



**CHRIST MISSIONARIES
(CRUSADERS) CHURCH INT.**

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL MANUAL



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MANUAL***



FROM THE ARCHBISHOP'S DESK

“Study to show thyself approved unto God a workman that needed not to be ashamed, RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH” 2 Timothy 2:15.

There is no gainsaying that the 21st century Church is characterized with SPIRITUAL LUKEWARMNESS, increased interest in SOCIAL ACTIVITIES, CRAVE for TITLES without understanding the underlying basic spiritual implications, unhealthy RIVALRY amongst the body of Christ, Playing Church and Holier-than-thou attitude, self projection and assertion that are COUNTER PRODUCTIVE to the needed growth of the Body of Christ.

I am constrained to call on everyone to earnestly contend for the faith and TRUTH that is capable to save-(Jude 1:3-4). The Dominion for manifestation is hidden in the Word of God as inspired by the Holy Spirit.

I charge you therefore to earnestly study every topic in this Sunday School manual to fully develop yourself spiritually, to enable you face and overcome the evil days ahead while fulfilling the ministry of reconciliation - 2Cor.5:8, and turning many to righteousness - Dan. 12:3. It is my prayer that the Almighty God continually strengthen and empower you for this high calling of the kingdom assignment.

Archbishop Dr
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PRESIDENT

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1

WHAT IS MANIFESTATION?

BIBLE READING:

Romans 8:19 – 28, Matt. 5:13

Memory verse: Romans 8:19.

*“for the earnest expectation of the creature
waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God”.*

INTRODUCTION

The world in general is waiting to see the display of God's glory and power through His children. That is the basis of Manifestation. We shall be looking in detail what is manifestation and how it relates to the believer.

LESSON OUTLINE

1. What is Manifestation?

1. Manifestation is the display of something, an event or action. It is the act of appearing as a sign that something exists or is happening. A sign that shows something clearly, one of the forms that something has when it appears or occurs.

Manifestation is the revelation of God's glory in a person's life. It is the dramatic demonstration of the abilities or gifts a person is endowed with. Manifestation is the fulfillment of God's promise, plan, and purpose for our lives.

The Manifestation of the sons of God is the purpose and destiny of every born-again believer. It is one of the most important subjects in the entire Bible; it is so important that the Apostle Paul stated in the book of Romans that all creation waits for the manifestation of the sons of God.

As a verb, manifesting is “to make evident or certain by showing or displaying.” In other words, manifesting is the act or practice of bringing something into existence.

As believers it is expected of us to manifest certain attributes in life that primarily bring glory, praise and honor to our God. Matt. 5:16. I Peter 2:9.

The glory of our Christian life is when we manifest or show forth this Godly or Godlike nature. It draws men to serve our God and cause God to bless us.

CONCLUSION

Knowing that believers are expected to manifest God's glory, all through this manual, we shall be focusing on several areas to manifest and how to manifest.

QUESTION

1. What is Manifestation?

2

BENEFITS OF MANIFESTATION

BIBLE READING: Romans 8:18-27

Memory verse: Romans 8:19.

*“for the earnest expectation of the creature
waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God”.*

INTRODUCTION

Benefits are advantages or profits gained from something. Christianity without manifestation is incomplete as what counts are people around you seeing evidence from your walk with God.

LESSON OUTLINE

1. The benefits of manifestation

- I. For Good. 1 Corinthians 12:7, to each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.
- II. Reveals the sons of God. Romans 8:19, for the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. John 1:31, I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.”
- III. Reveals God. Romans 1:19, for what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.
- IV. Cause increase in faith. Romans 16:26, But has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith.
- V. Manifestation brings protection. Acts 4:16. “What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it.
- VI. Confidence of seeing Him again. 1 John 3:2 Beloved, we are

God's children now, and what we will be, has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

- VII. It differentiates between devoted Christians and unserious Christians. 1 Corinthians 11:19 "For there must be factions among you in order that those who are genuine among you may be recognized".
- VIII. It's a display of God's works. John 9:3, Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him.
- IX. It announces you to your world. Acts 7:13, and on the second visit Joseph made himself known to his brothers and Joseph's family became known to Pharaoh.
- X. It guarantees a sit with our King. Revelation 3:21, The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne.
- XI. It reveals the Spirit of God. 2 Peter 1:21, 1 Corinthians 12:4, For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit.

CONCLUSION

His glory is revealed in us when we manifest. 1 Peter 2:9 AMPC, but you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation, [God's] own purchased, special people, that you may set forth the wonderful deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Romans 8:30. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

QUESTION:

1. Mention eight benefits of manifestation.

3

PREPARATIONS FOR MANIFESTATION

BIBLE READING: Romans 8:18-27

MEMORY VERSE: I Tim 3:16.

*“And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness:
God was MANIFEST in the flesh, justified in the Spirit,
seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles,
believed on in the world, received up into glory”*

INTRODUCTION

Preparation is a major key to an unstoppable manifestation. Prepare by acquiring relevant spiritual energy and capacity, knowledge of God's word, etc. Go for training. Develop your gifts. Joseph was ready when his opportunity appeared. Let's consider some areas the believer needs to prepare for God to manifest through him or her.

LESSON OUTLINE:

1. Develop Intimacy with the Holy Spirit
2. Prayers and fasting
3. Be Diligent.
4. Righteous Living.

1. Develop intimacy with the Holy Spirit.

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will experience unstoppable manifestation. Our lives will declare the glory of God. Only the all-powerful God knows HOW to bring about the manifestation of the miraculous and His promises for our lives and through us. Your God-given dreams can only come true when we develop closeness with God through prayer and God's Word. Matthew 4:1-11 Jesus was in the wilderness for 40 days. His fast of forty days makes this a holy season of self-denial.

1. Prayers and Fasting.

BEFORE JESUS ascended into Heaven, He said to His disciples, "Behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high" (Luke 24:49). The word endued means "to sink into; to put on; to clothe oneself."

The Apostles tarried in Jerusalem and the result was endowment from on high which gave birth to the miracles and the manifestations of God's power and glory experienced in the Acts of the Apostles.

Perhaps of all the prayers of Knox, "Give me Scotland, or I die" is the most quoted one. It was not an arrogant prayer but a passionate plea, showing his intense desire for the conversion of the people of Scotland. His prayer was an expression of his great confidence in God.

His prayer also echoes the Apostle Paul's prayer in Romans 10:1, "my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved." I wonder if we have the same desire for our fellow countrymen. When was the last time you prayed for your country like Knox did for his? Do we sincerely pray for our fellow countrymen's conversion? Knox remained prayerful even to death.

Engage in intensive and constant prayers and fasting.

2. Be Diligent.

"I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently will find me" Proverbs 8:17.

Diligence is a spiritual virtue and a key ingredient required for success in life. It is the persistent, determined, constant and earnest effort to live a Christian life or complete a task. Diligence is the platform for excellence. Until the spirit of diligence comes into play, excellence never becomes a reality (Proverbs 6:6; 1Timothy 5:25)

Don't give up on your dreams of greatness even when you face discouragement. Hold onto God's promises for your life. Exercise patience. Habakkuk 2:4. Remember that delay is not denial with God. Keep working on your dreams of greatness. Joseph never gave up on His God-given dreams of greatness even when he was sold into slavery. He didn't give up when he was thrown into prison for a crime he didn't commit. He kept on interpreting dreams even in prison. Proverbs 22:29.

3. Righteous Living

Proverbs 14:34. Live righteously and don't compromise your faith, no matter the circumstances you are in. Gen 39:5-12 – Joseph refused to sleep with Potiphar's wife even after multiple advances, day after day. He refused to even be around her because it would violate his master's trust and be a sin against the God Yahweh. If he had compromised his faith, his manifestation would have been stopped. The three Hebrew boys, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in Daniel 3:14-27 manifested God's power because they maintained God's righteousness in their lives. They refused to bow to the King's image, even when they knew the punishment resulting from such act. In Daniel 6:17-27, Daniel prayed in defiance of King Darius's decree and was thrown into a den of lions. The power and glory of God was manifested that even lions became friends to him. God shut up the mouths of the lions.

Even if you are in a foreign land (on campus), where nobody can see you, still keep living a righteous life in secret and in the open.

In addition to the above, *speak positively, have positive expectations, be careful of who you share your dreams of greatness with and Get godly counsel, for* In the multitude of GODLY COUNSELLORS, there is safety. Prayerfully get a mentor. Mentoring is key to manifestation. Elijah mentored Elisha, and Elisha manifested. Don't be too big and don't be a local champion.

CONCLUSION

If God doesn't manifest in you and to you, you cannot manifest Him to others. If He doesn't impact you, you cannot impact your world. If he doesn't change you, He cannot manifest through you to change others. In the book of Exodus, Moses asked God to show him his glory. Ex 33:20.

QUESTIONS

1. Mention some ways you can prepare for God's manifestation.
2. Is it possible for all believers to manifest the power and glory of God?
3. When was the last time you fasted and prayed personally? Don't answer, think!

4

PROVOKING THE SPIRIT OF MANIFESTATION

BIBLE READING:
John 14:16 - 21; Acts 13: 1-3

MEMORY VERSE: I Tim 3:16.

*“And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness:
God was MANIFEST in the flesh, justified in the Spirit,
seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles,
believed on in the world, received up into glory”*

INTRODUCTION

Many years ago, a man called Prophet Omotola and his friend were desirous of the power of God. Both went on several days of prayer and fasting. Then, God told them to meet Him on a particular mountain. On the said date, it rained cats and dogs (heavily). His friend decided to wait at home believing God should understand, but Prophet Omotola defied all odds and went in the rain to the mountain. Certain things can only happen in their divine location. God did not only give him his portion; He also gave him that of his friend. History says even Prophet Ayo Babalola calls Prophet Omotola, “My Master”. He was greatly anointed.

You must make yourself available for God to use you and surrender your heart to him daily on the altar of crucifixion. Apostle Paul said, “I die daily”. Many have not conquered themselves but desire to conquer the devil. You can't tame the various works of the flesh in your life such as malice, unforgiveness, bitterness etc., yet you hope to tame the devil? It doesn't work that way. You can only revenge disobedience when your own obedience is complete (2 Cor. 10:6). When the raw power of God comes upon your life, never again will the wicked ones press down your head in the dream, never again will you be fed in your dreams and there shall be no more physical or

spiritual miscarriages. Stop looking for what to manifest, start looking for what you must become in your heart before God.

LESSON OUTLINE:

1. Hidden sin
2. Hidden ungodly traits.

1. Hidden Sin

These are hidden sins that are yet to be dealt with as believers. In Numbers 32:23, the children of Israel were to be armed for war until God had driven out his enemies from before them. But some were not willing to obey, and Moses gave that instruction, that if they would not do what God has instructed them, be sure your sin will find you out. Hidden sins have the capacity to disgrace the believer. They have the capacity to spoil the reputation of a child of God. Yes, that little stealing nature, hatred and fornication or adultery. How does sin find you out? What is the action and result here? It simply means that sin will bring its own punishment. It will ruin and destroy the sinner.

2. Hidden ungodly traits.

These are characters and traits that are in most cases inherent in man. They could be ancestral traits and characters. There are some families that are great in anger. Some are full of greed and selfishness. Others are full of hate and rage. Some are traceable to ancestors.

They tend to hold on to anger longer than they should and can hold a grudge even when the other person has apologized, repeatedly, for their wrongdoing.

These hidden and ungodly traits and habits have a way of manifesting when the occasion demands and such manifestation of these hidden traits and habits can ruin our lives and Ministries.

They show up when there is money to be shared. Selfishness and greed can destroy your Ministry, personal and professional relationships. Galatians 5:19 provides other details of these hidden ungodly traits that are likely to explode or manifest or made public if we do not deal with them.

CONCLUSION

We have seen that there is nothing on the inside of the believer that shall not manifest one day. Whatever manifests is a function of what is inside, whether it be good or bad. Such manifestation will either disgrace or bring you down or glorify God. It is therefore important to deal with any hidden sin or nature that will one-day manifest to disgrace you or bring shame to the kingdom of God and the church. Kill the hidden sins and traits before they kill you.

QUESTIONS

1. Give examples of hidden sins that can bring shame when they manifest.
2. What are some godly traits that believers need to manifest?

5

PROVOKING THE SPIRIT OF MANIFESTATION II

BIBLE READING:

Mark 4:22, John 1: 31, John 14:21-31; 1 Cor. 4:5

MEMORY VERSE: I Tim 3:16.

*“And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness:
God was MANIFEST in the flesh, justified in the Spirit,
seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles,
believed on in the world, received up into glory”*

INTRODUCTION

Without the virtue of humility and brokenness, you may not be able to carry the genuine power of God. There is a price to pay. A man fasted and prayed for the raw power of God. On getting home, his dog licked the pap and the bean cake his wife had prepared for him to break his fast. In annoyance, he said, “The Lord rebuke you”. The dog left to the corridor, made a loud scream, stretched out his body, and died right there! Imagine if he had rebuked a human being. The greatest enemy of mankind may not necessarily be the devil but pride. Pride could be carefully hidden undetected for many years.

That anger, lust, alcohol, drugs, material possessions, pornography, vain glory, personal ambition, passion, caustic tongue, that idol of your heart etc., may be withholding the power of God from resting upon your life. You are a wife beater or husband abuser and you're asking for power? God is not only looking for the available; He is equally looking for men and women who have developed capacity to conquer themselves. This goes beyond self-management skills. Die to flesh, don't just faint. Don't be like that computer system in sleep mode but has not been completely shut down. You must become a person who obeys the Holy Spirit at any time and at anywhere whether it is convenient or not; just say Yes. Be a person who is daily growing in the fruit of the Spirit.

LESSON EXPLAINED:

1. Godly hidden treasures.

Isaiah 45:3, “And I will give you treasures hidden in the darkness — secret riches. I will do this so you may know that I am the LORD, the God of Israel, the one who calls you by name.”

2 Cor. 4:10 makes us understand that the life of Jesus is on the inside of the believer to manifest. It is expected to be shown publicly. The world needs to see and experience the manifestation of the life of Jesus in us.

The love of God is a hidden treasure that every child of God is called to manifest.

The world and they that dwell therein are eagerly waiting for the manifestation of the power and glory of God in the believer. Rom 8:19, John 3:21, John 14:21; Acts 4:16.

CONCLUSION

It takes a mountain top experience. Manifestation is breadth taking display. It's different from the result. You cannot have access to manifestation until you have access to what is written. You can't carry the Bible and carry failure, or pain. You can affect your generation when you are on the same frequency as them. You do what they do and say what they say. You go where they go. God told Moses, come to the mountain top.

Those with mountain top experience will have the tablet delivered to them. God told Elijah to come to the mountain camel. To prove that Elijah had contacted the power of God for manifestation, God provoked the king and he fell from the top of his chamber.

The children of God are manifested by the display or show of doing the right things. 1 John 3:10 tells us that “This is how we

know **who the children of God are** and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not God's child.

QUESTION

1. What is the major hidden treasure of God every believer should have?

HINDRANCES TO MANIFESTATION I

6

BIBLE READING:

Judges 16:1-21; Rom 8:18-19

MEMORY VERSE: I Cor. 15:31

*"I affirm, by the boasting in you whom
I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily."*

INTRODUCTION

In Genesis 12:1-3, God gave Abram three instructions; obedience to them will bring seven major blessings. He told Abram to get out of his country, from his family and from his father's house and in return He will make him a great nation, bless him, make his name great, make him a blessing, bless those who bless him, curse those who curse him and through him all the families of the earth will be blessed. Abram got out of his country, his family but not from his father's house because he took Lot with him. It was because of this, the promises of God could not come to fruition in his life. Just like Abram, there are many of us who the Lord has made big promises to that are yet to come to fruition. Many of us think maybe the Lord has forgotten us. The Lord has not forgotten you. According to Isaiah 49:15, it is possible for a woman to forget her nursing child and not have compassion on the son of her womb, but our Lord will never forget his children.

LESSON OUTLINE:

One of the reasons why we are yet to see the manifestation of the power and glory of God is because of the hindrances on our path. These include but not limited to the following:

1. Sin
2. Pride
3. Stubbornness
4. Lack of submission

1. Sin

Sin is anything you say, do, or think that goes against what God wants. For Abram it was Lot. While Lot was still with Abram, God did not speak, and Abram began to run into trouble everywhere he went to. Immediately Abram recognized the hindrance, he removed it and God spoke again. "Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and **your sins have hidden** his face from you, that he will not hear"- Isa. 59:1-2. God calls for repentance from sin. If you are living in sin (whether secretly or openly), you cannot manifest the glory of God.

For Peter it was **fear**. The fear of losing Jesus made him to cut the ear of Malchus in John 18:10. It was also the fear of persecution that made him to deny Jesus in John 18:15-27. He denied Jesus not only once but thrice. Proverbs 29:23 says the fear of man brings snare.

For Thomas it was **doubt**, when they told him that Jesus was raised he said I will not believe unless I see His hands the print of the nails, not only that and put my hand into His side, I will not believe -John 20:25. James 1:6-7 says no doubter will receive anything from God.

For others it is **anger**. They get angry easily. Once they are angry they speak to anyone anyhow, they can do and undo. Proverbs 30:33 says the forcing of wrath produces strife.

2. Pride

The fact is, revelation tends to produce **pride**. This is the very reason God gave Paul a thorn in his flesh. He was restraining Paul from glorying in his many great revelations. God wanted His faithful servant to remain humble in all things.

Pride and thinking much of self, self-boasting, seeking the praise of men and seeking to exalt self by being careful in duties. Seeking to share the glory with Christ in the matter of salvation. This has made the Lord reject me many times, withdrawing me from my resolution to “hide pride”. This made the Jews not obtain righteousness, because they sought it “as it were by the works of the law” (Romans 9:31-32).

Pride goeth before destruction. If you do not deal with your pride, your pride will deal with you.

3. Stubbornness

Stubbornness could also be a hindrance. The parents of Samson pleaded with him to marry from his people, but he refused; he stubbornly married from the Philistines. He later died in the hands of the same Philistines. “For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.’ Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king’. And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD, and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice” 1 Samuel 15:23-24. Someone who is obstinate or stubborn will make his own opinion an idol. This way of thinking gets so strong when founded on a certain tradition or theological way of thinking that people no longer allow God to take part. This is the case of the Pharisee and the religious man of this era; they have made themselves idols of their own doctrines and have become blind and deaf to God's voice.

4. Lack of Submission

Rom 8:7. Submission is the spiritual discipline that frees us from the everlasting burden of always needing to get our own way. To submit is to yield or give way to another. True submission is the act of shrinking violet, avoiding upsetting others because they fear hurting their feelings.

James 4:7. James conveys the idea that only when we submit to God will the devil "flee from you" as we are then committed to God and will be able to withstand the temptations of the devil. Titus 3:1

CONCLUSION

This is true of us as individual children of God and also as churches. If we accept certain sins or foolishness as normal, we no longer pray seriously for deliverance. Our zeal can then shift from fighting against sin to keeping up the appearances with doctrines or 'Christian' activities such as Bible reading/teaching, prayer meetings or evangelism. Soon our life becomes unreal, with a form and no power (2Ti.3:5).

QUESTIONS

1. Give examples of what can hinder the manifestation of God in the life of the believer.
2. How do we overcome hindrances to manifestation of God?
3. What are those personal hindrances in your life? Don't answer, think, and pray! Seek the help of brethren and ministers.

HINDRANCES TO MANIFESTATION II

7

BIBLE READING:

Galatians 5:16-26, James 4:6

MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 51:17

*"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise"*

INTRODUCTION

From the last lesson and in Genesis 12:1-3, God gave Abram three instructions; obedience to them will bring seven major blessings. He told Abram to get out of his country, from his family and from his father's house and in return He will make him a great nation, bless him, make his name great, make him a blessing, bless those who bless him, curse those who curse him and through him all the families of the earth will be blessed. Abram got out of his country, his family but not from his father's house because he took Lot with him. It was because of this, the promises of God could not come to fruition in his life. Just like Abram, there are many of us who the Lord has made big promises to that are yet to come to fruition. Many of us think maybe the Lord has forgotten us. The Lord has not forgotten you.

LESSON OUTLINE:

There are habits, characters and lifestyles that hinder the manifestation of God's power in the life of the believer. These also include but not limited to the following:

1. Lack of brokenness
2. Ambition
3. Not keeping the heart

1. Lack of Brokenness

Brokenness, in God's eyes, is being so crushed by the sin and

darkness of the world that we recognize there is no place to turn but to God. **Having your heart in that place of weeping before the Lord is like heaven on earth!** There is nothing heavy about being broken before the Lord, although there is sometimes suffering on the way to getting to that place!

David's life and brokenness is a perfect example. In 2 Samuel 12 and Psalm 51 we see it: the beauty of brokenness. David concluded, "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise" (Psalm 51:17). The Power of Brokenness is never Weakness. It is coming to the end of one's self-life.

There's a reason that the sacrifice Jesus asks of us is a "broken heart and a contrite spirit." A broken heart is one that is open to Him, that lets in His grace. He felt our pains and sorrows first, and by going through a little of what He went through, we feel His power in our lives. Brokenness isn't always about going through hard external circumstances.

When you don't see happen what you know scripture says is God's will, **you can either harden your heart or let this produce a brokenness in you that says "Holy Spirit, I need you! What am I missing?"**

According to Charles Spurgeon, when God means to make a man great, he breaks him into pieces

2. Ambition

Lucifer could not manifest the glory of God like before because he was ambitious. He wanted to ascend into heaven. He wanted to exalt his throne above the stars of God. Is 14: 13. When an ambition is to promote self and ego, it becomes ungodly. God searches the heart! God may open to you a tremendous door of opportunity. It might be the biggest, most ambitious project of

your life and God will allow you to step into it thinking, “This is it! I finally got my big break.”

Then the Lord will allow the whole thing to fall to the ground. You'll end up standing amidst the ruins of your dream, crying, “Lord, I thought this project was Your will. I thought it had Your blessing. I prayed to You faithfully about it, and You brought me this far. How could You allow it to fail so miserably?” The failure of your project is meant to be a death to everything that hinders the Christ-life from being manifested in you.

Then suddenly, for no apparent reason, your soul is stricken with dryness. Soon your joy and assurance give way to a sense of frailty and uselessness. An unexplainable depression fills your soul, and each day becomes a burden to you. The Scriptures that had come so alive in your heart now seem like a closed book. Instead of receiving revelation, you wonder if you'll ever learn anything again—but the problem isn't your intellect. Your dryness is meant to hasten your death to all confidence in your flesh. It's a death to your tendency to glory in the revelation you are given, rather than getting your joy from Christ.

This whole process of having to endure “death situations” can seem cruel. Without question, it is one of the most painful aspects of our walk with Jesus. But if we allow death to finish its work in us, Christ's own resurrection life will flow freely out of us. If, on the other hand, we resist death's work, we will not ever have Christ's life in us!

3. Not keeping the Heart

Unwatchfulness and not keeping the heart while in the world. Not being “in the fear of God all day long,” not keeping guard, or neglecting the continual oversight of my heart, tongue, and actions, but growing careless. I have found that when my heart is unwatched it runs away and engages in sins and temptations.

There are many disorders in a city while there is no government, and this is the state of my heart at such times (Matthew 26:41). This has done extreme evil; through this I lose in public what I gain in private.

Other things that can hinder the manifestation of God in the life of the believer are: The 'I' mentality Lack of Love for God and man as well as Compassion.

CONCLUSION

It is up to each of us to preserve ourselves in humility, the fear of God and the love of God. If we learn to sense when we are slackening in any of these, we can be protected from having to wake up only when it is too late to do anything about it.

QUESTIONS

1. Give examples of what can hinder the manifestation of God in the life of the believer.
2. How do we overcome hindrances to manifestation of God?
3. What are those personal hindrances in your life? Don't answer, think, and pray! Seek the help of brethren and Ministers.

WHO ARE THOSE THAT MANIFEST

8

BIBLE READING:

Romans 8:19 – 28, John 1:12-13.

MEMORY VERSE: John 1:12.

“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God”.

INTRODUCTION

Not everybody can manifest the glory of God. In this lesson, we shall be looking at the group or character of people that are to manifest the glory of God.

LESSON OUTLINE:

1. Who are those that manifest?
2. How to become a SON.

1. Who are those that manifest? From our memory verse, it is clearly stated that only Sons are expected to manifest. So until one become a son he cannot manifest the glory of God. There is a major consideration in regarding someone as a son.

2. How to become a Son. John 1:12. From the scripture we can highlight the following as a way of becoming a bonafide son of God.



Must be Born Again: Until someone accept and surrender to the lordship of Jesus Christ, he/she is not yet qualified to be a son. It is not belonging to a church or being in a group in church but he/she has a born again experience and has made Jesus the lord and savior of his/her life.



Be led by the Holy Spirit: Romans 8:14. To be a qualified

son, you must be under the leadership of the Holy Spirit. He guards your thought, speech and action as a son. All through the life of Jesus and the Apostles on earth, as sons of God they were always led by the Holy Spirit.

CONCLUSION

We have clearly seen that only sons are qualified to manifest the glory of God and also seen what it takes to be a true son of GOD. Let us examine ourselves if we are qualified to be called sons or daughters of God that should manifest his glory. In our next lessons we shall be looking at some of the characteristics of sons.

QUESTION

1. List the two major way of becoming a son of God.

CHARACTERISTICS OF SONS I

9

BIBLE READING:

Genesis 22:1-18; Romans 8:14-19;

MEMORY VERSE: Romans 8:14:

*"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God,
they are the sons of God"*

INTRODUCTION

Although God has many children, He only has few "sons!" from the New Testament sense, our spiritual birth as God's children is different from our adoption as His 'sons.' Position of ***Sonship*** describes a believer who has come to a place of maturity, responsibility, and authority in the family of God. Unfortunately, not everyone is a SON.

In this lesson, we shall be discussing the qualities of a son. At the end of this lesson each believer needs to determine what kind of son he/she is, if really, he/she is a son. Again, though only male children were adopted as sons in the ancient world, the situation is different in God's family. Here, both males and females are adopted.

LESSON OUTLINE:

The Scripture says, "the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God," which gives the sense that creation itself is anticipating the certainty of the revealing, appearing, disclosure, expression, or manifestation of **the sons** of God (Romans 8:19). It can only take **sons** to manifest. From Genesis 22:1-18, sons are:

1. SONS are Faithful
2. SONS are Obedient.
3. SONS Follow Instructions
4. SONS have Good Character

SONS are Faithful.

Faithfulness means unfailingly remaining loyal to someone or something and putting that loyalty into consistent practice regardless of harsh and extenuating circumstances. It is one thing to simply believe in Him, but another to be faithful to Him. To be faithful implies **unswerving adherence to a person or thing or to the oath or promise by which a tie** was contracted. Isaac was faithful to his father, carrying the wood and fire for a long distance without complaint and following his father to a place of sacrifice without looking back. Abraham was faithful because he followed God's directions to go to a far away and unknown land. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Their Story: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, along with Daniel, were brave young men who stayed faithful to God no matter what the consequences while they were in exile in Babylon.

SONS are Obedient.

The Bible tells us that we show our love for God by obeying His commands (1 John 5:3, John 14:23). Jesus considered His purpose here on earth "to do His Father's work" (John 6:38). One of God's commands is for children to obey their parents (Ephesians 6:1, Colossians 3:20) and this **includes spiritual parents**. Proverbs 13:13 "He who scorns instruction will pay for it, but he who respects a command is rewarded." Proverbs 16:20 "Whoever gives heed to instruction prospers, and blessed is he who trusts in the Lord." Proverbs 19:16 "He who obeys instructions guards his life, but he who is contemptuous of his ways will die."

SONS follow Instructions.

In Genesis 22, Isaac followed every instruction of his father without questioning his authority. Proverbs 16:20, Those who listen to instruction will prosper; those who trust the LORD will be joyful. Prov. 13:18, Poverty and disgrace come to him who ignores **instruction**, but whoever heeds reproof is honored. God

honors his SONS who follow instructions by manifesting his power and Glory in them. Proverbs 1:18, Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching. In 1 Kings 17:8-16, Elijah simply followed the instructions of God to go to Zarephath and God manifested his power and glory.

SONS have Good Character.

Joseph was a man of great integrity. When he was sold into slavery by his brothers, he worked hard and gained the trust of his master, Potiphar. When Potiphar's wife tried to seduce him, Joseph refused, saying, "How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" (Genesis 39:9). Joseph's commitment to honor God with his actions was unwavering, even in the face of temptation.

Ruth was a Moabite woman who married an Israelite man. After her husband died, she chose to stay with her mother-in-law, Naomi, instead of returning to her own people. Ruth's loyalty was not just a matter of duty or obligation; it was a reflection of her love for Naomi and her commitment to honor God. Her selfless devotion to Naomi led her to work hard to provide for them both, and her faithfulness was rewarded when she married Boaz and became an ancestor of King David and, ultimately, Jesus Christ.

CONCLUSION

If you don't know who you are, the devil knows who you are and will take advantage of your ignorance! "***Lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.***" 2 Corinthians 2:11. He certainly knows about our adoption as sons of God. He can do nothing to destroy it, but he will do everything to make sure that we don't realize its potency.

QUESTIONS

1. What qualities do you have as evidence that you are a SON of God?
2. How do you develop godly characters?
3. What are the qualities that you still do not exhibit as a SON of God? Don't answer, think, and pray.

CHARACTERISTICS OF SONS II

10

BIBLE READING:

Genesis 22:1-18; Romans 8:14-19;

MEMORY VERSE: 1 John 3:1:

"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God..."

INTRODUCTION

When Paul spoke of adopted son, he drew from Roman imagery. It is not only a process whereby a child who was not part of a family becomes a member of that family but the celebration of a child's coming to full maturity, when he can begin to enjoy the privileges of sonship. To be adopted as a son means to have the full rights of an heir.

LESSON OUTLINE:

In our last lesson, we looked at some qualities of sons. We shall be discussing more qualities in this lesson.

1. SONS are Dependable
2. SONS are Reliable
3. SONS are Trusted

SONS are Dependable.

SONS are dependable, servants are not. A dependable person is truthful in all that he says. "A faithful witness will not lie: but a false witness will utter lies" (Proverbs 14:5). A dependable person will not tell people how good he is. Abraham could depend on Isaac to follow and do whatever he asked him to do. When there was no one around, Abraham knew that Isaac was there and would not leave him, no matter the circumstances. Ruth was dependable. **Proverbs 22:1** confirms the value of a good reputation: "A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, loving favor rather than silver and gold."

SONS are Reliable.

In Genesis 22, Abraham built the altar in the presence of Isaac. He laid the wood while Isaac watched, Abraham bound Isaac and Isaac didn't resist, neither did he ask any question. He carried Isaac and laid him on the altar upon the wood for the sacrifice. He was alive with his two eyes opened when Abraham tied him to the altar. He was alive when Abraham lifted the knife to slay him. He knew that was his father. If there was no animal for the sacrifice, Abraham relied on Isaac to be offered. SONS are reliable.

SONS are Trusted.

In Genesis 22, Abraham trusted Isaac that he would not tell his mother the story of what happened at the altar of sacrifice at Moriah. The prodigal son could not be trusted with money and wealth. Abraham could not trust the servants, and so he asked them to wait while he went farther with the SON. Sons are taken farther because they are trusted. "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. So, if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? Luke 16:11-12

CONCLUSION

With all this listed qualities one can tell the quality of his or her nature as a son and be able to work on the area he/she is lacking and beyond so the devil doesn't take advantage of it.

QUESTIONS

1. List more qualities of sons.
2. How do you develop godly characters?

CHARACTERISTICS OF SONS III

11

BIBLE READING:
Galatians 4:1-18;

MEMORY VERSE: 1 John 3:1:

“Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God...”

INTRODUCTION

There are great privileges available to sons. Jesus is the pattern Son. While He was on earth He demonstrated what it means to live as God's Son. The difference between us and Him is that while He is the Son of God by nature we are the Sons of God by adoption. We can live like Him on this earth. ***“By this love is perfected with us, so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment, because just as Jesus is, so also are we in this world.”*** 1 John 4:17. (See also 1 John 2:6).

LESSON OUTLINE:

The Scripture says, “the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God,” which gives the sense that creation itself is anticipating the certainty of the revealing, appearing, disclosure, expression, or manifestation of **the sons** of God (Romans 8:19). It can only take **sons** to manifest. From Genesis 22:1-18, sons are:

1. Sons possess spiritual intelligence.
2. Sons recognize their special relationship with the Father.
3. A son is a heir.
4. A son also sticks with his father in good and bad times.

1 Sons possess spiritual intelligence.

“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.”
Romans 8:14. Children depend on external rules for guidance,

but sons receive guidance from the Holy Spirit that indwells them and their spiritual fathers, which include their pastors. ***“But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.”*** 1 John 2:27 (Also see John 16:13).

2 Sons recognize their special relationship with the Father.

“And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, ‘Abba, Father!’” Galatians 4:6. They are not afraid to call God, **ABBA**, which is similar to the English word Daddy! It describes the intimacy and tenderness that exists between a father and his son. It's what a Jewish boy would call his father. Interestingly, this was probably the way Jesus addressed His heavenly Father (Mark 14:36). As sons, we no longer cringe in God's presence but genuinely reverence Him. We are no longer in bondage to rules that only serve to alienate us from God. Some of us grew up with earthly fathers that made us fear their presence. That's how we view God. We are still ruled by 'slavery mentality.' We see God as looking out for our mistakes in order to smack us. Not so anymore. Rather, we can come boldly into His presence knowing that we are His and are always welcome (Hebrews 4:16).

3 A son is an heir.

He has inheritance rights. ***“And if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ...”*** Romans 8:17a (see also Galatians 4:7). In Christ we have obtained an inheritance (Ephesians 1:11). Once a child has been adopted, his former status no longer counts. He may have come from a poor and wretched background but once he has been adopted everything about him is changed. His new status is defined by what his father has. Just imagine what our heavenly Father has.

4 A son also sticks with his father in good and bad times.

There is a common saying especially among Pentecostals. I am not meant to suffer. Even some men of God will say, I am not called to suffer. Scripture speaking, “***...if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.***” Romans 8:17b. The mark of a son is that even if he has to endure suffering, he stays in the family, he has nowhere else to go. “***And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever.***” John 8:35 (also see John 6:66-69). A son accepts discipline from his father knowing that it could be his father's way of training him. “***If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons.***” Hebrews 12:7-8.

CONCLUSION

A beautiful contrast between those who are sons and those who are mere servants is made by Dr. Wiersbe. First, the son is born into the family, but the servant is not (Lk. 15: 18-19). Second, the son possesses the same nature as the father (2 Peter 1:4), but the servant does not. Third, the son has a father (-Rom.8:15-16), but the servant has a master. Fourth, the son obeys out of love (Rom 10:5; John 4:15), but the servant obeys out of fear. Fifth, the son is rich (Gal 4:7), but the servant is poor. Sixth, the son is disciplined under grace, but the servant is disciplined under the Law. Seventh, the son has a future, but the servant does not. Who in his right mind would give up such a privileged position in Christ to place himself under bondage?

QUESTIONS

1. Mention some privileges you have as a son of God.
2. Under what conditions should a son stick to the father?
3. How is your intimacy and relationship with God like?
Don't answer, think, and pray.

MANIFESTATION OF THE SONS OF GOD

12

BIBLE READING: Romans 8:14-19;

MEMORY VERSE: Romans 8:14:

*“For as many as are led
by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God”*

INTRODUCTION

Clearly, Romans 8:19 is saying that nature is waiting for the sons of God to be revealed. The world is waiting for us to come to our place in destiny, otherwise they will continue in bondage, corruption and sufferings.

LESSON OUTLINE:

The Scripture says, “the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God,” which gives the sense that creation itself is anticipating the certainty of the revealing, appearing, disclosure, expression, or manifestation of **the sons** of God (Romans 8:19). It can only take **sons** to manifest. From Genesis 22:1-18, sons are:

1. Tied to Manifestation
2. When a people are Oppressed
3. Understanding the days of Challenge.

Tied to Manifestation

There are people and situations that are tied to our manifestation. If we remain whining and complaining children, they will continue in their hopelessness. Some of our lives are like magnets, if we rise we shall draw other people along with us. We have been redeemed and positioned in our families, communities etc. to play certain roles and until we manifest as sons, no one will play those roles. It is when they see us manifesting as sons that they will become interested in the Christ

that's in us. That will be the key to their salvation.

When a people are Oppressed

Whenever there is oppression or a challenge, God will be asking: "Are there no sons?" For instance, when Israel's territory was occupied by foreigners, this was God's response. *"Against the Ammonites. Thus says the Lord: "Has Israel no sons? Has he no heir? Why then does Milcom inherit Gad, and his people dwell in its cities?"* Jeremiah 49:1. Note that 'Milcom' was the demonic principality worshiped by the Ammonites. It was this spirit that had occupied the land that belonged to God's people because there was no son to challenge it.

For 40 days, Israel and the Philistines were in a stalemate in the valley of Elah (1 Samuel 17). Goliath kept asking Israel to present a man to challenge him in the battle but there was none. Israel's army was made of wimps, not warriors! They didn't know who they were – they had lost their identity. The situation was so until David showed up.

Understanding the days of Challenge

He probably was a mere teenager but he knew who he was as a covenant person. He knew that Yahweh was greater than all the false gods of the Philistines. When Goliath began to curse him by dagon, David must have had a good laugh. Was it not the same dagon who fell and broke his neck and limbs before the Mighty God of Jacob? (1 Samuel 5:1-5). Though David lived in the Old Testament, yet he was one man who understood and manifested the Spirit of sonship. He defeated Goliath and took away the reproach from Israel.

Some of us are being threatened with/by gods that are no gods. Let the Spirit of sonship rise up from within us. The greater One is within us (1 John 4:4). Jesus said *"Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you."* John 10:19

CONCLUSION

When we manifest as sons we walk in the original purpose of God in creating man. Adam was referred to by Luke as 'son of God.' Luke 3:38. In that position he walked in dominion. He lost it all as a result of the fall. Jesus came as the only begotten Son of God to show us how to live like 'sons' in the earth. May God open our understanding to who we are in Christ and enable us by His Spirit to manifest our sonship.

QUESTIONS

1. What qualities do you have as evidence that you are a SON of God?
2. How do you develop godly characters?
3. What are the qualities that you still do not exhibit as a SON of God? Don't answer, think, and pray.

13

EMERGENCE OF THE SONS OF GOD - I BIBLE READING:

Genesis 22:1-18; Romans 8:14-19;

MEMORY VERSE: Romans 8:14:

*"For as many as are led
by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God"*

INTRODUCTION

The emergence of the Sons of God is like a pupa breaking through the cocoon to emerge as a glorious, beautiful butterfly. It overcomes the force holding it down for a glorious display of power and beauty.

There is a well-known story that has many different versions – The Eagle Chicken. The basic premise is the same – an eagle was mistaken for a chicken by a farmer.

The story is told about the Eagle-Chicken: When the eagle was very small, he fell from the safety of his nest. A chicken farmer found the eagle, brought him to the farm, and raised him in a chicken coop among his many chickens.

The eagle grew up doing what chickens do, living like a chicken, and believing he was a chicken, even though he was not a chicken.

God created him to be an eagle. He had wings that could soar. He had talons that could hunt large prey. He had eyesight that could see for miles. But instead of being who he was created to be, he unwittingly chose to peck grain on the ground, live in a confined space and never venture more than a few yards from the chicken pen. He missed out on the life God had created him for.

LESSON OUTLINE:

The “**Emergence of the Sons of God**” brings this story to mind. The Eagle-Chicken made no manifestations of an Eagle but only that of a chicken; so are many sons of God. We shall look at a few characteristics of the “Chicken-Christian”.

1. Enjoys Sin
2. Lives in Bondage
3. Fears the Presence of God
4. Does not consider Heaven Home
5. Chickens out of Divine purpose and plan
6. Has brief Experience

Enjoys Sin

Chickens have their heads down, their beaks are always busy in the rubbish or something else, searching for scraps. The chicken will eat dead things and inseparable filth. This is the life of a Chicken Christian – always found in uncleanness, unrighteousness and iniquities, day after day.

Lives in Bondage

If you look at the chicken, it is always working hard because it knows that the time is short. Very soon it will be dark, and it will be returned into the coop for the night. The Chicken Christian is no different. He will do four jobs to survive, staying out of church in the process, yet his bills are still not paid. He enjoys the cage rather than the liberty of faith to put his trust in God.

Fears the Presence of God

The chicken will rather not fly to the mountains. Too lazy and conditioned to do so. A Chicken Christian will not approach Mount Zion where holiness is demanded because of his many sins. Consequently, he will not enjoy the deliverance available on Mount Zion nor possess his possessions (Obadiah 1:17).

Does Not Consider Heaven Home

Chickens travel in groups and are earth-bound; so are Chicken Christians. They keep their eyes on the things of the world, never lifting up their heads to see Him Who is far above.

Chickens Out of Divine Plan and Purpose

A fellow was going to church with forty Naira in his possession, twenty naira in each pocket. His intention was to feed himself with the N20 in one pocket and give the other N20 as his offering at church. However, as he got down at the bus stop, somebody threatened to kill him with a knife, demanding for the money in his pocket. He handed the N20 in his right pocket to the thief, who promptly ran away. The man wondered to himself about his predicament while proceeding to the church. He concluded and said to the LORD, "Jesus, your offering has been stolen, as You know. The remaining money I have is for my feeding. I'm sure you understand." That is the Chicken Christian, giving up on God's plan and purpose in the face of trials. In their head, the church or pastor better bear the loss.

Has Brief Existence

Whereas an eagle can live for 70 years, chickens do not live long. They are almost always at the mercy of predators.

CONCLUSION

It will be a tragedy for an eagle to die a chicken and it will be a disaster for a son to die a servant. Let the Eagle Saints arise; let us wake up, Sons of God, and get ready to emerge.

QUESTIONS

1. What qualities do you have as evidence that you are a SON of God?
2. How do you develop godly characters?
3. What are the qualities that you still do not exhibit as a SON of God? Don't answer, think, and pray.

14

EMERGENCE OF THE SONS OF GOD - II BIBLE READING: Ezekiel 17:3-8; Isaiah 40:29-31; Job 39:27-29; MEMORY VERSE: Isaiah 40:31:

*“But they who wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run
and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.”*

INTRODUCTION

From our last lesson, we learnt about the story of the Eagle-Chicken. This leads us to the concept of the Eagle Christian.

To be an “Eagle Christian” means to be a partaker of the divine nature of God. Throughout the Bible, God likens Himself and His children to the eagle. He protects, feeds, and teaches His children as the eagle protects, feeds, and teaches its eaglets. This is why we should seek to know and understand the life of an eagle and the following portion of Scripture which reveal this truth: **Exodus 19:4** *You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself.*

LESSON OUTLINE:

Now let's examine some features of the “Eagle-Christian”.

1. Victorious and overcoming life
2. Strength and Authority
3. Hunger for the Word
4. Eyes Focused on God
5. Cautious Eating habit
6. Clear Vision
7. Total commitment to God and spouse
8. Understanding of times and seasons

Victorious and Overcoming Life

When a person becomes an “Eagle Saint/Christian,” it is one of the great mysteries of faith. He is no longer content to live with mediocrity but begins to act like Jesus, and lives a dynamic, victorious, and overcoming life. He becomes like an eagle who mounts up and rides on the air currents with hardly any effort (Isaiah 40:31). You are called to be an eagle, not a crow or a sparrow. You are made for the heavens.

Strength and Authority

The Hebrew word for eagle “Nesher” means “to tear with the beak.” The eagle is the “King of the birds,” and an international symbol of strength, beauty, authority, and freedom. The eagle's wings are 7.5 ft. in width. Their talons are four times greater in strength than that of a human hand. An adult eagle can weigh 4kg and yet carry an animal weighing 20kg.

Hunger for the Word

From birth, eagles have unique innate and physical characteristics. They are born with their mouths open and their eyes looking into the sun. They have a tremendous hunger and constantly cry for food. The eaglets are fed sufficiently. The eaglets are well fed at regular intervals and they grow stronger. In the same manner, when we Christians are born again, we have a tremendous hunger for God's Word.

Eyes focused on God.

Eagles are the only creatures that can look directly into the sun. They have two sets of eyelids. One is used for hunting while the other is used for flying directly towards the sun. When we, as eagle Christians fall into trials and temptations, we too must fly directly to the Son, Jesus Christ, Who is the Father of light and His light blinds the enemy!

Cautious Eating Habits

They are very wise as to watch what they consume. Eagles cannot digest everything they eat. Things like hair and bones accumulate in the crop (i.e. the crop of the bird where food is stored), impairing their ability of free flight. Can you see a parallel? To be an Eagle Christian, we must check what goes in. It is best not to feed on things like pornography, slander, smutty jokes via mail or SMS, dirty scenes in movies and on TV. What enters you determines your strength. You are what you eat.

Clear Vision

An eagle has a strong vision up to 3 kilometers while flying in the sky. It has two foveae, or centers of focus, which allows the bird to look forward and sideways simultaneously. You must hone-in your vision like a full-grown eagle. You must grasp the revelations that come from the Word of God for your life and your ministry. You must fine tune your ears to hear the voice of God, ascertain it and obey it. Have a vision and remain focused, no matter what the obstacle, and you will succeed. Proverbs 20:12 says, "The hearing ear and the seeing eye, the LORD made them both."

Total Commitment to God and Spouse

The eagle's marriage vows are made 10 to 15 thousand feet in the air. This ceremony is done by locking talons together and turning head over heels with both eagles screaming with joy. Eagles are totally committed to their mates. Married eagles stick with each other till death. They are neither immoral nor adulterous. They will remain together for life, "In good times or bad, in sickness and in health," till death do them part! What a difference this would make if the Church, the Bride of Christ, could make such a commitment as this to God and to their families!

Understanding of Times and Seasons

The eagle is the only creature who understands wind currents; he stands on the rock and waits for the right wind to take off. He has cylindrical bones and therefore, just glides and the wind takes him forward. The Eagle Christian is one who has learnt to stand on the promises of God and who waits for the right anointing of the Holy Spirit to take off.

CONCLUSION

While God may not immediately and miraculously change our difficult circumstances, He does give us the power to face whatever is in front of us at the moment. God gives a fresh supply of spiritual—supernatural—strength and faith to those who have humble dependence on Him. Its time to manifest God's power.

QUESTIONS

1. What do you understand by the Eagle-Christian?
2. What are the features or characteristics of Eagle Christians?
3. What are you going to do to be an Eagle-Christian? Don't answer, think, and pray.

15

EMERGENCE OF THE SONS OF GOD - III BIBLE READING: Galatians 4:1-5;

MEMORY VERSE: Romans 8:19:

"For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God."

INTRODUCTION

A son can still end up a servant; just as we saw in the story of the Eagle-Chicken. A son will not automatically experience the manifestation; there is a price to be paid. We have a scriptural proof for this:

Galatians 4:1 says, *"Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all;"* The heir is the son but because he has not grown beyond childhood or is still a babe, the Bible says he is not different from a servant. Although he has heavenly mansions prepared for him, he will still not enjoy the manifestation. A Son-Servant is like an Eagle-Chicken. Galatians 4:2-5 gives us an indication of what will make the son to begin to emerge: *"But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father. Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world: But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons."* It is time for the manifestation of the Sons of God.

LESSON OUTLINE:

Let's examine some of the points that guarantee the emergence of the Sons of God.

1. Submission to God and Authority

2. Humbling Oneself
3. Being Hungry and Thirsty for Spiritual Growth
4. Discovering One's True Identity
5. Enduring the Suffering
6. Praying until something happens to one's spiritual life

Submission to God and Authority – Submit yourself completely to the LORD. Do not be the kind who throws away one wife to go and get another. Do not keep saying, “Well, well, they are too strict in this CMCC. I want to go to a place that is liberal.” That liberality is license to hell fire. It is a license to bondage – a bondage under tutors and governors (Galatians 4:2).

Humbling Oneself – There is nothing that you have that you did not receive. It is God that gave it to you. Do not be proud about anything. Humble yourself before the LORD. 1 Peter 5:6, “Humble yourself...;” James 4:6, “God resists the proud...”

Being Hungry and Thirsty for Spiritual Growth – You must self-assess continually with an eye for improvement, letting go of any and every thing that does not bring God glory or move your life forward in Christ. To be an Eagle Christian, you must hunger and thirst for spiritual growth.

Discovering One's True Identity – For as long as an eagle lives with chickens he will not fly high. A son who lives like a slave will remain in bondage.

Enduring the Sufferings – Romans 8:18 says, “For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.” There will be no manifestation before the sufferings. It is the success from the sufferings that opens the gate for the manifestation.

Praying Until Something Happens to One's Spiritual Life – Do not leave your spiritual praying posture until you receive a visitation. You must pray without ceasing, when you are walking, sitting, and even laying in your bed. Pray for truth, mercy, favor, and most importantly, for the manifestation of the sons of God.

CONCLUSION

We are waiting on God to do something, but creation is waiting on the saints to do something called the manifestation of the sons of God.

QUESTIONS

1. How can a son end up a servant?
2. How can we ensure or guarantee the manifestation of the sons of God?
3. What do you need to do to ensure you manifest as a son of God? Don't answer, think, and pray.

16

MANIFESTING THROUGH RIGHTEOUSNESS

Bible reading: Psalm 37:18-40

Memory verse: 1 Peter 2:9.

*"But ye re a chosen generation,
a royal priesthood, a holy nation,"*

INTRODUCTION

Righteousness has been rightly described as right standing with God. But there's another description; it's the rightness of God at work in the human person—divinity manifested in humanity. Put more succinctly, righteousness is God's life and love at work in you. It's a fact of the Gospel that the Father has given us His own righteousness; we can now stand in His presence without guilt, condemnation or inferiority.

LESSON EXPLAINED:

1. Results of righteousness:

- I. Shall never be moved Psalm 55:22. "Cast your burden upon the Lord and He will sustain you, He will never allow the righteous to be shaken".
- II. Are objects of God's watchful care. 1 Peter 3:12. "For the eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous, And His ears attend to their prayer, But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."
- III. Have their prayers heard. Psalm 34:17. "The righteous cry, and the Lord hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles".
- IV. Are abundantly provided for. Proverbs 13:25. "The righteous has enough to satisfy his appetite, But the stomach of the wicked is in need".
- V. Think and desire good. Proverbs 12:5. "The thoughts of

the righteous are just, But the counsels of the wicked are deceitful”.

- VI. Are delivered out of all troubles. Psalm 34:19. “Many are the afflictions of the righteous, But the Lord delivers him out of them all”.
- VII. Are the excellent of the earth. Psalm 16:3 “As for the saints who are in the earth, they are the majestic ones in whom is all my delight”.

CONCLUSION

This means we're now the unveiling of the Father's righteousness; the manifestation and outworking of His righteousness. When you step into a matter, you're not there to decide who is wrong and who is right; rather, you bring forth the judgments of God. You're His righteousness manifested, and the unveiling of His glory.

QUESTIONS

- I. What is righteousness?
- II. Explain how we can manifest through righteousness.

17

MANIFESTING THROUGH RIGHTEOUSNESS II

Bible reading: Psalm 37:18-40

Memory verse: 1 Peter 2:9.

*"But ye re a chosen generation,
a royal priesthood, a holy nation,"*

INTRODUCTION

He has given us His rightness, His ability to do right, so we can live in consonance with Him. We don't have to struggle to please Him; it's our life and nature now to live before Him in righteousness and true holiness (Ephesians 4:24). In our last lesson we looked at some results of righteousness. In this lesson, we shall consider more results of righteousness

LESSON EXPLAINED:

1. Results of righteousness:

- I. Know the secret of the lord. Psalm 25:14 "The secret of the Lord is for those who fear Him, And He will make them know His covenant".
- II. Are loved by God. "Proverbs 15:9 The way of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, But He loves one who pursues righteousness".
- III. Are enriched. Psalm 112:3. "Wealth and riches are in his house, and his righteousness endures forever".
- IV. Dwell in security. Isaiah 33:15-16. "He who walks righteously and speaks with sincerity, He who rejects unjust gain and shakes his hands so that they hold no bribe; He who stops his ears from hearing about bloodshed and shuts his eyes from looking upon evil; He will dwell on the heights, His refuge will be the impregnable rock; His bread will be given him, His water will be sure

- V. Are bold as a lion. Proverbs 28:1 “The wicked flee when no one is pursuing, But the righteous are bold as a lion”.
- VI. Are exalted by God. Job 36:7 “He does not withdraw His eyes from the righteous. But with kings on the throne, He has seated them forever, and they are exalted”.

CONCLUSION

We become co-creators of our lives. We weave intentions into the fabric of existence, casting spells with our words and deeds. We learn that manifestation is not just about asking for what we want; it's about aligning with our stand with God which is righteousness.

QUESTIONS.

1. Explain the results of righteousness?

18 MANIFESTING THE FEAR OF GOD

BIBLE READING: PROV.10: 27-31

ROM.8: 19, PSALM33: 8, REV.15: 4

MEMORY VERSE: PROV.10: 27:

*"The fear of the Lord prolong days
but the years of the wicked shall be shortened".*

INTRODUCTION

We can prophesy and miss heaven. We can win souls and miss heaven, we can also have anointing and miss heaven (Mt t.7: 21-23). But we cannot live expressing clearly the fear of God in us and miss heaven. Prov.1: 7&8, Matt.10: 28. When we truly realize God's holiness (i.e. His Fear, Purity, Perfection and separation from evil). The normal response of the human spirit is to fear Him (Rev.15: 4)

LESSON OUTLINE:

1. How do you manifest the fear of the lord.
2. Benefits/ rewards of manifesting the fear of God.
3. Examples of God fearing people/ person

HOW DO YOU MANIFEST THE FEAR OF THE LORD.

PROV.1: 78 PS.1: 13

1. Be open to the instruction of the Lord. Ps.25:12.
2. Find delight in His Command. Ps.112: 1.
3. Trust in the Lord. Ps.115: 11.
4. Seek Him with an undivided heart. Ps.86: 11.
5. Honour Him and show Him reverence. Ps. 22: 23, Ps.33: 8.
6. Abstain from evil. Prov. 8:13, Prov.10: 27.

BENEFITS/ REWARDS OF MANIFESTING THE FEAR OF GOD

1. It brings wealth, Honor and life Pro. 3:7, Prov. 22: 4, Job.36: 11

2. The Lord confides (trust) in those who fear Him, he makes His covenant known to them. Ps.25:1214
3. Deep/ True Spiritual Knowledge only granted to those who fear the Lord. Prov. 1: 7
4. His Divine Unfathomable Wisdom becomes available to us. Job 28: 28, Ps. 111: 10, Isa. 33: 6
5. A Unique weapon against sin. Ex.20: 20.

EXAMPLES OF GOD FEARING PEOPLE/ PERSON.

1. Brethren who forsake not the assembly of the saints and who obey the teachings manifest(ing) holiness, purity perfection. Job 1:8, Heb.10:25, Act 10: 2-22, 1John4:17, Act 10:22.

CONCLUSION

Those who desire to live life to His richest measure can begin by manifesting the fear of God.

Fearing God is not passive (it is not something that you did once, it is active not static but dynamic.

A righteous i.e. Holy "FEAR of the Lord displays itself through a humble and relevant obedience to God's will, purpose and commands.

QUESTIONS.

1. How do you manifest the fear of God?
2. Mention three (3) rewards of manifesting the fear of God
3. Mention two (2) examples of those who manifest the fear of God. One in the old Testament and the other in the New Testament.

19

MANIFESTING THROUGH GODLY LIVING

Bible Reading: Titus 2:11-15

Memory Verse: Titus 2:12

"Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lust we should live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world."

INTRODUCTION

Godly living should not be hidden, but should manifest for all to see. Jesus says in Matt.5:16 "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your father which is in heaven". If it is not manifested for all to see, your heavenly father would not be glorified. Paul speaking about this says: "But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem and throughout all the coast of Judea and then to the gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance. "Do works". Things that are visible and noticeable (Acts. 26:20).

LESSON OUTLINE

1. What is Godly living
2. Necessity of Godly living
3. Possibility of Godly living

1. What is Godly Living?

Godly is from the Greek word eusebes which means Pious, devout, well reverent. Godly living means a manner of life that displays pious attitude towards God. Acts 10:2,7 and 22:12. This kind of life is unmistakably holy and glorious. In Acts. 10:2, the Bible describes Cornelius as a devout man, and one that feared God with all his house..."

In Acts. 22:12 "Ananias a devout man... having a good report of all the Jews which dwelt there.

These men occupy special places in the heart of God. No wonder Cornelius was the first gentile Christian.

1. Necessity of Godly Living? (Titus 2:11-12, 1 Peter 1:15-16, Heb. 12:14)

a. It becomes absolutely necessary to live Godly lives because he who called us is holy (1Pet. 1:15). Paganism scarcely produce a God whose examples was not the most abominable. Their greatest gods were paragons of impurity, of sexual excesses and perversions. Christianity, therefore has an infinite advantage over heathenism. God demands that all his followers be like him.

b. We have been called out of darkness into his marvelous light (1Pet. 2:9)

c. The grace that brings Salvation hath appeared to all, (Titus 2:11)

d. We have been taught to live Godly Titus 2:12

e. Without Godliness, no man shall see the Lord Heb. 12:14

f. It is a clearly revealed will of God to live a life separated from sin. 1 Thess. 4:3

Sanctification, whose Greek translation is hagasmos means consecration, translated holiness Rom 6:19,22; 1 Thess. 4:7, 1 Tim. 2:15 and 2 Thess. 2:13.

2. possibility of Living Godly (Lev. 11:44)

First and foremost, it has always been "LIKE FATHER LIKE SON". There are what we called Old Testament saints, and it would be a serious error to call them SAINTS, if they didn't live godly.

✍ Noah was a godly man (Gen. 6: 8-9)

✍ Job is another Old Testament Saint (Job 1:1,5) Daniel (Dan. 1:8)

✍ Joseph (Gen. 39:8-9, 12) and a lot too numerous to mention.

These men (Old Testament Saints) faith heroes, lived godly lives in an era of the law, an era of strict adherence to the law, much more it is easier for us who are operating under better covenants based on better promises (Heb. 8:6)

We are in an era of grace and the ever-abiding presence of the Holy Spirit, who is our PARACLETE, (Greek, the one called to the side of another for help or counsel)

- ✍ The God we are serving does not change His principles and policies because of man (Heb. 13:8)
- ✍ The Cloud of Witness (Heb. 12:1)
- ✍ Examples of Christ (1Pt. 2:21-24)
- ✍ Examples of the Apostles (Acts 4:12, 19-20)
- ✍ Godliness is profitable (1Tim. 6:6, 11)
- ✍ Godliness Taunts the ungodly (Dan. 6:3-10)
- ✍

CONCLUSION:

We have tried to explore the possibility of manifesting godliness as Sons of God, in a perverse and sinful generation. When the people of God live godly lives, they become a source of discomfort to the ungodly men and women around them, like Daniel was to his colleagues (Dan. 6:4-5). The ungodly finds it embarrassing and inconveniencing to carry out their evil and ungodly deeds.

We must remember that God has not, and will not, put or make an unattainable, obnoxious demand on his people. Whatever God demands from us, there is always a corresponding grace made available for the accomplishment of that task. Receive Grace to manifest godliness in 2024 and beyond, in Jesus Name.

QUESTION

1. What is Godly Living?
2. Is it Necessary for us to live Godly
3. Give three reasons for your answer

20 MANIFESTING THROUGH GODLY APPEARANCE

BIBLE READING:

1 Pet. 3:1 5; Gen. 3:21; Isa. 3:16 24

MEMORY VERSE: I Cor. 10:31

"...Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God".

INTRODUCTION

In our lesson today, we shall look at Christian dressing. We are in an age in which a number of things are taken for granted as non-essential in the body of Christ. Dressing is one of those things which have lost its purpose and is being handled in a perverted way by many Christians who feel that it does not matter whichever way you dress, so long as your heart is right with God. To them they do not see anything wrong if a Christian should dress like those in the world. In this lesson, we shall carefully study the purpose of dressing.

LESSON OUTLINE:

- (1) The Purpose.
- (2) Perversion of Dressing.
- (3) Ideal Dressing.

1. THE PURPOSE:

The purpose of dressing as stated in the book of Genesis is for the covering of our nakedness. Dressing is meant for the covering of the fallen man who was found naked immediately he disobeyed God, and the glory of God which was his covering departed. God who is rich in mercy provided the first skin of coat for Adam and Eve, to cover their nakedness instead of the fig leaves they used Gen. 3:6 7,21; Rev. 3:18.

2. PERVERSION OF DRESSING:

Over the ages dressing has lost its true meaning. Man has used it for his own lust, pride of life and sinful way, which is completely contrary to the original intention of God. Instead of covering. There are those who expose their nakedness with their styles of dressing. This is a perversion of God's original plan which any true child of God will never be a part of. "drunkenness to thirst". They made dressing a pride and there is a lot misapplication, because their sinful nature have added make-up, painting and artificial dressing that are practiced today. All these are not of God Isa. 3:16 24; Deut. 22:5; 2 Kings 9:30.

3. IDEAL DRESSING:

The New Testament have a simple teaching on the way a Christian should dress. Though a particular pattern or uniform is not specified, but the Christian way of dressing is quite different from the sinful way of the world. This can easily differentiate a Christian from those harlots and ruffians of the world, who show whom they are with their dressing. The word that guides Christians in their dressing is modesty. They are to dress modestly, not for lust, sinfulness or for the pride of life 1Jn. 2:15; 1 Pet. 3:1 5; 1 Tim. 2:9.

CONCLUSION:

As a Christian, our dressing must put us into a right group of people in the society. We must not be looked upon as harlots of thieves through the kind of way we dress. Our nakedness must be properly covered because that is the purpose of dressing. We must repent fully from the perverted dressing.

QUESTIONS:

1. What is the purpose of dressing?
2. How is dressing perverted?
3. Which way should a Christian dress?

21

MANIFESTING THROUGH FORGIVENESS

BIBLE READING:

Matthew 6:5 – 15, Col 4:12-15

MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 6:15

*“But if ye forgive not men their trespasses
neither will your father forgive your trespasses”.*

INTRODUCTION

As we continue our studies on the manifestations of the sons of God, we shall turn our focus on manifestations through forgiveness. We shall be studying this topic according to the following guidelines what is forgiveness, examples of forgiveness and some benefits of forgiveness.

LESSON OUTLINE

- (1) What is Forgiveness?
- (2) Examples of Forgiveness
- (3) Benefits of Forgiveness

1. What is Forgiveness?

Forgiveness is the noun form of the word to forgive. Forgive mean to stop feeling angry with somebody who has done something to harm, annoy or upset you; to stop feeling angry with yourself. Forgiveness therefore mean the act of forgiving somebody; willingness to forgive somebody. The word forgive is from the Greek word a phiemi. It lends itself to various applications. But for the purpose of this study we shall take the following. To let go, give up a debt, forgive to remit, to keep no longer John 20:23 Matt 27:50 Mark 15:37 Luke 23:34 Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour taught and practiced forgiveness.

2. Examples of Forgiveness?

In Luke 11:1, the Bible says as Jesus prayed in a certain place, when he finished one of his disciples asked him to teach them how to pray. And going to Matt 6:9-15 Jesus taught the Lord's Prayer; a pattern of prayer. After this **manner** therefore pray ye...." (Mark 6:9). He concluded his teaching with verse 14 and 15. If ye forgive men, God will forgive you if ye forgive not men, God will also not forgive and in Matt 18:21 – 35, Jesus told a parable called the parable of the unmerciful servant. This story is about a king who forgave or wrote off a debt of about 290,850,000 dollar worth of goods but this same servant, refused to forgive or write off a debt of just 17 dollars according to 'Dakes' analysis.

Jesus Christ himself was a great example of a man who forgave as mentioned earlier in Luke 23:34.

3. Benefits of forgiveness

1. When we forgive others God will forgive us Matt 6: 14 & 15
2. When we forgive others we have peace.
3. Men live freely together in the atmosphere of forgiveness
4. Forgiveness breeds and brings healing James 5:14 & 15

Forgiveness is a very important concept in New Testament Christianly Jesus taught and preached it.

Paul taught it. Colossians 3:12-15

QUESTIONS

1. Define Forgiveness
2. State two benefits of forgiveness

MANIFESTING THROUGH LOVE

22

Bible reading: Romans 8:19-22

Memory verse: Romans 13:8:

*Owe no man anything, but to love one another:
for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.*

INTRODUCTION

There are different ways we can manifest, that is, what is evident that should be seen in us. One of such ways is through LOVE. Scripture says that love is the greatest commandment of all. Therefore, it is of great necessity that love is seen, felt and experienced among us as believers.

LESSON OUTLINE

- How do we manifest through love?
- Why do we manifest through love.

How do we manifest through love?

- 1- Realizing that we have this love in us by the virtue of the Holy Spirit that resides in us.
- 2- Yielding ourselves to the Holy Spirit so as to release his love through us.
- 3- Relating to others based on this love in us. Rom 13:9.
- 4- Living every day with the intention to show love in words and actions to everyone, both to those we know and to those we don't know, those that can pay us back or not etc and very importantly, without expecting anything in return.

Why do we manifest through love?

- 1- God commanded us to do so Mark 12:31

- 2- That is the proof that we also love God. John 14:23
- 3- Also, it's another evidence that shows that we are Christ followers Romans 13:8-9
- 4- It's a way of evangelism. Reaching the unsaved. Bringing souls to Christ.

CONCLUSION

Without love, there will be no salvation. Love kept Jesus on the cross for three hours. Love makes the world beautiful. Let's allow love to be made manifest through us at all times.

QUESTIONS

- 1. How will you manifest love in your everyday life?
- 2. Why is it important that you manifest through love?

23

MANIFESTING THROUGH UNITY AND PEACE MAKING

BIBLE READING: Eph. 4:1-6

MEMORY VERSE: Matt5:9

*"Blessed are the peace makers for
they shall be called the children of God".*

INTRODUCTION

The entire world (Planet Earth) is filled with human beings created by God but not all are the children (Sons and Daughters) of God. John1:12, 2Cor6:17-18. There are some people whose attitude to life makes them resemble God's children though they have not gone through the spiritual process of becoming the children of God.

Such people make peace in the society and so they are merely called the children of God though not born again. This therefore means that one of the major characteristics of God's children is to manifest peace making wherever they are.

Every believer in Christ Jesus have been adopted Sons and Daughters of God (Rom8:15); therefore, they resemble God and are meant to manifest the God kind of life. Our God (Yahweh) is a peace loving God, He is the God of peace (Rom15:33). He has through Jesus, imparted into his children the spirit of peace which he expects us to manifest to our generation (Rom5:1). Believers should **CREATE** peace not just be peace makers.

LESSONS OUTLINE

- 1.Making Peace Among Believers.
- 2.Making Peace in the Society at Large.

1.MAKING PEACE AMONG BELIEVERS:

Our Bible reading above speaks very clearly on how believers should be agents of making peace even among themselves. The following attributes if found in the life of every believer would promote a peaceful atmosphere in the Body of Christ.

Lowliness (humility) meekness, gentleness, long-suffering, bearing with one another in love, being patient with one another. Believers must always remember that they belong to one Body, one Spirit, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God who also is the father of all. If the above virtues are visible in the midst of believers, manifestation of peace will not be lacking. There should be peace not clash among us.

2. MAKING PEACE IN THE SOCIETY AT LARGE:

A very straight forward command/instruction was issued out in Hebrews12:14a

"Follow peace with all men"(KJV);"Strive to live in peace with everybody"(AMP);"Make every effort to live in peace with all men"(NIV).

"All men" and "Everybody" means the entire world society. (Matthew5:14-16) declares the followers of Christ as the light of the world and that such light must shine (Manifest) so that the world would see our good works (Manifestation) and thereby glorify our father in heaven. One major way the believer's light would shine is by being a peace maker in his/her immediate environment and the society at large.

CONCLUSION

The believer has the responsibility of manifesting the mandate of peace making among themselves and the world at large.

QUESTIONS

1. Who is a peace maker?
2. How can believer's manifest peace making?

MANIFESTING THROUGH FAITH

24

Bible Reading: Mathew 8:5-13

MEMORY VERSE: Mathew 8:10

"When Jesus heard it, he marveled and said to them that followed, verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel".

INTRODUCTION

It is the will and desire of God to manifest (reproduce) Himself in us and through us (Gen1:26). It is in our manifestation that the glory of God is seen by those around us. (Math 5:18). The God kind of manifestations will only be possible when certain conditions, factors or principles are met, put in place or fulfilled. This is consistent with God's character right from Genesis to Revelation and in every person that has achieved anything tangible for God. In this lesson, we shall be looking at some qualities of faith that enables our manifestation.

Lesson Outline

1. What is faith?
2. Qualities of faith for manifestation.

1. What is Faith?

It is the ability to trust God to do what He says He will do. Faith is the eyes with which we see the promises of God even before they come to pass. Mark 5:25-28. It is the currency with which transaction is made with God. Faith is the weapon through which we are able to connect spiritual expectation with physical manifestation. (Hebrews 11:2-3). Our walk with God and work for God is basically a work of faith and for us to manifest God and see God manifest in any situation at any time, we must exercise faith.

2. Qualities of faith for Manifestation:

There are certain qualities that our faith must possess for it to manifest. These include;

A. The size of our faith: Faith is like a seed that may look very small but in that small seed are trees that will produce many branches, leaves and fruits. Therefore, no matter how that seed may be, it will definitely show itself when the time is right Matt 17:20. Also, the size of our faith can grow to become bigger and great in size when we feed it with the Word of God.

B. The value we attach to our faith: Like the physical currency with which we make transaction, the value we give to our faith can determine if it will produce result or not. For example, the woman with issue of blood had already made up her mind that all she needed to do was a touch of the helm of Jesus' garment and she will be healed. That is because she placed so much value on her faith in God that her touch of the helm of Jesus' garment produced so much manifestation that Jesus himself could tell that virtue had gone out Him Mark 5:28-30.

C. The availability of our faith: Another quality of faith that releases manifestation is its availability. The writer in Hebrews chapter 11 introduces faith with the word "Now". In other word, faith is always in the present for it to manifest. That also mean nothing can stop the manifestation of anyone whose faith is readily available. One of the things that keep men in perpetual suffering, hardship and torment of the devil is when they are unable to release faith in times of trouble John 5:5-7.

CONCLUSION:

Faith is a fundamental requirement for the manifestation of anyone who desires to see great things. Faith can grow from one level to another just as it should be readily available for result to be seen.

QUESTION:

1. Explain the Qualities of faith for manifestation?

25 MANIFESTING THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT I

Bible Reading:

Gen 1:2, Ps 104:30, 1 Sam 10:1-12

Memory Verse: Isaiah 32:15

*"Until the spirit is poured upon us from on high
and the wilderness be a fruitful field and
the fruitful field be counted for a forest"*

INTRODUCTION

Our concern in this study is the work of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament. These include but not limited to involved in creation, giving prophecy, giving skills for administration in government and changing lives producing Justice, righteousness, Victory and peace, devotion to the Lord etc.

Lesson Outline

1. In Creation
2. In the lives of Kings
3. Judges and prophets

1. In Creation.

Psalm 104:30, Says: "thou sendest forth thy Spirit, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth." Job 26:13 says: "By his Spirit, he hath garnished the heavens, his hand hath formed the crooked serpent." From this scripture it is very clear that God's spirit, the Holy Spirit was involved in creation. Gen 1:2. And the earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. This verse preceding the expression "And God said, let there be light and there was light" speaks volume of the role of the Holy spirit in creation.

A man of God said, the Holy Spirit brooded over the waters as a hen does to provoke the hatching of her chicks. The Holy spirit, provoked the Creation of the Earth.

2. In the making of kings:

In 1 Sam 10:1-12, "Then Samuel took a vial of oil and poured it upon his head and kissed him and said is it not because the LORD hath anointed thee to be Captain over his inheritance?..." After this anointing, Prophet Samuel told Saul the new king what will immediately happen to him.

And they are:

- a. thou shalt go forward –
- b. thou shalt meet 3 men at Bethel carrying kids, loaves of bread and a bottle of wine. They shall salute thee and give you loaves of bread you will receive from them and
- c. thou shalt meet a company of prophets coming down from the high place. And the spirit of the Lord will come upon thee and thou shalt prophecy with them and thou shalt become another man.
- d. When all these signs come upon thee do as occasion serve for God is with thee.

All these signs came to pass. the day he was anointed because "the Spirit of the LORD came upon him.

Verse eleven of 1 Samuel 10 says "And it came to pass when all that knew him before time SAW THAT behold he prophesied among the prophets then the people said one to another, what is this that is come unto the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?

When the spirit came upon Saul, he became another man and he manifested so much that People Commented.

In the case of king David, the Bible says in 1 Sam 16:13 "That Samuel took the Horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brethren and, the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward"

He killed the bear and the Lion (though the time is not shown in the Bible) but it stands to reason that it was after he was anointed. He also killed Goliath. He entered the king's service to play for him to comfort him from the evil spirit's torment.

3. **Judges- Samson**

The only thing Special about the parents of Samson was that Manoah's wife was barren. An Angel appeared unto her and later her husband joined her. God gave them prescription about how to care for their son to be born when he was grown in Judges 15:25. The Bible says "And the Spirit of the LORD began to move him at times in the camp of Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol.

On their way to get a wife, Samson stepped aside to the vineyards of Timnath and a young lion roared against him. And the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him and he rent him as he would have rent a kid...? Judges 14:6

Samson was not a giant. But his exploits were as a result of the Holy Spirit that came upon him. Some of which are:

1. When the men of Judah came down to bind Samson, the Philistine shouted against him and the Spirit of the LORD came upon him and the cords upon him was burnt by fire

and his bonds were loosed from his hands; he found the jawbone of one ass with which he slayed a thousand men.

2. He took the door of the gate of Gaza lifted it up to the hills before Hebron. The Holy spirit was not mentioned because he went unto a harlot.
3. He died with the Philistines when he pulled down the house where they gathered to mock him. He prayed in Judges 16:28 O Lord God, remember and strengthen me. Only this once.

Conclusion:

The Holy Spirit caused men to manifest in the Old Testament Era. We believe these few examples are enough.

Question

1. How did King Saul manifest through the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you believe the Holy spirit was involved in creation? Show it from scriptures.
3. Samson's manifestations were through the Holy Spirit. True or false?

26 MANIFESTING THROUGH THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

BIBLE READING: 1Cor. 12:1-11

MEMORY VERSE: 1Cor. 12:7

*"But the manifestation of the spirit
is given to every man to profit withal".*

INTRODUCTION

As we continue our consideration of manifestations through the Holy Spirit we address manifesting through the gifts of the spirit. The new living translation of the Holy Bible render 1 Cor. 12:7 as follows "A spiritual gift is given to each of us as means of helping the entire church". What this means is that manifesting through the gifts blesses the whole body of the church.

LESSON OUTLINE

1. Manifesting through the gifts of the spirit
2. How to manifest the gifts of the Spirit.
3. Benefits of the manifestations of the spirit

1. MANIFESTING THROUGH THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

In one definition of the word manifestation is displaying or bringing out that which is hidden. The gifts would not be known except they are manifested or brought out. In Acts 16 the Bible says a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us.... Cried saying, these men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. And she did this many days. But Paul being grieved, turned and commanded the spirit to come out of her and she was immediately delivered (Acts 16:16-18) In the portion above Paul manifested the gift of discerning of spirits to know the damsel though speaking the truth was speaking by a spirit of divination. He also manifested

the gifts of working of miracles and of faith. In the Gospels, Jesus Christ, manifested these gifts severally. A few examples will suffice. Luke 13:10-16; 19:1-10, Matt 15:22-32

2. HOW TO MANIFEST THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

To manifest these gift you must be born again, you must have received Jesus as your Lord and personal saviour. That is, you are a citizen of God's Kingdom. John 3:3,7,1:12, Gal 3:2-9

- i. You must receive the Holy Spirit and be led by Him. John 20:22, Rom 8:14, Gal 5:18
- ii. You must have faith 2 Cor. 5:7
- iii. And finally covet the gift 1 Cor.12:31

3. BENEFITS OF THE MANIFESTATIONS OF THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

The Apostle Paul writing to the Philippian church said: "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you". Philippian 1:3 Theologians believed that book was written in the prison, but you will find the words joy, rejoice coming up some 12 times or so. This church was a beloved of Paul the Apostle.

In Acts 5:16 the bible says: there came also a multitude of the cities roundabout into Jerusalem bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits and they were healed every one: Also in Act 8:8 "And there was great joy. what caused the great joy in Samaria? It was the manifestation of the gift of the Holy Spirit as displayed by Philip where he preached with miracles accompanying his ministrations (Acts 8:408). Those who killed Jesus and wanted his name not to be mentioned in Jerusalem could only threatened the disciples, because of the manifestations of the gifts of the spirit. Acts 4:16 "... what shall we do to these men? For that indeed a notable miracle hath been done by them is manifest to all that dwell in Jerusalem; **and we cannot deny it.**

CONCLUSION

Another great benefit of the gift of the spirit is edification. The manifestations of the gifts bring edification. The gifts promote spiritual growth and development of believers.

QUESTIONS

1. How do one manifests the gifts of the Spirit?
2. What are some benefits of manifesting the gifts of the Holy Spirit?

27 **MANIFESTING THROUGH THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT II**

BIBLE READING: 1Cor. 12:1-11

MEMORY VERSE: 1Cor. 12:7

*"But the manifestation of the spirit
is given to every man to profit withal".*

INTRODUCTION

In continuation of this topic, we shall be looking at the various gifts of the Holy spirit and the importance of manifesting them. We cannot talk about manifesting the power of the Holy spirit without major emphasis on His various gift.

LESSON OUTLINE

1. The gifts of the spirit

The gifts of the Spirit are listed in 1Cor. 12:8-10. They are,

- Word of Knowledge
- Word of Wisdom
- Discerning of Spirit
- Gift of Faith
- Working of Miracle
- Gift of Healing
- Prophecy
- Divers kind of tongues
- Interpretation of tongues

1. The Word of Knowledge

Knowledge acquired through the Holy Spirit.

2. The word of Wisdom

Solution by the help of the Holy Spirit

3. Discerning of Spirits

Insight into the spirit world. The revelational gift.

4. The Gift of Faith

Supernatural manifestation of faith by the help of the Holy spirit.

5. The working of Miracles

Supernatural endowment on the believer to work miracles by the Holy spirit empowerment.

6. The gift of Healing

Healing by the Holy spirit's empowerment

7. Prophecy

The first gift of the utterance group is the speaking forth in a known language.

8. Speaking in Tongues

Speaking forth in an unknown Language.

9. The interpretation of Tongues

The explanation of the tongues in a known language by the help of the Holy spirit.

CONCLUSION

Every believer ought to manifest one and more of this gift to show the supremacy of God as the situation demands. Manifesting this gift enables the believer to destroy the agenda of the enemy over any challenging situation. The gifts would not be known except they are manifested or brought out.

QUESTIONS

1. List the gifts of the Spirit?

28

MANIFESTING THROUGH SOUL WINNING

BIBLE READING:

John 4: 1 0-26, Acts 1:8

MEMORY VERSE: Acts 1:8.

"And ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost has come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me"

INTRODUCTION

One of the major assignment of the Holy Spirit in the life of every Son and daughter of God is to be a soul winner. It is to manifest by preaching the gospel of salvation to the unsaved and reconciling them back to God.

LESSON OUTLINE

1. From darkness to Light
2. The Care for Souls
3. Passion for Souls

1. FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

A soul-winner is a child of God endued with power specially to preach the gospel of Christ with ability to deliver or turn people from darkness to the light of God. The lost soul is in bondage of Satan (darkness) and he needs to be delivered by a higher power. And the only higher power is the power of Jesus Christ in the gospel, working mightily through the believer Any person preaching without the power to turn people from darkness to light or deliver people from the power of Satan is a mere philosopher or Intellectual display of knowledge without God's power (Act 1:8,26:18, Mark 16:20).

2. THE CARE FOR SOULS

To be a soul-winner, one must have a caring heart for souls and understand the value of souls. By way of caring the soul-winner

does not stop his job at preaching and winning a soul, but to grow. It is when a convert is won and continues in faith. The soul winner continues to visit, teach and pray for the new convert to help him end and make heaven at last. It is only then that he is really won. This is only possible when there is somebody who cares. Paul was a good biblical example (2 Cor. 11-28, Act 20:20).

3. PASSION FOR SOULS

The word "Passion" means strong feeling or emotion, violent desire and love for something. The above meanings of "Passion" must manifest and affect the heart of an individual before he can be devoted to soul winning. In other words, the soul winner is a person with a strong feeling, desire and love for lost souls and is engaged in the business of saving them. Passion for souls is a strong motivating factor in soul winning (Luke 19:10 19:2-9, John 4:10-14;21:16). Jesus spent time with Zacchaeus a sinner and the woman of Samaria with real passion in order to get them saved.

CONCLUSION

A soul-winner is a child of God filled with the Spirit of God, preaching the' gospel of the Kingdom with the demonstration of the authority and power of the Kingdom he is preaching. The power of God must attend to the preaching of the soul-winner as a confirmation that his message is from God. The care for souls or new converts is the nursing of the new born babe (new convert).

QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean for one to be turned from darkness to light?
2. Why is care for converts necessary?

29

MANIFESTING THROUGH SOUL WINNING II BIBLE READING:

Romans 15:1-7 John 4: 10-26, Acts 1:8.

Memory Verse: Acts 20:35

*"I have shewed you all things,
how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak...."*

INTRODUCTION

When a person has received Jesus Christ and continued in the faith, in a steady balanced growth in the things of God, it comes to a time that he is strong and matured enough to serve and be useful in the Body of Christ. No Christian is expected to remain as a baby but to come to maturity and usefulness in the church of God. We shall look first at his involvement in strengthening the weak in this lesson.

LESSON OUTLINE:

1. Care for the New-born believers.
2. Helping to restore backsliders.
3. Bearing the infirmities

1. CARE FOR NEW BORN BELIEVERS

A new born baby cannot survive except he is properly cared for; so is the newly born Christian, they need the special care of the stronger ones for them to survive. The follow-up, teaching, prayer, and counseling of the matured believers is what they depend on at the early stage of their Christian life. therefore, a very important responsibility of the matured believers to see to the well-being of the baby believers in their midst. 1 Cor. 3:1,2' Acts 14:21-23.

2. HELPING TO RESTORE BACKSLIDERS

The devil always tries to lure many away from the faith, it is the

strong Christians responsibility to labour to restore them, work until they see these backsliders restored to the faith through prayers, counsel, follow up, visitation etc. This was what Jesus Christ did to restore Peter. Gal. 6:1; Luke 22:31, 32; 1Thes. 5:14; 1 Cor. 9:22.

3. BEARING THE INFIRMITIES OF THE WEAK.

The primary requirement of the faithful Christians which Jesus Christ mentioned on the judgement day was how they visited the sick and prisoners, clothed the naked, fed the hungry and gave water to the thirsty. It is the duty of the strong believers to bear the infirmities of the weak. Mat. 25:35, 36; Acts 20:35; Romans 15:1; Gal. 6:2.

CONCLUSION:

The above mentioned are duties that the matured believers are expected to perform. God designed the believer's life in such a way that he is to grow from a babyhood stage to a matured stage of usefulness and service.

QUESTIONS:

1. Why do baby Christians need care?
2. How can a backslider be restored?
3. Is bearing the infirmity of the weak a pre-requisite to enter Heaven or a love duty?

30

MANIFESTING THROUGH PRAYERS

BIBLE READING: LUKE: 6:12

MEMORY VERSE: LUKE: 18:1

*"And he spake a parable unto them to this end,
that men ought always to pray, and no to faint"*

INTRODUCTION

Beloved, it is important for you to note that, as we look into the subject matter of manifestation, prayer is one of the major keys. To manifest means to bring to the open or showcase for the benefit of others what have been developing in the secret place. Without preparation in the secret place, there can be no manifestation. Prayer is our communication line with God and is also our altar which represent our secret place (Psalm 91:1, Matthew 6:6).

LESSON EXPLAINED

1. **A prayer less Christian is a power less Christian:** (Acts 16:25-27, Psalm 50:15). Our world is full of trouble. It takes prayer to conquer. When you are a man or women of prayer you manifest and triumph over evil.
2. **The prayer of the righteous is the secret of manifestation:** (James: 5:16-17, Proverb: 15:8). It is not enough to be prayerful, we must imbibe the right sacrifice of living a righteous life for our prayers to produce results.
3. **Prayer of mercy transform the sinner to manifest light:** (Hebrew 7: 25, 1 John 1:8-9 1 John 2:1-2, Roman: 9:23).
4. **Manifesting through prayer, places a demand of intercession on us:** men and women must rise in the place of prayer for the advancement of the kingdom of

God. To stop the operation of the devil of hindering men from being saved and removing the blind folding in the eyes of men from receiving the gospel of salvation. (Ephesian: 6:18, Tim:2:1-3 James 5:16, Colossians 1:9-21)

5. **Prayer and fasting is the key for manifestation:** Jesus said “this kind cannot go except by prayers and fasting”. It is a must if we must manifest. (Mathew 17:21, Isaiah 58:5-9).
6. **Prayer align us to the will of God.** as we give ourselves to prayer, we easily align to the will of God on any matter and thereby bring his glory on such matters.

CONCLUSION

Prayer is the strongest weapon of a Christian to manifest in this evil world. The more we pray, the more we receive grace and faith to move mountains (Mathew 17:20-21)

QUESTIONS:

1. How does prayer make the believer to manifest?

31

MANIFESTING THROUGH PRAYERS II

BIBLE READING: ACTS 4:1-37

MEMORY VERSE: ACTS 4:31

"And when they had prayed the place was shaken where they were assembled together, and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost and they spake the word of God with boldness"

INTRODUCTION

A prayer life is the bedrock of manifestation. However, it is important we learn the key ingredients in prayers and the kind of prayers that bring forth manifestation. In this study, we would learn fundamentally, the labor of prayers that is expected from us the saints to bring out more souls from darkness and steer up revival in this end time.

LESSON EXPLAINED

1. **Prayer for God's kingdom to come:** (Matthew 6:10) The coming of God's Kingdom is the strength and authority that enables the saints to manifest. Thy Kingdom comes entails, we are inviting God to take over and replace every system in place that is not in line with his will. At this point, God's will is the centre of attraction no matter how the carnal minds feel about it. God taking over your system is not automatic, you must pray for it because, God doesn't force his will on us (Revelation 3:20). The Prayer for His kingdom to come must be intensive, fervent and continuous because Satan always resist God's will on the earth.

2. **Prayer of Spiritual warfare:** (2 Cor. 4:3-4). Spiritual warfare is the intentional spiritual battle we engage through prayers and prophetic action to pull down strongholds and cast out demons and forces that fight against the gospel in a given

location and among a given people (Ephesians 6:12, Jeremiah 1:10). For us to manifest light anywhere, we must first bound and subdue the forces of darkness working there (2 Corinthian 6:14).

3. Prayer of Revival: (Psalm 85:6, 2 Chronicles 7:14, Habakkuk 3:2) Revival is the restoration of God's Glory, power and divine presence among a generation. When God moves in a certain generation, sometimes we lose that experience due to sin, disobedience, negligence, lack of focus and selfish desires. We must continuously cry out to God for revival in order to keep covenant walk with Him always and to develop the momentum to manifest.

If you are not in the revival, you may be operating the way you used to operate without knowing that God have left you alone like in the case study of Samson (Judges 16:20).

4. Praying in the spirit: (Ephesians 6:18, Jude 20, 1Cor. 14: 15,18, Romans 8:26). Praying in the spirit is riding on the energy of the Holy Spirit to pray through speaking or singing in an unknown tongues or groaning. One key component in praying in the Holy Ghost is that, you are open to the Holy Spirit to lead you in what to pray about. This is not a time to exhaust your prayer points but to wait on the Lord in an atmosphere of the Spirit leading you.

5. Prayer for souls to be saved and for the work of God: (Roman 10:1, Ephesians 1:15-20, Colossian 4:12). Most times while believers are so eager to have their needs met, they seem not to be conscious of the huge task of preaching the gospel and working for God. The kingdom of God and preaching for souls to be saved, is the sum total of our mission to the world as Christians. To get this task done require lots of investment and laboring in prayers.

CONCLUSION

The various kinds of prayers unveiled in this study, are fuel that burns into manifestation. The prayers of personal supplication is good but most effective prayers are the kingdom centered prayers as has been in this discussed in this study. Kingdom centered prayers are fires that burn in the altar (Leviticus 6:12). And they are the prayers that lead to manifestations.

QUESTION:

1. Name one effective way to pray.

32

MANIFESTATION THROUGH DEDICATION

Bible Reading: Matt 6:31- 33

MEMORY VERSE: Matt 6:33

*"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness;
and all these things shall be added unto you"*

INTRODUCTION

Dedication is serious involvement or commitment with something or someone. Our dedication to God determines the level we will manifest His glory. Where God is seen in your life, determines the kind of things that can be seen in your life. Your root in God determines your fruit in life. Psalm 92:12-15. Your seriousness with God determines the gloriousness in life. (Nothing become glorious until someone is serious). Your heart for God determines what comes to your hand. Don't look for the hand of God, go after his heart and you will see his hand. You slack in God, you lack in God.

* There are certain things God don't just give out, they follow certain ways of life.

LESSON OUTLINE:

1. MEANING OF DEDICATION.
2. AREAS OF DEDICATION.

MEANING OF DEDICATION

Standing on the side of God - Exodus 32:26: in the days of Moses, The Levi stood on the Lords side when others choose idols and strange gods. The Levi are classified as the lineage of priest unto God. This means;

1. Loving what God loves and hating what God hates.
2. Going after what bring joy to God.
3. Pleasing God above every other thing.

AREAS OF DEDICATION.

1. Your dedication to personal fellowship with Him. In Prayers, in studying of the word etc.
2. Your dedication to promoting his kingdom in evangelism, outreaches, etc.
3. Your dedication in being active in his house. Decide what you can do in the house of God and do it with all you heart.

CONCLUSION:

Dedication provoke special attention that bring about manifestation. As we dedicate ourselves to God, we will for sure manifest His power and glory. Dedication brings glorification.

QUESTIONS:

1. What is dedication?
2. What are the areas of dedication?

33

MANIFESTATION THROUGH GIVING I

BIBLE READING: Matt 25:31-40

MEMORY VERSE: Luke 6:38

*"Give, and it shall be given unto you;
a good measure, pressed down, and shaken together,
and running over, shall men give unto your bosom"*

INTRODUCTION

Apostle Paul addressing the elders of the church at Ephesus, emphasized the importance and blessing of giving by quoting the saying of our Lord Jesus Christ "it is more blessed to give than to receive" Acts 20:35. You can recall from experience that giving to others brings indescribable pleasure. An inward joy comes to you when you have reached out and helped others. Whether it is in monetary gifts or providing physical help to someone, this action found in the scriptures attracts reward. Matt 25:31-40. In this verse of scriptures, we can deduce the following from the teaching of Jesus Christ in giving.

1. He was not speaking about seasonal giving as done in Christmas or other festive seasons, but giving should be all year round.
2. The giving was to meet the basic needs of man which are food, shelter and clothing.
3. Most giving of the people of the world are to those who could return such favour either in cash or in kind. But the giving here was to those who do not have the capacity to return such favour.
4. He emphasized that the giving was to one of the "least of these my brethren". Jesus was encouraging His church to take the welfare of less fortunate brethren seriously.
5. Such giving attracts heavenly attention and eternal reward.

CONCLUSION

Whether it is monetary gifts or simply rolling up your sleeves and helping other manually, the act of giving brings its own reward. From the passage we have read giving is rendering service to our Lord Jesus, which attracts eternal reward. Therefore, let us learn to grab any opportunity to give with joy

QUESTIONS

1. What passage did we read today?
2. What lessons can you learn from this teaching of Jesus Christ?

34

MANIFESTATION THROUGH GIVING II (TITHING) BIBLE READING: Gen. 14:18-20; Gen.28:22; Matt. 23:23

MEMORY VERSE: Mal. 3:10a:

*"Bring ye all the tithes into the store house,
that there may be meat in mine house...."*

INTRODUCTION

Tithe - Tenth part, especially as offered to God. Abraham presented a tithe of war booty to the Priest King of Jerusalem, Melchizedek (Gen.14:18-20). Jacob pledged to offer God a Tithe of all his possessions upon his safe return (Gen.28:22).

The tithe was subject to a variety of legislation. Numbers 18:20-32 provides for support of the Levites and the Priests through the tithe. The Deuteronomic code stipulated that the tithe of Agricultural produce be used for a family feast at the sanctuary celebrating God's provision (Deut.14:22-27). The same code stipulated the third year's tithe for care of the Levites, Orphans, Widows, and foreigners (Deut. 14:18-29).

LESSON OUTLINE:

1. Meaning of Tithe
2. Types of Tithe.
3. Benefits of Tithe.

A. MEANING OF TITHE.

The Tenth part of the increase arising from the profits of Land and Stock, allotted to the Clergy for their support, as in England, or devoted to religious or charitable uses. That is, whatever you possess through which you earn a living, one tenth of it is your tithe. It could be Land, Agricultural produce, Economic Resources, Salaries from working in an establishment, etc.

B. TYPES OF TITHES:

- (I) A LEVITICAL TITHE. The provision of support of the Levites and the Priests- (Num. 18:20-32; Num. 1:47,50; Ex.28:41). The Levites did not partake in the sharing of the promised land to the sons of Jacob. Hence God commanded the eleven sons of Jacob to give one tenth of their resources to the sons of Levi for their survival because of their spiritual assignment/engagement in the Temple. Equally, the Priests whose duties were to offer sacrifices in the temple were instructed to live by the Tithe brought to the store house.
- (ii) A Tithe spent celebrating in Jerusalem. The Tithe of Agricultural produce be used for a family feast at the sanctuary celebrating God's provision- Deut. 14:22-27.
- (iii) A Charity Tithe. The third year's Tithe for care of the Levites, Orphans, Widows, and Foreigners-Deut.14:28-29. The different uses of the Tithe at various stages of Israel's history reflect the legislation that instituted the observance of TITHING.

C. BENEFITS OF TITHING.

- 1. It attracts God's blessings -Mal. 3:10.
- 2. It makes God to fill your barns (store houses) with plenty - Prov. 3:9-10.
- 3. God rebukes the devourer for your sake- Mal.3:11a.
- 4. Your vine (resources/sources of livelihood) shall be protected by God – Mal.3:11c.
- 5. All nations shall call you blessed and for ye shall be a delight some-land Mal.3:12.

CONCLUSION:

Tithing was instituted by man and accepted by God. Although the practice of Tithing was a common practice among the Jews at

different times, it was also practiced in the New Testament. However, the Apostles lived beyond the observance of TITHING - Acts. 4:33-37. Pay/bring your Tithe to the store house of God regularly and correctly at all times to enable you ENJOY the BENEFITS that go with TITHING.

QUESTIONS:

- 1) What is Tithe?
- 2) Mention the types of Tithe.
- 3) What are the benefits of Tithing.

35

MANIFESTING THROUGH STEWARDSHIP BIBLE READING:

Matt 25:14-31, 1Chron. 29: 11-14

MEMORY VERSE: Luke 6:38

*"Give and it shall be given unto you; a good measure,
pressed down, shaken together, and running over, s
hall men give unto your bosom"*

INTRODUCTION

Many believers are stingy with their possession because they are ignorant about the biblical teachings of stewardship. Stewardship is a biblical requirement for all Christians. It all about blessing others, giving to others, and practicing the art of putting good intentions to action.

LESSON OUTLINE:

1. Be a good steward
2. The heart of a humble steward

1. BE A GOOD STEWARD: Matt 25:21

The Bible is clear, that our position in regard to property is as stewards not owners. A steward is a guardian of interests of another. The steward owns nothing but carefully guards, protects, and increases the property of the one he serves. The essential quality of a steward is faithfulness. When we are faithful, God gives us more because we have proven we are delighted to use what He gives us wisely and generously.

2. THE HEART OF A HUMBLE STEWARD: 1Chron 29:1-14. This prayer of David reflects the heart of a humble steward. He acknowledges that everything in heaven and earth belongs to God. He recognizes God as the head and ruler of everything; the giver of wealth and honor. God gives things we may use, but ultimately everything belongs to God. The steward understands total dependence on God and gives generously to the Lord, simply from understanding that everything comes from Him.

CONCLUSION

When believers understand that all that comes to their hands are owned by God; it will not be difficult to share such possessions with fellow men or use them to further the course of the gospel.

QUESTION

1. What is the essential quality of a steward?
2. What are some of the qualities of a humble steward?

36

MANIFESTING THROUGH AREAS OF GIVING BIBLE READINGS:

Psalm 31:14, 15, 2 Cor 8: 1-5

MEMORY VERSE: Luke 6:38

*"Give and it shall be given unto you; a good measure,
pressed down, shaken together, and running over, s
hall men give unto your bosom"*

INTRODUCTION

We shall continue our study on the blessings of giving by considering things to give. Sometimes we think that only what God desire from us is our money. Apostle Paul exhorts us in the book of Romans, that we should present our bodies to God as a living sacrifice unto God. (Rom 12:1). We shall be considering in this study the giving of time.

LESSON EXPLAINED

1. GIVE YOUR TIME.

Your personal time is very valuable. We know that in our busy world of work, school, church, and the like, our time might be the hardest thing to give. Yet it is probably the most precious commodity we have. After all, our time on earth is short lived, and we have only so much allotted to us. What we don't use wisely is gone forever. When you give time to others, they value it strongly. One of God's greatest gifts is time. Time is our tool. It is a wonderful gift. You can give this gift to others.

The following are some ways you can give your time to God and others.

1. Spend time to pray for others as intercessor
2. Serve your church as greeters, ushers, teachers, visitor, follow up etc.
3. Clean an area of the church, either inside or outside

4. Visit the sick and the bereaved.
5. Befriend a lonely person
6. Gather and collect household items for the poor and needy
7. Spend your spare time in evangelism.
8. Distributing tracts and church hand bills
9. You can include other valuable things you can spend your time to do to help the course of the gospel and help humanity.

CONCLUSION:

The list of what you can do with your time, in service to others is endless. When you give to others, you make a difference in their lives. Often you give them hope and encouragement they cannot find anywhere else. One should always have an attitude of service. This means being aware and anticipating the need of someone else. This means offering to help instead of waiting to be asked. You serve God by helping others.

QUESTIONS:

1. How valuable is your time?
2. List some ways you can give your time?

37

MANIFESTING THROUGH CARING FOR YOUR PASTOR

Bible Reading:

Jeremiah 3: 14-16, 1 Timothy 5:17, 18

Memory Verse: 1 Tim 5:17

*"Let the elders that rule well
be counted worthy of double honour,
especially they who labour in the word and doctrine"*

INTRODUCTION

A pastor plays some very fundamental roles in the lives of the believers, he should therefore be cared for. Those who care for their pastors are blessed.

LESSON OUTLINE

1. Who is your pastor
2. How to care for your Pastor.

1. **Who is your Pastor?**

The word pastor is from the Hebrew word ra'ah which means to tend a flock, a shepherd, or herdsman. Your Pastor is your shepherd. Your pastor does the following:

- a. He feeds you with the word of God which is appropriate to your spiritual level and ensures your growth; he speaks the mind of God to you. (1 Pet 5:2, Jer. 3:15)
- b. Ministers spiritual things to you. This enable you to understand spiritual matters and know how to respond to them. 1 Cor 9:11
- c. He watches over your soul spiritually Heb 13:17
- d. He counsels / Advise you on issues of life. etc. Pro 11:14, 12:15.
- e. He prays for you. Col 1:9 and speaks the blessings of God over your life Numbers 6:23-26.

2. How to care for your Pastor?

- a. Pray for your pastor. Several times you read Apostle Paul calling for prayers from his spiritual children. (1 The 5:23, 25, 2 The 3:1, Heb 13:18)
- b. Give to your pastors 1 Cor 9:11, 1 Tim 5:17
- c. Believe in your pastor. 2 Chron. 20:20
- d. Support your pastor in his work. Ex 17:12

Conclusion

Caring for the pastor provokes the blessings of God; which make rich and add no sorrow. Pro 10:22. The blessings of God cannot be hidden but manifest for all to see.

Questions:

- 1. Who is your Pastor?
- 2. What roles does he play in your life?

MANIFESTING THROUGH THE BLESSING OF CARING FOR YOUR PASTOR

38

Bible Reading:
2Chron. 20:20, Phil. 4:19

Memory Verse: 2Chron.20:20

*"Believe in the lord
and you shall be established,
believe in His prophet and you shall prosper"*

INTRODUCTION

In our last lesson, we considered how to manifest by caring for your pastor; in this lesson we shall be looking at some blessings of caring for your pastor. Your pastor is a major channel God uses to release His blessings on us.

LESSON OUTLINE

1. The Blessings of Caring for your Pastor.

The Blessings of Caring for your Pastor.

Those who care for their pastors are blessed. In Matt 10:42, MK 9:41 there is a reward for giving to men of God. The bible is full of examples of people who take good care of men of God and the reward they got.

- i. The widow of Zarephath who gave Elijah her last meal never lacked meal again till the drought was over 1 Kings 17:16 and got her son who died back to life. 1 Kings 17:22, 23
- ii. The woman of Shunem gave birth to a son after years of barrenness after taking care of Elisha 2 Kings 4:16, 17, got her son back from the dead. 2 Kings 4:36. Got her property restored to her 2 Kings 8:6

- iii. Apostle Paul prayed in Philippians 4:19: "But my God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." This was because of the care of the Philippians for him according to Phil 4:16-18. And many several examples.

Conclusion

Caring for the pastor provokes the blessings of God; which make rich and add no sorrow. Pro 10:22. The blessings of God cannot be hidden but manifest for all to see.

Questions:

1. list two examples of those who care for their pastor and their reward.
2. What are the blessings of caring for your pastor?

39

MANIFESTING THROUGH EDUCATION BIBLE READING: PROVERB 8:11-21

MEMORY VERSE: DANIEL 12:4

*"But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words and seal the book
even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro
and knowledge shall be increased"*

INTRODUCTION

Education is the acquisition of knowledge, wisdom and understanding. Knowledge is acquiring information. Wisdom is knowing what to do with information acquired. Understanding is knowing how to do it. The age we are living in is the dispensation of information. We have evolved from the stone or dark age, to industrial or scientific age and progressed to this present dispensation of information age. The world today is ruled by ideas.

LESSON EXPLAINED

1. **Education is light:** (1 John 1:5, John 1:4-5) One of the things we learnt in our elementary school is that; education is light. This is validated by the wisdom of educated people around us who through their knowledge have distinguished themselves in approach to issues. The Bible also says "God is light..." What this means is that, God travels through the channel of education to relate with man. Studying and understanding the Bible requires a certain level of education. This makes us to know that education is very important and is a light to those who have it.
2. **Education bring excellence:** (Daniel 6:3, 5:12). Excellence is the quality of being extremely good,

outstanding in standard and appearance, presentation and documentation which usually bring attraction to others. As Christians, we must be extremely good and attractive. This is one of the ways through which we can influence the people around us to serve our God. (Isaiah 2:2-3, Zechariah 8:23).

3. **Education makes you a role model and a leader:** (Deuteronomy 28:13)). Being the head or having opportunity to lead others and show them the way, is one of the key ways of manifestation. To gain this opportunity of leadership, it comes with being educated. Education confers leadership responsibilities on one automatically.
4. **Education open the door for creativity and skillfulness:** (Exodus 31:2-8). Education is beyond acquiring theories or information that are abstract. It involves practical and acquisition of skills. This is what leads to creativity. It is important to note that our educational system have technical and vocational programs which are developed to enable us contribute in creating what we need as humans. God himself manifested creativity (Genesis 1:1-2) as part of His attributes. Creativity is one of the ways, we manifest.
5. **Education brings solution:** (Mark 9:23). One of the key areas that makes education important is that, it brings out solution to existing problems. This is achieved through research. In the tertiary institutions, all students are mandated to be involved in research work. Some of those researches are what led to improvement in our health care, increase in life expectancy, safe water for consumption, improvement in agriculture and better ways of disseminating information.

CONCLUSION

We cannot exhaust the importance of education and how it enables us to manifest. Education is a treasure and it is worth making enough sacrifice to acquire. We must bear in mind that "School is not a scam".

QUESTION

1. What are the importance of education to manifestation?

40

MANIFESTING THROUGH CAREER

BIBLE READING:

DEUTERONOMY 28:12, PSALM 1:3

MEMORY VERSE: ECCLESIASTES 9:10

*"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might;
for there is no work nor device, knowledge, nor wisdom
in the grave, whither thou goest"*

INTRODUCTION

Career is the by-product of education. It is through career that we put our education to work and make a living out of it. The principle of the Bible is clear. God's blessings are always manifested through what we do for a living.

LESSON OUTLINE

1. God's plan is manifested through a career
2. Career is a platform to serve humanity
3. Career brings out the benefit of education to the educated.
4. Career is a leverage to grow.
5. Career is a channel for God's blessing to flow and manifest.

1. God's plan is manifested through a career:

(Psalm 90:12). In every career we find ourselves, we must discover God's plan in that field and how others there can hear the gospel through us. Our career is an opportunity to manifest Christ.

2. Career is a platform to serve humanity:

(1 Peter 4:10-11, Romans 12:10). One of God's kingdom principle is service. We are called to serve not just God but our generation.

3. Career bring out the benefit of education to the educated:

(Acts 20:34) Many educated people tend not to appreciate the process they have gone through for being educated because they couldn't build a career out of the process.

4. Career is a leverage to grow:

(2 Peter 3:18). Every career have entry requirement and opportunity to continue to grow and advance. God is dynamic and desire us to grow and excel in life by building a career, we can leverage on it to grow and manifest the light of Christ in us to our world.

5. Career is a channel for God's blessing to flow and manifest:

(Genesis 12:2, 22:18). One of the ways we must manifest is through the blessing of God. God's blessing is the unveiling and redistribution of His resources from men to men. Our career provides one of the channels through which that blessing flows.

CONCLUSION

Career is one of the major force on earth. In the industrial revolution, the labour force is very critical to maintain a balance government. Career is the umbrella for the Labour force and by extension, those who make things to happen in workplace or market places. This is why in these last days, God is raising Apostles in the marketplace or workplace whose duties are to promote the kingdom through their careers.

QUESTION

1. What are the importance of career?

41

MANIFESTING THROUGH RESEARCH

Bible Reading: 2 Timothy 2:15

MEMORY VERSE: Acts 17:11

*These were more noble than those in Thessalonica,
in that they received the word with all readiness of mind,
and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.*

INTRODUCTION

Research is the systematic investigation into and study of materials and sources in order to establish facts and reach new conclusions.

Every believer that must manifest will have to heed to Paul's instruction to Timothy as seen in the bible reading, Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.(2 Timothy 2:15) KJV.

LESSON OUTLINE

1. The necessity for Research
2. The Effect of Research.

1. The necessity for Research, the scripture enjoins believers to try every spirit (1 John 4:1), how do you try the spirits you come across? You try them based on the words of Scripture, without research through study you will fall for every wind of doctrine thereby becoming very unstable and confused especially in these days of knowledge and strange doctrines. The believers in our memory verse are a good example of the necessity for Research and the need for research.

2. The effects of Research: The effects of Research can never be over emphasized in the Body of Christ as salvation is essentially a

personal issue so also spirituality as one's encounter may be totally different from that of the other brethren in the same fellowship. Some of the effects of Research include;

- I. knowledge
- Ii. Personal understanding and revelation.
- III. Spiritual stability and balance.
- iv. Confidence in the truth.

Research also arm the believer with the necessary tools of defense against the wiles of the enemy.

Conclusion

Through research the believer is able to manifest God's glory without doubt or fear.

Question

- 1. When last did you read a book?
- 2. What do you need to do to improve your reading habit?

42

MANIFESTING THROUGH SUPERNATURAL WISDOM I

Bible Reading:

Prov. 4:1-9, James 3:13-18

MEMORY VERSE: PROV. 4:7.

*"Wisdom is the principle thing,
therefore get wisdom and
with all thy getting get understanding"*

INTRODUCTION

We are going to start a study that will be explaining what the Bible describes as "the principal thing", that is what is most important and this is wisdom. In these series of study; we shall define wisdom and explain various bible characters and how wisdom enabled them to achieve divine purpose for their lives.

LESSON OUTLINE

1. Types of wisdom
2. What is supernatural wisdom

1. TYPE OF WISDOM

James 3:13-18: From this scripture Apostle James was able to identify four types of wisdom;

a. Natural (earthly) Wisdom: This type of wisdom is also called common sense. It is natural or inbuilt in man. The natural wisdom finds expression through five senses-smelling, Hearing, Taste, Sight and feeling.

b. Intellectual Wisdom (Sensual): This is acquired through formal and informal training in school. It has to do with the mental ability of man. It enables man to acquire skills that can be used to develop the society. However when it is developed

without the fear of God, it can be corrupted by Satan to the detriment of mankind and the kingdom of God (I Cor. 1:19-20).

c. Devilish Wisdom: This is wisdom that is inspired by Satan, whose main purpose is to pervert the kingdom of God and bring destruction to mankind. This is the wisdom used by agents of darkness to deceive men to bow down to idols in order to acquire wealth.

d. Divine Wisdom: This wisdom is from above as described by Apostle James in our text (James 3:17). It is called supernatural wisdom because it is above the natural.

2. WHAT IS SUPERNATURAL WISDOM: James 3:17

- a. This is wisdom that is from above. The fruits of such wisdom are listed by Apostle James in the above scripture.
- b. It is the wisdom of God, which is hidden from the unregenerate men (1 Cor. 2:6-7).
- c. This wisdom is personified in Christ Jesus (1 Cor. 1:24)
- d. It is the productive application of revelation from the word of God.
- e. It is knowing what to do per time and know how to get what you want by the help of the Holy Spirit.
- f. It is the supernatural capacity to know the best course of action within a given set of alternatives.

CONCLUSION

We have been able to define different types of wisdom with this our first lesson. It should be noted that all believers who are the children of God, who have Christ residing in them, should be able to manifest some degree of supernatural wisdom

QUESTIONS

- 1. Name different types of wisdom?
- 2. What is supernatural wisdom?

43

MANIFESTING THROUGH SUPERNATURAL WISDOM II

Bible Reading:

Prov. 4:1-9, James 3:13-18

MEMORY VERSE: PROV. 4:7

*"Wisdom is the principle thing,
therefore get wisdom and
with all thy getting get understanding"*

INTRODUCTION

In our last study we tried to define supernatural wisdom. There is need for all believers to manifest supernatural wisdom, this shows that we have the nature of the all-wise God. In this lesson we are going further to give definition of supernatural wisdom using the scriptures.

LESSON EXPLAINED

1. Supernatural Wisdom is using God's word to produce profit and result in any given area of life. It is laying your foundation of life on the word of God which comes through obedience of scriptural instructions (Matt. 7:24-25)
2. Supernatural Wisdom is when your delight is in the word of God which enables you to avoid ungodly counsels. It also enables you not to follow the examples of Sinners and not to join company with those who have no use for God (Psalm 1:1-3).
3. Wisdom is a productive and resourceful application of knowledge. This enables you to take decisions which help you to handle situations in critical hour of need (Matt. 25:1-10). This is exemplified by five virgins who were described as wise.
4. Wisdom is acting on information that is gotten by divine revelation. Such action gives glory to God and helps in bringing

the will of God to pass. A very good example is the story of the wise men from the east who came to see and worship Jesus Christ at birth (Matt. 2:1-3)

CONCLUSION

Our prayer is that through your love for the word of God, the wisdom of God will continue to grow in you which will enable you to live a daily life that will bring glory to God.

QUESTIONS

1. Give the definition of divine wisdom?
2. What role has the word of God in having wisdom?

44

THE WAYS OF SUPERNATURAL WISDOM

Bible Reading: Prov. 6:6-11

MEMORY VERSE: Prov. 6:6.

*"Go to the ant thou sluggard,
consider her ways, and be wise."*

INTRODUCTION

Today we are rounding up on the teaching of the ways of wisdom, by looking at three other channels of wisdom. Don't forget the counsel we gave last week; associate with the all-wise God, by walking with the Holy Spirit and learn to spend quality time with the Bible and supernatural wisdom will be your portion in Jesus name.

LESSON EXPLAINED

1. **Supernatural wisdom can be acquired through the study of the creatures of God**, God used the wisdom he "wired" into his creatures to teach us wisdom, for example:
 - a. The ant is an embodiment of fore sight planning, hard work and self-discipline Prov 6:6-11
 - b. The Eagle teaches us the act of waiting on God to renew our spiritual strength. Isaiah 40: 31, Job 39:29-33
 - c. The flowers and the sparrow impact wisdom to avoid worries about provisions. Matt 6:26-30
2. **Meekness of character: Ps 25:9, James 3:13**
 - a. Meekness in character qualifies a man to be taught by the lord, the student of the all wise God must be wise.
 - b. The meek will be humble enough to admit his or her short- coming in knowledge and go for knowledge that

will make him or her wiser. Prov 4:7

- c. It takes meekness for someone to submit to mentorship of the wise. No wonder the Bible identifies meekness with wisdom

Moses who was the meekest man in his days manifested extraordinary wisdom, Num 12:3

3. Supernatural wisdom comes through prayer, James 1:5
Apostle James advised those who desire wisdom to ask God who is author and supplier of supernatural wisdom. Solomon prayed for wisdom and got enough of it. 2 Chron 1:7-12

CONCLUSION

As we round up this teaching on the ways of wisdom today, we pray that you will understand all the ways of wisdom and go for them so that you can manifest the wisdom of God daily that will make men to glorify God.

QUESTIONS

- 1. Name some ways supernatural wisdom can be acquired?
- 2. What creatures of God can we learn wisdom from?

45

MANIFESTING THROUGH RIGHT ASSOCIATION

Bible Reading: Mark 2:1-5

MEMORY VERSE: PROV 18:24

*"A man that had friends must show himself friendly;
and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother"*

INTRODUCTION

Our text is a story of a man who had a challenge. His friends did not abandoned him; they stick to him and put a situation together that gave him a testimony. Choosing friends are very crucial to everyone's destiny. Today we are giving further counsels on the choice of friends.

LESSON EXPLAINED

- 1. Those who motivate you to Sow**
 - There are many who live for self, they are not prepared to invest on other people. They are only interested in who to sow in their lives; you must not hang around such people except to influence them.
 - Look for people who are ready to help others
 - Those who sow seeds in other people's lives. Acts 20:35
- 2. Those who share your passion for God:** one of the best way the devil "quench" your love for God, is to delegate friends to you that mock your passion for God. 1cor 15:33
 - Always look for those who have same or greater passion for God and the Kingdom Prov 27:17
- 3. Those who are ready to help you achieve your vision. Hab 2:1-3**
 - Those who are ready to run with your God given dream

- Not those who are jealous of your pursuit of divine mandate
- Not those who see themselves as your competitor, those who are ready to compliment your efforts.

4. Those who unlock your gratitude

- There are many who are never appreciative, they repay evil for good, these are companies to avoid.
- Those who show appreciation sincerely for every good they experience. Unlock your desire to be grateful to God and men always Ps 26:5-7

CONCLUSION

If you will surround yourself with these kinds of relationships, you will find your life forever on the right path as their influence and deposit will cause you to pursue God and the best of you will manifest to the glory of God.

QUESTIONS

1. Name some things you should look for when choosing friends?
2. How are friends crucial to your divine mandate?

46

MANIFESTING THROUGH GODLY CHARACTER

Bible Reading: Gen 40:1-22, 41:1-13

MEMORY VERSE: HEB 12:14

*Follow peace with all men and holiness,
without which no man shall see the lord"*

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the social wisdom is to enable us learn attitudes that will help us maintain sound relationship with fellowmen. It teaches us not to despise our neighbors; they may be the ladder to our next level as seen in the life of Joseph Gen 41:12-40. In this study we are looking at attitudes that enhance sound relationships

LESSON EXPLAINED

1. Appreciate people and their actions, learn to say "thank you"
2. Learn to admire people and their properties.
3. Show interest in people's personal lives, their visions and goals
4. Be a patient listener especially if someone is sharing his or her problem with you.
5. Be an encourager of neighbors or those you come across in life, example Barnabas, Acts 4:36, 11:22-26
6. Be slow to anger, Prov 22:24, 14:7, Eccl 7:9. Those who are easily angered deal foolishly with others.
7. Forgive as fast as you can. Eph 4:31-32, always ask for the grace to forgive always.
8. Rejoice with those who rejoice and mourn with those who mourn. Rom 12:15
9. Whenever there is an opportunity give a gift Prov 19:6

10. Engage in regular intercession for others especially your neighbors and those you relate with regularly.

CONCLUSION

When these attitudes are cultivated, anyone that comes in contact with you will be happy that he knows you. You will always be someone who will attract men to the kingdom of God.

QUESTIONS

1. Name some attitudes that will enhance sound character?
2. How will this attitude promote God's kingdom?

47

MANIFESTING THROUGH GODLY MARRIAGE

BIBLE READING: GEN. 2: 18-25

MEMORY VERSE: Matt. 19:6B

*what therefore God hath joined together,
let not man put asunder.*

INTRODUCTION

God wills for us, the sons of God, that we represent Him in every area of our lives, marriage inclusive. This is because man is the only creature that relates closely and intimately with God, by virtue of being made in the image and likeness of God. In marriage particular, we are expected to reflect God's nature in us, which cannot be found in other creatures like birds, fishes, animals and reptiles. For example, some of these creatures eat and mate with each other indiscriminately, with no law regulating their activities. This study is meant to help us discover God's purpose for initiating marriage, together with how to run the institution, in order for us to fulfil His purpose.

LESSON OUTLINE:

I. PURPOSE OF MARRIAGE

2. DURATION OF MARRIAGE

1. PURPOSE OF MARRIAGE (Gen. 2: 18)

The scriptures tells us clearly that Adam was placed in the Garden of Eden, to dress it and keep it (Gen. 2:15) From this you can now discover that God started to partner with man, making man His companion, charged with the responsibility of dressing the garden and to keep it from intruders.

It is interesting to note that Adam was engrossed in or with the assignment given to him by God, alone. No doubt, God Himself

discovered that every other living creature, resident in the garden, were in pairs, that is male and female cockroaches, birds, animals, fishes etc. except Adam.

Thereafter He (Almighty God) made a pronouncement and the Lord God said, it is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a help meet for him (Gen. 2:18)

MARRIAGE INSTITUTION ENUNCIATED.

a. Companionship - Loneliness eliminated.

b. Procreation-Ability and where withal to produce after his kind, which other creatures have been exercising or implementing (Gen. 1: 11, 12, 21).

Please note: Adam alone wouldn't have been able to accomplish or fulfil the mandate; Be fruitful, multiply and replenish the earth, without the woman Eve. It takes a man and a woman to meet to produce children which is multiplication implied, also one person cannot dominate a community, village, state or country.

c. Avoidance of Fornication, 1 Cor. 7: 1-9 (Sexual Immorality) We state here, unequivocally, that it is only in marriage that sexual intercourse is allowed (1 Cor. 7:3-5).

COMPANIONSHIP REVISITED: We wish to say that companionship goes beyond eliminating loneliness; as one crosses into manhood and womanhood, you are entering into the bracket of responsibility, which is the most crucial aspect of marriage - parenthood.

This is where the manifestation of the sons of God in marriage is put to test greatly in our society. Experience has taught us that the marriage institution has come under satanic attack globally, that is why manifesting in marriage as sons of God cannot be overemphasized. Have you discovered that marriage institution has been under satanic attack even right from the garden of Eden, even the human parents of Jesus? Find out yourself.

d. A Godly Seed (Mal. 2: 14-16) Without mincing word, one of the noble purposes of marriage is that it should be an avenue through which godly seeds should be produced The Abrahams, Isaacs, Moses, Joshuas, Daniels, Peters, Stephens, Pauls, Timothys and a lot more Old and New Testament Saints, came on board through manifesting in marriage.

2. DURATION OF MARRIAGE Heb. 13: 4

By duration we are simply talking of time limit, how long should a particular marriage stay or last? You can see that we really need to manifest our Sonship of God through marriage, to the world where it is now "If it works, I stay and if it doesn't work, I check out". It is funny to note that modern day preachers are modernizing the marriage institution by saying "For better, for best" but our fathers of faith have said "For better, for worst". Beloved, you have to determine, resolve to make it work. In Malachi, God said, "I am a witness between thee and the wife of thy youth" (Mal. 2: 14a).

The reasons modern day Christians are adducing for divorce can never be compared with the experience of our forebearers (Adam/Eve) Let us task our minds by asking you to imagine what Eve did to Adam in the garden of Eden. Eden, in Hebrew means pleasure. By that singular act of Eve, they were driven from the garden of pleasure, man has to sweat before he could eat and to cut a long story short, they were severed, lost contact with God for life, yet there was no record of divorce in their marriage.

In Christendom, the duration is "TILL DEATH DO US PART" (1 Cor. 7: 11, 39) Please note that it is ungodly for you to use a fellow human being as your example. By this we are saying that you are not just justified when you divorce your wife and remarry because a DEACON/DEACONESS, PASTOR, REVD., BISHOP OR ARCHBISHOP did it. The Scriptures says the WHOREMONGERS and ADULTERERS God will judge, irrespective of whether he/she

fall within the bracket of men/women of God listed above.

CONCLUSION 1 Cor. 10: 31; 14: 40)

As we conclude this series, we must bear in mind, that marriage is one area we can manifest our Sonship of God, to put a difference between how the ungodly conduct and manage their marriages and ours as sons of God. By manifesting our sonship of God in marriage. We become a wonder and astonishment to them and they (the ungodly) will be forced to ask, "How are you making it".

QUESTIONS

1. What is the purpose of marriage?
2. How long should a marriage last?

48

MANIFESTING THROUGH THE CHURCH AS A FAMILY

BIBLE READING:

Jn. 3:1; Rom. 8:15-17.

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Cor. 6:18.

*"And I will be a Father unto you and ye shall be
my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty".*

INTRODUCTION

In this lesson we shall look at how the church can manifest as a family. Before the coming of Jesus Christ God was known and addressed with different names in His dealings and relationship with man. But when Jesus came He introduced a new relationship and addressed God as "our Father" He made us to know that not only can we relate to God as a Creator, He is a Father to us. God is our Father. Jesus Christ is the first-born on of this family and as many that are born-again are sons of God together with Christ in the Family.

LESSON OUTLINE

1. what is a family?
2. the church manifesting as family.

1. What is a family?

A family is a group of people connected by blood, purpose or goal. The church is a unique family because we are connected by both blood (the blood of Jesus) and purpose (promoting the kingdom of God our father).

God Is Our Father, Jesus Christ introduced God to us as a Father. He called Him His Father again and again. We know God is the Creator and we are His creatures. Jesus Christ established a more affectionate, intimate, cordial and sweet relationship - that of a family. He thought us in the Lord's prayer to pray to God as our

Father. The true Church is made up of God's children. 1 Jn. 3:1; 2 Cor. 6:18; Matt, 6:9, The knowledge of the Church as a body and as individuals must go beyond that of knowing God as a Creator into knowing God as a Father.

2. The church manifesting as family.

The Church as the family of God, it is expected of us to live in unity, oneness and to be much more concerned about the interest of our father (soul winning). Jesus when he was to depart the earth emphasized that “they all might be one” and also that we should seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness. Let us walk as children of one father, having one purpose. Let strife, division, malice, hatred and all works of the flesh be far from us as family of God.

CONCLUSION

The church is a family - a Household, each member is related to the other and have the same Spirit of the Father by which we are all adopted into the Family. We have the inheritance of God at our disposal – We are co-heirs with Christ.

God cares for us as His own children born of His Spirit. We live for Him as our Father, bearing His Name on the earth as children born of Him.

QUESTIONS

1. What is a family?
2. Explain how the church can manifest as a family?

49

MANIFESTING THROUGH GODLY CHILDREN

Bible Reading: Psalm 127:3-5,
2Chronicles 34:1-3, Jeremiah 35:1-6

MEMORY VERSE: Isaiah 8 v 18

*Behold, I and the children whom the LORD hath given me
are for signs and for wonders in Israel from the LORD
of hosts, which dwelled in mount Zion*

INTRODUCTION

The fundamental goal for Christian parents should be to guide their children to a saving faith in Christ and to set them on a path to maturity, bringing them to the full measure of his glory (Eph 4:13). Parenting is one of God's most important calling. The responsibility of nurturing godly children falls primarily on parents. Children are a gift and blessing from God (Psalm 127:3-5). Raising a godly generation in the midst of a godless society is a challenging task.

Lesson Outline:

1. Examples of Godly Children in the Bible
2. Lead by example
3. Teach them how to love by loving them unconditionally
4. Help them serve others
5. Share your faith with them through scripture
6. Pray with them

1. Examples of Godly Children Raised in The Bible: a. Josiah walked in the ways of his father, David, and did not deviate (2Chronicles 34:1-3). b. Timothy was blessed to have a godly grandmother and mother who taught him the scriptures as a child (2Timothy 1:5; 3:15). c. Sons of Rechab kept the instructions of their father for generations even when persuaded to do contrary by a reputable prophet of God (Jeremiah 35:1-6;

2Corinthians 11:3-4; Galatians 1:8). d. Daniel and the three Hebrew boys upheld the godly training they had received and refused to compromise with others even in a strange land (Daniel 1:4-8; 3:16-18, 28; 6:3-10). e. Samuel grew in the knowledge and fear of God (1Samuel 2:26; 3:1, 19).

2. Lead by example: The strongest way parents can keep God's word is by leading their children by example. It is a well-known fact that children learn through observation of others, oftentimes their parents. Your children will learn what you model for them. So, if you want your child to have a strong relationship with God, you need to also have a strong relationship with God.

3. Teach them how to love by loving them unconditionally: Parents, just as our children learn by example, so do we. When it comes to loving our children, we should love unconditionally as God loves us unconditionally. What does this look like in practice though? It is loving your child with no strings attached. There is nothing they can do to lose your love. This doesn't mean you do not discipline your child, but it does mean you do not withhold your love because of something they did or said.

When your child knows you have this unconditional love for them, it forges a trust between you and them. That trust allows you to have a good relationship with your kids and allows them to feel safe and loved in your household.

4) Help them serve others: Raising your children in a godly way includes helping them serve others. In Matthew 5:42, the Bible calls us to, "Give to those who ask of you, and do not turn away from him who wants to borrow from you." We are also called to care for the poor, sick, and needy, not sit at home away from the masses.

These are the values and principles that need to be passed on to our children. Take your child to serving opportunities like working in a church group, cleaning up the church after a programme, doing evangelism or even helping your neighbor with a task. This helps your children learn how Jesus lived, and the importance of helping others.

5) Share your faith with them through scripture: Studying the bible with your child helps them know what the story of Jesus is, how much God loves us, and how to live our lives. Reading the scripture with your child gives them access to it. Sharing Bible stories with your kids can help guide them as they age. As Psalm 119:11 says, "I have treasured Your word in my heart, So that I may not sin against You."

6) Pray with them: Teach your children how to pray by praying with them. Sit down with them every day, and pray with them about their lives and your loved ones' lives. Pray favor over them in their lives, and that God will show His love to your children every day. Including your children in these prayers can help them learn about God's nature.

CONCLUSION.

Raising godly children is a **CALLING** in Christ. Let us endeavor to manifest this calling in our homes and families in the midst of this generation.

QUESTIONS

1. Name some examples of Godly Children in the Bible.
2. How do you raise Godly children?

50

MANIFESTING THROUGH GODLY HEALTHY LIVING

Bible Reading:
1 Corinthians 6:19-20

MEMORY VERSE: Proverbs 27:12

*A prudent man foresees the evil,
and hides himself; but the simple pass on, and are punished"*

INTRODUCTION

Healthy living is some time taken for granted by many believers. Taking care of our bodies is not about vanity. The decision to learn and implement healthy lifestyle is as important as the desire to prosper (3 John 2). True prosperity can only be enjoyed when we are in a state of good health. Some believers get too busy with work, families, ministry, etc. and barely have time to rest (Eccl. 3:1). Sound physical and mental health is achievable with the right application of the knowledge of healthy living.

REASONS FOR HEALTHY LIVING

As believers, taking care of our bodies is taking care of the temple of God (1 Cor. 6:15a) because:

- i. Our bodies are the temple of God (1 Cor. 6:19-20).
- ii. Reflect God's Image. Our bodies are precious to God and should be presented to Him as a living and healthy sacrifice (Rom. 12:1).
- iii. Being healthy makes the believers a good witness of the Christian faith and an example of a true child of God (Matt. 5:16; Tit. 2:7a).
- iv. In bearing one another's burden, only the healthy can take care of the unhealthy (Gal. 6:2).
- v. Stewardship of God's Creation and Recognizing that our

bodies are gifts from God we are responsible for. Believers will have more energy to do God's work (Eph. 2:10).

- vi. We should know that we are labourers together with God, created to do the things that He had planned a long time ago for us to do (1Cor. 3:9).
- vii. We cannot do God's work at our best if our bodies and minds are not in good state.
- viii. Promotion of Self-discipline. Living a healthy life requires self-discipline
- ix. Caring for our bodies is not only an act of self-care, it's a commitment to the call of service

Question: What do you think will happen if a believer refuses to take care of his/her body?

Ways to Remain Healthy

- 1. **Eat Right:** Believers should eat healthy and balanced diets (Gen. 1:29-30). It is good to abstain from foods that will have negative impact on our bodies.
- 2. **Personal Hygiene:** Proper washing of our body parts (private and public)/is essential for healthy living. Wash your underwear regularly, be well kept in and out and look neat.
- 3. **Regular Medical Check-Up:** Right medical check-up is part of preventive healthy habit.
- 4. **Physical Exercise:** Find time to exercise your body regularly in order to keep fit. (1 Tim. 4:8). You can take a walk, jog or do some light indoor games/recreation.
- 5. **Social/Emotional Wellness and Adequate Rest:** Associate with lively believers, watch your mood and beware of symptoms of depression or anxiety. Take time to rest and

sleep well (Pro. 17:22, 12:25; Psalm 4:8).

6. Avoid living in an overcrowded room/environment to prevent easy spread of diseases.
7. Obedience to God's Command: The ultimate way of living well is to do what God says (Ex. 15:26; Pro. 4:20-22).

Conclusion:

Taking care of our health is not a sign of unbelief. It is to keep the body, soul and spirit together for destiny fulfilment. It is wise to plan well for our health. The prudent sees danger and takes refuge, but the simple keeps going and pays the penalty (Pro. 27:12).

Question:

1. Why should believers live healthy?
2. Share with the class what you do personally for healthy living.



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