\*IGNITE YOUR GIFT!\*  
  
Apostle Paul wrote:  
  
\*"For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you.."\* 2 Tim 1:6  
  
During the new year celebration, my wife suggested that we should eat something  different from the conventional meal of jollof rice and fried chicken.  
  
To this end, she proposed we do barbecue with fish and chicken on one side and local rice with assorted goat meat and stew to compliment.😜  
  
In all honesty, the thought of that combination did not require much convincing talk from her, I just obliged with the  excitement to try something different from the usual.  
  
Meanwhile, In the course of enjoying my time, watching a football match she called me and said   
  
\*Sweetie: "It's time to do the barbecue and you will have to help me in doing it".\*   
  
Soon after, I poured the charcoal in the barbecue grill   
and applied few drops of kerosene on them to start the  fire for it to start burning, I did that twice; but it   
will burn for a while and the fire will go down later, until the kerosene finished and yet the charcoal was not ignited.  
  
Suddenly, I remembered the shutdown after the June 12, 1993 Election, when everywhere was closed down in the South West  Nigeria and all we were left with was to buy charcoal to cook.   
  
Just as I did for my mother back then, I began to fan the charcoal and within few minutes, I had  \*ignited the charcoal into flame!\* and the whole thing   
turned red hot and the barbecue began.  
  
My effort in igniting the charcoal in order  to have a wonderful meal with family and friends is similar to what many of us are expected to do for the gift of God in our lives.  
  
Apostle Peter said;  
  
\*"God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of Spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another".\*  
1 Peter 4:10  
  
While doing the barbecue, I was  amazed at the rate at which the flame extended to all the charcoal and the result it produced on the meal itself.  
  
In reality, many gifts of God in us are just dormant without being put to proper use, while some that are being used have not been fully optimized to fulfil their full potentials.   
\*Romans 11:29\*  
  
It reminds me of the song of Evangelist Obey;  
\*Ma se pa talenti re mole arakunrin, Oluwa yio bere lowo re oun to fi se.\*   
  
Meaning: Don't allow your talent to be dormant, for God will ask you about what you did with it.  
  
The bible says:  
\*"For the creation waits with eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed"\*   
Romans 8:19  
  
Apparently, personal efforts are required to \*ignite the gifts of God in you;\*   
  
Study the word of God very well with prayer (they fuel the flame) and step out to an avenue where you can start making use of the gift and the Holy Spirit will do the rest.  
  
\*"If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously...".\*  
Romans 12:7&8.  
  
Rise up Brothers and Sisters, the time is now that we make the difference by impacting the world for Jesus.  
  
\*Those gifts are only relevant on earth, they will not be useful in heaven.\*   
  
Word of caution: do not allow monetary rewards to be your main motivation;  
  
\*"... Freely you have received; freely give".\*   
Matthew 10:8.  
  
\*Prayer\*: Father, help me to harness your gifts in me to affect lives for you in Jesus name.🙏🏼  
  
\*JESUS CARES\*  
www.soulsforgod.com