

"And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come". [Luke 19:13 KJV]

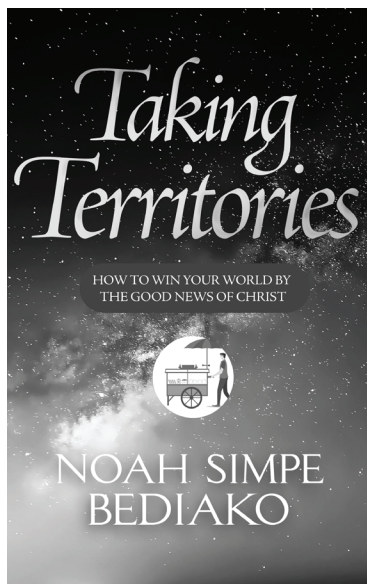
Taking Territories

HOW TO WIN YOUR WORLD BY
THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRIST



NOAH SIMPE
BEDIAKO

Taking Territories



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publications

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the *King James Version* of the Bible.

Taking Territories

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Understanding Taking Territories

ESTER 4•12-17

And they told to Mordecai Esther's words.

(13) Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews.

(14) For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

(15) Then Esther bade them return Mordecai this answer,

(16) Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish.

(17) So Mordecai went his way, and did according

to all that Esther had commanded him.

Many years ago in Shushan, Ahasuerus was the ruler of a hundred and twenty-seven divisions of his kingdom which stretched from India as far as Ethiopia. An Israeli slave girl, Esther, rose to be queen of the vast kingdom by the providence of God.

It was in these times that a callous man, Heman, hatched a plan to annihilate Israel. Mordecai, the uncle of Esther, heard of Heman's plot and sent a message to Queen Esther to arise and save her nation by talking to the king.

In those days, it was the custom that unless the king calls you, you could be beheaded if you come into his presence. So the queen was afraid to go into the presence of the king, but when her words were told to Mordecai, he replied with a message that reveals that every one of us is in this world and has been given opportunities for a time and a purpose.

*You were born into this kingdom at such a
time as this for a reason.*

Many of us, however selfishly and wickedly, abandon this purpose and pursue our individual good and comfort. Well, God is able to still make a way but you may perish.

This message is timely and about creating the realization that God has prepared a purpose for every one of us to walk in. It is however our responsibility to discover and walk in it.

God called Esther and presented to her the opportunity to serve a purpose. She did not rise by her own might and power. It was God who put her there, that she might serve His purpose. She however had a choice; to either yield her members as instruments of righteousness or as instruments of unrighteousness (See Romans 6:13). She had the choice to serve the interest of her kingdom or the interest of the kingdom of God.

Much that same way, you are either walking according to the desire of the prince of the power of the air, or according to the good works created for you in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 2:2-10). You are either walking according to the course of this world, (according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now works in

the children of disobedience, living in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the thoughts, and are by nature the children of wrath;) or you are living in the kingdom of God, (who is rich in mercy, has saved you through faith, not of works, to be His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to good works, which God has before ordained that we should walk in them).

Very much indeed, until you walk in the good works which God has before ordained that you should walk in, you will be serving the purpose of the devil. Doing nothing about the works ordained for you is as evil as fulfilling the desires of the prince of darkness. Standing aloof is as evil as a blatant disobedience. Matthew 12:30 says, *“The one who is not with Me is against Me, and the one who does not gather with Me scatters”* in the Modern King James Version of the Bible.

There is a place which God has prepared for every one of His children to influence. God has given every man some territory in life to possess. I have a territory to take and you have a territory to possess. Each one of us was born to make a difference. None of us were born to just pass

through life. Every man was created to take charge.

GENESIS 1:26

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Man, you were born to have dominion.

This truth dawned on me on the 15th day of October, 2011. I attended the funeral service of a neighbour's son, and as I saw the young man lying in the casket, the biography and tributes being read, and the mourners wailing, it dawned on me that each one of us was born to make a difference.

At the end of the reading of the biography it seemed as if he was born, educated, and spent his days in drunkenness until he died. I thought to myself, "is life not more than bread and drink?" Indeed, life must make more meaning than this.

But can we make a difference all by ourselves?

Of course no! “By the arm of flesh no man shall prevail”. There is a devil out there that is constantly fighting all those who attempt to make a positive impact on their generation. We must rely on the grace of God if we want to make a big difference. This is the reason why you must get born again.

There are many systems and arrangements put in place to frustrate your attempt to make a difference.

You were born to take a hold, control and influence a geographical area or an area of life of a people

A territory is either a geographical area or an area of life of a people. Examples include the city of Accra, London, Paris; the health sector, the transport sector; your marital life, etc. A territory may be a person, family, street, village, town, city, an ethnic group, a tribe, or even a nation.

The theme taking territories should inspire you to militarily take over an area as in Joshua entering

and taking over Canaan and then as an agent, or sales representative covering an area as Apostle Paul and his helpers reaching the lands, home and abroad, with the gospel of Christ Jesus.

Just as Joshua and Israel came in to Canaan, fought with courage and strength, determined to seize the land, subdued the enemies, and occupied the area, so should we strive to influence the nations of the earth.

A traditional understanding of the theme of taking territories could, however, be very misleading. The context of the church taking territories should not only be seen as the mandate of subduing enemies in spiritual warfare, but also to cover the world as marketing persons. Apostle Paul and his team are a good example of this; they endeavored to reach lands home and abroad. They laboured to spread the message of the Cross of Christ as far as their resources could take them.

Taking over your marriage, finance, ministry, village, town, or city is to make God's truth and anointing overshadow all the stakeholders and players.

Taking territories is making the stakeholders and players in a geographical area or an area of life submit to the truth and anointing of God. It is exercising of dominion. Actually it is the art of representing God in an area of life. Taking territories is exercising dominion to maintain God's kind of order.

To take territories is to dominate the minds and beings of a people by the truth and the anointing of God. When we take territories, the people literally begin to think and make choices according to the truth and spirit we uphold.

In other words, we shape the commerce, religion, politics, sociology, trade, culture, etc. of the people.

Audacity for Taking Territories

AUDACITY is an English word which is synonymous with daring, bravery, the nerve, the cheek or the impudence. Gaining the audacity to take territories for God is to have the nerve to possess a territory for God.

How can anybody rise up one day and say I want to take, control, and influence a land, a people, or a sector for God. Who is David, that he says I will rule Israel? Who is Simpe, that I can say I will influence my generation for God? Surely, the Lord should have given me such a heart. Our audacity, bravery, and impudence come from our understanding of the following five truths;

1. The Earth and Its Fullness is the Lord's

Our audacity comes from understanding that the earth and the fullness thereof is the Lord's, and He has given it to His children.

We have the nerve for taking territories because we know that the earth and its fullness is the Lord's and He has purposed, promised, and planned to give it to His children.

DEUTERONOMY 11:22-28 MKJV

For if you will carefully keep all these commandments which I command you, to do them, to love Jehovah your God, to walk in all His ways, and to hold fast to Him,

(23) then Jehovah will drive out all these nations from before you, and you shall possess greater and mightier nations than you.

(24) Every place on which the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours, from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even to the furthest sea shall your border be.

(25) There shall no man stand before you, for Jehovah your God shall lay the fear of you and the

dread of you upon the face of all the land that you shall tread upon, as He has said to you.

(26) Behold, I set before you today a blessing and a curse:

(27) A blessing if you obey the commandments of Jehovah your God which I command you today,

(28) and a curse if you will not obey the commandments of Jehovah your God, but will turn aside out of the way which I command you today, to go after other gods which you have not known.

The blessing package that God has for His children include the taking of territories. Remember, the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof.

In Exodus 9:29, Moses told Pharaoh that, "As soon as I am gone out of the city, I will spread abroad my hands unto the LORD; and the thunder shall cease, neither shall there be any more hail; that thou mayest know how that the earth is the LORD'S".

He said this to show how the power and might of God supersede all power. This great apostle showed that the Lord rules the world with power, holiness, mercy, and justice.

In 1 Corinthians 10, Paul the apostle, teaches that inasmuch as the earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof, He wants His children to have the fullness of the earth. God wants us to possess everything.

I CORINTHIANS 10:26, 28 MKJV

"for the earth is the Lord's, and the fullness of it."

(28) But if anyone says to you, This is slain in sacrifice to idols, do not eat for the sake of him who showed it, and for conscience' sake; *"for the earth is the Lord's, and the fullness of it"*;

God wants us to reach the world. In fact, He wants to give us the world. He wants to hand over the cities and towns of the world to His children.

It is the Lord's vision that men everywhere come to the saving knowledge of the truth. The Lord has a vision of covering the earth with His truth. In Matthew 28:19, the Lord commands His church to, *"Go therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:"*

The Lord wants us to cover the earth. He wants

men everywhere to know of this product - the truth. He wants us to reach every corner of the earth. In fact, he wants us to reach every tongue and tribe. It is time to cover the earth.

We are responsible for taking territories. Do not joke about it. We have been given the franchise and districts to cover. I have a district I must cover and you also have a district to cover. The next person you are reaching with this truth may be your territory. You have a territory to cover, my dear wake up.

2. All Power in Heaven and on Earth has been Given to Christ

Our audacity comes from understanding that all power in heaven and on earth has been given to Christ. All power now belongs to Our Lord Jesus Christ. If all power indeed belongs to Christ, then we can boldly step out and begin to command victory.

3. Christ has Given Us Power over Every Power of the Enemy

Our audacity comes from understanding that our Lord Jesus Christ has given us power over every power of the enemy to thread upon serpents and scorpions.

LUKE 10•19

Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

I have power to dash in pieces the kings of the nations of the earth as the potter's clay. Our Lord Jesus Christ has given us power over every power of the enemy; to thread upon serpents and scorpions, and nothing shall by any means hurt us. Our hope and confidence is in this truth.

4. The Father has Bequeathed to Us the Holy Spirit and Power

Our audacity comes from understanding that the Father has bequeathed to us the Holy Spirit and power to enable us possess the lands.

Just as God the Father anointed Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit and power (Act 10•38) so has He

also anointed and established us.

2 CORINTHIANS 1:21-22 MKJV

But He confirming us and anointing us with you in Christ is God.

(22) And He has sealed us and having given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.

In fact, He has left us a promise, and also to all those who shall come to believe afterwards;

ACTS 1:8 MKJV

But you shall receive power, the Holy Spirit coming upon you. And you shall be witnesses to Me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

The word assures us that we shall receive power after the Holy Ghost comes upon us. We receive the power to be witnesses unto Christ, starting from our familiar places to unfamiliar places.

5. God has Given Us Men as Gifts to Perfect, Work on, and Edify Us

Above all the Father has given us gifts - in the

form of ministers - for our perfection, for the work of ministry, and to edify us. Ephesians 4:8, 11-12 says;

EPHESIANS 4:8, 11-12 MKJV

Therefore He says, "When He ascended up on high, He led captivity captive and gave gifts to men."

(11) And truly He gave some to be apostles, and some to be prophets, and some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers,

(12) for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.

These are the truths that would give you the audacity, courage, strength, and faith to venture into the taking of territories.

God's Strategy for Taking Territories

IT IS one thing knowing what you ought to do and another thing knowing how to do it. In the previous study we have discovered how God has a territory for every man and woman to possess.

In this study, we shall be discussing God's strategy for taking territories. We shall be discussing how God intends to take the territories. Remember, this is not one of the sweet talks of a motivational speaker, but the very words of God.

MATTHEW 5:14-16 MKJV

You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

(15) Nor do men light a lamp and put it under the grain-measure, but on a lampstand. And it gives light to all who are in the house.

(16) Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father

who is in Heaven.

On December 24, 2010, I felt a gentle nudge of the Spirit of God prompting me that this is our season to shine. He said, “it is time to give out light to your world”. The Lord said, “you are the light of the world and I have put you on a hill to give light to your world”.

What does it mean to be the light of the world? It means being the source of illumination. You can give illumination to your world through;

1. Overcoming the darkness within you.
2. Overcoming the darkness outside you.

You can only give what you have. You must have light to be able to give light. The glorious light of the gospel must first influence us before we can influence others with it.

You Must be Ignited by the Truth and Spirit

ACTS 1:8

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses

unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

This is one secret to success in taking territories - the anointing. You may have many wonderful ideas, steps, or strategies, but the only secret to success in taking territories for God is the anointing of the Holy Spirit and power. The Bible says when the disciples had gathered together, the Lord Jesus Christ commanded them not to leave Jerusalem until they were anointed. The Lord did not suggest this, He commanded them. This is not one of things you can ignore. It is something you must keep. It is something we must obey. Without the anointing, you may labour in vain. You will only be transformed into a witness after the anointing. You must be anointed to receive the power to take territories.

No man can shine to illuminate the paths of others unless that man has the light and fire of God. This divine light and fire can be ignited through your fellowship and interaction with other men who have this light and fire.

Candles do not light themselves

Candles are nothing but wax and thread. There is however a divine spark which the Lord sends into the hearts of men which starts the blaze. Every one of us needs another to ignite this fire in us. The psalmist said in Psalm 18:28 that, “the Lord will light *my* candle: the LORD my God will enlighten *my* darkness.” All the men who took territories for God were ignited by others.

1. The Lord Himself needed to be anointed;

ACTS 10:38 MKJV

how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, and He went about doing good, and healing all those who were oppressed by the Devil, for God was with Him.

2. The twelve had to be anointed;

ACTS 1•13 MKJV

And when they had come in, they went up into an upper room, where Peter and James, and John and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alpheus and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James;

ACTS 2•1-4 MKJV

And in the fulfilling of the day of Pentecost, they were all with one accord in one place.

(2) And suddenly a sound came out of the heaven as borne along by the rushing of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

(3) And tongues as of fire appeared to them, being distributed; and it sat upon each of them.

(4) And they were all filled of the Holy Spirit, and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

3. The apostle Paul had to be anointed;

ACTS 9•17 MKJV

And Ananias went and entered into the house. And putting his hands on him, he said, Brother

Saul, the Lord, Jesus, who appeared to you in the way in which you came, has sent me to you that you might see and be filled with the Holy Spirit.

4. Cornelius had to be anointed;

Though he was a devout man whose alms and fasting had come before God as a memorial, he had to wait until he was anointed.

ACTS 10•44-47 MKJV

While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell on all those hearing the Word.

(45) And those of the circumcision, who believed (as many as came with Peter), were astonished because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on the nations also.

(46) For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered,

(47) Can anyone forbid water that these, who have received the Holy Ghost as well as we, should not be baptized?

5. Timothy had to be anointed:

I TIMOTHY 4:14 MKJV

Do not neglect the gift in you, which was given you by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the body of elders.

6. The church in Ephesus had to be anointed:

ACTS 19:6-7 MKJV

And as Paul laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

(7) And all of the men were about twelve.

The anointing is the most crucial ingredient for success in missions and evangelism. I know other people may have a great ideas and strategies but I can assure you that the anointing is the master key to success.

How then does the Lord light the candle of a man? You see, the anointing is a mystery. It is supernatural and occurs according to God's sovereign will. That is to say that it is God who determines who should be anointed.

2 CORINTHIANS 1:21-22

Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God;

(22) Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.

You can however prepare yourself for the anointing by the following secrets;

1. Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness

MATTHEW 6:33

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

2. Cultivate an earnest desire and expectation for the anointing after you have found the kingdom

MATTHEW 5:6

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

3. Be committed to fulfill all righteousness

Matthew 3 teaches that Jesus came from Galilee

to John to be baptized.

MATTHEW 3:13-17 MKJV

Then Jesus came from Galilee to Jordan, to John, to be baptized by him.

(14) But John restrained Him, saying, I have need to be baptized by You, and do You come to me?

(15) And answering Jesus said to him, Allow it now, for it is becoming to us to fulfill all righteousness. Then he allowed Him.

(16) And Jesus, when He had been baptized, went up immediately out of the water. And lo, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting upon Him.

(17) And lo, a voice from Heaven, saying, This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

4. After you have received the Spirit, maintain a constant fellowship with Him

I CORINTHIANS 14:4

He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.

When you receive the anointing of the Holy

Ghost certain signs begin to show. The main signs that show that a man has been ignited by the truth and Spirit of God are as recorded in Joel 2:28-29 (MKJV);

And it shall be afterward, I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh. And your sons and your daughters shall prophesy; your old men shall dream dreams; your young men shall see visions.

(29) And also I will pour out My Spirit on the slaves and on the slave women in those days.

1. How they feel changes
2. How they see and perceive things changes
3. How they speak and communicate changes
4. How they prove and believe things changes

1. Why does their feeling change?

The anointing is poured on the flesh, so there are times when you literally feel the outpouring of the Holy Ghost. There is always some interaction between the flesh and the anointing.

Contrary to the notion that the anointing cannot be felt, I assure you that you can feel the anointing.

Jesus felt virtue out of Him and the woman with the issue of blood felt the power of God flow into her.

MARK 5:29-30

And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague.

(30) And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said, Who touched my clothes?

Many people without the Holy Spirit do not feel anything more than the fundamental animalistic feelings of hunger, lust, anger, sleep, etc. Beyond that however, people of the Spirit can feel other things.

When Mary greeted Elizabeth, she felt something deeper than mere human voice. She felt the voice of the Lord and the baby began to kick.

Beyond feeling hungry, tired, sleepy, lusty, and angry, you should be able to feel like praying, worshipping, fasting, shouting, etc. You should not just feel according to the flesh but also

according to the spirit.

The men of old, those men of the Spirit, felt things in their spirits too. Romans 8:13-14 teaches that, “if ye live after the flesh, ye must die; but if by the Spirit ye put to death the deeds of the body, ye shall live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God”.

Men of the spirit feel beyond the natural. They feel it when the Spirit touches them.

2. Why do their visions, dreams and understandings change?

The Holy Spirit begins to explain things to them in a deeper and matured way.

JOHN 14:26

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

The anointing teaches the anointed all things.

I JOHN 2:27

But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

The anointing begins to reveal things to them. They do not see things as ordinary men see it anymore.

3. Why do their utterances change?

This is because men of the Spirit do not just speak. They speak as the Spirit moves. They may not even understand why they are saying what they are saying, but the Spirit moves them to speak.

ACTS 2:1-4 MKJV

And in the fulfilling of the day of Pentecost, they were all with one accord in one place.

(2) And suddenly a sound came out of the heaven as borne along by the rushing of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

(3) *And tongues as of fire appeared to them, being distributed; and it sat upon each of them.*

(4) *And they were all filled of the Holy Spirit, and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

Speaking in tongues and prophesying is a sign of the anointing on your life.

ACT 19•6

And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

4. Why does their mode of authenticating things change?

Carnal men say, “seeing is believing”, but spiritual men always know that hearing by the word of God is believing. Spiritual men know and prove things by the demonstration of the Spirit and power.

I CORINTHIANS 2•4

And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man’s wisdom, but in

demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

God Wants Us to be Planted in a Church

Once a candle is lit, it gives out light, but it won't brighten every part of the room until it is strategically positioned to do so. God therefore strategically positions every man that he lights, so that we can give light to the whole house.

What is the house? Your house is the territory for which you are lit.

What is a candlestick? Biblically, a candlestick was used in the sanctuary. It was made of gold and placed in the sanctuary to give light at night. It has a main stem and six branches, three on either sides.

EXODUS 25•31-32 CEV

Make a lampstand of pure gold. The whole lampstand, including its decorative flowers, must be made from a single piece of hammered gold
(32) with three branches on each of its two sides.

This lamp-stand is placed in the tabernacle.

HEBREWS 9•2

For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the shewbread; which is called the sanctuary.

Any man who can shine in this dark world must be positioned on a candlestick in the new sanctuary. Where are you positioned? Your position determines where the influence of your luminance will reach. Please, in this coming season, be planted in a church.

Remember that every candle needs a candlestick, and not vice versa. You need the church; the church does not need you. The church is there to help you; and not you to help the church. The candlestick is connected to a bowl containing the oil that fuels the candle (See Exodus 25•14-40). In Zechariah 4•6, when he said it is not by might, not by power but by my spirit, saith the Lord; he had seen a vision of a candlestick with two olive trees side by side. The church is the place to refuel and energize for a greater glow.

God Wants Us to Influence Others with Our Light

Candles are not lit for the mere sake of it. And truthfully, everyone knows that lighted candles burn out with time. So every man lights a candle for a purpose. Candles are lit to give light to all in a house.

Candles are lit for a purpose

The Lord lights us to illuminate the world. In this same way, God lights men so that we can work His works. God lights men that He may send them into houses, streets, villages, towns and cities to serve His purpose. God lit us for the work of the ministry.

JOHN 9•4-7 MKJV

I must work the works of Him who sent Me, while it is day. Night comes when no man can work.

(5) *As long as I am in the world, I am the Light of the world.*

(6) *And when He had spoken these things, He spat on the ground and made clay from the spittle.*

And He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay.

(7) And He said to him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam (which translated is Sent). Therefore he went and washed and came seeing.

The purpose of light is to give illumination to the people in the house. We are raised to show the way and give direction by doing things God's way. You can let your light shine by walking in the light of God. It is our time to shine and show the way.

Decide and be willing to sacrifice and to suffer

You cannot shine until you burn, and you cannot burn without pain and heat. You cannot serve until you are willing to sacrifice and suffer. Sacrifice is a willful decision to let go of certain things, but to suffer is to be forced to lay down something you have.

You can influence others through peer action. God wants us to begin from our familiar places. It might cost you something, but God wants you

to be willing to sacrifice and suffer.

LUKE 13:20-22 MKJV

And again He said, To what shall I compare the kingdom of God?

(21) It is like leaven which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal, until the whole was leavened.

(22) And He went through the cities and villages, teaching and progressing toward Jerusalem.

God wants us to start from our familiar places. You can start with your own spirit, your friends, your family, your neighbourhood, your street, your city, your nation, and your world. We can take territories through peer actions and impact.

The influence of the kingdom of God spreads through peer action. It spreads after the similitude of the spreading yeast. To understand the strategy of taking territories, consider how yeast is used to leaven bread. The yeast action begins from a point but it spreads throughout the dough.

Remember that although God wants to reach the world, He knows that it would be piecewise.

Therefore, in every generation of men, He raises men and women by whom He intends to reach that whole generation.

God's strategy has always been the same. When He wanted to take Canaan, He divided the land among the tribes of Israel. Each tribe had its own portion to occupy. I am sure also that in our day, God has appointed men over territories.

He wants to anoint us, so that He can use us to reach others.

ACTS 1:8 MKJV

But you shall receive power, the Holy Spirit coming upon you. And you shall be witnesses to Me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

We receive power after the Holy Spirit has come upon us. This anointing empowers us to exercise dominion over territories. We receive the power to be witnesses unto Christ, starting from our familiar places to unfamiliar places.

He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to the lost sheep of Israel

One day, a Canaanite woman came to the Lord to seek help for her daughter but the Lord answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel

MATTHEW 15:24 MKJV

But He answered and said, I am not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

In Matthew 10:5-6, it says, “Jesus sent forth his twelve, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel”.

In John 1:11-12 (MKJV), we learn that;

He came to His own, and His own received Him not.

(12) But as many as received Him, He gave to them authority to become the children of God, to those who believe on His name,

Without doubt, we see that Jesus Christ came

to the house of Israel, though it is the Father's desires that all men come to the saving knowledge of the truth. Inasmuch as He intended to cover the earth with His glory, He is going to use men of all ages and kindred.

The Woman of Samaria

Jesus sent the woman of Samaria to the city of Samaria, and she brought the city to the Lord. In John 4, we are told that Jesus met the woman at the well of Jacob at the gates of Samaria. The Lord ministered to her and empowered her to reach and cover her own tongue and tribe. That was a *district* for her to cover.

This is the time and season for each one of us to arise and take up the mandate to reach our own people. We must arise to reach the villages and towns around us. We must go to mountains and valleys and reach the huts and cottages.

The Man of Gadara

The man of Gadara was also sent to his family and he covered ten cities. One day according

to Mark 5:1-20 (GNB), Jesus and His disciples arrived on the other side of Lake Galilee, in the territory of Gerasa. As soon as Jesus got out of the boat, He was met by a man who came out of the burial caves there. This man had an evil spirit in Him and lived among the tombs. Nobody could keep him tied with chains anymore; many times his feet and his hands had been tied, but every time he broke the chains and smashed the irons on his feet. He was too strong for anyone to control him. Day and night he wandered among the tombs and through the hills, screaming and cutting himself with stones.

He was some distance away when he saw Jesus; so he ran, fell on his knees before Him, and screamed in a loud voice, "Jesus, Son of the Most High God! What do you want with me? For God's sake, I beg you, don't punish me!" (He said this because Jesus was saying, "Evil spirit, come out of this man!")

So Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" The man answered, "My name is 'Mob'---there are so many of us!"

And he kept begging Jesus not to send the evil

spirits out of that region. There was a large herd of pigs near by, feeding on a hillside. So the spirits begged Jesus, "Send us to the pigs, and let us go into them."

He let them go, and the evil spirits went out of the man and entered the pigs. The whole herd---about two thousand pigs in all---rushed down the side of the cliff into the lake and was drowned.

The men who had been taking care of the pigs ran away and spread the news in the town and among the farms. People went out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they saw the man who used to have the mob of demons in him. He was sitting there, clothed and in his right mind; and they were all afraid.

Those who had seen it told the people what had happened to the man with the demons, and about the pigs.

So they asked Jesus to leave their territory. As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who was delivered of the demons begged Him, "Let me go with You!"

But Jesus would not let him. Instead, He told him, *“Go back home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you and how kind he has been to you.”*

So the man left and went all through the Ten Towns, telling what Jesus had done for him. And all who heard it were amazed.

The man actually went to the territory assigned to him. He covered ten cities and Jesus went to the other side of the Lake. Just one man touched by the power and truth of God covered ten cities.

He was not a preacher, he had not seen any vision, he had no Bible school training, he was simply touched by the power of God and he touched ten cities. Without titles, elaborate ordination, or associates, he covered ten cities. We can do better by the grace of God.

Maybe Jesus came to Gadara because of that one man who ended up taking ten cities. That colleague, friend, husband or maid that you reach may touch ten cities.

At the time of writing this book, the brother who

witnessed to me was not a preacher, even though I am a territory he took. What more can I say?

The Lord sent Apostle Paul to the gentiles and he was not disobedient. God bless his wonderful heart. Though he had a passion for his people Israel, he was sent to the Gentiles. In his own words in Act 26.19, he said, “Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision:”

What more shall we do? We cannot be disobedient either.

Dear friend, you may be staring in the face of your own territory, I encourage you to take it. Because one soul at a time, one family at a time, one street at a time, one village at a time, and one city at a time, we will be covering the earth. We may not all be taking nations and cities but all of us can take our territories.

We are sent into a war-torn and lawless world. We are God’s marketing men charged with trading in this war-torn and lawless world. As sales representatives, we are sent to market the gospel of Christ. We are God’s marketing

men, charged with trading the truth, wisdom, instruction, and understanding of the gospel of Christ in this world.

Much as others are selling drugs, food, cars, fuel, etc., we have been charged with selling the gospel of Jesus Christ. We trade in a package of four things. In Proverbs 23:23, the Scriptures say, “Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding”.

If men are to buy truth, wisdom, instruction, and understanding, then these things are sold. We are commissioned to trade in truth, wisdom, instruction, and understanding of the gospel of Christ Jesus.

*We trade the news that God has a purpose,
plan, and power to save, bless, and use all
men to reach others.*

My Bible tells me that God planned to justify the nations through faith, so He preached the gospel to Abraham.

And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the nations through faith, preached the gospel before to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all nations be blessed.”

What gospel did God preach to Abraham? The Bible tells us clearly; *In you shall all nations be blessed*. This is the gospel and the good news;

GENESIS 12:1-3 MKJV

And Jehovah said to Abram, Go out of your country, and from your kindred, and from your father's house into a land that I will show you.

(2) And I will make you a great nation. And I will bless you and make your name great. And you shall be a blessing.

(3) And I will bless those that bless you and curse the one who curses you. And in you shall all families of the earth be blessed.

I got to understand this truth rather too late, thirteen years after I was born again, but by God's grace I have achieved more since then.

I got to understand that God has purposed, planned and paid the price to separate and bless every man to reach the nations of the world, and this can be your time and chance to walk in this

gospel, Amen!

Glory be to God, I can say with Apostle Paul today in 2 Timothy 1:8-9 that;

Therefore you should not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner. But be partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God,

(9) who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given us in Christ Jesus before the eternal times. (MKJV)

Thank God I am saved and called with a holy calling according to His own purpose. God has a purpose. He has a purpose to separate, bless, and use me and every man to serve others. This is God's purpose. God has a purposed that every man should be *separated - successful - serving* . This is the gospel.

Thank God that I did not have to grope in darkness anymore. I know what God has purposed for me. My life will not be the same again. It is time to speak and create this purpose. This message of blessing was not manufactured by a man. Right from the onset, God's purpose

has been to separate, bless, and use anyone who would offer themselves, to help others. This is not another big joke; rather it is the eternal purpose of God for every man.

Right here on earth, God is committed to separate all men, bless all men, and use all men. It was in a dark moment of my life that I got to understand that God dreamt about my destiny even before I was born. God has a plan to separate me, bless me and use me to save others, bless others, and use them to in turn save some more others, to bless those others, and use them too. And so this creates an unending chain reaction until the whole world is covered by the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Steps to Taking Territories

I WILL not pretend to have any sure steps to taking territories. There may not even be such steps. Here are however a few helpful hints to taking territories. It will always begin with an honest desire.

Desire:

Be Willing to Take a Territory

The first step to taking territories is to have the desire to take territories.

Remember, you will experience what you expect. Desire or expectation is the cradle in which achievement is nurtured. Without a holy desire to take territories, you will be wasting your time. In all pursuits, there must first of all be a willing mind to achieve something.

Read the words of King David to Solomon, his son;

I CHRONICLES 28•9-10

And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the LORD searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever.

(10) Take heed now; for the LORD hath chosen thee to build an house for the sanctuary: be strong, and do it.

The apostle Paul also taught the church in Corinth that in terms of giving there must first be a willing mind;

2 CORINTHIANS 8•11-12

Now therefore perform the doing of it; that as there was a readiness to will, so there may be a performance also out of that which ye have.

(12) For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not.

Dream:

Earmark the Territory

2 CORINTHIANS 10•16

*To preach the gospel in the regions beyond you,
and not to boast in another man's line of things
made ready to our hand.*

Apostle Paul determined to go to Rome. He did not just find himself in Rome. He actually determined to go there. He even fought spiritual battles in order to go to Rome.

ROMANS 15•18-26 MKJV

*For I will not dare to speak of any of those things
which Christ did not work out by me for the
obedience of the nations in word and deed,*

*(19) in power of miracles and wonders, in power
of the Spirit of God, so that from Jerusalem, and
all around to Illyricum, I have fully preached the
gospel of Christ.*

*(20) Yea, so I have been eager to preach the
gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should
build on another man's foundation;*

(21) but as it is written, "To whom nothing was

said about Him, they shall see. And they who have not heard shall understand.”

(22) For this cause I also have been greatly hindered from coming to you.

(23) But now, having no more place in these parts, and having a great desire these many years to come to you,

(24) whenever I may go into Spain, I will come to you. For in traveling through I hope to see you, and to be set forward there by you, if first I may be filled of you in part.

(25) But now I am going to Jerusalem to minister to the saints.

(26) For it has pleased those of Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor saints in Jerusalem.

Apostle Paul determined to go to Thessalonica. He actually had to earmark and decide to travel to Thessalonica.

I THESSALONIANS 2:18

Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us.

You can decide to take over your marriage, your finances, your health, your village, your town, or

your city. But it must come through a personal decision.

Prepare:

Prepare to Take Territories

Any man who intends to take territories ought to prepare himself. Although the Lord is an expert at using anybody, He never uses novices. The Lord always uses people He has prepared.

Even the whale that swallowed the prophet Jonah was prepared by God beforehand.

JONAH 1:17

Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

God wants us to gain a working understanding of the product we peddle. You cannot sell a product if you lack the basic understanding of how the product works. This is why the Lord always trains the people He uses in trading the truth.

MARK 3•14-15

And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, (15) and to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils:

The Lord wants us to be with Him so that we can deepen in our convictions, build capacity and develop character because these things are the greatest leadership deficiencies in the church. So these are must-have qualities for taking territories.

1. Deepen Your Convictions:

If you really intend to take a territory, then you must deepen in your convictions. You must be fully persuaded. You can take territories when you are persuaded of what product you are trading in.

2 TIMOTHY 1•12-14

For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him

against that day.

(13) Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

(14) That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us.

2. Build Up Capacity:

The workman in the Lord's vineyard must pray, study, and wait daily. You can build capacity through studying and by the anointing

2 TIMOTHY 2:15

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Indeed, a bishop must have the ability to teach and feed the flock.

1 TIMOTHY 3:2

A bishop then must be ... apt to teach;

The anointing empowers the man of God to do good and heal all those who are oppressed of the devil.

ACT 10:38

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

The Lord sees it as mandatory for us to be anointed

ACT 1:4, 8

And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

(8) But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

3. Develop Character:

1 TIMOTHY 6:11-12

But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

(12) Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

Pray:

1. Gain Access Through Waging Spiritual War and by Overpowering the Strongman

There is always some inhabitant in the territory you are seeking to take. There is a strongman in the territory you are trying to take. You will have to gain access through waging spiritual war

2. Wage the War Through Prayer

Ask of the Lord for the uttermost part of the earth and *push* the enemy frontiers back through spiritual warfare¹.

1 I discuss the subject of spiritual warfare in my

PSALMS 2•8-9

Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.

(9) Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

2 CORINTHIANS 4•3-7 KJV

But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

(4) In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

(5) For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

(6) For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

(7) But we have this treasure in earthen vessels,

that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

3. Overpower the Strongman Through Importunity

You can take territories when you overpower the strongman.

LUKE 11:21-22

When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace:

(22) But when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils.

You can take any territory when you lose the loins of kings. When you enter into any territory, you must overpower the principalities in the land. Before Israel could take over the land of promise they had to dislodge the inhabitants.

ISAIAH 45:1-3

Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to

open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut;

(2) I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron:

(3) And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel.

Though we are sales people, we cannot sell effectively to slaves nor in a war-torn area, so when we come into any land, we must bind the strongmen in there.

There are times when you have to wrestle men as though they were beasts.

I CORINTHIANS 15:32 MKJV

If according to man I fought with beasts in Ephesus, what advantage is to me if the dead are not raised? "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die!"

Hope:

Quit Yourself as Men and Push

the Enemy Frontiers Backwards

You can take territories if you can quit yourself as men. There are times when the going gets tough but as long as we can quit ourselves as men, we can take territories.

Remember the Philistines, upon quitting themselves as men, they took away the ark of God.

I SAMUEL 4•7-10

And the Philistines were afraid, for they said, God is come into the camp. And they said, Woe unto us! for there hath not been such a thing heretofore.

(8) Woe unto us! who shall deliver us out of the hand of these mighty Gods? these are the Gods that smote the Egyptians with all the plagues in the wilderness. (9) Be strong, and quit yourselves like men, O ye Philistines, that ye be not servants unto the Hebrews, as they have been to you: quit yourselves like men, and fight.

(10) And the Philistines fought, and Israel was smitten, and they fled every man into his tent: and there was a very great slaughter; for there fell of Israel thirty thousand footmen.

The apostles said;

I CORINTHIANS 16:13

Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

You can take territories when you push the enemy frontiers backwards and decide to occupy till the Master returns.

LUKE 19:12-23

He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return.

(13) And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.

(14) But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this man to reign over us.

(15) And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.

(16) Then came the first, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds.

(17) And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities.

(18) And the second came, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds.

(19) And he said likewise to him, Be thou also over five cities. (20) And another came, saying, Lord, behold, here is thy pound, which I have kept laid up in a napkin:

(21) For I feared thee, because thou art an austere man: thou takest up that thou layedst not down, and reapest that thou didst not sow.

(22) And he saith unto him, Out of thine own mouth will I judge thee, thou wicked servant. Thou knewest that I was an austere man, taking up that I laid not down, and reaping that I did not sow:

(23) Wherefore then gavest not thou my money into the bank, that at my coming I might have required mine own with usury?

Step Out:

Go Forth into the Fields

A sales representative cannot stay home and expect to sell his merchandise. The workman must hit the road, introduce, and sell the product - the gospel - to as many people as is possible.

Luke 14:16-24 teaches that;

Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many:

(17) And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. (18) And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused.

(19) And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. (20) And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.

(21) So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind.

(22) And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room.

(23) And the lord said unto the servant, Go out

into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.

(24) For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper.

Practically, we learn what Apostle Paul did in Asia in his own account in Act 20:18;

And when they were come to him, he said unto them, Ye know, from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons,

In his own words, we learn that he, together with his helpers, came in to Asia. You must step out.

Serve:

Serve the Lord

Serve the Lord with humility of mind, and even in tears and temptation if need be.

ACTS 20:19

Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews:

Teach:

Teach the Word

Keep back nothing that is profitable to your people; Teach both publicly and from house to house.

ACTS 20•20

And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house,

In our salesman analogy, this is teaching on how the product works. Tell them all about the promise, purpose, plan and power of God.

Testify:

Testify to All Men

Testify to all men of repentance and faith towards our Lord Jesus Christ.

ACTS 20•21

Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

Tell them about how the product has helped you.
Testify that the Lord is good.

Reinforce:

Reinforce Your Presence in the Territory

Reinforcing your presence in a territory involves two steps; **planting** and **watering**.

I CORINTHIANS 3:5-6

Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?

(6) I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.

We are better positioned to take territories when we are equipped to both plant and water the souls. You cannot preach just once in a place. You must learn how to preach and preach again and again.

Create an avenue where people can have after-sales maintenance (The church). The following

Scripture shows how the apostles did this;

ACTS 14:21-28

And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch,

(22) Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

(23) And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.

(24) And after they had passed throughout Pisidia, they came to Pamphylia.

(25) And when they had preached the word in Perga, they went down into Attalia:

(26) And thence sailed to Antioch, from whence they had been recommended to the grace of God for the work which they fulfilled.

(27) And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

(28) And there they abode long time with the

disciples.

*Even though you were not saved by works,
you were saved to work.*

Do not leave this page until your candle is lit by the life in the word; until your candle is set upon a candlestick, and your light begins to shine before men. Remember! You will be safe if you do not close this chapter until;

- ✦ You are spurred on by the life in the word
- ✦ You have decided which church you want to belong to after this page
- ✦ You know whom you want to influence

Signs of Taking Territories

ACTS 6•1-15 MKJV

And in those days, the disciples having multiplied, a murmuring of the Hellenists against the Hebrews occurred, because their widows were overlooked in the daily serving.

(2) And the Twelve called near the multitude of the disciples and said, It is not pleasing to us, leaving the Word of God, to serve tables.

(3) Therefore, brothers, look out among you seven men being witnessed to, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this duty.

(4) But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the Word.

(5) And the saying pleased all the multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicholas, a proselyte of Antioch.

(6) They set these before the apostles. And having

prayed, they laid hands on them.

(7) And the Word of God was increasing. And the number of the disciples in Jerusalem was multiplying exceedingly; even a great crowd of the priests obeyed the faith.

(8) And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

(9) Then there arose certain of the synagogue which is called the synagogue of the Libertines, and Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and from Asia, disputing with Stephen.

(10) And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke.

(11) And they induced men to be saying, We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God.

(12) And they stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes. And coming on, they seized him and brought him to the sanhedrin.

(13) And they set up false witnesses, who said, This man does not cease speaking blasphemous words against this holy place and the Law.

(14) For we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered to us.

(15) *And looking intently at him. all those sitting in the sanhedrin saw his face as if it were the face of an angel.*

1. Increased Word

The first sign that you have taken a territory is that the word of God in your mouth will increase. More and more people will believe and speak the word as you have preached it. When we have taken the territory, we would be the drum major. Sometime in Ghana, every young minster wanted to speak like a particular man of God, then it changed and they all preached like this other man of God, and it changed again, and again.

2. Increased Disciples

The second sign to show that you have taken the territory is that your disciples will increase. The sign that a product has taken over would be that it becomes the people's preference.

3. Increased Obedience

The third sign is more and more people would become obedient to the faith. There were times when many people thought that there was no power in the church. When we take the territory, many more people would obey the truth. When Philip took Samaria, even the magicians in the city believed and were obedient.

ACTS 8:5-13 MKJV

And Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed Christ to them.

(6) And the people with one accord gave heed to those things which Philip spoke, hearing and seeing the many miracles which he did.

(7) For out of those having unclean spirits, many came out, crying with loud voice. And many who had been paralyzed and lame were healed.

(8) And there was great joy in that city.

(9) But a certain man called Simon had long been conjuring in the city, and amazing the nation of Samaria, claiming himself to be some great one.

(10) All gave heed to him, from the least to the greatest, saying, This one is the great power of God.

(11) And they were paying attention to him, because for a long time he had amazed them with conjuring.

(12) But when they believed Philip preaching the gospel, the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

(13) Then Simon himself believed also, and being baptized, he continued with Philip. And seeing miracles and mighty works happening, he was amazed.

4. Increased Signs, Wonders and Miracles

The fourth sign of taking territories is an increase in signs and wonders. When we step out to preach, God will confirm our effort and the word with signs and wonders.

MARK 16:20

And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

5. Increased Opposition

The fifth sign of taking territories is the presence of disputing and persecutions. Still in the book of Acts, we see how the Jews were moved with envy to cause uproars. When you begin to make impact, the devil will move people against you. When you touch the eye of the devil, he will move people against you. He will generate disputing, misrepresentations, false witnessing, and persecutions.

ACTS 17:1-5 MKJV

And traveling through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews.

(2) And according to Paul's custom, he went in to them and reasoned with them out of the Scriptures on three sabbaths,

(3) opening and setting forth that Christ must have suffered, and to have risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus whom I preach to you is Christ.

(4) And some of them believed and joined themselves to Paul and Silas, both a great multitude of the worshiping Greeks, and not a few

of the chief women.

(5) But the disobeying Jews becoming jealous, and having taken aside some wicked men of the market-loafers, and gathering a crowd, they set all the city in an uproar. And coming on the house of Jason, they sought to bring them out to the mob.

Attitudes for Taking Territories

ATTITUDE is the approach, outlook, mind-set, and manner of doing things or thinking.

The theme, *Attitudes for Taking Territories*, refers to that approach to life that brings greatness while we seek to take territories for God. If we want to take territories, then how are we supposed to look at life? What manner of men ought we to be in order to take territories?

The simple secret to greatness and influence in the kingdom of God is in learning to look at life and relating to life from the perspective of a little child. Biblically, a child, in this context, is one who has been adopted into the kingdom of God and has faith in God.

If you want to be great and influential in the kingdom of God, then you should know this truth;

MATTHEW 18:1-10 MKJV

At that hour the disciples came to Jesus, saying,
Who is the greater in the kingdom of Heaven?

(2) And Jesus called a little child to Him and set him in their midst,

(3) and said, Truly I say to you, Unless you are converted and become as little children, you shall not enter into the kingdom of Heaven.

(4) Therefore whoever shall humble himself like this little child, this one is the greater in the kingdom of Heaven.

(5) And whoever shall receive one such little child in My name receives Me.

(6) But whoever shall offend one of these little ones who believes in Me, it would be better for him that an ass's millstone were hung around his neck, and he be sunk in the depth of the sea.

(7) Woe to the world because of offenses! For it is necessary that offenses come; but woe to that man by whom the offense comes!

(8) And if your hand or your foot causes you to offend, cut them off and throw them from you. It is better for you to enter into life lame or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire.

(9) *And if your eye offends you, pluck it out and throw it from you. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into the hell of fire.*

(10) *Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I say to you that in Heaven their angels always behold the face of My Father in Heaven.*

So the simple secrets to greatness and influence in the kingdom of God are enshrined in these six simple statements;

1. Being converted into a child.
2. Humbling yourself as a little child.
3. Cutting off anything that offends your faith.
4. Receiving the little ones who have faith in God.
5. Learning not to offend any of the little ones who have faith in God.
6. Not despising any of these little ones who have faith in God.

“The little ones” refers to people of faith; those who have been adopted into the family of God.

1. Be Converted into a Child

MATTHEW 18:3

And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Remember you can never enter the kingdom of God unless you can be converted and become like a child. This means that it should not be too difficult to impress you with a message. Many of us are missing out on heavenly blessings because we cannot become like children. It does not take much to impress children with a story. The child will just believe. I have been telling a lot of stories to children and I see that they are not interested in details and logic. They are impressed by even the simplest adjectives.

You can be converted and become like a child through the following secrets;

1. Be born again by the will of God

JOHN 1:11-13

He came unto his own, and his own received him

not.

(12) But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

(13) Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

2. Empty yourself of all things that pertains to your former lifestyle

PHILIPPIANS 3:7-10

But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

(8) Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,

(9) And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

(10) That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

3. Have an earnest desire for sincere milk of the word

I PETER 2•1-3

Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile,
and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

(2) As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of
the word, that ye may grow thereby:

(3) If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is
gracious.

2. Humble Yourself as a Little Child

MATTHEW 18•4

Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this
little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of
heaven.

It is not enough to be converted and become as
a child, but you must also humble yourself. One
of the simplest signs of humility is to be easy
to be entreated. Humble people find it easy to
understand things. They submit the moment the
word of God is quoted. Humble people submit to

the truth and the anointing.

So, if you want to be great, then please humble yourself. We are all nobodies. We are only beneficiaries of God's mercy. We should have been dead lying in our graves. God calls and uses wicked people. Many of us preaching should have been dead, but God in His mercy has called us to preach.

However, being humble is not to be a pushover. It is to be submitted to the truth and Spirit of the kingdom of God.

Our Lord Jesus was the meekest man on earth, yet when Pilate boasted of his authority to free or kill him, He responded quickly that the only authority he had over Him was what has been given to him from the Father above. A truly humble wife submits to her husband as he walks in the truth of God's word.

The old time maxim of equity which states that "He that seeks equity must come with clean hands" has never been truer than in explaining divine justice.

You don't have the authority to discipline disobedience unless your obedience is complete.

2 CORINTHIANS 10:3-6

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

(4) (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

(5) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

(6) And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.

The husband must himself be submitted to the authority of Christ from whom he derives his authority to be able to take submission from his wife.

3. Cut off Anything that Offends Your Faith

You can take territories when you learn to sever

unfruitful ties.

MATTHEW 18.7-8

Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh!

(8) Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire.

Cut off anything that offends your faith and conviction. Sever links with anything that offends. It is better to go to heaven without hands than to go to hell with two hands.

*Nothing is too precious to be cut off if it
offends your faith*

When Peter tried to restrain our Lord Jesus Christ from dying, the Lord was ready to make him drop behind. Read this.

MARK 8•31-35

And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.

(32) And he spake that saying openly. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him.

(33) But when he had turned about and looked on his disciples, he rebuked Peter, saying, Get thee behind me, Satan: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but the things that be of men.

(34) And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

(35) For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it.

Our Lord Jesus Christ was willing and ready to sever ties with anything that tried to take away His purpose and mission. The Lord is teaching us that we should be willing to sever any ties, even with our own lives. Unless we are willing to lose even our very lives, we cannot take territories for God.

The Lord Jesus acknowledges the fact that cutting certain things off could cripple you, but it is still better to go to heaven crippled than to go to hell with strength. Unless you learn to cut off things that offend your faith, those things may cut you off from the faith.

Some of you may have to learn how to cut off wives, husbands, bosses, parents and friends.

4. Receive Such Little Ones

The Lord always appears in human forms. It is written that;

And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.

There is therefore the need to receive people who come in the name of the Lord no matter how humble they may appear. The Bible teaches us in Hebrews 13:1-2 KJV, to;

Let brotherly love continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

We can take territories when we learn to

entertain strangers. Most of the messengers that God will send to you are not familiar people. They may be strangers; most of the missionaries are strangers we have not known.

5. Don't Offend any of These Little Ones

If you want to take territories, then try not to offend any of the little ones. Usually the same people who might seem very insignificant are those who are going to stand by you to possess the territory.

MATTHEW 18:6-7

But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

(7) Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh!

The little ones are of great importance to the Father. The Father will not take it lightly if you offend any of them. Treat every little one well

because God is keeping them safe. It is important to learn to treat people well. They are souls bought with the blood of Jesus Christ. Make these souls a treasure. Learn to treasure people, and may they be precious to you.

6. Don't Despise any One of These Little Ones

As you walk down the street, learn to treat people with respect. They may be nobodies but learn to honour them. The people you meet everyday are God's precious souls. Their angels are ever pleading with God.

MATTHEW 18:10

Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.

It is very easy to despise a man of God who humbles himself as a child.

Secrets for Taking Territories

CONSIDERING the very nature of taking territories, I recognize that every man who intends to take territories must have the audacity and faith for it. Most of the territories we intend to take already have strongholds and inhabitants that we must oust before we can occupy the territory.

Usually these inhabitants have fortified themselves in there. When God asked Israel to step out and take the land of Canaan, they began to weigh their military capacity against the people who were already there in the land. They thought of the Amorites, the Jebusites, Perrizites, Amalekites, etc. God commanded them as He is commanding us today, but they stopped at the Jordan and began to take stock, they began to analyze and consider their own strength as against that of inhabitants of the land, and this made them lose hope. Israel felt so inadequate against their enemies.

I am sure the apostles of Christ would have felt the same way if they had considered what chance they stood - in their own power - to accomplish the odious task of taking territories. These were illiterates and fisher folks, how on earth could they spread the message of Christ and church in land both home and abroad.

You may have felt the same. You may be feeling very inadequate, unqualified, or unprepared at times, but thanks be to God that there are certain philosophies and mysteries outlined in Scripture that can settle every heart to take territories.

The teachings of Apostle Paul in Hebrews 13:1-25 reveals the thinking and acts that generates the audacity or courage to take territories.

1. Strengthen Our Cords Through Fellowship

Why should every man who wants to take territories belong to a fellowship of believers?

There is the need to strengthen your cords before venturing into taking your territory because;

1. We become fortified when we stick together through corporate support, love and encouragement:

ECCLESIASTES 4·9-12

Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour.

(10) For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

(11) Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone?

(12) And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

2. We become stable and prosper through the synergy of standing together:

Have you not read in Mark 3·25 that, “a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand”.

3. We become sharpened from sticking together:

Indeed, the Bible says in Proverbs 27:17 that,

Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

How then can we strengthen our cords? We can strengthen our cords through relationships, integration, and fellowship. The Bible, in Hebrews 13:1-3, teaches us three important actions that would help strengthen our cords.

Let Brotherly Love Continue

HEBREWS 13:1

Let brotherly love continue.

Learn to love others you share fellowship with. Remember to be patient with them, not to keep records of the wrong.

Remember also that when you love them as yourself, you have just kept the law and not shown love. So you have to move on to actually show your love for them.

Entertain Strangers

The Bible tells us not to forget to entertain strangers.

HEBREWS 13•2

Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Let me point out to you though that the Bible only encourages us to entertain strangers, it did not say we should trust strangers.

The man Abraham is a classic example of a man who entertained strangers and as a result entertained angels unawares. However, the Bible never said he trusted the strangers. He did not bring the strangers into his bedroom. He made them sit under a tree and fixed them a meal.

The Shunamite who fed Elijah and made him a room, did not trust him as a stranger. She fed him for while until she perceived that he was holy, before she accommodated him.

2 KINGS 4•8-10 MKJV

And the day came when Elisha passed over to

Shunem. And a great woman was there. And she laid hold on him to eat bread. And it happened, as often as he passed by, he turned in there to eat bread.

(9) And she said to her husband, Behold now, I see that this is a holy man of God who passes by us continually.

(10) Please, let us make a little room on the wall. And let us set a bed for him there, and a table, and a stool, and a lampstand. And when he comes to us, he shall turn in there.

**Remember those who suffer
for the same cause you are
pursuing**

The Bible teaches us in Hebrews 13:3 to;

Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body.

These three master keys will strengthen you for taking territories.

2. Consecrate Yourself

Consecration is one of the most important things that bring boldness and courage. Have you not read in Proverbs 28:1 that;

the wicked flee when no man pursueth: but the righteous are bold as a lion.

Remember that before Israel crossed over to possess the land, the servant of God, Joshua, was instructed to consecrate the people.

JOSHUA 3:5

And Joshua said unto the people, Sanctify yourselves: for to morrow the LORD will do wonders among you.

Also, before our Jesus came face to face with death, He said in John 14:30 that;

Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.

Let us not forget how our Lord Jesus Christ washed the feet of the apostles. He consecrated them for the assignment of reaching the world.

The early church apostle told the gentiles in Act

15•28-29 that;

It seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things;

(29) That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well.

The apostles are telling us that once we are born again through our faith in Christ Jesus, we would do well as far as the faith is concerned if we abstain from the following;

1. Things offered to idols
2. Blood and strangled things
3. Fornication

You will be empowered to take territories if you learn to respond to the mystery of consecration.

HEBREWS 13•4

Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

3. Be Content with Such Things as You Have

HEBREWS 13•5

Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

As you walk into life, stepping into the waters of competition, you have got to understand that it takes more than might and power to possess lands. It is time we understood that.

ROMANS 9•16

So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

We may not have all the advantages that others have, but we can still make it as far God has determined.

One day there was a young woman named Esther who was invited into a competition to win the king's heart. The Bible says that she was groomed alongside other girls who all took turns to spend a night with the king.

ESTHER 2•15-17

Now when the turn of Esther, the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her for his daughter, was come to go in unto the king, she required nothing but what Hegai the king's chamberlain, the keeper of the women, appointed. And Esther obtained favour in the sight of all them that looked upon her.

(16) So Esther was taken unto king Ahasuerus into his house royal in the tenth month, which is the month Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign.

(17) And the king loved Esther above all the women, and she obtained grace and favour in his sight more than all the virgins; so that he set the royal crown upon her head, and made her queen instead of Vashti.

This young Jewess understood that the race is not to the swift.

ECCLESIASTES 9•11

I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all.

We may not be as swift, we may not have all that others have, but we will still take territories because God is with us.

My audacity and courage comes from my connection with God and not from how many things I possess.

Often many of us focus on things we do not have rather than on how we can invest what we have in order to achieve great results.

When Peter and John encountered the cripple who begged them for silver or gold, they did not consider what they did not have; rather they harnessed the power of such as they had.

ACT 3•4-8

And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.

(5) And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.

(6) Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

(7) *And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.*

(8) *And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.*

Friend, such as you have is enough, just give it. This should save you from the temptation to hide your single talent. Peter just gave such as he had and that was more than enough to release the miracle.

The feeding of 5000 men did not have to take a millionaire but a willing teenager. It took a boy who was willing to give his all to the Lord.

4. Maintain Your Faith Confession

HEBREWS 13:6

So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

You can maintain a positive confession through

meditating on and speaking back what God has said.

It is important to maintain a positive confession. Why? Because the outcome of your life in the spiritual dimension depends largely on what you think and say. The Bible says in Ephesians 3:20 that;

God is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

What you hear affects what you dream or visualize; in much that same way, what you visualize affects what you think and believe; and what you think and believe determines what you say and receive.

Therefore, you must train yourself to listen and meditate on, believe and speak the word of God daily. As you dream, think, believe and speak the word of God, your body literally emanates the energy of God - the power to change things.

Confess what God has said and not what you see or feel. All that Israel had to do in order to possess Canaan without delay was to have

thought and spoken what God had said.

5. Follow the Faith of Those Who Bear Rule Over You

HEBREWS 13•7-8

Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.

(8) Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

The Bible says in Romans 15•4 that;

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

Follow my faith.

6. Let Your Heart Be Established with Grace

HEBREWS 13•9

Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.

Do not be carried away. Mature and refuse to be tossed to and fro. Do all things for Christ, by Christ and through Christ.

Arguments for Taking Territories

TITUS 1:9

Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

Knowing why we have to pay the high price of covering the earth makes us better equipped to actually do it. These arguments help us to pull down the questions that the devil ministers to us. There is nothing as potent as knowing why you do what you do. The apostle teaches that when we hold fast to faithful words as we have been taught, we may be able to answer gainsayers.

This is the dawn of a new day and we must begin to orient ourselves again concerning the vision.

Every shepherd desires that his sheep would prosper and increase

Every shepherd takes care of his sheep in the hope that the sheep would increase in quantity and quality. As I minister to you, my aim and desire for you is that you would prosper and increase.

Now, this is not just my desire but it is God's promise to us. Take a look at this verse;

ISAIAH 60•1, 22

Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.

(22) *A little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation: I the LORD will hasten it in his time.*

EZEKIEL 36•37-38

Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will yet for this be enquired of by the house of Israel, to do it for them; I will increase them with men like a flock.

(38) *As the holy flock, as the flock of Jerusalem in her solemn feasts; so shall the waste cities be filled with flocks of men: and they shall know that I am the LORD.*

There are so many ways of finding this increase, but one working way is by;

Building covenant churches all over the world to reach the millions of souls that are perishing.

A covenant church has up to 30 members; a commissioned church has up to 70 members; and a city church has over 70 members.

So then, why should we get involved?

1. Working for the Lord Fulfills the Hope of Our Calling

JOHN 14:1-3

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

(2) In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

(3) And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

The Lord promised to come back for His Church, we must therefore gather and wait for Him. He said;

1. In My Father's house are many mansions
2. I am going to prepare a place for you
3. Then I will come and receive you unto Me

2. Working for the Lord Brings Unspeakable Joy

JOHN 10:14-16

I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.

(15) As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.

(16) And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

The Lord Jesus explains His assignment further, which shows that He has many other sheep that He must gather. He said;

1. I am the good shepherd
2. I have other sheep which are not of this fold

3. I must bring all my sheep together to this fold, to make one fold.

As we get involved in the work of the Lord, we will share in the joy of the Lord.

3. Working for the Lord Brings Healing to the Nations

Our merchandise brings healing to the nations. Our message is the healing balm for the wounds, hurts and curses of the world. We have the cure for the troubles and challenges of the world. We have the solution. The message that flows from our temples is the only solution.

EZEKIEL 47•1-2, 9

Afterward he brought me again unto the door of the house; and, behold, waters issued out from under the threshold of the house eastward: for the forefront of the house stood toward the east, and the waters came down from under from the right side of the house, at the south side of the altar.

(2) *Then said he unto me, These waters issue out toward the east country, and go down into the desert, and go into the sea: which being brought*

forth into the sea, the waters shall be healed.

(9) And it shall come to pass, that every thing that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live: and there shall be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters shall come thither: for they shall be healed; and every thing shall live whither the river cometh.

Do not underestimate the power of the message we share. The Bible tells us that;

JOHN 7:38-39

He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

(39) But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

We have the healing balm and power. We are the salt of the world, we savour the world. We are the savour of life to the world. We are the instruments of God's peace. Wherever we go, God's signs follow.

MARK 16:15-20

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world,

and preach the gospel to every creature.

(16) He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

(17) And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

(18) They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

(19) So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

(20) And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

I know this for sure. When we go, as He has commanded, whether to the city or the wild, great signs would follow us. Our God is not just a God of the city but of the wild. He is not just a God of the mountains but of the valleys. Our God is the God of the universe.

The Scriptures say that the disciples, after they received the commission, “went forth and preached everywhere.” The Bible says that the Lord went

with them and worked with them. In fact, the Lord confirmed their words with signs and wonders. As we step out, the Lord will go with us. He will lend His signs and wonders to confirm our message.

Our message is the waters from the temple. Our words heal nations and transform lives. We have the balm of Gilead; the balm that heals the nations and people from all walks of life.

4. Working for the Lord Fulfills the Lord's Commandments

ACT 1•8

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

We must go and cover territories because that is what the Lord commanded. This is one thing that would please the Lord. He has given us His power for His assignment. The Lord desires of us

to reach the areas beyond. Lands that lie beyond us must be reached.

As we endeavour to take territories, the Lord taught that we will not get much results, unless we (are);

1. Empowered with the Holy Ghost.
2. Dedicated to being witnesses of Christ.
3. Start from our familiar places and then proceed further away

5. Working for the Lord Fulfills the Great Commission

MATTHEW 28:18-20

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

(19) Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

(20) Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

(See also Mark 16:15-20)

The Lord has commissioned us to step into the fields, and work the fields of souls. He said;

1. All power has been given to Him
2. The church should go and teach all nations
3. He will Himself follow to confirm our message with signs and wonders

6. Working for the Lord Spreads the Influence of the Church and Increases the Inheritance of the Church

ACTS 6:1-7

And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration.

(2) Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.

(3) Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost

and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

(4) But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

(5) And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:

(6) Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.

(7) And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

When we step out to take territories, it will increase our influence. Obviously, the more of a product you sell, the greater the influence that the product will have on people.

I would never be using the gospel as a standard for my life, if someone hadn't told me about it. Through the outreaching efforts of Apostle Paul, the influence of the Church began to spread faster.

After the Day of Pentecost, the gospel began to spread further and further, from Jerusalem to Judea, to Samaria, then to the utter most parts of the world.

7. Working for the Lord Brings Many Lost Sheep Back Home

JOHN 10•16

And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

You can win your friends and families unto Christ. Your outreach efforts will turn many to the saving knowledge of the truth.

Christ Jesus is gone to prepare a place for His church, He has promised to come back and take us home with Him. However, He has an unfinished assignment to gather all of the Father's sheep into the church. This is why He has charged His church to;

1. Preach the gospel to all men.

I TIMOTHY 2:3-4

For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;

(4) Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

2. Preach the gospel wherever there are people.

MATTHEW 28:18-20

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

(19) Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

(20) Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

3. Preach the gospel and that He will be there to confirm our message with signs and wonders.

MARK 16:15-20

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

(16) He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

(17) And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

(18) They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

(19) So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

(20) And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

8. Working for the Lord Depopulates Hell

If we refuse to go and take territories, hell will
gulp up millions

ISAIAH 5•13-15

Therefore my people are gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge: and their honourable men are famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst.

(14) Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it.

(15) And the mean man shall be brought down, and the mighty man shall be humbled, and the eyes of the lofty shall be humbled:

The truth, understanding, wisdom, and knowledge that we sell enlightens the masses and they are able to make intelligent and godly decisions.

9. Working for God Brings Great Rewards

Great rewards await us upon taking territories.

REVELATION 22•12

And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is

with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

The Lord is coming quickly to give to every man according to his works. There are rewards. We are not laboring for nothing. We are laboring for rewards.

Questions About Taking Territories

Men fight nothing as much as they fight new things or change.

Once you decide to get involved in covering territories with God's merchandise, questions will arise. People will always question your decision to get involved. The devil will always come up against you with questions. He will minister several questions, and you will also ask yourself a lot of questions. People will always try to misrepresent your intentions. Every man who ever attempted to serve His God-given purpose had to battle questions.

One main reason why questions arise is because taking territories involves superimposing God's truth and anointing on the culture, sociology, politics, religion, philosophy, trade, and even commerce of a people, places, or things. It therefore

appears as an attempt to control people. This is what results in the agitations.

Let us examine a few questions that you might be asked;

1. Who Made You a Prince and Judge Over Us?

This was the first question they asked Moses. They misrepresented his intentions. He wanted to help them but they thought he was seeking to rule over them. I have been asked this question before, and it's likely that you will too.

EXODUS 2•14

And he said, Who made thee a prince and a judge over us? intendest thou to kill me, as thou killedst the Egyptian? And Moses feared, and said, Surely this thing is known.

Many years ago, I attempted to witness to a classmate in school on the dangers of smoking. The guy waited until I said all that I wanted to say and in a rather sobering manner, he asked, “are you my father, or did my mother invite you

to talk to me?" The young man did not think I had the audacity to witness to him on the dangers of smoking.

2. Do You Want to Kill Me?

They asked Moses, do you want to kill us?

EXODUS 2•14

And he said, Who made thee a prince and a judge over us? intendest thou to kill me, as thou killedst the Egyptian? And Moses feared, and said, Surely this thing is known.

I have not just been asked, but I have been told in the face by several pastors who were deserting me that they, "won't stay around until you kill me". Was I really killing them? Did I even have such an intention? Well, only eternity will reveal my intentions, and theirs also.

3. Are You the only One Who Knows God's Voice?

NUMBER 12•1-2

And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman.

(2) And they said, Hath the LORD indeed spoken only by Moses? hath he not spoken also by us? And the LORD heard it.

Usually such accusers have a hidden motive and agenda. The Bible says that Miriam and Aaron spoke these things against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman, yet they asked whether he is the only one who can hear from God.

We do not preach because we are the only ones who know God. We preach because God has called us to speak in His name.

4. What has Come over You These Days? Are You also Pretending to be a Prophet? Who is Your Father?

These were the series of questions they asked Saul when a few signs began to follow him after he was anointed as king and captain of God's inheritance.

I SAMUEL 10•9-12

And it was so, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart: and all those signs came to pass that day.

(10) And when they came thither to the hill, behold, a company of prophets met him; and the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them.

(11) And it came to pass, when all that knew him beforetime 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?

(12) And one of the same place answered and said, But who is their father? Therefore it became a proverb, *Is Saul also among the prophets?*

One day, I tried to prophesy in a meeting. As I lifted my voice to speak, one of the sisters who knew me said, "Brother! What has come over you?". Well the Holy Ghost had come over me and I spoke in tongues. She taught I was

pretending, but the Holy Ghost was upon me.

In the very early years of my ministry, one of the themes I shunned away from was spiritual fatherhood. I detested the theme; Why, because everybody wanted to know who my Spiritual father was, well I may not know the name of my father, but who is to blame? Is it the father who abandoned me after my spiritual birth, or me?

When Saul and the other prophets started prophesying, people wanted to know who their father was.

Well, I might not be able to show you my father but if you take a closer look at the shape of my head and the tone of my voice, you would know who my father is. Don't I remind you of anyone? Surely, if I am not a ghost, then I should remind you of someone.

What I am saying is that, a close examination of Saul should have indicated that he had been with Samuel.

5. Are You Not the Ones Who Trouble this Nation?

1 KINGS 18:17

And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel?

See who is talking, is it Ahab, accusing Elijah of troubling Israel? Don't be surprised at all when the politicians and journalists begin to accuse you of troubling the nation. They will overlook their own greed and corruption and accuse you.

Ahab forgot his own idolatry and covetousness. He rather turned round to accuse Elijah.

One day a drunk accused me of being the one who was troubling his family. What he did not know was that the church was the one praying for his family. The wife of this man was still staying with him because I had counseled her on the need to stay on and support him.

Many people who cannot make ends meet may accuse you. Many times the people you pastor may even accuse you. But you must always

remember that we have all also been accused, and that God is your defense.

6. Are These Not Those Who Turn the World Upside Down

ACT 17•6

And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also;

Even lewd people would accuse you of turning the world upside down. In some nations, we are labeled as people who turn the world upside down, when indeed, we are turning those nations right-side up.

Yes, indeed your presence would be felt in the nations you go. The gospel of Jesus Christ will impact the lives of the people and turn them around. Since you will be preaching repentance towards God and faith in Jesus Christ, people will repent and bear the fruits of repentance. So you would be turning things around, only, it'll be

turning right-side up, and not upside down.

The presence of the church reduces crime and vices. I know some people may disagree, but me being a preacher is a proof that crime has reduced. I may have been a criminal but today I am a preacher.

We are agents who turn the nations and cities to God.

Look around your community today and make a list of how many criminals have become preachers. Let us look into Scripture; many of the men God used were really bad people, many of them were criminals. Moses was a murderer, David was a murderer and adulterer, Matthew was a corrupt tax collector, Paul was the chief of all sinners. What more shall we say? The church has transformed many societies.

7. Are You Greater than Our Forefathers

JOHN 4:10-12

Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.

(11) The woman saith unto him, Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: from whence then hast thou that living water?

(12) Art thou greater than our father Jacob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle?

As I have said already, people do not fight many things as much as they fight new things. Therefore, it is important to be strong in your mind and not be deterred by questions and catcalls.

Many people cannot tell who you are, mostly because they only look at outward appearances. So, unless you appear in some particular way that they are familiar with, they will have a hard time accepting you as God's gift to them.

In the very initial stages of my ministry, most of the things I said seemed as though I was bragging. Indeed, I was making my boast in the

Lord. I looked like a joker and nearly everybody wanted to advise me.

Like the woman of Samaria, they told me that I had nothing with which to draw the water. People always wanted to tell me what I did not have, as though I did not already know.

Sadly, she was quick to tell Jesus what He did not have, but she was too stupid to recognize the Messiah, or what He had.

Many people are too preoccupied with Jacob, and as a result they cannot see Jesus. She said, “are you greater than Jacob?” Why should you be talking about Jacob when you are dealing with the creator of Jacob.

Brother, do not let them deter you with their foolish questions. Indeed, by the grace of God, we have understanding into things that even great Old Testament prophets like Moses desired to know. We have the Holy Ghost. We have been given the power to become the sons of God. We have the privileges that Jacob did not have.

EPHESIANS 3•5-7

Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;

(6) That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel;

(7) Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.

Have you not read that the glory of the latter house shall be greater than the former?

HAGGAI 2•7-9

And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts.

(8) The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the LORD of hosts.

(9) The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts.

Unfortunately many people are talking about yesterday when they are supposed to be seeing

the greater glory of today.

8. Do You Have a Sign from Heaven?

JOHN 6:30-33

They said therefore unto him, What sign shewest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee? what dost thou work?

(31) Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat.

(32) Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven.

(33) For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.

One day, I was advising a member of our church and she said something that really got to me. She said, "I now attend prayer meetings in a church where they have real miracles."

Wow! This new church has real miracles. I was

not surprised when after a while, I found her backslidden.

Can you imagine that people in the days of Jesus Christ required Him to give them a sign from heaven? The man was raising the dead, cripples were walking, and He was opening blind eyes; what more did they want to see?

This fellow who wanted to see real miracle had seen me cast out devils, heal the sick, speak with a new tongue, etc. What more did she want to see?

She belongs to the family of wicked generation who demand that the prophets produce signs which they can consume upon their lust. She was a carnal brute beast looking for signs that would feed her lust.

LUKE 11:29-30

And when the people were gathered thick together, he began to say, This is an evil generation: they seek a sign; and there shall no sign be given it, but the sign of Jonas the prophet.

(30) For as Jonas was a sign unto the Ninevites, so shall also the Son of man be to this generation.

The generation that sought a sign from heaven, was only interested in miracles that produced bread and quails. They were the seeds of gluttonous and riotous eaters of flesh.

This fellow was a carnal lust laden lady who wanted something she could devour.

What other sign do they want to see when we are literally in the streets witnessing about the Lord?

9. What Shall We Get at the End of the Day?

There are times when it appears that we have wasted our lives on a useless venture. This is when there seem to be no material benefits. Sometimes we see how others are amassing wealth and we wonder whether it is indeed useful to sacrifice our all. Peter came to that point when the rich young ruler deserted Jesus.

MATTHEW 19:27-30

Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore?

(28) And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

(29) And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

(30) But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.

When someone deserts your ministry, it ministers questions in the minds of those who remain. Many novices get trapped by covetousness and the quest for wealth.

You can go and look for money if you want, but do not go about asking questions. If you want to take territories for God, then focus on doing what you are called to do.

Do you remember Gehazi? He lost the anointing because he followed money contrary to the admonishing of the man of God. Money is not evil but you should decide never to serve mammon.

You can go and look for money, but just remember that the word of God says those who leave mother and father because of the Lord and the ministry, shall receive them back with houses and wealth and persecution.

10. To What Purpose is this Waste?

Some people may misinterpret your sacrifice as a waste of time, resources and man-hours, but I tell you the truth, we are working a good work on the body of Christ.

Remember the day that Mary poured her oil on the head of Jesus in the house of Simon at Bethany? It was the disciples that heckled and accused her.

MATTHEW 26:6-10

Now when Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper,

(7) *There came unto him a woman having an alabaster box of very precious ointment, and poured it on his head, as he sat at meat.*

(8) But when his disciples saw it, they had indignation, saying, To what purpose is this waste?

(9) For this ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the poor.

(10) When Jesus understood it, he said unto them, Why trouble ye the woman? for she hath wrought a good work upon me.

Do not be surprised when other men of God accuse you. They lack understanding.

I have met a lot of people, and even in my own family; they attend churches, have pastors who pray with them. And yet they get surprised, and even oppose it when their own sons want to become pastors. Such people have always thought that I am wasting my precious life on the church. Well, I thank God that I do not have to beg them for bread.

11. Aren't There Many People Already Working for God?

Don't be fooled by how many people are out there casting out devils, healing the sick or speaking in

the name of Jesus; many of them may be workers of iniquity.

MATTHEW 7•21-23

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

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

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

Some have crept into houses ahead of us to scatter the souls. According to the prophetic instruction in 2 Timothy 3, we are supposed to know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come;

2 TIMOTHY 3•1-12

This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

(2) For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

(3) Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

(4) Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

(5) Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

(6) For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,

(7) Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

(8) Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith.

(9) But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as theirs also was.

(10) But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience,

(11) Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me.

(12) *Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.*

Many people are learning but they are never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. However, God Almighty desires that we all come to the knowledge of the truth.

12. Aren't the Villages and Cities Already Saved?

Taking casual glance at the villages, towns, the people, and cities, it might appear as though they are all already saved, but that is an illusion.

Many of the people, villages, towns, and cities only have a form of godliness but deny the power thereof. They are not authentic.

Unlike in the days of Ezra we cannot live our faith. We speak one thing and do otherwise. Ezra however committed himself to live by his faith.

EZRA 8:21-24

Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river of Ahava, that we might afflict ourselves before our God, to seek of him a right way for us, and for our

little ones, and for all our substance.

(22) For I was ashamed to require of the king a band of soldiers and horsemen to help us against the enemy in the way: because we had spoken unto the king, saying, The hand of our God is upon all them for good that seek him; but his power and his wrath is against all them that forsake him.

(23) So we fasted and besought our God for this: and he was intreated of us.

(24) Then I separated twelve of the chief of the priests, Sherebiah, Hashabiah, and ten of their brethren with them,

Let us consider the city of Accra. She is filled with churches and prayer groups, yet our city does not know God nor the truth. We have all become fleshy and use God as though He were a tool or a means to our selfish gains and ends.

No, don't be fooled by how many people are shouting the name of Jesus. Not even all those eating and drinking in the presence of Christ are saved.

LUKE 13:22-27

And he went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem.

(23) Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them,

(24) Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.

(25) When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are:

(26) Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets.

(27) But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity.

Jesus may be teaching in their streets but many are still unsaved and working iniquity.

Do not be fooled by the numbers of preachers and churches. Go ahead and fulfill your ministry. Though our Lord Jesus Christ is in the street of many cities, most of these streets are still filled with unsaved sinners.

There could be hundreds of churches in a city but

that city will still not be saved.

13. Who Do You Think You Are?

This is one question that fools often ask. Because, even if they were just average thinkers, they would know who we are.

I SAMUEL 25:3-11 ASV-R

Now the name of the man was Nabal; and the name of his wife Abigail; and the woman was of good understanding, and of a beautiful countenance: but the man was churlish and evil in his doings; and he was of the house of Caleb.

(4) And David heard in the wilderness that Nabal was shearing his sheep.

(5) And David sent ten young men, and David said unto the young men, Get you up to Carmel, and go to Nabal, and greet him in my name:

(6) and thus shall ye say to him that liveth [in prosperity], Peace be unto thee, and peace be to thy house, and peace be unto all that thou hast.

(7) And now I have heard that thou hast shearers: thy shepherds have now been with us,

and we did them no hurt, neither was there aught missing unto them, all the while they were in Carmel.

(8) Ask thy young men, and they will tell thee: wherefore let the young men find favor in thine eyes; for we come in a good day: give, I pray thee, whatsoever cometh to thy hand, unto thy servants, and to thy son David.

(9) And when David's young men came, they spake to Nabal according to all those words in the name of David, and ceased.

(10) And Nabal answered David's servants, and said, Who is David? and who is the son of Jesse? there are many servants now-a-days that break away every man from his master.

(11) Shall I then take my bread, and my water, and my flesh that I have killed for my shearers, and give it unto men of whom I know not whence they are?

They ask these questions because they have not heard your name. Many people lack the basic understanding that being a minister goes beyond popularity, titles, clothes, and credentials. Because many people are shallow minded, all that they want to see are shining suits, cars, and big titles.

Lessons from Taking Territories

Men who are able to take territories focus on who they are in Christ;

2 CORINTHIANS 10:1-7

Now I Paul myself beseech you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ, who in presence am base among you, but being absent am bold toward you:

(2) But I beseech you, that I may not be bold when I am present with that confidence, wherewith I think to be bold against some, which think of us as if we walked according to the flesh.

(3) For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

(4) (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

(5) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the

obedience of Christ;

(6) *And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.*

(7) *Do ye look on things after the outward appearance? If any man trust to himself that he is Christ's, let him of himself think this again, that, as he is Christ's, even so are we Christ's.*

They do not focus on appearances but on the truth that they belong to Christ. They understand that though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh.

1. Know Your Authority and Its Purpose

2 CORINTHIANS 10:8-11

For though I should boast somewhat more of our authority, which the Lord hath given us for edification, and not for your destruction, I should not be ashamed:

(9) *That I may not seem as if I would terrify you by letters.*

(10) *For his letters, say they, are weighty and powerful; but his bodily presence is weak, and his*

speech contemptible.

(11) Let such an one think this, that, such as we are in word by letters when we are absent, such will we be also in deed when we are present.

The purpose of the authority the Lord gave is edification.

2. Do Not Compare Yourself to Others

2 CORINTHIANS 10•12

For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

3. Do Not Commend Yourself but Glory in the Lord

2 CORINTHIANS 10•12, 17-18

For we dare not make ourselves of the number,

or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

(17) But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

(18) For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth.

They glory in the Lord because they know that it is not he that commends himself that is approved but he who the Lord commends

4. Do Not Measure Yourself by Yourself but by the Rule of God

2 CORINTHIANS 10•12-13

For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

(13) But we will not boast of things without our measure, but according to the measure of the rule

which God hath distributed to us, a measure to reach even unto you.

5. Do Not Overstretch Yourself Beyond Measure Simply to Outdo Others;

Operate in your grace.

2 CORINTHIANS 10•14

For we stretch not ourselves beyond our measure, as though we reached not unto you: for we are come as far as to you also in preaching the gospel of Christ:

Gideon nearly missed the opportunity to fulfill his purpose because he underestimated his might. Many of the people who are complaining are doing so because they are underestimating their own might.

ROMANS 12•3-8

For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every

man the measure of faith.

(4) For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:

(5) So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

(6) Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;

(7) Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;

(8) Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

Gideon was impoverished, he was hiding to thresh wheat because he thought he needed to produce signs like Moses and Joshua before he could redeem Israel. Read this story from Judges 6

6. Know and Hope That Your People Increase in Faith, You Would be More Released to Reach Other Regions

2 CORINTHIANS 10•15-16

Not boasting of things without our measure, that is, of other men's labours; but having hope, when your faith is increased, that we shall be enlarged by you according to our rule abundantly,

(16) To preach the gospel in the regions beyond you, and not to boast in another man's line of things made ready to our hand.

I do not have to go to Narhman, a village in Accra, Ghana to preach, because I have sent missionaries there and they are doing well. It releases me to reach other regions.

**7. Quit Yourselves as Men,
Step Out, and Reach Out to
the Uttermost Parts of the
Earth**

1 SAMUEL 4•8-9

Woe unto us! who shall deliver us out of the hand of these mighty Gods? these are the Gods that smote the Egyptians with all the plagues in the wilderness.

(9) Be strong, and quit yourselves like men, O

ye Philistines, that ye be not servants unto the Hebrews, as they have been to you: quit yourselves like men, and fight.

The process of taking territories can be challenging, without dedication and a drive to excel, you will fall by the way. This is why you need to quit yourself as men, step out and reach out to the uttermost parts of the world

MATTHEW 9:35

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

I CORINTHIANS 16:13

Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

ACTS 1:8

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

MARK 16:19-20

So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

(20) And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

8. Offer Your Body as a Living Sacrifice

ROMANS 12:1 MKJV

I beseech you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, pleasing to God, which is your reasonable service.

It is not enough to say I want to take this territory for God when you cannot even be present for the job. I have seen much success in areas where I had people who could offer themselves as a sacrifice.

At the beginning of our ministry, I had to offer myself as a sacrifice. Note that this sacrifice must be living, the sacrifice must be holy, and the sacrifice must be pleasing to God.

This is the sacrifice of my body to God. If we have to witness to souls in the streets, we cannot just go in spirit, but in person. Our bodies would have to be present. I speak through my mouth and tongue but by my spirit. I am preaching because I have given my body as a sacrifice and it is my reasonable service.

I am not complaining about the little things I am enabled to do for God. I acknowledge it is my reasonable service. It is my little labour of love. It is the little I can do for the Lord who gave His only begotten son as a ransom for me.

9. Do Not Be Conformed to the Pattern of this World

ROMANS 12:2 MKJV

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, in order to prove by you what is that good and pleasing and perfect will of God.

The world and its systems may try to make you bulge and conform to her standards. I have been tried on many occasions to conform to standards

that are not of God.

One day, somebody asked me why I am always talking about the Holy Spirit, and why can't I preach about something else. Then I asked, "something else like what?"

People will try to get you to do so many things to conform to the world's patterns. They would want you to sing and dance like the world does; dress and appear like the world; eat and drink like the world does.

The world will try to force you into conforming because it will make it easy for them to continue in their sin and carnality with ease. Because by our faith, we condemn the world

HEBREWS 11:7 MKJV

By faith Noah, having been warned by God of things not yet seen, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

Therefore, the world is afraid of people who live the life that God gives. Our acts of faith condemn the world and qualifies us to become heirs of

righteousness. This is the very reason why the world would want to force us to conform. The world seeks to make it appear as though it is not possible to live as God would want us to. That is the reason why they fight your effort to be transformed.

We have been called not to conform but to transform our society. This transformation comes only by the renewing of the minds according to the word of God. We then become empowered to prove what the good and pleasing and perfect will of God is.

Men who take territories do not conform; they are transformed because they renew their minds. They renew their minds in order to prove and know how to walk in the pleasing and perfect will of God.

10. Love Without Hypocrisy

ROMANS 12•9-10 MKJV

Let love be without hypocrisy, shrinking from evil,

cleaving to good;

(10) in brotherly love to one another, loving fervently, having led one another in honor.

There is no homogeneous society; every territory has a heterogeneous demography. This means that the people in the society rarely have the same characteristics; they will be different in race, tribe, language, education, social class, etc.

You can take territories if you can love without hypocrisy. You must learn how to love fervently. You must learn how to put others first.

11. Serve the Lord with Diligence and Fervency

ROMANS 12:11-13 MKJV

As to diligence, not slothful, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;

(12) rejoicing in hope, patient in affliction, steadfastly continuing in prayer,

(13) distributing to the needs of the saints, pursuing hospitality.

This is one of the greatest revelations of taking

territories, an invaluable truth when it comes to covering the earth by the gospel.

Just as an insurance salesman cannot make sales unless he is diligent, hardworking, and fervent in selling, we cannot also cover the earth with the saving knowledge of God's truth, unless we are willing to be diligent, hardworking and fervent in business.

We may not be achieving much for now, but it is mandatory that we;

1. Rejoice in hope,
2. Are patient in affliction,
3. Steadfastly continue in prayer and
4. Pursue hospitality

Success does not come by luck but through the spirit of diligence. We must serve with diligence; not just serve but serve God. We must serve with diligence to finish covering our territories. Hear me and hear well, you must serve with diligence. All the men who win and rule the world rule through diligence.

Diligence comes through the four dimensional ladder of;

1. Determination
2. Dedication
3. Discipline
4. Sacrifice

It is very important that you know this, but beyond that you ought to live by it through the years.

I once learned that there was a basket ball player who could not make a shot from a certain distance. He overcame this limitation and reached the basket from that distance after his coach put him on five hundred throws a day from that distance for six months.

12. Bless Only and Never Curse

ROMANS 12•14 MKJV

Bless those who persecute you; bless, and do not curse.

We are the savour of life to men. We cannot curse the people we are called to save, bless, and deploy to serve.

I learned this truth the hard way; not to curse the people I lead. I have been raised through the hard school of life and experience to speak blessings only on people. Though quite difficult, I have learnt to bless even those who curse and persecute me.

I have learnt that it is not my mandate to curse people. There is a standing order, issued by the Almighty God that He will bless those who bless me and curse those who curse me.

This is a lesson that all those who will take territories and to reach nations for God ought to learn.

I am sure that if the missionaries who came from Switzerland and other European nations had cursed us, we would never had seen the light of revival.

Though they suffered many things at our hands, they still blessed us; may the good Lord bless their darling hearts. Can we do less than that? No! We will learn how to bless only and not curse.

13. Identify with People

ROMANS 12:15-16 MKJV

Rejoice with rejoicing ones, and weep with weeping ones; minding the same thing toward one another, not minding high things, but yielding to the lowly. Do not be wise within yourselves.

14. Don't Allow Evil to Overcome You

You should never allow evil to overcome you, but you must overcome evil with good

ROMANS 12:17-21 MKJV

Repay no one evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

(18) If it is possible, as far as is in you, being in peace with all men.

(19) not avenging yourselves, beloved, but giving place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

(20) Therefore if your enemy hungers, feed him. If he thirsts, give him drink. For in so doing you shall heap coals of fire on his head.

(21) *Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.*

Many a time, we have a very good heart and love the people so much, but they would not treat you well. You should not allow people's maltreatment of you get you down. Do not be overcome by evil. Stand tall as a man of God and press on to fulfill your course.

There were a few times in my ministry when the evil of people nearly got to me, but when I remembered ministers like Stephen who prayed for those who persecuted them, I regained strength to continue.

15. Work Hard to Make it Happen

Men who take territories stop at nothing but to finish their course.

LUKE 12:49-50

I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I, if it be already kindled?

(50) *But I have a baptism to be baptized with;*

and how am I straitened till it be accomplished!

Jesus

LUKE 4•42-44

And when it was day, he departed and went into a desert place: and the people sought him, and came unto him, and stayed him, that he should not depart from them.

(43) And he said unto them, I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also: for therefore am I sent.

(44) And he preached in the synagogues of Galilee.

Peter

ACTS 6•1-4

And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration.

(2) Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.

(3) Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

(4) But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

Paul

ACTS 20•22-24

And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there:

(23) Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me.

(24) But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

Truths for Taking Territories

God will have all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth (1 Timothy 2.4)

1. God Wants all Men to Know that They Must Come Out of the Masses and Be Separated unto Him

He wants you to come to the saving knowledge of Christ Jesus. God wants you to come out from the masses, from the crowd and be separated unto Him so that He can bless you. You cannot be blessed whilst staying with the masses. Once you come out from among them, you become positioned to be blessed.

2 CORINTHIANS 6.17-18

Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

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

2. God Wants all Men to Know that He Wants to Bless Them

God wants to use you to spread His kingdom on earth, a task that costs money. This is the greatest argument for prosperity. Every one of God's children must be blessed and successful, so that we can push the kingdom of God. It is wickedness then if you refuse to prosper.

One day the Apostle Peter wanted to know what plans God had for those who follow Him.

MARK 10:28-31 MKJV

Then Peter began to say to Him, Lo, we have left all and have followed You.

(29) *And Jesus answered and said, Truly I say to you, There is no man that has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands for my sake and the gospel's sake,*

(30) but he shall receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands with persecutions, and in the world to come, eternal life.

(31) But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.

God has a plan to bless all who respond to His call. The Bible says in Romans 8 that;

ROMANS 8:28-32 MKJV

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

(29) For whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, for Him to be the First-born among many brothers.

(30) But whom He predestinated, these He also called; and whom He called, those He also justified. And whom He justified, these He also glorified.

(31) What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

(32) Truly He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

God has purposed to bless you, but God cannot bless you until He saves you and you become willing to serve others. You can and must be blessed for God's purpose.

3. God Wants all Men to Know that He Wants to Use Them to Reach Others

Why should you remain a local champion when the nations are waiting for you? It is greater wickedness to live for yourself, and not to allow God to use you after He has blessed you. God saved and prospered you, so that He can use you to spread His kingdom.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:14-15 MKJV

For the love of Christ constrains us, judging this, that if one died for all, then all died;

(15) and He died for all, that the living ones may live no more to themselves, but to Him who died for them and having been raised.

4. God Wants all Men to Know that He Gave His Son as a Ransom for All

He wants you to know that Jesus Christ died and rose again in your place.

ROMANS 5:19 MKJV

For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of One shall many be made righteous.

God has not just purposed to separate, bless and use you, but He has completed plans for your redemption.

The Bible says in Romans 5:6-10 (MKJV) that;

For we yet being without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

(7) *For one will with difficulty die for a righteous one, yet perhaps one would even dare to die for a good one.*

(8) *But God commends His love toward us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.*

(9) *Much more then, being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.*

(10) For if when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

I TIMOTHY 2:4-8 MKJV

who will have all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

(5) For God is one, and there is one Mediator of God and of men, the Man Christ Jesus,

(6) who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

(7) To this I am ordained a preacher and an apostle (I speak the truth in Christ, I do not lie), a teacher of the nations, in faith and truth.

(8) Therefore, I desire that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.

**5. God Wants all Men to Know
that We - His Son And His Saints
- Supplicate, Pray, Intercede and
Give Thanks for Them Every Day**

Thanks be to God that the Holy Spirit is

interceding for us;

ROMANS 8:26-27

Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

(27) And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Much more, the Son of God is interceding for us

ROMANS 8:34

Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

May all glory be to God! Prayer is going on for us.

I TIMOTHY 2:1-4 MKJV

First of all, then, I exhort that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,

(2) for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.

(3) For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,

(4) who will have all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

6. God Wants all Men to Know That He has Ordained Us (Preachers And Teachers) to Testify of this Gospel to You Today

ROMANS 10:13-17 MKJV

For everyone, “whoever shall call on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

(14) How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without preaching?

(15) And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace and bring glad tidings of good things!”

(16) But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our report?”

(17) Then faith is of hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.

7. God Wants all Men to Know How to Believe and Confess the Lord Jesus

ROMANS 10:9-13 MKJV

Because if you confess the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved.

(10) For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth one confesses unto salvation.

(11) For the Scripture says, “Everyone believing on Him shall not be put to shame.”

(12) For there is no difference both of Jew and of Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call on Him.

(13) For everyone, “whoever shall call on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

8. God Wants all Men to Know that They have a New Life in Christ

*The Bible is not a book of magic; it is the
book of life. Its content must be lived and not
just recited.*

Now that you believe, it is time to live the life. Dare to live this life. Live the life God has for every man. No man can live this life unless he is ready to dare and to submit to God's word. It takes a lot of boldness and submission to God's word to step out into the path of living this life.²

JOSHUA 1:1-9 MKJV

And it happened after the death of Moses the servant of Jehovah, Jehovah spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying,

2 Rev. Simpe's book, *Living a Wide Life on the Narrow Path*, is an in-depth teaching on living the Christian life

(2) My servant Moses is dead. Now, therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people to the land which I give to them, to the sons of Israel.

(3) Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, I have given that to you, as I said to Moses.

(4) From the wilderness and this Lebanon even to the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your border.

(5) No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not fail you nor forsake you.

(6) Be strong and of good courage. For you shall divide for an inheritance to this people, the land which I swore to their fathers, to give it to them.

(7) Only be strong and very courageous so that you may be careful to do according to all the Law which My servant Moses commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you may act wisely wherever you go.

(8) This book of the Law shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall meditate on it by day and by night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you

shall act wisely.

(9) Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage. Do not be afraid, neither be dismayed. For Jehovah your God is with you in all places where you go.

As every good father, it pleases God when His children dare to live and fulfill His dream. God backs his children who dare to live this life. God backs those who dare to be separated, live blessed and serve. All that Joshua needed to do was to be courageous and strong. You must also be bold and strong as you step out. God wants us to take steps in a new direction after our conversion.

This new Life in Christ Jesus starts with the new birth; actually hearing, believing, and confessing that Jesus Christ is the son of God who died and rose again that we might live forever.

After we are saved, we must live our lives separated unto God. This means that you must start learning to live a life separated unto God rather struggling to stop living a life of sin. The Lord Almighty is not asking us to stop living like sinners. Indeed we cannot on our own stop living like sinners, rather at the new birth we receive power to live as children of God. The Bible says;

JOHN 1:11-13 MKJV

He came to His own, and His own received Him not.

(12) But as many as received Him, He gave to them authority to become the children of God, to those who believe on His name,

(13) who were born, not of bloods, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but were born of God.

You will receive power and authority to live as children of God, after you receive Jesus Christ.

Tit-bits on Taking Territories

THIS OCCUPATION of taking territories has three main hazards; the allurements of sex, money, and fame.

The Scriptures tell us that we are as sheep among wolves. I literally work among wolves as an evangelist. I run the risk of falling into the snare of the wicked everyday.

MATTHEW 10•16-17 MKJV

Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be as wise as serpents and as harmless as doves.

(17) *But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to the sanhedrins, and they will scourge you in their synagogues.*

In the Lord's own words, we ought to beware of men. Three main weapons that the devil has used

over the ages to wreck many destinies are sex, money, and fame. However, the Scriptures reveal that with great wisdom, we can escape these deadly traps unhurt. The following steps give us the wisdom to escape these hazards;

1. Learning to live in your marriage zone
2. Learning to live in your money zone
3. Learning to live in your grace zone

Wisdom for Marriage

Marriage³ is a covenant relationship between two people of the opposite sex which offer each of them the platform, comfort, and support to serve God and others with their fully developed potential.

It is honorable and one of the greatest weapons for fighting the temptations of lust.

3 Rev. Simpe's book, *Finding Love You Can Enjoy*, is a practical teaching on marriage.

I CORINTHIANS 7•1-2

Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman.

(2) Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband.

Marriage reinforces us to fight the lure of illicit sex. Let us keep the following truths in mind if we want to live in our marriage zone with purpose, purity, passion, and pleasure.

1. It is Better to Marry than to Burn

I CORINTHIANS 7•7-9

For I would that all men were even as I myself. But every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that.

(8) I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, It is good for them if they abide even as I.

(9) But if they cannot contain, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn.

2. While You Wait, Care for the Things of the Lord

I CORINTHIANS 7:32-34

But I would have you without carefulness. He that is unmarried careth for the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord:

(33) But he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife.

(34) There is difference also between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit: but she that is married careth for the things of the world, how she may please her husband.

The blessedness of single-hood is that it offers us the opportunity to serve better in church. The unmarried cares more for the things of God.

3. Once You are Married Care for the Needs of Your Partners

I CORINTHIANS 7:3-5

Let the husband render unto the wife due

benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband.

(4) The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife.

(5) Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency.

I once learnt that falling in love is easy, but growing a Christian marriage and nurturing a life-long friendship and building a permanent rewarding relationship takes;

1. Hard work
2. Commitment
3. Determination
4. Time
5. Sacrifice
6. Daily management

1. Learn to recognize and appreciate each other's uniqueness

GENESIS 2•20-23

And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the

fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

(21) And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

(22) And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

(23) And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

Adam understood the purpose, potential and power of his wife.

GENESIS 3:20

And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.

2. Learn to use words of affirmation

COLOSSIANS 4:6

Let your speech be alway with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

Nothing builds a marriage up as wholesome communication which is seasoned with grace and salt.

EPHESIANS 4:29

Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

Nothing is as destructive as an unwholesome tongue.

PROVERBS 15:4

A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit.

3. Learn to give and receive gifts graciously

MATTHEW 7:6

Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.

4. Learn to offer service and

helps

MATTHEW 23:11

But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.

5. Learn to give and receive physical and romantic touches yieldingly

GENESIS 26:6-10

And Isaac dwelt in Gerar:

(27) And the men of the place asked him of his wife; and he said, She is my sister: for he feared to say, She is my wife; lest, said he, the men of the place should kill me for Rebekah; because she was fair to look upon.

(28) And it came to pass, when he had been there a long time, that Abimelech king of the Philistines looked out at a window, and saw, and, behold, Isaac was sporting with Rebekah his wife.

(29) And Abimelech called Isaac, and said, Behold, of a surety she is thy wife: and how saidst thou, She is my sister? And Isaac said unto him, Because I said, Lest I die for her.

(30) *And Abimelech said, What is this thou hast done unto us? one of the people might lightly have lien with thy wife, and thou shouldest have brought guiltiness upon us.*

Wisdom for Money

Living in your money zone⁴ can be very challenging when you are poised to take territories for the kingdom of God.

Many of God's children mess up because they misunderstand the spirituality of money management. There are many people who think that money is a thing of the world. But does the Bible teach on money?

Well, I discovered three truths from the Bible which have changed my life. To escape the pitfall of money, let us examine these texts;

4 Rev. Simpe teaches powerfully on money and prosperity in his book, *That You Might Be Rich*.

Money answers all things under heaven

ECCLESIASTES 10•19

A feast is made for laughter, and wine maketh merry: but money answereth all things.

Is this Scripture indeed saying ‘**all things?**’ Yes, it says, ‘**all things**’. If money answers all things, then without it, you could be short of answers.

1. Learn to Know the Truth About Money

Money is a defense

ECCLESIASTES 7•11-12

Wisdom is good with an inheritance: and by it there is profit to them that see the sun.

(12) For wisdom is a defence, and money is a defence: but the excellency of knowledge is, that wisdom giveth life to them that have it.

Though wisdom is higher than money, money is still a defense.

He that is faithful with unholy mammon
shall prosper

Responsible management of money is a key to prosperity.

LUKE 16•11

If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, how will you commit to your trust the true riches?

If you become irresponsible with managing money, you open the gate to perpetual poverty.

2. Learn to Trust Providence

PHILIPPIANS 4•19

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Learn to trust God for supply. Trust that God will supply all your needs according to His riches

in glory.

3. Learn to Earn Money

PROVERBS 13:11

Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished: but he that gathereth by labour shall increase.

God gives power to make wealth but you must work to earn and learn to earn. You must learn to earn money legitimately through Apprenticeship and Service.

4. Learn Stewardship

We are stewards of God's wealth, and it is required of us to show faithfulness, wisdom, and responsibility in giving and spending.

5. Learn Contentment

1 TIMOTHY 6:6-10

But godliness with contentment is great gain.

(7) *For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.*

(8) *And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.*

(9) But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

(10) For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

Be content if you have food and clothing.
Our contentment is not based on our present circumstances but on the eternal hope that we have.

6. Learn Spending

PHILIPPIANS 4:11-13

Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

(12) I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

(13) I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Learn to live within your means by following these principles

a) Plan and implement a budget

You shall not be in debt. You shall not spend more than you earn. You shall not buy on credit.

b) Save as well as sow

Try as much as is possible to save the pennies and cents.

c) Control yourself

You can do all things through Christ who strengthens you.

Wisdom for Safety

Living in safety when you step out into the field is very important, especially in learning to live in your grace zone.

ROMANS 12:6-8 MKJV

Then having gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, according to the proportion of faith;

(7) or *ministry, in the ministry*; or he who teaches, in the teaching;

(8) or he who exhorts, in the encouragement; or he who shares, in simplicity; or he who takes the lead, in diligence; or he who shows mercy, in cheerfulness.

In building the kingdom of God, it is important that every man would operate in his or her grace. The Lord wants every man to use their own graces to serve their generation.

This section of this book is meant to empower you to operate in your grace, whether it is prophesy, ministry, teaching, exhorting, giving, administration, or showing mercy.

Any nation that develops and advances is the one that celebrates the sweeper that sweeps well as much as they celebrate the finest lawyers.

God wants each one of us to serve in our *grace zone*. He does not want us to break ranks, although some ministries may appear more glorious.

Living in your grace is the master-key to overcoming pride. So, let us observe mysteries to

living in a grace zone.

COLOSSIANS 4:2-6

Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;

(3) Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds:

(4) That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

(5) Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time.

(6) Let your speech be alway with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

You may be a wife, a husband, a son, a lawyer, a pastor, a politician, a student, etc, but if you want to be a better wife, husband, son, lawyer, pastor, politician, student, or whatever you are, then the following master-keys will help you to operate in your grace zone;

1. Continue steadfastly in prayer, in watchings, and in thanksgiving

COLOSSIANS 4•2 MKJV

Continue in prayer and watch in it with thanksgiving,

The life of Daniel exemplified this truth much as our Lord Jesus Christ did. Daniel prayed three times daily when he was a slave boy in Babylon. He still prayed three times a day when he became a prime minister, and kept to this prayer life even in the lion's den.

You can live in your grace zone if you continue steadfastly in prayer, watchfulness, and thanksgiving.

2. Intercede for your leaders

A lot of Christians and churches have died because

COLOSSIANS 4•3-4 MKJV

praying together about us also, that God may open to us a door of the Word, to speak the mystery of

Christ, for which I also have been bound,
 (4) that I may make it clear, as I ought to speak.

To live in your grace zone, you must learn to intercede for your leaders. Our prayer for our leaders saves us from the danger of murmuring and complaining.

The story of Aaron and the people of Israel makes a great point on the importance of intercession. Aaron made Israel naked because instead of praying for their leaders, they rather instructed him on what to do.

EXODUS 32•1 MKJV

And the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, and the people gathered themselves to Aaron. And they said to him, Up! Make us gods who shall go before us. For this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.
 (25) *And when Moses saw that the people were naked, (for Aaron had made them naked to their shame among their enemies,)*

Always remember that the leader's mandate is to lead us, and our responsibility as followers is to

follow and intercede for them.

Walk in Wisdom Towards Those Without

COLOSSIANS 4•5 MKJV

*Walk in wisdom toward those on the outside,
redeeming the time.*

We see this clearly in the story of Joshua and the Gibeonites.

When the Lord decided to give Canaan to Israel, He commanded them not to enter into a league with the people in the land, whether they were resident or travelers.

Joshua accepted the Gibeonites as slaves contrary to the commandments of God. These people of Gibeon became a snare to Israel. Read this account from the book of Joshua.

JOSHUA 9•3-16 MKJV

*And when those who lived in Gibeon heard what
Joshua had done to Jericho and to Ai,*

(4) they worked slyly. For they came and acted as

if they were ambassadors. And they took old sacks on their asses, and old and torn and bound up wineskins,

(5) and old and patched sandals on their feet, and old clothes on them. And all the bread they had taken was dry and moldy.

(6) And they went to Joshua to the camp at Gilgal, and said to him and to the men of Israel, We have come from a far country. Now therefore, make a treaty with us.

(7) And the men of Israel said to the Hivites, Perhaps you are living among us, and how shall we make a treaty with you?

(8) And they said to Joshua, We are your servants. And Joshua said to them, Who are you, and from where do you come?

(9) And they said to him, Your servants have come from a very far country, because of the name of Jehovah your God. For we have heard of His fame and all that He did in Egypt,

(10) and all that He did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond Jordan, to Sihon king of Heshbon, and to Og king of Bashan, who was at Ashtaroth.

(11) And our elders and all those who live in our country spoke to us saying, Take provisions with

you for the journey, and go to meet them. Say to them, We are your servants. And now make a treaty with us.

(12) We took this bread hot for our provision out of our houses on the day we came out to go to you. But now, see, it is dry, and it is moldy.

(13) And these wineskins which we filled were new. And, see, they are torn. And these clothes and shoes of ours have become old because of the very long journey.

(14) And they received the men because of their provisions, and did not ask at the mouth of Jehovah.

(15) And Joshua made peace with them, and made a treaty with them, to let them live. And the rulers of the congregation swore to them.

(16) And it happened at the end of three days after they had made a treaty with them, they heard that they were their neighbors and that they lived among them.

The great leader Joshua made the nation vulnerable because he trusted these strangers too quickly. We are sent as sheep among wolves. We need to be wise. The Lord Jesus told the apostles this truth.

MATTHEW 10:16 MKJV

Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be as wise as serpents and as harmless as doves.

You can live in your grace if you learn to walk in wisdom concerning those without. So, when it comes to living in your grace zone, wisdom is very necessary.

I have made a few mistakes as a minster because I trusted strangers too quickly. The world out there is harsh and unreasonable; it takes a lot of wisdom to deal with them.

Save Up Time

1. Redeem the Time

The life of Jesus Christ shows this truth clearly. One day His brothers wanted Him to go to Jerusalem to perform miracles but listen to what He said;

JOHN 7:1-6 MKJV

After these things Jesus walked in Galilee, for He

did not desire to walk in Judea, because the Jews sought to kill Him.

(2) And the Jewish Feast of Tabernacles was near.

(3) Therefore His brothers said to Him, Move away from here and go into Judea, so that Your disciples also may see the works that You do.

(4) For no one does anything in secret, while he himself seeks to be in public. If you do these things, reveal yourself to the world.

(5) For His brothers did not believe in Him.

(6) Then Jesus said to them, My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready.

Remember clearly that;

ECCLESIASTES 8•5-7 MKJV

Whoever keeps the command shall feel no evil thing; and a wise man's heart knows both time and judgment.

(6) Because to every purpose there is time and judgment, therefore the misery of man is great on him.

(7) For he does not know what shall be; for who can tell him when it shall be?

Many people overstretch themselves because they

do not understand the workings of time and how it flows with judgment.

The Lord told the prophet Habakkuk that his vision was for appointed time.

HABAKKUK 2•1-3 MKJV

I will stand on my watch and set myself on the tower, and will watch to see what He will say to me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved.

(2) And Jehovah answered me and said, Write the vision, and make it plain on the tablets, that he who reads it may run.

(3) For the vision is still for an appointed time, but it speaks to the end, and it does not lie. Though it lingers, wait for it; because it will surely come. It will not tarry.

2. Answer Every Man Well

COLOSSIANS 4•6 MKJV

Let your speech be always with grace, having been seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.

It is important to know how to answer everyone.

There are many foolish people who are going around asking foolish questions. In relation to fools and foolish questions, this is what the Bible says.

2 TIMOTHY 2•23 MKJV

But avoid foolish and unlearned questions, knowing that they give birth to strifes.

TITUS 3•9 MKJV

But avoid foolish questions and genealogies and contentions, and strivings about the Law, for they are unprofitable and vain.

PROVERBS 26•4 MKJV

Do not answer a fool according to his foolishness, lest you also be like him.

PROVERBS 26•5 MKJV

Answer a fool according to his foolishness, so that he may not be wise in his own eyes.

Eve, Adam's wife, could have saved humanity all pain and suffering if she knew how to deal with questioners.

GENESIS 3•I MKJV

Now the serpent was *more cunning than any beast of the field which Jehovah God had made*. And he said to the woman, *Is it so that God has said, You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?*

You can live in your grace zone if you find the right answers to the questions that fools throw at you.

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21. Taking Territories

**You were
born to take
a hold of,
control and
influence a
geographical
area or
area of life
of a people**

Noah Simpe Bediako

Reverend Noah Simpe Bediako is the Senior Pastor of HighCity Church, a thriving and fast growing Bible-based church with a mission to gather men unto eternal life.

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You were born into this kingdom at such a time as this for a reason.

This book will inspire you to militarily take over an area as in Joshua entering and taking over Canaan, or as an agent or sales representative covering an area with a product and establishing a market share. Christ came to seek and to save the lost, and He left us here with a mandate to go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation; baptize them; and teach them everything He taught us.

The message of this book is about creating the realization that God has prepared a purpose for every one of us to walk in. In language that everyone can understand, get ready to occupy your territory until Christ returns. *Be blessed!*



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