

ROYAL VOICE



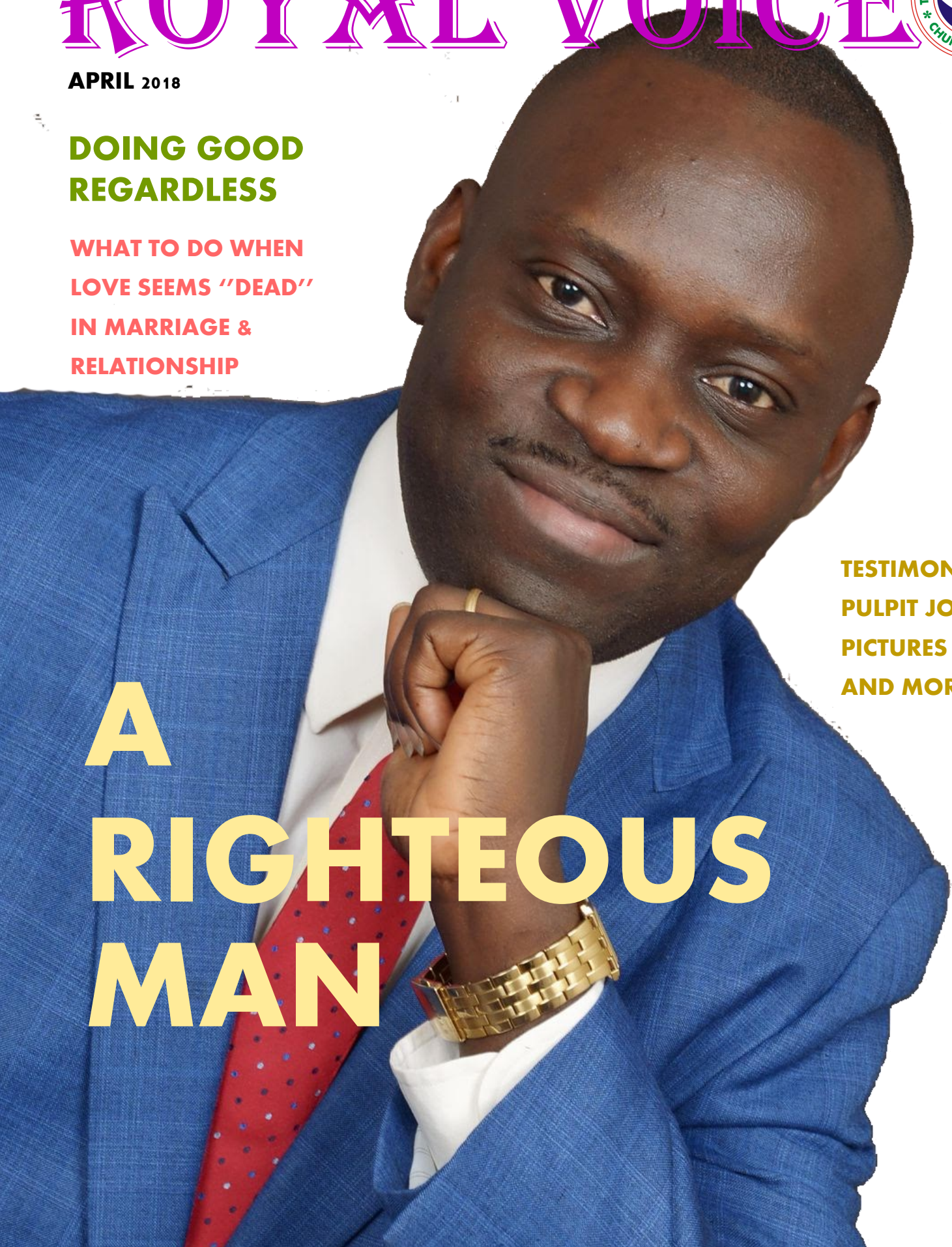
APRIL 2018

**DOING GOOD
REGARDLESS**

**WHAT TO DO WHEN
LOVE SEEMS "DEAD"
IN MARRIAGE &
RELATIONSHIP**

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

**A
RIGHTEOUS
MAN**



ROYAL VOICE

A publication of the Redeemed Christian Church of God Royal Priesthood Parish
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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

Welcome to Royal Voice Magazine, the mouthpiece of the Royal Priesthood Parish of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG). I am delighted and honored to be appointed as the Editor. I humbly and prayerfully accept this role and pray that as the Church has reposed this confidence in me, God will enable me to fulfill this role to His glory. I view this Magazine as an instrument which will promote God's charge as part of the Great Commission to teach "... *them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*" (Matthew 28:20 - KJV). I feel blessed and thankful to be a part of this venture. I pray that whatever contributions I make, to actualize the goals of the Magazine; will be accepted in the sight of God.

The theme for this maiden edition is DOING GOOD TO OTHERS REGARDLESS of their circumstances, social status, age, or color. The determining factor should be that the other person has the need for your good. The benefits of doing good include reaping Gods blessings. These are timeless, limitless, bountiful, most importantly, eternal. When you do good to others, God will always show up in your difficult situations. The bible confirms that *"It is a sin to despise one's neighbor, but blessed is the one who is kind to the needy ... whoever is kind to the needy honors God. Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will reward them for what they have done."* (Proverbs 14:21 - NIV).

The theme reminds me of the story by an unknown author in the "Great-Inspirational-Quotes.com". One day a wealthy woman was walking down the street when she saw a male, elderly, unshaven, ragged beggar sitting on the corner. Others walked by, wanting nothing to do with him because of who he was -- a dirty, homeless man. But the woman was moved to compassion.

It was very cold that day and the man had his tattered coat wrapped around him. She stopped and looked down. "Sir?" she asked. "Are you, alright?" The man slowly looked up and thought that she wanted to make fun of him, like so many others had done before. "Leave me alone," he growled.

The woman insisted. "Are you hungry?" she asked. "No," he answered sarcastically. "I've just come from dining with the president. Now go away." The woman's smile became even broader. Suddenly the man felt a gentle hand under his arm. "What are you doing, lady?" the man asked angrily. "I said to leave me alone."

Just then a police officer came up. "Is there any problem, ma'am?" he asked. "No problem here, officer," the woman answered. "I'm just trying to get this man to his feet. Will you help me?" The officer scratched his head. "That's old Jack. He's been a fixture around here for a couple of years. What do you want with him?"

She informed the police that she wanted to take him to the

nearest restaurant, feed him and get him out of the cold for a while. The beggar resisted. Finally, and with some difficulty, the woman and the police officer got Jack into the cafeteria and sat him at a table in a remote corner. The beggar continued to protest, and even the restaurant manager felt that having a person like that was bad for business.

The woman told the manager that she was the President and CEO of the banking firm who held their weekly meetings in one of the banquet rooms, from where they make good profits. The cafeteria manager then turned on his heels to serve them.

She sat down at the table across from her amazed dinner guest. She stared at him intently and asked. "Jack, do you remember me?" Old Jack searched her face and replied, "I think so -- I mean you do look familiar." "In my younger days when you worked here, I came through that very door, cold and hungry." She narrated.

"I was just out of college, I had come to the city looking for a job, but I couldn't find anything. Finally, I was down to my last few cents and had been kicked out of my apartment. I walked the streets for days. It was February and I was cold and nearly starving. I saw this place and walked in on the chance that I could get something to eat."

Jack lit up with a smile. "Now I remember," he said. "I was behind the serving counter. You came up and asked me if you could work for something to eat. I said that it was against company policy."

"I know," the woman continued. "Then you made me the biggest roast beef sandwich that I had ever seen, gave me a cup of coffee, and told me to go over to a corner table and enjoy it. I was afraid that you would get into trouble. Then, when I looked over, I saw you put the price of my food in the cash register. I knew then that everything would be alright."

"I got a job that very afternoon. I worked my way up. Eventually I started my own business that, with the help of God, prospered." She opened her purse and pulled out a business card.

"When you are finished here, I want you to pay a visit to a Mr. Lyons. He's the personnel director of my company. I'll go talk to him now and I'm certain he'll find something for you to do around the office." She smiled. "I think he might even find the funds to give you a little advance so that you can buy some clothes and get a place to live until you get on your feet. If you ever need anything, my door is always opened to you."

There were tears in the old man's eyes. "How can I ever thank you," he said. "Don't thank me, give God the glory and thank Him for leading me to you," she answered. The story on DOING GOOD TO OTHERS REGARDLESS, speaks for itself.

We, the Editorial Board, appeal that you join us in this endeavor of the magazine by helping us grow. Please read the Royal Voice Magazine. Make your contributions and tell us when we are doing well, and chastise us when we fall short. So that at the end of the day, the success of the Magazine will be a credit to all, to the Glory of God.

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR

I am so excited for the birth of Royal Voice Magazine. This is a dream come true. The Bible says in Habakkuk 2:3 – *“For the Vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it will surely come, it will not tarry”*

This magazine targets those who are not opportune to benefit directly from our Ministry. In our Ministry, God hears and answers prayers. The content of this magazine reflects who we are, and what we experience in RCCG Royal Priesthood.

I want to encourage you to always read the magazine and pass it on to as many people as you can reach. My prayer for you is that you will begin to experience a supernatural turnaround in Jesus Christ name.

The publication of this magazine will be consistent. As we prepare for the next edition, please encourage the committee members by advertising your business, by sharing your testimonies, and by contributing articles. By so doing, you are also reaching out, encouraging and giving hope to someone who is about to give up.

Your time and season is now, in Jesus Christ name!!!

You Are the Very Best,

Pastor James I. Ekanem





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WHAT TO DO WHEN LOVE SEEMS "DEAD" IN MARRIAGE & RELATIONSHIP

by Pastor Olajumoke Kayode

If it seems the Love in your marriage is gone, before you accepted the fact that it was over, I would like to encourage you to try at least once to rededicate yourself to being the best spouse possible. If your effort to pump love back into your relationship in the past did not work, you are not a failure. You just need to try hard enough! May the Lord help in Jesus Name.

Some people are happily married, others are blissful single. Then, there are those who fall somewhere in between. I am not writing here about singles who are looking for love or married people who have hit a bump in the road. I am writing about unhappy married people who for whatever reason do not get divorce.

Generally, I take a dim view of people who have miserable marriages yet refuse to either fix it or end it. When researched, many people in this category say they are staying together for the sake of their children and as if they are making a noble sacrifice. I agree that the parent's choice involve a sacrifice; but how about the parent's personal lives that is being forfeited?

Children are not the only reasons some unhappy married people refuse to part company. Some stay married because they are not willing to experience the drop in household income, ability to feed, clothe and pay bills. There are other non-selfish reasons that compel couples to stay together after the LOVE is gone, like health problems, insurance issues and career obligations.

What are those things that make love die in marriage:

in almost every case, love dies because of the followings;

When tiny act of service are abandoned

When gratefulness is no longer present

When one is cheating

Lack of trust

Attachment to Job or other things than the marriage

When there is no money or Stinginess

Wake the Love back and nurture your love consistently by doing the followings;

Act of service: Act of service is rendering service to your spouse as an expression of love. You seek to please or do what your spouse would like. For examples; clean the house, walk the dog, dispose of refuse, cooking, etc. The service

Find resolution: Solving conflict quickly in everyday life is key must not be rendered out of fear or guilt but with love to avoid major conflicts that generate resentment in your relationship. Do not let days go by without discussing an issue that is bothering you. Do not let unresolved issues be like fuel to a fire which kill love in marriage.

Giving gifts: Giving gifts such as money, flowers, wrist watches, jewelries, perfumes, etc. in a relationship rekindle love and nourish the marriage. Gift should not be only when there is an occasion or remarkable moment such as wedding anniversaries and birthdays, it should be done in many instances.

Physical Touch: Physical touch is a powerful vehicle for communication or emotional love. This could be done through holding hands, hugging several times a day, sitting and sleeping close together with body touching, stroking and massaging each other's body, kissing, cuddling, caressing, erotic touching and sexual intercourse. Give your spouse pleasurable touches he or she prefer at the right time. It wakes up love in marriage.

Quality time: Expressing love through quality time means giving your spouse full or undivided attention. It involved sharing of experiences, thought, feelings, and uninterrupted context. Also engaging in quality activities of interest to one or both of you such as taking a walk, going on vacation, picnic or weekend away and gardening.

Always forgive each other, no one is perfect.

Maintain openness and sincerity with one another

Money is a problem in many marriages. Once the bills are covered, there will be love and peace in that relationship. The man must have a sustainable income or else there may be problems. When pressed, people believe in no money, no love. Money answers all things that gives pleasure and happiness.

However, the attainment of marital bliss and love can never be achieved by mere effort or unaided human will-power. The Christian couples should understand that God is an integral part of their marriage. He plays a very important role in marriage stability. The Bible says "Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labors. A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart" (Eccl 4:9-12). God is the third strand in the marriage. Trust and involve Him in your marriage so that His grace will be with you. Therefore, commit everything into God's hand. He will make your marriage to be heaven on Earth!

WHITE SOUP-Efik Style

The Igbo white soup is different from the Efik's. They are both white soups. Efik style makes use of less ingredients, the Uyyak pod with Chicken not just any chicken, but stewing hen. While Igbo version uses Fresh Fish, Uda, Ogiri Okpei, Ehuru, Utazi and Uziza. The spices are in the African stores.

Preparation time:10 mins

Cook time: 45 mins

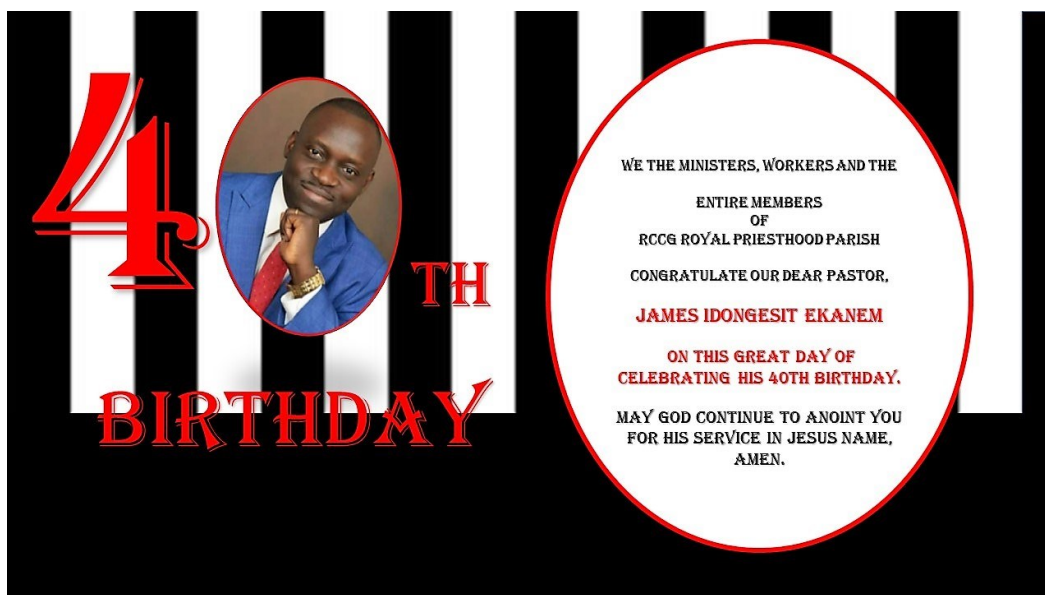
Ingredients (serve: 8 people)

- 1 medium stewing chicken (cut into stew sizes)
- 1 Uyyak pod (divided) for maximum flavour, roast it over fire or oven for a few minute
- 3 tbsps of dry pepper(divided)
- 3 tbsps of grounded crayfish(divided)
- 1 large dry fish(wash and soak to soften)
- 4 pieses of boiled yam pieces mashed with a mortal and set aside
- 2 tbsps of chicken seasoning(boullion)
- Salt to taste



Method

Break the Uyyak pod into two and grind half into fine powder then pour in some water. Pour the mix through a fine mesh , sieve and set aside. Place chicken into a soup pot with two table spoons of the crayfish, two table spoons of the dry pepper, salt and the chicken seasoning. Let the meat cook in it's own juices. Once the stock starts to dry up, pour some water to the level of the meat and check for seasonings. Once the meat is tender, pour in the sieved liquid from the Uyyak pod to the meat stock and drop the other half into the pot. Add in the dry fish and the yam mash and stir to combine. Cover and cook for another 5 minutes. Once the soup thickens to your desire, add the remaining dry pepper and ground crayfish, stir and ready to serve. White Soup can be served with Boiled Rice and any swallow of your choice.



WE THE MINISTERS, WORKERS AND THE
ENTIRE MEMBERS
OF
RCCG ROYAL PRIESTHOOD PARISH
CONGRATULATE OUR DEAR PASTOR,
JAMES IDONGESIT EKANEM
ON THIS GREAT DAY OF
CELEBRATING HIS 40TH BIRTHDAY.
MAY GOD CONTINUE TO ANOINT YOU
FOR HIS SERVICE IN JESUS NAME,
AMEN.

PULIPT JOKES

THE SERMON CASSETTE TAPE

Once, late at night, the preacher got a phone call from one of his members. The elderly lady asked if he would be kind enough to deliver any of his sermons cassette tapes to her home. Delighted that someone was asking for his sermons, the Pastor asked: "Sure I can deliver a few, but why do you like my preaching so much?" The lady replied, "Well actually preacher, whenever I hear your sermons in church, I go right to sleep! And tonight I can't sleep!"

GIVING TO GOD

The Junior Sunday School Teacher asked her eight eager 10 year-olds if they would give a \$1,000,000 to the missionaries. "Yes! They all screamed! "Would you give \$1,000?" Again, they shouted "YES!" "How about \$100" "Oh, yes we would!" they all agreed! "Would you just give a dollar to the missionaries?" she asked. The boys exclaimed, "Yes!" just as before, except for Johnny. "Johnny," the teacher said as she noticed the boy clutching his pocket, "Why didn't you say 'yes' this time? "Well," the boy stammered, "I have a dollar!"

HOW TO GET TO HEAVEN

A teacher asked the children in her Sunday school class, "If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale, and give all the money to the church, would I get into heaven?" "No!" The children all answered. "If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the yard, and kept everything neat and tidy, would I then get into heaven?" Again, the answer was "NO!" "Well," she continued, "then how can I get into heaven? In the back of the room, a five year-old boy shouted, "You got to be dead!"

WORTH IT?

A man and his ten year-old son were on a fishing trip miles from home. At the boy's insistence, they decided to attend the Sunday worship service at a small rural church. The father forgot to bring any cash, so he reached in his pocket and gave his son a dime to drop into the offering plate as it was passed. As they worked back to their car after the service, the father complained, "the service was too long," he lamented. "The sermon was boring and the singing was off key!" Finally the boy said, "Daddy, I thought it was pretty good for a dime!"

THE MOTHER-IN-LAW WHO DIED

A man and his wife went on a sight-seeing trip to the Holy Land. The man's nagging, critical mother-in-law accompanied them. During the trip the mother-in-law died. He went to the local undertaker to find out his options. "Well," the undertaker said, "for \$5000 we can ship her home. But for \$150 you can bury her

here in Israel." The man thought for a few minutes and said "I think I'll have her shipped home." "Didn't you hear what I said?" the undertaker asked. "I told you it would only cost you \$150 to bury her here. You could save a few thousand dollars." "Well" said the man, "I've heard that around here there once was a man who died and came alive again. I just can't take that chance".

HONEY, GET READY FOR CHURCH

One Sunday morning a wife is all dressed and ready to go to church. She says to her husband, "Honey, why aren't you ready for church?" "I'm not going." he said, "and I'll give you three reasons why: One, the people are cold. Two, no one likes me, and three, I don't want to go." The wife replied, "I'll give you three reasons to go. One, the congregation are warm. Two, some people like you. And three, you're the pastor. So let's go.

THE ANSWER

A new pastor moved into town and went out one Saturday to visit his parishioners. All went well until he came to one house. It was obvious that someone was home, but no one came to the door even after he had knocked several times. Finally, he took out his card and wrote on the back: Revelation 3:20 and stuck it in the door. The next day, as he was counting the offering he found his card in the collection plate. Below his message was the notation Genesis 3:10.

Revelation 3:20 reads: "Behold I stand at the door and knock. If any man hears my voice, and opens the door, I will come in to him, and will dine with him, and he with me."

Genesis 3:10 reads: "And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked."

TODAY'S HYMN

The pastor was completing his sermon in church about the dangers of alcohol and the need for moderation and temperance. He announced at the end of the sermon in a loud, clear voice, 'If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river.' With even greater emphasis he added, 'And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river.' Finally, he intoned in an extremely serious manner, 'And if I had all the whiskey in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river.' The pastor then sat down. The leading chorister stood up and announced with a smile, 'For our closing hymn this Sunday, let us sing together hymn number 109: 'Shall We Gather at the River.'

PULIPT JOKES

ATHEIST

An atheist complained to a Christian friend, "You Christians have special holidays, such as Christmas and Easter. Jews celebrate their national holidays, such as Passover and Yom Kippur. But we atheists have no recognized national holidays, It's unfair discrimination."

His friend replied, "Why don't you celebrate April first?"

THE ARMY OF THE LORD

A friend in front of me was coming out of the church one day, and the pastor was standing at the door as he always did to shake hands. He grabbed my friend by the hand and pulled him aside.

Then the pastor said to him, "You need to join the Army of the Lord!"

The friend replied, "I'm already in the Army of the Lord, Pastor."

Pastor questioned him, "How come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?"

He whispered back, "I'm in the secret service."

3 HYMNS

One Sunday a pastor told his congregation that the church needed some extra money and asked the people to prayerfully consider giving a little extra in the offering plate. He said that whoever gave the most would be able to pick out three hymns.

After the offering plates were passed, the pastor

glanced down and noticed that someone had placed a \$1,000 bill in offering. He was so excited that he immediately shared his joy with his congregation and said he'd like to personally thank the person who placed the money in the plate.

And there sat our Rosie all the way in the back shyly raised her hand. The pastor asked her to come to the front. Slowly she made her way to the pastor. He told her how wonderful it was that she gave so much and in thanksgiving asked her to pick out three hymns.

Her eyes brightened as she looked over the congregation, pointed to the three most handsome men in the building and said, "I'll take him and him and him!"

CHURCH BELL

A minister was walking to church one morning when he passed one of his members working in his garden. "Can't you hear those bells calling you to church?" asked the minister.

"Eh, what's that?" said the member.

"Can't you hear those bells calling you to church?"

"I'm afraid you'll have to speak a little louder!" said the member.

"CAN'T YOU HEAR THOSE BELLS CALLING YOU TO CHURCH?!" shouted the minister.

"I'm sorry," said the member, "I can't hear you because of those darned BELLS!"



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DOING GOOD REGARDLESS

BY AMBASSADOR UDO MOSES WILLIAMS

Doing good is extending favor to someone in need. It is most times simple and taken for granted, and sometime complicated. We go to bed at night and we wake up in the morning. We can walk, we can see, we can talk, we can breathe the air, and we can eat. We drive our cars to work, and we return safely. On many occasions we barely missed being involved in an accident. We are healthy, and we have lived to be as old, from one year to another. We travel by air in aircrafts, and we get to our destinations safely. We have families and we can take good care of them. When we are in difficulty, God shows up. All these we take for granted because these are God's provisions to us, by His grace, regardless of our status in relationship with Him. He is our creator and sustainer; He is Jehovah Sabaoth, our protector; He is Jehovah Jireh, our provider; and more.

The Bible is replete with instances of God's goodness. The Bible says that "...God anointed Jesus...with the Holy Spirit and with power: who went about doing good..." (Act 10:38). Because of lack of space, we cannot look at all the instances. However, let us just look at a few of God's goodness from the New Testament:

a. Jesus healed a centurion's servant who was sick with palsy—a type of paralysis. The centurion, was a man of apparently great humility, faith, and a man who also understood authority. He believed that Jesus had the power to order and effect the healing from a great distance. The man departed with confidence knowing that his servant was healed. The Bible says that the healing occurred as soon as the man placed his faith in the power of the Lord (Matthew 8:5- 13).

b. A woman who had been bleeding for twelve years, who believed in God's goodness, came up behind Jesus and barely touched His garment. Jesus turned and told her that her faith had healed her. And she was healed (Matthew 9:20-22).

c. Jesus healed two blind men who came to Him asking for mercy on their condition. Jesus touched them, and they were healed (Matthew 9:27-31).

d. Jesus went to every town and village to teach and preach the good news about God's kingdom. While doing so, He healed every kind of disease and sickness (Matthew 9:35)

e. Jesus demonstrated His right to forgive sins and do good by healing the paralytic. At Capernaum, He said to a crippled man, 'your sins are forgiven, get up, pick up your mat and walk'. The

man got right up, picked up his mat and walked away, while everyone watched in amazement (Mark 2:9-12).

f. As Jesus was entering a village, ten lepers came toward Him and shouted to Jesus, to have pity on them. Jesus looked and told them to go and show themselves to the priests. As they went, they were healed (Luke 17:12-16).

g. In Jerusalem Jesus met a man who had been ill for 38 years. This man was lying beside the pool of Bethesda, which was believed to have healing powers. But there was no one to help him into the water at the right time. Jesus told him to stand up as a healed man and take his bed and go home. With faith, he stood up and was healed (John 5:1-15).

h. Jesus had been teaching the people all day and it was late. They were in a remote place where there was no food. The people were hungry, and Jesus was concerned for them. Andrew, one of the disciples, brought a boy to Jesus. The boy had five loaves of bread and two small fish. Jesus took the bread and fish, prayed over it, broke it into smaller pieces and distributed them to His disciples, to feed a multitude of over 5,000 (John 6:1-15).

i. Jesus healed the blind man at Siloam pool by spitting on the mud, smearing it on the man's eyes and requesting him to go and wash off the mud in the Siloam pool. The man went and did just that, and he was healed (John 9:6-7).

j. One of the most dramatic story of doing good in the Bible is Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead after he had already been dead for four days, when he had begun to emit foul odor. That has been positive proof that Jesus is God and that He has effectual power over mankind (John 11:38-44).

God did good in the Bible times and continues to do good today. He is the ancient of days and as old as He is, He will never change (Daniel 7:9-22). God requires us to do good to others just as He does good to us. Since we are created in His image, we must mirror His goodness, His attributes must be duplicated in us by doing good to others regardless. But we must strive to do good righteously. As God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit and He went about doing good, we must also be saved with the baptism of the Holy Spirit which would provide us with the right direction of doing good. To be saved by faith: first, we must read and hear the gospel - the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection (Ephesians 1:13). Then, we must believe - fully trust the Lord Jesus

FEATURED SHORT SERMON CONTD...

(Romans 1:16). This involves repentance, a changing of mind about sin and Christ (Acts 3:19) and calling on the name of the Lord (Romans 10:9-10, 13). Salvation is "The deliverance, by the grace of God, from eternal punishment for sin which is granted to those who accept by faith God's conditions of repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus." Salvation is available in Jesus alone (John 14:6; Acts 4:12) and is dependent on God alone for provision, assurance, and security.

According to the Bible "...we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them" (Ephesians 2:10). Therefore, we have a duty to do good to all those in need (1 Timothy 6:17-18), even to our enemies (Luke 6:27-35); as we have the opportunity, both determined by circumstance and unforeseen, for example, the good Samaritan (Luke 10:33); and seek out opportunities to do good to our neighbors, or to those in need around the world, through charities (1 Thessalonians 5:15; Titus 3:8; and Hebrew 13:16).

We also have a special duty to our brethren in Christ ("the

household of faith") for they are our true family (Matthew 12:46-50), because kindness to them is kindness to Christ (Matthew 25:34-40). Loving them is indicative of our true salvation. We must support our pastors, who are preachers of the gospel, and help needy Christians. When you are materially blessed don't forget that doing good is one way that we sow to the Spirit and lay up treasure in heaven (1 Timothy 6:19; Galatians 6:7-9; Luke 12:23; and 18:22).

In closing I will like to quote John Wesley's rule of life:

Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can,

In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can, As long as ever you can.

I therefore join John Wesley and admonish you to always strive to do good to others regardless. And as you do so, God will bless you and all your loved ones bountifully; and God will always show up in your difficult circumstances, In Jesus Name. Amen!!!

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THE CHRISTIAN LIFESTYLE

There are several challenges in today's world, Christians live in this world and are subject to all of the same challenges, opportunities, and experiences common to everyone except that their motivation is spiritual, their goals are spiritual and their values are biblical. This difference in life-center, difference in life objectives, is what creates the unique Christian lifestyle.

Paul said in Galatians 3:26-27 "For ye are all the Children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ". What a Christian puts on is Christ Himself, not just a change in the outward appearance. When someone becomes a Christian, they should expect a change in their lifestyle for several reasons: They have come under a new cycle of influence (God the father, Son and Holy Spirit):

Paul clearly explains this in his epistle to the Colossians as recorded in the book of Colossians 1 vs 13-14 "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son. In whom we have redemption through his blood even the forgiveness of sins". Paul compares the ideas, philosophies, and motivations of the material world to the teachings, revelations and leadership of Christ. One, he says is darkness and the other is light. Since Christians now live by a different set of realities and values there is bound to be a change in thinking and behavior.

The Christian lifestyle is the character of Christ being developed and perfected in the character of the Christian on a daily basis. Christians are subject to the same experiences as non-Christians, but the difference is that Christians view and react to these as Christ would through the workings of the Holy Spirit not simply as human would. For this reason, all the elements of life are seen through the vision of Christ, not man. For example: The environment is not just for saving, it is also for managing and witnessing to God's creative power. Money and power are not for hoarding or for fulfilling of self-interest, but for use to the benefit of those in needs.

Conflicts are not resolved through power, but through prayer and forgiveness. Stress and worry are replaced with concern and focused prayers. Trials and obstacles not simply to be overcome, but God's way of testing our faith and creating patience and hope in us. Failure and sinfulness are not causes of criticism and shame, but the opportunity to know God's love and forgiveness.

Finally, death is not to be feared and avoided at all cost

but to be expected with courage and confidence of life after death.. These are some of the attitudes and approaches to life experienced by Christians. These attitudes, goals and motivations create a daily lifestyle that is much different than those who have not believed and devoted their lives to Jesus Christ. One can discover those who are true Christians by the way they live, how they treat other people, and how they deal with life here on earth.

CHRISTIANS LIVES HAVE A NEW DIRECTION

Paul explains it this way in Romans 12 vs 1-2 " I beseech



you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God".As Christ was in service to us, even to the point of offering His life as a payment for our sins, Paul says that our own lives should be spent (or offered as he says) in service to others in the name of Christ.

As pointed out here, our minds needs to be renewed as Christians, there has to be a difference in our thoughts and

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actions. This also implies that there are some places Christians should not be found, some movies we should not watch and some thoughts we should block from flowing in our minds. Living this way has made some people to have several misconceptions about Christian lifestyle, the two main ones are: That it is all about rules and removing the joy from life; and that it is mainly exercised by attendance at religious services. These two ideas are clarified here:

True joy comes from knowing and doing God's will. Knowing His will, Paul says is good and pleasing and perfect for us. He explains that reaching this goal requires Christians not to copy the sinful/ evil practices of the world which goes against God's will and purpose for our lives. God wants us to have joy, and true pleasure and goodness in life and these come by obeying Him, not from disobeying Him. So when a Christian avoids immoral behavior of any kind; makes an effort to be just, or forgiving, or generous, he is trying to do God's will and know the joy that comes from doing it.

I have never seen much happiness come from adultery, violence, dishonesty, selfishness, pride, etc. Christianity does not forbid anything that can increase one's peace, joy and life fulfillment. What God forbids Christians are those actions and attitudes that will take away what is good and perfect in one's life. Therefore, the Christians lifestyle reflects the manner in which God directs our lives through the teachings of Jesus Christ for our ultimate happiness and eternal life.

The other idea that Christianity is best expressed by going to church is also clarified by Paul in this bible verse. Paul explains that one of the truest form of worship is the Christian lifestyle, that Christians offer themselves to God in service, that Christians purify themselves from sinfulness. This does not mean that public worship is not important, it is! Public worship is a time when Christians come together to: praise and worship God publicly; receive instruction and encouragement from their leaders; provide financial support for the work of the church; make a public witness of their faith in Jesus by sharing the communion. All of these public actions are based on the fact that each Christian in the church has a Christian lifestyle throughout the week, otherwise it is simply a public hypocrisy.

CHRISTIANITY IS ABOUT FOLLOWING JESUS CHRIST EVERY DAY

Going to church is where and when Christians come together to share that common strength, joy, peace, and hope for eternal life. If a person is not living the Christian

lifestyle during the week, then going to church (no matter how many times a week) will not do him much good. However, for someone who is truly following the Lord, church services are a great joy and blessing, not a burden.

I pray the Holy Spirit will give us more understanding of God's word even as we strive to represent Him in our everyday life.

GOD BLESS YOU.



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A RIGHTEOUS MAN

BY AMBASSADOR UDO MOSES WILLIAMS

“The steps of a righteous man are ordered by the Lord” (Psalms 37:23).

God wants men and women who will serve Him in spirit and in truth, men and women who love and obey Him; men and women who want nothing but God’s will in their lives; men and women who are consumed only for one thing – the glory of God, His will on earth and as it is in heaven. God does not want pretenders today or those playing Church. He desires people set apart for His glory. Those who are devout and pious; someone who does what is pleasing to God, someone who has reverence for God. A righteous man sets apart himself for God’s service and God’s glory. Those and things set apart are holy things – this is known as sanctification. When a believer matures, the believer is set apart and sanctified for God’s use.

A good man is never carried away by any kind of winds and unsound doctrines of men; they are solid and deeply rooted in the Word of God; they do not live to compromise their faith or live to please men; nor do they live in secret sin. They love to share their faith, and therefore God called them to serve in His kingdom. For the Lord knows those who are His ... and if a man therefore purge Himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified and prepared for the master’s work (2 Timothy 2:19-21). A righteous man follows God, trusts Him, and strives to do His will.

The personality of our featured story is a righteous man. He is young and vivacious; he is energetic and dynamic; when he talks to you he hooks and holds your attention, because what he says and how he reacts is interesting, relevant, soothing and edifying, he is charismatic; he is simple, plain, down to earth and accommodating; he is always impeccably dressed; he is an anointed blessed man of God, filled with the Holy Spirit, with the gift of healing through the laying of hands. He is Pastor Idongesit James Ekanem, the resident pastor of the Royal Priesthood Parish, Houston, the RCCG. If you are reading this article, and you have not yet encountered him, I invite you to visit the Roy-

al Priesthood Parish, when he ministers for you to believe, and contribute financially or otherwise to support his young ministry to grow. We have the singular privilege and honor to present his amazing story as told by him. It is a story of humble beginnings, prophetic conversion, and ultimately, an unmistakable, discernible and visible call by God to the



pulpit.

His Humble Beginnings

Pastor Idongesit was born forty years ago, in Ikot Abasi Ufat, Akwa Ibom State, to the family of James Ekanem. The circumstance of his birth was bizarre. He was born after a long and tortuous search and yearning for more male children by his parents. The first child was a male; the second, a male child who died. The male counterpart of the twin that followed also died at birth, but the female survived.

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The next was a female, making the count of two females and one male. The parents were unhappy that they were not able to have more male children. The mother felt that she was the cause and cooperated fully with the father in search of a male child outside the marriage even though in pains. She went to the extent of making the bed for the father to sleep with other women and tolerated all the attendant embarrassments.

These efforts did not yield favorable results. The first mistress had a miscarriage and was sent away. The mother got

attention on the mother. After a long waiting and many trials, his mother finally got pregnant again and gave birth to him. He was named IDONGESIT, meaning that his birth consoled the parents of the past ill-fortunes of the inability to have male children.

His father died when he was eight years. He died as an elder of the Church of Christ, when they should have started to enjoy themselves as a fulfilled couple and at the dawn of their spiritual growth.

Pastor Idongesit acknowledges that the travails of his parents over having male children, portrays human nature and



pregnant again and had another female child, making the count of three females. This strengthened their resolve to continue their search for an outside remedy. The second mistress was brought in and she gave birth to a male child, who also died at birth. The second child was a female, his step sister, who is still alive till today. Then his father realized the futility of their actions and decided to re-focus his

the impatience of Christians. Most times we are assured of God's promises, but rather than wait patiently and prayerfully on the Lord, we take the law into our hands. He illustrated with the similar case of Abraham and Sarah in the Bible. Sarah had no children. Reasoning that a couple as old as they were could not conceive a child, she persuaded

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Abraham to sleep with the maidservant, Hagar. This resulted in the birth of Ishmael. They were impatient with the slowness which they felt God exhibited in fulfilling His promises to make Abraham's descendants into a great nation (Genesis 12). That they eventually had a child, Isaac, in fulfillment of God's promise, strengthens our faith in God to answer our prayers, when we wait on Him steadfastly and prayerfully, without despair (Psalm 27:14).

His Prophetic Conversion

His mother trained him until he got his bachelor's degree in Microbiology from the University of Uyo, Akwa Ibom State. He confessed that at first, he attended and was bap-



tized in the Church of Christ, the church of his parents, just to please his mother. He was well behaved and avoided negative behaviors because of the love he had for his mother, especially her having gone through the trauma of searching for a male child. In 2001, during the pass-out ceremony of his youth corps, he had an encounter in the House of the Rock, in Lagos. He observed and admired young people, and young graduates serving God, and wanted to be just like them.

When he moved to Port Harcourt the same year, during the church service, he responded to the alter call. Not as a result of wanting to be born again, but because he just wanted to belong. Since then he tried without success, to get a job, nothing worked. His life was a turbulent one and

he got poor and poorer by the day. He was called out from the crowd to the pulpit during a Church program. After telling him that God had a job for him, the prophetess and woman of God laid hands on him. At that program, he was made to lay hands on people and they received the Holy Spirit. But after the program, he ran away. He had distributed his resume, in search of a job. After nine months, he could not find a job. He met a young man who told him of his greatness, and that unless he surrendered to God, there would be no turnaround for him. He then surrendered fully, to serve God, and that was the beginning of the turnaround. Then he started receiving job offers and favors from even those who had earlier refused him. He attended the Liberty Church, where he was ordained a pastor by Pastor Chika Ehoru and he began to grow spiritually. In 2005, he had a revelation in a dream. In that revelation, he saw the G.O., Pastor E. A. Adeboye, in white attire, laying hands on him. When he woke up, he shared the dream with Pastor Chika Ehoru who confirmed that God was lifting him higher. When he arrived in the UK, he searched for the RCCG. His host took him to the House of Faith Connections Parish, which was just six months old. He was received, welcomed and encouraged by the pastor. In 2007, the pastor again confirmed that there was God's gift in him, encouraged him to go through the training program of the Church, and God began to use him in that Parish. In 2008, he was appointed by the pastor as one of the Ministers in that parish; in 2009, he was ordained in London as a Deacon, the last time that the G.O. laid hands on Deacons in the UK. That night the G.O. wore white attire, and laid hands on him, just as in his dream, and he became a Redeemed pastor; and in 2013, he moved to the US.

His Family

He had met his wife in the secondary school in Nigeria. But they had lost contacts in 1999 and had to reconnect again through the internet in 2008, at which time they had both grown physically and spiritually. In 2009, they had planned for the wife to move to join him in the UK, but that did not work out. They are blessed with three children: Emmanuel, three years; Esther, two years; and Elijah, one year. He presented the spiritual development of his wife as consistent, based on her background of being born into the family of church workers. He described his wife as a personification of an epitome of humility in service, a loving mother of their three children, the love of his life,

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his soul mate, a virtuous woman (Proverbs 39), with the complementary role of a singer, and the gift of prophesy. The wife perceives him as the answer of her prayers to God for a preacher as a husband, and as a confirmation of her nick name of "Mma Etubom" in Ibibio, meaning the pastor's wife. He believes that God brought them together for His purpose – they "...agree together, work together, fight together, settle together, agree to agree and agree to disagree".

His Ministry

He emphasized that challenges of his ministry included funding. While being thankful to God for His faithfulness in this regard, he expressed that the receipts from tithes and offerings did not provide adequate funding for his young ministry. He fervently called on all to support his ministry, including through the mission partnership, set up for those whom God has laid in their hearts, from wherever they may be around the world; he appealed that this was a time to sow, and as you sow into his ministry, you should trust God to bless you abundantly. In performing his roles as a father, husband, pastor of a congregation, he underscored that he puts on "different feathers" depending on the circumstances. This helps him to achieve a balance in performing his different roles. Pressures from the congregations help him to be stronger and closer to God, in his quest for God's direction, inspiration and guidance.

He confirmed that the family takes priority. He re-stated that God made a woman, a man, and united them as "one flesh" and blessed them with the exhortation to "be fruitful and multiply" (Genesis 1:27, 28; 2:23, 24). The Lord instructs His people to train up their children in the way of holiness and truth (Deuteronomy 11:19; Proverbs 22:6). The Psalmist declared that "children are a heritage from the Lord; the fruit of the womb is a reward" (Psalm 127:3). It is also emphasized in the apostle's solemn warning that "if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever" (1 Timothy 5:8). He concluded that for all these reasons, we must give priority to the family. According to Pastor Idongesit, the standards to serve God are provided by the spirit of God. A pastor must be grounded in The Word, seek daily anointing from God, attend retreats, conduct researches on God's word, seek God's ears and be able to hear from God, must steadfastly

fast and pray, for God's wisdom to enable him counsel and lead his congregation. He informed that the counseling schedule for the Parish is every Thursdays between 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. But you can call at any time for prayers and counseling.

He also called attention to the Holy Ghost night, when they have the holy communion, the anointing service, prayers and the laying of hands. He then narrated that a



lady had wanted unsuccessfully to sell her house for 3 years. She called him to come and pray for the house to be sold, that a lady friend had referred her. He told her he will do so only if the husband agreed. After confirming with the husband, he drove to the house alone. When he entered the house, there was darkness. He called for the anointing oil and gave the oil to the husband to pray and anoint different parts of the house. He then prayed that the darkness should disappear, anointed the house and left. By 7

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am the next morning, he received a text that someone, who had earlier rejected the house, had offered to buy the house. The house was eventually closed, and she moved into a new home. So, the prayers, anointing and laying of hands are still very effective. Everyone should endeavor to participate and benefit from the program.

The Origin of the Royal Priesthood Parish

In addressing the origin of the Royal Priesthood Parish, Pastor Idongesit informed that the Parish was established in 2012, by Pastor Sina Olasoju. Before he came from UK, he had requested his wife to locate a Redeemed church. As a result, she had joined the Parish, after she was given a flyer and invited by the pastor, who met her at a store. Since she joined, she had been ministering in the choir. When he arrived in 2013, his wife took him to the church; he joined and became a worker. In 2014, Pastor Olasoju was transferred back to Headquarters, Chevron. He informed Pastor Idongesit that God had directed the handing over of the Parish to him. At first, he was reluctant to accept. But after seeking the advice of his Pastor in the UK, who confirmed that it was God's will, he accepted.

On the vision of the RCCG to make heaven; to take as many people as possible with them; and to have a member of RCCG in every family in every nation, he emphasized that he keyed into the vision: to make heaven by raising disciples, training those who can stand on their own, by leading and taking authority over difficult situations. This means raising leaders and disciples, not followers.

His Testimonies

Pastor Idongesit was excited on the issue of groundbreaking testimonies and did not hesitate to give us more than was asked for. Before they were married, his wife had been told, that she could never have a child, based on the diagnosis of a fibroid in her womb and her background of being an only child. She must have told him, but God did not want him to hear. Even when they got married she talked about the adoption of children because she was afraid. Then he became worried. She convinced her and took her to the Redeemed camp, when the G.O. came to America for the workers' retreat. He had prayed: "God of the RCCG, God of Adebayo, you will arise and let my wife come back with pregnancy. Lord, defy the doctor's report

and let my wife be pregnant". They prayed and he told her to go and sit where the G.O. sat. She obeyed and when they returned, the next month, she was pregnant. After that, her condition defied every doctors' reports; after she got pregnant, she bled and thought she had lost the baby because of the fibroid which had continued to grow, squeezing the fetus. They prayed and the baby was not affected. She was also advised never to attempt another pregnancy until the fibroid was removed. But his wife's faith had grown, and she advised not to listen to the doctor. Two months after the birth of Emmanuel, she was pregnant again. Subsequently, she went to another doctor and was diagnosed to have been cured of her fibroid. Praise the Lord, she now has three children. He narrated that when he took over, it was a big challenge



to settle the rent. They inherited a five years' lease and had stayed for only two years. The location at Sugar Creek, Sugarland was very good and comfortable, but very expensive at \$9,000 per month. For almost a year, the church was not growing. They considered that if they broke the lease, they would be liable to pay the remaining 3 years'

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rent, unless a new tenant took over the remaining duration of the lease.

Despite that, God inspired them to move out. They packed out and handed over the keys to the landlord, who took them to court for violating the law. But his focus was how to save the church, considering the sacrifices, the labor and investments that the founding pastor had made. They stored the contents, including the equipment, in the warehouse, in members' garages, houses and began to worship in the hotel. While looking for a place of worship, one faithful night of the 3rd week after, they were driving past, and they saw this location that had been vacant for 2 years. They walked in, talked to the agent, who informed them that the place was structured by a church. But because they had an issue, the landlord had thrown them out. For that reason, the landlord never wanted to give it to another church. But he said to the pastor, "James, there is something in you, I want to put out my neck on your behalf to see if the landlord would approve..." Two hours after, he was called to be told that they were approved by the landlord. That was the beginning of his joy. Eventually, they moved in and God was faithful to raise money for them to pay the rent. But the problem remained on how to pay the debt on the old location. They prayed for God to make provision, and 3 weeks while they were still

in the wilderness, a company took over the old location and the old debt was paid off. To confirm that it was the Lord's doing, the company stayed for only six months, before moving away. God brought them to settle their debts and then they moved away. He emphasized this as a strong testimony for the church, when they encountered difficulties, they prayed to God that He had done it before, and He should do it again.

He reported that God has been using the church to bless people with the fruit of the womb. In February last year, a lady approached him to pray for the fruit of the womb. She was scheduled for a pregnancy procedure in June. The prayer request was for the procedure to be successful. She then offered him a check of \$200 which she requested to be cashed in June, when she was to go for the procedure. They were praying from then. In April, while praying, God

told him that she would not need to go for the procedure, because she would already be pregnant. He was befuddled, on how to tell the couple after they had already arranged, maybe paid for and scheduled the procedure based on their beliefs. He could not! But he continued to call and pray with them on the phone. Early in June, the lady called to tell him that she was no longer going for the procedure; she did not say why. But the confirmation led him to tell her that she would be pregnant without the procedure. Little did he know that in June when he was talking to her, she was already pregnant. God has been very faithful!

The next testimony centered on Elijah, his third child. He had observed the children in church and was inspired to pray for those looking for children. He called out his wife and a woman, who had decided to stop giving birth, but



who was fruitful. He requested them to intercede for those who were praying for the fruit of the womb. He told both his wife and the woman to pray for, prophesy, lay hands on them and to call forth the children. The next month, his wife and the woman became pregnant. It meant that the children called forth, were deposited in the wombs of his wife and the woman. For his wife, that became Elijah. Praise the Lord!

A woman had relocated from Nigeria, far from her husband, after looking for children for 14 years, without success. He told her to return to Nigeria to her husband and that she will be pregnant. She resisted because of having gone through a lot, including miscarriages; and that it was

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her and convinced her to return to her husband. She went back to Nigeria, and two months later, she called that they had a serious accident and their car was total, but that they were not injured. He informed her that God had told him that she was pregnant. The accident, being the work of the devil, did not target them but the baby in her womb. Glory be to God! Two weeks later, she called him to confirm that she gave birth.

Christianity

Pastor Idongesit's views on Christian concepts are very edifying. On **love**, he referred to the Bible passage on the characteristics of love. "Love suffers long, and is kind, love does not envy...does not behave rudely...love does not rejoice in iniquity but rejoices in truth; love bears all things...love never fails...but endures all things" (1 Corinthians 13:4-7). The ultimate source of all encouragement is that God is love. Jesus Christ demonstrated this when He made the ultimate and painful **sacrifice** of suffering and dying on the cross to redeem us of sins (Matthew 27:32-56). For a sacrifice to be acceptable, it must be gracious, forgiving and painful.

Men and women, who constitute the congregation, play important roles in his ministry, and are always acknowledged and blessed. Therefore, the comportment and dressing of the congregation is very relevant. Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ. A man should not cover his head while praying or prophesying, since he is the image and glory of God. A woman should cover her head and her body, because she is the glory of man, since man does not originate from woman, but woman from man (1 Corinthians 11:3-10).

As believers your lives must exemplify **discipline**. When we thread the wrong paths, God chastises us. Similarly, we should not hesitate to correct others and our children when they are wrong. The Bible says "...do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves and chastises every son whom he receives" (Hebrews 12:5-6). This simply means that as God chastises us when we are wrong, we must do the same to those in our care.

All the Bible gospels emphasize the importance of the need to forgive others when they do us wrong, as the basis of our own **forgiveness** by God. "For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly father will also for-

give you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your father will not forgive your sins" (Matthew 6:14-15). Forgiveness constitutes the bedrock of love. Without forgiveness there can be no love.

To become a believer, you must be **born again**. This means that you must become a child of God, by trusting in the name of Jesus Christ. This necessitates a change of his heart - a spiritual transformation. Being born again, is an act of God whereby eternal life is imparted to the person who believes (2 Corinthians 5:17; Titus 3:5; 1 Peter 1:3; and more).

The Clarion Call

The Royal Priesthood Parish has a well-knit, well organized small congregation of dedicated and committed workers, in properly defined church service departments. The choir is constituted by young and melodious choristers with angelic voices. My prophesy is that between 5 to 10 years from now, the congregation would have grown exponentially and moved to a beautiful, well equipped and heavenly auditorium of over 2000 capacity. If you are looking for a church where you would be afforded the opportunity of an unlimited spiritual development of your God given talent, then the Royal Priesthood is your choice. I call on you, to join and contribute to the growth of this young ministry. As you do so, you will never regret, as God will always meet you at every point of your need.

Be the very best!!

TESTIMONIES

Saved from a Deadly Accident

This testimony, according to a sister, portrays the glory of God and the shame of the devil. Right in front of the church (on Beechnut Street) there was a fatal accident involving three cars. One of the cars had four of Restoration Chapel family members – three children and their mother. As two of the cars crashed into each other at the intersection, those two cars somersaulted, and one of them came to a miraculous rest just a few inches from the car containing the four members of Restoration Chapel! Four of the five occupants of that other car died at the scene! It was only the miraculous hand of the Almighty God that prevented the cars from crashing into the vehicle carrying the Restoration children and their mother.

7 Years Marriage, 8 Miscarriages! The Miracle of a New Baby!

This couple has been married for 7 years without the fruit of the womb to show for their efforts. Although they have gone from one doctor to another, they felt hopeless because the wife had eight miscarriages in those seven years! Then, they relocated to Houston. One Sunday, in 2011, while the wife went to work, the husband came as a “visitor” to Restoration Chapel. What he did not know was that the “visit” was ordered by the spirit of God; God used it to reverse their story as He led the husband to notice something spectacular. After the service, he returned home to tell his wife that “every woman in that church (Restoration Chapel) was either pregnant or holding a baby”. That spirit-led observation made them to become faithful and expectant members of Restoration Chapel in 2011, and God started the “restoring” process – a miraculous stop to miscarriages. In 2013, the couple tried again; the wife, again, became pregnant, but this time the pregnancy “stayed” and she gave birth to a bouncing baby boy!! The devil tried but the God of Restoration had the final say, and this couple’s son, JOSHUA, is a testimony today. Praise God!!!

Date of Birth Corrected

A brother testified about how the invisible hand of the Almighty God helped him win his battle against authorities in Nigeria over his college transcript. He applied, and waited almost four years, for his transcript! When the transcript was finally sent to him, his date of birth was wrong. He had to travel to Nigeria in an attempt to correct it but was asked to apply to the Nigerian Senate. He applied - - - and waited; he is still waiting for a correction that may never happen! When he could not wait any longer, he applied for admission into graduate school (in the U.S.) with the wrong date of birth, against all advice by his friends. Then, he decided to take the matter to the Annual Convention of the RCCG in Dallas, and specifically presented it to God. He returned to Houston (from the 2014 Convention) on Saturday. The following Monday, he went to check the status of his graduate school application. To his bewildered amazement, not only was he accepted into graduate school, but his wrong date of birth was replaced with his right date of birth! It was only the invisible hand of God that could have made that miraculous alteration.

Fibroid Removed

Two years ago, this sister’s future seemed “blank” as she was diagnosed with what she described as “Fibroid Adenoma”. As she was being sent from one hospital to another, she took her troubling situation to the great Restorer, Jesus Christ. Eventually, surgery was scheduled, and she cried harder for God’s intervention. God, who said He will never forsake His own, saw her through – and the surgery was successful. Because God always adds “extra” to what you ask for, He added this sister’s mother’s “Green Card” that she had waited several years for. Give God the glory!

Driving to Nowhere

If you have been misdirected by your GPS (Global Positioning System), then you will understand this sister’s dilemma in the middle of nowhere. She was bent on getting to the 2014 Convention ground in good time, so she took off early (with her child) from Houston. After driving for about four hours (a journey that usually takes about 3 1/2 hrs), she sensed that she was lost. However, she kept driving, as she did not seem to have any other option. When her gas level became low, she would refill and keep driving – driving to nowhere! Then, her GPS stopped functioning; then, her phone lost power. In the middle of nowhere (only forest land), it was obvious that she was lost. When “the Day began to hand over the baton to the Night” Panic became her partner! That was when the “God of the 11th hour” stepped in; she saw McDonald’s restaurant, and her instinct (the Spirit of God) made her pull off the road and onto the parking lot of the restaurant – for apparently no reason at all, since she did not need food. Just as she started to question why she was wasting her time by pulling off the road, she saw two women standing by the restaurant. Something told her that those women looked like Redeemed Christians; so she went up to them, and, bad enough, they were also lost in their attempt to get to the Convention camp. The good news was that those women had radioed for help and a Guide was only a few minutes away! Praise God! Note that God is watching you, even in the middle of nowhere, to rescue you when you think you are lost and alone.

God Spared our Lives!

This sister drives around with her daughter – always! On her last birthday, however, she drove out alone (without her regular companion). She could not explain why. Then, suddenly, along south-west freeway, she had a terrible accident; her car was “total”! By the grace and mercy of God, she came out alright. That was when she knew that the King of Kings averted death when she, for no apparent reason, did not take her child with her.

19 years of Marriage!

This sister believed that God had been working in her life since 1995! She got married to her best friend and they have been married, happily, for 19 years. She said it’s been miracle after miracle all those 19 years!! God is a “Preserver of marriages”

Full Scholarship!

This brother testified that he had been looking for an RCCG Chapel where he could worship. He said it was a miracle that he found Restoration Chapel. He promptly became a member and “wrote a petition” to God that he needed admission into a nursing school. He said he was amazed when “the God of Restoration” answered him with admission into a nursing school; and for the “extra” he got a full scholarship

A Job & A Green Card

This sister has been searching for a job, for some time, without any positive result. Then, the 100 days of fasting and praying was announced; she faithfully complied with every rule, and followed through to the end. On the 100th day, she got an offer for a job – an offer that was twice as good as she had been praying for. For the “extra” God gave her sister the “Green Card” she had waited 14 years for!! Bless His holy name.



**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 8:30pm.**

Every 3rd Friday of the month

Night of Encounter : 10pm to 1am

Saturday

Mercy Cry : 7am to 8am

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