

ROYAL VOICE



NOVEMBER 2018

**SPECIAL DUTIES
OF A HUSBAND**

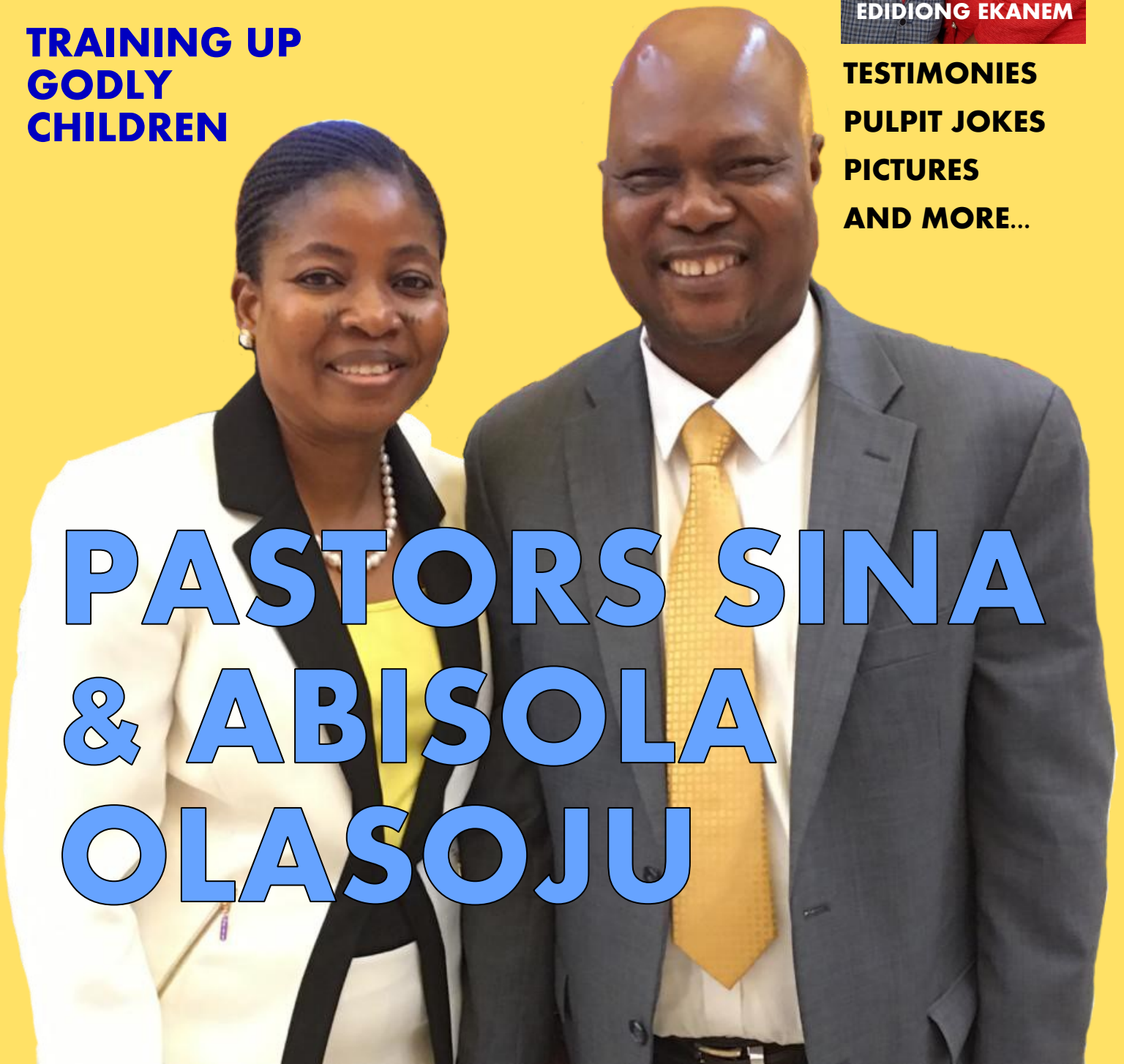
HEALTHY LIVING

**TRAINING UP
GODLY
CHILDREN**



**PASTORS JAMES &
EDIDIONG EKANEM**

**TESTIMONIES
PULPIT JOKES
PICTURES
AND MORE...**



**PASTORS SINA
& ABISOLA
OLASOJU**

ROYAL VOICE

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Mission Statement

The Royal Voice Magazine was perceived and proclaimed by the leadership of the Royal Priesthood Parish of RCCG. God ordained it and has now made it a reality.

The Editorial Board intends it to be a quarterly publication and the mouthpiece of the word and perfect will of God, to magnify God by evangelizing the lost, discipline of believers, equipping the church and ministering to the society.

Each Edition will reach out to the community with its spirit uplifting, soul soothing and edifying contents, covering myriads of topics including the Christian family, education, health, immigration, community and church events.

It will feature, among others, articles, testimonies, pulpit jokes, regular Bible quizzes, workers highlights, new members, church departmental updates, church calendar of programs, men's, women's, youth corner, featured brief sermons and articles on remarkable Christian personalities.

The Board appeals for your contributions by submitting your inspirational testimonies, articles, and great stories of your life, to share with our readers. God will meet you at every point of your need, as you do so, in Jesus name. Amen!!

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

The theme of this edition is "FAITH" and Pastor Idongesit and Pastor (Mrs) Edidiong James Ekanem will edify us with their inspirational Featured Short Sermon on "FAITH".

I will like to share a brief exhortation on the need for every believer to "STOP WORRYING AND START LIVING". Worrying means you are anxious about an actual or potential problem or problems. Worrying is completely a normal experience, as long as it doesn't happen too often or last too long. If you are worried all the time and don't know how to calm down and get back to living your life, then this exhortation is for you. I say to you, "stop worrying and start living".

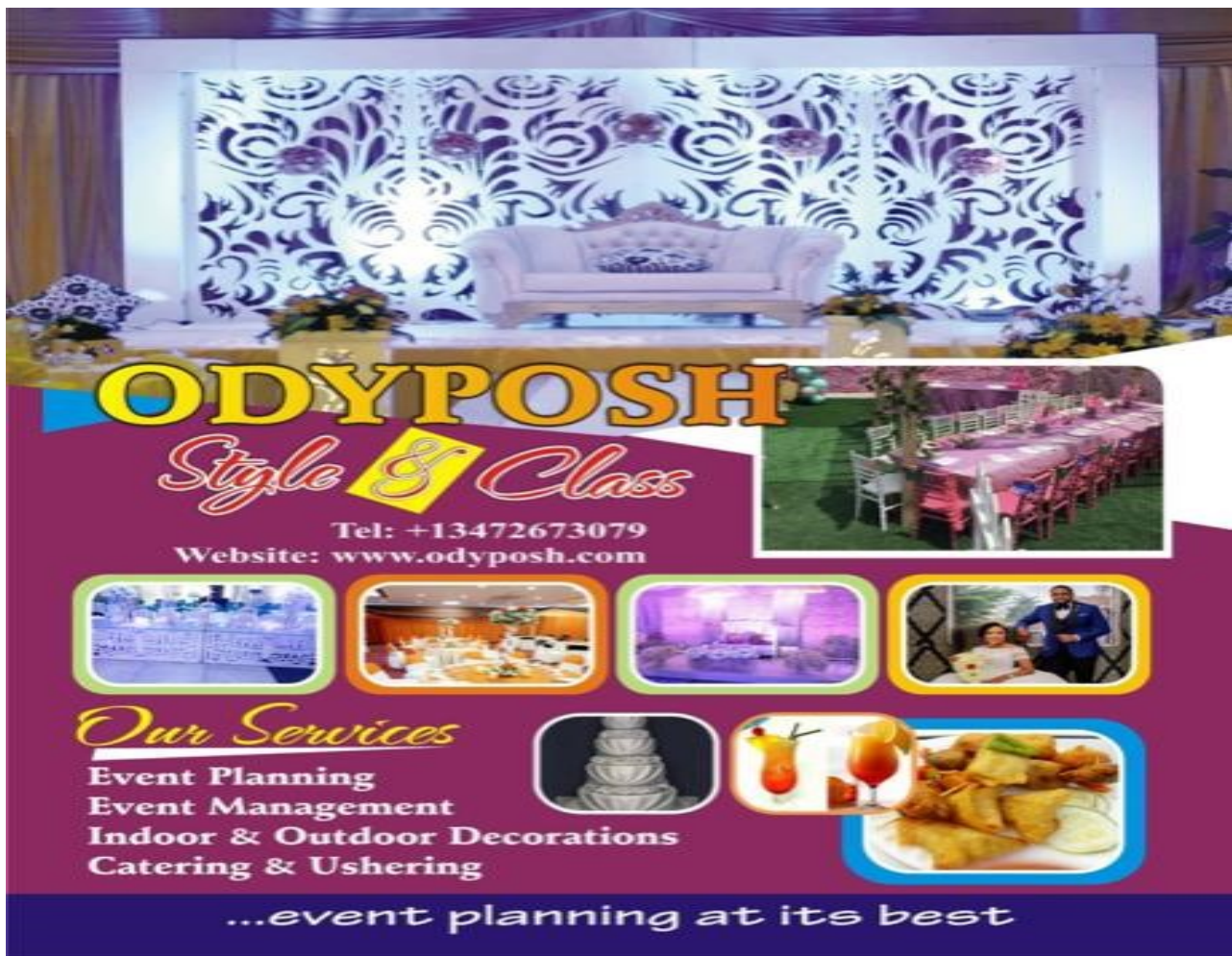
Worry is the practice of unbelievers. If you worry, it means that you are not a believer. You really don't believe or have faith that God can come through in the moment of your difficulties, that God can protect you, that God can provide for you, that God can heal your sicknesses, that God can deliver you, and set

you free from the addictions that are destroying you and break the chains of misery and habits that have enslaved you or members of your family.

From the word of God, you need to know that God is absolutely in control of your life if you let Him. He will not demand to over-ride your free-will, but if you will give Him the opportunity, He will make a way where there seems to be no way, and He will scatter your enemies, because our God is an awesome God, He is Almighty, He is all-knowing, He is the Alpha and the Omega, He is our deliverer, and He is Jehovah Jireh, the Lord our provider.

According to Philippians 4: 6-7, "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your request be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Read this November Edition, and be blessed in Jesus Name. Amen!!!



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MESSAGE FROM PASTOR

With gladness, I seize this opportunity to encourage everyone reading the Royal Voice Magazine to take a moment to reflect on their lives. I want you to know that you are not alone. There comes a time in your life when you feel abandoned! I want you to know that there is always a VOICE that speaks for you. That Voice is the ROYAL voice - the voice of the Almighty God. This is the same voice that called Moses while he was in the burning bush, thinking he was alone (Exodus 3:1-6).

As you read this Magazine, please know that there is a message there for your comfort. The voice is saying that your set time is NOW, and that our Almighty and Faithful God is alive to sort you out. My prayer is that, you will not miss your time in Jesus name. God will locate you and whatever difficult or ugly situation you find yourself, will receive divine turn-around in Jesus name.

I want to encourage you to always read the Royal Voice Magazine and share it to as many as possible. If you live in the Sugar Land/Houston Axis of Texas - USA, please stop over to visit us during any of our scheduled Services and let us agree in Prayers, as in the weekly schedule of Church activities published at the back of this Magazine. The Royal Priesthood Parish of RCCG is a MOUNTAIN of ANSWERS, where testimonies abound, where the jobless are getting jobs, where the undocumented are getting documented, where the sick are getting healed, where the barren are bearing children, and we can go on and on to list the numerous miracles of the Almighty God on the Mountain of Answers. We are opened any time for prayers as may be needed. Do not hesitate to come and receive your miracles. Our door is open for anyone to come in at any time for prayers.

The publication of this magazine will be consistent. As we prepare for the next edition, please encourage the Editorial Board by advertising your businesses, sharing your testimonies and by contributing articles. By so doing, you will be helping to promote the Kingdom of God and give hope to those who feel abandoned and are about to give up.

You are next in line for your breakthrough, in Jesus name!!!

Be the very best.

Pastor James I. Ekanem





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SPECIAL DUTIES OF HUSBAND & WIFE IN MARRIAGE

BY PASTOR OLAJUMOKE KAYODE



Agreeing to spend the rest of your life with someone is a big decision. Having taken this decision, it requires special duties and responsibilities to each other. Many couples are unable to anticipate what their relationship will be like on a routine basis. Both spouses enter marriage with a set of expectation, most of which will be quite different from the other. Every individual has an assumption about the duties in marriage which they will play. But life set in, children arrive, trials come, life happens, and we get worn out. We start to see that true colors. We start to realize this person we married isn't perfect. We start thinking, comparing, and having too high expectations.

Marriage is the greatest blessing and commandment from God. He allows us to fall in love with bone from our bones, to bear children and take care of them together. By divine design, fathers are to preside over their family in love and righteousness. They are responsible to provide the necessities of life and protection for their families. Mothers are primarily responsible for the nurture of their children. However, fathers and mothers are obligated to help one another as one flesh.

DUTIES BELONGING TO BOTH ALIKE

Living with Each Other: According to Genesis 2:24, a man must leave his father and his mother and be united with his wife. Psalm 45:10 states "Hear, o daughter, consider, submit, and consent to my instruction: forget also your own people and your father's house" The woman must forget her father's house and leave with her husband as one.

Loving Each Other: This is both husband and wife to genuinely love and care for each other with a pure heart. Marital love must not base on beauty or wealth because they may pass or fade away. It must be based on God's

command which never changes. Colossians 3:19 states "Husbands love your wives and do not be harsh on them or bitter or resentful towards them.

Looking Out for Each Other's Interests in All Things: Help each other's health. One should not be rich while the other suffers want. They should be bosom friends, laughing and weeping together, with nothing but death separating their interests.

Staying Faithful to Each Other: Both husband and wife must be satisfied with each other, Hebrews 13:4 states "Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge"

Praying For Each Other: In Genesis 25:21 "And Isaac prayed much to the Lord for his wife because she was unable to bear children; and the Lord granted his prayer, and Rebekah his wife became pregnant" seek times for prayer together, it works!

DUTIES OF WIFE TO HER HUSBAND

- Be a helper to your husband
- Respect, honor and appreciate him
- Love him unconditionally
- Kindly recognize his arrival whenever he comes home from a day's hard work.
- Submit to the leadership of your husband

DUTIES OF HUSBAND TO HIS WIFE

- Be a good home maker
- Take good care over your appearance
- Whenever you need his help with the children or in the home, etc.
- Please ask him kindly and respectfully.
- Love your wife unconditionally and be committed to her
- Be her confidant
- Protect her with your life
- Proactively determine her needs and aspire to meet them.
- Make love to her actively, passionately and frequently §
Talk to her with respect

In my conclusion, we must work out our marriages to the standard of God. The key is for husband and wife to follow God's plan, and work to fit in with each of their responsibilities. My prayer is for God to make our marriages strong, happy and be fruitful in Jesus Name!

FOOD RECIPE

Dodo Gizzard (plantain and gizzard)

Dodo gizzard is a delicious, yummy spicy meal made with a mixture of gizzard and plantain. Chicken gizzard is best used for this recipe, but you can also substitute it for turkey or duck. For a healthier option to frying, grill the gizzards in the oven until brown. You will love this simple recipe. Try it out!

Ingredients (serve: 8 people)

3 pounds of Chicken gizzard
3 ripe plantains
4 large fresh tomatoes
3 Habanero pepper (use to suit your taste)
1 teaspoon of ground crayfish (optional)
1 large onion bulb
1 garlic clove
Half teaspoon of curry and thyme
3 stock cubes or bouillon
Vegetable Oil(enough for frying)

For the Garnishing (It gives color to the meal);
1 red, yellow and green bell pepper (chopped into small sizes)



Preparation:

Clean the gizzards by removing the yellow lining. Then, wash the gizzards with salted water or lemon juice. Scrub well to get rid of any dirt. Rinse, strain and set aside.

Place the cleaned gizzards into a pot; pour enough water to half level of the gizzards. Season with half onion bulb, garlic, two stock cube, thyme, curry and salt to taste. Cook until tender and set aside.

Cut the plantain into cubes, fry in hot vegetable oil until brown. Transfer onto sieve.

Fry the gizzards in the same oil until brown and also transfer onto sieve.

Blend the tomatoes and pepper coarsely. Heat up little oil, add chopped onions, fry a bit, and add the crayfish (optional). Stir fry for few seconds and then pour the blended mix into the pot and fry for 15 minutes or until the sour taste is lost. Then add one stock cube and salt to taste. Simmer for 2 minutes and set aside.

Add the gizzards to soak in the sauce and simmer for 1 minute. Add fried plantains, chopped onions, green, yellow, and red bell peppers. Mix thoroughly and put off the heat. Your delicious meal is ready!



Hon. & Deaconess Mrs. Ika Etumuse CONGRATULATE

**The Pastor and Entire Members of
the Redeemed Christian Church of
God "Royal Priesthood Parish"
Houston Texas, United States on
this glorious occasion of your 6th
Year Anniversary Celebrations
coming up on November 18, 2018.
HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!!**

PULPIT JOKES

Rest In Peace

One Sunday morning, the pastor noticed little Alex staring up at the large plaque that hung in the foyer of the church. The plaque was covered with names, and small American flags were mounted on either side of it. The seven year-old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up, stood beside him and said quietly, "Good morning, Alex." Good morning, Pastor," replied the young man, still focused on the plaque. "Pastor McGhee, what is this?" Alex asked. "Well, son, it's a memorial to all the men and women who have died in the service." Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Alex's voice was barely audible when he finally managed to ask, "Which one, the 9:00 or 10:30 service?"

Priest and Rabbi

A priest and a rabbi are in a car crash and it's a bad one. Both of their cars are demolished but amazingly neither one of them is hurt. After they crawl out of their cars, the rabbi says, "So you're a priest. That's interesting; I'm a rabbi. Wow, just look at our cars! There's nothing left, but we're unhurt. This must be a sign from God that we should meet and be friends and live together in peace." The priest replies, "Oh, yes, I agree. It's a miracle that we survived and are here together." "And here's another miracle," says the rabbi. "My car is destroyed but this bottle of wine didn't break. Surely God wants us to drink the wine and celebrate our good fortune," he says, handing the bottle to the priest. The priest nods in agreement, opens the wine, drinks half of it, and hands it back to the rabbi. The rabbi takes it and puts the cap back on. "Aren't you going to have any? The priest asked. "Not right now," says the rabbi. "I think I'll wait until after the police make their report."

Married to Satan's Sister

A few minutes before the services started, the town people were sitting in their pews and talking. Suddenly, Satan appeared at the front of the church. Everyone started screaming and running for the front entrance, trampling each other in a frantic effort to get away from the evil incarnate. Soon everyone had exited the church except for one elderly gentleman who sat calmly in his pew without moving, seeming oblivious to the fact that God's ultimate enemy was in his presence. So Satan walked up to the old man and said, "Don't you know who I am?" The man replied, "Yep, sure do." "Aren't you afraid of me?" Satan asked. "Nope, sure ain't," said the man. "Don't you realize I can kill you with a word?" asked Satan. "Don't doubt it for a minute," returned the old man, in an even tone. "Did you know that I could cause you profound, horrifying, physical AGONY... for all eternity?" persisted Satan. "Yep," was the calm reply. "And you're still not afraid?" asked Satan.

"Nope."

More than a little perturbed, Satan asked, "Well, why aren't you afraid of me?"

The man calmly replied, "Been married to your sister for the last 48 years."

A Sheepish Recovery

A devout old shepherd lost his favorite Bible while he was out looking for a wayward lamb. Three weeks later, a sheep walked up to him carrying the Bible in its mouth. The shepherd couldn't believe his eyes. He took the precious book out of the sheep's mouth, raised his eyes heavenward and exclaimed, "It's a miracle!" "Not really," said the sheep. "Your name is written inside the cover."

If Jesus was from Alabama

A little girl from Alabama went to church for the first time ever when she was visiting her grandparents in Michigan. When the pastor announced it was time for the Lord's Supper, she was excited—and hungry. The congregation filed up to the altar rail, and the child watched in confusion as her grandparents received a wafer and small plastic cup of wine. She could hardly wait to get back to the pew to tell her grandma that Jesus wasn't from Alabama. "How do you know that, dear?" asked her grandma. "Because that was the poorest meal I've ever seen," she said. "Mama would've at least given everybody some corn bread and sweet tea."

An axe and two 38's

One night a lady came home from her weekly prayer meeting, found she was being robbed, and she shouted out, "Acts 2:38: 'Repent and be baptized and your sins will be forgiven.'" The robber quickly gave up and the lady called the police. While handcuffing the criminal, a policeman said, "Gee mate, you gave up pretty easily. How come you gave up so quickly?" The robber said, "She said she had an axe and two 38's!"

Christian Converted Children

A Jewish businessman in America decided to send his son to Israel to absorb some of the culture of the homeland. When the son returned, the father asked him to tell him about his trip. The son said, "Pop, I had a great time in Israel. By the way, I converted to Christianity." "Oh yeh," said the father. "What have I done?" He decided to go ask his friend Jacob what to do. Jacob said, "Funny you should ask. I too sent my son to Israel, and he also came back a Christian. Perhaps we should go see the rabbi and ask him what we should do." So they went to see the Rabbi. The Rabbi said, "Funny you should ask. I too sent my son to Israel. He also came back a Christian. What is happening to our young people? Perhaps we should go talk to God and ask him what to do." The three of them prayed and explained what had happened to their sons and asked God what to do. Suddenly a voice came loud and clear from Heaven. The

PULPIT JOKES

Voice said, "Funny you should ask, I too sent my son to Israel..."

Honesty

One day, while a woodcutter was cutting a branch of a tree above river, his axe fell into the river. When he cried out, the Lord appeared and asked, "Why are you crying?"

The woodcutter replied that his axe had fallen into the river, and he needed it to make his living. The Lord went down in the water and appeared with a golden axe. "Is this your axe?" the Lord asked.

The woodcutter replied, "No."

The Lord again went down and came up with a silver axe. "Is this your axe?" The Lord asked.

"No", the woodcutter replied.

The Lord went down again and came up with an iron axe. "Is this your axe?" The Lord asked.

"Yes", he replied.

The Lord was so pleased with the man's honesty that He gave him all three axes to keep, and the woodcutter went home happy. Later the woodcutter was walking with his wife along the riverbank, and his wife fell into the river.

When he cried out, the Lord appeared again and asked him, "Why are you crying?"

"Oh Lord, my wife has fallen into the river!" The Lord went down into the water and came up with Jennifer Lopez.

"Is this your wife?" the Lord asked.

"Yes," cried the woodcutter.

The Lord was furious. "You lied! That is an untruth!"

The woodcutter fell to his knees and cried, "Oh, forgive me, Lord. It is a misunderstanding. You see, if I had said 'no' to Jennifer Lopez, you would have come up with Catherine Zeta-Jones. Then if I also said 'no' to her, you would have come up with my wife. Had I then said 'yes,' you would have given me all three. Lord, I am a poor man, and am not able to take care of all three wives, and I love my wife such that I don't want her to share me with anyone, so THAT'S why I said yes to Jennifer Lopez."

Not Welcome

An impoverished old man applied for membership in a wealthy church. The pastor tried to put him off with all kinds of evasive remarks. The old man became aware that he was not welcome there and finally told the pastor that he would pray about it. After several days he returned. "Well," asked the pastor, "Did the Lord give you a message?" "Yes Sir, He did" was the old man's answer. "He told me it wasn't any use. He said, "I've been trying to get in that same church myself for ten years and they won't let me in either."

Oil

Two old friends met one day after many years. One attended college, and now was very successful. The other had not attended college and never had much ambition.

The successful one said, "How has everything been going with you?"

"Well, one day I opened the Bible at random, and

dropped my finger on a word and it was oil. So, I invested in oil, and boy, did the oil wells gush. Then another day I dropped my finger on another word and it was gold. So, I invested in gold and those mines really produced. Now, I'm as rich as Rockefeller."

The successful friend was so impressed that he rushed to his hotel, grabbed a Gideon Bible, flipped it open, and dropped his finger on a page.

He opened his eyes and his finger rested on the words, "Chapter Eleven."

Are you an atheist?

A young woman teacher with obvious liberal tendencies explains to her class of small children that she is an atheist. She asks her class if they are atheists too. Not really knowing what atheism is but wanting to be like their teacher, their hands explode into the air like fleshy fireworks.

There is, however, one exception. A little girl has not gone along with the crowd. The teacher asks her why she has decided to be different.

"Because, I'm not an atheist."

Then, asks the teacher, "What are you?"

"I'm a Christian."

The teacher is a little perturbed now, her face slightly red. She asks her why she is a Christian.

"Well, I was brought up knowing and loving Jesus. My mom is a Christian, my dad is a Christian, and my grandparents are too, so I am a Christian."

The teacher is now angry. "That's no reason," she says loudly.

"What if your mom and your dad were idiots? And what if your grand parents were idiots? What would you be then?"

She paused, smiled and said, "Oh, I guess that I'd be an atheist



FEATURED SHORT SERMON

EXERCISING YOUR FAITH

BY PASTOR JAMES AND PASTOR (MRS.) EDIDIONG EKANEM

The expression “just have faith, it will work out” is commonly used by people to encourage and comfort someone facing serious problems or stressful situations.

In reality, what is faith as described in the Bible? And does it really work?

The Bible defines *faith* in Hebrews 11:1, “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” Faith is the substance or assurance of things we hope for, but have not yet received. Faith (confidence, belief, trust) is also our evidence of that which is not seen—the invisible spiritual things. Faith comes before a prayer is answered or before an individual has received what he or she has requested from God.

Faith Exercised In New Testament Bible:

An example of this definition is found in Matthew 9:27-30, where two blind men came to Jesus and asked Him to heal them. Jesus first asked them, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” and their reply was, “Yes, Lord.” “Then He touched their eyes saying, ‘According to your faith let it be to you.’ And their eyes were opened.”

Their faith and assurance that Jesus could give them sight was the substance or reality they hoped for. It also gave them the evidence or trust that they would receive what they asked for. They believed; that is, they had faith in advance that it would be done.

Faith Exercised In Old Testament Bible:

Another example is that of Daniel’s three friends who refused to bow down to King Nebuchadnezzar’s image of gold. Those who refused to bow to the image were threatened with being thrown into a fiery pit alive. The three young Jewish men (Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego) who refused to bow to the image told King Nebuchadnezzar: “If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king. But if not, let it be known to

you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up” (Daniel 3:17-18).

They did not know in advance how God would deliver them from the fiery furnace, whether at that time by saving their physical lives or later in the resurrection. Their faith or trust was the



substance of what they hoped for, and it was the evidence of that which was not yet seen or received. Their faith or trust was built on serving God and obeying His instructions. They believed God would deliver them because they obeyed His instructions and did not bow down to worship any others gods. This was one of the highest levels of exercising Faith. Can you take your faith to this level? **Yes it is possible!!!**

FEATURED SHORT SERMON

Faith without Works Is Dead:

The Apostle James, who was the half-brother of Jesus Christ, wrote in his epistle about what he called dead faith. "Dead" faith is when one believes in God, but does not obey His instructions.

James wrote, "You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?" (James 2:19-20).

James went on to use the example of Abraham, who had both faith and works because he believed God and he obeyed what God instructed him to do. "Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works, faith was made perfect?" (James 2:21-22). Real faith is more than just believing in God alone. It includes acting on that faith in one's life by serving God and obeying His instruction in totality.

Faith is increased by drawing closer to God through prayer and the study of His Word - the Bible. Some may argue that James' teaching that we should obey the instructions of God is teaching that we are saved by works, that is not the case. The apostle Paul makes this clear when he said, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9). Paul clearly understood and wrote that no one could earn salvation and that faith itself is a gift from God. Yet in the very next verse he went on to say that we are God's "workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them" (verse 10).

Like James, Paul knew "living" faith would be accompanied by service and obedience to God and His instructions. Paul wrote in Romans 3:31 "Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law."

God Gives Faith to Those Who Seek It:

Sir/Ma'am, you cannot have Faith on something or someone that you do not know. For you to receive anything it has to come from someone

who has. God is the giver of Faith but you have a role to play. The role is your own deliberate commitment to the giver of Faith - The Almighty God. Paul told the Philippians to "be anxious for nothing [don't worry], but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7). They believed God's Word, and they obeyed His instructions. As they listened and followed Paul's instruction on giving their cares to God in continuous prayers, their faith (belief and trust) was increased.

Another way faith is increased is by reading or hearing examples of faith in the Bible publicly expounded. This is mentioned in Romans 10:17.



"So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Today, we have the complete Word of God in many different translations. The Bible is God's inspired Word to mankind. When we read the

FEATURED SHORT SERMON

Bible, our faith (confidence and assurance) in God and Jesus Christ to answer our prayers and bring us through impossible situations increases. When last did you touch and even read the Bible? When last did you go to Church or is your house and television now a Church as claimed by many.

In addition to knowing God's word, we ought to speak them into manifestation in our lives. This involves speaking to the mountains in our lives. An example is in Mark 11:21-23 "And Peter, remembering, said to Him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree which you cursed has withered away." So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says".

While sharing this, Jesus pointed to a literal mountain. He wanted His disciples to understand that even if they had the biggest problem imaginable; it could be destroyed through their faith by the words they speak. What kind of words do you speak daily? Have you used your mouth to destroy your marriage, business, relationship, career or even ministry? It is high time you express yourself positively at all time.

Do you have a mountain you need to move, a body that needs to be healed? Why don't you speak to that mountain now?

God is waiting for you to get bold and say, "I am tired of this mountain sitting here. I am tired of looking at it. I am tired of the pressure". It does not matter whether it's a physical, financial, or an emotional mountain, it has to move when you speak. We pray for you that every negative situation that has held you captive shall turn to positive in Jesus name.

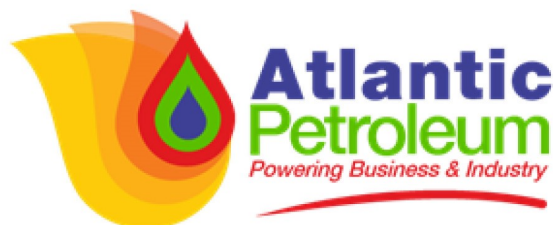
It is not up to you to figure out how the mountain is going to move, God will take care of that. All you have to do is speak to it and believe. In the same way Jesus' spoken words healed the paralyzed servant, withered the fig tree, and quieted the violent storm, your words can change your situation.

Dear reader, please rise up from wherever you are and begin to speak to that situation. "**Closed mouth is closed destiny**". Your destiny can be changed when you begin to speak into it. That situation in your marriage, career, documentation, health will bow as you speak the word of God into it.

We pray for you again that every mountain standing before you will bow in Jesus name.

For prayers and counseling please call us, and as we agree with you and speak the word into your life, that situation will change for good in Jesus name.

God bless you.



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THE ROYALTY FOOD DRIVE

BY PASTOR JAMES EKANEM

We give glory to the Almighty God that Royal Priesthood Parish of the RCCG now conducts on regular basis, food drives for the poor, in partnership with the Houston Food Bank. The process from the start to submission of application, was arduous and at first insurmountable. But praise be to God that with persistence and prayers we were able to surmount the seemingly insurmountable obstacles. The success was through God's divine intervention.

The process commenced in August of 2017. The requirements of the application included branding of the Food Pantry to satisfy certain standard and specification by the Food Bank. The shelves had to be a certain color, specific oil paint quality, and fixed firmly to the walls. The Food Pantry had to be inspected by the Fort Bend County and approved as being in compliance, after which the Food Vendor Permit was issued. Church members had to be trained for food handling and also certified.

The attachments to the application included the proof of our 501 (c)(3) charity status, church income and expenditure record.

After the submission of the application, the Houston Food Bank officials came to inspect the Food Pantry. The waiting period was a period of great anxiety and prayers that God will move in the usual miraculous way.



He surely did. We did not have to wait for too long and our application was approved. Hallelujah! The food items from the Houston Food Bank are delivered every last Saturday of the month.

The Royalty Food Drive is scheduled for Wednesdays from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm and Saturdays from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. During the food drives we also distribute other items donated by members of the Church, including used clothing, shoes, blankets and other items.

The public is invited to participate. Those who are in need are welcome and we invite donors to support the food drive by donating items, to ameliorate the plight of the poor. For donations please visit: royaltychurch.org/donate-now.



CHURCH ACTIVITIES



CHURCH ACTIVITIES



HEALTHY LIVING

BY PASTOR OLAJUMOKE KAYODE



Unhealthy Foods are made of sugar and fat, they are referred to as junk foods containing a large number of calories from sugar or fat which are very low in fibre, vitamins or minerals. They are also high protein foods like meat prepared with saturated fats. Unhealthy foods are “fast” foods and processed foods which are very high in salt.

Craving for unhealthy food can happen to anyone, they are very tempting, yummy and affordable. These craving can be hard to overcome. But with some willpower and help of God, you can do it.

In the book of Genesis, Chapter 1 verse 29 (Amplifier) “And God said, see, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the land and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food” you can see it that food is a gift from God and we need the food on a daily basis to care for our bodies that God has given us.

In Proverbs 25:27a “It is not good to eat too much honey” you can also see that this verse instructed us to go easy on sugar! It’s not bad to eat honey or sugar in general, but there are healthy boundaries to eating, too. God knew we would be tempted to over indulge in some things. He is not trying to steal our enjoyment from us but to give us a gentle reminder to stay healthy.

There is a lot of confusion out there about which foods are healthy, and which are not. If you want to lose weight and avoid chronic diseases, then you should not eat much of these foods. In many cases, the best choice is to avoid them completely. Some of these unhealthy foods are;

Sugary drinks

Sugar, when consumed in large amount, can drive insulin resistance in the body which is linked to fatty liver disease. It is also associated with heart disease.

Pizza

Pizza is one of the world’s popular junk foods. It tastes awesome and is convenient to eat. It’s commercially prepared and made with unhealthy ingredients. Alternatively, homemade pizzas can be healthy as long as you choose wholesome ingredients.

Industrial vegetable oil

There are many serious concerns with these oils. They are highly sensitive to oxidation and cause increase oxidative

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stress in the body. They have been linked to increase risk of cancer. Alternatively, use coconut oil, real butter, extra virgin oil or Avocado oil.

Pastries, Cookies, and cakes

These are tasty treats made with refined sugar, shortening of high in trans fats and tons of calories which are unhealthy ingredients. Avoid them!

French Fries and Potato chips

Whole white potatoes are very healthy. However, the same cannot be said of the products made from them, French fries and potato chips. These foods are very high in calories. It can make you to gain excess weight.

Ice cream

Ice cream is one of the most delicious foods on the planet. Unfortunately, it is one of the unhealthiest. Most commercial ice cream is loaded with sugar and high in calories. Alternatively, it is possible to make your own ice cream using healthier ingredients significantly less or no sugar.

Candy Bars

Candy bars may taste good but are incredibly unhealthy. They have been designed so that it's very easy to eat them quickly. Alternatively, eat a piece of fruit instead, or a piece of real high cocoa (dark chocolate).

Processed Meat

In Act 27:34a "Wherefore I pray you to take some meat: for this is for your health"

Unprocessed meat can be healthy and nutritious meat but not the same as processed meats. Alternatively, if you want to eat bacon, sausages. Pepperoni and other processed meats, then, choose wisely and try to buy them locally from sellers who don't add a lot of unhealthy ingredients.

I have mentioned some of the ways the battle can be won above.
However, other ways are the followings;
If you find yourself in a situation of no other option but to buy fast foods;
No soft drinks, order water.

Skip fries, order side salad or fresh fruits

Non-fried chicken sandwiches and vegetables are healthier options.

Replace mayonnaise and ketchup with mustard.

Purchase produce from local sources which keeps the food as fresh as possible since it does not travel thousands of miles from the farm to the store.

Use Zero Trans fats. Trans fats are man-made fats, they are bad fats which increase blood cholesterol, that lead to higher risk of heart disease (heart attacks and strokes).

In Daniel 1:12, which states "please test your servants for ten days, and let them give us vegetables {pulses} to eat and water to drink"

This is a spiritual motivation for you.

Eat naturally raised meats they were not given any growth hormones and antibiotics. The meats raised this way have more space to move around. They taste better and healthier.

When you buy fresh fruits and vegetables, and you store them for days or weeks before using them. The longer the food is stored, the more vitamin and nutrient content is lost.

If you feel a sudden urge for any of those junk foods, try drinking a large glass of water and wait a few minutes, the urge fades away.

Finally, plan your meal for the day or upcoming week. By already knowing what you are going to eat, you eliminate the factor of uncertainty, you will be less tempted.

Dear reader, in the book of Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through him who strengthens me" You can win this battle of unhealthy foods through Christ Jesus!



TESTIMONIES

Miraculous Healing

I thank God for the Salvation of my soul. I was diagnosed with breast cancer (Fibro Adenoma) at the Federal Medical Center, Owo, Nigeria. I used my faith in Jesus to attend in March 2018, the Holy Ghost Service. During the oil and handkerchief program, one of the technical team pointed at me to bring my oil and handkerchief. I understand that he took them to General Overseer's seat. I applied the anointed materials on my breasts. Glory be to God, the lump disappeared. I have not visited the hospital since then.

Divine Intervention

I told God last January that I wanted to experience what those who paid first fruit experience. I said to God, if it's real, I want to know, so I can tell people about the benefit of paying first fruit. So I paid my tithes. By February, a month later, God miraculously surprised me, by turning around my drained business. My business has continued to improve multiple-fold since then. I believe that God will continue to intervene monthly in my finances. Don't be deceived by social media propaganda. There are huge benefits from obeying God's words to pay your tithes. Praise the Lord.

Divine Selection

I had applied several times for admission for a master's degree program, but I had not been successful. During the 50 days fasting and prayer, I was selected for the first interview stage. I was finally admitted on March 15 2018, to do the master's degree program in Bio-refineries. I appreciate God for answering my prayers. I pray that God will continue to increase the anointing of our General Overseer.

Divine Intervention

My family applied for permanent residency in Canada in 2014 and in April 2015 our application was rejected and returned. However, during one of the programs in June 2015 the General Overseer (GO) said that there were those whom God will cause the authorities to revisit their cases. In July 2015, the Canadian Immigration requested that we resend our application. We did, but there was no response again. During the 2017 Convention, the GO raised his staff and I waved all my family passports. To the Glory of God of RCCG we have been given our permanent residency for Canada.

Miraculous Healing

After I gave birth to my first child, I had internal tear and the Doctor did not stitch me well. So while the

wound was healing, my flesh came out as a rope in my private part and whenever I went to urinate, it will be very painful. During the December Holy Ghost songs of victory Congress, I prayed for God to heal me and now I am healed.

Delivered from Insanity

I am a driver by profession. Mysteriously, I became insane and violent. I became a risk to myself and those around me. However, my family brought me to Shiloh 2012 with my hands and feet tied. Immediately after the prayer of one of the morning sessions, my sanity and memory were restored. To God be all the Glory.

HIV Positive Turns Negative

It all started in 2009. My Husband proposed and decided we should go for a general test. Shockingly, I was found to be HIV Positive while he was Negative. We did it the second time and I was still positive. Then I broke down that my world had crashed. I decided to attend Shiloh 2014 in Italy. All through the programs, I kept thanking God for my healing. On the 8th of January 2015, I went for another test and when my result came out, it was discovered that I had no virus in my blood and no sign of infection whatsoever. To God be the Glory.

Divine lifting Via Shiloh

Last year, my business collapsed. In order to make ends meet, I started working with my friend who was paying me N20,000.00. With N20,000, my tithe was top priority. Instead of spending my tithe, I would rather trek or wait until transport fare became cheaper, all in the bid to ensure that my tithe was paid regularly. When Shiloh 2012 sacrifice was called for, I pledged N30,000.00 and promised that I was going to redeem my vow with N5000 per month. I completed paying my vow and by July 8 my boss fired me for no reason. By August, the God of turnaround turned my life around. He gave me a supply contract that made me travel from state to state and from capital to capital. As I was travelling millions were flowing into my account. In one week, I bought a Camry Car, I bought 2 plots of land and I became an importer. Right now, a forty feet container is on its way for me. I give glory to God.

Holy Spirit Surgery

In 2001, a sister in the Lord, felt that there was a small growth bellow her abdomen. The growth increased in size gradually. As it grew, it became more painful. By 2016, the pain had become unbearable. As a result, she decided to relocate to the USA, to

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have the growth diagnosed, amidst the fear that the growth may be cancer. She prayed and fasted for God's intervention. On arrival in the USA in 2017, the Doctor who examined her recommended that she must undergo surgery to remove the growth. However, she could not afford the cost of the surgery. Meanwhile, she could hardly stoop low because of the excruciating pains. In 2018, one night before she went to bed, as the pain continued, she knelt and cried to God to heal her. By the next morning when she woke up, she had bled profusely, and blood was all over her beddings. She discovered that the growth had busted and drained on its own. Praise God. The growth that started since 2001, was miraculously operated on and removed by the Holy Ghost, and she did not have to pay a penny. Glory be to God.

some business and decided to go to RCCG camp for worship. While she was at the camp, she fell sick – very sick – and needed a doctor. When she asked, she was told that there was no doctor at the camp ground area. The village had only a “Chemist”. She resorted to prayers at the camp and was healed without any medication. Back in the U.S., her son was involved in an auto accident on a busy highway; he crashed into a motor cycle (with biker and passenger). The generated force flung the son's car and the bikers into the busy roadway! God intervened, mercifully and miraculously, as all three came away without serious injuries. She believed that it was a miracle that on such a busy highway, no vehicles ran over them or crashed into them! The enemy planned for this sister to weep, but God countered that plan. Praise the Lord.

Double Miracle

This sister travelled to Lagos, Nigeria, to take care of



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ON THEIR 6TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

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CHILDREN'S CORNER

TRAINING UP GODLY CHILDREN

BY PATRICIA ETUMUSE

To train up Godly children, the parents have to understand the book of Malachi 2:15 which says "But did He not make them one, having a remnant of the Spirit? And why one? He seeks godly offspring." the Lord has brought you parents together for the purpose of raising godly children, who would look like Him. The question here is: how do we raise godly children? Parents can raise godly children when:

- They are godly themselves in action, spoken words, appearance at home and outside the home. They must model godliness as parents or guidance, because children often model parent's character.
- Parents must match their actions with their words because if they do not they would end up raising confused rather than godly children. In Timothy 4:16, Apostle Paul told Timothy to be careful about his doctrine (what he taught) and his life (how he lived) for in doing that he would save himself and those that listened to him.
- Parents must teach the children scriptures (word of God). Train them to memorize it, act it and apply it to their lives. Saturate their homes with the word of God for it is the word of God that trains children and equips them for all righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16-17).
- Pray over them every day (Philippians 4:6). Whatever you want in the lives of these children, on your knees always tell it to the Lord and the Almighty God shall grant your request in Jesus name.
- Parents must discipline their children in love: Proverbs 22:15 says "foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; the rod of correction will drive it far from him"; Proverbs 23:14 says "you shall beat him with a rod, and deliver his soul from hell"; Proverbs 13:24 says: "he who spares his rod hates his son"; Proverbs 29:15 says: "these rod and rebuke give wisdom, but a child left to himself brings shame to his mother". All these verses point to the fact that parents must discipline their children. They should note the following as they discipline them:
 - 1) Do not discipline them without letting them know the reason for your action.
 - 2) Do not beat a child with your bare hands.
 - 3) Discipline them in love and not in anger (always demonstrate love after disciplining).
- Always listen to understand the children and do not keep ignoring them, otherwise you will make them unhappy and having behavioral problems.
- If you make a promise make sure to keep it or else you will loose their trust.

- Watch these children and help direct them to God's plan for their lives. The following verses will give you an insight: 2 Timothy 3:14-15; Luke 2:41-50; Ephesians 6:4. It is a tragedy for a child to go through high school and not have a sense of direction. So as the child pursues academics, he needs more than two hours on Sunday for spiritual growth. When parents train a child in the way he/she should go: and when he/she is old, he/she will not depart from it; Proverbs 22:6: let them understand that success in life is not just having money but knowing God's plan for their lives and living it.
- Do not yell at them when disciplining them. One of my children once said to me. "Mother, I prefer it when you beat me than yell at me".
- Understand each child's learning style and ability and deal with them individually.
- Never compare your child with another because each child is unique. In comparing him with another it could cause a lifelong emotional trauma on your child or inferiority complex may set in.
- Give room for mistakes. Parents make mistakes at times, so expect mistakes from them too. Endeavor to take responsibility and make amends when necessary.
- Read Psalm 127:3-5 and note that children become effective instruments (arrows) when they are properly raised by the father and mother that are mighty in the spiritual sense and are devoted to sharpening their children by the guidelines of God's word.
- Parents should be extra vigilant because they are competing with the world in raising these children. Any mistake or neglect not corrected may have a lasting consequence in the future. So always place the Lord Jesus in front of them. Keep telling the word of God and quiz them at times to know their level of understanding.

In conclusion, training up Godly children involves:

- a) Narrowing and restricting their paths and not leaving them to do whatever pleases them.
- b) Giving them life, love and hope in God. Being fair, firm and real.
- c) Cultivating Godly training in their lives so that as they grow it becomes difficult for them to depart from such training.
- d) Teaching them holiness of God and the love of Christ; and
- e) Lastly, disciplining them in such a way that they will be saved.

May the Lord help us to raise Godly children in Jesus Mighty Name



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**Happy 6th anniversary to RCCG Royal Priesthood.
From the Emovons.**

CHURCH ACTIVITIES



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FEATURED ARTICLE

PASTOR SINA OLASOJU

BY AMBASSADOR UDO MOSES WILLIAMS

Introduction by the Editor: If you have at any time wondered how the name of the Royal Priesthood Parish was conceived, or how the name came about, you must read the interview of the pioneer resident Pastor, by the Royal Voice Editor. The story of Pastor Olasoju is direct and undiluted and portrays a couple (Pastors Sina & Abisola Olasoju), chosen and set aside by God for the promotion of His ministry here on earth. The story makes interesting reading. I pray for God's overwhelming inspiration, as you read:

Royal Voice: Tell me briefly about your background: birth circumstance, family, siblings, religion, etc.

Pastor Olasoju: My birth circumstance was quite interesting. I am the first born of my family, born on a Sunday, the 19th of September 1965. My mother was just 16 years of old as at the time of my birth, she was so young and inexperienced, I guessed my father took advantage of her, he was around 22 years of age then. (Laughs), My mother gave birth to 8 (eight) children, four boys and four girls. My father and mother resided together in Lagos Nigeria.

Royal Voice: What were your religious beliefs when you were growing up? What religion did your parents belong to?

Pastor Olasoju: I was born into a Muslim family, my father is a Muslim, though my mother is a Christian, so I grew up as a Muslim, but I know that fate was preparing me for a Christian future, based on the schools I attended growing up. I attended Baptist Primary School, Modupe Johnson Crescent, Surulere Lagos State; then got admitted into Baptist Boys High School, Abeokuta; and had my A-Levels Study at the Baptist Academy, Obanikoro Lagos.

Royal Voice: Can you tell me a little about your conversion circumstance? Was there any event that triggered your conversion?

Pastor Olasoju: It was a great experience for me converting from Islam to Christianity. The circumstance was divinely arranged. RCCG had their convention in Lekki 98 in Lagos Nigeria, the millions of people that attended it caused a total traffic logjam inside Lagos. This experience must have partly motivated the Church to move her next

convention for 1999 to their large expanse camp land at what they now call the RCCG Redemption Camp. The program is usually a week long, the church prepared the camp for this big event that would attract millions of people from all over the world, shops/stalls were built where people would be able to do shopping during the program. To contracted vendors/traders who would occupy these shops/stalls, the church placed adverts in Nigerian Newspapers inviting vendors/traders to bid for the purchase of these shops/stalls. This is where the divine arrangement I spoke about came in. At this time, we were Muslims and my wife ran a Supermarket shop in Ikeja. She saw the advert in the newspaper, and as we didn't know much about the church at that time but since we were resident in Lagos, we saw how big and successful their program was in Lekki 98, and my wife, being an entrepreneur must have reflected on how much patronage and profit she would get having an extension of her Supermarket shop in the camp during this week-long event. She obtained the bid form, completed and submitted the form. When she competed the form, we felt she would not be invited or allocated any shop based on the questions in the form, most of the questions were answered N/A since we were Muslims and most of the questions already assumed that only Christians would apply e.g. which year were you born again? Name of Church? which year were you baptized with immersion in water? have you been baptized with the Holy Ghost? if yes. What year/ etc., you can imagine our state of mind when she submitted the form. Surprisingly to us, she was shortlisted for interview, the panel members said to her that she was invited because they were impressed by her boldness to apply notwithstanding that she didn't meet the criteria. Eventually they allocated a shop to her in the camp and so by faith she was at the 1999 convention for the week-long event which commenced on Monday. I joined her on Thursday/ Friday to offer her a helping hand as the patronage was unprecedented. We were together inside the shop but hearing daddy GO's sermon through the PAS hung all around the place. When Daddy GO made an altar call, both of us spontaneously ran out of the shop and raced to the front of the altar to give our lives to Jesus.

FEATURED ARTICLE

Royal Voice: How did you come to be affiliated with RCCG?

Pastor Olasoju: After our conversion experience in the camp, the Church followed up with us and we joined a parish of the church, RCCG Promised Land, in 2000 where we were nurtured and began to grow in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

obtained Christian Leadership Certificate from Redeemers' Leadership Academy, North America, in 2012 and obtained Pastoral Leadership Executive Diploma from Redeemers International Leadership Academy (RILA), Lagos Nigeria, in August 2017. We were both ordained Full Pastor and Assistant Pastor respectively in the Redeemed Christian Church of God, in the year



Royal Voice: Tell me about your education and your pastoral training circumstances?

Pastor Olasoju: I and my wife, Pastor Mrs Abisola Olasoju, were blessed with the salvation of the Lord same day in August 1999 at the Redemption camp of the RCCG in Lagos, Nigeria. Since that divine encounter, God has been growing us spiritually together day by day. We were both baptized by water immersion in January 2001. We became workers in August 2001 and received the baptism of the Holy Ghost in September 2001. We graduated from School of Disciples in 2007, and the Redeemed Christian Bible College in 2008. We

2014. I had a bachelor's degree in Accounting from the University of Lagos; Master's Degree in Business Administration from the Pan Atlantic University (Lagos Business School, LBS). I have a Professional Certificate in Supply Chain, from Arizona State University, Arizona, USA; a Fellow Chartered Accountant (FCA), Fellow Chartered Institute of Taxation, (FCIT); an Associate Member, Certified Institute of Systems Auditor (CISA), USA; an Associate Member, Certified Information Security Managers (CISM), USA; and an Associate Member, International Association of Commercial & Contracting

FEATURED ARTICLE

Mangers (IACCM), USA.

Royal Voice: How were you called to the pulpit?

Pastor Olasoju: When I was in the Bible College with my wife, the Holy Spirit kept bringing a scripture to me in a way that I could not resist. 1 Peter 2:9 the part of the scripture that says showing forth the praises of Him who hath called us out of darkness into His Marvelous Light. I kept wondering how could I show enough praise to whom that recused me and wife from the path of death to the path of life and from darkness into Light. The Holy Spirit first ministered to us to continue to testify of the awesomeness of the salvation of our Soul, which we were doing until when we got to the School of Disciples and in one of the courses, 1 Peter 2:9 surfaced again and the Holy Spirit specifically ministered to me and said, show forth my praise by testifying about me from the pulpit, and that was the beginning of our call to the pulpit

Royal Voice: How did you meet your wife? What guided you on choosing her as your life partner? Tell me your story.

Pastor Olasoju: Meeting my wife was a divine arrangement. Someone gave her a note to meet me for an employment opportunity. At that time, I was an Accountant in a Conglomerate. The day she came I was so busy with office assignments, the receptionist called me that I had someone waiting to see me. I responded that the person should wait for me, while I round up with what I was doing, I thought it would be early but unfortunately or as it turned out, it took me a longer time before I could attend to her. So, when I came downstairs to the reception to meet her, and she introduced herself to me, I apologized to her that it was just an unusual busy day for me. I wanted to hurriedly attend to her as I was rushing to have a quick lunch and get back to work. Suddenly something inside me said why not invite her to come along with you for lunch while we discuss, honestly I suggested that just to make her have a good impression of me having kept her waiting for so long. But when we got to the restaurant and I looked at her to engage her on her CV, what I saw was electrifying (smiles). She was rudely young as the Bible described David. Instantly, I fell in love with her and our relationship started thereafter.

Royal Voice: Do you have any regrets in your life and Ministry?

Pastor Olasoju: We give God all the glory for our

life and our Ministry. The faithfulness of God has just been awesome. No regrets at all.

Royal Voice: What are your standards for joining the RCCG, and the personal conduct to remain in RCCG?

Pastor Olasoju: As you now know, going by the way we joined RCCG, there was no existing standard to compare with. But since we joined RCCG, the standards we have come to know has kept us in the faith in RCCG. The Vision and the Mission of the Church are so clear, and you know where you are heading: to heaven.

Royal Voice: As a Pastor who must remain focused and inspired to lead, provide spiritual guidance and counseling to the members of your congregation, what spiritual preparation do you undertake regularly to ensure that God's spirit abides always?

Pastor Olasoju: No man can be inspired to do anything without the help of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the one that prepares a man to do the works of the Spirit. My prayer always is that God would make me a vessel unto honor, for the master's use always, and my total submission to God as a clay in the hands of the Potter.

Royal Voice: How was the Royal Priesthood Parish conceived and the challenges you faced in establishing the Parish?

Pastor Olasoju: As you now know, we were called into the pulpit with an inspired scripture in 1 Peter 2:9, and so when we were planted out of RCCG House of David Nigeria, the Church that we lead by His grace was named Royal Priesthood Parish, and we can say no challenge at all as God had prepared us already, we were just walking into His will. Then we were transferred to Houston Texas, USA, where we established another RCCG Royal Priesthood in Sugarland, Houston.

Royal Voice: RCCG's mission statement is: to make it to heaven; to take as many people as possible with them; and to have a member of RCCG in every family in every nation. Do you share this vision and what is your assessment of the pursuit of this mission statement, as a Pastor in RCCG?

Pastor Olasoju: Yes, I share, greatly, the vision of the Church and, I am an ardent crusader of the mission of the Church. For instance, to accomplish vision#1, Holiness is to remain our lifestyle. Personally, I am motivated by the desire to make heaven and so I strive to make holiness

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my way of life in everything I do. Also, to accomplish visions #2&3, we will plant churches so that there will be at the least a member of the church in every family of the world. I am a strong supporter of church planting and by the grace of God we have been involved in the planting of over 18 churches in our 10 years of Ministry and of our 18 years of Christianity.

Royal Voice: Please narrate to the magazine audience, five most ground-breaking testimonies of your life and experience.

Pastor Olasaju: My five most ground-breaking testimonies as a born-again Christian are:

The miraculous salvation of my soul and that of my wife on the same day, at the same event and time.

My employment in a multi-National company.

The gift of giving birth to a set of twins when we thought all was finished.

My spiritual promotion from worker to a full pastor.

My expatriate assignment and experience in the USA.

Royal Voice: Please briefly react to the following: love; children; discipline.

Pastor Olasaju: Everything about Christian living has been laid down in the scriptures to guide and to edify. Personally, we are being guided by the Holy Bible (KJV) and the doctrines of the RCCG on every subject. On love, whoever hates his fellow human being cannot profess to love God. On Children, they are the heritage of the Lord and parents are only caretakers who have the responsibility to bring them up in the way of the Lord, we must not fail in this assignment because we will be held accountable. On discipline, he that the Father loves, He chastises, if you spare the rod, you will spoil the child; discipline is vital, but it must always be done with love.



Let us take this opportunity to congratulate (RCCG) Royal Priesthood as you celebrate this anniversary. Thanking the Almighty God for the grace. May His love dwell richly in the house of the Lord as you begin another milestone in harvesting for the Lord what belongs to Him. Stay blessed always.

Mr. & Mrs. Edmond Christian

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THE EVIDENCE OF THE MIND OF CHRIST

Isaiah 61:1-2, Luke 19:10, Hebrews 5:1-2, Philipians 2:4-5

BY PASTOR PRINCE UDOFIA



Many believers of today are not having the mind of Christ. No wonder there is a lot of unrighteousness in the lives of those he claims to be Christians but are carnal (1st Cor. 3:1-3). No one who has not lost his/her will or mind to Christ and our true God Almighty that can help others. No one who is selfish can maintain purity. No wonder the Apostles accomplished much because they had the mind of Christ (Phil. 2:4-5).

They gave their lives over to Christ and so lived for Him and His mission (Gal. 2:20). They lived their lives for others and were never conscious of themselves or had selfish interests; rather they did everything for others to be saved (Rom. 10:1-4, Rom. 9:1-4, 1st Cor. 10:33). So we can see the mind of Christ in the life of Apostle Paul (Isaiah 61:1-2, Luke 19:10, John 12:24). The mind of Christ has no provision for self or self-interest; the mind of Christ does not entertain sin or unrighteousness and is full of love (1st Cor. 13:1-7).

There are many examples of the mind of Christ and the unfortunate situation. Our Master Jesus Christ came into this world not to please self or for selfish interest. He came for the Will of God, our Heavenly Father (John 4:34). No wonder He was not afraid to die because it is the Will of God (John 12:23-24, Matt. 16:20-23, Heb. 10:7). Our Lord Jesus Christ had the mind and Will of God and He spoke about it (John 3:16). And as a result, from the early stage of His Life, He went after it (Luke 2:40-49, Luke 19:10, Matt. 4:17-25, Mark 1:14-15). He could not be distracted by hunger or any threat or persecution (John 4:31-34, Luke 13:32-33, John 7:25-26, John 8:48, 52-53). In His trial and persecution, He never committed sin because His motives were neither selfish nor evil (John 8:46, Heb 7:26). So, He lived and died for sinners to save the lost (Phil. 2:4-8, Isaiah 61:1-2).

Also, His Apostles who took after Him knew Him and His

mission; they followed His footsteps (Acts 6:2-4, Acts 8:1-8, 1st Cor. 9:16, 19-22). So the Apostles lived for Christ and maintained the legacy till the end and they were not selfish, rather they went everywhere preaching the gospel in the face of hunger, persecution, trials and death without compromise and they all fulfilled their Ministries 2nd Tim. 3:10-12, 2nd Cor. 6:2, 2nd Tim 4:7-8).

Having seen the examples of Christ and the Apostles in which they left a legacy of how we should live our Christian lives, they possessed the mind of Christ (Phil. 2:4-5, Gal. 2:20-21). They lived their lives for others to be saved and for the general good of others (Acts 21:11-13, Esther 4:15-16). They were not after self at all (Acts. 6:2-4, Acts 8:1-4). Nothing could stop them, not hunger, persecution, trials, threat or death like our Master Jesus Christ; they advanced the Kingdom of God to us today. So, we too have to follow after their examples, we should desist from the Christianity of carnality or self for that will make for sin and impurity of all kinds: contention, division, strive, hatred, envy, covetousness, pride, unfaithfulness, malice, unforgiveness, bitter heart, evil thought, self-centeredness, gossiping, backsliding etc. (1st Cor. 3:1-3) It can never take anyone to Heaven nor fulfill the righteousness of God.

So, we all must follow the example of Jesus Christ our Lord and the Apostles. We must possess the mind of Christ (Phil. 2:4-5, 1st Peter 2:20). We are chosen and are sent to represent Christ as His ambassadors (John 15:16, 2nd Cor. 5:20). We must live for Him and His business of soul winning (Matt. 4:19, Mark 16:15). And we should live and pray for others and should stop being self-centered (Heb. 5:1-2, Rom. 9:1-3, Rom. 10:1-3, 1st Cor. 10:33, 2nd Cor. 6:1, Mark 10: 28-30). We should do everything possible to ensure that others are saved and God will take care of us (Isaiah 61:1-2, Matt. 16:20-23).

For those who are yet to be born again and backsliders, they should repent of their sins, give their lives to Jesus Christ and accept Him as Lord and personal Savior. (John 3:3;16, Rom. 3:23, 1st John 5:17, 1st Cor. 6:9-10, Rev. 21:8;27, Jer. 4:30, Deut. 22:5, Pro. 28:13, John 14:6, John 10:10, Rom. 10:13).

SHORT SERMON

WAR AGAINST RIGHTEOUSNESS

2nd Timothy 3:12, 2nd Timothy 4:8

BY PASTOR PRINCE UDOFIA

Every believer should know that there is war which is going on in this world between the Kingdom of light/God and that of the kingdom of darkness/Satan, the accuser of the brethren. Satan is the enemy of God, right from the beginning and he constantly fights to hinder God's work. It is a war of righteousness, and once you have made up your mind to live a righteous and holy life, you should be prepared for that war (2nd Tim. 3:13). Non-involvement is the only option to be free from this war or you are a backslider or a compromiser (Matt. 10:24-25, Gal. 4:29, Matt. 5:10-12). In his charge, Apostle Paul tells us that people who obey God and live for Christ Jesus are bound to face persecution. So don't be surprised when people misunderstand, criticize, and even try to hurt you because of what you believe, because you tell the truth, or because of how you live your Christian life. Continue to live your life as you know that it pleases God. Whenever one has decided to part ways with the devil and his evil deeds, he will fight back with anger and stir up war from his children, the evil doers (John 8:37-44). So, the people of the world and sinners will hate you and fight you because of your righteousness.

The reason and the evidence of the war abound. We all should know that Satan was created by God Almighty as an angel of God, who had been in Heaven before and had the privilege to be in charge of the angels. And because of his beauty, he became proud, which is a sin and as a result was cast out of heaven and never allowed to enter forever (Isaiah 14:12-17), Rev. 12:7-12). Since he had lost that opportunity, he became envious and as a means of retaliation, he fights anyone who wants to live righteously or enter the Kingdom of God (1st Thess. 2:8). He hates righteousness and does not want any person to live right and make Heaven at last; which he has missed forever (John 10:10, 2nd Tim. 3:12); and evidences abound of that fight even in the present day.

So, any Church/person, who is a true born-again, shall suffer persecution, whosoever that shall live, love, preach and practice righteousness shall suffer persecution. No wonder the war that is going on between us, the real believer and the worldly, sinful and backsliding believers. They shall persecute us because of the truth and their

father (John 8:44). Besides, when you want to correct sinners, those around will fight or fault you.

Everyone should know that this war against righteousness began from the beginning till now. Satan started in Heaven and lost it (Rev. 12:7-12). And at the Garden of Eden, he used subtlety to defeat Adam and Eve (Gen. 3:1-7). He has been in the business from the Old Testament to the New Testament. He persecuted and fought all those who lived a righteous and holy life in the Old Testament, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; also, Samuel, David, Moses, Joshua, Elijah and Elisha. He equally fought Daniel, Shedrach, Meshach and Abednego. The devil uses sinners, compromisers, backsliders, kingdoms, hunger, hardship, barrenness, sickness, diseases and all kind of problems of this life to fight them (Daniel 3:1-23). He fought John the Baptist and called him the devil (Matt. 11:18-19). They did not stop him; he was arrested, imprisoned and worse still, when the little maid danced and pleased King Herod, she requested for John the Baptist's head for a gift (Matt. 14:1-12).

They also persecuted our Master Jesus Christ and called Him Beelzebub: that is the chief of the devils (Mat. 10:24-25). They also said that He was casting out the demons by the power of the devil (Matt. 12:24-29). They did not end there, they went ahead and crucified Him and also the Apostle (Acts 8:1-4). So, we should know that war of righteousness is still on and fight. (Eph. 6:10-19). For you, a true and genuine believer to win the war against righteousness, you must stand firm and continue to look unto Christ Jesus as the Author and the Finisher of your faith. The True Lord God Almighty is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. Whatever we may face, discouragement, persecution, trials, temptation, don't give up. Fight the good fight of Faith. Even though you may not receive a reward of righteousness here on earth, you shall surely be rewarded in Heaven on the last/judgment day. Know that your reward is with Christ in Heaven (2nd Tim. 4:8). Reward is a symbol of triumph and honor. Continue to fight the war of righteousness and the good Lord, and our Master Jesus Christ will grant you Victory at last. AMEN!!!



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Redeemed Christian Church of God Royal Priesthood Parish

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF CHURCH EVENTS

Sunday

Sunday School: 9am to 10am

Sunday Service : 10am to 11:30am

Tuesday

Hour of Mercy : 9pm to 10pm

Prayer line Tel no: 1-774-220-4000

Access Code : 937-1290#

Wednesday

Breakthrough Service :

(Digging deep and Prayers)

7pm to 9pm.

Friday

Deliverance Service:

11am to 6pm (By Appointment)

Every 3rd Friday of the month

Night of Encounter : 10pm to 1am

Saturday

Mercy Cry : 7am to 8am

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