

Inspiration today

THE NEW LIFE

Everyone before coming to Jesus Christ, lived to please one's sinful self. We all did the things our minds and our bodies wanted and followed the worldly trends that are under the influence and control of evil powers rather than the will of God. This is the result of spiritual death, the absence of the life of God that overcomes the sinful nature and ALL evil powers.

All who refuse to obey God are still ruled by these evil rebellious spirits and every action resulting from this is called sin. But God who is rich in mercy and love decided to pay the penalty for our sins in Jesus Christ and offered mankind freedom from the control of evil spirits and gave us His own life. All who come to Jesus in repentance and receive Him as Saviour and Lord are entitled to this new life- Eternal Life - the Life of God.

No one is a Christian by parental birth or because one was baptized an infant or attends church services regularly. Becoming a Christian is a free will decision. This decision is the beginning of the new life that our Lord Jesus Christ invites all men to - Be Born Again. A new life, lived through the Spirit of God opens up new possibilities of divine authority and power superior to natural life.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come" 2 Corinthians 5:17 ESV

A new Christian should desire to grow in the new faith and this comes through reading and meditating in the Word of God, attending Christian meetings such as prayers and bible studies, engaging in spiritual exercises like fasting and prayers and spiritual retreats.

"Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation. 1 Peter 2:2 ESV.

"This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success." Joshua 1:8 ESV

There are loads of benefits and privileges one enjoys as a true born again Christian and we shall delve into some of them in our next outing.

Abundant blessings

August BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Bola Ajasa 6th, 2 Morayo Precious Joda 19th, 3 Segun Hassan 20th,
4 Azeema Kolipha 20th, 5 Yvonne Mbiang 21st, 6 Max Gonzalez 21st,
7 Emmanuella Nwosu 25th, 8 Jennifer Klomegah 26th
9 Emmanuel Adamu 27th 10 Andrew Airobama 31st



Dominion Assembly

Jesus Christ the same yesterday,
and today and forever.
Hebrew 13:8

Vision/Mission Statement

1. To Make Heaven
2. To take as many people as possible with us
3. Committed to Spiritual revival in the Merseyside region and the United Kingdom
4. To make Holiness our lifestyle
5. Helping members grow into the fullness of the stature of Christ through the Word, Prayer & Evangelism
6. To be relevant in our community through helping the elderly, the homeless & the vulnerable
7. We will pursue these objectives until spiritual revival comes to our Nation & the world is reached for Jesus Christ our Lord

Services Sundays

Prayer meeting 9.30am

Church Service
11.00am—1.30pm

Evening Service 6pm—7pm

****Holy communion Services**
the First & Third Sundays of each month and Last Thursdays of each month

Thursdays

Bible Study 6pm—7.30pm

Prayer Meeting

- Sundays 9.30am and 5.30pm
- 5pm daily except Thursdays

Healing Rooms

1st Saturday of the month 1-4pm
A safe caring & confidential environment to receive Christian prayer for all kinds of physical, mental, emotional & spiritual healing through the name of Jesus



Notices

Children aged 7 and below **MUST** be accompanied to the restrooms at all times

♣ **Last Thursdays of each month**
Holy Communion Service

♣ **Use of disabled toilet**
Male Children, 12 and under are no longer allowed to use the male toilets. Henceforth, they should use the disabled toilet

♣ **3 stage biblical prayer course**
One Saturday a month for 6 months at various locations. Fee: £250

♣ **Evangelism**
Evangelism every Saturday beginning from May 12; 19 and 26 throughout summer months at 10.30am. God beautifies the feet of those that bring the gospel.

♣ **Water Baptism**
If you are born again and want to be water baptised by immersion, please give your names to Bro. Henry

♣ **Saturdays August 4th & 11th**
RCCG Music Children Summer Camp. The summer camp is in preparation for recording the children's first worship album:
Registration:
www.rccguk.eventbrite.co.uk
Fee: £50 per day

♣ **Saturday August 4th - Monday August 6th**
Transformed Youth Retreat
Venue: Quinta Christian Centre, Weston Rhyn, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY10 7LR
Accommodation & feeding: £58

♣ **Saturday August 18th**
Drama group competition at Redemption House from 1pm to 4pm

♣ **Saturday September 22nd**
Christian Media and communications conference at Redemption House

♣ **Saturday September 29th**
Helps Ministries Conference at Redemption House

Today's Sunday School—Lesson 49

REST AND RELAXATION

Memory Verse: "And on the seventh day, God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which He had made." Genesis 2v2

Lesson text: Exodus 20v8-11

A. Why do we need rest or relaxation

God set the example of rest in Gen. 2v2-3 when he ceased from creating. Rest is a divine command (Ex. 20v10) as well as a gift from God to man (Mk 2v27). Though Jesus did not take a vacation for His ministry, He did take times off refreshing and also ensuring that His disciples did the same (Mk. 6v31). In resting we declare our dependence on God thereby exercising our faith in His provision (Matt. 6v25). Rest does not come naturally to man, it is God's desire for us (Ex. 33v14; Job 11v18). It brings about recuperation from fatigue (Matt. 8v24; Matt. 26v45). Rest also serves as relief from anxiety of mind and spirit (Eccl. 2v22-23; 2 Cor. 2v13)

B. How do we rest or relax

In order to rest, we must first and foremost trust that God will take care of things for us. Obedience will bring the rest that God so desires for us (Heb. 3v7; 4v11). As believers, we must learn to relax our grip on our lives, careers, families etc. and give them over to God in faith (Prov. 3v5-6). We should take time to sleep properly after a good day's job. At least, a believer should have a day off to rest or relax in a week. Going on vacation or visiting places for recreation should be part of our planned schedules.

Conclusion

The command to rest is not an excuse to be lazy. You have to work for six days to get to the Sabbath. For the Christian, the ultimate rest is found in Christ. He invites all who are weary and burdened to come to Him and cast our cares on Him (Matt. 11v28; 1 Pet. 5v7)

Open Heaven for today LAUGHTER FROM DIVINE VISITATION II

Memorise: When the LORD turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream.

Psalm 126:1-4

Read: Psalm 126:1-4 (KJV)

In the course of our reflection yesterday, the Holy Spirit revealed to us some unexpected things that happened when God comes visiting, one outcome of divine visitation is amazing testimonies of sudden turn around, which are so mind-boggling that they lead to laughter.

Today's Bible reading describes this experience. At one of our events, one particular man had a divine visitation and received his own amazing testimony of sudden turn around. This young man was born with only one testicle he had. This ended any possibility of this young man ever having a child of his own. However, God had a plan to bring laughter back to his life. It was the very first programme I held as the General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian Church of God at Rowe Park, Lagos Nigeria. In the course of this programme, the young man felt that something sensational was going on between his legs, and he checked to see what was happening to him. He discovered that he had received two brand new testicles! The day he came to visit me in my office after miracle, he came with his wife and she was pregnant. In his joy and excitement, he said to me, "Sir, do you want me to show you the testicles?" I responded that there was no need for this because I could see the evidence of the new testicles on his wife. God will visit you, and creative miracles will be your portion today in Jesus' Name.

Another of such testimonies is that of a young man brought to my office by one of his friends several years ago. This young man said to me, "Sir, I have a big problem." We found out that his wife had literally run mad and was roaming the streets completely naked. It is culturally believed by the Yoruba tribe, which he belonged to, that a mentally unstable person that is still within the house can be cured, but once the spirit of madness takes such a fellow to the market place naked, such a person would remain mad for life. As at the time they came to my office, this woman had been bundled off to an herbal treatment home in Kwara State, Nigeria, I was given the address of this place, and I went there to pray for her. Her husband was informed after I left that I had been there to pray, but he was disappointed to hear that the prayer did not last more than five minutes.

"How can a five-minute prayer deal with this serious madness", they wondered out of doubt. So, they took the woman to a psychiatric hospital. As God would have it, the specialist there said to them, "Let us observe her before we know what to do." After two weeks of observation, they sent for her husband and told him, "Sir, if you say something is wrong with this woman, then something must be wrong with you, because even though we have not given her any medication, this woman is as normal as any normal human being can be." a divine visitation of less than five minutes brought laughter back to the family of this young man. I decree that in the Name that is above every other name, this month shall be your month of laughter.

Prayer Point

Father, through Your visitation, reverse the irreversible in my life today in Jesus' Name.

Open Heavens Daily Devotional Lessons was written by Pastor E.A. Adeboye, the General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian Church of God