this force on your life.

To engage the spiritual, you will have to pray for it or give to connect to this. There's a dimension of grace that's accessed through giving. So, you want this spiritual force to come on you—get into prayers. Pray about it and ask for it. I want to share an aspect of giving, but this is not applicable to everyone. After you have prayed, it may be placed in your heart to give something (Christians know that as seed sowing). I will encourage you to go ahead and do that. But pray for it and it will come on your life.

The applied insight part has to do with men. You must receive the insight of what to do that will compel you to be forcefully preferred. When you are forcefully preferred, they will always think and talk about you. People are busy in life; it takes a force to make them think about you when they should be thinking about something else. Ordinary people shouldn't be the only ones thinking about you. Great and prominent people must think and talk about you. I pray that you'll receive this insight into your heart.

Sometimes, when God puts it in your heart to volunteer to do something for someone, you may not know what God is doing. If you yield, He may use

that to drive your name and image into the heart of that person so he or she would think about you.

4. The Power to Access Coded Information

There are coded information that, when accessed, will push you higher. Actually, this is called privileged information. When you relate with certain people, you will have access to privileged information. Everyone knows something you don't know, and everyone knows someone you don't know.

The secret to accessing this coded information is to have people in every industry and sector of life. Write out all the professions in the world and write the names of people you know before each. Any area where you don't know people, you should step out to add relationships to your life in that aspect. It's those in a field or profession that can give you the privileged information. You must have at least one person in every sphere of life.

5. The Power to Relate with HNIs and HIIs

HNIs means High Net Worth Individuals. HIIs means High Influence Individuals or High Impact Individuals.

HNIs are those who have lots of money, while HIIs are those who have lots of people. You need both. But if I were to tell you to go for one, I would tell you to go for HIIs. You see, HNIs are after work and money. They don't have your time. Although most HNIs will eventually end as HIIs because they will want to end with a legacy. I also know that some HNIs are kind towards people, but they are few who do that.

In life, people aren't equal. There are power-people. Do you know why they sang that David killed ten thousand? It was because he killed Goliath. The

meaning of that is that one Goliath was equal to ten thousand warriors of the Philistines. So, when Goliath rose to fight, it was ten thousand men that rose to fight. Goliath alone can go to a battle that requires ten thousand people. If there were five thousand warriors on one side and one Goliath on the other side, it's needed to know that that one Goliath was more than those five thousand warriors. That's how people are. Sometimes, one person that you have in your life is worth more than all the seven thousand contacts on the phone of some people.

You see, if you relate with an HNI, you are the next HNI. The same goes for HII too. If you relate with an HII, you are the next HII. The effect of that is that everyone who knows the worth of that person you are relating with will begin to see you in the light of that person. People will just assume that, since you are relating, you are equal.

In the world, the HNI relates with HNIs, while the HII also relates with HIIs. Business moguls and accomplished CEOs are HNIs, while pastors, mentors, actors, and politicians are HIIs. Let me share this insight with you: HNIs are often drawn to HIIs, while HIIs are often drawn to HNIs. Let me say it in another way: HNIs need HIIs, while HIIs need HNIs. The HNI needs the influence, access, and people the HII controls, while the HII needs the money, resources, and opportunities the HNI controls.

I want you to do this: List out the HNIs and HIIs in your life now. If you don't have up to fifty each, then you need to increase it. You must have at least fifty each. You may need to list out the next HNI and HII you want to go for. Identify them and go for them. Let me end with this: you also must become either an HNI or HII. And God can be so good to you that you become both. Don't just relate with these two power individuals; become one yourself.

6. The Power to Give

This isn't about generosity but positioning. There's a type of giving that's done for positioning. This is not give-and-take, nor is it about being transactional. You don't engage in this type of giving so others can give back to you later. No! This type of giving isn't about giving now so you can get later. In fact, this giving has nothing to do with sowing and reaping.

This type of giving is to step into the position of honor, prominence, and recognition reserved for you in life. This type of giving will give you a reserved seat among the great and mighty. When you do this type of giving, you take your place in life. One of the ways you take your place in prominence and relevance is through giving. Two similar words that best explain this type of giving are charity or support, yet these two words don't best describe it. If the poor get to know this type of giving, they will call it a waste of money; that's why they don't have a seat among the great.

It takes power to engage in this type of giving because you won't expect anything tangible in return. But what this type of giving will bring back to you will be more than what you gave.

There is a type of giving that you'll do that will cause a seat to be reserved for you at the top and a place of eminence. Those you give to will see that you aren't expecting anything from them, and as such, they will treasure your presence and give space for your influence. When you do this type of giving, they will know you are genuine and not transactional.

You see, only poor people and small-minded rich people are transactional with giving. When you go higher, you will discover that it takes this type of giving to meet who is who and also have a seat in their space. When you see someone loved by everyone—the rich and poor, young and old—before you conclude that it's a favor that's working for them, you may need to find out what the person is doing secretly.

You need the power to give. When elections are coming, politicians go to those who have this power. They don't go to all the rich and wealthy people; they only go to those who have the power to give. How many genuine rich people have you heard that came on social media to tell the public that they gave money to support a candidate when election was coming? How many?

It's only average people perceived to be rich that gave tokens that will come to the public to announce what they gave. And the reason for such actions was because they expected something in return. To them, if I give to you before election, when you win, you should give slots or positions to me. No! That's the reasoning of a poor or average person. Only small-minded people think that way. The real people who give genuinely aren't expecting any returns; they just want to always have their position and place in eminence. They want their seat to be reserved when the great are gathered.

You see, this type of giving will grant you a position of influence to call on the great and mighty whenever you need them. If you understand this giving, you may not need to go to important places or people in the world, but something about you will go to them. You must constantly watch out to meet the needs of the relevant, important, and influential people in the world. Everyone needs something.

If a person tells you he does not need anything, yet I tell you the person will never reject honor when you give it, you will understand this power. If you understand this well, you will not want to receive money from the relevant and influential people in the world. You will always want to be on the giving side. I hope you know that you have a position, place, or seat in prominence, relevance, and influence. Your giving can give that to you.

There's a Nigerian itinerant preacher that I know who is invited everywhere in the world. Some people will attribute being invited everywhere as grace, but what they don't know is that he's doing something that will cause them

to invite him again and again. What does he do? He would not collect their honorarium. He'll give it back to that ministry as a seed and will also give gifts of honor to his host. This he engages everywhere. As a host, you can't but love him. If you want to have a place or position of honor in the heart of any powerful person, introduce the power to give. Also, let your heart be guided on the real thing to give.

7. The Power to Become the Number 1, 2, or 3

The concept of the Trinity: the three are important. The Father is number one, the Son is number two, and the Holy Spirit is number three. I don't just like to share some insight publicly; I share them in privacy. But since you are reading this part, I will share it with you.

You see, you may not become the number one. But there's a way you can position yourself as the number two. That way is to become what Jesus is to the Father. Do you catch it? Just make yourself a son to number one. The number one is the Father, the number two is the Son.

If you work in a company and you position yourself as a career son to the CEO, you will have advantages that others won't have. That's what goes on in politics: those in governance want to enthrone those they mentored. One of the ways to quickly rise into greatness anywhere is to make yourself a son to the number one.

Joseph in the Bible told his brethren that God had made him a father to Pharaoh. He said that behind Pharaoh, not before him. You see, Joseph wasn't stupid and would never say that before Pharaoh. What he meant by referring to himself as a father to Pharaoh is that God had made him a decision maker to Pharaoh. And truly he was. It's whatever he decided on that Pharaoh accepted. See, I have read many extra-biblical books and I

understand the story perfectly. Joseph never spoke with command to Pharaoh; he made suggestions to Pharaoh and waited on him to decide.

Don't just be a son; become a son with results. Being a son to the number one anywhere gives you the advantage of relationship and access. But being result-oriented gives you the advantage of preference, influence, and position. It's the result you command that will improve your worth. When you are a son and you are result-oriented, you will rise above many. This spreads across industries and sectors.

You need to understand the register of your field. Register here refers to the use of words. In politics, religion, and a few sectors, the word "son" is recognized. But in other spheres, it's the word "mentor" that's recognized. Making yourself a son or mentee to someone makes them develop interest in you. When you are now seen as a result-oriented one, they have preference for you.

8. The Power to Do the New and Unprecedented

An unprecedented thing is what hasn't been seen before. That's a new thing. You want to join the league of the most relevant in the world? Then, do something new that hasn't been seen in the world before. This requires visions from God. Let your heart be inspired to do something that hasn't been seen before.

Catch this: whatever you want to do, always do it in a way it's never been done before. That will require disruption. Just like darkness doesn't leave by shouting at it but by introducing light, so also, the old won't give space until you introduce the new. You must be regular and consistent with doing the new.

It takes the new to draw attention towards you. The new makes news naturally. If you want to make news regularly, do new things regularly. You must not just do the new; you must meet the new. Meeting new people positions you for influence and relevance.

9. The Power to Get a Valuable Number and Figures

The number here is people, while figures refer to money. The most influential and relevant in the world are those who have high numbers and high figures. If you don't have this, it's assumed that you lack grace and results. It takes power to have numbers. There's population power. You can't be in the league of influence in some corridors, cities, and countries if you lack this power.

The command to be fruitful is also to have numbers. And to multiply is to have valuable numbers. Those who have the highest number of followers, clients, customers, members, voters, supporters, etc., will always have the upper hand in this league. Your number is your power. The greatest in different places and other spheres will gravitate towards you when they know that you have the number. If you have numbers, you have something many people will like to have. To have a number of anything, in regards to people, you need to find out what will bring those people and the number you set. When you have numbers, it's easy for people of influence to gravitate towards you.

10. The Power to Decide Who Gets into Power

It's one thing to get into power, but it's another to decide who gets into power. You may not be the sovereign power, but you should be part of the power. You should be part of decision-makers in your sphere. If this will

happen, you must constantly relate with those in power. You can't be isolated from power and decide who gets into power. No!

You must befriend those in power and associate with those who decide who gets into power. The secret is always to help those in power. Whenever influential people or decision-makers need help, can your name come to their heart? It's by rendering help to them that you plant your image in their hearts. When you keep helping them out whenever they need help, it will come to a point that they can't make a decision without consulting you. That way, you will be part of their decision-making.

CHAPTER 9

RESPONSIBILITY: THE PRICE TO GREATNESS

You are not born great, but you can be born into greatness. Signs during your birth can depict your greatness. Who gave birth to you can determine the beginning of your greatness. The son of a king becomes a prince. Being born to a king makes a prince. You may not be born into greatness, but let your children be born into greatness. If that will happen, you have to do the needful so you can be great before the arrival of your children or as they grow.

The price for greatness is responsibility. It's not what happens to you that determines your destiny; it's how you respond to what happens to you that determines your greatness or smallness. Everyone needs to take responsibility for his or her tomorrow. Tomorrow will come, but what you do today will determine how your tomorrow will be. You don't influence the future in the future; you do that today. I know everyone's future has been decided by God before birth, but what you are doing today will determine whether you will see that future God has for you or not.

God gives greatness, but He gives it as a responsibility. To neglect the responsibility is to forfeit the greatness. What you see is responsibility, but what is within it is greatness. Don't be deceived! What God planned for your future may not happen when you fail to play the role delegated to you.

You can't even use prayers to influence God for a future you won't play your role in. Prayer isn't designed to influence God to do what you should do. In fact, prayer is designed by God as a tool He uses to move you to tell Him what He wants you to tell Him.

Until you do what is required of you in one stage of life, you cannot fully enjoy the next. If you don't rise to greatness, you can't rise to become the greater or greatest. Too many people are unwilling to do what is required of them even at a basic level. They want the pleasure and joy of life to which they feel entitled, but not the ones they have actually earned.

Many graduates think they deserve a secure, high-paying job with great benefits. They expect to be rich but are not willing to take responsibility and produce more than they consume or work hard for their companies. You see, when you stop to take a closer look at your life, you will clearly see that there is no easy street — not on any level. If you are going to build a life that you can enjoy, then you must make up your mind to earn it every day in some way. The philosophy of the classroom today will be the philosophy of government tomorrow.

You have a measure of responsibility on some levels — physically, financially, socially, emotionally, or spiritually.

Answer the following question:

1. Your personal responsibility:

2. Your social responsibility:

3. Financial responsibility:

4. Educational responsibility:

5. Political responsibility:

6. Civil responsibility: _____

RULE OVER DEBT

If I don't have it, I can't spend it. This is a mindset that kicks against a lifestyle of debt. Most people don't know that borrowing drains your future's ability by paying for what you got today. Borrowing makes you enjoy your future fortune today.

One day, I heard a man say all the richest people in his country are owing somehow. In other words, the richest people are also debtors. Well, he was referring to the richest people in Africa. Here is the insight: those persons are not owing any debt as individuals but as a corporate entity. For example, if a person runs a company and the company gets a bank loan, there is the tendency that the public won't mention the company's name as one that got the loan; they will likely mention the CEO as one that got the loan.

Rich people understand this principle. They don't borrow to attend to their personal needs, but they make their company or business borrow when they want to upscale. It is only poor people that borrow money to attend to personal needs. You need to rule over the desire and idea of borrowing to meet your daily needs. By borrowing money personally to meet your daily needs, you are indirectly affecting your future.

BECOME A LARGE SOUL

The largeness of your soul determines the extent of your greatness. You have your spirit, soul, and body. Of these three, God will make you great in just one of them — and that is your soul.

Your soul contains your mind, will, and emotion. Your imagination, intellect, and memory are all in your mind. It is with your intellect that you reason, and with your imagination, you can picture. Your creativity is found in your imagination. Why you can remember and recall information or details within you is because your memory is functional.

We don't have equal souls, just like we are not equal in our bodies. Your thumb is different from the thumb of another. Equality can't be transferred through DNA. Some people have fat bodies while some are slim.

The Bible says God gave Solomon a large heart like the sand on the seashore. Your soul is the same as your heart. In regards to greatness, God works it in your heart (soul). The size of your heart already creates the limit of your greatness.

If I ask you, where is your soul? You may likely point to your chest. But that is not correct. Your soul is in your head. The next time you are asked to identify the location of your soul, don't point to your chest — point to your head. God made Solomon large in his head. This refers to high intelligence.

Greatness is of the soul. Greatness happens in your soul so it can happen in your life. Your soul is the seat of your greatness. You are as great as your soul is. When God decides to make you great, He works it in your soul — not your spirit or body. This will affect how you think, reason, imagine, and create. If you really desire to be great, you must never despise your soul.

THE INFLUENCE OF ADVERSITY

Adversity can be a trigger for greatness when properly managed. When not properly channeled, it can lead to destruction. I want you to believe in your ability to make a change no matter what is stacked against you.

I want you to believe that even though you may not be the cause of your circumstance, you have the power to affect it. You should believe that no matter who you are, where you come from, or what you are going through, you have the ability to respond to the world around you and make a huge impact on your quality of life in the future.

You may not be responsible for where you are, but you should be sensitive to where you should be and take responsibility to move there. You should always consider what you can do rather than focus on what you can't. How and when you turn things around is up to you. Your destiny is yours to determine unless you decide to forfeit the opportunity.

The circumstances of the moment may not be your choosing, but the change of it is up to you. Until you are willing to take a position of personal responsibility in your situation, you will not be able to determine or achieve the outcome of what you are looking for.

There are plenty of dictators in the world looking for an opportunity to control your future. If you won't figure out the responsibility that will create the future you desire, you will become the object of the future created by others.

Anyone that will go far must abandon the mindset of entitlement and embrace a lifestyle of personal responsibility. You are responsible for your actions, but God is responsible for the outcome. It's important to remember that results take time, and if you do your part, the results will come.

INCONVENIENCE CAN BECOME YOUR ADVANTAGE

Convenience will birth comfort, and that can become your disadvantage. Inconvenience is the trademark of champions. Convenience is the burial place of giants.

We live in a world of distractions. Everyone praying for change, comfort, or increase should know that what they are praying for can end up becoming their real problem if not properly handled.

Your consistency is the expression of your maturity. What makes impact is the message that God has given to you. Stop looking for what is popular; focus on what is peculiar. In any case, not everyone will subscribe to your message. Every calling comes with a message that shapes the world.

BREAKING LIMITING BARRIERS

Barriers are normal; they are the things you meet daily, just like problems. The problems you face change your face. Problems reveal and expose you; if you dodge a problem, you miss your next level. On your way to the next level, you meet the next devil.

Barriers instigate our actions. Challenges stir you up. Anybody who takes you away from challenges is hurting you, not helping you. If you rest now, you will suffer tomorrow.

When you see barriers, embrace them. I want to die victorious, not in surrender to circumstances of life. Do not see barriers as your enemies; they are mountains you need to climb to change your height. There are many adversaries you need to face. When you don't solve a problem, you become

a problem. Whatever you don't want, don't watch, because whatever you don't resist has the right to remain.

Problems are not to be described but to be challenged. What you call difficulty is what someone else is excited about. The land you call hard, someone is eating fat and getting fresh. Limits are the issues of the mind, and until you deal with yourself, you cannot deal outside. Stop looking at those ahead as strange people; look at them as lessons to learn from.

Those who break limiting barriers are those who continue to speak boldly against unwanted situations around their life and ministry. Anything you will not boldly declare, God will not put in your hands. We can create what we want in life through what we speak. Make declarations a lifestyle. Everything you want to come to your life must come through your mouth. Continue to speak concerning unwanted situations.

Do you really desire to break limiting barriers? If yes, then be committed to a life of prayer and fasting. Nothing can change this principle. Many people do not realize that we are confronted by the power of darkness. There are many things waiting for you; don't waste time. God is patient, but He will never delay.

When you go into prayer and fasting, you become spiritually aligned instead of carnally minded. No matter how smart you are, there are certain things that will never happen in your life if you don't pray and fast. Young people, please wake up! Do whatever you can do now. Fast and pray because a time is coming when you cannot do it again.

There are barriers that break because you have destiny connections. God makes references to people ahead of us, alive or gone. There are people you may be moved to connect to so you crush any barrier trying to stop you.

In ancient times, when kings were faced with battles greater than their capacity to handle, they had a way of inviting powerful kings to come to their rescue. There are people that God has ordained for you — hang around them, not worship them. There are people ordained to come your path; may you not miss them.

SECRET OF THE GREATEST IN THE WORLD

Those you know as the greatest in the world have some secret they may tell you, but they may not tell you the details of it. The fact is that anyone that is considered the greatest among men has three things they follow. These three things are needed to be followed if anyone truly desires to keep increasing in greatness. The purpose of sharing this aspect with you is so you can also know what to follow.

If you truly want to become the greatest in the world, there are three things to follow. They are:

1. Follow Principles

You must follow principles – principles of life, principles of your sphere, principles of productivity, principles of relevance. If you don't know or engage principles, you can't be considered a principal in your sphere and the world. It is principles that make principalities anywhere what they are. Even spiritual principalities that we wrestle with are powerful because of principles they set in place. And if you are going to disarm the operations of any spiritual principalities, you must engage certain principles that will nullify and weaken their operations.

You can't be principled and not be powerful. You may not be powerful everywhere but will be powerful in the area you engage principles. If you are prayerful but ignorant of certain principles, you will limit the effects of the answers to your prayers.

What are principles? They are a set of rules that should be engaged so as to get maximum results. For example, how can you be the greatest in your field when you are not consistent with results? So, you will see the principle of consistency here. One of the reasons we learn and continue learning is so we can be aware of the principles to keep engaging.

There is the principle of obedience. Every time you obey an instruction, you are engaging this principle. God said to Abraham, "*I will make you a great nation...*" But the same Abraham had to obey God's instruction to get out of his father's house to a land God would show him. A theologian may attempt to correct me by saying it wasn't Abraham God called out, it was Abram. Well, all I am after is to get the point. Abraham becoming that great nation is dependent on the extent to which he could engage the principle of obedience.

2. Follow a Pattern

Patterns are models and mentors. Everyone has a model they study, copy, and adopt. They may not tell you, but they have. It is following patterns that brings speed to discovery on your path. There is nothing new under the sun, so if you are going to accomplish any exploit, you must have studied some existing exploits. What we often call success is actually a model to another. It is your success, but it will become a model to another person.

You must be wise to take another person's success as your model. Sometimes, your pattern may be hybrid — that is, the combination of two

or more patterns to form the foundation of your success. Let me tell you a truth: everybody is copying someone somewhere, but they won't tell you. Well, some are kind to mention, but many often hide. Whatever is considered originality is original because it originated from someone who did it first. But that person actually saw something somewhere that triggered what he or she saw.

Let me use ministry as my example. Pastor David Ibiyeomie took Bishop Oyedepo as his pattern. He doesn't stress himself. All he does is to study his pattern and add more creativity to it so that there will be a touch of difference. Total replication without a touch of difference is foolishness. Don't be foolish. Always add something to yours that will make it different from the pattern you follow.

3. Follow a Person

Your making is in your following. Jesus said, "*Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.*" If you will not follow, you can't be made. If who you want to follow is someone you can't access physically, then you can engage intelligent following. This will help you to follow from afar in a way that appears you are closer physically to the person. You engage this kind of following by reading, observing, researching, watching, and attending the events of the person. You follow intelligently by studying the works, challenges, and accomplishments of that person. You also follow by listening to that person regularly.

Nobody can reproduce the success of a person he or she doesn't follow. And to follow, you should engage the principle I shared above.

THE GREATEST IS THE FRONTLINER

There are those in front, but there are those at the forefront. Those in front must keep following those at the forefront. You may be in front but still behind. Those in front are simply behind those at the forefront.

My perspective about frontliners is that they are in front of those in front. Frontliners are those that are far ahead of others. Joshua kept following till he became the frontliner. Elisha received two mantles from Elijah. He received the first; he kept following till he got the real thing.

You need God to open your eyes to discern who to follow. The people knew Elijah wasn't their equal. But they saw Elisha as their equal. But they didn't have the revelation to follow Elijah; they only got the revelation that God would take him away. But Elisha followed till he was singled out of his contemporaries.

FIVE THINGS TO BE A FRONTLINER

1. Confidence

Frontliners have the faith, conviction, and assurance that you can do something, be something, and that something will happen. For example, David believed he would defeat Goliath.

How to be Confident

a. Fill your heart with the Word of God

The Word of God becomes your conviction. Hebrews 10:35 says,

“Don't cast away your confidence, which has great reward.”

The reward of confidence is victory.

b. Imagine your success or victory ahead

To picture a car you already have and picture a car you dream to buy next — do you know that your brain can't differentiate between the two? The first place of possession is in your imagination. Whatever your imagination can see is yours to have. Anything you can imagine is what you already have the capacity to accomplish or possess.

c. Talk to yourself

Many people know how to talk to others but don't know how to talk to themselves. Fear comes because of what you hear and think, but you can conquer fear by what you know and speak. Sometimes, you may not know anything, but you can always speak. You can turn fear into faith by speaking to yourself. Most times, I will call my name and begin to speak to myself. For example, I will say, "Niyi, you will achieve this and that. You will become this and that..." I do this often, and it builds confidence in my heart.

2. Intelligence

This aspect deals with wisdom, superiority of insight, superior ideas, high innovation, visual power, and the ability to imagine bigger and bigger. In Genesis 41:39–41, it was said about Joseph that there's no one as discerning and wise as him. The king said, "*You shall be over my house, and all my people shall be ruled according to your word. See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt.*"

Different kinds of Intelligence

a. Individual intelligence: You can read about this in my book titled You Are Different. I wrote about ten kinds of this intelligence there.

b. System intelligence: This is administrative, managerial, organizational. This is always written and structured for application in organizations.

How to be intelligent

Take time to think, plan, and imagine how things can be done.

Psalm 119:99 says,

“I have more understanding (information and interpretation)
than all my teachers.”

If you are going to have more than your teachers, you should take time to get the intelligence of your teachers.

Psalm 119:100 says,

“I understand more than the ancients (those I met in my
field).”

You should take time to get the intelligence of heroes in your field.

3. Competence

Frontliners have superiority of skills — execution ability, incontestable ability. Daniel and his friends were ten times better than all magicians and astrologers in the kingdom (Daniel 1:20).

If we can't find another you, we can't replace you. If we can't find another you, we can't do without you. You must be one that can do what others cannot do. Train yourself to learn the difficult aspect in your field. That will make you the "go-to" by many people in your field. You become the greatest easily when you are known for doing what others cannot do.

You must develop skills that will distinguish you from others. There are three kinds of skill you must possess if you are truly going to become the greatest by competence:

Three kinds of skill you must possess

- a. Technical skills: The skill about your work and task.
- b. People skills: The skill that helps you to relate well with different people.
- c. Managerial skills: The skill that helps you to lead people well in order to accomplish a delegated task.

4. Excellence

This is the highest level of perfection — projecting the best and having a creative touch. You can hide a mistake; you can't hide excellence. You can't hate excellence; you can only be jealous of it. Today's excellence is tomorrow's mediocrity. Excellence commands attention without talking. You can't be excellent and not be visible.

What's glory? Glory is the visibility of the manifest presence and workings of God in your life. It is through excellence you show the glory of God. *"Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works"* means be highly excellent that they will not ignore your work. If you are

ignorant in some areas but excellent in some areas, you can't be ignored. You must be a brand of excellence.

5. Diligence

This is hard work, commitment to task, and consistency. Proverbs 22:29 says,

“Do you see a man diligent in his task? He shall stand before kings and not before mere men.”

Favor won't bring you before kings — diligence brings you before kings. Favor will only make you be preferred when the king sees you.

Diligence is consistency of results — consistency of superior results. You can't be consistent when you are not committed. Diligence will bring you before kings, but favor will influence the heart of the king for your sake. Diligence is being consistent in doing it better, even though you are not yet seeing the desired results.

BE INFLUENTIAL

1. You can't be excellent and not influential. Excellence places high value on you. Strive to always do and be the best. Better is good, but best is better. Whatever will not be excellent should not be executed.
2. The person who increases in learning and doing will keep having influence. You and your business are not known because you have not known. There's something you will know that will make you and your business known effortlessly. Stop striving to be known;

start seeking to know. With what you know, you will know what to do to be known. Stop begging for attention; start commanding attention.

3. If you can transfer what you know to others, you will have influence. What you know will inform and inspire you; the knowledge you transfer to others will give you influence over them. If people can accept what you teach or say to them, you have influenced them. A businessperson will influence customers to patronize him if he can transfer a special reason he should be patronized to them.
4. Competent workers work for leaders, but loyal workers influence the leader. The first key a bottom leader needs to influence the top leader is loyalty. You will have private influence over a leader that has proven your loyalty. The day a leader begins to doubt your loyalty, your influence over him is lowered or no more. Maintaining loyalty is sustaining influence.
5. Never delegate key tasks, especially in administration or management, to another when you can't do it yourself. Other tasks can be delegated, not key tasks. You only delegate key tasks after you have acquired the skills to do it. The insight is to first learn how to do it yourself and train someone else to do it before you delegate it. So, when the task is abandoned or the person leaves, you won't feel the burden. I learned early that I should develop myself and someone else before I delegate a key task. Whatever key task I delegate, there are at least two or three people that can do it apart from me. There is no key task I delegate that I haven't learned or trained to do before I delegate it. The application of this knowledge will make everyone in the company or organization highly effective.

6. Never despise ordinary people when you rise in influence, and never despise those that influenced you when you were ordinary. The relevance of the future is reserved for the ordinary people of today. The billionaires of today were once beggars and debtors in the past. You cannot smell greatness in years ahead if you despise the ordinary people around you. Ordinary people are shadows of greatness.
7. Never expect any return when you help people. If you do, you already have an entitlement spirit. Eventually, when you don't get the reward you expected, you suddenly get offended and will be caught in the web of stagnation. Your eyes will be blocked from the abundant opportunities around you. A lesson I learned early is to be focused and creative to create my reward and receive my reward from God. Help people and look to God for your reward. When you look to God for reward, you get things from places you did not sow and have not known.

BROADEN UNDERSTANDING ON PROPHECY

Principles are stronger than prophecies. Principles are advanced prophecies. The Bible is one-third prophecy, principles (morals, values to govern our lives), and miracles. The future is predictable.

Two ways to predict the future — principles and prophecy. Principles are laws God made. There are spiritual and natural laws. Laws create solutions and miracles when obeyed but create problems when disobeyed. God made electricity; scientists learned how to harness it. Each time you see lightning, that's electricity.

Prophecy can be changed. If a prophecy is given to you that you will die, you can change it and live. If a prophecy is given to you that you will live,

you can end up dying. Three things can change negative prophecy — prayer, repentance, and mercy. These three worked for the Ninevites against Jonah's prophecy. Disobedience can change a positive prophecy into a negative one.

Prophecy has two perspectives. First, the prophetic perspective into the future — here, God helps you see into the future. Second, the strategic perspective into the future — here, you develop plans into the future based on what you know.

Prophecy mustn't just see what is coming; prophecy must know what to do. Prophecy shows you what is coming ahead but also shows you what you need to do. Anytime God shows you something, ask Him, "What do I now need to do?"

One of the two arms of government that provides foresight for the United States of America is the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). Every five to ten years, the CIA publishes a book titled Global Trends. They predict everything that will happen in the world up to the next 15–20 years. Seventy-five percent of their predictions come to pass. You can see how some people can engage human intelligence for prediction of the future without any spiritual medium. They just observe what is happening and perceive where the trends are going.

The CIA is like the tribe of Issachar. They understood the times and what Israel ought to do. You should understand the times — see ahead and also know what you ought to do. Prophetic foresight should be combined with prophetic strategy.

Your prophecy should be your strategy document. Prophecy should show both the future and the action. What you do can cancel or propel prediction to come to pass. Your prophetic grace is 360 degrees if you are able to give

not just the future but also the action. You should tell what Israel ought to do. You are a half-baked prophet if you fail to tell what we should do.

Joseph recommended saving one-fifth (20%) of all. When you receive the spiritual, convert it into actions or physical results. You need a preservation system in agriculture. Your produce should be able to provide fruit all over the years. You should be able to produce mangoes for twelve months, not just one month.

You are a creator. You create what you are doing for others to do. A prophet should tell the danger and how to escape. Those who see the future lead the rest. The story of Joseph in the Bible happened in Africa. It is time for Africa to rise — not just to see the future but also to rise to do what we ought to do.

CHAPTER 10

YOU MUST BE A FINISHER

You must have the reputation of finishing. It is a lazy person who starts and won't finish.

Gen. 2:1 says,

“God finished the heaven and earth and all the host of them.”

Many know how to finish eating but don't know how to finish projects.

Many know how to finish speaking but don't know how to finish doing.

Many know how to finish praying but don't know how to finish planning.

Many know how to finish planning but don't know how to finish action.

Many know how to finish toasting a lady but don't know how to cancel debts.

You must know how to finish. Beginners are many; finishers are few.

John 17:4 says,

“I have glorified you on the earth; I have finished the work which you have given me to do. ”

In John 19:30, Jesus said,

“It is finished. ”

Paul said in 2 Tim. 4:7,

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ”

You can't finish what you don't know you should achieve. Have the vision for what you want to achieve in a year and in your lifetime. You need a broad vision. Identify how you want to achieve it. You need the following:

1. Financial broad vision: How much do you want to have in your lifetime, in dollars or pounds?
2. Marital broad vision: How many wives? How many children? Plans for the children.
3. Career or business broad vision: Which of these do I want to focus on?
4. Kingdom broad vision: How many souls do you want to win for God? How do you want to support the kingdom regularly?

PRACTICAL INSIGHTS

1. Man didn't create gravity; he only discovered it and started learning how to use it. God created another space where gravity is not needed. God created space for angels. Our dominion is over the

earth, water, air, and the sky. We have dominion over the birds of the air; that means we have dominion over the sky. That's why we are able to create aircraft, airplanes, spacecraft. If you disobey gravity, you will fall. Laws are fixed. Laws don't recognize if you are educated, ignorant, strong, etc.

2. If you don't like what you harvest, change the seed you sow. No prophecy is final. You will succeed, fail, rise, or rule — all depends on you. Only ten percent of prophecy belongs to the sovereign will of God.
3. Though the future is already known and set, our choices, decisions, and actions determine our future. Your action can cancel your vision. If you are going to the United States of America, you don't get on a flight to France. Clearly know the future you want, then begin to take actions towards it. Your action must correspond to your faith, vision, and confession.
4. Overtaking is real. Some who are first shall be last, and the last, first. When you double your efforts, you will overtake. It is he that is faithful and consistent that will overtake. What you are doing and how you work can destroy what God has for you in the future. When you see your future, it governs how you live now.
5. The future is very cheap. Once you can see it ahead, it's within your power to harness it. The future is predictable. Control tomorrow by what you do today.
6. Don't judge people by who they were in the past because you don't know what they are doing now. Never use a man's situation to judge his future. Consequences of mistakes may not happen if mercy and correction are applied.
7. There are three factors for choosing a mentor: integrity, productivity, and longevity.

GREATNESS REQUIRES SUBMISSION

You will never know how powerful you can be until you willingly submit. The fact is that everything lives in submission to something else. The sun lives in submission to the hours of the day and the orbit of the earth. It does not shine as it pleases; it shines in submission to the divine command under which it has lived since the beginning.

The oceans are in submission to the tides and currents, hemmed in by the shore that surrounds them on all sides. Your natural life is lived in submission to the laws of nature in the world around you. You might wish to rebel against the law of gravity, but as long as you are in the earth's atmosphere, you are submitted to its pull.

Your civil life is in submission to the laws of your country. The relationships you maintain in your life will determine the level of submission you have to others. You see, as a child, you are submitted to the leadership of your parents; as a husband, you are submitted to the needs of your wife; and as a father, you are submitted to the needs of your children.

In our world, submission is often misinterpreted as confinement and hindrance, which are disablers rather than enablers. No greatness can be achieved without submission to a cause. You remember the law of cause and effect — for every effect, there is a cause. For every success, there is a sacrifice. And the greater the success, the greater the sacrifice.

The sacrifice no one can run away from is the sacrifice of responsibility. People practice blame-game and finger-pointing because they haven't learned to take personal responsibility for everything. People blame government, the economy, the environment, their background, neighbors, preachers, spouses, their egomaniacal boss — but never themselves. It's

submission to personal responsibility that creates the real changes you desire.

In leadership, those who are submitted are the ones that are promoted. Submission willingly does what is required by the given authority it is under. It's not a matter of understanding but a matter of obedience. There are things you may not understand — just obey. By willingly submitting to authority, you are free to enjoy the benefits that your leader can provide. Those who willingly submit to leadership submit to instructions by obeying them.

DON'T DIE ANYTIME

God will make you so great, but you also need to live long. There is no glory in long life without making impact on earth. Jesus and John the Baptist didn't live up to forty years, yet they lived fulfilled lives. You should be fulfilled in life, but you should also live long to enjoy life. I have written some books on long life, and you may do well to pick any of them to read.

Long life or longevity is a gift from God. God can give it. Long life starts from the age of seventy. Anyone that lived up to seventy years has seen long life. In other words, old age starts from the age of seventy. Moses showed this in Psalm 90:10 by saying, “*The days of our lives are seventy years...*” He doesn't mean we should begin to die at seventy; he only meant to show that long life starts at seventy years.

Anyone privileged to live up to seventy years on earth has seen old age. But in the Bible, you will discover that some men had good old age. To have good old age is to live a fulfilled life — to enjoy life, see your children and grandchildren, and leave legacy behind.

I always tell people to trust God never to die anytime, anywhere, or anyhow. In the New Testament, you should die when you are ready to die. In other words, you should leave this world when you are fulfilled already. For a Christian, separation from this life is a choice, but if you don't understand this, death may cheat you and force you to leave this world anyhow and anytime.

The secret to this New Testament reality is to have a revelation of power over death and revelation of longevity. And this revelation must be rooted in Scripture — not just some mental desires. It is possible for you to know the age God wants you to live to. But that will come by a revelation. It doesn't have to come by vision or dreams — it can come through the witness of the Holy Spirit in your heart.

Many preachers have said God's plan is for man to live up to one hundred and twenty years. But I found out that that isn't correct. When God said the days of man shall be one hundred and twenty years in Genesis 6:3, He didn't mean that man's lifespan would be one hundred and twenty. He meant that He would give those in the days of Noah one hundred and twenty years to repent before He destroyed the world with flood.

I hope you know that many years later, Abraham showed up and lived up to one hundred and seventy-five years. If one hundred and twenty is the lifespan, that means that Abraham lived beyond the lifespan stated by God. The fact is that God didn't fix any specific number as man's lifespan but allotted numbers of years each person should live up to.

Each of us has a number of years given to him or her. Some are given many years, while some have few years. What determines the length of years given to you is the assignment given to you by God. Everyone on earth is on a mission, and the moment you are done, you should go back to your Maker.

The conclusion that one hundred and twenty is our lifespan isn't correct. And using the life of Moses as a scriptural backup is also not correct. I always ask the question: if Moses hadn't disobeyed God, would he not have lived beyond that one hundred and twenty years? Obviously, if Moses hadn't disobeyed God, he would have entered the Promised Land. That shows that Moses would have lived beyond 120 years.

Exodus 23:26 says,

“...the number of your days I will fulfill.”

That shows that each of us has a number of days (years) allotted to us. Do you remember Hezekiah, that God added to the number of his years? Here is the revelation I want you to have: God can give you longevity of years, God can add to your years, and God will fulfill the number of your years.

You should trust God for a revelation of the number of years given to you. A brother phoned me some time ago to tell me the medical reports he got at the hospital. He also mentioned to me how the fear of death had taken over his thoughts. I simply asked him a question, which is: “What year do you see yourself living up to?” And he responded that he has seen himself living up to 100 years. I asked how he got the revelation, and he mentioned to me that he read in Isaiah 65:20 that “*a child shall die one hundred years old.*” He read that passage, and an inner voice told him that he would live up to 100 years.

That is the kind of revelation I am referring to. All I told him was to open his mouth and begin to declare his revelation that he would live up to 100 years. I had to teach him that because fear comes by hearing and thinking, but faith comes by hearing and speaking. What you say with your mouth is more powerful than what you think in your mind. God gave you your mouth to conquer your mind. Anytime a person has fears in his or her heart,

the person should open his mouth to begin to declare what he believes or desires. Certainly, fear will be conquered that way.

If you will not die anytime, you must hold on to the revelation of the years you will live up to. Beyond holding onto your revelation, there are laws that you must keep. Let me share two of those laws with you:

1. The Law of Faith for Longevity

This law operates three systems, which are:

- a. The system of thinking on your revelation of long life regularly: meditate on your revelation of long life regularly.
- b. The system of believing what is revealed to you.
- c. The system of speaking faith words: this refers to what you ask God for and what you believe Him for. This also includes speaking right words and issuing commands to your body.

2. The Law of Wisdom for Longevity

If God has promised you long life but you fail to keep this law, you may not see the manifestation of that promise in your life. This law manifests through the following systems:

- a. The system of diet: people who want to live long watch their diet. Some men don't take certain beverages not because they're not good but because they are harmful to their health. The same beverages help the health of some for a temporary moment. Over the years, I decided never to take some things again.

b. The system of sleep: if you don't sleep enough, you can't live long; if you sleep too much, you may not live long too. Your body gets better through working.

c. The system of exercise: bodily exercise is profitable. Constantly engage in activities that will create movement of your body parts and internal organs. Most people don't know that trekking or just taking some walk regularly is more powerful than jogging.

d. The system of fasting: fasting backed up with proper dieting leads to strength and health. Fasting is not just for the spiritual but for strength, health, and longevity.

e. The system of hydration: you must take drinking water seriously. Avoid dehydration. If God gives you long life but you're dehydrated, you will die early. Most headaches and yellow urine are due to lack of water.

MAKING OTHERS GREAT

It is not within the power of any man to make another man great. But it is given to every man to contribute to the greatness of others. When you contribute to the lives of others, you are making them great. There is something you have that can be given or shared with others. Everything doesn't have to be money. Joseph didn't share money with the chief butler in the prison but interpreted dreams for him. Don't just be one that only benefits from others; let your life also benefit others.

Don't just be a king; be the kingmaker who raises other kings. Our greatness comes from making others great. Send people to school. A man once said, "I must study politics and war so my children can study mathematics." Funny, but fact. The man knew what he should concentrate on that will make him powerful. Fathers reproduce fathers. Leaders

reproduce leaders. Pastors reproduce pastors. Ministers reproduce ministers. Try to reproduce kings like you. Raise great people like you.

Legacy is what you set in motion. It's what continues beyond you that is a legacy. Jesus started a movement that can't be stopped. He raised people that built the building. Legacy is not what you leave behind but who you leave behind. Legacy is who you build, not what you build.

HEART MATTER

1. Every season comes with new demand and emphasis over your life. What's God's current emphasis for your life? You miss the blessings of the season when you ignore the emphasis of the season.

2. If you want to continue to advance, never come to a point that your popularity exceeds your humility. Humble people are lifted people. Humility is a requirement to have favor with God and man. God resists the proud; men reject the proud. Humility will make God and men love you more.

3. People will betray you, but love them. You may perceive that the closest person to you thinks and plans evil of you, but love them. A leader should always prepare his heart ahead for betrayal so that you won't be shocked when it happens. If Jesus, your Lord, was betrayed by a person in His circle, why should it be strange to you when you are betrayed? Be sensitive; be like Jesus. Jesus knew early who would betray Him. You will be saved early if you are highly sensitive to pick what a person thinks and plans in his or her mind. Betrayal won't come from a stranger but from someone closer to you.

4. When you honor people, what is in them will flow towards you. You don't honor people because of their age but for what is in them. You must

honor everyone because there's something in everyone, and that qualifies them to be honored. People find it difficult to honor others because they don't know what God has put in others. There's something God has put in your siblings, workers, followers, leaders that may need to flow towards your direction. Honor compels the flow.

LEARNING HOW TO PERSONALIZE SCRIPTURES

Let's go prophetic and supernatural. When you read a scripture that talks to you, especially in Psalms or any of the books of the prophets, you must immerse yourself into that scripture and engraft that scripture into your spirit. How will you do this?

Just study how I insert my name into some parts of the Bible passages.

Psalms 21:1-7

- 1. The king (Niyi Makinde) shall have joy in Your strength, O Lord; and in Your salvation how greatly shall he (Niyi Makinde) rejoice!*
- 2. You have given him (Niyi Makinde) his heart's desire and have not withheld the request of his lips. Selah.*
- 3. For You meet him (Niyi Makinde) with the blessings of goodness; You set a crown of pure gold upon his (my) head.*
- 4. He (Niyi Makinde) asked life from You, and You gave it to him — length of days forever and ever.*
- 5. His glory is great in Your salvation; honor and majesty You have placed upon him (Niyi Makinde).*
- 6. For You have made him (Niyi Makinde) most blessed forever; You have made him (Niyi Makinde) exceedingly*

glad with Your presence.

*7. For the king (Niyi Makinde) trusts in the Lord, and
through the mercy of the Most High he (Niyi Makinde)
shall not be moved.*

NOTE

After you engraft your name into those verses, then begin to meditate on it. As you do, you will continue to see clearer from that scripture. That is how we change form from the inward to the outward. Moreover, you should be intentional to declare those words in prayers.

I hope you get that. Henceforth, when a prophetic scripture ministers to you, put yourself in that verse(s). Take time to meditate on it until it forms an image in your heart. If you can capture an image from a verse, nothing in the universe can hinder you from becoming that image in reality. You are in the universe and in some verses in scripture; therefore, locate yourself.

May your eyes be opened to prophetic scriptures!

WHEN WRONG PEOPLE ARE PUT IN POWER

When wrong people get into power, the error comes from the ruler or leader. Wrong people in power will maltreat those they lead and trample upon people's emotions anyhow, without considering how they feel. With this, signals and reactions will begin to spring forth from the hearts of those maltreated, but they won't talk, for they know the arrogance of the proud. Their silence either beckons on time to tell or their own light to appear.

When God's mercy shows up for those maltreated, God will open the eyes of the ruler or leader to the hidden pride in the heart of the wrong person in

power and the maltreatment he vents on others. God opens the eyes of the leader to discern this spot ahead of the new season.

Just like the earth rotates in cycles, a new season comes that God decides who rises and who falls. When the new season appears, God will watch as the wrong person in power hardens his heart and makes decisions that will lead to his fall. This hardness of heart will not be noticeable to others except God and the ruler or leader whose eyes God has opened last season to spot the hidden pride. What will eventually be noticeable to others is the fall of the person.

A critical point for anyone in power who may be behaving ignorantly or arrogantly, unknowingly, is to go to God in prayers to show him or her the errors and actions that are base points to his or her fall. Happy is the man whom the Lord corrects. As you humble yourself before the Lord in prayers to receive His correction, He will open your eyes to decisions and actions made out of anger, pride, ignorance, or annoyance. When God opens your eyes, He has helped you. The moment you identify your errors, make adjustments immediately.

Nobody can predict events that will happen when the season of life changes. But one thing is certain: God will always reveal those who will rise or fall to anyone who has won His trust. Whether you believe or not, there are people God will always show ahead — those He will promote or demote when the season shifts.

You may ask Samuel if he didn't know that God rejected Saul and appointed David. Like Saul, you may be on the throne today, but a man like Samuel knew that Saul only occupied the position but had lost the influence. God may leave you in the position without you knowing that He has taken away your influence. I pray you will not be an ex-champion. If you are maltreated by any leader, just be calm; your help is coming soon.

THE POWER OF DUE SEASON

You've got to know how to stand strong in the seasons of life. Seasons come and go; time is forever changing (Ecclesiastes 3:1-7, 17). When you understand seasons, then you will understand when your due season comes. “Due” can either be what is due to you or what is your right. “Due” can also mean the appropriate time. Both are good for you.

Whatever is due to you, the Lord will bring it into your hands, and when it is your due time, God will cause things to happen. Due seasons are preparation times. For example, God can take you through a season when He is preparing you for great things, awesome things, or even blessings. Certain seasons also are processing times, not finishing.

For example, planting time is a process; it is not the finish. You can't dip the seed in the ground and go for a harvest tomorrow. I do not know of any seed that grows, germinates, produces seed, and matures by the next day. You have to sow the seed; you have to water the seed; you have to wait until finally there is a result. There is a watering time. When you keep watering the seed you have put in the ground, it is a process you have to go through. No one else can go through it for you.

Life is very interesting. There are those who do not like that watering, but that is how life is. Life demands that you wait — to water your seed and let it grow, and afterward, harvest it.

Seasons are also the appropriate time to launch a thing. I have learnt in the few years of the journey of life that there are doors you need to wait for the due time for them to open. If you force them open, you may have to shut them again and wait for the right time because you opened them too early. There is a time to plant, then there is a time to wait, and there is a time to harvest.

You can accelerate many things in life, but there are seasons you cannot accelerate. You have to just go through the process before you get the product, and every time in life that we try to hurry process, we damage the product.

We see it in nature: if an egg is hatching and the chick is trying to come out, if you try to help it, you might damage its wings. It has been said that if an eagle is hatching and you try to help it out of the eggshell, it will not properly form because you have messed up the process.

The fact is that when your due season comes, it is because you've gone through the preparation season. Many wonder why they have to wait. Good things are worth waiting for them to mature. So there is a time to plant, a time to wait, and a time to harvest.

We want God to come through for us at a certain time, but He doesn't come at our timing. But when He comes through a season, He matures you and gets you ready. Some of the world champion boxers we know are prepared for twenty-five years for a career of just five years. But you see, you can't measure that world champion boxer by the five-year career; you also have to add the years of the preparation.

Moses spent eighty years to do forty years of ministry. Jesus' thirty years of His life were quiet years of preparation and process, then three and a half years of fulfilling the purpose for which He came.

I pray for you that in your season, there will be testimony, favor, and the hand of the Lord will be stretched. As you wait for your season, your tears will be wiped, and your mouth will be filled with joy and celebration.

You may have to go through as many as ten to fifteen different seasons of life. Some people often say, "I have been fasting and praying but nothing is

happening.” I want you to know that God is taking you through a maturing process.

SEASONS PEOPLE GO THROUGH

There are different seasons that people go through. Sometimes, when one is over, another begins. The seasons that you go through are needed for becoming who God wants you to become. Let’s go through a few seasons.

1. Season of Affliction

This is the season of various troubles and challenges. It is a season of lack, debt, sickness, pain, etc. Job went through this season. In fact, David went through this season but eventually said, “*It is good for me that I was afflicted.*” Every time affliction comes, it is because certain aspects of your life need to be refined.

The same David also said, “*Before I was afflicted, I went astray.*” This is the season you are wondering, is this God or Satan that is afflicting me? When that season comes, there shall be deliverance in your life in the name of Jesus. For someone who is going through a season of affliction, I speak into your life that the time has come for it to end. You are coming out stronger and better in Jesus’ name.

2. Season of Solitude

God often separates you before He elevates you. This is the season when everything is cut off from you; friends are cut off, and people are leaving you. As Jesus hung upon the tree, with His hands nailed and His feet

bleeding, the twelve who ate from His table and wore the clothes He bought walked away from Him.

That was a season of solitude for Jesus, but that season was necessary for Jesus Christ. In this season, you are all alone by yourself. You may be abandoned by people, but you should be aware of the presence of God with you. He is ever with you always. I pray for you: in your seasons of solitude, may you hear God, may you sense God, may you feel His presence, and may you complete your assignment in the name of Jesus.

3. Season of Warfare

This is the season of your life when everything and everyone will rise against you. You will have many enemies and attacks. It is the season of hatred and opposition. This is the season you need to remain focused on your task. Don't just fight with prayers; fight with focus.

Many believers are only praying to win their battles, but the fact is that you must remain focused on your responsibility to win the battle. Warfares are set to distract you. It is your ability to remain prayerful and focused that grants you victory. When you go through the battles of life, I pray that you are coming out of it with strength, victory, and power in the name of Jesus.

4. Season of Ignorance

This is when you don't really know the mind of God on a matter. I pray that in this season of your life, the spirit of counsel, direction, and wisdom will speak to you and lead you in the mighty name of Jesus.

5. Season of Persecution

This is when people just rise against you. David said, “*Many are they who rise up against me. Many are they who say of me, there is no help for me in God. But Thou, O Lord, art a shield for me.*” I decree that you come out of that season of persecution in the name of Jesus.

6. Season of Disloyalty

This is when you face betrayal from those you trust. Most times, those you help will become hurt and betray you — the people you thought were the most faithful to you actually are lying and fighting you behind your back. God will give you victory.

7. Season of Injustice

This is the season you need the mercy of God. Manipulation and schemes can be plotted against you so another can take your place. During this season, you need to really trust in the Lord to help you. When there is a rising against you, you shall be victorious.

8. Season of Opportunities

This is the season benefits and favor are directed your way. This comes after you have done your part and endured a lot. If you won't give up, the opportunity will show up for you one day. You shall have opportunity from now, in Jesus' name.

9. Season of Elevation

This is when God begins to orchestrate events that will lift you above your peers and your former status. During this time, God magnifies you in the sight of men. Everyone will begin to have a different picture and perspective about you.

This is the season of promotion. During this time, you receive preferential treatment from people because favor is now speaking for you.

10. Season of Abundance

During this season, you have more than you need and have more to give to others. Abundance comes so you can become a blessing to many. You have plenty of resources, channels of income, and heavy financial resources flowing towards your direction. Most times, the harvest of your seeds compels this season of abundance to come.

WHAT GOES ON DURING THOSE SEASONS OF YOUR LIFE?

1. Character Is Built During Seasons

The solid foundation that can bear the weight of your future blessing is laid in seasons. The value of your life is often in the seasons you've been through. The quality of your preparation in seasons determines your success.

I pray for you that this season you are going through will produce in you remarkable favor, testimonies, victories, joy, and breakthrough. You will not go through the season of life in vain.

Good planning takes place during the seasons you go through in life. There are some things you cannot hurry; you cannot accelerate some experiences of life. In fact, you can't accelerate good experience. Champions never hurry. Champions do not become champions in the ring; they are recognized in the ring. Every champion you know — it was not in the ring that they became champions; it was in the ring that they were recognized.

2. Deep and Strong Convictions Are Found During Seasons

The reason God is preparing you is because He wants you to have deep conviction. So when people want to pull you away, you will be able to say like Paul, *“I know whom I have believed, and I am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day.”* Glory to God!

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DON'T WAIT FOR YOUR SEASON?

Your boat will launch out prematurely and get into a storm you did not prepare for. When you launch prematurely, you may give birth to a vision whose time is not due. When you hurry your season, you could cause an aborted vision.

There are right visions but wrong timing. When you don't wait for the due season, you will submit to people's opinions and pressure. When you don't wait for your due season, your errors will be many.

So listen to me: Jesus was sensitive about timing (John 2:4). Expect something good every season. Look for the benefits God has for you in a season. There is always a benefit somewhere — a breakthrough and

testimony somewhere. Seize the moment and enjoy today. Believe God for the future.

Know that success comes slowly. Don't hurry some things; believe the Lord. I believe that the season has come, the time has come, the day is here when God is going to surprise you, wipe your tears, and make you laugh. You are going to walk in the due season. In your due season, doors will be opening for you like you have never known. In your due season, things will work for you.

CARRIED INTO ROYALTY

“Now when you arrive at that place, look there for Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat, the son of Nimshi, and go in and make him rise up from among his associates, and take him to an inner room.” (2 Kings 9:2)

Elisha commanded one of the sons of the prophets to make Jehu arise. The next thing that Elisha instructed the son of the prophet to do was to carry Jehu into the inner chamber where he would be anointed.

The son of the prophet was to help Jehu to arise, and he was also meant to carry Jehu to the place where the oil of kingship would be poured upon his life. Apart from being helped to rise, Jehu was carried into kingship.

I want to tell you that you will be carried into the thrones and crowns that God Himself has reserved for you. God will grant you help to rise, and He will cause you to be carried into your next level. I am aware that you might have had to do it all by yourself in time past, but in this new season, the help of God and men will come through for you, and that help will carry you into higher realms you did not bargain for.

When a man is carried, he moves at the pace of the one who is carrying him. When a man is carried, he makes progress without expending energy to make progress. When a man is carried, he becomes the responsibility of the one who is carrying him.

In this new season, God Himself will carry you into places where you cannot enter by yourself. God is carrying you into unexpected thrones and crowns. The days of relying on yourself alone in order to move are over. The days of struggling to make every single achievement in your life a reality are over.

Going forward, God will send you helpers that will help you to arise. God will position men around you who will help you to become more than you currently are. God will send you men who will sacrifice their comfort for your rising. God will send you men who will help you and carry you.

I want you to ask God for your sent men who will help you to rise and also help to carry you to your throne. Ask God for men who will aid your rise into your new heights.

TAKE YOUR YOUNGER AGE SERIOUSLY

The young age is the stage of identity. Anything you do not give yourself to at this stage, you would not be able to manifest later in life.

A time is coming when you are going to see rice, plantain, chicken, turkey, and you will say, “Bring pap,” because you want to work with your digestive system and more fiber. A time is coming when the things that pleasure you will not pleasure you anymore.

There are things you must overcome as a young person. Anything that comes as a distraction must be overcome. There is a difference between a

child and a father. A child can't make decisions on his own; they have to make decisions for a child. But a time comes when the child will grow and will be able to make decisions on his own.

It is known that the fathers of today were the babies of yesterday. Fathers don't just have a sensory knowledge of God; they have experiential knowledge of God.

Bishop Oyedepo bought his first jet at age 40, and by age 44, Canaanland started. How many 44-year-old pastors can boast of anything? Lamentations 3:27 shows that you should bear your yoke when you are young.

A father who doesn't put some things in himself at a certain age will never be able to display such at old age. As a young person, start exercising fasting; start exercising praying in tongues all night; start exercising singing in tongues; start building yourself up from the inside.

You can't be tall on the inside and be small in life — build up.

At a young age, Satan comes for people. The prodigal son messed up at that stage of identity; Satan came for him, but you know what happened to him? Luke 15:18 — “*He came to himself.*” Come to yourself. I want you to also come to yourself.

If you are a young person and you are reading this, take your younger age seriously and invest in yourself ahead for your future.

OBEDIENCE IS LOUDER THAN VOICE

In Matthew 21:28-30, the Bible tells the parable of a certain man who had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, “*Son, go work today in my vineyard.*” He answered and said, “*I will not,*” but afterward he repented and went. And he came to the second and said the same thing, and he

answered and said, “*I go,*” and went not. The Bible asked a very pungent question: “Which one of these two did the will of his father, the first or the second?”

It is important we recognize that our verbal affirmation holds very little to God. What matters is our commitment to implementation of any divine instruction. Vocalizing your agreement does not commit God's response; it is actualizing your commitment by taking practical steps that speaks volume to God.

There are many men of words in the kingdom, but God rewards works in the kingdom. It is not what you say that matters, but what you do with what God says. What you say is only as valuable as what you do. That is why we live in a kingdom where our actions speak louder than our words.

There are many that are experts in verbal affirmations; they speak much of their commitment. They speak of what they will do, but God does not measure intention, He measures action. In James 1:25, the Bible tells us that God doesn't bless intention, God blesses action. The Bible tells us that God is a God of knowledge by whom actions are weighed. Until there is an action, it lacks weight.

God measures our actions; that is why we must ensure that we are taking steps, not just speaking words—actualizing the intention, not just vocalizing it. I see the grace for taking steps coming upon you.

It is important that we take note of this: no one knows what is in obedience until he has obeyed. The value of your obedience can only be experienced, not explained. The Bible says in the book of Genesis 12:1-4 concerning Abraham, how God asked Abraham to go from his father's house, and in verse 4, Abraham departed. It looked like a very simple statement, but when we begin to look through various chapters of the Bible, we see that the volume of what that blessing meant can only be experienced, not explained.

No one knows what is in obedience until he has obeyed. By Chapter 13:1, the Bible says that Abraham was very rich in silver and gold, and in cattle and all of these things—blessings on every side. The Lord's blessing can only be experienced; you cannot explain it. So, no one knows what is in obedience until he has obeyed.

In Genesis 22:1-5, the Lord told Abraham to take his only son to a place where He would show him and offer his son as a burnt sacrifice, and Abraham arose and began to go on the journey. Three days later, he saw the place afar off. It was just a commandment—he didn't know what the outcome would be.

By verses 16 to 18, the Lord began to speak. Look at what God said there and look at the practical expression of what we see in the world. You look at the blessing of Abraham and see how explosive it is. The Jewish nation, which is the natural lineage of Abraham—look at the blessing they are to the world today. Everywhere today you see a touch of that nation, because in them shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

You see them possessing the gates of their enemies, surrounded by their enemies but cannot be destroyed because of the blessing spoken over Abraham. No one knows what is in obedience until he has obeyed. You never know how high you can go; you really don't know how far you can go until you have obeyed God. It is obedience to God that exposes you to the reality of the blessings of God.

I'd like you to understand, therefore, that when it comes to the reality of the blessings of obedience, only the obedient can explain it because it is by experience. I see you receiving grace to maintain a life of obedience.

The Bible shows us in Joshua 6:1-20 how that simple obedience to the instructions of God brought down the mighty walls of Jericho. We are told that the wall of Jericho was so thick that six chariots could run upon it.

Houses were built on the wall; the house of Rahab was built on the wall of Jericho. The wall of Jericho was the foundation of Rahab's house.

It was not a normal fence; we are talking about a wall that is thick enough to make the foundation of a house on top of it. Yet, God gave a simple instruction:

“Go round this wall for six days in silence, one time each day. On the seventh day go round the wall seven times, and on the seventh time give a shout. When you shout, the wall will come down.”

Simple instruction that does not have any logical connection to the destruction of a wall, but that is the commandment. Sometimes the commandment of God does not make sense, but it commands proofs. The Bible says they did that, and the walls of Jericho came down flat. The ground swallowed the wall because they obeyed a simple instruction.

You may be thinking about your desire—what is the connection between my desire and what God is saying I should do? There is no connection required except that it is an instruction. If God says this is what to do, do it.

Take note of this: no key looks like a door, but it is the key that opens the door. You can't say the door is square, so the key must be square too. The key doesn't need to look like the door to open the door. In the same way, the instruction does not need to look like your desire; the instruction is the key to your desire. Obedience to God is the key.

I see grace coming on you to live a life of explicit obedience. Every act of obedience opens a new chapter to our lives. The destiny of a man is like chapters of a book. Vision, which talks about the plans of God for a man's

life, is seen as the pages of a book, and the opening of each chapter is at the mercy of obedience.

In other words, a person's life is unlimited. It is actually our obedience that determines what becomes of it. So, new chapters are opened on the platform of obedience. Abraham obeyed God in Genesis Chapter 12, and then a chapter opened to his life. He obeyed God again in Genesis Chapter 17, and another chapter opened to his life. He obeyed God in Genesis 22, and another chapter opened to his life.

Every act of obedience opened a new chapter in the life of Abraham. In Chapter 12 he entered into wealth; in Chapter 17 he entered into the realm of having his own seed come to him; and in Chapter 22 there was a generational blessing that came upon him that is speaking till forever.

The truth is this: there are various chapters in your life and destiny, but God is saying that the opening of each chapter is at the mercy of your obedience. Every chapter that opens is a chapter of glory. Every chapter is a new dimension of glory. From this season, I see a new chapter of glory opening in your life.

EVERYTHING COMES IN STAGES – BE PATIENT

The hardest part of patience is waiting. Revolutionary change comes through evolutionary process. I read how a man started an event in a particular year at a corner, and twenty-five years later, the same event became a national event recognized by the government and different bodies in that country.

The moments of twenty-five years represent moments of an evolving effort to a cause that quickly revolutionized the voice of Christianity in that nation. To desire overnight success when the event started would mean that

they would wait for twenty-five years of hard work and waiting to come to national prominence.

The lesson is that no matter what you want to change in your life—physically, spiritually, maritally, financially, and professionally—you should never expect overnight success. Life is a series of commencements and completions, followed by another commencement. The best news is that success is measured by end result, not by current status.

Like Joseph, you may be behind today, but if you keep taking the right steps, you can be on the throne tomorrow. Too many people quit because of where they are rather than staying focused on where they are going.

One of the ways to stay encouraged is to constantly monitor your progress. You should gather data daily, measure progress monthly, and celebrate yearly. You make the difference by taking one step at a time. Faithfully taking the next step will enable you to determine how fast and how far you can go.

Taking proper steps at the proper time accelerates your rate of speed. On the contrary, taking the wrong step can send you all the way back to the beginning, hindering your progress. Once you know what you are supposed to do, there's simply no time to waste.

The moment you have made up your mind that your world needs to turn around and you need a revolution, get started—and don't look back. Never doubt that you have what it takes, and always inspire others to believe in your cause. If you do, the changes you can bring to the world will indeed send shock waves and astonish you.

CONSTANTLY SHOW GRATITUDE TO GOD

One day, a young man told me his feelings and asked a question. He said he didn't see anything special in being successful and wealthy. He further said getting a car, building houses, and having successful companies doesn't mean anything to him any longer. It is as though he was yearning for something more and new.

His reasoning and feelings concluded that there is nothing in all these accomplishments. As he spoke, I remembered that I was told about a wealthy man who said he was tired of all his wealth because he didn't have peace. This was someone who worked for his success and accomplishment, not someone magical or ritualistic.

The young man continued his words and ended with a question: What could be responsible for this, and what can I do to get out of that feeling? I didn't want to speak spontaneously or give a general answer, so I told him to give me some days to get the right answer to his question.

Actually, the young man and I travelled together, and he was the one that drove the car. I began to meditate in my heart and silently asked the Holy Spirit to give me the right answer to the question of the young man. Early in the morning of the following day, the Holy Spirit spoke to my heart that the answer to the question is gratitude to God.

God always wants to take the glory for all we accomplish. God can share His knowledge, wisdom, grace, etc. with you, but won't share His glory with you. You give glory to God by the act of gratitude.

Gratitude to God will always get you out of negative feelings. It restores peace and joy to your heart. Gratitude to God makes the presence of God real to you. If you don't give to God what He deserves, you also will not have the peace and joy that you should have.

When you are grateful to God, you will also be joyful. What that young man really lacked was joy. And joy can only come from God, not through any achievement or success. Success can give you happiness, not joy.

A person who constantly sings songs of praises to God will always be joyful. When you have everything you desire but lack joy in your heart, you will always feel empty within you. You can't have peace of heart without first having joy.

According to scriptures, joy is strength. Nehemiah said, "*The joy of the Lord is your strength.*" The strength is internal. It makes you stronger than all storms of life.

If you have no achievement or success yet but have joy in your heart, you will always have the feeling of accomplishment and fulfilment within you. When you have everything but lack joy, you will feel like you have nothing.

The reason impacting others brings fulfilment to your heart is because that brings joy to heaven. You can't make heaven joyful and lack joy. This is a call to awake to gratitude daily. Ensure you praise the Lord more than you ask from Him.

The next time you notice you are not feeling yourself or not satisfied internally, begin to praise God, and you will be surprised by how the Lord will take over you.

MY FINAL COUNSEL

There are many areas of life. But the area you have the greatest focus will become the area that you will have the greatest success. You can't have success in an aspect you aren't focused on. You have the right to permit

success to stay in your life. Your focus becomes the permission for it. Anything you focus on is what is permitted to flow and happen in your life.

Any area of life that you give your greatest focus is the area you will have the greatest strength, greatest honor, greatest glory, greatest influence, and so on. If you give your greatest focus to an area of life, you may end up becoming the greatest focus in that area of life in your lifetime.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Niyi Makinde is an apostle, author, and crusader. He has written hundreds of books on a variety of subjects, writing with high inspiration and creative wisdom. His work comes highly recommended by great leaders, and as a minister, he is widely known for healings and miracles.

He is the Founder and General Overseer of **The Rebirth Global Church Family (RGCF)**, a network of churches across the globe. He also founded **Connect Global**, a platform dedicated to networking and equipping Christian ministers and leaders worldwide. Apostle Niyi Makinde hosts the annual **Connect Confluence**, a global gathering that brings together many believers, churches, and ministries.

Highly esteemed and respected by great leaders, he is known for his simplicity, integrity, and uncommon wisdom. Many consider him to be one of the wisest and greatest among men. He serves as a father-figure and provides oversight to numerous churches, ministries, and Christian networks.



Learn more at www.apostleniyi.com



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