

YOU CAN BE HAPPY ALSO

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This Book is Dedicated to God my Heavenly Father for all He has done for me and the Divine inspiration He gave me to write this book.

I Also Dedicate this book to my family for their strong support.

CHAPTER ONE

WHAT DOES CHRISTIANITY MEAN TO YOU?

CHAPTER TWO

TAKING STEPS

LOVE

FAITH

PATIENCE

CHAPTER THREE

MY MISSION ON EARTH

THE HOLY SPIRIT

OBEDIENCE

CHAPTER FOUR

LET'S GET TO BUSINESS

TIME MANAGEMENT

HARD WORK

WISDOM

INTEGRITY AND BELIEVING GOD

EMPOWERMENT

CONCLUSION

CHAPTER ONE

WHAT DOES CHRISTIANITY MEAN TO YOU?

Walking along the street, looking at the trees, beautiful colourful flowers, children playing happily, people laughing, everything seems so lovely, the future ahead looks so bright. On the other hand, I see people who have had miscarriages, lost loved ones, unsettled homes, others going through a lot of difficult situations in their lives. Across the street, I see people begging for food, wondering when their next meal will be, searching for shelter, then I wondered what could have happened to these people, where did they miss it, what did they do wrong, what sin did they commit could it be that God loves them less? No, definitely not because God is love, He does not love any more or less, He is love and he has given us equal opportunities on earth. These unfortunate circumstances could have only been the handy work of the devil. We must also know that we have been given power over the devil in Christ. For all those that are in Christ Jesus have power against all the powers of the enemy, but outside Christ, that is where the problem lies, you become virtually on your own. The devil is able to get and manipulate people because they are ignorant of what they have, I'm talking about Christians here. It is one thing to know what you have and another thing to make use of what you have.

Some people believe they are Christians because their parents took them to Church while growing up, they grew up in a Christian family but have no idea what Christianity is all about.

They don't know what is going on, they say, "well if you pray to God if it pleases Him, He will answer if not, things will remain the way they are." They forget that God said in His word that when we pray according to His will, He hears us.

How do you know His will? Well check your Bible, it's all written there, at least I am sure it is His will that we get healed now, it all depends on your level of Faith, It is also His will that we become rich even though riches in the kingdom of God is entrusted to us, you will need to be faithful with the little He gives you, once you pass the test, He then places you on another level. Human beings are so wonderful, once they see a little of God's faithfulness in their lives, for example, having a little money, they run away or no longer have time for God. This is very risky because they left God who has been sustaining them and decided to run after money which is very likely to disappear over time. The devil is always on the lookout to steal anything that God has install for his children therefore, receiving gifts from the devil which includes ungodly ways of being rich and any other gift is very dangerous as it may cost some their lives.

God has promised us riches if we abide by His terms and are patient with Him, but human beings want to have things sharp sharp, no time for waiting and that's why the devil entices people with material thing that can go down any moment, you can be sure the devil does not give things for free, he has his eyes set on a goal that will lead to the destruction of one's life. Please don't fall victim to the device of the enemy.

There is so much that God has install for each and every one of us, we just need to know what to do to access them. Sometimes I have thoughts about going to Heaven after finishing my course on earth and looking down to earth wondering oh, so I had this much power to do this. It hurts God to see humanity suffer, it was not meant to be like this.

A brief history about man.

Adam was the first man God created and when God created man, He gave him dominion over all the earth (Gen 1: 26). Man was in charge till the devil came and deceived man then he fell and the relationship between God and man was cut.

When man fell, dominion on earth was passed over to the devil. He began torturing man and his seed, this continued for sometime. God loves man so much that He kept on finding ways to help man. Before Jesus Christ came, man had to sacrifice animals for atonement of their sins to be in right standing with God and there were rules governing this e.g only the priest was allowed into the temple to sacrifice and people would wait and pray that he comes out alive also, the spirit of God was only on specific people whom God chose, not everyone. While this was maintained for a period, God had already planned a better and more effective covenant which had to do with the sacrifice of a lamb being a man this time to completely erase the sins of the fallen man (Adam) and restore him to his formal estate. Now not just any man was used as the sacrificial lamb but His very one and only son Jesus. How compassionate is God, we sinned against Him and yet it's His very own property the only child He has that He used to pay for our sins. When Jesus came, the devil had no idea why He came, he tried all manner of temptations and various ways of killing Jesus. When the time came, after Jesus had finished his work on earth, He gave His life up. The devil was very happy at this point, he thought he had succeeded, but Jesus was still on His mission. When He died, He went to hell and collected the key of death and hell from the devil which means that the devil no longer has the power to kill children of God, the only weapons he has are the weapons of fear and doubt which can open the door for the devil operate.

After three days, Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to some people including His eleven disciples and told them to tarry (wait) in the city of Jerusalem until they be endued from on high. He was talking about the Holy Spirit whom He will send to earth once He's gone back to Heaven so that the Holy Spirit can help and strengthen us primarily to be witnesses of Jesus Christ and to help us in EVERY area of our lives. Thank God He did, we presently have God the Holy Spirit with us. One cannot communicate with God except through Jesus, When we pray, it is in the name of Jesus, He is our mediator and we are hidden in Him, now we can come boldly to the throne of grace, we don't need any priest nor do we have to sacrifice any animal to atone for our sins but we must confess our sins and believe that He hears us and has forgiven us. Anytime God sees us, He see Jesus in us and what makes Christianity different from other religion is Jesus, He is the lamb that was slain, it was His blood that was used as an atonement for mankind that is

why you have to accept Jesus as your Lord and Saviour before you can be saved and make it to Heaven.

God sent His only son Jesus to restore us back to our formal estate but this time, in His son Jesus Christ. Some are in Christ already but are not taking the wonderful advantage God has given them that is why the devil still molests them. Once you are aware of who you are in Christ, things change. For believers, take time to study the word of God, you can read Christian books, listen to Christian messages to enhance your knowledge about the things of God. Blaming someone for your predicament or what you are going through in life does not add value to your life neither does it make you go forward in life. Yes, some people may have gone through unpleasant circumstances at different points in their lives which may be principally due to one person but remember it's your life and you have to take responsibility for it. At the end of it all, when we are to give an account of how we spent our years on earth, saying that one person made you act this way or change your behaviour will be so irrelevant, therefore, you need to take responsibility for your life because it was given to you by God.

With that being said, Remember that every decision you make, you will surely give an account of it, we are therefore encouraged to seek the face of God concerning every issue in our lives in order to take right steps in life.

You might ask questions such as; what am I to do now? so and so person has made my life miserable, my years have been wasted because of this person, I have become a totally different person that I don't even recognize anymore. How am I going to move forward? How would these past wounds heal? What steps do I need to take to be a better person?

Some might still be in situations that have held them captive and have tried several ways to get out or finding help but nothing seems to be happening, making them suffer in silence with the belief that there is no hope, or that God is some distance person that is so far and unreachable, Others might believe that God does not answer prayers. Well, this is not true at all.

In this book with the help of God, I will hold your hand and take you through the journey that will help you live life on the better side, making the journey of life sweet indeed therefore showing you that you can also be happy.

With many questions being asked, I will be showing you some steps to take in achieving this goal. This book will serve as a form of a guide but is your responsibility to dig deeper concerning each step and take the necessary actions.

CHAPTER TWO

TAKING STEPS

Firstly, a breath of fresh air. Just in case you don't know or may have forgotten, it is your right to be happy, it is your right to live well, it is your right to have good things in life because all good and perfect gifts come from our Heavenly Father.

Picture yourself on a beach, enjoying the cool air, riding a horse, travelling on a journey with beautiful things catching your eyes along the way, or any other scenario you feel will make you relax positively. This is what I mean by taking a breath of fresh air.

Now, the reason for taking a breath of fresh air has a lot to do with the next step to take which could be both pleasant and unpleasant. Pleasant in the sense that, you will be changing things for good around you and also taking the right decisions. The unpleasant would mean leaving somethings behind and moving forward. So, this step is really important.

As you begin to take this step, you will need to ask yourself some question some of which will include; Who am I? What is my purpose on earth? Where should I start from? In summary, you have to be brutally honest with yourself to move forward. This stage could be really painful and may cause some old hidden emotions to come rushing back, but I am very confident that you will pull through.

After taking the first step, you should have a list of things already written that you would need to work on and those that you need to let go of. For example, a case of someone whose parents abandoned him when he was little resulting to him roaming the street, using drugs, joining a bad gang or is in a cult, there could also be a case of one, due to hardship and the difficult situation she finds herself becomes a prostitute and also there could be a case of one, though brought up in a Christian home, didn't really "feel" Christianity and decided to look elsewhere, it could be a person in an abusive relationship or one who is not enjoying marriage at all and looking for a way out. Whichever category you belong to does not matter, what matters is that God loves you just the way you are, but you have to surrender your life afresh to God, accept Jesus into your

heart, make Him your Lord and personal Savior. For God to send His only begotten son to die for unworthy people like us, For Jesus to come and die for us, the same people that mocked Him, spat on Him, nailed Him to the cross and yet He never stopped loving us for once, I believe that is the person you should really trust in this life. Christianity is more of a way of life than religion. There are some important things to note going through the Christian race;

LOVE

Firstly, the Kingdom of God functions with keys and love is the master of all the keys. It can open all doors and every other door works needs it's presence. It's like the live wire in the Kingdom of God. When Jesus came, He summarized the Ten Commandments into two which are; Love God with the whole of your heart and the second being, love your neighbour as yourself which is the fulfilling of the law. So, if you don't love God and others around you, that means you are not fulfilling the laws. This means that if you love God and your neighbour as yourself, you will not steal, kill or do anything negative that is written in the Ten Commandment. Prayer requires love, giving requires love and every other thing you can think of. There is a part in the Bible that I kept pondering on in the book of Matthew 7: 21-23

21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

These people did mighty works and cast out devils, but what went wrong, then with the help of the Holy Spirit, I began to understand 1 Corinthians 13: 1-3 which says;

1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

Charity is also known as love, so you see, if you do all these good things and you don't check yourself regularly to see if you are on the right track with love, then this might come to a waste. That you are casting demons and doing mighty works does not guarantee your right standing with

God especially when the anointing is present so it is important you assess your life regularly, ask the Holy Spirit to help you.

I listened to the testimony of a brother who was in an accident then his spirit went to heaven, he was actually a pastor. The man was shown a lot of beautiful things including mansions, then Jesus asked him if he knew what his judgement would be at that time, the man was told that he would go to hell if he were to be judged because he kept malice with his wife, he was not happy with her. Since then I decided to forgive anyone that offends me even before they do which is one of the characteristics of love. We can see the characteristics of love in 1 Corinthians 13: 4-8. Keep in mind that loving God is not merely by words, your actions, the steps you take say it all for example, do you pray for the lost souls to be saved by asking God to send labourers into the harvest field (Matthew 9: 38, Luke 10: 2). Do you reach out to the lost? which is what the Father cherishes the most, Do you help people by giving to the poor, giving to the cause of God's kingdom by partaking in the development of His house? etc. When you love God and your actions show it, you become naturally in command of every situation and circumstances in your life making you life a more than conqueror kind of life. We can't just develop this kind of love

on our own, it's with the help of the Holy Spirit. The love of God is shared abroad in our heart by the Holy Spirit and if you can remember, the very first characteristic of the fruit of the Spirit is love. Finally, don't forget that God is love.

FAITH

Secondly, Faith is a powerful force or weapon in the Kingdom of God. it's the link between Heaven and Earth, it's like a spiritual hand. You need to activate your Faith to receive something from God. You must understand that there are various levels of Faith. At Salvation, we have a measure of Faith, what you do with that Faith in the course of your journey which includes growing it or not doing anything about it will result in the level of command you have overall situations around your life. Faith is in levels, there is the little faith, the great faith and finally, very great faith, faith without work is dead.

As I said earlier, the kingdom of Heaven operates on keys and it also has principles, for example, if you want God to bless you financially but you don't pay tithes and give offerings, well that's not going to happen even if you fast for 100 days, you won't see any change until you do the needful which is to pay your tithe (Malachi 3: 10-12). Another example is healing, you need to believe that you have received your healing before you begin to see manifestations even though it might not look like it or the condition may be growing worse which is a tactic the devil uses in pulling people out of faith into doubt but don't be moved because you will overcome at last. For everything you do that requires faith, there is always something you must do, a part you must play to see this come to pass, ask the Holy Spirit to help you find it.

Faith is a growing force and you grow your Faith by studying the word of God and also working your way out of every situation that you may encounter by using the word of God. Following this path will make you gain command over every situation and circumstances that may come your way. Face the storm eyeball to eyeball, don't chicken out. You can imagine if David's mind had been focused on the size of Goliath and all he had accomplished, the story would have been

different. All you need to face the storms of life is know what God says concerning the situation and let your faith be activated and work towards it, viola.

PATIENCE

The third thing to take note of is Patience. A lot of people miss it when it comes to patience because we are always in a hurry especially when things don't happen the way we want them to, we tend to look for a faster route. Well, the kingdom of God requires a lot of patience. That God says something to you via His word or during your personal study time with Him does not mean it will happen immediately and for the fact that it is taking time does not mean it will not happen. Delay is not denial. Patience which is one of the fruits of the Spirit should be seen in the lives of Christians among other fruits of the Spirit. Now, to inherit the promises of God and all He has said, you need Faith and Patience. Let's see what the word of God says in Hebrews 6: 12, "That ye be not slothful but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises." This means that we need faith and patience to inherit the promises of God. Lack of patience has made people settle for less, not having the perfect will of what God has install for them which of course is superior to what they settled for.

These 3 qualities are just a few among others, to find more, you have to search the word of God and some would be mentioned later in this book.

Once you have accepted Christ as your Lord and Savior, know that you are a brand new person. Yes, you will still look exactly the same as you were outwardly, but a significant change has taken place inwardly. You will no longer feel the urge to do the wrong things you did in the past and You will have the peace of God. People that do wrong know that what they do is not right and if they want to be sincere, there is always this unsettled feeling around them, no peace, sometimes a feeling of if I die now, where will I end up? I have had someone tell me that he knows if he dies now, he will not make it to Heaven. Once you are changed and transformed,

there is a change, you know you are a child of God, there is this peace, calmness and Joy you feel around you and life becomes beautiful and refreshing once again.

It is advisable to document every challenge you once faced in the past and how God helped you overcome it. By doing this, you can always refer back to it when you are in a similar situation remembering the steps you took and how God helped you out, you can also apply the same in this particular situation. Documenting these happenings also help you remember what God has does for you so as not to take His faithfulness in your life for granted because the devil specializes in pointing out what God has not done for you but done for others.

Why does it look like Faith does not work when exercised on an issue, someone might ask? Like I said earlier on, Faith is in levels. If you go through the Bible, you would see various categories of Faith. There is very great Faith, great Faith, little Faith and no Faith at all, the Bible also says that it is to you according to your Faith. If your Faith is activated towards what God has written in His word which is a more sure word of prophecy or what He said to you while you were in the spirit, it will surely come to pass but you have to play your part by building your Faith because, without your Faith in God and His word, He can do nothing.

Once you have taken this step, you will then move to the next phase which is, what is my mission on earth? For this topic, I have a book "How to Make the Most of your Life on Earth" you can search for it on Amazon, there are also other Christian writers that have addressed this topic.

CHAPTER THREE

MY MISSION ON EARTH

For every person on earth, God has a reason for putting us here. Nobody is on earth without a reason or purpose and the earlier we know what the reason is, the closer we are to completing our course on earth and then reporting back to Heaven which is our original home.

Some people know what their mission on earth is and are running with it, while others don't have an idea of what it is and don't know how to find it. First of all, you need to ask God our Heavenly Father because He is the one that created us for that purpose.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

I will be speaking a bit about the Holy Spirit in line with our mission on earth and we all need to get acquainted with Him to live a victorious life on earth. We are so advantaged that we have the Spirit of God with us, everywhere we go, He goes with us. I am having a wonderful time with the Spirit of God. Jesus said He will teach you all things and bring all things to your

remembrance. The Holy Spirit is the third person in the Trinity and He is here with us on earth, willing to help even on the most minute issue in our lives but most times people shut Him off. The Holy Spirit is a gentleman, He does not force Himself into people's lives. Once you have given your life to Christ, you receive a gift which is the Holy Spirit and He dwells within you. 1 Corinthians 3: 16-17 says;

“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defiles the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy which temple ye are.”

I would like to introduce you to my best friend, the one that puts smiles on my face every day, He is the third person of the Trinity God the Holy Spirit.

Honestly speaking, if you want to live well on earth, If you want to live like a conqueror on earth, you need to be in constant touch with the Holy Spirit and obey Him as He leads you. The Spirit of God guides us in ALL issues of life. Have you ever wondered how some people who were meant to be in a particular place before tragedy struck were never seen there? or have you ever had to travel someplace and you didn't feel good and stayed, later you heard of the evil happenings which could have affected you if you had traveled, or have you been in a position where you were looking for a book or something and prayed one simple prayer to God and next thing, you see yourself moving in a particular direction, then boom.... there you go. In every of this incidence, you were guided by the Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit wants to have a close relationship with you, someone you can speak with every day just like you speak with your best friend not a once in a while kind of relationship. Not only will He help in directing you, He will also help your prayer Life. It is your duty to stir up the gift of God within you. 1 Corinthians 2: 9-10 says,

But as it is written, Eyes hath not seen, nor ears heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea the deep things of God.

See what verse 9 says about those that love God, isn't it awesome? Remember for you to say you love God, you must be doing the things that please Him.

The Spirit of God knows the mind of God and He helps us in praying according to the will of God as written in Romans 8: 26-27.

This is so wonderful since the Spirit of God helps us in all these things, then what really is our part? You can imagine praying for something and you invite the Holy Spirit to help you, it will be answered. When it comes to protection, He tells you where and where not to go, or is it academics, once you've played your part by reading, the Spirit of God brings to your remembrance all you have read and even tells you things you don't know of thereby making you excel in all your endeavour. He is also our comforter, when we feel down, sad etc. He helps in making us better, this is all from experience. Speaking about divine ideas, you could be doing your daily chores at home, and an idea just drops in your Spirit which could result in you starting up your own company, little by little then it goes global. God works in mysterious ways. This is just a few benefits you gain from having a close relationship with the Holy Spirit of God.

When you are in partnership with the Holy Spirit, you begin to develop the fruit of the Spirit which is Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Gentleness, Faithfulness, Self-control and each of these fruits come with their own reward some of which have been discussed. Also, you will develop a godly character thereby changing your old character which requires your conscious effort. While transitioning through this process, you will begin to feel lighter, your beauty begins to show, godly people get attracted to you and even those who are not believers would want to know your secret because now, there is something different about you that makes you glow. The Bible says that let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven (Matthew 5: 16). Furthermore, you begin to win souls to Christ through your Character, People will begin to love what they see in you and want to know your God. It is important to add that there is a huge reward in soul winning both for us on earth, our generations yet unborn and in Heaven. The reward is eternal (Daniel 12:3, Proverb 11: 30). For more on this topic, you can read the book "How to make the most of your journey on earth", written by me.

The Holy Spirit just makes life so easy for you, like you are floating in the air, even when trials come your way (which needs to come in order to move forward), you won't feel a thing because you know and trust in God, and those that do know their God shall be strong and do exploits (Daniel 11: 3b). Now, for those who have fear of the unknown, with the help of the Holy Spirit, all doubts are cleared because, if you are constantly in touch with Him if something negative is about to happen to anyone around your family, you know beforehand and pray about it.

One of the Evidence we have about the baptism of the Holy Ghost is speaking in tongues. There is power in speaking in tongues. There are sometimes we have a burden about something and have no idea what is really happening, in this type of situation, we should pray in the Spirit i.e speak in tongues. Remember Romans 8: 26 says,.....but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. When you reach the point you know you have victory, like the burden has been lifted up, then you can praise God for the victory. Sometimes, you may know what the burden was all about, other times, you may not know. Not everyone knows how to pray in the Spirit but look unto Jesus, ask Him to baptize you with the Holy Spirit and thank Him for filling you with the Spirit of God which is evident by speaking in tongues. It is that simple, but you need your Faith to be activated, you need to believe that Jesus will fill you right where you are with the Holy Spirit and the evidence of speaking in tongues.

Walking with God requires you grow up Spiritually from being a baby Christian to becoming a son and daughter of God. You can accomplish this by having a regular quiet time which involves studying the word of God, praying and listening to what he has to say at each point in time, acting on the word of God by putting your faith to work, facing situations around your life face to face and not looking for a way out, always acknowledge God for all the things He has done for you and all the things He says He will do for you and please don't complain, don't murmur, it spoils the good things God has done for you (Deut. 28: 47-48). There is a level you get to where the Holy Spirit will tell you things that are happening around you or will happen in the future and requires that you keep it to yourself, sometimes He might even tell you about how bitter someone feels about you, warn you about a particular thing, person or situation.

OBEDIENCE

Obedience is also an important key in line with our mission on earth. Sometimes you wonder why some people are doing better than others even though they started out together. Yes some factors might play a role, for example, it might not be God's set time for you, some people will say "all fingers are not equal" which could be true but are you doing what God says you should do? This leads to me talking about obedience.

Obedience plays a significant role in facilitating our destiny. People don't really like obedience especially when God tells them to do something that may seem inferior or not palatable, then we begin to bargain, cut corners, look for excuses etc. In also honesty, not everything God tells us to do will be pleasing, as far as you know it is God speaking to you (even though some people will know it's God but because it will not be easy for them to do, they turn around and say that it is the devil speaking to them), just obey God because He has your best interest at heart. Now, it is not just about obeying God, it has to be prompt without delay and with a joyful heart. Pay a close attention to the story of Abraham in the book of Genesis, you will notice that at each point in time, Abraham obeyed God, not only that , the obedience was prompt for example, when God spoke to him about sacrificing Isaac, He woke up the following day, early in the morning and started on his journey with Isaac, to know how it ended, study the book of Genesis. For each obedience,

Abraham was blessed and we could see the blessing taking effect even till today speaking about the Jews and every believer (spiritual Jews), we all are partakers of father Abraham's blessings. Obedience could be costly it's all worth it. In 1 Samuel 15: 22, the latter part says obedience is better than sacrifice which means that even if you sacrifice all your time, money resources, what takes prominence in the sight of God is obedience which can later be accompanied by sacrifice. Once you obey what God tells you to at each point in time, you begin to grow from level to level and also you begin to access your high place in destiny thereby distinguishing you from others with the same privilege.

These little truths once applied distinguishes you from other Christians and makes them wonder if it is the same God you are all serving. Well, it's the same God but the different individual as we have our parts to play, God will not play your part for you. The Bible says in Hosea 6: 4, “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shall be no priest to me: seeing thou hath forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children. This shall not be our portion, Amen.

It is important to hunger and thirst for more revelation by studying the Word of God, reading Christian books on that subject, listening to Christian tapes. Once you’ve caught the light on a

particular issue, apply it to your daily life and you would see how that works for you. Always remember to put the word of God to work because Faith without work is dead.

CHAPTER FOUR

LET'S GET TO BUSINESS

It is important to know that everyone in Christ has a glorious destiny on earth. I have heard stories of different people prophesying in the lives of people, families, children that they will be great. Sometimes, it may be just one child out of 2 or 3 children leaving these other children to be looking down on themselves. Well, I have good news for you, the Bible is full of good news and God's faithfulness that we don't deserve. Every child of God is ordained for greatness, How great you become is a function of what you do with what God has given you.

If you sow the seed of greatness and you water it appropriately, then you can eat of the fruit of greatness but if you sit down doing nothing, even those who great Prophets have prophesied upon their lives, nothing will happen. Galatians 6: 7 says, "Don't be deceived; God is not mocked. Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he reap also." You are to take responsibility if you want that greatness. Some important requirement for greatness has been stated earlier, others will be talked about as we move along.

For those of us that have go through the phase of accepting Jesus into our lives, forgetting the past, moving forward, willing to start enjoy life on earth, taking steps to a better life by studying the word of God, inviting the Holy Spirit into our lives, making Him our dear friend, obeying His instructions and doing all that has been written above, then we are ready to move forward.

For those that have not gotten to this level, don't be discouraged at all, I believe you can do it, most importantly, you have to surrender your life to Christ Jesus which is the very first step.

Once you have passed these stages, you will begin to understand what Christianity is all about and what it isn't. Christianity is not a guessing game, it's not about trial and error, it is a way of life and there are principles guiding it. Once you locate these principles, apply them to your daily life, you will be different.

There are some virtues I will be introducing you to that will help in decorating your life.

TIME MANAGEMENT

Now let's talk about our personal lives. In order to move forward, you need to cut some things completely out of your life. If you are the type of person that enjoys visiting friends on a regular basis, chatting away your time, watching movies or television for a long period of time, after work calling up friends to hang out with them, or maybe a particular friend that is hanging on so close to you and you very well know that this person is not adding any values to your life instead, he or she introduces you to all sort of evil things that could end up damaging your future thereby leaving you with a scar, if you are in this category my advice for you is to take off your shoes and run for your life. Okay, on a more serious note, you shouldn't have these type of people around you, they are destiny killers. Since you are determined to make something beautiful out of your life, you will really need to stay far away from them. Every individual know where their excesses lie, my point is, you have to manage your time. Time is one thing that cannot be bought nor reversed. We are surrounded with a lot of time wasters both intentionally or unintentionally. Wisdom demands we know what to do at every point in time. Take a look at great men who have had an impact in their generation, if you dig down to their history, you would notice that they managed their time wisely. We should also follow their steps. I'm not saying we should become boring, once in a while we can do some of these good exciting things that are godly but we shouldn't make it a daily routine. If you find it difficult cutting these excesses, that means you have to choose between fulfilling your destiny and maintaining the same level you are presently. If you take the pain in cutting off these excesses now, you will reap the reward later. Once you've managed your time well, you can decide to reward yourself with a brief period of relaxation.

HARD WORK

Proverbs 22: 29 says, "Seest thou a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men. I guess this Bible verse says it all. Whatever work God gives you, do it with all your heart, do it with joy, not murmuring even though we would be tempted to murmur. I moved down to Lagos which is a big city in Nigeria to work in a particular Hospital, Honestly speaking, I didn't like the work at all, personally, I'd rather have no work than to work in that Hospital it was just God that kept me going. The Job was an overnight duty between 5pm till 8am in the morning. Sometimes I could see emergencies at night, sometimes I may not. There was no place to sleep, I'm even ashamed to say where I had to sleep. In the morning, I would have to wait for my colleague to arrive making me leave the Hospital around 9am. Getting to my house (at that time, I stayed with my Uncle) would be around 11am or sometimes 12pm depending on how "free" the road was. By 3pm, I would set out for work in order to arrive early by 5pm. This was how my life was, there was a time I got to work around 5pm and the Director was very angry at those that came late (of which I was the only one) I guess the meeting started around 4pm or thereabouts. Have you been in a situation where you are like "What do you want from me" instead of crying, you begin to laugh, well that was the case for me. The money was not even worth it at all and the stress was getting too much then I began to murmur, complain and every other thing you can think about, then God spoke to me. In the bus, while on my way to work, He said I should stop complaining and murmuring, that what I should do is to thank God at every stage in my life and I will see how things will fissile out. Well, I did just that even though sometimes you will feel like arguing or proving your point. Remember obedience takes you to your high place in life. So I obeyed God, then things around me changed, my eye was opened and I began to see the good side of being there at that time and maximizing the opportunity even though the bad side did not change. For example, my eating habits changed, I began to eat more fruits because I had them close by me, My spiritual life blossomed, I had a wonderful personal

time with God, I was able to win souls into the kingdom through kingdom advancement prayers and reaching out to the lost, I was always eager to hear the word of God on daily basis with Domi mobile which is 24/7, I became more sensitive to the leading of the Spirit. I faced all sorts of oppositions but with my Joy and trust in God, I overcame them all I even watched the trap the enemy had set for me using some people turn right back on their head without lifting a finger, awesome God. I thank God I obeyed. The lesson learnt from here is, no matter how tough something may look like, no matter the situation you are in presently, with joy, obedience to what God tells you to do, things could really change for the best.

Going back to the topic, hard work we can learn a great deal from the parable of the talents in Matthew 25: 14-30, hard work is one of the things you need to water your seed of greatness, it's not just about hard work, you need to add diligence to what you do, be consistent, regular, keep doing it. As you kept at it, God will keep promoting you from one level to another.

WISDOM

Ecc 10: 10b says that Wisdom is profitable to direct. Oh, we all need wisdom, quoting what James 1: 5 says, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." so it is our duty to ask God for wisdom, the Bible says that if any man lack wisdom, let him ask. By wisdom kings reign and princes decree justice.

There is so much to know about wisdom, reading the book of Proverbs will help a lot, also reading Christian book from authors you are very sure are sent from God concerning wisdom, will help you a lot. Proverbs 9: 11 says, "For by me thy days shall be multiplied, and the years of thy life shall be increased." This has taken effect in my life, what would take hours to complete could be completed within a few minutes, I now save more time and accomplish more every day. Using myself as an example, I am writing this book during my free period in the office. When I am not working, I carry my laptop and start typing. Once in a while, I could engage in discussions with my colleagues but the next minute, I am back on my system because I have a target to reach for today with the help of God.

As much as Wisdom will help you in accomplishing your daily goals and showing you ways of handling things better, It is always important to set daily goals. For God to help you in any way, you personally have a part to play, for every one of His promises, there is a part for you to play and once you've done that, you've committed God to make do His promise.

From all being said, a conclusion that time management, hard work and wisdom being important in our journey on earth would not be out of place.

INTEGRITY AND BELIEVING GOD

Integrity is another virtue we have to take along with us in the journey of life. Integrity means someone that is honest, upright, with good character, good principles.

You need to be truthful and upright in all you do regardless of the situation or circumstance. A time will come in your life when people will say all sort of evil against you, and do all manner of things to frustrate you, keep on speaking the truth, even when you feel as if you are the only one

in the world and every other person is against you, one thing I have noticed being in this kind of situation is that the Holy Spirit will never leave you, He is always there to help you, guide you, comfort you.

In a situation where you seek the face of God and don't hear anything, please remain where you are for example, If you have been praying for a Job and you finally receive one which is enticing, you should ask God what He says about it, just in case you don't receive any reply at the moment, stay put and be patient a little while because you would always get a response from God. If you move ahead of Him, you might be entering danger and that Job may be a trap of the enemy in disguise. At different points in our lives, when we are being tested by God during this period, He could be silent, you don't expect the teacher to speak to you or tell you the answer to a question in an examination hall, it is the things you've learnt previously that you need to apply during this period of trial thereby coming out victorious. Always put your trust in God and in a short moment, every issue in your life will be resolved, it would feel like it was never there. A lot of people on earth are living this way, they do exactly what the Bible says, in Philippians 4: 6-8, they don't worry about anything that comes their way, once you have something bothering Just pray about it reminding Him of what His word says concerning the issue, thanking Him for answering your prayers, then move forward, forget about it, don't worry or doubt because if you do, you will not receive the victory from God. (James 1: 6-7)

A man that is upright, who has integrity will be hated by a lot of people because he cannot stand people lying, deceiving others and all other evil act around him but in this world, lies, deceit are the order of the day, people don't like hearing the truth. When the chips are down, these same people will tell others that you are different, you are truthful, straight, just in case they think you will help them in any evil act, they should forget it.

EMPOWERMENT

The society we live in is very corrupt, For every level, every new position we attain in life, there is always a new devil so at each stage, you will need fresh empowerment, more spiritual authority.

Spiritual empowerment is very important in the life of a believer.

Talking about spiritual authority, where you worship, your church matters a lot. Some questions to answer are; are people saved? Are there testimonies? Do they preach the word or just tell stories? Are you blessed after the service or it's like most of your energy has been drained? Every one of us has our church, where God wants us to be, where the blessing of God will be evident in our lives, where our tithes and offerings will be acceptable to God. It is important to locate that place by asking God where He really wants us to be and once we've located the place, obeying the instructions from his servant is important. It is also important to appear in church regularly. Psalm 84 vs 7 says, "They go from strength to strength, every one of them appeareth in Zion. "Zion" also connotes the house of God.

Secondly, you need to set aside time for fasting. During this period, your flesh is put under and you would be more alive to the things of the Spirit. Also, remember that you don't announce to everyone that you are fasting and it is important to study the word of God during this period which would lead to the outbreak of revelation. Prayer is also a requirement when fasting. All of these result in Spiritual Empowerment. Fasting without studying the word or praying is a mere hunger strike. We have to be at alert because these end times, the devil is not resting at all, he has so rebranded sin that people don't know when they become victims of it. We need to take our game to the next level. As God blesses you and promotes you, you have to live upright, don't shy away from the truth no matter the position you attain, it is just a matter of time and everything will come crashing down If you leave God.

Personally, I don't relate well with people who are not straightforward, people who try to twist the truth to soothe themselves, people who try to manipulate others for their personal gain, those that enjoy maltreating others, those that love doing eye service to mention a few. One thing people fail to realize is that eye service does no good. Trying to please people by doing both right and wrong things for them with the intention of receiving help from them in the nearest future also known as putting your trust in man and this will put you in bondage making you indebted to them.

Many people who help others have the mentality to payback in the nearest future, this is a very wrong mentality. Whenever you set your mind to help someone, don't expect any payback from

them but from God. Human beings can be funny, these very people you help could actually turn back and bite you and this has led to many people refraining from helping others. If your mind is set on God, whatever they do or don't do does not move you.

Among others, humility and meekness are very important virtues in 1 Peter 5: 5-6 (NKJV) the Bible says;

5 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for

“God resists the proud,
But gives grace to the humble.”

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

in the journey of life. God resist the proud but He lifts the humble.

Also, a meek and quiet spirit is of a great price in the sight of God (1 Peter 3:4). Moses being the meekness man on earth had the opportunity of having a close relationship with God that any other person on earth has ever had. He was the only one who God showed some parts of his body and remember, blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Please take time to study these qualities and their characteristics which can be found in the Bible.

Prayer is also very important, mighty things happen in prayer, this is how we communicate with our heavenly father and there are various forms of prayer e.g supplication (your needs), intercession (praying for others), warfare, thanksgiving etc. The short cut to all these prayers is praying for the kingdom of God.

Majority of people are interested in praying only for themselves, few pray for others and the kingdom of God. I know the natural nature of man will say something like, "why should I pray

for someone else when my need has not been met?" Well, that's the trick. The most effective prayer is to pray for the kingdom of God, for lost souls, for the needs of people then you'll see things turning around for you. Job prayed for his friends and everything started to change also, Jesus speaking in Matthew 6: 33 said we should seek the kingdom of God first, then ALL other things shall be added to you. There is no harm in trying, put it into practice, have a personal quiet time with God, then you'll see how things will change in your favour.

CONCLUSION

If you are able to apply these principles to your life without looking back, you will become a great person in life. Every thing is little by little but it important to at least start.

I hope this book helps you with your journey of life and you will be blessed beyond your imagination. Amen.

I hope to chart with you regarding any situation you may be going through and help in guiding you further. You can always mail me at lychicrafts@gmail.com and visit my website at oluchicrafts.com God bless you.

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