

MULTIPLYING YOUR SPIRITUAL AND INFLUENTIAL  
CAPACITY FOR GLOBAL RELEVANCE



NIYI MAKINDE



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# The Revolutionary Apostle

*Multiplying your spiritual and influential capacity for  
global relevance.*

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*To Tejumoluwa Taiwo for:*

*Your trust in me when I was slandered on campus. You won my  
heart through your loyalty and trust in me.*

*The revolution that took place at our campus fellowship through  
your leadership, consistent fasting and prayers. You're indeed a  
revolutionary. I love you!*



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## Informative Construct

For few months, I stayed in the city of Port Harcourt. Actually, my going there was spirit-led because I never knew anyone there and stayed in that city for more than three months. I can boldly say, that was my first missionary journey. Truth is that it was a wonderful and indelible experience.

One day, while walking on a street in that city, I was meditating on the reason for the quench of revival over the centuries. I wonder what could have been the main venom that cuts off revival in the past. As I meditated, I knew something was wrong somewhere but was just unable to identify it specifically. I began to say to myself, I am for revival and it will come to pass in my days. At that time, we were already having monthly revival meetings across our network centres and great things were happening as the spirit of God consistently move upon His people freshly. While my meditation continued, inexplicably, I got this word *“I have not called you for revival neither do I called you for reformation. I have called you for revolution.”* I couldn’t believe what I just got from the Lord. I began to find out what revolution really means and how it differs from revival and reformation.

As an avid reader, I have read history of past revivals – from the days of the apostles to the second generation of the apostles to the Catholics to the Protestants and on. I have read about various reformations that took place and how God used historical phenomena to combine the supernatural with

superstructure that became the cardinals for reforms in the past centuries. I suppose, I have read many books on revivals and reformation. All I read have been encouraging and inspiring. I have read about miracles and healings God wrought during revivals and how God restored some dimension during those reformations.

Beyond reading, I have the privilege to have listened to many preachers and fathers in the faith who shared their experiences during past revivals. I watch some share their experiences with utmost excitement only to discover that they often lament that they don't have the privilege and strength to do more because their strength had wane. Most of them shared how they were very vibrant in their twenties and thirties but had become feeble with age. Preachers on the other hands have stirred our hearts to greatly anticipate revival. I remember my days at the university how I used to pray on my knee regularly to God to use me for revival and work His power through me. There were several days of fasting which made me grew so lean. Every night, I used to go to a room to pray for hours on my knee and sometimes, I walk up and down pacing the floor.

Let me share my university days experience with you. In my first year, God brought three of us together and we always had regular weekly vigils. I had known the two brothers before I gained admission to school but became closer when we met in school. We agreed to always pray every Friday night. The two brothers were *Gabriel Ayilara* and *Richard Babatunde*. The vigil was always intense and we prayed different kinds of prayers. At a time, we were led to go out for evangelism which we did. On this particular day, we dressed up; ready to go out and suddenly rain began to fall. It fell but we made up our mind to go out. We went out in the rain for evangelism. The rain heavily scourged

us... our clothes and bibles were wet. I remember we got to a brother's place to visit and we were told someone was sick. The brother we visited went to get us soft drinks just to entertain us but I said to my co-workers, let us pray for the sick person and he would be healed. We prayed peevishly and nothing happened. Funnily enough, there were many unbelievers outside who heard us praying but were laughing and joking. Amazingly, the sick guy said he wanted to urinate; he stood up himself, walked out himself and came back into the room. He finally went back to his bed and said, the sickness and pained was still there. We thought our prayers were not answered. It was actually because of our inexperience then, because God only used the urination part to communicate to us that he was healed but we didn't know. We left disappointed thinking something could have hindered our prayers. Glory to God! Now I know that God answered us and the man was healed but we were the ones that were not spiritually discerning.

This incident and lots more pushed me into intense prayers and desire to be used tremendously by God. In my second year at the university, I was always fasting and praying every night. I lived with a group of six brothers in a three-bedroom flat. All the six of us do things together and in common. We cook together and rotate the cooking schedule. On many occasions, I would shuffle between cooking in the kitchen and praying in the room. And often times, some of the wonderful brothers assisted me to complete the cooking chores after I had mixed the main ingredients together. It was always prayers for me... I study the word too. I had so much hunger for God to use me for revival. In my final year, there was a slight change as the Lord brought some materials to me on reformation. I read about reformation and how God often made it happened.

Now, when God told me about revolution – a radical change in the way things are done – I wonder how this would go. I began to think how about the difference between revival and reformation.

Later, He told me, “Niyi, you are a revolutionary apostle.” God has taken me through processes and trainings just to ensure that I become who He wants me to be. He has used the life of Paul the apostle to train me about the revolutionary apostle. Paul is a prototype and real portrait of who a revolutionary apostle is. In his days, he brought revolution that changed the whole culture and structure. His core fabric created a change that separated Jewish religion from Christianity. If not for Paul, we would still be practicing some Jewish tradition which the early disciples of Jesus grew up to learn. Paul was a revolutionary! It dawned on me that I had to learn from Paul as a man that brought revolution to the world of his day. Someone may say, we should not learn from Paul but from Jesus. But don’t forget that Paul said “imitate me just as I imitate Christ.” Paul imitated Christ and it is not wrong if the Holy Spirit opens our eyes to see what Paul got.

I am greatly inspired by God to write this for you to learn what I have learned through the teaching of the Holy Spirit. I believe that the insight in this book will help you to become the revolutionary God wants you to be. This book is useful for all Christians.

## Definition of Words

### Revival

This is an improvement in the condition of something or the process of something being made popular or fashionable again.

### Reformation

This is the act of improving how something is done. It is bringing an adjustment to something that is done over time.

### Revolution

This is an absolute change in conditions, ways of working, beliefs, etc that affects large numbers of people.

I

# The Apostle and the Apostolic Community





## Recognition of an Apostle

**E**ssentially, the word “apostle” means a person who is sent to represent another—whether a king, kingdom or entity like a church. I Corinthians 12:28 teaches that God places first in the church apostles, since they are sent by God to represent Him in a city to pioneer (a church or *ekklesia* as shown in Matthew 16:18–19) for city transformation. Apostles are the “sent ones” who represent the essence of what the church vision or mission is all about. In John 17, Jesus constantly referred to the fact that He was sent by the Father to the world, which is one reason Hebrews 3:1 refers to Jesus as our Apostle. Jesus was God’s apostle sent into the world to redeem it. In Revelation 21:14, we see the term “the 12 apostles of the Lamb.”

Beyond this, apostles are spiritual entrepreneurs sent and established to do the spirituals. The work of an apostle is purely spiritual.

Although Paul did not found the church in Rome, he was respected enough by the general body of Christ that he was able to write the letter to the Romans with apostolic weight and authority as if he was the one who planted it. Hence, apostles of

Christ garner a high level of respect beyond the borders of their own church networks, even though they would never attempt to supplant the authority of an apostolic leader who is the founder or leader of another network.

## Division of Apostolic Sphere

The apostolic sphere is divided into three which are:

1. **Ecclesiastical Sphere:** This is a sphere that relates with churches and pastors. The apostles here function mainly to bring doctrine, balance, order, instruction and impartation to those churches. The pastors or leadership of those churches are accountable to the apostle that is ecclesiastical.
2. **Functional Sphere:** This apostolic sphere relates with individuals or groups who operate within a certain type of specialized ministry. The personal relationship this functional apostolic sphere has with various individuals and groups affords it to birth ministry or dimension in numerous sons and daughters. They give guidance to prayer groups, bible study fellowships, worship teams, teen's ministry, etc. While, the ecclesiastical apostles don't have much time to lead and guide persons or groups, the functional apostles take up the duty to do such. These functional apostles may not wear the title 'apostle', but have the capacity to function as apostles to individuals.
3. **Territorial Sphere:** The apostles in this sphere have influence in a particular territory and are sent there to function as sent ones. Their territory may be a sector, profession, industry, city, country or continent. Often, an ecclesiastical

apostle may function as a territorial apostle too. Such will have impact and influence over a particular geographic territory. Today, in the business world, we have many territorial apostles who are expanding and dominating their spaces.

## Three Categories of Apostles

**1. Top-Down Apostles:** Just as the name sounds – top-down, these are apostles that lead networks of churches, ministries or individuals who look to these apostles for spiritual “covering”. They are divided into four subcategories:

- *Ecclesiastical Apostles:* Their sphere includes a number of churches and pastors are accountable to them.
- *Apostolic Team Members:* Most apostles have their team which includes people with many different gifts.
- *Functional Apostles:* They practice the apostolic authority over individuals or groups who operate within a certain type of specialized ministry.
- *Congregational Apostles:* These are leaders or pastors of churches that grow into what we now know as mega churches.

**2. Team-Up Apostles:** These are strategic apostles who do not have churches, ministries or individuals under them because they primarily serve their peer-level leaders, helping them to connect with each other for different purpose. They are also divided into four subcategories:

- *Covering Apostles:* These have the capacity to call together

peer-level Christian leaders who minister in a defined field and possess the ability to form relational organization for specific purposes as God directs.

- *Ambassadorial Apostles:* These are strong and diplomatic individuals who have the wisdom, grace and influence to catalyze and nurture apostolic movements on a national, regional or international scale. They have the unique grace that can mobilize a team across regions to create a network that effect change
- *Mobilizing Apostles:* Apostles of this kind are like the ambassadorial apostles, but their focus is in a specific cause or project. They mobilize a team to execute and accomplish a project.
- *Territorial Apostles:* These are apostles over a region, city, country or continent.

**3. Workplace Apostles:** They are apostles in workplaces who have the ability to set things in order and to equip the saints for the work of the ministry there. To these individuals, a workplace therefore becomes not only a ministry but a place where the church government should be established. Apostles of this kind are raised in different areas of the society: religion, family education, government, media, arts, business, etc.

## Hyphenated Apostles

Often, there could be an apostle who operates in either the functional or territorial sphere that could function effectively in other ministry gifts. This kind of apostle has been given other gifts alongside their gift of apostleship. Such will be known as: Apostle-Prophet, Apostle-Teacher, Apostle-Pastor,

and Apostle–Evangelist. In our world today, we can see such hyphenated apostles around us. For example, Reinhard Bonnke is an apostle–evangelist. He has the gift of an evangelist but function as a territorial apostle. He dominated the whole of Africa with massive crusades. His territory then becomes Africa. In other words, he is an apostle to Africa through massive soul winning and crusades.

## Broad View Classes of Apostles

1. Apostle of a church (Founder, Planter)
2. Apostle of multiple churches (Overseer)
3. Apostle over a city
4. Apostle over a region
5. Apostle over a state
6. Apostle over a nation
7. Apostle of Bible truth God wants to restore to the church at large
8. Apostle of Apostles
9. Apostle of Pastors
10. Apostle of Evangelists
11. Apostle of a certain sub–culture
12. Apostle of a segment of society
13. Apostle of a media and technology space
14. Apostle of a sphere of art
15. Apostle of revolution

## Top-Down Apostles in the Bible

1. **Peter:** The apostle to the Jews (Gal 2:8)
2. **Paul:** The apostle to the Gentiles (Romans 11:13)
3. **James:** The apostle to the church at Jerusalem (Acts 15:13)
4. **John:** The apostle to the seven churches in the book of Revelation (Rev 1:4)

## Historical Examples of Apostles

1. **Martin Luther:** Apostle of the Protestant Reformation
2. **E. M. Bounds:** Apostle of Personal Prayer
3. **John Wesley:** Apostle of Holiness Movement
4. **Charles Wesley:** Apostle of Hymn Worship
5. **D. L. Moody:** Apostle of Evangelism
6. **Smith Wigglesworth:** Apostle of the gift of faith
7. **Kathryn Kuhlman:** Apostle of workings of miracles
8. **Kenneth E. Hagin:** Apostle of faith and healings
9. **Oral Roberts:** Apostle of divine healing and prosperity
10. **Billy Graham:** Apostle of mainstream Evangelism
11. **T. L. Osborn:** Apostle of signs and wonders and mass evangelism
12. **Ayo Babalola:** Apostle of healing and miracles
13. **Benson Idahosa:** Apostle of miracles and mass evangelism
14. **William Seymour:** Apostle of Pentecostal Movement
15. **Watchman Nee:** Apostle of Brokenness

## Modern Examples of Apostles

1. **John Maxwell:** Apostle to leaders
2. **Peter C. Wagner:** Apostle to Apostles and Prophets
3. **Rodney Howard Browne:** Apostle of Revival
4. **Thomas Dexter Jakes:** Apostle of Manhood and Womanhood
5. **Kenneth Copeland:** Apostle of love and prosperity
6. **Paul Younggho Cho:** Apostle of Church Growth and Prayer
7. **Benny Hinn:** Apostle of Healing and the Holy Spirit
8. **Mike Murdock:** Apostle of Wisdom and Prosperity
9. **Frederic K. C. Price:** Apostle of Faith and The Word
10. **Rick Joyner:** Apostle of Apostles and Prophets

## Modern Day Apostles in Nigeria

1. **E. A. Adeboye:** Apostle of Church Expansion and Miracles
2. **David Oyedepo:** Apostle of Church Growth and Faith
3. **Wale Oke:** Apostle of Mass Evangelism
4. **Chris Oyakhilome:** Apostle of New Creation Realities, Healing and Miracles
5. **David Ibiyeomie:** Apostle of Prosperity, Excellence and Healing
6. **George Adegboye:** Apostle to Apostles, Evangelists and Teachers
7. **Paul Adefarasin:** Apostle to Market Place People
8. **Sam Adeyemi:** Apostle to Leaders
9. **Biodun Fatoyinbo:** Apostle to the Unchurched
10. **Abel Damina:** Apostle of New Creation Realities
11. **Poju Oyemade:** Apostle of Strategic Teaching
12. **Johnson Sulaimon:** Apostle of Miracles

13. **Paul Eneche:** Apostle of Church Growth, Miracles and Destiny Recovery
14. **Arome Osayi:** Apostle of Prayers and Miracles
15. **Joshua Selman:** Apostle of Prayers and Miracles

### *Note*

In the scriptures, you will never see apostles of different kinds as stipulated here. We only see Paul as the apostle to the Gentiles and Peter as apostle to the Jews. James the brother of Jesus is the apostle in Jerusalem. All apostles should be apostles of Jesus Christ. The ones above are only tagged with such because of their assignment to the body of Christ or the revelations God restored to the body of Christ through them.



## The Power of an Apostolic Community

**A** community that is governed by an apostolic leader is highly spiritual and influential. The people that are raised in such community will eventually become powerful internally and externally. Unfortunately, many of the apostolic communities, churches and networks we have today are highly spiritual but not influential. Many of these places are not more than prayer centres, bible study gatherings, etc. the scriptural basis for the work of these apostolic leaders is often Acts 6:4 where the apostles said they would continually give themselves to prayers and the ministry of the word. Yes! Apostles should pray and minister the word – prayer and the ministry of the word is spiritual mechanism which should lead to influence. Sadly, many apostolic communities of today engage in prayer and the ministry of the word neglecting the major aspect of influence. I believe the church should be an institution power that can influence the sector and society. In reality, our prayer and word should generate irresistible influence and intense spirituality.

After a contention arose by the Hellenists, the twelve apostles

summoned the church and told them to seek out from among them seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom whom they may appoint over the business of serving (Acts 6:1-3). The first time my understanding was opened to these words: “seek out from among you.” I thought what audacity! The apostles spoke with such mindset that the people themselves could select qualified people. They believed that there were men in the congregation of the people who have good reputation, who are full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom. This is maturity. Maturity of believers is always found in the apostolic community.

The apostolic community has the power, ability to impart what she has. Impartation is a way of birthing sons and daughter. Impartation releases what one has into another. The Bible reveals after the seven were selected; the apostles prayed and laid hands on them. The aftermath of that was that the word of God spread and the number of disciples multiplied greatly. The laying on of hands by the apostles on the seven was something deeper than we imagined. It is a spiritual method of depositing themselves in the seven. Luke the writer of Acts clearly revealed the acts of two of those seven to us. Stephen and Philip were shown to us as men who did great exploits for God. Philip and Stephen were part of those who continued in the apostles’ doctrine.

The power of an apostolic community is that it fashions, installs, and programs in believers the capacity to do what the apostles were doing. This in turn makes them very spiritual and influential.

It has always been said that apostles have a breakthrough anointing to dominate cities. But scripture reveals that Philip went to Samaria alone and took the city for God. He alone

reached the entire city with the gospel with evident miracles, healing and casting out of demons. Luke recorded that Philip was not an apostle but an evangelist. He was not an apostle but he came from an apostolic community.

Just as Philip alone went to a city and took it for God, so also, if he had gone to a particular sector, he could have taken it over. Everyone trained in an apostolic community will always take over. That Philip preached and performed miracles – that is spiritual. That the entire city believed what he preached – that is influence. I want you to get this straight – apostles are not the only one engraced to pioneer or start a church. Any of the ministry gifts can pioneer a church. The only difference is that apostles pioneer new works according to the new revelation they have received. A teacher can pioneer a church!

The first century church at Antioch was not birthed by apostles. It was founded by brethren who were scattered everywhere. Acts 8:1 reveals that the church was scattered but the apostle remained in Jerusalem. In Acts 11:19–22, we see how some brethren left Jerusalem and preached to those at Antioch and they believed. In other word, it was later the church in Jerusalem sent Barnabas to them. But do you realize that it was from this Antioch church that Paul and Barnabas were sent forth as apostles. Optimally, the church that was pioneered by brethren further gave birth to the ministry of apostles.

## Qualities of an Apostolic Community

1. It has the presence of the five ministry gift – apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers. We see the full expression and restoration of fivefold ministry gifts.
2. Maturity and releasing God's people for the work of min-

istry through teaching and impartation.

3. Proper structure and order in the church. This way, we are apostolically led and prophetically influenced.
4. Great signs and wonders; miracles and healings.
5. Multitude harvest of souls
6. Saints ministering to saints: We will embark on people-oriented project rather than property-oriented project.
7. Churches will receive apostolic guidance, governance and principles.
8. The apostle who heads the apostolic community will gladly give what he has experienced.

## An Epicenter of God's Move

Every revolution God stirs on earth always began in a place and from there it spread across to other places on earth. There is nothing unique about those places other than God raised someone or send someone with an extraordinary grace and ability to those places.

These unique individuals who are sent have encountered God through unique revelations and unusual experiences that can move the church or believers to the next level. Wherever these individuals are found, revolution will kick off from there. The radical change occurs in other places when various people across places began to come, contact and connect with the revolutionary. This epicenter individual begins to share the revelation, experiences and visions for the present as placed in his heart. As such, you begin to see the principle of spiritual reproduction at work. How? This happened when various people who connect with the epicenter begin to spread the revelation and vision as shared with them. In other word, the man of God

who is the revolutionary apostle becomes the epicenter that can dispense the structure and strategy to accomplish the vision.

Revolutionary apostles who are epicenter are raised by God Himself and through their dealings, trainings and equipping by God, they are mature. Truth is that men are epicenters. Every time, something unique – events, trends, change – occurs in a place, you can always trace such to someone or some people. God is not partial. He deals with every believer and ministers differently. Believers and ministers will have fellowship with God but you can't compare the divine release on an epicenter personality to what others receive. There were many prophets in Israel but God spoke to Moses only face to face while he spoke to others through visions and dreams. The question then is; does God not speak to other prophets? He does! He only speaks to them uniquely. Remember that Miriam was a prophetess but Moses represented God to the people. There could be many men of God but there will always be someone that truly represents His present workings on earth. Wise people who are relevant in the kingdom today connected with the epicenter individual they recognized and began to tap from such. The question then is who represent an epicenter to you?



## II

# Dynamics Found in Paul as a Revolutionary Apostle





## He Had Abundance of Revelation

**I**n the Bible, you will never find the word “progressive revelation”. Revelation is revelation! But we see abundance of revelation (2 Cor. 12:7). It was not boasting for Paul to say he had abundance of revelation. We even know there were things he knew but did not include in his writing.

Jesus said to Peter, “blessed are you Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.” Matt 16:17. Anytime you see the phrase ‘flesh and blood’, you must bear in mind that such refers to a man. What Jesus said can be simply paraphrase as “man has not revealed this to you...” It therefore means there are revelation we can get through men. For example, when preachers and teachers share the word of God with us, whatever we receive or revealed to us as they speak, definitely comes through men. On the other hand, revelation can come to our heart directly without the explanation of any man. In this case, the spirit of God takes the word and expatiate it in our heart and understanding is released with it. This was actually the experience of Peter. Jesus recognized that the response Peter gave that Jesus is the Christ

and the son of the living God (Matt 16:16) was not transferred to Peter through a man but the Father directly released the revelatory thoughts in the heart of Peter about Jesus.

Paul the apostle also informed us that there are things we receive or reveal through men and things that we receive directly from the father in our heart. Paul declared to the Galatians, “but I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to a man. For I neither received it from man nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.” Galatians 1:11-12. Paul here explained clearly that what he preached to the Galatians was not taught to him by any man but that it was revealed to him. You remember he was in Arabia for three years – Gal 1:17.

There were things the twelve apostles did not know or understood that Paul understood. In other word, Paul had abundance of revelation. He understood and communicated the finished works of Christ for the believers and the ongoing work of the spirit in the believer. Paul wrote to the churches to inform them what God has done for them in Christ and what they also need to do while in Christ now. Of all the apostles, it was Paul that introduced the new creation in Christ Jesus. I know too many people understand new creation realities today, but only few can specifically identify Paul as the apostle who shared with us about new creations. Truth is that apostles have abundance of revelation.

Apostle Paul received his revelation from the Lord. He was not taught his gospel by men but from the Lord. Apostles have the ability to preach and teach revelation from the scriptures that cannot be learned in schools. This is not referring to heretical biblical revelation, but revelation from the written word of God. Apostles have the ability to cause people to see things in the

scriptures by the spirit of wisdom for revelation. The truth concerning justification of faith “was originally brought by apostle Paul. Years later, Martin Luther brought revelation to the church of the middle Ages concerning ‘justification of faith’. Different Apostles bring forth different revelation as revealed to them. Every revelation has apostles that preached and taught it until it was received by the church. The anointing of an apostle can breakthrough ignorance and darkness that keep people from receiving revelations of the Lord. The preaching and teaching of an apostle has a penetrating power.

It amazes me to realize that Paul did not talk much about visions he had. He had visions but did not major in sharing it. Visions here refers to spiritual opening into the realm of the spirit to see, recognize and communicate with beings – just like John the apostle had on the Island of Patmos. Do you realize that Paul saw Jesus, but that did not become his message? He would rather share the revelation of Jesus rather than the visions of Jesus he had.

Since the Bible has been written, any revelation that will come to us must be rooted in scriptures. Everything God will reveal to you He has revealed in the Scripture. As a revolutionary apostle, God will only reveal some things to you directly – that means such revelation was not gotten through any preacher or teacher in the world. Sure, you know the Bible was written through men, so God takes what was written by someone in the Bible and reveal it to you. An apostle will have things revealed to him directly from God in the Scripture. This doesn’t mean there are no people in the world who do not have such revelation. No! In my life, I have proven that often. God has revealed many things to me in the scriptures that I later discovered that some ministers had received too. It may be as though one listened to

them or they listened to me to have the same revelation. But no! God revealed it to us differently.

One day, I was at my study chamber and God revealed 1 Cor. 14:5 and I discovered that just as every believer can speak with tongues, also, all believers can prophesy. I was enfired with this revelation and began to teach believers to prophesy. I hope you know that 'to prophesy' here refers to speaking forth or inspirational prophecy. This is when a believer opens his mouth to speak words spontaneously. I taught many and they began to prophesy. Then, one day, I heard a man of God teaching on the same subject, just same way I taught it. Then, I wondered, who listened to who? But I realized that it was God who had revealed it to us individually.

Abundance of revelation doesn't mean many things apart from scriptures. All revelation should be from scripture. We need apostles who can see things in scriptures that had been preached in the world. There are some dimensions of healings, gifts of the spirit, miracles that can only come into our world only when some new revelations are shared. One day, the Spirit of God opened my eyes to the dimension of unusual miracles in scripture. I received it, walked in it and taught many. Today, there are people doing unusual miracles today that functioned by the revelation they were taught. I truly long to see mighty apostles that will arise with abundance of revelation!

The simple key to get revelation is to be acquainted with scriptures and listen to the Holy Spirit as he explains everything to you.

On revelation, do you really understand the following subject as a reality?

1. The Triune God – the fullness of the Godhead

2. The Reality of the Resurrection, Ascension and Exaltation of Christ
3. Christ as Our Life
4. The New Creation in Christ Jesus
5. The Dispensation of Grace
6. The Oneness of Christ and the Church
7. The Adoption of Sons
8. The Liberty We Have in Christ
9. The Fruits of the spirit
10. The Gifts of the spirit
11. How to Be Saved

## He Prayed Strategically

**S**trategic prayers are meant to achieve a particular purpose and gain an intended advantage. Many believers don't know how to pray strategically. Often, believers pray spontaneously – this is when you hear them say “I pray as the spirit leads.” This is good but there are times you get into prayers to make a request known so supernatural intervention can be gained and for you to get a desired result.

The revolutionary apostle Paul knew how to pray strategically. I have heard preachers; especially the charismatic declared that believers should only pray in the spirit – in tongues. This is good and scriptural. But I have come to tell you that believers need to pray more than tongues. Paul told the whole church at Corinth “I thank my God that I speak in tongue more than you all” 1 Cor. 14:18. Yet, we see Paul prayed with understanding at some occasion in his private prayer time. Paul did not only pray in tongue, he prayed in understanding also – 1 Cor. 14:15.

There are different kinds of prayers seen in scriptures and I have read and heard preachers talk on kinds of prayers. But let me share these three levels of prayer with you:

1. **All Kinds of Prayer:** All believers do different kinds of prayers. Eph. 6:18 says “praying with ALL PRAYER and supplication in the spirit...” ‘Obviously, you notice Paul didn’t say “praying with prayer and supplication.” He did identify all prayer. What Paul actually meant is that believers should pray with all kinds of prayers and supplication. 1 Timothy 2:1 says “therefore, I exhort first of all that supplications, PRAYERS, intercessions and giving of thanks be made for all men.” You see that prayer is pluralized here. Prayers of faith, prayer of request, prayer of thanksgiving, prayer with tongues are all kinds of prayers.
2. **Effective and Fervent Prayers:** There is a difference between prayers and effective, fervent prayer. It’s possible to pray and not be effective or fervent in the prayers. James 5:16b says “the effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.” The effective and fervent prayers of one man alone can change things. How much more, that of two men! Elijah did not just pray; he prayed effective, fervent prayer. That is a productive and intense prayer. That’s the kind of prayers that provokes sudden change. Such prayer is heartfelt. Your heart burns as you pray this way. Effective, fervent prayers are spirit-stirring, soul-moving and body-shaking. Your whole being feel it and the invisible world knows someone is praying.
3. **Strategic Prayers:** This is always specific and done for people and places with an intention to achieve a particular purpose. In this kind, you mention the names of people or places. Jesus told Simon “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you that your faith should not fail; and when

you have returned to me strengthen your brethren.” Luke 22:31-32. Obviously, Jesus prayed for Peter. I’m sure the way He prayed for Peter was different from how he prayed in John 17. You notice that in John 17, He often said, “Father KEEP THEM.” But Jesus specifically prayed for Peter and was specific with his prayer for him. He said “I have prayed for you that your faith should not fail.” This is a strategic prayer. The purpose Jesus wanted to accomplish with his prayer was so his faith would not fail.

The revolutionary apostle Paul also engaged in strategic prayers while on earth. He told the believers in Rome that “that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers.” Romans 1:9. That means when he prayed, he would say something like, “Father, I pray for the believer in Rome...” Eph. 1:15-21 reveals the prayer of Paul for the believers in Ephesus. He was constantly praying for them till he saw the intended result. In Phil 1:4, he told the believers at Philippi that he was always praying for them every time he prayed. Paul did not only pray for churches, he also prayed for individuals. He told Timothy that “as without ceasing, I remember you in my prayers night and day” 2 Tim 1:3. I remember few years ago, when I started praying for men, I would mention their names and make request to God for them. There was this young man whose name I mentioned in prayers consistently. While praying for him, I did not notice any change. One day, I went to visit him. Immediately he saw me from afar, he ran away. I was heavily frustrated and made up my mind not to pray for him again. After few months, I noticed certain changes and somehow, he got closer to me. Then I kept praying for him again. Today, that young man has imparted many. He is a preacher and evangelist today. While I was on campus, I know



people I prayed for. I will mention their name and tell God my desires for them. Today, I can say God is faithful because I saw the tremendous results of prayers. There were people I prayed for and God did some great things for them on account of the prayers but they didn't know I prayed those things into their lives. Till today, I never make any attempt to tell them that I prayed for them but I discovered that the spirit of God reveals to some of them that I prayed for them. Truth is that we don't need to make any bragging that we pray for people. If it occurs to you to tell them, you can do it. Of course, Paul told people he prayed for them.

Today, I have people that I pray for regularly, I pray for branches of our churches and sons and daughters connected to my apostolic calling just like Timothy was connected to Paul. I learned that Paul was praying for people day and night. This is a strategic prayer. I want to admonish you to ensure you pray for people. Pray for your friends; mention their names and you will see qualitative results. Truth is that genuine apostles function on these three levels of prayers. Scriptures teaches that we should be imitators of good things. Who do you pray for? Whose name do you mention in prayers? You need to embark on strategic prayers. If your parents, siblings, children don't know God, all you need is to engage in strategic prayers. Tell God to touch their hearts and fill them with His love. Ensure you mention their name as you pray, you will see the result.

## He Pioneered and Penetrated

**P**ioneers have the ability to navigate, penetrates and breakthrough ignorance, stagnation, rejection and hindrances that keep men from advancing. The grace and gifts of an apostle is strong at pioneering new movement. It is not all apostles that pioneer churches but a revolutionary apostle will pioneer churches. The reason for this is because such apostle represents change in the way things are done. God always put in a revolutionary apostle both the content and container for change. He is given both the new wine and new wineskin together. The apostolic anointing is for pioneering and penetration. He penetrates into difficult places and spheres. Many preachers have gone into many cities that have not been broken up in the spirit. They try to build and they struggle for years wondering why they can't get a ministry off the ground. Such is not for an apostle. He gets into a city or nation, pioneers and penetrates. He comes into such city with a breakthrough anointing and structure that can take over places.

Jesus said, 'I will build My church' He did not say 'I will pioneer My church.' Jesus is the builder of the body of Christ (universal

church) but will build it through the cardinal gifts – apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers. The apostle is an instrument that God uses to pioneer new works and penetrates countries faster. Most often, you see some pastors and teachers pioneer and penetrate but they are often connected to an apostle. The secret is that if you are not an apostle, you can connect with an apostle.

There is the pioneering spirit and grace on an apostle that makes him to start new things. Pioneering is about the new! To pioneer is to open or prepare for others to follow. Genuine apostles can invade new areas of revelation, ministry or geographies. Such are trailblazer. Paul pioneered many churches and penetrated into cities and countries. In 1 Tim 2:15, he called the church the pillar and ground of truth. The church here refers to local churches or the gathering of people in a place. One church cannot reach everybody. It requires different churches to reach different people. Often, a revolutionary apostle; pioneers a church and later hand such over to a pastor. Paul started the church at Ephesus but later handed it over to Timothy to equip the believers there. He put Titus at Crete so he can set things in order and appoint elders – Titus 1:5. In my personal experience, I have been led of God to pioneer churches that I later handed over to pastors. I have pioneered quite few programs that I later handed over to some people. I have sent people to places to pioneer a work there. Actually, this is exactly the order of Paul. Paul started the church at Philippi in the house of the jailer – Acts 16:33. Paul while at Ephesus started with twelve people but at the end of two years, all those people who dwelt in Asia heard the word of Jesus – both Greeks and Jews (Acts 19:10).

Paul did not only know how to start churches; he knew how to grow churches. He understands that administrative structure

with good leadership is needed for every church to grow. No wonder elders were always appointed in every city he went. An apostle can pioneer works that will overpower the forces of darkness. His ability to start significant work will bring significant progress to the church.

A revolutionary apostle can pioneer churches that can reach different people. All these are not function of his intelligence but of the grace, anointing, wisdom at work in him. One secret I have discovered is that ministers of the gospel that are connected with this apostolic grace will always connect, contact and carry the grace for pioneering. Whatever an apostle pioneers grow in leap.

Being an apostle is not about starting new churches but starting new things. Without pioneers, the church will become stagnant, lacking progression into new areas. Pioneers keep us moving ahead. Others follow the path opened by them and as such are blessed by the courage, vision and strength of the pioneer – this enhances other navigate to new areas because the way is made by pioneers. The revolutionary apostle is a pioneer that preaches new truth, plants new churches, establish new believers, invades new territory with the gospel. Such is always advancing. An apostle can minister as a pastor and teacher in most cases but will flow best as a pioneer.

Many will say we already have enough churches and need to work on the many existing ones. Many resist pioneering new churches. However, many existing churches are resistant to new truth and revelation. Many are traditional and fight change. As such, new wineskin is needed to contain the new wine.

## He Was Highly Influential

**I**nfluence is a power and force. It is the power one has to affect the way people think or behave. A highly influential person has a broad alliance of people he can influence and whose supports he can count on. It is possible to be spiritual and not influential. All Christian are spiritual but not all are influential.

Those who are influential deal with people but highly influential phenomena deal with cities, countries and continents. Highly influential people always reach out to multitude. They know that the easiest way to reach out to multitude is to have influence over those influences.

Paul was highly influential that only him reached an entire city with the gospel and affected the market of the silversmith. Demetrius said ‘moreover you see and hear that not only at Ephesus but throughout all Asia this Paul has persuaded and turned away many people, saying that they are not gods which are made with hands’ - Acts 19:26. You noticed that Paul was said to have persuaded many but more than persuasion, he turned away many. This is influence. Paul through his preaching

was able to influence many to stop worshipping their gods and turned to the living God. Do you know that Asia is a continent today? In other word, it could be said that in the days of Paul, he was able to influence and entire continent of Asia. What a great insight! We need revolutionaries like Paul who will influence continents and the global world. We really need highly influential ministers of the gospel who will be ready to affect the thinking and manners of the people with the gospel. In Acts 17:16–34, we see how Paul preached to men of Athens. The people were religious and were serving the unknown God, yet, Paul saw that as an opportunity to reach out to them. Amazingly, verse 32 reveals that some who heard him mocked him while some others desire to hear him again. How was he able to affect the thinking of the people to the extent where they desire to hear him again? Verse 34 reveals that some of those who heard him speak believed and joined him. This is influence. The Bible says they believed and joined him – they don't only believe, they also joined him. Acts 24:25 informs how Paul shared the gospel with Governor Felix and suddenly fear came upon him. Felix had to send him away because he was already afraid having heard all that Paul shared. This is influence. We need revolutionaries that will share the word with political leaders and the fear of God will suddenly come to their heart. In Acts 26:1–32, we see how Paul spoke before governor Festus, King Agrippa and Bernice the king's wife. Paul was told to express himself, but instead used the opportunity to influence the people. In verse 28, King Agrippa said to Paul, 'you are almost me to become a Christian.' This is influence. Paul knew how to maximize the opportunity. Ask yourself, if I have the opportunity to meet with the king or executive leader of my city or state, will I be able to influence them? Truth is that revolutionary apostles are great influences.

They can persuade anyone to be what they desire. Paul was not only seeking to influence ordinary men but the leaders and power brokers of his day. You will influence people if they can believe what you believe and teach them what you know.

## He Developed and Multiplied Leaders

**A**postles have the grace for leadership development and multiplication. A true apostle is a father to fathers and leader to leaders. Just like Jesus raised twelve apostles that later continued the work of ministry after He finally left this earth, so also Paul developed leaders who could continue the works he started. In Acts 14:23 we see that apostles ordain and set elders in place to govern local churches. An apostle imparts leadership – he does this by imparting wisdom, gifting and teaching into leaders chosen by the Lord to equip them for leadership position. They train and instruct potential leaders and release them at proper timing. Apostles have the grace to raise strong leadership for local churches. Leaders who are raised by an apostle will receive strength and gifting they need to become strong leaders in the house of God. Paul had equipped Titus, then, he left Titus in Crete that he could set things in order and appoint elders in every city (Titus 1:5). In other words, Paul had developed Titus and now commanded Titus to appoint other leaders – this way; Paul was trying to multiply leadership.

Too many leaders know how to develop leaders but only few



know how to multiply them. The easiest way to multiply leaders is to first develop leaders from different places – invest yourself in them and subsequently later, command those people to go and develop and appoint other leaders. Often, pastors want to develop all their people themselves but not an apostle. An apostle is skilled at developing people that will develop others.

The book of Timothy and Titus reflect the teaching of a leader to leaders. Paul wrote to Timothy many instructions – what to do and what to avoid. He taught Timothy how to relate with people according to their age, position and knowledge. He taught Timothy how to address older men and women, how he must attend widows. Beyond that he told Timothy: what to teach the people, what to command the rich, not to receive an accusation against an elder, the qualities to watch out for in bishops and deacons, to do the work of an evangelist, to be an example to believers, to stir up gifts of God in him. As at the time Paul wrote to Timothy, he was still a youth, that's why Paul told instructed him 'let no one despise your youth.' Paul our revolutionary apostle knew how to equip youth to become quality leaders. But Timothy wasn't raised a leader over followers but a leader over leaders. Someone who could lead people of different age, levels.

It took time before I realize I was already doing what Paul did. I had raised young men and delegated duties to them. Poured wisdom into them so much and some among them emerged to be pastors of churches. My life is a proof that young men can lead effectively. When I was twenty years, I was made the assistant pastor of a church – leading elderly congregation. The impact in that church was massive and great. I have discovered that God does not consider your age before he uses a man.

Are you developing leaders? Are you multiplying leaders? It's

time you joined the train of the revolutionaries.

## He Trained Ministers

**P**aul the apostle met Aquila and Priscilla and also stayed with them. He invested so much in them that the couple later became vessels God used to show Apollos the way. In Romans 16:3, Paul called them his fellow worker. Paul was skilled at taking believers to the level of ministers. Actually, the purpose of Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers is to equip (train) the saints (believers) for the work of ministry (Eph. 4:11-12). The saints are to do ministry and Scripture reveals we are to train them. The church is in reality a training ground – to train the saints for the work of ministry. Truth is that every believer should grow to the level of a minister. The way God designed it is for believers to shine as light in the world of darkness.

Many things are involved in training ministers – you teach them the word, teach them to pray, you impart them, you command them to minister and what to minister on. Sometimes, you push them into fasting to build their capacity. All these are fabrics put together to make a minister.

Unfortunately, theological schools have been given the task

to raise and train ministers. This is not wrong! But over the years, we have seen this as an ineffective method to train people. The heads of seminary students are often filled with methods that are inapplicable today. Seminaries teach students to pray but failed to pray with them. The easiest way to train people for prayer is to pray with them. The book of Timothy and Titus are filled with trainings of a minister. I wonder often that since Paul was not trained a great minister of the gospel by any man, how was he able to get the reality.

Today, I know that Paul was trained by the lord. Paul was a ministers' coach. Just like Jesus, he coached the twelve disciples to be great ministers. Do you know that Judas Iscariot was part of those who went out to preach the gospel and performed many miracles? Jesus was in the sending business. He trained the people and sent them to go and minister.

One time, the Lord used me to get a thug saved and after few months the person grew to become a minister. One day, the person was called that his relative was sick in their village. He told the family not to take the person to the hospital that she would be healed. This man got into prayers from 11pm to 3am praying for the person's healing. Miraculously, before 5am, the person was healed. I have seen ordinary people that are trained for ministry that worked in healings and miracles. They didn't go into ministry full time because they have their work. Yet, they did great exploit in their life.

Paul told Timothy, "If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus" 1 Timothy 4:6.

## He Imparted Gifts

**I**n the 21st century, an aspect that has been taken for granted in the body of Christ is spiritual impartation. Spiritual impartation is in levels. Impartation is a medium through which what someone has can be given to another.

Grace can be imparted! That's why Paul said "Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearer." Eph. 4:29. You don't impart grace through the laying on of hands but through the message you share.

On the other hands, gift can be imparted. Impartation of gift is a method of equipping people for the work of ministry. Some gifts you are praying can come through impartation. God will never give you through prayers what should come through impartation. Apostles and prophets function more in this aspect. In the charismatic move, it's believed that anyone who could flow with the gifts of the spirit could impart. But we are seeing today that some manifestations are not impartation but just angelic operation.

Paul told the Romans "for I long to see you, that I may impart

to you some spiritual gifts so you can be established” Romans 1:11.

Three truths we see from this verse are:

1. **Impartation is real:** You realize that it was Paul that said I want to impart you. Do you see that he didn't say God led me or inspired me? No! He said, “I want to impart you.” The reason is because any gift God has given you, you are in charge of it, not God again. It is only the spiritual gifts in 1 Cor. 12 that is given as the spirit wills. Truth is that any servant of God who has a particular gift can be led to impart it and can decide to do it himself.
2. **Paul stated what he wanted to impart:** I have seen occasion where people were imparted but the recipient didn't know what they received. Don't just lay hand upon people without telling the recipient what will be imparted. Paul said I want to impart spiritual gifts to you. Ensure you always state what is imparted.
3. **So you may be established:** He clearly stated the purpose of imparting. You realize Paul imparted Timothy (1Tim 4:14; 2Tim 1:8). It is obviously stated that Paul imparted gifts to Timothy through prophecy and laying on of hands. Later, Paul told Timothy to stir up the gift that was imparted to him. The person who imparted gifts will not help the recipient stir it up. It is your duty to do so.

Few years ago, I traveled to visit my parents and siblings. I got up to impart my younger brother and to release him into the prophetic dimensions. I did that for him at midnight and a word of prophecy was released upon him that just as Agabus was head among the prophets, so he would be head and raise

many prophets. Today, he leads a school of prophets where people are given prophetic education. Truth is that the prophetic dimension came into him through impartation. An apostle will be able to birth dimensions in people.

## He Was All-Round in the Ministry of Gifts

**P**aul functioned as an apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor and teacher. He pioneered churches. As a prophet, he gives some prophecies such as he gave Timothy when he laid hands on him. He evangelized the gospel everywhere. He pastured people and also taught. Paul had scriptural revelations as well as visions. He saw the Lord and also saw angels. When he taught people at the school of Tyrannus, he functioned as a teacher for two years. In 1 Tim 2:7, he said “For which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle. I am speaking the truth and not lying. A teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth!”

Just like Jesus functioned all round while physically present on earth, the revolutionary apostle will be able to function all round in all ministry gift. He can pastor the people; teach them, function as a prophet, etc. In the book of the gospel according to John, the writer functioned as disciple and apostle of Jesus. But when he wrote the three epistles of John, he functioned as an apostle and teacher. While on the Island of Patmos, when he wrote the book of Revelation, he was functioning not as a



teacher but as an apostle and prophet. His prophetic capacity was clear that he saw angelic beings distinctively.

Personally, I have gone to cities where I knew nobody and pioneered the work of Christ there. At other instances I went to places where I just functioned as an evangelist. Most times, when I minister in churches, it's either I functioned as a prophet or a teacher and at other times, I functioned as both a prophet and teacher. When I function as a prophet, the gift of the word of knowledge and visions are strong upon me. As a teacher, I teach doctrinally and inspirationally. When I teach inspirationally, I bring out principles that must be put to work to get desired results.

I have seen apostles who criticized some prophets for seeing visions regularly. To an extent, they made point because scriptures should be the basis for all ministry gifts but in a situation when the apostle doesn't use his gift, I think such should be quiet. If you are truly an apostle, those spiritual gifts should function in your life easily.

As an apostle, you are often concerned about the spirituality of the people. That's why the ministry of apostles is often directed towards the spirit of man.

## He Was an Authority Figure

**A**ll believers are equal in Christ as to salvation but there are different ranks in the spirit. Therefore, we are not equal in rank in the spirit.

Rank means a degree in position of dignity, eminence or excellence. Different ranks carry different degrees of authority and power. A clear illustration of ranks is the military. In the scripture, you will see the term “armies of God”. There is rank in the army of God. Do you realize that there is rank in the Godhead? There is rank among angels. There is even rank among evil spirit. In the spirit realm, authority and power are based on rank. We must discern different rankings in the Spirit.

Apostles are authority figure in the Spirit. Their authority is not just based on their grace but their rank. Just as arch angels are different in the spirit so also apostles with rank are different. An apostle is an authority figure that has enough rank in the spirit to command, decree and rebuke with authority. The ranks of authority figures determine their jurisdiction of authority in the spirit. Physically, an apostle has ranks in the areas God has assigned to him.

Every revolutionary apostle is an authority figure. The first sign of their authority is their fatherhood capacity. A revolutionary apostle is a father to many. Paul told the Corinthians “for though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you don’t have many fathers” 1 Cor. 4:15. Imagine, Paul referring to all the believers at Corinth as his children. That is a huge authority figure. This Paul called Timothy and Titus his co-workers and co-laborers in some places and calls them his sons in other verses in scripture.

1 Cor. 5:1 say “It is actually reported that ...” that means the church was reported to Paul so he could call them to order. This shows that Paul’s authority is acknowledged. In 1 Cor. 7:1, he said, “now concerning the things which you wrote to me...” In other words, they wrote to Paul to ask him questions. Do you know it takes extra trust for people to question you or seek your counsel? When authority figures appear, everywhere changes and everyone adjust. Authority figures are sought after personality.

Actually, the authority of an apostle is given to him by the Lord. Genuine apostles don’t manipulate the people for authority. No! 2 Cor. 13:10 says “Therefore, I write these things being absent, lest being present I should use sharpness according to the authority which the Lord has given me for edification and not for destruction.” In other words, the authority of an apostle is divinely granted by the Lord. This is what makes the apostle a spiritual authority. His authority is for edification of people accountable to him. He doesn’t lord it over them but positioned strategically as an authority figure to edify the people. This way, many ministers acknowledge his authority. Many churches will be under his apostolic cover.

The authority given him engraced him to give order to

churches. Our God is a God of order. Anywhere we see order, an effective leadership and structure is in place. 1 Cor. 16:1 says “Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatians, so you must do also.” You see Paul gave order to the churches (not one church) of Galatia and directing the same order to the Corinthians. Anyone or any church that rebel against the order has only rebelled against the spiritual authority God put in place.

When a spiritual authority instructs you, ensure you obey for such is for your edification not destruction. I have proven such in my life. I can tell individuals who I instructed to do somethings but failed to do it. The eventual consequences of their disobedience were bad. And I can identify those I instructed and obeyed.

## He Was an Avid Reader

**A**cts 26:24 says “Now as he thus made his defense, Festus said with a loud voice, ‘Paul, you are beside yourself, much learning is driving you mad!’” I wonder how governor Festus knew Paul learned a lot. Learning comes through reading. A revolutionary apostle is an avid reader. He doesn’t associate with ignorance. Such is extremely versatile even in their reading. He knows about governance, science, law, philosophy and religion – above all, such keep learning the Christian life.

Imagine, Paul preached at Athens, He didn’t quote Scriptures, he only quoted a line of poem and he eventually used the poem to preach to the people. Yes, the Athenians didn’t know the Bible but they know their poet’s poem. So, he used what they knew to preach to them. I wonder at preachers and teachers who only say that all we must use to preach should be from the Bible. I believe so, but I also believe that God can permit us to use other stories and illustrations not found in scriptures to preach. In Acts 17:28, Paul said “... as some of your own poets have said, ‘for we are His offspring.’” So Paul recited what the people knew

to preach to them. If Paul was not an avid reader, how could he read poem? It is good we read the Bible, but we can also read some other materials. You notice Paul said “poets” not “poet”. In other words, he read the poems of many poets. May I ask you, what are you reading?

Paul specifically instructed Timothy: “Bring the cloak that I left with carpus at Troas when you come – books, especially the parchments.” 2 Tim 4:13. You see Paul saying books. Obviously, these were Paul’s book and he planned to read them again. There are those who only read the Bible, but Paul our prototype apostle requested for books to be brought. If Paul read books, who are you not to read? I am sure Paul was a versatile reader. His insight into various fields is superb. Ultimately, we can see his display of knowledge in his epistolary writings. You cannot read a lot and not be read about. I remember a year I read over a thousand books. I read on business, politics, war, nations, science, psychology, physiology, etc. I was also reading the Bible. I read till I came to know many things about different fields.

Today, I am grateful to God that he took me through the process of becoming a revolutionary apostle. I cannot over emphasize the acts and mastery of reading. It will help and make you. In our world today, you can always watch videos online but I have discovered that reading has a way of stirring our imagination. Many people will say “Apostle Niyi is a great reader” but the truth is that it takes much discipline to do so.

## He Was Sincere

**H**ave you ever listened to spiritual experts? I call them experts because they always know the answer to everything. Sincerely, you cannot know everything. The best for you is to always admit that you don't know when you don't truly know.

A revolutionary apostle is sincere. He doesn't claim 'God says' when God doesn't say. He doesn't give answers to issues when he's not sure. In 1 Cor. 7:12, Paul said 'But to the rest I, not the Lord say...' I looked at this statement and graciously acknowledge the sincerity of Paul. I guess, if it were to be seen today, they would say the Lord 'says'. I laughed at the 'the Lord says' people. To them, every time the lord is always talking to them.

As a revolutionary apostle, I have discovered that God sometimes want us to use our discretion. He wants us to judge things based on our knowledge. In such case, will you be sincere enough to say, it is not God's saying but my saying. The world will value us more if we let them know that we as believers also use our mind and discretion. I have proven that the way many see men

of God is different. Many God's servants are perceived as God who doesn't eat, drink, who has to hear from God before he eats. I love the gospel books for it show us the humanity of Jesus – Jesus ate, slept, cried, trekked, etc.

2 Cor. 11:22-27 reveals all Paul went through. He freely shared it. Do you know that if some people are aware of the challenges of God's apostles, hope would be restored to them? Most often, it is the man of God on pulpit that they know, they don't know the personal challenges of the man. You need to be sincere enough to share with them what you've gone through and how the Lord delivered you. Don't say God says when He did not say.

Romans 15:18 says “for I will dare not speak of any of those things which Christ has not accomplished through me, in words and deed, to make their Gentiles obedient.” Unlike many preachers who always tell what God has never done through them, just to hype themselves, Paul would never hype himself!



## He Was a Giver and Taught Others to Give

**A** man once said, “Don’t live beyond your limit, give beyond your limit.” Revolutionary apostles are givers. Just like the giving grace on the churches of Macedonia, the giving grace is strong on the apostle. Gal 2:10 says “they desired only that we should remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.” You see Paul saying he was eager to give to the poor. If you call yourself an apostle and you are not eager to give, you are a liar. Giving is part of your calling. Paul influenced the church to give to the saints. There are many things to give – the apostle give wisdom, hope, time, energy, honor, knowledge, materials, money, etc.

A revolutionary apostle doesn’t only give, he encouraged others to give. Paul told Timothy to command the rich he was pasturing. He said ‘let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share.” 1 Tim 6:18. In other words, an apostle has the grace to make people rich in good works. Our God is a giver and gives to us liberally all things to enjoy. 1 Tim 6:17. It is the nature of God and attribute of an

apostle to give. Paul further gave the right mentality to giving. He told the Corinthians, 'let each one gives as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver' 2 Cor. 9:7. In other words, Paul taught that giving should not be done by force but according to the plans of the heart of each. God wants you to give but will not force you to give. Paul later told the elders of Ephesus the teaching of Jesus that "it is more blessed to give than to receive" Acts 20:35.

In Eph. 4:28, Paul gave a perspective to our working. He instructed that 'those who steal should steal no longer but rather labour, working with his hands what is good THAT HE MAY HAVE SOMETHING TO GIVE TO HIM WHO HAS NEED.' In other words, one of many reasons a Christian should work is to have something to give the needy. What a revelation! This shows we are not working to meet our needs alone but also to meet the needs of others. How believers need to understand that God wants them to be channel of blessings to others. All believers have been blessed with every spiritual blessing, but not all believers are blessing to others. It takes application of this revelation to be a blessing to others.

## He Had Friends in the Political and Social Circles

**T**here is something unique about Jesus – He related with the notable leaders of his days on earth. He could have related with the religious leaders but they didn't believe in Him. Jesus understood that to effectively influence the systems of a society, one needs to relate with the leaders there. No wonder, Jesus related with tax collectors and great influences in the world.

There is a relationship weakness I have discovered in the body of Christ. We relate with people who are like us alone. Church leaders only relate with church leaders of other denomination. Eventually, this led to the limited influence of the church. We need to go beyond our circles to begin to influence other circles. In other words, we need to have friends in the political and social circle.

The revolutionary apostle understands how to position and reposition himself across various circles. He knows the key to having influence and penetrate to different circles is to have friends there. Men are keys. Any circle, sector or society you

want to influence, you just need a key that will open the door to you. One friend will grant you access to the circle.

While Paul was in Asia, a protest was stirred against him. The Bible reveals that he wanted to go meet the people but some of his friends who were officials of Asia pleaded with him not to venture into the theatre – Acts 29:31. As I read this verse, I thought how was Paul able connect with officials that later became his friends. Asia officials here were governmental officers who were in charge of governmental rule and administration of his day. The Bible called some officials of Asia Paul's friends. Have you heard preachers who talked against relating with political leaders? They will say those politicians are wicked and evil people and as such a minister of God should not be a friend to them. But we know that's contradictory to Paul's lifestyle. He freely related with individuals in the political and social circle. If you don't relate with them, how will you influence them?

Paul told the Corinthian church that he did not write to them not to relate with sexually immoral people of this world since they would need to go out of this world to do that (1 Cor. 5:9-10). Obviously, this revolutionary knew that you can't be in this world and not relate with people in the world. To do that, you will need to go to Pluto or Mars. Believers need to act more intelligently and handle relationship properly. The fact that someone is an unbeliever doesn't mean you can't relate with the person. It's time we grow our relationship skills. We need to build relationship with those in different circles.

## He Wrote a Lot

**H**as it occurred to you that Jesus did not write a book while on earth physically? John wrote that there were many things that Jesus did which if they were written one after the other, he supposed that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written (John 21:25). In other words, Jesus was a great doer who did many things but gathered effective writers like Matthew, John, etc who were witnesses and could put into writing all He did. I have heard people say “Jesus was not skilled in the act of writing”. This is incorrect because John recorded that He stooped down to write with his finger on the ground (John 8:6). Jesus rather had record keepers who could write all He said and did. If you are not skilled at writing, you can surround yourself with quality writers who will either write for you or about you. Here is the principle Peter understood that made him get John Mark to write for him.

Paul as an erudite scholar was skilled in the acts of writing. Two third of the New Testament books have been ascribed to his authorship. He wrote epistles – some of which are not seen today. His epistles to the churches and individuals are epic. It

amazes me to discover how Paul was able to write on different subject. He addressed matters proficiently and professionally. His epistles reflected his understanding of the mystery of Christ. The content of his writings are versatile in scope. It can be summarized that he wrote too much just as he knows too much. Peter the apostle recognizes Paul's writings when he wrote "... as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him has written to you..." 2 Peter 3:15. Evidently, Paul wrote according to the wisdom given to him. The uniqueness of Paul's writing is that it is communicated in a grand style mode. The techniques of his writings are superb. He was clear in identifying things that came from his mind and what he received from God. The use of imagery, metaphor, repetition is frequent in his writings. How we need revolutionaries like Paul today whose writing will birth some revelation within us. He told the Ephesians that "how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, by which when you READ, you may UNDERSTAND my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)" Eph. 3:3-4. You see Paul confidently declared if you read my book, you will understand. What an audacity! I have read books that are vague and blurred. The communication techniques were very shallow.

It was from Paul I learned that when I write on spiritual matters, readers should be able to understand whatever I write. Enough of writers saying people cannot understand because what they wrote was very deep! Sorry! What Paul wrote too was very deep but clear to the reader. A writer should always write in a way that readers will understand. Paul clearly display that communication really matter as the revelation. We must not just focus on what we say, how we say it really matter too.

As a revolutionary apostle, I began to imitate Paul. I began to

write on different subject and topics just as Paul wrote to different churches and people. I also began writing books targeted towards different people – founders, leaders, entrepreneurs, pastors, ministers, scholars, couples, graduates, etc. God will use all kinds of writing to reach all kinds of people.

Paul only dictated the book of Romans; it was Tertius who penned it down – Romans 16:22. Revolutionary apostles know that they are too busy with many things and they need others to assist them. So, they can delegate certain writings for people to write on. Paul passed through lots of trials but amidst it all, he was still writing to the churches. In other words, regardless of what a revolutionary is passing through, he will still be writing things that must bless lives of people.

## He Valued and Appreciated People

**G**od values people! God rewards people! The way God appreciates people is to reward them. Everything God will give you will come through people. Great men are known to value and appreciate people. The way you demonstrate greatness is through the way you value ordinary people. I learned early through Paul that when God begins to use us, we must be careful not to look down on people.

In Romans 16:1-24 we see a display of the heart that values and appreciates people. He wrote about Epaphroditus to the Philippians to relieve him in the Lord and hold such men in high esteem (Phil 2:29). Practically, he was teaching the Philippians to value Epaphroditus and other people who are like in him. One of the ways Paul often inspires the believers to value and appreciate some dignity was to tell them what such people have done. He told the Colossians about Epaphras who was always laboring fervently for them in prayers (Col 4:12). This act will definitely inspire the Colossians to value and appreciate Epaphras. Having learned this, I began to show the acts and actions of people to others. I will mention plainly to others what



such people have done in privacy. As I do this, I discover that such makes them to value and appreciate secret labor and effort of people. This is not just a motivational technique but a system of creating value for them.

You can always appreciate people by mentioning their names to the public and what they have done. Paul wrote “and Jesus who is called Justus. These are my only fellow workers of the kingdom of God who are of the circumcision; they have proved to be a comfort to me” Colossians 4:11. As an apostle, God will often use people for you, he uses people to comfort and take care of you. Such persons should be appreciated. It is not wrong if we celebrate the people God has used for us.

I know apostles are authority figure but we must be careful not to look down on people. Always value people because God values them!

## He Taught How to Deal with Forces of Darkness

**F**orces of darkness are real. In our world today, many believers still run up and down seeking help from deliverance ministers. It's sad that many believers still fear forces and power of darkness. Paul dealt with forces and powers in his lifetime but proceeded to teach believers how to deal with such. He told Timothy that "for God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." 2 Timothy 1:7. This understanding imparts that any fear that is different from the fear of God is not of God. He taught the Ephesians to be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might (Eph. 6:10). He further wrote, "for we do not wrestle with flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual host of wickedness in the heavenly places (Ephesians 6:12). The book of Eph. 6:10-12 was written by Paul to teach strategies for warfare. He wrote that we do not wrestle, engage in fight with flesh and blood – men. To Paul, humans are not our principal enemy. He believes we wrestle but we are fighting from victory.

He clearly identified classes or forces we are fighting, which are – principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this age, spiritual host of wickedness in the heavenly places.

An apostle should not be a prayer contractor but a prayer coach that can train believers in the acts and mastery of spiritual warfare. There is a consistent pattern in the past five decades that makes believers to depend on their pastors to deal with forces affecting their lives. But today, God is raising revolutionaries that will equip believers on the art and mastery of spiritual warfare.

Actually, dealing with spiritual warfare is not just about prayers but exercising authority. There is an authority we have in the name of Jesus to address forces and powers. Paul told the Philippians that “at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth and of those under the earth” (Phil 2:10). All believers need to know they can exercise authority in the name of Jesus. Just as powerful the name of Jesus was on the lips of Paul, so it is on the lips of all believers.

## He Understood And Taught Balanced Doctrine

**W**e need to distinguish between the word and doctrine (1 Tim 5:17). The Greek for word is either Logos or Rhema. But the Greek for doctrine is Didaskalia which simply means the act of teaching or what is taught. In the New Testament books, you will find words like: apostle's doctrine, doctrine of Christ, doctrines of demons, doctrine of men, etc. An aspect that must not be taken for granted in the church is doctrine. Doctrine refers to teachings. Doctrine is not just revelation but truth. When the church leaves doctrine, the result is apostasy.

Apostle Paul told Timothy to give attention to reading, exhortation and doctrine (1 Tim 4:13). He later told Timothy to take heed to himself and the doctrine. Timothy was further admonished to continue in them for in so doing, he will save both himself and those who hear him. This means for a minister to save himself and those who hear him, he must be grounded in doctrine. The apostle reveals that scriptures are profitable for doctrine (2 Tim 4:17). All the doctrine (teachings) that will

profit us is from scriptures. How we need teachings today. Truth is that an apostle is grounded in doctrine. Imagine how Paul commended Timothy that he carefully followed his doctrine (2 Tim 3:10). Just like Timothy followed the teachings of Paul, also, followers and believers, sons and daughters of an apostle should carefully follow the doctrine as taught.

Often, other ministry gifts – prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers benefit more from the doctrine (teaching) of an apostle. Technically, the two ministry gifts that advance and work more on doctrine are apostles and teachers. The difference between an apostle and teacher in the matter of doctrine is that teachers often learn or receive doctrine through other men. The apostle on the other hand understands doctrine as taught or revealed to him by God. That doesn't mean an apostle cannot learn doctrines from men. The doctrine he receives is not some spectacular thing but a revelation granted him from scriptures.

Apostles have the grace to communicate doctrine in a way that pulls down erroneous doctrines. Scripture talks about doctrines (teachings) of demons. We are also familiar with doctrines of men. The apostle's voice and teaching will silent false teachings as propagated by demons and men. How we need the doctrine of apostles today. Many Christians have been affected spiritually, emotionally, financially due to wrong teachings. Many teachings have ascribed problems to demons when such was really an emotional or mental matter. In my years of ministry, I have seen that when the right doctrine is communicated, the believers are empowered and energized. Sometimes, what we impart through laying on of hands will only come through doctrine. Can I say that we may not need a new doctrine today, but we just need the revelation and expression of teachings already found in the Bible?

Many people have wondered what apostles' doctrine are. What the Bible calls apostles' doctrine is simply the doctrine of Christ! The apostles only taught what Christ taught them. Paul later came to teach what Christ has revealed to him. Whether it is taught directly by Christ or revealed through revelation, one thing remains constant. It is Christ's! All the doctrine of Christ we need to know is already revealed in scripture. We only need apostles and teachers who have the revelation of those teachings to communicate it to us.

## He Taught and Emphasized on Character

**A**t salvation, when you believe and confessed Jesus, it was your spirit that was saved – neither your body nor soul. This is the reason your thinking will not have an immediate change the moment you are saved.

An aspect an apostle will not joke with is character. Sadly, we have too much character default in the body of Christ. I understand that change of character will not make you a Christian, but if you are a Christian, your character should change. I have seen unbelievers with good character and believers with bad ones. Change of character is not a proof of salvation. Grace is not a license to sin but the power to live above sin.

Paul told the Philippians that “only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ...” Phil 1:27. Isn’t it astonishing that the conduct of many is not worthy of the gospel of Christ? The weak point in some preaching and teaching on character is that they emphasize that believers has to pray to God to deliver them after God has already delivered them but just need to make decisions

over certain acts and learn to exercise dominion over negative conducts. The book of Colossians 3 and Ephesians 4 and 5 are content that addressed Christian conduct.

The New Testament perspective on character reveals that whatever you don't want to do, you've got to stop it yourself. There is no place a believer is told to pray for good character in the New Testament writing. God has put eternal life in you and as such you have the power to stop those acts.

Paul told thieves that "Let him who stole pray to God to stop stealing. No! All God needs to do He has already done. It is your duty to stop those acts. Even when your conduct is influenced demonically, it is still your duty to get the demons out not God. You don't call God to help you stop the influence of demons in your life; you simply command it to move out in the name of Jesus. Through teachings and patience of ministry gifts, believers are transformed into what they need to be.



## He Was Full of Wisdom

**Y**ou notice Peter identify that wisdom was given to Paul. He wrote that "... according to the wisdom given to him..." 2 Peter 3:15. Every genuine apostle of Christ will always have wisdom. Peter reveals that all Paul wrote were according to the wisdom God gave him. Apostles don't function by human knowledge, they have the capacity to write and say things they never heard from any man.

Wisdom is the application of knowledge. It is also the ability to recognize difference. Wisdom leads to execution of action. It empowers the apostle to extract applied principles from scriptures to matter. Wisdom brings accurate judgment, order, structures, etc. Apostles have the wisdom to judge correctly and bring order to the church. When difficult situations arise in the church concerning individuals, doctrines, etc, we definitely need the wisdom of an apostle.

Paul called himself a wise master builder (1 Cor. 3:10). A revolutionary apostle like Paul can boldly call himself wise. It is not boasting but acknowledgment of grace upon him. The apostle through supernatural wisdom can know when a house

is constructed correctly or incorrectly. He has so much wisdom to build.

Paul left Titus at Crete to set things in order (Titus 1:5). To set things in order requires wisdom. Paul told the Corinthians to let everything be done with order and decency (1 Cor. 14:40). To set in order can mean correcting, rebuking and removing people from certain positions. It also includes making adjustment in leadership, doctrine, vision or spiritual priorities. All these require wisdom. When things are out of order, apostles preach and teach to confront and correct such.

## He Fasted Often

**T**he purpose of fasting is not to get God to do something but to get align us to what God has done. Fasting will eventually make you to do something. Fasting is not abstinence from food and water but from food alone. It has been proven that you can drink water when you are fasting. When Jesus was physically present on earth, he fasted for forty days.

A revolutionary apostle will cultivate the act and mastery of fasting. Scripture reveals about some five people who were identified to be prophets and teachers. The Bible says “as they ministered to the Lord and FASTED, the Holy Spirit said...” Acts 13:2. Obviously, we see that Paul was among the prophets and teachers and it was during this period that the Holy Spirit directed that they should be separated for the work to which He had called them. How we need men like Paul who will always engage in fasting.

In our contemporary world today, the emphasis and training on fasting is no longer there. Many have condemned fasting and tagged it a religious acts that has no spiritual benefit again to the new creation in Christ Jesus. Many preachers have said,

that there is nowhere in the Bible that the new creation in Christ Jesus is instructed to fast. That's very true! I wish those blocks of preachers and teachers can also tell believers that there is nowhere in the scriptures where believers are instructed not to fast. Fasting is a spiritual activity that was done by esteemed patriarchs and prophets in the scriptures. Moses, Joshua, Samuel, Elijah, Daniel, John the Baptist and his disciples, Jesus, Paul, etc. all fasted. Fasting is not part of the old covenant that's done away with. It is an activity that should be continued and done by believers.

Beyond the fact that Paul fasted, he emphatically wrote in 2 Cor. 11:27 that he FASTED OFTEN. Sure, there is a clear difference between hunger and fasting. Paul stated in that verse that there were times he was hungry and thirsty but he fasted often. Hunger is you want to eat but there's no food. Fasting on the other hand is that you have the food to eat but you chose not to eat. How we need believers who will take fasting seriously. Much better, it will be good if we have apostles who can train others to fast often. One of the ways to get the heart of the people in tune with God consistently is through fasting. A church that fast and prays often will always grow in power.

Paul wrote that husband and wife should give themselves to fasting and prayers (1 Cor. 7:5). In other words, the apostle believes couple should give themselves to fasting. Someone may say, he was only referring to either the husband or wife. But I want you to know that such was not stated. The husband or wife and fast individually and can do it together. A true Christian home should have a time they fast together.

As a revolutionary apostle, I have experienced on many occasions the stirring of the Spirit to fast. I remember a time I was led to fast for twenty one days which I did. On the day I finished

the fast, I engage in a discussion with my friend, suddenly I uttered a statement. On that spot, the Spirit of God asked me, why did you say this now? I couldn't answer, then, He instructed that I should start another twenty one days fast two days after which I did. I realized that if I didn't make the statement, the spirit of God wouldn't have prompted me to do the fasting the second time. After I finished the fast the second time, I suddenly noticed I had gained dominion over my mouth.

At another occasion, I was instructed to go on forty days fast which I did cheerfully, the aftermath of that was that I broke through into miracles and healing. Now, for those days, I wasn't doing dry fasting like. I mean, I was always eating in the evening to break my fast. I want believers to be very careful in this matter. I have heard some people who tried to fast for forty days without taking water and food, eventually, they died. Don't die of ignorance! I fast a lot but I ensure I break the fast and drink water every day. Now, you may think I haven't done dry fasting before - I have done it. On two occasions I have been without eating food for three days. I wasn't hungry, but fasting. On those two occasions, I was instructed by the Holy Spirit not to eat for three days which I did. I have also been without food for two days on many occasions and I have also been without food through a day on many occasions.

The powers of fasting cannot be underestimated. The most effective aspect of fasting is realized when we are led by the Spirit. Now, there are times I fast not because I was led but because I wanted to create some time of intimacy with the Lord. I pray that you understand! Fasting makes you get out of the consciousness of your environment to be focused on the revelation of the Spirit as revealed to you. Your sensitivity becomes high when you get into fasting and prayers. Moments

of fasting are not times we just do hunger strike. When you fast, you must be occupied with reading a Bible or book, watching videos of ministrations, listen to an audio message, praying and listening to the voice of the Spirit, meditating on God's word or visions of your heart, etc. Moment of fasting should be seasons of breakthrough. The breakthrough is not first on earth but in your heart. If you can breakthrough in your heart, you will on earth. It is not the fasting that will bring the internal breakthrough but will cause your mind to be focused on the thoughts within you and not be distracted with other things.

Truth is that all apostles fast often... It is part of their spiritual make ups. As a revolutionary apostle, I fast often!

## He Functioned in Visions

**V**ision here doesn't mean mental visualization but an opening into the supernatural world to see events, beings and things. This is what we can open vision. It is a divine ability to see with the eyes of your brain visually events taking place in the supernatural world. For example, when Stephen saw the heavens opens, it was a vision that was granted him.

A revolutionary apostle sees in to the realm of the Spirit to visualize beings by the Spirit of God. Such will not try to do anything physical or carnally to accomplish this but only opens his spiritual eyes to visualize what the Spirit is showing. I am not trying to hype an apostle... I know other believer can see vision too but the Lord often communicate to him through visions.

Vision is not a gift but just a channel of communication. There is nothing like the gift of vision but God can choose to reveal things to a man through visions. When I look at Paul, I discover that after God encountered him on his way do Damascus, he was showed a vision of how a man came to him and pray for him to receive his sight. Obviously, Paul started functioning in

visions before he was even baptized in the Holy Spirit. Having supernatural vision to many people is a big thing but to apostles and prophets (seers) it is just a normal thing. He doesn't try to talk in a way that will make people to worship him or exalt him beyond measure. In fact, a true apostle will not be willing to share what he sees through visions regularly but will only be willing to share the scripture. To a genuine apostle, the word of God is what we need to share not vision.

Acts 23:11 says "But the following night, the Lord stood by him and said, 'be of good cheer, Paul; for as you have testified of Me in Jerusalem, so you must also bear witness at Rome.'" Obviously, we see that Jesus appeared to Paul. This detail was actually a vision. You noticed that the Lord Jesus didn't give Paul a message to the body of Christ but only told him matters related to his personal life and mission. Now, it would be wrong for Paul to now go about tell everyone a message of how the Lord stood by him to speak with him. In Acts 18:9-10, you see how the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision. Evidently, Paul had direct speaking of Jesus to him through visions. In Acts 27:23-24, Paul talked about how an angel of God stood by him at night and spoke to him. In other words, just as Jesus spoke to Paul, an angel also spoke to him. And we know that all this happened through visions. In all, you will realize that there's nowhere Paul received through a vision a corporate message to the church. All he received was personal to him. I'm not saying that a man of God can't receive a message for the church through vision, I'm only trying to let us understand that even if we received a message through visions, don't go and share it with the believers directly, but rather get into the scriptures to find out that message in the Bible. Every vision should line up with the scriptures. This is not saying when you are ministering



and the Lord showed you some things that you should not share it. I do too. When I ministers often, the gift of word of knowledge flow through visions and I just share it with God's people. But when it comes to matters of heaven, hell, etc, don't preach your vision, preach the scripture.

Personally, I have seen the Lord Jesus three times through visions, but I haven't shared it with people. Why? It's because it's not for them. But when I need to extract from those encounters, I can share it. I have seen angels and I still see... But I don't talk about it. Most times, when I minister to God's people, I see into the spirit realm the presence of angels at the meeting, but I don't talk about it.

As a revolutionary apostle, I believe in vision and I have a lot of it too. But the truth is that my messages are from the scriptures. Those visions are just channels through which God communicate to me.

## He Manifested and Taught the Signs of the Believers

**T**hanks to God for the manifestation of his revelation today. When I was growing up, we learned another thing as the proof or signs of the believers. For ladies, if you cover your head with scarf or turban, avoid the usage of jewelry, you don't wear trousers... Then, you are identified as a Christian. This is an appearance based sign. If you failed to adhere to it, then you can never be identified a Christian. For men, if you don't smoke, drink alcohol, dress formal, then you will be identified a Christian. It was late before I know that it's not all who put on tie to work are Christians. I used to think that only Christian put on tie and suit. Then, whoever I see put on a tie was a Christian to me. It wasn't my fault; it was what I was taught. I remember I was told not to put on jeans because it's for the worldly people.

In time past, we discover that the signs to recognize believers are either appearance - based or character - based. But today, we know that believers should dress well and have good character but they are not the scriptural signs to recognize believers.

In Mark 16:17-18, Jesus said “And these signs shall follow those who believe: in My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” Jesus expects every Christian to manifest the signs He mentioned here. In fact, how we will recognize that you are a believer should be through the manifestation of the above. Do you realize that some believers still believe that speaking with tongues is not for all believers; even some ministers don’t believe it. But a revolutionary apostle believes that the signs are for all to manifest.

Paul the apostle works in all dimensions we talk about. He cast out demons (Acts 16:16-18). He speaks with new tongues (1 Cor. 14:18). He was bit by a viper; he shook off the viper into the fire and was not hurt (Acts 28:3-6). He laid hands on the sick (Acts 28:7-10). Paul had the signs of believers in the world and also teaches believers to ensure that they manifest the same.

We need revolution today in Christian circles. We need the demonstration of raw power to be at work. It is enough to depend on some ministers of the gospel for casting out demons. All believers can cast out demons through the name of Jesus. An apostle teaches the truth that you don’t need any special anointing to cast out demons; you just need to call the name of the anointed one – Jesus. Demons may not respect you but they respect the name of Jesus. A true apostle teaches that all believers can speak in new tongues and he ensures personally that he speaks in tongues a lot to edify himself. I remember how the Holy Spirit put in my heart that I should begin to do what Paul did in 1 Cor. 14:18. From then, I started praying in tongues like never before.

At another time, I saw that Jesus said, they will cast out demons. Actually, I grew up in a time in the body of Christ when ministers questioned demons before they cast them out. I had that mindset but not for long. Immediately, I discovered that we are not told to dialogue or negotiate with them, I began to exercise authority in Jesus' name and I saw how it worked. Today, I have seen many people that have partaken of the revelation I got from scripture and today, they are manifesting the signs of believer everywhere.

An apostle should ensure that believers are equipped to manifest the signs Jesus said would follow those who believe. In a time when some set of ministers are the ones who only cast out devils... A time when some denominations do not permit their members to speak with new tongues... A period when only healing ministers or those with gifts of healing are the ones who can only heal the sick when Jesus clearly said the believer shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover. Then, there is need for an apostle to arise who will teach and train believers to manifest their true sign as said by Jesus. Such a revolutionary will raise and tutor ministers of the gospel that will be able to equip believers to do the same. There is scarcity of revolutionary apostles today. Many apostles today are after revival, that is reviving what has died but when revolution comes, there is a total change in the way things are done. This spiritual revolution will not just stir the hearts of believers to pray but fill them with the knowledge of scriptures to show them what God has done and what He expects them to do - this way, believers are taught to speak with tongues, to cast out devils, heal the sick, etc. The apostle will never strive to do everything but will raise people he can commit the task to carry the responsibility.

How I long that there will be spiritual revolution in our world.

Men will come to the understanding of what they are expected to do. With that revolution, scriptures will be fulfilled as declared by Paul that we will still come to the unity of faith (Eph. 4:13). Obviously, when we come to the unity of faith, we will come to agree on the same doctrine and belief in the body of Christ. This time, doctrinal differences will no longer matter. By then, appearance and character change will not be the proof of Christianity but display of the signs of the believers.

Every minister of the gospel needs to conduct a critical examination and observation of the believers they influence whether they truly manifest the signs of the believers. God is moving in a unique way today and that move must be followed by deliberate teachings of the believers. If you're a minister of the gospel over a local church, ensure that your members manifest the signs of those who believe.

## He Manifested the Signs of an Apostle

**T**here are things that an apostle can easily do that other gifts may not be able to do. This is not hyping the gift of an apostle but just sharing about his spiritual making. There are particular signs that show one as an apostle.

Paul in 2 Cor. 12:12 says “truly the signs of an apostle were accomplished among you with all perseverance, in signs and wonders and mighty deeds.” I really love how the New Living Translation put it. It says ” When I was with you, I certainly gave you proof that I am an apostle. For I patiently did many signs and wonders and miracles among you!” Imagine the man of God saying he gave the Corinthian believers the proof that he was an apostle. Amazing, he gave the proof through the signs and wonders and miracles he did. You can see that working in signs and wonders is one of the sign of an apostle. That means every apostle should be able to work in signs and wonders because it’s a proof of his apostleship.

Scriptures does not reveal that signs and wonders, working in miracles or mighty deed are included among the signs that follows believer. No! But, scripture clearly reveals that mighty

deeds are proof of apostleship. Does that mean that other ministry gifts – like prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers cannot work in miracles? No! There are examples of other ministry gifts individuals that worked miracles, mighty deeds, signs and wonders in the scriptures who were not apostles. Bible records that Stephen did great wonders and signs among the people (Acts 6:8), yet he was not an apostle but just a deacon or say by display of grace, an evangelist. Philip alone went to Samaria and the people turned to God hearing and seeing the miracles which he did (Acts 8:6). The reasonable question will be, if other ministry gifts can work in signs and wonders, mighty deeds and miracles, why do we identify this as the proof of an apostle and not so also with other ministry gifts? Let me share this example, there is this notable healing evangelist that invited arch bishop Benson Idahosa to his program. After the Idahosa finished ministering, the evangelist took the microphone and began to sing. He sang for several minutes while the congregation was expecting blessing and miracles. Idahosa went to the evangelist and whisper to his ears that time was going and that he should begin to minister to the people because they were expectant. The evangelist responded that he was waiting for the anointing to come before he began to minister to the people. Idahosa got the microphone and began to tell deaf ears to open, command the blind to see, told cripple to rise and walk. He did this without waiting for the power of God to breakout but just moved into doing miracles straight.

The story above clearly distinguishes the difference between an apostle and other ministry gifts. While other ministry gifts are depending on the anointing of God to move them or come upon them in the manifest presence that can be felt, the apostle

on the other hand can step out and begin to do miracles. Truth is that miracles, mighty deeds are fashioned into the making of an apostle. Miracles flow out of an apostle naturally. Arch Bishop Idahosa was a high level apostle who had as proofs miracle and mighty deeds.

In the case of Paul, he went beyond miracles to unusual miracles. The Bible says “God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul” Acts 19:11. Paul was a man notable for miracles.

Anybody can preach and teach but not everyone has been engrafted to work in miracles. But an apostle should work in miracles. Funnily enough, I see many who called themselves apostle who are not more than a pastor. They have no proof of apostleship. No miracle has been done through them, yet, they named themselves apostles. I have heard people said a young person cannot be an apostle. This is not true because apostleship has nothing to do with age but grace and maturity in Christ. As long as the young person is mature in Christ and has the proof of his apostleship through miracles and mighty deeds, then, he is an apostle.

I was released into God’s calling for my life and apostleship when I was twenty five years. God brought two apostles together – one from Florida and the other from London to confirm my apostleship and they both released my through spiritual impartation into the divine calling. But before then, I had established campus churches and had pastors over them. I had the seal of apostleship... Of course, you know that the people the apostle raised are the seal of his apostleship. I had raised strong and mature people in the faith. I had functioned as an evangelist, prophet, pastor and teacher before I was released. And above all, I had the proof of apostleship. I had worked many mighty deeds and even raised people who worked in mighty deeds. I



remember how one of the people I raised went to pray for a dead girl. Another ministered to an insane person. All these happened before I was twenty five years and before I met the two apostles that confirmed and released me by impartation. So, obviously, I had the seal and signs of apostleship. That's why I said nobody should say a young man cannot be an apostle.

The Revolutionary apostle brings spiritual revolution. He programs the spirit and mind of believers to see him as an apostle through the signs and wonders performed by him. He also strives to raise people who will be like him go to places to demonstrate the signs of an apostle. The spiritual revolution he brings will enhance many believers to walk in dimensions of power.

The apostle should not go about making foolish boasting that he has done this or that but he acknowledges that all he has done or will do is accomplished by Christ through him (Romans 15:18-19). You notice that scripture clearly reveals that "God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul." In other word, Paul was not the main figure doing the work, but God Himself. He was only doing the work through Paul... Paul was a vessel, a channel to dispense miracles to people by God. The apostle must fully acknowledge that all he is doing is done by God himself.

If you're raised by an apostle, such phenomenon will always desire that you operate in miracles like he does and through teachings of the word, trainings and impartation, you can later discover that you are also operating in miracles and mighty deeds. You cannot fellowship in the world of an apostle and not be wired into working in miracles. He teaches you to do what he is doing by faith and on account of your obedience, you will see tremendous results.

The revolutionary apostle doesn't want to be the only one

walking in great power and miracles; he will raise, train and impart others to work in it. He longs for a time when every believer will be see miracles as common thing. Pastors and evangelists who connect with a revolutionary apostle will benefit much from him in this aspect. When such comes to your ministry or platform to minister, he is not just coming to bless the people and go but to leave a spiritual stamp that whatever dimension he walk in for miracles should be your portion. Connect with a revolutionary apostle and see how your life will definitely shift from a dreamer of miracle to a doer of miracles.

## He Understood the Principles for Marriage

**I**n the New Testament books of the Bible, only three people discussed about marriage. The three are Jesus, Peter and Paul. Only Peter of the three was married and he even married before he met Jesus. Jesus and Paul proved that you don't need to marry before you know about marriage. I remember I was pastoring married people while I was unmarried and I thought, "would this not affect my teaching?" As I looked at Paul, I learned that he gave lots of counsel and doctrine on marriage, yet he was not married. It was this understanding that delivered me from fear of incompetence. And glory to God, I settled many marital home as an unmarried pastor.

Marriage is an essential part of life as it affects our lives and our love ones. Too often I have heard preachers talk about marriage but I am often turned out when I heard them extracting principles from unassociated matter. I have seen preachers extract principles from the story of Adam and Eve and generalized it. Too often this is disgusting.

Paul gave admonish that believers may marry because of

sexual immorality (1 Cor. 7:2). In other words, he understands that sexual alertness of individuals differs and in a case where the passion is there, he suggested that you should marry. He further taught that the man has authority over the body of the woman and the woman also has authority over the body if the man (verse 4). In other words, he's trying to teach that whenever the man requires for sexual pleasures, the woman should yield same with as the man too. Why? It's because they have authority over the body of each other. He admonished that husband and wife should fast and pray and later come together again (verse 5).

In Ephesians 5:22, he told wives to submit to their husbands as to the Lord. How we need apostles who will teach the truth of the word. Many ministers believe that wives should submit to their pastors more than they submit to their husband. Whereas, our revolutionary apostle Paul taught that the man is the head of the woman. How come we rate ministers above the husband? It is time we say the truth. Yes, we should give double honor elders but wives should submit to their husbands. Submission means you put yourself under his authority. He further told husbands to love their wives (Eph. 5:25). Too many husbands do not love their wives. Evidently we see how Paul taught submission and love.

An apostle should seek progress of couples and how they can mirror and reflect Christ in their homes. Marriage is an honorable thing. One thing I love about Paul was that he addressed the unmarried, the married, husbands, wives, children. We need to bring teaching to each of the personality involved. The way you address a man as a husband is different from how you address him as the father of his children. Most often I have seen men who are good husbands to their wives but

bad fathers to their children.

The spiritual nature of apostles' task shows that they relate with ministers and church leaders often. In this case, an apostle should skillfully train other ministry gift to focus on the marriages of those they lead and teach. They should teach that traditions should not be permitted in every home but only the principles of Christ should be accepted and adopted.

Revolutionary apostles will teach the people to relate with their culture but not permit the culture to influence their marriage. I have heard many said the work of an apostle is purely spiritual. He plants churches and grow them. This could be true but that's not true about all apostles. Revolutionary apostles attend to the marriage of people and seek how to better their lives.

## He Flowed in Spiritual Gifts and Taught Others About It

**C**hurch growth conference speakers and authors often recommend sensitive seekers principles. Most things that are done in contemporary churches are application of sensitive seekers principles. I have read a lot and listened to many of those teachings. Sincerely, they have been a blessing to me and I can recommend to pastors to get those basic knowledge. One thing I have learned is not to criticize or condemn anything God is blessing. Truth is that every growing church is blessed except in cases where the leadership has employed diabolical methods.

Having seen the productive effect of sensitive seekers principles, I have also discovered the negative effect of it on the believers. One of the negative effects of it on the church is that it doesn't permit the move of the Spirit. Believers have been systemized with the mentality of having nice service and moments in church which is good. Most churches, with their huge crowd no longer flow in the gifts of the Spirit again. Some don't even know what it really means. Most Christians

who are familiar with the words “spiritual gifts” often thinks and conclude that it’s meant for the pastors and ministers of the gospel. Truth is that THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS IS FOR ALL CHRISTIANS.

Other apostles of Jesus who wrote epistles didn’t talk about spiritual gifts but Paul our revolutionary apostle did. I just love Paul. He’s a revolutionary indeed. If not for Paul, we would not have known anything about spiritual gifts. He did not only teach about it but brought balance to it so as to avoid extremities. Obviously, for Paul to have taught about it, it means he flows in the gift regularly.

In 1 Cor. 12:7, Paul said, “But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all.” That means, when spiritual gift is at work, that is the manifestation of the Spirit. In 1 Cor. 12:1, he wrote “Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant.” To be ignorant is to be devoid of knowledge. Paul said, he did not want believers at Corinth to be devoid of knowledge about spiritual gifts... He wants them to know about it. Today, too many who profess to be apostles know about spiritual gifts and they flow in it regularly but their people, congregation are ignorant of it. This people could be apostle truly but they are not revolutionary apostles. They are not willing to teach the believers the basics. Often, we think spiritual gifts are for mature people or those who have grown in the faith. No! That a believer flow in the gift of the spirit doesn’t mean the person is mature. As a matter of fact, I have proven that 60% of those who flow in the gifts of the Spirit often are immature believers. You don’t need to be mature to flow in the gift of the Spirit. You just need to know how to respond to the Holy Spirit in faith. Spiritual gifts are connected to faith not growth. How great it will be if we can have revolutionaries like

Paul who will take the believer to the next level and educate them about the gifts of the Spirit. I have seen apostles who taught and trained their people to pray and study the Bible much but have not trained them to flow in the gift of the Spirit. If the way we teach believers to pray for lost souls is the same way we teach them to flow in spiritual gifts, many could have won countless souls for God.

It is time we change our mentality from thinking some believers are not ready to learn to we teaching them ourselves. Some things we have systemized to be taught at Bible schools, seminaries, ministers conference, schools of ministry are actually bible based reality that should be taught to all Christians. Matter or teachings of bible school should be things Paul wrote to Timothy and Titus. Spiritual gifts were discussed with Christians not Timothy and Titus. A revolutionary apostle takes up the task to educate believers to know and flow in the spiritual gifts. The qualification to flow in the gift is that: you have the spirit of God, you can respond in faith, you covet it. That's all!

Paul in 1 Cor. 12:11 reveals that the Spirit distributes to each one as He wills. That means, spiritual gift to believers is not a gift you possess but a gift you received to use for a time as He wills. Paul told the believers in verse 31 to earnestly desire the best gifts. Amazing, how great it is for believers to know they can even desire to flow in the gift that seem best to them.

Thanks to God for some teachers of the word who have been able to emphasize this aspect. But we need apostles who can give the balanced education to believers. The difference often (not always) from the teaching of a teacher and apostle is that a teacher uses the experiences of people in the scriptures and in the world to teach others but the apostle often uses his own experience. Beyond that, the apostle can rise to demonstrate



the teaching to you practically for you to see how it works.

Few years ago, I gathered some young Christian to teach them about spiritual gifts. That was even before I was released into apostleship. I taught them, but they were looking at me as though I was speaking illusions. So, I called one of them to stand and the spirit of God told me gift of tongues would flow out of him. So, he did and I called another to interpret and he did too. That way, every one of them understood the teaching and from then, they started responding in faith to the spirit. At another time, I taught at a Bible school and later told all to flow in it. It was demonstrated practically. One day, I went to minister in a church and was moved to speak in tongues with I did. Later, I called a young man to interpret it and it was so superb.

Get this: this manifestation should be experienced by all Christians. It's the sensitive seekers mode that affected it. But glory to God that revolutionary apostles are rising who will teach the basics about this gifts and men will be edified. Spiritual gifts should be used by Christians at their various workplaces, homes, schools, etc. The manifestation of the gifts of the Spirit is for the profit of all.

Just like the Corinthian church was connected to Paul, whatever connect with a revolutionary apostle will definitely manifest the Spirit. You will begin to function and also be able to teach others also.



### III

## The Revolution and the Revolutionaries



## The Revolutionary Apostle

**O**f course, believers are taught to pray, worship from a pure heart, fast, give, read and study the word, attend believers' meeting, have communion with the spirit, serve and carry out functional duties in the house of God. These are the emphasis over the years and as such we receive renewals, awakenings, revivals and reformations.

Today, God is raising strong apostolic voices that will teach more than all these that are taught. In days and time that we recycle teachings, we will always have the same results. But God today is stirring up the hearts and confidence of apostles of revolution to arise. If revolution is truly a change, then, all God is expecting is to create a change. We must be careful not to recycle what God is trying to change. Revolution is about change! Everything we do will change. I have discovered that nothing will change until we make change. While I know that a revolutionary apostle will not neglect what is always taught – prayers, fasting, bible study, etc, they will begin to teach new things as the Lord opens their eyes to new truth.

Apostles of revolution will teach believers the following in

addition to the common things that is taught. They will teach believers to:

1. Have visions for their lives, works, children, church, team, etc.
2. Have strategic plan – life plan, work plan, family plan, team plan, etc.
3. Be intelligent and competent
4. Think differently
5. Talk differently
6. Take actions strategically
7. Be prophetically creative
8. Be wise
9. Be result oriented
10. Be excellent
11. Be money oriented
12. Be accountable
13. Build strategic relationship and alliances
14. Be influence oriented
15. Always adjust to current change / trends

## Emphasis-Construct for Today's Apostles

We need to teach believers to have visions for their lives, work, children, church, and team. Most believers are just praying without having a vision for their lives. If people don't have vision for their lives, they will end up in jeopardy. Scripture reveals where there is no vision (revelation), the people perish. If we teach believers to pray, read the bible, fast and we don't teach them to receive vision for their lives, they cannot advance.

A revolutionary apostle will raise revolutionaries by training

them to have visions for their lives. Every radical change began with a vision. The change you will bring to your world will first exist in your brain and whatever you see in your brain is what you have the capacity to produce.

Vision in this discourse is a mental picture of action and the future. Vision becomes clear when your imagination is put to work. A revolutionary apostle has the internal and spiritual ability to influence people to have visions for their lives and help some discover their visions.

*A revolutionary apostle does this in connection to vision:*

1. **He influences people to have vision for their lives:** He teaches and helps them discover who they want to be and the actions to take regularly. What do you want? What kind of home do you want? Where to be?
2. **He influences people to have vision for their career:** Many careers are not moving because there is no vision for their work. Until people have vision for their work, it will not change.
3. **He influences parents to have vision for their children:** Why would parents give birth to children and they do not have a picture of what they should look like? You should have a picture for your children before they grow up to discover themselves. It is not just enough to send your children to school, take care of them. You also need to expose them to what you want them to become. No parent should enforce his or her will on what a child should become but you can expose their minds to what will help their growth.
4. **He influences pastors and leaders to have vision for their**

**church:** Often, believers don't grow because their leaders have no vision for them. Every pastor should always ask himself, where does this member fit to serve? If you can provide the answer, then, you've got a vision for the person. Pastors should always visualize what their members can do and how they can function better. Many churches are not growing financially and numerically! A revolutionary apostle will teach and impart the wisdom for growth to church leaders. He will be able to help them multiply the church numerically. I have heard many pastors say they are not after increase of membership. Some will say if they are able to get few people to heaven, they are satisfied. This is complete ignorance and unscriptural. Even God Himself wants to get everybody saved, who then do such pastors resemble? A revolutionary apostle believes in numerical strength because he knows that our dominion lies in our number.

5. **He teaches national and organization leaders to have vision for their nations and organizations:** There is difference between a manifesto and vision. A manifesto is just a list of what a political leader wants to accomplish if elected but a vision is the totality of the picture of what you want to do. Tragically, many leaders got into powers with manifestos not with vision. Often, many organizational leaders got into position without a vision. This hinders giant organization to quickly adapt to the visible change. The revolutionary apostle will teach leaders to have a picture of what they want to produce. He will teach leaders to have visions for their team members or board members. Actually, no nation or organization can move to the next level with manifestos except with vision. Vision is designed



promised land of every nation. Using the Israelites as an example, manifestos are like saying, we will kill all the giants in the land, build our houses, establish our farms, etc. A vision is saying we are going to Canaan land. In other words, a vision should come before a manifesto.

## Cardinals of a Revolutionary Apostle

1. **He has a strong communication style that can influence the global world:** In reality, he will not communicate dominantly with religious jargons that can only be understood by those who are like him. The contemporary generation will not adhere to the religious protocols that were highly regarded in the past. So, in order to influence this generation, new trends of words must be created by sent ones to communicate the gospel appropriately. Our word mechanisms need to grow and increase so as to effectively use the appropriate communication style that can influence the world for Jesus.
2. **He has a unique fashion style:** I believe that those who dress piously may not be given much attention today. A revolutionary apostle should be a blend of fashion style. There must not be restriction to what we put on except whatever will expose our nakedness. Days when we have to dress formally – putting on suit and tie – constantly and regularly is over. A revolutionary will live a reputable fashion lifestyle that will bring glory to the name of our God. Sometimes, we will be able to reach people faster when they perceive our fashion style to be social. People love it when they can relate with our dressing. Let your dressing be simple and you will become more approachable

and influential through your fashion style.

3. **He understands political systems and influences people to go into politics:** In the past, apostles are known to only understand spiritual dynamics alone but today, we begin to see the Lord is raising people that will understand political system and influence their people to go into politics. We need policies missionaries. The older generation perceives politics to be an evil thing and they taught their people not to go into it. But today, it has been revealed clearly that God is sending people into the political system to represent him there. A revolutionary apostle will use the influence God has given him to influence people who are destined to be in the political circles to take their responsibility there.
4. **He equips believers for ministry in their sphere by teaching 21st century strategy for evangelism:** Gone are the day when people give attention to those who preach the gospel early morning with their megaphones. Often, we have seen people preach in buses to passengers but today this mode is less effective. To influence our world today requires a different approach. We cannot continue preaching to people the way it is done in the past. We need to empower the believers about relational strategy for evangelism in their workplace. We need to impart them with the knowledge of the use of media in a unique way.
5. **He relates and mentors power brokers:** There are power brokers in every society. These are people that determine those who get into power in some society. Sometime, those in power don't have influence or authority of their own to act, they only carry out the command of the power brokers. A revolutionary apostle will know how to make a shift from relating with those in power alone to also relating and

mentoring power brokers. In every society, there are power brokers. We need apostles with strong influence who can mentor power brokers to become who God wants them to be and how they should cautiously use the power God has given them.

**6. He reproduces himself in people to dominate sectors:**

Just as apostles are known for their dominating capacity – they don't dominate over people but over places. A revolutionary apostle will know how to reproduce himself in people who will function outside the four walls of the church. He reproduces himself in people by teaching them what he knows. He inspires them to be competent in their field, to be the best so they can rise to the ladder of leadership. This mentality drives the people to be focused and reject average lifestyle.

**7. He raises equippers like him:** The ministry gifts – apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers that he will raise will be rare individuals who have the revolutionary mentality that he has. He teaches them to equip believers just as he equips them. His central focus for equipping believers is spirituality and influence.

**8. He downloads visions and strategies to reach different people:** Different churches reach different people. The message to preach to everyone is the same but the method to reach everyone is different. God will always release different vision to reach different people and will also give strategies to get all different kinds of people into the kingdom. A revolutionary apostle will always have in his heart the visions that can get different people into the kingdom and strategies to establish them.

**9. He is spiritual, social and strategic:** A revolutionary apos-

tle will be respected for their spiritual capacity and their social mentality. This doesn't suggest that they have a social lifestyle but that they have a strong relational capacity to flow with the worldly people and unbelievers. Their social aspect is a technique to be effectively strategic and create the change they want.

10. **He births many sons and daughters through impartation:** the sons and daughters that come through an apostle will have the mentality of change. That mentality is not installed through talking alone but through impartation. Such will think differently from others. The ideas that come to their mind will always come through angelic atmosphere.
11. **He brings the fear of God to the heart of men:** The contemporary world doesn't fear God. In a world where people do what they like, we need apostles with rare grace to bring about the fear of God. A revolutionary apostle will be able to speak to people about God in a way that they will fear God.

## Emergence of Thinkers

One of the main differences between man and God is a way of thinking. Sadly, many believers don't use the mind God gave them. I have concluded that if we train believer to pray day and night, we need to equip them to think day and night too. God told Joshua to think day and night. Revolutionaries will breakthrough change. Such will be able to think-through to breakthrough. All men need to understand that God gave them their mind to think and as long that they fail to use it, God will not use it for them. The change God want you to create will not

fall from heaven but will come from your mind.

We are in need of 360° thinkers in the body of Christ – People who will think outside the box to change the topography of how things are done to how it should be done. In a time, when creativity and innovation is not at the zenith, there is need for some individual to arise to create, innovate and do the new.

## Four Kinds of Warfare

There are four kinds of warfare. The four is known but different groups in the body of Christ adopt the one they best understand. The four are:

1. **Warfare against the spirituals:** Paul declared that “we do not wrestle with flesh and blood but against principality, powers, rulers of the darkness of this world, and spiritual host of wickedness in the heavenly places” (Eph. 6:12). When we begin to exercise our authority in the name of Jesus and claiming our victory through Christ Jesus, we are fighting the spiritual. Truth is that we fight against the spirituals in our prayer room or simply say in the place of prayers. Believers are very familiar with this aspect because we are trained to pray consistently without ceasing. When we fight against the spirituals, we are not begging God to help us deal with evil forces but we command them in the name that is above every other name. The name of Jesus becomes effective when we command with it. We must learn to command in the name of Jesus and we see how forces and powers will be dislodged and dislocated.
2. **Warfare Against the Mind:** For a believer, the greatest battle you will ever fight is the warfare against the mind.

Just as it is often said, knowledge is power. Negative thoughts, wrong thinking patterns, wrong belief system, inordinate perspective, human philosophies, deceitful doctrines, etc are all matters of the mind that we may need to fight against. Do you realize that every sin originates from human thinking? Paul said “sin shall not have dominion over you?” The way to exercise dominion over sin is to take charge of your thinking. You may not be responsible for the thoughts that come into your heart but you are responsible for your thinking. Wrong thinking will always be responsible for wrong action. The weapon to fight your mind is not prayer but the word of God. The purpose of the word of God is to influence the way we think. The mistake most people make is that they begin to pray on matters that require them to get the word of God and apply what they got into their lives. A revolutionary apostle understands that to influence the mind of God’s people, you only need the word of God.

3. **Warfare Against the Human Will:** Often times, there are human who make decisions and follow it up. Like in the case of Pharaoh, it was a fight against human will. Like Moses, we have to listen to the Holy Spirit and execute what He leads us to do or say against any human decision. Scripture reveals that while Pharaoh said the people will not go, Moses was singing the song of words “God said, let my people go!”
4. **Warfare Against Traditions, Systems and Structures:** The constitutions of nations are filled with legal systems that do not totally embrace the essence of divinity and humanity. Often, laws were made according to the selfish motive of law makers. It is time we arise to fight systems

and structures that are anti-humanity, anti-faith, etc. the reality is that we don't fight wrong constitutional code in a congregational assembly but in the national assembly of a nation. We need to re-focus our strategy to raising men of God in the political sector and sphere of influences.

## The 21st Century Revolutionary Leaders

**E**very problem we have in life is caused by three things, which are:

1. Lack of Wisdom
2. Lack of Leadership
3. Lack of Revenue

We need leadership that can effectively tackle these three major causes of the problem of life.

We need a unique kind of leadership that's thinking and planning long term.

We need wisdom accelerated, leadership accelerated and finance accelerated. The essence of mentoring is to accelerate all of these.

As we grow in the 21st Century, we need to understand as leaders how the world will be in ten to fifteen years from now. The world is changing rapidly, the epicenter of the economic and religious systems of the world has shifted from what is



commonly known. The political style has changed over the time.

As we enter into the new glory that has clouded the earth, 21st Century leaders must be ambidextrous, multidimensional and multifashional. Such leaders must know how to wear the priestly garment and know how to wear the crown at the same time. They must understand various dynamics of social order alongside dynamics of various worlds beyond their culture.

It's not just good enough to know how to speak, preach or lead, but we must know how to master the economy and the people. We must understand the depth of politics in our nation. We need people who are building houses, managing enterprises, people who understand cultural differences and can navigate through the barriers that have barricaded us for years.

In the 21st Century, you must not be one way or operating one style. You should be learning daily, learning new words, increasing your vocabulary. You should be learning technology. Be technology oriented!

In life, the difference between you and success is your decision. Decide to do something... pursue it! Decide to start something... run with it! Don't just sit receiving visions... stand up to do it! I know you've attended many programs, attended many conferences but what have you done with the knowledge acquired. Think today, reach a conclusion, then make your decision. Rise, start out! Enough of wishing... never say 'I wish to do this or that' No! Never! If you desire it, then do it! Just ensure it's good and have the right motive.

Vision is very important. It's helps you acquire the next level mentality. Vision is developing role model. A 21st Century leader is caught up into two worlds.

- 1) The world above you that you have to climb to.
- 2) The world beneath you that you have to pull up.

As contemporary leaders, ensure that as you go up, you pull up somebody to take your place. Don't leave a vacuum. Ensure that as you reach up to the next level, you pull up those that are beneath you to where you are now. Be skilled with this. I do it a lot! Do it for friends, co-workers, mentees. That's called accelerated wisdom. Never withhold whatever will benefit others. You don't need to tell them you're pulling them up to your level. Just do it, they will realize it later. How do you pull them to your level? Teach and tell them to do what you do. Don't hide any secret. Teach them whatever the secret of your success. Many people are fearful... forget it! You will get to your destination in life. That's just fear. Never permit your fear to rule you.

As a 21st Century leader, be deliberate with raising leaders. Be intentional with it. Don't cage people! Don't be a demigod! Never permit the worship of men to enter your brain. See, you can't stop men from praising or hailing you... the feeling is good - sure you understand me. It's normal for men to honor, praise, respect you... It's just normal... but don't let it enter your brain! Respect people. Honor everybody. Be better this season!

## The Revolution Has Begun

**T**hank God for revival and reformation. But with the state of things in our nation and beyond, we don't need another revival neither do we need a reformation. What we need is a REVOLUTION! I stand for revolution!

Revivals and reformations deal with the old being reinvented. It's about reviving and reforming what existed before. Revolution is about the NEW! REVOLUTION is a CHANGE! RADICAL CHANGE!

Revival is the mind focusing on the Spirit to bring to life again what has been done in the past that has died or quenched. Reformation is the mind focusing on the Spirit to adjust, refix, re-brand what existed effectively in the past but now weak or ineffective. Revolution is the mind focusing on the Spirit to reveal, direct and do the New. It's about doing new things in a new way by the new people.

If we keep having spiritual revival and reformation meetings in churches across the nation, that will not affect the political, economic, education and social systems of a nation until we get into the system, influence it and dominate it with our presence.

What we need now is a strategy to pioneer and penetrate into the systems of influences, sectors and governance.

Ideas are prophetic mechanism to create change. Kingdom people need a repositioning for revolution. It's time we begin to see ideas and wisdom as a prophetic mechanism to create change in our world. We need kingdom minded phenomena that will be repositioned to becoming power brokers. In a society where power has become a game, we need strategic sons and daughters that will learn the dynamics to becoming effective game players in order to penetrate, integrate and dominate.

In the days of REVOLUTION, spiritual principles will be interpreted and integrated into the systems and structures in a way that cannot be countered. In that time, leaders will arise from different spheres and sectors that will dominate powers and positions - representing the God of the universe. The time has come!

## The Church Needs to Adapt to Change

God-orchestrated changes span across all systems including the political, economic and technological. We must be sensitive to changes in all these areas to stay abreast of what God is doing. God's consistent plan for the church is that His works amidst it will reshape the political, social and economic landscape of our different geographical locations.

Could it be that the church is wittingly striving to fight the change God is trying to create through His people? The main cause of this kind of church attitude is the defensive strategy of church leaders against the revelation they received in time past. Church leaders fight to protect their culture, teachings, code of conducts, etc. they often forget that our God is a progressive

God who will never stay on the spot He was found yesterday. The sad issue then is when we find a stagnant local church in a fast changing and growing world. The world is changing, methods and mode of doing things in the world is changing. Even generations of people are changing – the people in the last two centuries are no more in our world today.

The revelation of yesterday can become the tradition of today. Church leaders find it difficult to adapt and adopt the current revelation from God because they have not recognized the point when revelation has become tradition. Every church leadership needs to realize that God's agenda is dynamic not static. Often, the changes we experience are engineered by God to promote His agenda on the earth. Ultimately, whatever fights this change is fighting God's working on the earth. Churches of Jesus Christ needs to be very careful not to assume that your current position is the best God can do with you – God is progressive in His workings.

The church needs to move from default monarchical style of leadership common in our society and be more collaborative. 1 Cor. 12:28 reveals that God appointed some different ministry leadership in the church – do you discover that God didn't appoint just one person to be in charge? The reason for this is because Jesus is the head of His church and we are His body. In essence, leadership of the church will be effective if it is shared within the body and every part is given the autonomy and power to rule his space. It is the duty of the church leadership to be sensitive to what God is currently doing and provide leadership for it. For everything God does in the universe, He will always give – vision, structure and instruction. Whenever we get a vision of what God is doing, the next thing is for us to provide a leadership structure that will be able to execute the vision

properly and finally receive instruction of how God wants us to run the vision.

The church needs to be flexible enough. God's purpose will not change but His methods may change. As a living church of the lord, we need to quickly recognize, acknowledge and adopt the method the lord is using every season to execute His agenda on earth. I hope the church will realize that the change going on in our environment cannot be stopped. Whenever we underestimate a change, we do such to our peril. A church suddenly loses influence when they find it difficult to adapt a change they perceive in their environment. Don't be an inadaptive angel!

## Building Shift

The church is in the work of building. All believers are building something in the world – negative or positive, directly or indirectly, consciously or unconsciously, intentionally or unintentionally – you are always building something. In the season of revolution, focus will definitely shift from what we are building to what we need to start building. We will shift:

1. From building projects to building people
2. From building cathedrals to building companies
3. From building hierarchical and governmental structures to building spiritual and influential structure
4. From building personal influence to building corporate influence
5. From building religious standard to building influential system
6. From building the spirit man of believers alone to also

building their minds

7. From building spiritual institutions only to also building financial, education, fashion institutions.
8. From building Bible schools only to building different schools.
9. From building personal brand only to building strategic alliances.
10. From building men who function in the prayer room alone to also building men that function effectively in the board room.
11. From building men that function in the congregational assembly alone to also building men that are positioned in the state and national assembly.
12. From building men who are church builders to also building men who are nation builders.

## Going Beyond Building Churches to Building Companies and Corporations

Thank God for multiple centres and branches of churches across the globe. But today, we begin to see that God is placing change in the heart of people to create. It is time we began to wear the priestly garment and kingship crown at the same time. We need to build what will make us both relevant in the church circles and the society. If we keep building what we have been building over the years, we will keep seeing the same results.

Often, I wonder why the church keep building seminary schools, schools of ministry when there are other schools we can pioneer or fund that will quip the essence of humanity. Sadly, many church leaders have not understood that seminaries, school of ministry are just equipping men and women that will

be relevant in the church circles but may not be relevant or strategically positioned the affairs of the society. We need to begin to build technical schools, schools of government where men are trained politically and diplomatically, media schools, etc.

Today, I see that churches still build Christian Television and Radio stations that has limited influence and reach. A CNN will definitely be more powerful than a TBN. A Christian television or radio station has limited reach whereas a secular TV station has unlimited reach. The church needs to learn to engage the polity. Christian organizations (churches) need to begin to build the spiritual in to the secular. We need to build secular Television and Radio station that will reach more people beyond the Christian circles.

The church needs new thinking, new approaches, new techniques and strategies. The environment is changing around us. We need to combine building churches with building corporations and companies. We need to begin to produce products that meet human needs in general. The reasoning capacity of most believers need to increase. Until we begin to question issues, nothing will move in our world. We should be able to combine the generation of Nehemiah with that of Daniel to produces our desired result.

## Strategic Positioning in the Arms of Government

Christians are not deliberate with some things. We are not deliberate about taking positions of power in the arms of government. Everything God does is always done with intentional motive. To truly create in the society the revolution we see in our heart, we need believers who are revolutionary agents to be positioned in



the seat of powers. God is always doing something but the seats of power are needed to execute God's agenda on earth.

If people will be positioned strategically in the arms of government, then, our style of preaching needs to change. Church preachers and teachers need to encourage people through their teaching to go into the arms of government. The emphasis must be placed on the fact that God will never force anyone to get into power. This will require believers to join political parties, learn the dynamics of politics, build their influence and political brands, and exercise patience required of quality leaders.

Actually, the church is a political institution. In the New Testament, many of the words that are used in connection to the church and her affairs are often political and military words. To begin with the personality of Jesus, all the His titles are both political and ministerial. Titles like 'King of kings', 'Lord of lords' are all political titles. Jesus is known as the Messiah. To the Jew, the Messiah is a military and political figure. This is the logical reason the disciples questioned when Jesus would restore the kingdom of Israel at that time. The patriarchal prophets had two unique perspectives about the Messiah – the spiritual and political view. The two main entity that composed of the Christ are Jesus Himself as the Head and the Church as the Body. At death, resurrection and ascension, He had fulfilled the spiritual responsibility and today, through the church, He is fulfilling His political responsibility. In other words, Jesus is both a spiritual and political figure. He is never a religious figure and will never be.

Over the years, the church has been dealing with witches, wizards and witchcrafts which are non-political entities. We need to change our approach and what we deal with. In the days of revolution, we will concentrate on governing and executive

entities that are responsible for wrong policies formulation, unrest, insurgencies, economic meltdown, nepotism, etc.

Church leaders on the other hand, must pray God's favor and wisdom for aspiring political leaders. They must ensure that they teach political aspirants to be humble and fear the Lord. Humility is what brings honor. Until you are humble you don't attract honor.

## You are a Revolutionary Sent One

Dear reader, you are a revolutionary sent one. You are not just born into the world, but sent here to create a change in a season for a reason. Your presence here on earth is for an assignment that will birth a change in your world. There is always something in your heart that can change the status quo in your society.

Often, we are always expecting some people to create the change we desire but from God's perspective, you are the change you are waiting for. In Matthew 9:37-38 we see how Jesus told His disciples that "the harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. He therefore told them to pray the Lord of harvest to send laborers into His harvest. In the next chapter, scripture reveals that He called his disciples, gave them powers and sent them out to preach. As I look at this text, I see that the disciples Jesus told to pray were the ones he told to go preach. Obviously, they were the people they were praying for. Could it be that the change you desire around you is actually your duty to create?

Whatever the Lord has opened your eyes to see that is needed to be changed is actually what you have the power to change. Your eyes will never be opened to see a matter you should complain about but a matter you can change. Stop being a complainer! Start creating revolution.

Your relevance in your sphere of influence is dependent on the change you can create. Can I counsel you to stop trying to recycle what God is trying to change! There is a creative ability in you that can do something that has never been done before. That creative ability is in your imagination. You release your ability to create things when you try to do things just as you see it in your brain, not as you used to see it in your environment. The usual will never attract relevance to you; it is the unusual that will do. What will you be remembered for? I have always seen that our world remembers men who strive to bring to the world, the things they see in their inner eyes. The truth is that you will be remembered in your world for the idea that exist in your brain that you brought to the world. What will make you relevant is in your imagination. The question then is, what do you see in your imagination? The universal governing truth is that a revolutionary idea is first in the imagination or mind of someone before it came into the world. You keep recycling things when you always want to do it the way it was done in the past. You need to move to start doing things the way you see it in your imagination.



## About the Author

Niyi Makinde is an Apostle and Author, a Leadership Expert and Quotient Coach. His passion is to raise ministers and leaders. He has written many books that are fast spreading across places. His books are always flooded with rich contents and great wisdom. He is highly versatile!

Apostle Niyi is the President of Rebirth Global Church – a network of churches across the globe. Few of the programs known with the church are CONNECT (an annual confluence of men from all walks of life); SupernaturalSHIFT (a monthly gathering of people for supernatural empowerment) and RESOM (the school of ministry where pastors and leaders are empowered for ministry).

Apostle Niyi has been in ministry for more than fifteen years. He is the CEO of Institution Power, a school set to raise leaders in the Business World.

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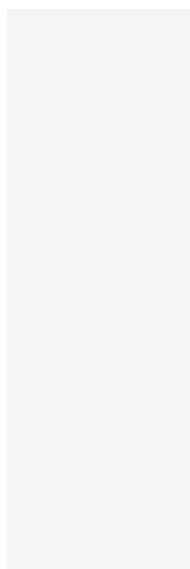
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