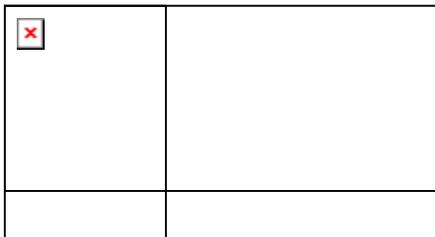


Table of Contents

- [Introduction](#)
- [Chapter 1 The Prophetic Place Of Success](#)
- [Chapter 2 You Need Secrets!](#)
- [Chapter 3 The Covenant Of Success](#)
- [Chapter 4 Success Keys](#)
- [Chapter 5 Triggers for Success](#)
- [Chapter 6 Will To Succeed!](#)
- [Chapter 7 Use Your Mind](#)
- [Chapter 8 Put Your Hands To Work!](#)
- [Chapter 9 It Takes Courage](#)
- [Chapter 10 Talk Your Way Into Success](#)
- [Chapter 11 The Place of Favour](#)
- [Chapter 12 Stay Excited!](#)
- [Chapter 13 Enemies of Success](#)
- [You Are A Choice Vine!](#)



Introduction

Outstanding success is of God! Mediocrity is not righteousness. No ordinary son is a pride of his father. A father only rejoices over his outstanding children, not the failures. You can't resemble God as a failure. He is the Most High; so how can you remain the lowest and say you are His son?

Success is your birthright! If you are born again, it is your redemptive right, your destiny in God. Jesus said, "Ye are the salt of the earth." You, as a child of God, are to give taste to the earth; you are to preserve it. He also said, "Ye are the light of the world." By this He means you are a pacesetter. The people of the world should learn how to get things done by looking at you and how you get things done. Again, Jesus said, you are a city set upon the hill, that cannot be hid. You are not in the valley, but at the top of the mountain. If you are saved, you have been raised up. The Bible says He has raised us up together with Him. Jesus didn't bring you down at salvation, but rather raised you up together with Him (Eph. 2:6). Not only that, He has made you to sit with Him far above!

Redemption has placed you far above; that is you are outstanding! You remember the four successful people in Babylon — Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego? They were ten times better than their equals. That's far above!

Success is your kingdom right, your redemptive right; it's your covenant right. Don't sell off, like Esau did for a mere morsel of meal. Success is your heritage in Christ; it is your covenant birthright in redemption. Failure is an abuse on redemption, because Jesus came down to take you up!

However, success is not a gift, but a choice. While it is the birthright of all saints, the individual's choice determines his portion. All that He foreknew, He predestinated, called, justified and glorified (Rom. 8:29-30). So, your choice to succeed is what generates in you the force to succeed. Your choice is the compass that points to your destination.

God has destined you for all-round success: success in your walk with Him, in your business, career, finances, health, home, academics, etc. You are a born star and are required to stand out wherever you are. Already, God has assured us that whatever we lay our hands upon to do shall prosper.

But it takes secrets to succeed! It takes a discovery of God's secrets to attain the success He has in store for you. So, in this book, we shall be exploring kingdom secrets that make for outstanding success on the earth. A strict and consistent pursuit of these secrets will grant you an eternal access into the reality of the covenant of success. You shall succeed!

Chapter 1

The Prophetic Place Of Success

Success speaks louder than words. It commands greater attention than the greatest oration any man can make. It is self-inviting and attractive. Success has a compelling force around it, drawing everyone to itself, whether consciously or unconsciously.

That is why God has programmed to reap the end-time harvest through the outstanding and resounding success of His people. The enthronement of the saints in success will be a weapon in the hand of God in reaping the end-time harvest.

Thus saith the Lord of hosts; It shall yet come to pass, that there shall come people, and the inhabitants of many cities:

And the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, Let us go speedily to pray before the Lord, and to seek the Lord of hosts: I will go also.

Yea, many people and strong nations shall come to seek the Lord of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the Lord.

Thus saith the Lord of hosts; In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you.

Zechariah 8:20-23

That means God is going to herald the coming of His Son Jesus by distinguishing the Church. People will come running speedily to God, because of the coming wave of supernatural distinctions in the body of Christ. God is going to make His people a showpiece on the earth, by making them resounding successes. God is a master strategist. In warfare, strategy, not strength or resources, is the greatest asset. So, God's end-time plan for the Church is to use the sickle of success (of the saints) to bring home the harvest of dying souls.

There will be such liftings in the body of Christ, the kind that the world has never known before. And by such liftings, multitudes will be brought into the kingdom of God, without us going to them to say, "Accept Jesus."

The world, including your unsaved colleagues and former friends, will look at you and say, "Wherever you are coming from, we will follow you there. We knew you when we were at the same level. How many days ago did you depart, and now, things have turned for you. We will go with you." They will see your success and come into the kingdom by themselves, just as the above Scripture has prophesied.

This prophecy was fulfilled in our church recently. There was this former muslim (he was an Alhaji then), who had a tenant that had a problem. This man directed the tenant to our church, for solution to his problem, because he saw that everyone coming out of our church was always smiling and laughing. This tenant came and things turned for the better for him.

Another person had a problem and this same Alhaji again directed him to our church. The man came, and like the first person, things turned for him also. So, this Alhaji told himself, "I will go there also." He came to our church and gave his life to Christ and everything around him began to change. His coming to church was so frequent, that some of his former islamic boys came to look for him in church!

This is God's agenda for the end-time Church — to use the supernatural lifting of His people as the force of attention for pulling the dying world to Himself. God wants to make you a resounding success and by so doing, bring many to Christ.

We are a people born in due season! Not because we are smarter than the past generations, but because in God's agenda, He has planned that success will be the garment of the end-time saints, and through it bring many into the city of refuge.

But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it.

And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

Micah 4:1-2

Isaiah 2:2-3 carries a very similar prophecy:

And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.

And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

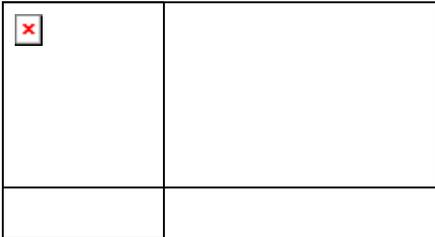
The success of the end-time Church shall be a compelling attraction — "...People shall flow into it." It will be so clear to the outside world that these men are actually on the highways of life.

God's Word shall blossom in the end-time, bringing supernatural ways of flourishing to the people of God, taking them to supernatural heights in life. Every sinner out there shall begin to pant and run after such Words, because they can see the difference!

The highways of God are what will place the Church on the highways of success; it shall always know what to do to succeed!



essc0001.htmessc0001.htmess001.htmess001.htmessc0200.htmessc0200.htm



..index.htm..index.htm

ess001.htmess001.htm

Chapter 2

You Need Secrets!

In the world of success, information is the greatest asset. That's why the end-time Church will be given such unusual access into heavenly information, for earthly manifestations. The Church will have such unusual insight into that which even the vulture's eyes have not seen.

Every outstanding transformation, every resounding success is traceable to discovered secrets. Certain information is handed down to you and when it is properly traded with, it brings you your desired end.

God has secrets! They are the highways to success and an insight into them guarantees outstanding success. God's secrets are called revelations; they are heavenly information. By them He unfolds heavenly insights and mysteries to you, for earthly victories.

The ways of God are higher ways; so when you operate by His secrets, you attain higher results. The end-time Church will be given an unusual access into these heavenly information called the ways of God.

...Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

Isaiah 2:3

That is, the flourishing Word of life, showing you the way to the highways of life. I welcome you to that path, in Jesus' name.

The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.

Psalm 119:130

When you encounter God's Word on any issue of life, darkness can no longer handle you in that area, because, "And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehendeth it not..."

God's Word says, "**Arise, shine, for thy light is come...**" Nobody shines until his light comes and light can't come until the Word enters. It is only after God's Word has entered you that you can become an eternal (unending) excellency, the joy of many generations! (**Isa. 60:15.**)

Kenneth Copeland was in abject poverty; but information brought about his transformation. The story is told of how he went to Kenneth Hagin's office in search of Hagin's message tapes. He was so desperate for light, that he wanted to trade off his car for the tapes. Hagin gave him the tapes and he went on to lock himself up in a room and began to feed on heavenly information.

Copeland is one of the most outstanding men of the gospel on earth today. He was transformed by heavenly secrets. He gave an aircraft as a seed to Hagin's ministry, the first aircraft that the ministry ever had. And today, Copeland has given out more than five aircraft as seed!

May God bring you in contact with certain secrets that will perpetually place you on the path of success.

What heavenly secrets do is to bring about transformation in your life without sweat. It brings you success without struggles, giving you technical access to your objectives in life.

I am not smarter than anyone else; I'm only more informed! That is why I get better results than my contemporaries. I have a very successful home today, because God's secrets were made available to me. My home is peaceful, tears and sorrow-free, just by the seven concepts God unfolded to me before I got married. I fondly call them the seven concepts of marriage. I saw them in God's Word, agreed and complied with them. I have been trading with prosperity secrets, that's why I can't know lack.

Friend, one secret from heaven is worth more than a whole lifetime of struggles. One secret from heaven is worth much more than ten University degrees from various disciplines. It is greater in value than every connection with all the men and women of influence on the earth! One secret from heaven will make a shining star out of a dummy!

Job became an outstanding success in his days, by reason of the heavenly secrets he gained access to (Job 29). He became the greatest man in all the east, without participating in the corruption that was in the land.

A brother shared this testimony in church, on how an already collapsed business was revived by reason of the light he was privileged to have access to:

"I am a pharmacist. Last year, I took up a job and on my first day at work, my Managing Director called me and said, 'After I rented this building, I discovered that every other business on this street had closed down.' I said, 'How do you mean?' He said, 'I reliably gathered that there are principalities and powers on this street.'

My M.D. is a Christian. He told me that there were strongholds on the street, that a popular man of God had actually been there, and said to him, 'Boy, as soon as your rent expires, make sure you leave; there is no way your business can thrive here.'

I have one of the Bishop's book, that I call "Bishopic portfolio for dominion" (Releasing The Supernatural). And so I released the supernatural and said, 'This business will do well.' I went to the store and looked at the products there. There were drugs there and he said, 'None of these products have sold.' But I said, 'They will begin to sell now, just give me the gadgets I need to work with.'

I was handed the car keys and a book on marketing. I threw the book into the boot of my car, saying to myself, 'You had this book all these days and still did not sell.' I then asked, 'Which is the biggest hospital in Nigeria?' University College Hospital (UCH) I was told and I decided it was the first place I would go. I went to UCH and returned with an order from them. My M.D. looked at me and said nothing.

God went with me everywhere I went to and kept opening doors — in Ibadan, Abeokuta, all over Lagos.

The building that housed our office is a high-rise building of five floors. A company that took two wings, later reduced to one wing. And gradually, every other company in that building would come to us, begging my M.D. to loan them some money with which to pay staff salaries. When I started, we were only two pharmacists, myself and the Superintendent Pharmacist, who does more of administrative job. But within a year, we were able to buy a total of 10 cars, including a truck and a lorry, for new pharmacists (six of us now and two sales representatives)!

A few months ago, I said, 'It's time to move Northwards', and so I went to the North and spent one month there. I came back with orders worth 1.7 million naira.

When I returned from my trip, my M.D. called me and said, 'Look at this land (the next plot to us), we just bought it.' I said, 'But aren't you supposed to leave this place because of the strongholds here? How much did it cost you?' He said, 'One point seven million naira. They offered me and I just couldn't resist it. I see that it is possible for business to do well here.'

After some time, I said to him, 'Now you know it's possible for business to do well here, we're going to do what is right now. From today, here in this office, at 8 O'clock every morning, every staff must be here for fellowship.' He agreed and we started. After about one month, I called him again and said, 'That is not all. In this office, everybody must come, including you, for night vigils that will be fixed for designated times of the month.' And his reply was, 'I will make a point to be there.'

At the first night vigil we had, he said to me, 'Sincerely, in my wildest imagination, I never thought this business could be what it is today.' I give all the glory to God, and want to thank the Bishop, because everything he has taught us, I have applied and testify to the glory of God, of the results!"

—Olayeye, G.

Access To God's Secrets

The secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.

Deuteronomy 29:29

Heavenly secrets are God's exclusive property. Until they are revealed, they don't belong unto us. The Bible in **Proverbs 25:2** says:

It is the glory of God to conceal a thing; but the honour of kings is to search out a matter.

It is God's glory to conceal a matter, and our honour to search them out. Our success in life is tied to our discovery of these secrets.

By A Search

Even though access to God's secrets is your birthright as a born again child of God, you still have a job to do, for these secrets to be revealed to you. You ask yourself, "What does it take for me to lay hold on these secrets? The way is now open, how do I lay hold on it?"

*Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:
For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.*

Matthew 7:7-8

Romans 11:33 says:

*O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments,
and his ways past finding out!*

There are depths in God and they are consciously uncovered. They are sought for before they can be delivered.

Do you want financial success? Then go in search of God's secrets for financial success. Do you want success in health? Go search out God's secrets! Do you want marital success? Search for marriage secrets, for he that seeketh findeth!

Every treasure in life is found in the deep. Crude oil is buried deep in the earth; an exploration is what brings it out for you. The sea treasures are buried in the deep of the sea beds.

Every treasure in life is in the deep; people explore to gain access to them. So also are the secrets of God! A conscious exploration by those in search of them is what grants access into them.

Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it?

And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost.

Luke 15:8-9

This is what you do when something is out of place in your life. We have so many redemptive rights in Christ; if any of them is missing in your life, this is what to do. You light a candle and start sweeping, till you find it.

The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly.

Proverbs 20:27

You engage your spirit in the search. You light the candle of your heart and then start sweeping through the Word of life and through all the books that enhance your understanding of the Word of life. As you sweep with your spirit, you will find it; and when you find it, you will become a celebrity.

Every celebrity today was a searcher yesterday. Do you know why many don't find? It is because they are superficial searchers. "You shall seek for me and find me, when you shall search for me with all your heart" (Jer.29:13). Until your spirit is involved, the secrets won't be delivered!

When she hath found it! People wait to see it without seeking to find it. But God's secrets are not free! There are prices to pay, one of which is a diligent search.

With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.

Isaiah 26:9

This implies: "When Your secrets are delivered, people will know that I have found it." It takes the whole of you to encounter the secrets of heaven. So, it's time to light your candle. And you light a candle by involving your spirit.

Our ministry has not succeeded by accident; no! God spoke to me on May 1-2 1981, giving me the vision of this commission. I immediately went into a deep-rooted search for how to succeed in ministry, before I finally set out in September 1983. In my search, I came across some secrets that made me know that we would never beg, borrow or fail. When I found these secrets, I declared them to the whole world. So, when we stepped out in September 1983, we stepped out fully conscious that we would succeed. I had engaged my spirit in a search and had made outstanding discoveries from the Word of God.

It was in my search that I found: "I have appointed you" (He appointed the 70 elders, not they themselves). I then said to Him, "What follows the appointment?" He replied, "Carry no purse or scrip. I won't depend on what you have, to do the job I have given you. No soldier goes to war at his own charge. I am the Contractor, you are the foreman. I will take care of it."

He also said, "Go not from house to house." "Oh, good!" I said to myself, because I never liked doing that. He also said, "Greet no man on the way". That is, lobby around no man's resources.

He gave me these secrets when I went in a deliberate search for the terms of my appointment, which would guarantee my continued supplies and back-up. And till date, none has failed yet!

*My son, eat thou honey, because it is good; and the honeycomb, which is sweet to thy taste:
So shall the knowledge of wisdom be unto thy soul: when thou hast found it, then there shall be a reward,
and thy expectation shall not be cut off.*

Proverbs 24:13-14

You will always know when you have found God's secrets. Hear it again: in the world of success, information is the greatest asset. Only those who know how to get information make the most in the business world. That's why every major industry has its trade secrets, information that is unique to them and preserved by them, in order to preserve their enterprise. But thank God that heaven's secrets are open secrets. They are, however, only made available to those who are ready to pay the price to get them.

Before I got married, I had heard too many unsavoury things about some Christian families. In fact, I was right in the centre of some of them, trying to help settle their troubles. But one day I said to myself, "If this is what marriage is all about, I don't want to go into it. Lord, what actually is Your plan for marriage? It can't be what I see in some families today. What was in Your mind when You created it and what have You designed to sustain it?" It was in my search that I came across the seven concepts of marriage I earlier talked about.

These seven pillars are the things upon which I have built my home. My wife and I have never had a scuffle since we got married. There is a free flow of communication, nobody cries in my home, not even the dogs! We've never had a cane in my home, because there is no mad person there.

So, whenever part of your redemptive package in Christ is missing in your life, you must go in search of it before you can find it. It is a search that gives you access to His secrets. Let's go on a search! I see you escape mediocrity in life.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls:

Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

Matthew 13:44-46

You seek these things before you find them. People seek to find the treasures of life, the pearls of destiny. There's no question on earth without an answer with God in His book, the Bible. Success is one of the pearls of our covenant with God; let's give it all it takes to attain it. You can't watch success slip by you; go and find out what it takes to succeed!

By Prayer

Let me introduce you to another way of gaining access to God's secrets. In Daniel 2, a problem arose and in fury, the king wanted to destroy all the wise men in Babylon. But Daniel stepped in.

He answered and said to Arioch the king's captain, Why is the decree so hasty from the king? Then Arioch made the thing known to Daniel.

Then Daniel went in, and desired of the king that he would give him time, and that he would show the king the interpretation.

Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions:

That they would desire mercies of the God of heaven concerning this secret; that Daniel and his fellows should not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.

Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven.

Daniel 2:15-19

Daniel and his three other colleagues went to God in a prayer of enquiry. Likewise, for God's secrets to be delivered to you, you need to go to God in prayer. You say to Him, "Lord, what is it? Before You all things lay bare, where am I missing it? What must I do for a change of position? What must I do to experience a transformation? Lord, what is it that is yet missing in my life? What would You have me to do Lord?"

"Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel." God has not changed. He said, "I am the Lord, I change not." Look at this other prayer of enquiry in **2 Samuel 5:17-25**:

But when the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over Israel, all the Philistines came up to seek David; and David heard of it, and went down to the hold.

The Philistines also came and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim.

And David inquired of the Lord, saying, Shall I go up to the Philistines? wilt thou deliver them into mine hand? And the Lord said unto David, Go up: for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into thine hand.

And David came to Baalperazim, and David smote them there, and said, The Lord hath broken forth upon mine enemies before me, as the breach of waters. Therefore he called the name of that place Baalperazim.

And there they left their images, and David and his men burned them.

And the Philistines came up yet again, and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim.

And when David inquired of the Lord, he said, Thou shalt not go up; but fetch a compass behind them, and come upon them over against the mulberry trees.

And let it be, when thou hearest the sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees, that then thou shalt bestir thyself: for then shall the Lord go out before thee, to smite the host of the Philistines.

And David did so, as the Lord had commanded him; and smote the Philistines from Geba until thou come to Gazer.

David was able to conquer the Philistines by his access to divine secrets contacted through the prayer of enquiry. Friend, one secret from heaven is worth much more than a lifetime of efforts and struggles. This was David's secret winning ticket; it was the reason why he never sustained injuries nor defeat all his days as a warrior. You will no longer suffer injuries in your life!

"Shall I go up Lord?" The Lord said, "Go." At another time, he asked, "Shall I go up?" and the Lord said, "Thou shalt not go up, but fetch a compass behind them."

We are too full of petitions, that's why we don't have access into His secrets. We keep asking God to do things for us, but never ask Him what we must do.

We have our parts to play and God His. David made the prayer of enquiry, God showed him the secrets and David put the secrets to work. Man's part is two thirds in the whole deal. After God tells you what to do, it is your duty to do it and He would be committed to confirm it.

In prayer of enquiry you say to God, "Lord, why is this home not working? Why is this family not prospering? Why is this ministry not growing? Why is this business crawling? Lord, what would You have me to do? What is missing in my life? What must I do to come out of this situation? Help me Lord." You stand before the Lord, expecting to receive an answer from heaven; you sing in the spirit.

Probably, there's a wrong language you use in speaking to your wife and that is the reason for all the troubles you have at home. As you stand before the Lord in prayers, He would then say to you, "But why must you speak like that? Do you remember the way Moses spoke and how he lost his place in Canaan? Beware." With this revelation from heaven, the grace for a change is imparted upon you at the same time. When you do as He has directed, success in your family life is the result!

We have asked God to do enough; it's time to ask Him, "What will You have me to do?" He has not failed in His part once. But when you don't even know your part, when will you do it? In the school of success, God reveals the secret, man puts them to work and God confirms His Word by bringing the success.

So, as you begin to pray prayers of enquiry, mighty secrets on what to do to make your home another garden of Eden, to make your business flourish and grow like the cedar tree, to make the work of your hand flourish like a palm tree and your spiritual life colourful, will be delivered to your hands.

Apart from these two access to God's secrets (searching and prayer of enquiry), there are other factors that enhance your access to His divine secrets.

The Love Of God

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

1 Corinthians 2:9

Love is what grants you access to the Father's secrets. Your best friend has access to your greatest secrets; love is what grants him that access. That is why whereas you don't tell your secrets to your next door neighbour, you will spend so much money on telephone and postal bills to tell your secrets to your best friend who is thousands of kilometres away.

Your love for God is what determines how much of His secrets you have access to or that He reveals to you. God has reserved His best for His lovers, so when you are able to win His love, He releases them unto you. You pour your heart out to only those you are in love with.

The love of God is what makes you God's confidant. David loved the Lord so much, that he enjoyed unusual success on the earth. And in return, God channelled His very best (Jesus Christ) through his lineage.

Thus, when you are able to win His love, you are crowned a winner on the earth. But to win His love, you have to first give Him your love. Jesus said, "If you love Me, all things that I have of My Father I will show it to you."

Purity

God's secrets are for the pure.

The secret of the Lord is with them that fear him; and he will show them his covenant.

Psalm 25:14

Job was a man that feared God and eschewed evil, so God's secrets were with him; these secrets were what made him an outstanding man of success in his days (Job 29).

In Hebrews 9, the Bible says the tables of the covenant (the secrets of life) is in the holiest of all. It takes holiness to gain access there. It takes purity to gain access to divine secrets.

It is very clear from Scriptures that Job became outstanding by reason of divine secrets which he gained access into by purity, consecration and sanctification. He became the greatest man in all the east without participating or partaking in the corruption of the land.

No matter how resounding the principles (of success) are, except the foundation of purity is in place, nothing works. For righteousness brings about the lifting of any man, while sin is a reproach to anybody, no matter who he is.

What man is he that feareth the Lord? him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose.

Psalm 25:12

Anybody can read. You don't have to be born again to be able to read. But God's secrets are only made available to them that fear the Lord. May the fear of the Lord become your garment by the day, may He instruct your heart to purity and keep your feet on the path of integrity.

Until you turn at God's reproofs, the Holy Ghost is not permitted to shew you the deep things of God. The Holy Ghost can't function except purity is in place.

Meekness

To gain access to God's secrets, you also need to live a life of total surrender to the supremacy of God's wisdom

The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.

Psalm 25:9

It takes meekness to enjoy the secrets of God. Many are living on people's opinions, that's why they are stranded. But the Bible says there is a way that seems right to a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death (Prov. 14:12). You need to be able to say to God, "Whatever You say is right. Lord, I am leaning absolutely on Your directions. You are always right, Lord. I can be wrong; that's why You are there."

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Matthew 5:5

That is outstanding success! The meek will always have access to the highways of success in life. When the Lord is my guide, I shall not want. He will make me to lie down on green pastures, He will restore my soul. Though I pass through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil, because He is always there. He prepares a table before me in the presence of my enemies and my cup runneth over. I am sure goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

These three things — love for God, purity and meekness — will enhance your continuous access to the secrets of God.

God's secrets place a man on the highways of success. They are, however, not without price; though the price is nothing to be compared with what is to be gained at the end.

Please note that you may love God more than David did, you may fear God more than Job and you may be meeker than Moses; but if you are not a searcher, you will die in ignorance. It takes a deliberate search for you to gain access to the secrets of God.

Success is not free. There is a price tag on it. So, position yourself for an individual access into what is made available to all.





<..\index.htm>..[index.htm](..\index.htm)

<ess001.htm><mess001.htm>

Chapter 3

The Covenant Of Success

Success is not arriving at the peak overnight; it is making continuous progress. Success is not a destination, but an adventure, which is accessible to all who dare to venture. So, when everyday is a plus on the previous, you can be termed successful.

The journey to the land of success is also a covenant walk. God has His way and they are the highways of life. A strict and consistent compliance with His ways on your part will take you to your covenant dreamland of success.

Joshua 1:8 is God's formula for success.

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Here, God is saying that there are things you must do, if you want to make your way prosperous. It is not what God will do for you, but what He is asking you to do, in order for Him to establish your desires.

Success is a covenant! No one can stop a covenant man from arriving at his ultimate. All he needs do is to know the covenant details and to comply with them. The covenant is superior to the climate. Nothing can stop the covenant from prevailing. Wherever the sun prevails, there the covenant prevails.

The Lord said, *"Except you can break My covenant of the day and of the night, that there should not be sun in the day and moon in the night; then may also My covenant with My servant David be broken"* (Jer. 33:19-26).

There is an evil which I have seen under the sun, as an error which proceedeth from the ruler: Folly is set in great dignity, and the rich sit in low place. I have seen servants upon horses, and princes walking as servants upon the earth. He that diggeth a pit shall fall into it; and whoso breaketh an hedge, a serpent shall bite him.

Ecclesiastes 10:5-8

Here, the Holy Spirit introduces us to certain covenant secrets about success, our inheritance in God, our position in Christ, His plan and purpose for our lives and our outstanding destiny with Him. He is saying here: "There is a covenant. If you break that covenant, then you expose yourself to the wickedness of the devil."

God's covenant of success hinges on Wisdom, Discipline and Diligence. With these three forces working in your life, you are sure to get on your horseback.

Wisdom

Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

Proverbs 4:7

Wisdom is the baseline for a successful life, as it is the principal thing. I believe that the quality of wisdom at work in any business determines the quality of results derivable.

The quality of wisdom applied determines the quality of results expected. Success in life, business, family, ministry, etc, is a function of wisdom — the wisdom available and the wisdom applied. Wisdom is what makes stars in every field of endeavour.

And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament...

Daniel 12:3

That business in your hand can become an event in your country when you encounter the kind of wisdom we are talking about. You can emerge a world-wide star in your profession and career. You need wisdom for direction, the use of your mouth and a working knowledge of your given task.

Wisdom For Direction

Whoso removeth stones shall be hurt therewith; and he that cleaveth wood shall be endangered thereby. If the iron be blunt, and he do not whet the edge, then must he put to more strength: but wisdom is profitable to direct.

Ecclesiastes 10:9-10

The struggle of the princes is because of the absence of wisdom. That is why you find a man expending all his energy on a task and nothing seems to be working. He lacks direction. He doesn't know where he belongs, where he should be and what he should do. But to be successful in life, you must have direction. Every increase is a function of wisdom. If you don't know what to do with ten naira, how will it ever increase to fifteen? Insight is what guarantees increase, the ability to see ahead and plan for the future. You need wisdom!

Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold. She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her. Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honour.

Proverbs 3:13-16

Wisdom generates riches, which is one of the yardsticks for measuring success. It is the controlling factor for success in every area of life. Wisdom is better than weapons of war; it is better than strength. It takes away all the struggles and sweat from your life. When by wisdom you are able to find a bearing for your life, it brings you to the place of honour (Prov. 4:5-13)

Also, outstanding success is impossible without a well defined focus or purpose for living. The world has a popular saying — "Jack of all trades, master of none." This won't be your portion in life, if you by wisdom identify your purpose for living. Jesus Christ, the Creator of the whole earth, came to the world for a singular purpose (Jn. 18:37) and He faced it.

Everyone is born for a purpose. "I know My plans for you; plans of welfare not of evil, to give you a future and a hope" (Jer. 29:11). Your life will take shape when you locate and identify with God's plan for your life. You are at your best at that thing which He has prepared for you. Your discovery of it and identifying with it is all it takes to lay hold on outstanding success in life.

Wisdom For The Use Of Your Mouth

Surely the serpent will bite without enchantment; and a babbler is no better. The words of a wise man's mouth are gracious; but the lips of a fool will swallow up himself. The beginning of the words of his mouth is foolishness: and the end of his talk is mischievous madness.

Ecclesiastes 10:11-13

In walking in wisdom to get at success, you need to mind what you say with your mouth, because you are ensnared by your words. By your words you are both justified and condemned (Matt. 12:37).

The way some people talk, no matter how hard they work, they can't succeed; because they sow seeds of failure with their mouths. The prevailing principle in the school of faith is, "He shall have whatsoever he saith" (Mk. 11:23).

What you say is as important as what God says in the school of faith. Why? God is as committed to what you say as He is to what He says (Isa. 44:26).

Let's see how the words of our mouth bring us success.

A man shall be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth: and the recompense of a man's hands shall be rendered unto him.

Proverbs 12:14

That is, the rewards of the work of your hands are released through the words of your mouth. So, if you are busy working with your hands and at the same time burning such works with evil words from your mouth, you will never see success. All your inputs find conclusion in the mouth, whether they bring results or destroy what you have done.

That is why in giving the great success formula God said, "This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth..." Stop saying what is happening, start emphasizing what is written and give the angels more assignments to do.

Wisdom demands that you learn how to speak correctly; otherwise, you will work and never see results. This topic will be discussed in more details later in the book.

A Working Knowledge Of Your Task

In the world of success, information is the greatest asset. There are people in various businesses today who do not know anything about their business except for personal ideas, some of which are very weak.

When God gave the formula for success, He tied it to information: "This book of the law (the Bible) shall not depart..."

Every successful person in the world today encountered one information or the other, that brought about his success. Richard Branson (the owner of Virgin Airline in Britain) was rated the eleventh wealthiest Briton about six years ago. He rose to this position by the information he came across from reading a little book, *Small Is Beautiful*. Branson dropped out of school at the age of 19 and started business as a newspaper vendor. But the information he gathered from that little book paved the way for his great heights in business.

Another man, James Owens (popularly known as Jesse Owens), picked a piece of information from his coach in school and went on to win four gold medals at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin. He set a world record in the running board jump (also called long jump) that stood for 25 years. He told his coach, "I want to be a star." The coach replied, "Boy, you want to be a star? Very simple. You require determination, dedication, attitude and discipline. With these four, you can get to any height in the world of sports."

Owens utilized the information and became a resounding success in the world of sports and is still being celebrated today! All by information!

To be informed is to be transformed! By laying hold of relevant information and applying themselves to the information, these men were able to transform their lives and destinies!

We can't go any further than we are informed. It is an idea that begets an ideal, a thought gives birth to acts, which in turn give birth to results. Thus, your value for information is what ultimately determines the level of transformation you will experience or enjoy. Information is vital!

To be a resounding success on the earth, you need a working knowledge of your assignment. If you are in business, strive to have a good working knowledge of that business, so that your work won't be wearisome.

The labour of the foolish wearieth every one of them, because he knoweth not how to go to the city.

Ecclesiastes 10:15

The man doesn't have a working knowledge of his job, so he has a problem on hand. To be a resounding success, you need to know what obtains, what makes it work and apply yourself to them.

Every candidate in an exam has an idea, but only those that have facts scale through. You don't pass exams with ideas, but with facts. Likewise, you need facts about whatever you are doing to succeed in it. It takes facts to become fat. Every fat mark is as a result of facts. It takes facts to be fast. If you don't know the answer to any question in an examination, even if you are given ten hours to write it, you still won't finish. But when you have the facts, you can even finish before the time allotted is over.

What facts do is to make you stand out among your equals. If you locate the facts of life, you will be a highflyer. So, apply yourself to locating those facts, then put them to work in your life. That's all it takes to be a success!

Only lazy men believe in luck, men of worth believe in facts that make for success. A wise man once said, "Success is a matter of luck, ask any failure."

I love how the Living Bible renders ***Proverbs 24:3-4***:

Any enterprise is built by wise planning, becomes strong through common sense, and profits wonderfully by keeping abreast of the facts.

Facts are what make one profit wonderfully!

Discipline

Woe to thee, O land, when thy king is a child, and thy princes eat in the morning! Blessed art thou, O land, when thy king is the son of nobles, and thy princes eat in due season, for strength, and not for drunkenness!

Ecclesiastes 10:16-17

Indiscipline is an enemy of success. No undisciplined man ever ends up distinguished. You need to do the right thing at the right time. To wake up at any time you wish, sleep any time, receive visitors and talk to friends at will, is not the path to success.

Direction plus instruction is what equals distinction. Instructions are the highways of distinction. Deuteronomy 32:9-14 tells us that God's instructions were what caused Jacob to suck honey out of the rock and oil out of the flinty rock.

You don't walk in inspirations alone and end up successful. To be a success, you must walk in instructions also. God made Jacob to ride upon the high places of the earth by instruction, not by inspiration. Until you do what you are expected to do, God will never do a thing in your direction. Every act of God is initiated by man through compliance with His instructions.

I am so particular about keeping records because I have found out from God's Word that until you are faithful at one level, you will never get to the next level. I'm very disciplined in my spending because I

know that if I'm a waster of resources, I'm not entitled to His plenty. I found out from God's Word that borrowing is not allowed. I also understood that whenever I borrow, I'm simply saying to God, "You are too slow." I then told myself that if I ever borrow to eat, then I must be eating beyond my size, because His Word says His children will not beg bread.

These are all instructions. You may decide either to comply with them or not to. Whatever God tells you to do, do it. That is the secret of success, because when He commands it, you will never struggle to get results. When you act on His instructions, you commit Him to act on your behalf. He can never deny Himself.

The success we enjoy in ministry today is purely by acting on His instructions. He showed me the meaning of hardwork, that it guarantees high life; so I submitted myself to it. He also taught me the place of discipline (that is bringing yourself under necessity) in order to accomplish your given task. They don't have to be convenient; just as long as they are commanded, you comply with them.

When we had our second son, we needed money to entertain guests at the naming ceremony, but didn't have it then. I knew that if I wasn't faithful with the little I had, it would never become much. So, rather than dip my hand into His money (church money) to name my child, we served our guests snacks at the naming ceremony, rather than food.

Listen, do you want to get to the highest place in life? Then, diligently hearken to the voice of His Word, observe to do what He commands; then will He set you above all nations of the earth! (Deut. 28:1.) But you haven't done what He said you should do and you are crying. What do you want Him to do? To break Scriptures? No, He won't!

You can't be the kind of person I am to my wife and not have your wife submit to you. Neither can a woman be to her husband what my wife is to me and not have peace in her home. Why? We are both under instructions. God's instructions are the highways to distinction. Stop roaming about looking for who will help you. Do what God has asked you to do! His commandments are not grievous, they are only meant to groom you.

Do you want to be free from shame? Study! (2 Tim. 2:15.) Study, give yourself to light. Seek after light, make it brighter by the day and you will never see shame.

Everything in the kingdom works by instructions. "He led him about He instructed him as an eagle" (Deut 32:10). The man who will succeed must enjoy instructions and give himself wholeheartedly to obeying them. May God help you to value His instructions and grant you the grace to comply with them excitedly.

Instructions enhance your confidence, causing you to face life with absolute covenant confidence. May God help you to locate the instructions relevant to each area of your life.

Diligence

Success is your birthright, true; but no lazy man has a future in the kingdom. Living without working is like dying without knowing.

By much slothfulness the building decayeth; and through idleness of the hands the house droppeth through.
Ecclesiastes 10:18

You will never find a successful man who is not a successful hard worker. If you go through the story of successful men in the world and even through Scriptures, you will find out that no man ever rose to the top who was not a proven hard worker. Every man of height and dignity in the world today and in Scriptures is a notable hard worker.

The blessings of God flow through the works of your hands (Ps. 1:3). His promises are coupled with human responsibilities. He said to Abraham, "I will make you great and your name very great." The Bible says, "So Abraham departed." He didn't depart only to continue sleeping and waking up. No. He departed and started rearing cattle. Not long after, **Genesis 13:2** records that:

...Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.

It is impossible to see success without diligence. A wise man once said, "Trying to be successful without pouring yourself into your job is like trying to pluck a star out of the sky." The Bible says:

Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.
Proverbs 22:29

If a man has no business, he can't stand anywhere higher than where he is right now. You need to be diligent in your business, not running about like the devil; that's only when you can stand before kings.

A great man of God, who has been in ministry for about 53 years, wrote me a letter and started off by writing, "My dearly esteemed friend." This man started ministry even before I was born, but by reason of staying on my job, I became his dearly esteemed friend!

Here is a testimony of a brother who understood the covenant secret of work and went out for it.

"After my Youth Service, I started looking for a job. In May, the month of our prosperity, the Bishop said some things that ignited a fire in me. He said, 'Living without working is like dying without knowing. Until you work, nothing works! When there's a will, there will be a way. What you need to succeed is insight, not capital; and the insight you need demands your humility.'

Behind this, I wrote a question mark, Why? And he went on to say, 'Because, until they mock you, God won't make you. If you despise the days of little things, you will never see great days.' I settled down with these statements and didn't need any more Scriptures.

I then prepared myself and started selling coconut. I got one of my aunts to help me prepare the coconut, and everyday, I would carry it to the market and convince the women to buy. One day, I met someone who asked if I would like to teach. I said yes, and he told me I would be paid 20 naira per day. I accepted the offer, saying, 'The Bishop said I shouldn't despise the days of little beginnings.' So, I was teaching on a part-time basis and was still selling my coconut. I was very confident doing them, with no shame whatsoever.

After the service one day, a sister called me and asked if I would like to be a sales representative for a company. I told her I was interested and we both went to the company. And by God's intervention, I was given the job. While on this job, one day I washed my feet before going out and I met a man, who needed a manager for his printing press and he gave me the job!"

— *Shomefun, E.*

He obeyed the Scriptures in Ecclesiastes 9:10 ("Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with they might") and God distinguished him. *Here is another testimony of another brother, who almost got destroyed through laziness, until God had mercy on him.*

"Three weeks ago, before the service started, I sat up there in the gallery. The Bishop looked up at me and our eyes met. Then I said to myself, 'This week, something good must happen to me' But when he started preaching, it was as if, he was preaching against me!

Talking about diligence, he said, 'How can a man still be in bed at 10,11 O'clock in the morning?' And that was exactly what I used to do! I wasn't happy. I began to wonder about how he knew my deeds; I knew he didn't know me, since I was a new member in the church.

I gave myself Monday and Tuesday as off days. I don't go out on those days. I learnt this laziness from my previous job. I was in the aviation industry, where we normally have days off. I was lazy and this continued with me even in business. But after what I heard the Bishop say, I talked to myself the following day, Monday (my former off day). I told myself I couldn't afford to remain in bed till 10 O'clock anymore, that I had to go out, in honour of the word I had heard.

I had this product that had not been selling. The Spirit told me to take it along with me. This product is an expensive one that one needs to get to Victoria Island and Ikoyi to get a good market for. I stopped at Ikeja and met a man I didn't know before. I decided to show him the product and he was interested. He asked how much it was going for and when I told him, he ordered for cartons of the product! I was surprised, wondering if I was in a dream. I had left him when I went back to tell him that I would give him the product only on a payment-on-delivery basis. He said, 'Why not. Bring it.'

I took the goods to him and he paid me in 10 minutes! I said to myself, 'So this is what happens all those days I've been sitting at home?'

I moved to somewhere else and they bought the goods. And two days later, they ordered for more! And unknown to me, this man began to advertise for me. When I get to him, he would direct me to other places where my product is needed."

— *Ademuyiwa, S.*

One of the great fathers of America, Benjamin Franklyn, once said, "laziness travels so slowly that poverty soon overtakes him."

Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth; and thy want as an armed man.

Proverbs 24:33-34

Jesus, the Saviour of the whole earth, said, "I must work." In another place, He said, "The Father worketh hitherto, and I work" (Jn. 9:4; 5:17). If God the Father is working, and Jesus too, who are you going to resemble by being idle?

Work authenticates faith! (James 2:18.) What is faith? It is taking God's Word and acting upon it. Let there be no more vacuum in your life. Let there be no time when you will sit down idle. Go out and pour your life into something. Only working hands are blessed hands. Rise up and react against failure! Fulfil your

covenant obligation for success and see God back you up! *The sister in this next testimony rose up against failure and she could testify at the end, "Things have really changed for good!"*

"I came to this church in 1995. Even though I was born again when I came, my second name was failure! Life for me was a struggle. I was living in ignorance. No year passed without people telling me 'sorry' for one bad thing or another that had happened to me. I was frustrated.

I came to Winners' Chapel and settled down with God. The Bishop kept saying, 'If you don't get angry with failure, you will die a failure. People keep telling you, "Sorry". Are you not tired of sorry? When are they going to congratulate you? You don't have to be a misfit in the kingdom.' These words kept following me.

I got so angry with failure that I determined to succeed. Another snag was, I did not have money to buy books. So, I sold my clothes to buy books and decided to read them. I bought Satan Get Lost!, Releasing The Supernatural and The Blood Triumph, all written by the Bishop. I stayed in the house for three days reading these books. When I came out, I knew I had overcome failure! I saw how foolish and stupid Satan and his cohorts are, by knowledge.

In less than 20 months now, I have a business worth over 100,000 naira and four people working for me! I have given myself wholly to the teachings here. Now failure does not know my name again. Success is written all over me.

"Congratulations!" is now the order of the day in my life! I could not buy clothes before, but now I give out clothes to people. Things have really changed for good!"

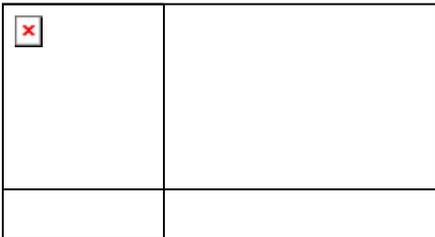
— *Emmanuel, S.*

Hear what the wise have said: "Does thou love life? Then do not squander time; for that is the stuff life is made of." Another wise man said, "Life is a coin. You can spend it anyway you wish; but you can only spend it once."

With these three covenant keys in place in your life, there is no stopping your resounding success on the earth!



essc0200.htmmessc0200.htmmess001.htmmess001.htmmessc0400.htmmessc0400.htm



..index.htm..index.htm

ess001.htmmess001.htm

Chapter 4

Success Keys

In this chapter, we shall be discussing four success keys. These keys, when in place in your life, will empower you to become an outstanding success on the earth.

Purpose

Purpose is one of the four dimensional powers for outstanding success. Everyone born into this world is separated for something, separated to a well defined purpose.

Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

Jeremiah 1:5

God is a God of purpose. Everyone born again is in God's predestination; he's no biological accident.

Purpose is a secret for success. Purpose is power! It is the key to realization. Life without purpose equals pressures without reason. When life lacks purpose, it loses colour. Martin Luther King (Jnr.) is quoted as saying, "If a man has no purpose for living, he's not fit to live."

Andrew Young, an American diplomat, said recently at a lecture, "For 18 years I eyed the United Nations seat as the United States representative. I didn't let it get off me until I saw it happen." That's what purpose does; it drives a man on! Until you are a goal-setter, you never become a goal-getter. A football match without a goalpost is very frustrating, because the game will never be over. No one scores a goal without a goalpost. To become a success therefore, you need to set goals for yourself, you must set goalposts, where you score your goals.

Many have gone through life without an identified purpose for living. All lifelong they live a trial and error life, not being able to tell what they are in the world for. To have no aim for living is to live an aimless and mindless life.

But where there is no vision, the people perish (Prov. 29:18). The word "perish" does not mean to die, it means to be stripped of honour and dignity, to be robbed of your birthright. Wherever purpose is lacking, colour is missing. Life takes on colour only when purpose is in place. Look at the picture painted of this great army in Joel.

A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations.

A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth: the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them.

They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march every one on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks:

Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path: and when they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded.

Joel 2:2-3, 7-8

There has never been a kind of them before. They are men and women who know where they belong and know what they are living for. "They shall walk everyone in his way and everyone in his path and they shall not break their ranks" (Joel 2:7).

That simply talks about men and women of purpose, who are living for well defined goals; people who know where they belong. They are the ones who will become successful on the earth.

Purpose! Nothing distinguishes as purpose! You belong somewhere, locate it!

Discovery Of Purpose

There are three ways by which you can locate where you belong here on earth.

For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

Romans 11:29

You have the gift and then the calling. The two weigh the same; they are equal in value and both come from the Lord. He is the One who calls and also the One who gives gifts to people. Whereas everyone is gifted, some others are called into certain assignments.

There is no ungifted creature in God's creation. Those gifts are what the scientists describe as potentials. Gifts are certain natural instruments that enhance profiting, the things that naturally flow out of you without pressure and stress. They are natural instruments built into your human system to make you a profitable occupant of the earth.

From the parable of the talents, we discover that God gave gifts to everyone according to their several abilities.

And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

Matthew 25:15

Everyone has a gift. God is too sure of this, that's why He said in Luke 19:13, "Occupy Till I come." The gift in you is able to gainfully occupy you till He comes.

Life without a purpose is a burden. When you see somebody going to school and he's asked what his purpose for schooling is and he replies, "Well, just to be there", he's a dangerous person.

A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.

Proverbs 18:16

The first step towards experiencing a colourful destiny is locating the gift of God in your life. What has God gifted you with? What is God telling you to do? What has He put inside you now, that holds a destiny for you?

When you look up to Him to tell you and nothing seems to be forthcoming, then look inward to discover the treasures He has put in you. Whether it is a call to ministry or a gift inside you, they are all the same. They are put there by the same source. When God says, "My son, come", that is a calling. But whether you are called for one thing or the other, you are created for something.

No redeemed person is a liability. You are a priest and a king, destined to reign on the earth, not to beg or crawl on the earth.

And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

Revelation 5:10

You are not born again a liability; rather, you are recreated an asset to your world. God has a very colourful purpose for creating you. He has built in you what it takes to fulfil that purpose, and wants you to accept the responsibility of discovering the treasures inside you and go ahead to trade with them for profiting. Certain goods are delivered to you at salvation. Your star is in those goods and begins to shine when discovered. You then engage your spirit, which is the candle of the Lord, in searching the inward parts of your belly, trying to locate these gifts. You ask yourself, "What is that thing moving on my inside? Where does it function?"

You say to yourself, " My life must be given direction. God did not create me to wonder about, but with a purpose. Now, let me sit up and locate that purpose. My spirit, go round now, search the inward parts of my belly. Help me to locate my gift."

Like I earlier said, there is no ungifted child of God. Your gift is a pointer to your purpose in life. Even when He calls, He releases gifts to match the calling. When I was a kid, the market place was a terrible place for me. I always felt uncomfortable and choked up there. I hated having to haggle for something before buying it. I always shrunk at the way traders insulted their customers. I discovered from then that I had no natural flair for business.

Many have studied certain courses that they are not gifted for. Try as much as they may, their star won't just rise there. They are not gifted in those areas. Meanwhile, somebody else who is gifted in that area steps in there and things just go on naturally. The gift of God releases the system, because you are using God's ability in carrying out that particular task.

Some people will tell you they are going into business, which they know they have no natural flair for. But they must go into business because they have seen their friends doing business. That you studied business administration at the University is no proof that you will make a good businessman. Others have the natural flair for research. They are great thinkers, who can move the world forward. But he chooses to be a contractor.

Success is not a function of profession, it's a function of fulfilment. Never operate under pressure. If you do, you have opened the door to the devil to come in.

If you are sincere with yourself, you will know the things that are not inside you, that you are just doing them because you must be doing something. You have a short time to spend here on earth. To now spend five years doing something that does not give you any sense of fulfilment, accomplishment and progress is a waste.

There is a gift in you, planted there for your distinction. May you find it in good time! Discover that gift and live well. You are separated for something very amazing. In the parable in Luke 19, everyone that used their gifts profited with it, except the one that hid his in the napkin. And do you know what he was called? He was called slothful and wicked, a lazy man.

Another way of locating your purpose is by what I call choices.

I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

Deuteronomy 30:19

God respects your choice. Not everyone must have a divine calling. There are some who may not be able to point to any outstanding gift in their lives, but can still be established in a purposeful, fulfilling life based on their choices.

God made you a creature of choice, and as long as your choice is not contrary to His covenant provisions for you, you have His backing.

The power of your choice in locating God's purpose for your life covers areas like academics, business, professional practices, but not ministry. That is given strictly by divine callings.

So, whatever you have discovered, either by calling, gifting or your choice, nurture it and do all you can to develop yourself in it, because the brightest stars in the kingdom are those who know where they are going and give it all it takes to get there.

Have One Goal

...For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 3:8

You need only one purpose; until you have found that one, you haven't found the purpose for living. Even the Messiah came for one end, He came for one cause. No wonder they call Him the Bright and Morning Star. The Jews wanted to make Him a king, but He fled.

The problem with many today is that they have too many things they are pursuing at the same time. We don't have too many stars, especially in Africa, because very few people have only one end. Many people are busy pursuing many ends. The Yoruba tribe in the western part of Nigeria even have an adage that gives credence to this claim. They say: "Not only one road leads to the market."

The Bible in **Matthew 6:22** says:

The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.

Do you want to shine? Then let your eye be single! Stop looking here and there. When God called Peter, he was not preaching in the day and fishing at night. No. Peter said, "We have left all and have followed you." Paul was also a man of one purpose.

I press toward the MARK for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:14

"Mark", not "Marks". So, whether God says, "Come on here, I have this assignment for you", or He expects you to accept the responsibility of discovering what He has placed inside you, or that you choose to go along a path of your choice, go full-length into making the most of it. You will not only be fulfilled in life, you will also end up an outstanding success.

He gave to everyone according to their several abilities. That means He gave you something. Know where you belong! Make the following declarations:

"Lord, help me not to miss my purpose for living. Help me to stick to Your ordained purpose for creating me. I am created for something unique, help me to locate and stick to it. I look up to You Jesus. I'm a creature of purpose."

Pursuit

Purpose is of no value without pursuit. Pursuit is what gives purpose value. Pursuit is the relevant force that transforms your purpose into reality.

In science, they say every object assumes a state of rest or uniform motion until a force is applied to it. Nothing works by itself; every working thing is made to work by some man. Likewise, when you don't pursue your purpose, you can't possess it.

I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reprov'd. And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. 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; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

Habakkuk 2:1-3

"That he may RUN that readeth it", not "that he may sleep." And as you run, it shall speak at the end. The vision won't speak just because you have a vision. It would only speak at the end, as you run with it; because the winner in a race is only determined at the end. If you don't run, you can't get a prize.

Vision or purpose is not the end in itself. It's only a means to an end. Knowing where you are going is the first step, the actual pursuit is what makes it a reality. It's not enough to have a goal set. Goal setting is daydreaming when it lacks pursuit.

The colour of every purpose is determined by the tenacity of the pursuit involved. "...Let him run..." That God told you to do something is not enough. You are the one to run with the vision, God won't run with it for you.

Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

1 Corinthians 9:24

Only runners obtain the prize. Many think that believing is a substitute for running. The above Scripture does not say, "All that are in a race believeth all." It says, "All that are in a race run all. So run (not so believe), that ye may obtain."

I have heard some people say, "I am believing God" and yet are not running. They are only fooling, not believing God. He has told them what to do in order to obtain. They won't do it, but rather claim to be believing Him!

Martin Luther King Jnr. said, "If you cannot fly, run. If you cannot run, walk; if you cannot walk, then crawl. By all means, keep moving!" I have kept moving!

Some Christians sit down like statues and yet expect to be crowned kings. But Apostle Paul said:

But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

1 Corinthians 9:27

What he means is, "I am pressing towards definite targets." Every star in life is a runner. Jesus, the Messiah, didn't need to press, but in **John 9:4**, He said:

I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

Nothing works, but for workers. Nothing moves but for movers. No one obtains but winners. You have discovered the divine deposit or potential inside you. What then do you do with it? You pursue it! You run with it, not sleep with it!

It is work that determines worth. To be "work-less" is to be worthless. Jesus said in John 5:17, "My Father worketh hitherto, and I work." God is a worker. The earth was void and without form. The Bible records that God finished His work (Gen. 2:2). He worked order, shape, beauty and form into a lifeless and void world.

There are many great discoverers who are non-achievers, because they are non-runners. They know what to do, but the Bible says in **Proverbs 14:23**:

In all labour there is profit: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury.

"I know what God wants me to do", they say. But that is not the way to become the president of the country. You can't just wake up one morning and say, "I'm the President."

The ultimate might be colourful, but there is a due process for getting there. Every Olympics star was a runner from his primary school days. He doesn't just wake up one morning after his university education to say he is going to the Olympics.

That discovery might be genuine, but your pursuit must be strong, if it will ever become a reality. You belong somewhere. But you don't get there by wishing, you get there by working. What you don't pursue, never think to possess. Paul said, "I therefore so run." Jesus said, "I must work."

The best in life is a function of your input. The gift of God on your inside is the pacesetter, but the actual accomplishment is a function of your personal input. No one succeeds by accident. Every successful pastor of a growing church is a high class labourer in the Word of God. Dr. David Yonggi Cho, the pastor of the largest church in the world said he spends 70% of his time in the Word, in getting ready to feed the masses and 30% is spent doing every other thing.

He said he begins to prepare for his Sunday meetings from Tuesday. By Saturday, it is already smelling good; even the environment is smelling good, indicating that Sunday is going to be great. So on Sunday morning he steps out fresh and preaches at seven services! You find people lining up in the cold to enter the church. Meanwhile, they passed by other churches on their way to Yonggi Cho's church. But those ones won't meet their needs.

People don't believe in their purpose, that's why they lack the energy for pursuit. If you believe in your purpose, you will give it what it takes to see it actualised.

Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.

Proverbs 22:29

He knows what he is doing; he has a purpose for living. The story is told of Isaac Newton. He was a great scientist who was so addicted to his research work. One day, his wife set his food on the dining table, but the man was so engrossed in his laboratory that he didn't go out to eat. His wife later had to clear the table. When he finally remembered and went out to eat, he didn't meet any food on the table. All he said, was, "Oh, I forgot I had eaten already." The man was so deep in his pursuit that he sometimes didn't remember to eat!

This is the usual characteristics of every successful runner. You know what Jesus said, "My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work" (Jn. 4:34). His disciples thought someone had given Him food to eat, because He said, "I have meat to eat that ye know not of."

Every outstanding runner is always passionately consumed by his goal. Everything is towards his set goal. He is simply goal-driven and motivated.

Pursuit! Living for a cause with all you have got, believing in that purpose and giving it all it takes to make it a reality.

When I came into the ministry full-time, I said to myself, "Nobody in ministry part-time will beat me, no matter how intelligent he may be." Why? I was committed and determined to succeed at the shortest possible time.

Success is not anywhere; it is in you and what you do with your purpose in life!

He that tilleth his land shall be satisfied with bread: but he that followeth vain persons is void of understanding. The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute. The slothful man roasteth not that which he took in hunting: but the substance of a diligent man is precious.

Proverbs 12:11, 24, 27

When you don't pursue your purpose, it fizzles out. Pursue your job! Go after it! It won't work until you work it. Pursue your purpose, persist in its pursuit and you will possess your desire.

Success is not a gift; it's an adventure undertaken by those who desire it. A disciplined pursuit of your purpose will earn you a future in the kingdom.

Some are in ministry today and are actually called by God. But they are neither running nor walking, they are simply sleeping! But a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep, so shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth and thy want as an armed man (Prov. 6:10-11).

One of the greatest enemies of success is uncontrollable sleep. The curse on the earth has been lifted. So anywhere you are is a place of success. Therefore, make the most of where you are! It is not too late to start, not starting at all is what makes you a fool.

"Lord, help me to understand the purpose for my living and energise me in the pursuit of the same. I don't want to roam about the earth as a waste, I'm an asset to Your kingdom. I'm going to run. Everyone that obtained had to run, so I'm going to run. I'm not going to wake up in the morning and fold my hands, lying down in bed night and day, waiting and wishing for things to happen. I am created a runner. There is something on my inside that is able to occupy me till my time on earth is over. I look up to You for grace to be a successful runner."

You will make a mark in your generation, as you pursue the God-given treasures on your inside!

Persistence

The act of tireless pursuit is what I call persistence. It is keeping at the pursuit of your purpose with patience. That is, you are too sure of the end, so everything you've got is put into it. No matter how it looks now, you say to yourself, "I mustn't miss it, I must get it, so let's go."

Nothing amounts to much without a consistent and persistent input. E. W. Kenyon said, "A sculptor was asked, 'How did you come by this beautiful artwork? How did you get this out of that wood?' He replied, 'I simply kept at it.'" Every precious thing takes its time. "Rome was not built in a day," they say. *Isaiah 66:7* says:

Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she was delivered of a man child.

But the very next verse asks:

Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.

Isaiah 66:8

Hit-and-run people never make the race. It is hit and stick that makes it. Someone gave a very powerful illustration, which I love. He said when you strike a wall with a sledge-hammer, it doesn't come down at the first strike. Perhaps it gives way at the 50th blow. But the 50th blow wasn't what actually brought the wall down. It was the cumulative effect of all the previous 49 blows. The 50th blow just happened to be the one that received the ovation.

God has ordained every purpose in life to start as a "baby", to grow into "maturity", till it is finally set for exploit. No precious thing begins in its fullness. It starts as a seed and with a persistent pursuit, it explodes into that great thing God destined it to be.

Anything you get overnight will disappear overnight, because wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished (Prov. 13:11).

God called me to preach in May 1981. I spent the first 26 months in preparations for a take-off. Time was spent in concerted watchings, thinking throughs, planning and fastings. The ministry started in September 1983 and the church in Kaduna took off in November 1983, with an average attendance of six.

In March, with all the anointed teachings we had, average attendance was 32. We hit it big in November, with 157 people! I remember I ran 16 powerful seminars, one per week, during this period. Some of the

books we have now, came out of those seminars. In all these, I said, "Yes, we are making it, we are going forward." We probably hit an average attendance of 500 by the end of the second year! God had told me when He called me, "I'm sending you to liberate the whole world"! But that was taking so much time to realize. I had been preaching since 1970, so preaching wasn't new to me. I had been used to the Bible and I was familiar with God talking to me. But it was taking its time. This is because everything precious takes its time.

Persistency is the rule of the game of champions. He said in **Galatians 6:9**:

And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Do you know why Isaac became a king in a strange land and the people of the land envied him? He was a persistent and tireless worker!

For all the wells which his father's servants had digged in the days of Abraham his father, the Philistines had stopped them, and filled them with earth.

And Isaac digged again the wells of water, which they had digged in the days of Abraham his father; for the Philistines had stopped them after the death of Abraham: and he called their names after the names by which his father had called them. And Isaac's servants digged in the valley, and found there a well of springing water. And the herdmen of Gerar did strive with Isaac's herdmen, saying, The water is ours: and he called the name of the well Esek; because they strove with him. And they digged another well, and strove for that also: and he called the name of it Sitnah.

And he removed from thence, and digged another well; and for that they strove not: and he called the name of it Rehoboth; and he said, For now the Lord hath made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land.

Genesis 26:15,18-22

Isaac out-dug those that were filling up the wells, so they gave up on him. They even had to sign a peace pact with him!

Run With Patience

...Let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

Hebrews 12:1

In the pursuit of your purpose, you deliver results in phases. Results in life come in phases and it takes the persistent to enjoy speed in the phases. If outstanding success is your goal, then you require patience to make it a reality. The vision is genuine, the pursuit is strong, but patience is required.

In the parable of the sower recorded in Luke 8, the seed which fell on the good ground are those who received the Word, keep it and bring forth fruit with patience. Every great tomorrow requires great patience today. The patient will be excited, because he can see a great tomorrow in what he is doing. Consider this:

And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear.

Mark 4:26-28

In this parable, the seed sown produces of its own, first the blade, then the ear and then the full corn in the ear in that order. Not the full corn the following day or over night. The desire for instant wealth is what lures armed robbers into robbery. Many of them have great potential, but lack patience; they can't wait for the time it takes to deliver.

Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward.

Hebrews 10:35

Yes, you are doing the will of God. But you need patience. If you lack patience, you will be trapped in doubt and when you give in to doubt, your destiny is doomed (James 1:7-8).

Many are just about hitting it, then they withdraw. They lack the virtue of patience, which is the natural characteristics of every star. Keep at it. If there was not much sales yesterday, get up earlier today, walk back to that store, rejoicing! Be full of hope, be drunk with hope; for when hope is dead, faith is paralysed. Patience is what enhances persistence. That little kiosk today has the potential of becoming a network of supermarkets in future. All that is required is patience. For instance, when there were only 15 people in our church, I knew it was going to make waves in the world. When it rose to 40, I knew that wherever they talked about Jesus on the earth, our church would be a point of reference. It may not have looked like that to anybody else, but I kept saying those seemingly stupid things, because I could see them.

...Who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

Hebrews 12:2-3

Consider Him, so you can also run with patience the race that is set before you! I could see that something great was ahead. What you are seeing is real, but it would take its time for you to get there. If you won't stop hitting it, you will end up having it.

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; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

Habakkuk 2:3

It shall speak at the end! The result of what you are doing now will only speak at the end. There's a future in that job, don't let any devil deceive you. There's a future in that business you are doing. All you need do is to be persistent and stay excited as you do so. If you will be a success, you must be a man and woman of purpose; you must genuinely pursue your purpose and remain a persistent runner in the race. Receive the ability to keep at it, in the precious name of Jesus!

There is life in that thing you are doing now! All it requires from you is time. No matter how much in a hurry you are to have a baby, it would take its full nine months before it comes out. When the baby comes before its due time, you are bothered. So, why are you trying to take premature delivery of success? You don't take it like that, otherwise it won't last. Any success you don't earn, you can't keep.

Persistence will wear out all frustrations, just as it wore out the Philistines in the case of Isaac. When they couldn't wear him out, he concluded, "The Lord has made room for us." God will always make room for the persistent. Rehoboth is the destination of every persistent person (Gen. 26:22).

As Isaac, we are children of promise. Don't let any devil tire you out. God has a Rehoboth, a dreamland for you. There is a place of enlargement in your tomorrow, just keep at it. Nobody may see it with you now, but it will become the talk of your generation tomorrow. Keep at it. Keep working it, it will work at the end! Persistence is what makes it work. Winners never quit, quitters never win!

Our book publishing ministry started with only 200 naira! But today, we are listed in the largest bookstore on the earth, simply because somebody was working at it!

Only beginners become finishers. What you don't begin, you never finish. Has He given you a flair for academics, politics or business? Keep at it! Stay with it! He will show you some very strange favours among your contemporaries.

If you will pursue your purpose and be persistent in the pursuit, you are sure to possess your desire — outstanding success! Grace to remain tireless in your pursuit is yours from today! You will not faint on the way anymore!

The one more step to take, for the wall of Jericho to collapse, you will not miss! The one more hammer to throw, to bring down the barrier between you and your accomplishment, you will not miss! Just like Isaac, your Rehoboth is sure, in Jesus' precious name!

Possession

What does it really take to take delivery of outstanding success? Having identified my purpose, pursued it persistently, how now do I take delivery of success?

Carry His Presence!

Divine presence is your guarantee for outstanding success!

Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep.

Psalms 127:1-2

His presence makes the difference any day, anytime! Purpose tells you where you are going, pursuit is taking steps towards where you are going, and persistence keeps you going until you get there. But divine presence is the seal on all your efforts. If God is not there, you can't be sure of success at the end. But if God be for you, who can be against you?

Hard work is not what determines how high you go in life. Neither does your persistent pursuit equal automatic success. It takes God to succeed. This is because by strength shall no man prevail (1 Sam. 2:9).

So, how do I get God on my side?

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

1 Corinthians 3:6

The increase comes after planting and watering. The pursuit of your purpose and persistence in that pursuit is planting. What then does watering stand for? The watering stage is where a lot of us miss it, and until we plant and water, it's not God's turn to give the increase.

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

1 Thessalonians 5:18

This is the last stage that grants you access to success in life. It is your depth of gratitude that determines your altitude. You don't see greatness until you are grateful. Likewise, you can't have outstanding success until you understand the mystery of thanksgiving.

In everything give thanks, otherwise you will quench the Spirit (verse 19). Ingratitude stops the intervention of the Spirit; it stops the finger of God, which is what brings you success.

Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

Hebrews 10:35-36

In the above Scripture, we find out that we can only receive the promise after we have done the will of God. And what is the will of God? "In everything give thanks."

Until the will of God is done, you cannot obtain the promise. So every pursuit in life must culminate in thanksgiving, for it to end up in success. If there was no sales yesterday, thank God there was also no armed robbery attack. No sales today? Thank God no dupe came to you or that there was no fire outbreak in your shop. Thank God for the strength He gave you, to be able to go to your shop. This is the only way to guarantee good sales tomorrow.

Many are struggling and sweating in their pursuit, but it is God's hand on a thing that makes stars in the kingdom! Do you want to see the hand of God? Then lift up your hands to Him in thanksgiving, from the depth of your heart, for all things, and you'll go places.

You may be valiant in the pursuit of your purpose. You may even be very persistent in that pursuit. But nothing would work until you are genuinely grateful to God. The way to possessing your outstanding success in Christ is to be genuinely thankful to Him for everything.

Divine presence is the ultimate in your search for success. His presence is your guarantee for accomplishment. His presence is what renders your enemies helpless, paving a way for the establishment of your goal. Carrying His presence is so vital to your success on the earth. Moses knew this very well:

...If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence.

Exodus 33:15

God granted his request, and that was why he became an outstanding success on the earth.

...My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest.

Exodus 33:14

When Jesus came to the earth, it was said of Him:

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; FOR GOD WAS WITH HIM.

Acts 10:38

I have seen many workaholics who are failures, because of this missing key. They don't know how to carry His presence, so they never succeed. They work so hard, they give so much and even love so much; but they complain so much, causing their efforts to go down the drain.

It's not enough to have a goal and be willing to pursue that goal, or to be persistent in its pursuit. It is required that you strive to carry His presence and praise creates a conducive atmosphere for His presence.

But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel.

Psalms 22:3

Until you praise Him, you are not worthy to carry His presence. Until you register in the school of thanksgiving, you'll never become accomplished or successful.

Just like a man can't survive in the water, the same way it is choking for God to stay where there is complaining and murmuring or where there is no joy, praise and thanksgiving. And as long as your life style is choking to God, you can't carry His presence.

Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.

Philippians 4:4

Rejoice evermore.

1 Thessalonians 5:16

God is very humorous. You can't close your eyes and mouth and expect to carry His presence. Rejoice in the Lord, not in your position or possession. Rejoice Evermore! That's the only way to carry His presence evermore.

You Need Joy!

You can't be "praise-full" except you are joyful. He said, "Is any merry? Let him sing" (James 5:13). If you are not merry, you are not qualified to sing. You are not qualified to praise Him until there is joy in your heart.

Joy is an asset in becoming a success. If you are not joyful, you cut God off your affairs. But when you rejoice always, His presence is guaranteed always. Jesus said, "I do always the things that please Him." That is, "I create a conducive atmosphere for Him, so My Father is with Me, He has not left Me alone. I don't choke His presence, so He abides with Me still"

Something in me is always leaping for joy. I once said to God, "Lord, even if You stop answering prayers, You'll still remain my God." You know why I'm always joyful? I reasoned with myself that what I don't have, I don't need, "For no good thing would He withhold from them that walk uprightly." So, what I don't have is not good for me. When it's good, He will give it to me. That's the way to keep on.

I have never seen anybody accomplish anything with complaints and murmurings. No one has ever made a mark with worries and anxieties. Worries only wear men out, it never adds anything to anybody. Therefore, rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice!

I have some Scripture-based principles that have helped me to keep on. One of them is, "God is always right." Only a fool fights the one he knows he cannot beat. So, everytime you complain, you have only succeeded in pitching your tent against the integrity of God.

I am simply riding on the wings of His presence. I'm heavenly covered and enveloped. I've not found a thing strong enough to break my inside. I've always had a reason to smile at every situation; it guarantees His presence!

Since Satan knows he can't handle divine presence, he starts puncturing people's joy. Every little thing that punctures your joy is the work of the devil, to make you lose His presence.

Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls:

Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

The Lord God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places. To the chief singer on my stringed instruments.

Habakkuk 3:17-19

Do you want to succeed in life? "Yet will I rejoice in the Lord; I will joy in the God of my salvation, and the Lord will be my strength (divine presence) and He will make my feet like hind's feet and will make me to walk upon my high places!"

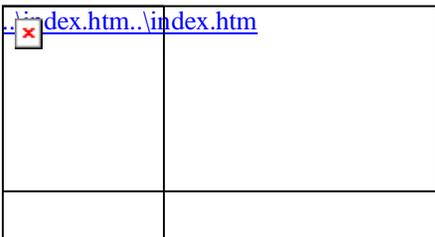
If only many will understand this mystery, they will be ten times better than what they are now. Do you want to succeed in your world, home and work? Then go for divine presence! Carry His presence, and they will locate you! Divine presence gives you unusual favour; with it, people can't sight you and resist you.

Outstanding success is therefore the heritage of thankful, "praise-full" and joyful saints, because they are the ones who can provoke the hand of God to produce results.



You will not lack results!

essc0300.htmessc0300.htmess001.htmess001.htmess0500.htmess0500.htm



ess001.htm

Chapter 5

Triggers For Success

In this chapter, we will be discussing what I call triggers for success. The covenant for success is already in place, the keys that will unlock the door to success are also in place; it is like gun powder set to be ignited. Now, the triggers, which will land you right in success — Opportunity, Creativity, Ability and Responsibility.

Opportunity

There are two closely related words — opportune and fortune. The dictionary defines opportune to mean happening at the time that is most convenient for someone or most likely to lead to success. Fortune or good fortune is defined as good luck, success or good experiences.

I therefore define a fortunate person as an "opportune" person. That is, he is smart enough to grab a productive idea and put it to work, he is smart enough to know what will work and how to make it work.

What then is opportunity? It is a discovered avenue for profiting! It is locating what will work and making it to work. It is knowing what will produce. I consider opportunity as the mother of all fortunes. To lack it is to be unfortunate! A wise man once said, "Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls that look like work."

Many people miss opportunity because it is dressed in overalls and it looks like work. Many don't like the word "work." They think opportunity is a chance to enjoy what you don't earn. But that's not true.

Another definition for opportunity is taking advantage of situations by the gifts of God in your life. Looking at a situation at hand, and by the abilities loaded inside you, you are able to determine where a particular good would sell and you go a step further by taking it there.

Sometime ago, there was scarcity of kerosene and gas in the city and a brother seized that opportunity to make fortunes for himself. He went to nearby villages and got firewood, brought them to town for sale and made great gains in six weeks! That is opportunity! There was a situation on hand and by reasoning, he was able to profit by it.

There is no short-cut to success, stop seeking shortcuts or cheap money! Nothing stays with you that you have not earned. A wise man said, "There is no short-cut to success. If you keep your attention on learning the tricks of the trade, you will never learn the trade."

True, there is no short-cut to success. If you focus your attention on learning the tricks of success, you will never learn how to succeed. But there is a truth about success, one of which is locating and making the most of opportunities.

Ways of Locating Opportunity

There are three ways of locating and utilizing opportunities.

By A Search

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

Matthew 7:7

What you don't seek, you will never find. It is your responsibility to seek and conduct a search on where the gifts of God in you can yield results. You say to yourself, "Here am I. What can I put into the system? What contributions can I make to living?" You conduct a search and are sincere about it. You want to locate yourself within the system, you want to find where you can put something in and make something happen.

Do you know why you have to do this? Opportunity is a man that is ever in great demand. If he doesn't come to you, then go to him. Conduct a search for opportunities! There is something in you that is crying out for expression. Look for where you can express it and profit by it as well. Look for where what you know or can do can be traded. You are a man of great value, you are a gifted personality. Look for where such treasures can be maximally expressed and utilized.

And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle?

Matthew 20:6

From this parable, we discover that the world is a market place and that each one has something to offer. So locate where what you have is profitable and offer it. Jesus saw some people idle in the market place of the earth, and when He asked them why they were idle, they said, "Because no man hired us." His response to them was, "Get down and work." If no one hires you, then hire yourself!

A young man from our church is now in America. He is an American citizen, who found himself back home in Nigeria and things didn't quite work out well for his parents. When the church sanctuary was being built, he saw in it an opportunity to make money with which to buy himself a ticket back to America. He was at the construction site daily, wearing rags and carrying concrete. I was drawn to him by the way he spoke. He spoke very good English, that I knew he didn't quite belong in the kind of job he was doing. But one evening, his mother brought him to my house, asking me to pray for him, as he was on his way back to America the following day. I asked how he was able to buy his ticket and was told he raised the money from working at the church site!

Opportunities abound, but people are afraid of the labour it requires. People don't want to work, that's why they claim there are no opportunities.

Jesus said, "Go and work." That means there is something to do. You must find it. God doesn't just dole out things to people, He pays people for their services.

You don't get anything out of life more than what you put into it. A wise man said, "Some people find life an empty dream because they put nothing into it."

Create Opportunities

If at the end of your search you can't locate an opportunity, then create one. The woman with the issue of blood said in her heart (through creative thinking), "There is no way I can get to this man, because of the crowd. If I may but touch the hem of His garment, I will be made whole." She created an opportunity for her healing. You create opportunities through creative thinking. "It can be done." "I can do something here." "If nobody hires me, I will hire myself."

Creative thinking helps to locate opportunities. You have a God-given ability to create things. We are heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ. By Him were all things made. As a result of this, we are joint-heirs with the creative capabilities of Christ. You can make it happen! You can work something out for yourself!

Catch Opportunities

At other times, you don't need to search for opportunities, as they just present themselves to you. That is, you just find opportunity staring you in the face.

In the early years of my secondary school education, I picked a book and discovered that the author was a palm-wine tapper who didn't even understand English. I found out that the stories in the book were the folklores told him by his parents. I grew up among old people and knew many such stories. So, I told myself that this would be of advantage to me in the future.

I gave myself to reading many African Writers' series novels and in my leisure time, I would write down all the stories my grandmother and old uncles had told me. That was how I began to develop myself in the art of writing. I would write articles and send them to my elder brother, who would mark them and send them back to me. I kept myself busy that way, not knowing that a day would come when I would sit up one night and write eight chapters of a book!

That is cashing in on opportunities. They abound all around you. "Eyes that look are many, but eyes that see are few", says a wise man. May you see the ever-abounding opportunities that surround you!

Looking through Scriptures, you will find people who became prominent through the opportunities that came their way and which they utilized. David saw an opportunity in Goliath, whom he killed and ascended the throne in Israel. Joseph saw an opportunity in the cup bearer in the prison. After interpreting his dream for him, Joseph told him, "When you get to the palace, remember me."

Opportunities are all around you. May they not slip by you unutilized anymore! Anything you get involved in that can add colour to your life is an opportunity. Anything that can put smile on your face or increase your productivity is an opportunity. Cash in on it! And in case opportunity doesn't come to your door, pursue after it in a search.

Utilize Opportunities

It is one thing to find opportunity and another thing entirely to use it. Remember the man by the pool of Bethesda (Jn. 5:1-9)? He was there for 38 years and even when a healing opportunity came through Jesus, he still couldn't see or catch it! Jesus asked him, "Would thou be made whole?" Rather than answering in the affirmative, he was more interested in explaining his situation to Jesus.

It is one thing to have an opportunity and another thing to engage it for profiting. That man was sitting by the "pool of opportunity", but was still a misfortune.

Opportunity is the mother of all fortunes. To be opportuned is to be fortunate. Another wise man said, "Many of us have heard opportunity knocking at our door. But by the time we unlock the chains, push back the bolts, turn two locks and shut off the burglary alarm, it was gone." This is a very apt summary of Songs

of Solomon 5:2-8. When opportunity is lost, misfortune sets in. So, it's not enough to have opportunity, you must rise up to utilize it; otherwise, it would be gone.

Creativity

Creativity is the ability to create. Every event in life is invented, and I define invention as intuition plus action. Invention is resourceful thinking. God is the master Creator. Solomon said:

The Lord by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens. By his knowledge the depths are broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew.

Proverbs 3:19-20

O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

Psalm 104:24

God's creative secret is His wisdom, hence I also define creativity as productive mental activity.

God's wisdom is embedded in somebody.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

John 1:1-5,9

That is, inside the Word of God is God's creative ability and this is loaded in a person called Christ. We are told in **Colossians 2:3**:

In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

First Corinthians 1:24 tells us that Christ is the power and the wisdom of God.

Let us look at it this way: behind creation is a person — Christ. And God's Word tells us in John 17:18, that as the Father has sent Him, so has He also sent us. We are also told that we are heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ (Rom. 8:17).

As joint-heirs with Christ, it therefore means that we share in His nature. If He carries creative abilities, it also means that we too carry creative abilities. And the Bible tells us in 1 Corinthians 2:16, that we have the mind of Christ! Hallelujah, we have the creative mind of Christ!

This truth is further confirmed by the fact that the most profound events on earth were invented by Bible-believing saints, who carried Christ's creative nature. Redemption connects us to the creative virtues found in Christ.

The following inventions were invented by Bible-believing saints:

- **Absolute Temperature Scale** Lord Kelvin (1824 - 1907)
- **Actuarial Tables** Charles Babbage (1792 - 1871)
- **Barometre** Blaise Pascal (1623 - 1662)
- **Biogenesis Law** Louis Pasteur (1822 - 1895)
- **Calculating Machine** Charles Babbage (1792 - 1871)
- **Chloroform** James Simpson (1811 - 1870)
- **Electric Generator** Michael Faraday (1791 - 1867)
- **Electric Motor** Joseph Henry (1797 - 1878)
- **Inert Gases** William Ramsay (1852 - 1916)
- **Kaleidoscope** David Brewster (1781 - 1868)
- **Law of Gravity** Isaac Newton (1642 - 1727)
- **Pasteurization** Louis Pasteur (1822 - 1895)
- **Telegraph** Samuel F.B. Morse (1791 - 1872)
- **Vaccination and Immunization** Louis Pasteur (1822 - 1895)

Also, the following disciplines were established by Bible-believing saints:

- **Antiseptic Surgery** Joseph Lister (1827 - 1912)
- **Bacteriology** Louis Pasteur (1822 - 1895)
- **Calculus** Isaac Newton (1642 - 1727)
- **Chemistry** Robert Boyle (1726 - 1791)
- **Comparative Anatomy** Georges Cuvier (1769 - 1832)
- **Computer Science** Charles Babbage (1792 - 1871)
- **Dynamics** Isaac Newton (1642 - 1727)
- **Electrodynamics** James Clerk Maxwell (1831 - 1879)

- **Electromagnetics** Michael Faraday (1791 - 1867)
- **Electronics** Ambrose Fleming (1849 - 1945)
- **Genetics** George Mendel (1822 - 1884)
- **Gynaecology** James Simpson (1811 - 1870)
- **Pathology** Rudolph Virchow (1821 - 1902)
- **Thermodynamics** Lord Kelvin (1824 - 1907)

This gives you an idea of the capacity of our mental system when we are redeemed. Before you were born again, you carried a natural mind. But after salvation, you now carry a redemptive mind and have the ability to reason in the class of God.

You have God's creative ability residing inside you; so, you can't keep waiting for things to happen, you can create and make them happen! You have the mind of Christ, so you should no longer be a crying baby. You are a creative giant, who should make things happen anywhere, by virtue of His gifts and endowment in you.

Stir It Up

Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

2 Timothy 1:6-7

The creative gift of God is there on your inside. Your job is to stir it up. Inside your mental system lies God's creative abilities; but you have a responsibility to stir it up. E. W. Kenyon puts it this way: "Make your brain work. It will sweat, but it will improve. It will develop until you become the envy of those around you."

You are not born to be a crying baby, you are born to be a co-creator with Him. If the things you need are not in place, all you need do is to create them.

Michael Faraday, one of the great inventors, had no formal education as it were. He was a book binder in a press, but had an insatiable thirst for knowledge. He would normally attend scientific lectures and after listening to Sir Humphrey Davies' lecture, he gathered his notes together, bound them and sent them to him.

Sir Humphrey was so impressed with Faraday's work, that when his laboratory attendant left, he rode on horseback in search of Faraday, to invite him to work with him. Michael Faraday took the job as Sir Humphrey's laboratory attendant and from there rose to become a giant in the field of science. In fact, he rose to become the envy of even Sir Humphrey, his former boss!

Do you know what it means for someone who didn't have any formal education to rise to the position of a giant in science? That means there is so much deposited inside you and this rich deposit is crying out for expression.

You can't be conscious of your rich creative abilities and still be stranded in life. There is no problem on earth without a solution. All you need do is to come to yourself and make your brain work. It will sweat, yes; but make it work all the same.

In Genesis 11, some men rose up and decided to build a tower that will reach up to heaven. When God came down to see what they were doing, even He confessed that, "...This they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do." These were unregenerated minds! How much more you with a regenerated mind!

If you really put that mind of Christ in you to work, the world would mind you. If you can't create something for the world to enjoy, you should be able to create something for yourself. The world will not mind you until you begin to put the mind of Christ in you to work. It is creative thinking that provokes productivity and enhances success. Every successful thinker ends up a high flyer.

God said in Isaiah 1:18, "Come now, and let us reason together..." If only you can reason, you will have access to the good of the land. The good in the land is for only thinkers. Mental failure is the reason for mediocrity; and mental failure comes as a result of disuse of the senses.

Success is not a gift; it is a choice, that becomes a reality by one accepting responsibility. If God's wisdom founded the earth and His understanding established the heavens, then His wisdom in you should be able to create a world of success and triumph.

Wisdom is the real capital one requires for outstanding success. Jacob's success story in Genesis 30:28-43 is a celebration of wisdom and the triumph of creativity. Jacob used the creative ability in him to put an end to a life of slavery and captivity in the house of Laban. Jacob stirred up the gift inside of him and knew how to produce ringstraked, speckled and spotted cattle.

And Jacob took him rods of green poplar, and of the hazel and chestnut tree; and pilled white streaks in them, and made the white appear which was in the rods. And he set the rods which he had pilled before the flocks in the gutters in the watering troughs when the flocks came to drink, that they should conceive when they came to drink. And the flocks conceived before the rods, and brought forth cattle ringstraked, speckled, and spotted.

Genesis 30:37-39

By this method, Jacob got all the strong cattle, leaving the weak ones for Laban. Verse 43 summarizes Jacob's success story like this:

And the man increased exceedingly, and had much cattle, and maidservants, and menservants, and camels, and asses.

Creative thinking makes for colourful living!

Every time you sit down to think through a situation, you end up with statements such as, "I see!" What have you seen? The way out! Only those who think, see. So, start thinking, and you will discover that the way is not as far as you thought. There's always a way out, but only those who think see that way.

With only twenty thousand naira and creative thinking, you will be guided into building a multi-billion naira business; whereas another man has one hundred thousand naira and no creative thinking, and within a month, he is back to square one —no money! He lacks the real capital for success — wisdom.

Everyone is created a tower builder. But what does it take to build a tower? It takes sitting down to count, calculate and reason your way through. When this is in place, before long, your tower would be up there in the sky! Say to yourself convincingly, "What it takes to go up is in me: I am going to put it to work now."

Isaac Newton was able to engage his brain productively in developing the three laws of mechanics. By the time he finished his first degree, he was already a professor. Powerful thinkers get powerful results!

One of my sons is now in the big time business of exporting food. He started through creative thinking. He had resigned from where he was previously working and was living on his savings, while thinking of what next to do. Meanwhile, he was down to his last ten thousand naira, with no job in sight. He was in this situation when he and his wife came to church on October 14, 1996 and heard me talk about a vehicle I saw in Ghana, on which was written, "There is no food for the idle man."

According to him, that day I went on to say, "That's true, because even the Bible says he that does not work should not eat." He said he quickly told his wife, "That's me the Bishop is talking about." So the following day, he put on his tie and jacket and went to the airport with his car and picked passengers going to Victoria Island and Ikoyi. At the end of the day, he returned home with three thousand naira! When his wife asked him, "Where did you get this from?" His reply was, "From the Bishop's message."

From doing that job, he was able to feed his family and raise enough money with which he started his food export business. That is creative reasoning!

Please sit up and look around you to see the creative resources which are wasting away, and put them to good use. Success is not a gift; it calls for your responsibility. There is a bright future for you! Don't wait to be pitied, you are a man to be envied! Go and put what you have got to work! Don't live as a liability, you are an asset to your generation! There's a great tomorrow awaiting you! There's a place for you at the top, you will not die at the bottom, in Jesus' name!

Ability

The ability to do something is the quality or skill that you have, which makes it possible for you to do it. It is from the root word "able." You need the trigger of ability to succeed, because as long as you see yourself as being unable to succeed, you will never have the ability to.

In Numbers 13, twelve people were sent out on a mission to spy out Canaan. Ten of them came back with a report of Israel's inability to possess the land.

But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we.

And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature.

And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

Numbers 13:31-33

But Joshua and Caleb saw it differently.

And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.

Number 13:30

They saw their ability to possess the land and they actually did, while the men who brought the evil report all died in the wilderness.

Success has eluded many today because they see it as impossible, a feat that can't be attained. They say to themselves, "What can I do under this circumstance? I am helpless of course, I can't do it." They even go as far as saying, "No one else can do it."

If you can't see your ability to do a job or to succeed, you will never do it or succeed. You can't go farther than you can see yourself going. Without a sense of ability, there is no outstanding accomplishment. You need to develop an ability consciousness, to tell yourself at all times and before any difficult situation, "This can be done."

When we were building the Dominion Cathedral in Kaduna, the engineers said it was impossible to roof it, because of its peculiar 'D' shape. I told them we shouldn't argue about that on the ground, that when we got to the roof, that problem would be tackled. So construction work continued on the building.

One day, I was returning to Kaduna from Makurdi and saw the NNPC building in Kaduna. I saw all the lighting effect on the building and it occurred to me that a man born of woman designed this building. I then asked myself, "So, why should there be any problem roofing our cathedral?" I immediately called the engineer and told him, "You either do it, or I do it myself."

Meanwhile, a company had given us a quotation to roof it by space deck. In fact, the idea of a space deck came to them only after I had insisted that the building could be roofed. The figure they quoted was funny and on the very high side. They also said they would need to bring in an expatriate, to supervise the job.

I withdrew the contract from the company and decided we would roof the place ourselves. I said to the people, "What is in roofing a place? Place the roof on the building. If it comes down, find out why it did and correct it." They did the first one and called me to tell me that it collapsed. I told them to find out why it fell and fix it back again, because the Bible says, "The just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again" (Prov. 24:16). They fixed the roof back again, and it has been standing there for over five years now!

You need a sense of ability! You need to understand that God has loaded you with His grace and ability; that should make you see beyond impossibilities. Your sense of ability is what propels you to action and productivity. Until you see a situation as accomplishable, it can never be accomplished.

The ten spies said, "We be not able to go up against the people." The way you see yourself is the way you see the challenges before you. You are not taller than you see yourself before your opponent. The spies said, "And we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight."

God has loaded you with His manifold graces. For Jesus to say, "He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do" (Jn. 14:12), He must know the stuff you are made of. You are made of supernatural capabilities! You are able to get things done that are beyond human imaginations, so go forward!

We eventually spent an amount less than one quarter of what the company that quoted for the space deck quoted in roofing the cathedral.

To succeed in life, always have the right perspective. With the right perspective, you are able to see that there is nothing in the matter before you. Before engineering was invented, people were living in houses, not in holes. So I saw absolutely nothing difficult in roofing a house.

In 1904, after so much fruitless efforts had gone into trying to make a vessel fly in the air, scientists met in London and concluded that it was impossible for any piece of metal to fly in the air. But two brothers (the Wright brothers) despised this conclusion and kept on at their experiment. And in 1910, they proved the scientists wrong, by flying the first machine in the air! Till today, we are still flying in the air!

You have what it takes to get things done on the earth, so give it all it takes. Caleb said, "We are well able." Every obstacle in life is a potential miracle, all you need do is to confront it. There is no mountain anywhere; every man's ignorance is his mountain. If any man can do it, then any other man can!

If you realize that all the courses being studied today were invented by other men like you, then you won't have any problem understanding them. How can one man invent a course and another find it difficult to understand? He thinks it is difficult to understand only because he has not applied himself to understanding it.

It Is By Faith

Jesus said in John 14:12, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do..." By this statement, we understand that ability can be contacted by faith.

You contact the ability to succeed from what God has said concerning you in the Scriptures. Believe the Word of God. Believe that whatever He says you can do can be done; that way, you will destroy all impossibilities before you.

What then does the Word say concerning you? It says, you are fearfully and wonderfully made (Ps. 139:14). So, you are made of marvels and have the ability in you to equally create marvels. You have the ability to produce wonderful and fearful things, because inside you lies eternal life and so you carry eternal potential.

In **Judges 6:14**, God met Gideon and gave him an assignment.

And the Lord looked upon him, and said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee?

But Gideon said to God, "I don't think You picked the right person." There is no one God has sent into this world that doesn't have the required might for exploits and success. Jesus said, "As the Father has sent Me, even so send I you." That means He has sent us with the required might to enjoy the required dignity in life. All we need do is to have a new perspective. Your perspective is what determines your ultimate position, for as a man thinketh in his heart, so is he (Prov. 23:7).

The most outstanding success stories are of people with a possibility mentality. People who see that things can be done are the ones who get them done. Please know that you have might on your inside. If you have the Holy Spirit, you have the spirit of might. God uses the Holy Spirit to strengthen your spirit with might in your inner man. The Holy Spirit gives you an unbeatable might, which enables you see only possibilities, rather than impossibilities.

That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;
Ephesians 3:16

You can do all things through Christ who strengthens you (Phil. 4:13). Give that strength expression! Give that grace expression. That perspective that you can succeed is what triggers you to take steps. In every man's Canaan there are giants. But it takes men with the possibility perspective and thoughts to take their Canaan.

You have gone round that mountain long enough, turn you northwards! There's a place for you up there, you have what it takes to go forward, so go forward! Daniel 11:32 says, "The people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits."

How can God be your strength and you say you can't? You are loaded with potential, you are gifted with grace, go and put it to work. Never say, "It cannot be done." You cut short your destiny when you say so. Rather, like Paul, say, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Many years back, I was about leaving on a trip, when my wife asked me how she was going to get to work on Monday. I told her, "Simple! Here is the car key, there is the car and you know the way." After I left, she sat down with two of my messages on confidence and began listening to them. She had not finished listening to the second one when she realized that she could drive! She immediately entered the car and drove to a friend's house. She has been driving ever since.

You need a sense of ability. It can be done, you can venture it, you can take gallant steps. You can make things happen! Many have not been able to build their houses or start new businesses because they couldn't dare to step out. They tell themselves they don't have enough money or capital.

When we were to start building the Dominion Cathedral, I asked the engineers, "How much will this building cost?" They said, "Between ten and fifteen million naira." I told them, "Even if it's going to cost one hundred and twenty million naira, we are starting the construction today." We went ahead to lay the foundation. Meanwhile, we had less than one hundred thousand naira in the account! When I heard how much we had in the account, I told them, "That's too much. God didn't have anything when He started to create the world!"

You are made of a marvellous and wonderful stuff; you are expected to be a fountain of marvels and wonders on the earth. What anybody else can do, you can do also. Go and make it happen! Take gallant steps, take calculated steps, believing in what you are doing. Put your best into what you are doing and success will be your portion, in Jesus' name.

Responsibility

Now, let's consider the final trigger that will land you right in success. One wise man said, "Responsibility is the price for greatness." This is true, because until God has found you responsible, He won't place you (1 Tim. 3:10).

Another word for responsibility is self-discipline. That is, bringing yourself under rules and laws in order to attain your ultimate goals in life. In the testimony I shared earlier in chapter three, that brother said he heard me say, "If you are not working, you are dying without knowing." That spurred him on to get a job by all means. He started by selling coconut and ended up as a manager.

Responsibility requires that one positively responds to the demands of life or Scriptures. To be outstandingly successful, one must positively apply oneself to certain demands of life and Scriptures.

For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel! For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me.

1 Corinthians 9:16-17

Necessity! Necessity was laid upon Paul to preach the gospel, not by God, but by himself. Why? He wanted to be a successful preacher and soul winner.

To him, preaching the gospel was a must— "Woe unto me, if I preach not the gospel." It was a task that must be done. Until a task becomes a must, it never gets done.

In order to attain success in life, you need to respond positively to the necessities of your life. For example, you have said to yourself, "I shall not beg." Great! When it becomes a necessity to you, that statement changes to, "I must not beg." You then ask yourself, "If I must not beg, what then must I do?" You then probably engage yourself in a search and come across Proverbs 20:4, "The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing." You then conclude to yourself, "If I must not beg, then I must work, no matter how hard the situation."

In your home, you tell yourself, "I shall have peace in my home." If you must have peace, then necessity is laid on you. So, "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it." "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel."

So, as a husband, you say to yourself, "If I must have peace in my home, then I must love my wife as Christ loves the Church and must accept the responsibility of providing for my family, so that my wife and children will not go hungry and tattered. To do this, I must work hard, in order to earn a good living."

Necessity enhances responsibility. Let's accept responsibility; for it's a demand for outstanding success! Listen to Apostle Paul again:

For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.

1 Corinthians 9:19

That is responsibility! He said to himself, "This job must be done, and whatever way it takes to do it, I'm ready for it. The job must be done by all means."

To succeed as a pastor, you must have this spirit. Paul said, "I have made myself servant to all." A responsible pastor destined for success is always at the serving end. He is not sitting down somewhere like a Melchisedec, waiting to receive from people and to be served. He is sensitive to the needs of the people he has been sent to and is willing to pay more price than every one else.

To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law.

1 Corinthians 9:21

If you work with the perspective of, "I am under the law of Christ", you will never stop growing. Even though you are the head of an organization, you are also under the lordship of someone else.

It is impossible to be without law. You can't be responsible without a set of laws that guide your actions. When Israel was without law, there was no peace to him that went out, nor to him that came in, great vexations were upon all the inhabitants of the countries. There was no progress or success to them all (2 Chron. 15:3-15).

To be lawless is to be lifeless. Life without law is a crises-laden life. Be responsible by bringing yourself under certain laws that will help you become an outstanding success in life!

It takes responsibility to live a life of dignity. How God rates your responsibility determines how He places you in life. Until He has proved you responsible, He won't put you in a place of honour and dignity.

Responsibility is the price for true greatness. It's time to accept responsibility for a life of dignity. It's time to accept the laws of Christ, that terminate all forms of crises.

And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

1 Corinthians 9:25

You can never be in control of the affairs of life without self-control. It is what puts you in charge. So, if you are striving for mastery (success), then you must exercise self-control, you must be temperate.

There is no greatness without responsibility; so choose to be responsible. To be irresponsible is to have no place on the earth, while responsibility will take you to the high places of life. So, look out for the necessities of life that affect your destiny and submit yourself to them.

All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.

1 Corinthians 6:12

That is responsibility! Your task should be what ultimately determines your act. You should operate under certain set necessities. Some people are great givers, but are financially catastrophes because they are not accountable. God can't entrust His riches in their hands, because He is not wasteful. He said, "Gather the remnant, let nothing be wasted."

"God help me to live a responsible Christian life, let my light so shine before men, that they would see Your good hand upon my life, producing good works in my ways. Lord, help me to bring out the best in me on the earth." This prayer is one you should say very often.

I believe that God has helped me to trigger in you an unquenchable quest for success. That will be your experience, in Jesus' name!

Somebody once said, "The road to success runs uphill, so don't expect to break any speed records." Indeed, the road to success runs uphill, people who are over-relaxed on the way and are not pushing uphill never get there. You will go up, in Jesus' name. Success is your birthright!



essc0400.htmmessc0400.htmmess001.htmmess001.htmmessc0600.htmmessc0600.htm



..index.htm..index.htm

ess001.htmmess001.htm

Chapter 6

Will To Succeed!

This book aims at building you into a success tower. The foundation for success has already been laid in the preceding chapters, so in this and subsequent chapters, we would be laying one block upon the other, till the success tower is completed. We shall be discussing those extra things you need to add to the foundation, to emerge an outstanding success on the earth.

One of them is that you must will to succeed. As I have said many times already, success is not a gift; it's a choice. Yes, success is the birthright of all saints, but the individual's choice or will to succeed determines his portion.

...Whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Romans 8:30

Yes, God's will and desire for all His children is glory—the glory of success. But then He also said in Deuteronomy 30:19:

...I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

God is here saying that your choice becomes your lot, what you choose determines what you become. So, choose to succeed and you will! Choice is a fundamental covenant right. Your choice to succeed is what generates in you the force to succeed. Your choice is the compass that points to your destination.

The will to succeed is the gateway to success. By giving you the right to choose, God is saying, "Whatever you become is your choice." One day, someone said to me, "The only thing we are yet to understand about you is where you get your strength from." He was referring to my tireless work (I work a minimum of 18 hours each day).

Thinking over this later, I came up with a statement: "It is the will that creates the way." The will of a man is a very potent force. That is why when faced with danger, your will to live enables you to do things you never thought were possible. The will to live provokes the strength in your being to do what you could not have done before.

For example, there is the story of a pregnant woman, who being chased by a mad dog jumped over a seven feet wall! The will to live infused a strange strength into her. Likewise, the will to succeed drives you to go in search of the things that cause one to succeed and to apply them. It makes you to enjoy paying the price for success. You need to pay the price in order to get the prize.

Your will has the power to infuse strength into your being. The strength you need for accomplishment is in your will to succeed. I said to myself, "I can't afford to be poor." This infused in me the strength to go in search of the things that causes one to escape poverty and having located them, to diligently do them.

Success is not a gift, it's a choice! Frederick K. C. Price said, "We have not succeeded by accident." Nobody will consider an accident as a success. When your choice is made, the grace and strength for accomplishment is imparted. When man decided to build a tower that will get to heaven in Genesis 11, even God agreed that nothing could stop them.

And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.

Genesis 11:6

When you will to succeed, because it is God's covenant plan for you, He makes the way for you and backs you up with His strength. Your success is not in any other person's hands, but yours. Even the Almighty God can't stop your will. You will succeed!

However, some of the things we think are our will are nothing but mere wishes. A wish is an idle thought, to which no commitment is attached. It's a mere daydream. "If I had money, I would buy 50 trailers." Many live in fantasy islands all their lives. They are very fantastic wishers, but are doomed, because the desire of the slothful killeth him (Prov. 21:25) His life-span is shortened, because all he has are balloon dreams.

But the will is a potent force that not only desires a thing, but also backs it up with a commitment that generates the force or ability to make it a reality. You say to yourself, "This is what I want and I'm ready to give it whatever it takes." When you add commitment to your desire, it becomes dedication. A mere desire without a commitment backing it is disastrous.

Everything you read in the Bible presents you with a choice. On October 4, 1981, I read from Deuteronomy 15:6, "...And thou shalt lend unto many nations, but thou shalt not borrow..." and I made my choice against borrowing. I backed this choice up with a commitment. I said, "If it will mean going without food for days, I will never beg or borrow; I will rather die in the will of God and get to my place in heaven, than break His Word and roam about on the earth." This commitment infused in me the drive to prosper, so I would never borrow or beg; and today, I'm not owing anyone, dead or alive! In fact, I have never owed anyone.

Can't you see the big choice that opens the gate to blessings and curses in Deuteronomy 28? "If thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God..." It is conditional, it is you who determines what becomes your lot — the blessings or the curses; and all by your choice to either diligently hearken to the voice of God or not.

The will to succeed destroys the obstacles on the way. Isaac chose to succeed, so even though there was famine in the land, he sowed his seed and his choice prevailed. He received a hundred-fold of what he sowed and prospered in the land. His will to succeed did not allow him to see the hardness of the ground or his blistered fingers. Later on, when he dug a well and they strove for it, his will to succeed drove him to dig another. He kept digging till he tired out his oppositions. His will to succeed was the driving force that kept propelling him forward, not allowing him to see the obstacles before him.

You can't choose to succeed and lack the drive. The drive is inherent in the choice you make. You joyfully pay the price for your choice. The ability to succeed is already in you, it is your choice that releases it. You are pregnant with success already, your choice to succeed is what helps you in the push, so you can give birth to success.

You can't hold anyone responsible for what you become in life. From the age of 20, God sees you as being able to answer for yourself (Deut. 1:20-26; 14:29). I choose to succeed, that's why I am succeeding. I choose to have no excuse for failure, that's why I can't entertain it. I choose to blame no one else for what becomes of me, that's why I accept the full responsibility for what my future holds. My success is not with my uncle or friend, but with me and God.

Why do I work hard? I have chosen to get to the topmost, to leave a legacy in the sands of time. My choice to be a blessing to my generation and to leave my imprints on planet earth creates a drive to succeed inside me.

Please, make a choice to succeed! Your father is not your problem, neither is your mother, friend or uncle. Jesus said, "I have power to lay it down and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father." The will power is delivered to us as a commandment, in order to determine the direction for our lives.

Daniel purposed in his heart not to defile himself and even the lions' den could not change that resolution. The fiery furnace could not stop the three Hebrew boys' will not to bow to any graven image. By the power of his choice, the young rich ruler in Mark 10:17-22 was able to live a life of purity.

Adam and Eve were both given a choice to live either in the garden of Eden or in the wilderness, and they disastrously chose the wilderness. You also have been given the choice of eternal life or death through accepting or rejecting Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, a choice of prosperity or penury, a choice for a position at the top or be buried in the valley. Choose eternal life, prosperity and a life at the top. Choose to succeed!

Say this to yourself, "I am a creature of choice, I have no one to blame for whatever becomes of my life. I accept full responsibility for my life and have chosen to live my life in the garden of plenty, because the wilderness is not a place for a king."

Your choice is what makes you a choice, so take it seriously. You have no reason to fail, because all that it takes to succeed has been planted in you (Isa. 5:1-7). You have the power to possess your possessions; the devil has no power over your life. Please, will to succeed! Satan can't tamper with your choice, because the



Almighty won't tamper with it either.

[essc0500.htm](#)[essc0500.htm](#)[mess001.htm](#)[mess001.htm](#)[messc0700.htm](#)[messc0700.htm](#)



[..index.htm](#)[..index.htm](#)

[ess001.htm](#)[mess001.htm](#)

Chapter 7

Use Your Mind

Everything to make you a man and a woman of distinction and great success is inside you. When we were redeemed, one of the things that happened to us was an exchange in the spirit realm. Our natural mind was exchanged for Jesus' divine mind.

For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

1 Corinthians 2:16

So, you and I have the mind of Christ; therefore, the world should mind us. What you carry inside you is peculiar, so the world should take notice of you, if only you know how to put it to use.

The Only wise God can't give birth to foolish children. No! We are wise people by inheritance; all we need do is to activate this rich deposit inside us.

There is so much inside you and me, that when you become fully aware of it, you will be angry with mediocrity and failure. You can't fail, because the force that created the heavens and the earth is right inside you!

Now will I sing to my wellbeloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My well beloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill:

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

Isaiah 5:1,13

Unfortunately, however, though every believer has the creative and excellent mind of Christ, not everyone is aware of it or is using it! And that is the reason why a lot are on the floor, barely able to make ends meet. Every deprivation and frustration in life is because either there is no awareness of the rich deposit of grace or that grace is not fully utilized. The human brain contains largely untapped potential. The average person is said to utilize only about ten per cent of the brain's potential and the very hard working ones stretch this by only a fraction.

It is the use of the mind or brain that will make the world to mind you. When your mind is not in use, the world will not mind you, because nobody minds a mad man. But the productive use of the mind is what leads to success, causing those around you to mind you.

Christianity enhances dignity, it doesn't bring people down. The reason many Christians are suffering today is because they suspended the use of their minds when they gave their lives to Christ, thinking that it was no longer needed. They think that the use of their minds for reasoning is contrary to faith. But they can't be farther from the truth.

The use of your senses is what enhances your results. You require more smartness than strength to be successful in life.

Every great building is not just built by digging holes in the ground to lay a foundation and then laying the blocks till a tower emerges. No. It begins on the architect's drawing board. Likewise, every great result or success in life begins on the drawing board of the mind.

So many have great ideas, but lack the ability to fully develop these ideas. Every event in life is invented. What is an invention? It is intuition plus action. That is, giving feet to one's ideas. You don't just get to work immediately with your ideas. Rather, when an idea comes to you, you first settle down and thoroughly analyze your steps. When you are persuaded by the available facts, that what you are doing has a tomorrow, you can then get to work on the idea.

The more time you invest in reasoning, the higher you rise in life. Working a thing or an idea is not what makes it work; it is working with the right sense and relevant facts that makes working resourceful.

You Need Facts

Understand that faith does not nullify facts. In fact, in the school of success, fact is one of the principal pillars. It takes facts (about the task you are confronted with) to be fat. You need facts about your job. You can't just go and start selling vegetables without having the relevant facts about where they can be got, how they can be preserved and what sales to expect.

You need to adequately analyze these facts before you set out to start selling vegetables, otherwise you will only be engaged in an unfruitful labour.

Any enterprise is built by wise planning, becomes strong through common sense, and profits wonderfully by keeping abreast of the facts.

Proverbs 24:3-4 (TLB)

Every great thinker is a high flyer. No matter how spiritual you are, if you are not a thinker, you will sink and eventually stink. I have many proven and outstanding facts about ministry. I laboured to locate them in twenty-six months before full ministry work started. I fully documented my discoveries and the way to apply them in order to succeed before the work began.

Understand this: every outstanding result comes out of a good understanding. If you don't understand your job, you can't become outstanding in it.

It's time to settle down and understand your job or given assignment. You don't start building a house before you begin to decide where the pillars will be. Where the pillars will be is determined on the drawing board.

Thank God for how He has helped us on the foreign field, but we spent six months in incessant planning before the first set of missionaries went out. The objectives were well defined and the approach well spelt

out. We had series of meetings at which we first collected the facts about mission work, discussed them and came out with how to handle the assignment.

That business of yours has a very great future. All you need do is to give it greater attention than you are presently giving it, especially at the drawing board stage.

If only you will plan your work, the world will mind you. If you will strategize your approach, your results will be outstanding. Look at that venture once again and ask yourself, "Where do I want this venture to end?" You decide whether you want a mere subsistent business that will only put food on your table and clothes on your back, or whether you want to affect your generation by it. Double attention will earn you double success, so give it what it takes.

What God is doing through this book is to provoke your mentality, in order to make you an outstanding success on the earth. So, accept the challenge. Great is God's hand on your life now, but He desires to make it greater by your sound reasoning and wise planning. You won't miss your outstanding success, in Jesus' name!

Telling yourself, "God will do it", without sitting down to do your own part of reasoning and planning, may leave the job undone forever. Every hand of God in your life is provoked by you. He said, "Draw nigh to me and I will draw nigh to you." Have you not read that every enterprise in life is built by wise planning, it becomes strong through the use of common sense and profits wonderfully by keeping abreast of the facts?

I have read of so many men who had very limited education, but who through the adequate use of their minds have shaken their world. Michael Faraday who became a giant in the world of science had very little formal education. He began as a book binder in a press and later became a laboratory attendant. But he was a thinker, he could use his mind. No wonder he was able to explode in the world of science.

Benjamin Franklin was another good thinker. He had only two years of formal education and was an apprentice in a printing shop. It was there that he developed the habit of reading. He taught himself how to read and write and grew to become one of America's foremost philosophers. Today, there is a Benjamin Franklin Day in America.

These men exploded in the academic field, though they had very little formal education. They were able to do this through the productive use of their minds. This tells you what stuff your mind is loaded with. Your mind is full of vitality. There is something in it, that when it is engaged, will launch you into the realm of outstanding success!

I don't believe there is anyone born a genius. Rather, every genius became one by engaging his mental faculty, by challenging it to productivity. In fact, a wise man once said that every outstanding result is a product of ten per cent inspiration and ninety per cent perspiration (through the use of the mind).

E.W. Kenyon challenges us to use our minds this way: "Make your brain work. It will sweat, but it will improve; it will develop until you become the envy of those around you."

Success is not a gift, it is an attainment. It is not willed on people, it is earned. Every holder of a success miracle earned it by himself. Your mind is where your lifting is. All you need do is to settle down and be a good planner. Don't eat your tomorrow today, plan for progress, it doesn't just drop on people.

I see the dawning of a new day for you. There is a great tomorrow just staring at you and God is beckoning on you, "Come up My son, come up thither, there's somewhere higher than where you are now."

Don't say, "No" to outstanding success, it's your birthright. Don't give in to pressures; rather, take advantage of the pressures to obtain the precious. There is something in you that the world needs, let it flow out of you.

Believe in facts and information. Put in all it takes to acquire them, for they will give quality to your reasoning and planning. And when applied, you will come out with improved results and become an outstanding success in your generation.

Nothing happens on its own. Everything happens because somebody caused it to happen. Please make good



success happen, use your mind!

essc0600.htmmessc0600.htmmess001.htmmess001.htmmessc0800.htmmessc0800.htm

 dex.htm..index.htm	

ess001.htmmess001.htm

Chapter 8

Put Your Hands To Work!

In chapter three, we identified diligence as one of the covenant responsibilities you must accept, if you aspire to be successful in life. We shall be treating that subject in full in this chapter.

Indeed, there is no substitute for hard work, if you want to succeed in life. Diligence or hard work is a major ingredient for success in life. It is a covenant requirement.

In all labour there is profit: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury.

Proverbs 14:23

For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.

2 Thessalonians 3:10

"In all labour there is profit." "He that doesn't work, let him not eat." These are all covenant demands. There is no substitute for hard work, if you want to succeed. A Gallup poll result in America came up with a statistics that revealed that 80 per cent of the children of successful people in America do not succeed. This is because they are not exposed to the major ingredient that makes for success — hard work. Everything is done for them, they don't know how to do anything, so they end up not being able to keep a thing.

Every destiny decays in the hands of laziness, idleness and slothfulness. Just as success is as a result of diligence, failure comes through slothfulness.

By much slothfulness the building decayeth; and through idleness of the hands the house droppeth through.

Ecclesiastes 10:18

Success is impossible until your hands are set to work. Until your hands become working hands, your life will not become a working life, for work is what determines your worth in life.

There is plenty in God's destiny for you, but the work you do with your hands is the avenue through which it will come. Even though God had promised to make Abraham great, we saw Abraham getting busy with rearing cattle, even at an advanced age of 75. He knew that the only way God would bless him was through the works of his hands. Genesis 13:2 says this of him, "And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold." Solomon said:

He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.

Proverbs 10:4

When your hands are slack, poverty is sure to come your way. If you want to be successful in life, then you must deal with strong hands.

The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.

Proverbs 13:4

Failure becomes your heritage only when your hands refuse to work. It takes diligence to become successful.

God has covenanted to establish His throne in the last days' Church, because out of Zion shall proceed the law and the Word of the Lord from Jerusalem. So, the last days' Church is a reigning one. The Bible says in Proverbs 12:24:

The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.

You reign by working! This is where a lot in the body of Christ have missed it. They tend to want to substitute work with prayers. But you don't reign by praying, you reign by working! Prayers are spiritual wishes, and if wishes were horses, all beggars would ride. The Bible says only the diligent shall bear rule; and the slothful shall be under tribute and the Scriptures cannot be broken!

Work is a commandment even in the Bible. Jesus said in John 9:4:

I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

In Luke 18:1, Jesus spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray and not to faint. This was an advice, not a command. But when it came to work, He said, "I must work." It is not recorded anywhere in the Bible where Jesus said, "I must pray." This is because if you do whatever He tells you to do, you won't need prayers to get Him committed.

Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.

Proverbs 22:29

Diligent in his business, not diligent in prayers. Your disobedience to His command to work is what is making you spend countless and needless hours in laborious prayers. A student who would not study for his exams, but spends hours praying will still end up a failure.

You commit God to your matter when you diligently operate covenant principles. Diligence is one of the principles for success on the earth. If you don't work, you can't climb unto your covenant throne of success.

Jesus said, "**I must work.**" He didn't stop there, He also said, "My Father worketh hitherto, and I work." So, God the Father is working, Jesus the Son and Messiah is working; who then are you taking after, if you go about wasting your life through laziness and idleness?

Work authenticates faith (James 2:18). Faith is not what God will do, but acting upon what God says in order to establish the desires of your heart. Do you want success? Then listen to what He says you should do to be successful and go ahead to do it. What does He say? Work! You are either a worker or you are worthless.

Work is of God, hard work is His will. Success is a structure which every individual has to build. No man's goodwill is strong enough to make any man a success. There is no future in idleness, no lazy man has a future in the kingdom.

Friend, life doesn't answer to wishers, only to workers! It is better to pray soft and work hard than to pray hard and work soft. In the covenant, the harder you work, the more profit comes your way.

When you spend time praying for success without working, you are not praying according to the will of God, so you won't get an answer. But when you do what He tells you to do, a miracle answers to you automatically. Go and work, the city is big enough to accommodate your success!

Hard work keeps you healthy. Since the day I started working full-time in ministry, I work for an average of eighteen hours each day, and I'm living the healthiest life. My body is as strong as stone and all my organs are functioning very well. You are created to work; when you are not working, you are wearing out.

When you build a house that is not occupied, don't you see how fast it wears down? That's the same way many idle people wear out. Everything in them is tired — the kidneys, livers, intestines, etc. Don't destroy your life like that. Nothing works until you work it. If you are not a worker, you will end up begging.

God the Father is working; He neither sleeps nor slumbers. How then do you plan to get His approval when you spend your whole day sleeping? Our ministry was commissioned on a Saturday and I told the people that God must not meet me at home by 8 a.m. on Monday. On Monday morning, myself and the other members of staff were in the office — a games room, with a table tennis board as our desk! It was while we were there that we found a suitable office accommodation.

Remember that brother's testimony in chapter three? The brother who made Monday and Tuesday his off days, including Saturdays and Sundays. You saw how poverty was his next door neighbour, until he went out to work. If you don't love work, you will not have worth, because wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished, but he that gathereth by labour shall increase (Prov. 13:11). Anything any man gives you will vanish if you are not a hard worker. Untiring labour is the secret of success.

I read an interesting biography of a man sometime ago. You know, the secrets of men are in their stories. This man is the founder of the Daewoo company. He started the corporation about thirty years ago with just ten thousand dollars. Today, that organization produces about three thousand five hundred different products and have offices worldwide.

What was his secret? Hear him: "Since I started to work, I've never taken a day off. No one has poured himself into his work and has failed. Work is very precious. Work is something very precious and cannot be evaluated merely in financial terms. If I had to say I derive a great deal of joy from something, I would have to admit that it is work. I have never had to force myself to work and no one has ever had to force me. So, if a hobby is something that brings you joy and satisfaction, then my hobby is work."

He goes further to say: "Trying to be successful without pouring yourself into something is like trying to pluck a star out of the sky. But you cannot fail if you do pour yourself into whatever you are doing and really enjoy it."

He advises people: "No matter what you do, dedicate yourself to it. The harder you work by the day, the more realistic your dreams are at night. When the brain is full, dreams are fantastic."

Through this vital success ingredient, this man has grown to become a resounding success. He knows it and is happy about it. He concludes this way: "I am busy. I must admit that I'm very happy being busy with so much work. I'm so happy that some people have said that I've gone mad over work!"

Friend, work is sweet! Nothing is sweet until you work. Gifts don't make a future; it is labour that makes a future. The Bible says God planted a garden and put man in it to keep and dress it. If man keeps and dresses

it, only then can he freely eat of all that is in it and can marry. God didn't deem Adam fit for a wife until after He had instructed him to keep and dress the garden.

One major requirement before you can be married in our church is your work. We want to know where a man works and lives. It is only after we have established the fact that he has a job that can sustain himself and his wife and that he is not living in his father's house or with relatives, that he is qualified to be interviewed for marriage. That is God's rule and we are helping to establish it on the earth.

Get to work, it's your only hope to reign on this earth! A wise man once said, "The train of failure usually runs on the track of laziness. The only preparation for tomorrow is the right use of today." Hardwork will pave way for you. It doesn't kill, it only refines. Receive the grace for tireless and fruitful labour right now, in Jesus' mighty name!

ADD WORK TO GIVING

In *Luke 6:38*, the Bible says:

Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

Many, especially believers, have thought that giving is the only thing to do to become financially successful. Have no doubts about it, our God is a covenant keeping God. What He has promised, He will do.

He says, "Give and it shall be given back to you." True! Giving procures the blessings, but work is the channel through which they will flow to you. It is the blessing of the Lord that maketh rich, that is why by strength shall no man prevail. So, giving is the foundation for the ultimate result you get through working.

Let me strike the balance between giving and working with these Scriptures.

A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.

Proverbs 18:16

Your giving creates room for you before God, qualifying you for His blessings.

Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.

Proverbs 22:29

So, both a man's gifts and his diligence bring him before great men and kings. Your giving and work together determine your ultimate placement in life. You don't only prosper by giving; your prosperity in giving becomes a reality by your working. Your giving secures God's blessings upon what you do, while your work is the channel through which that blessing comes. The Bible says we gather by labour.

Charismatics have been taught how to give, but many have not been taught the covenant dignity of labour. God promised to bless Abraham and make him very great. In chapter 14 of Genesis, we saw him give when he gave tithes to Melchizedek. But he didn't stop there. To take delivery of his blessings, he had to work. He was a cattle rearer.

God has nothing to bless when you are not doing any work, because He has covenanted to bless you through the works of your hands — "...Whatsoever he doeth shall prosper" (Ps. 1:3). Also, see ***Isaiah 3:10***:

Say ye to the righteous, that it shall be well with him: for they shall eat the fruit of their doings.

When you give, you need to create channels for the blessings to get back to you; and this you do by working. Reading through Deuteronomy 28, you will discover that every blessing is poured upon the works of the hands of the people.

Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field.

Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.

Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store.

Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out.

The Lord shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

And the Lord shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land which the Lord sware unto thy fathers to give thee.

The Lord shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow.

Deuteronomy 28:3-6, 8, 11-12

Working hands are blessed hands! No matter how good a giver you are, until you create channels for those blessings through work, you will suffer frustrations.

TRADE YOUR TALENT

Every redeemed child of God has a tradeable talent that can occupy him profitably. We have all been endowed with talents and commended by Jesus to "occupy till I come." He gave to everyone according to our several abilities.

You have a rich endowment on your inside, but you are wasting away because you can't see it. Self-discovery is the highway to self-recovery. Elisha asked that widow, "What has thou in thy house?" You are indebted and a failure today because you haven't located that rich deposit you have been endowed with.

You are the temple of God. There is something inside you that is crying out for expression, but because you don't have a good work culture or mentality, it is wasting away. Your talent (what you have been endowed with) is superior to your education (what you studied in school). Your qualification cannot withstand your talents; so trade that talent, don't let it rot away!

In Jesus' parable of the talents in Matthew 25, the servants who traded with their talents made much more talents and increased by them. If you put your hands to work with the talents inside you, you will be so occupied all the days of your life, that no one can deny your success on the earth.

All that is needed to make you successful is inside you! A brother needed to start doing something and he came to me for prayers. According to him, immediately I laid my hands upon him, he began to hear, "Water, water." God released him into water business and his heaven opened and has remained open ever since.

May God cause the scales on your eyes to fall off, so you can see that glorious destiny God had in store for you, in Jesus' mighty name! You will enter into it and the world will know that it is the hand of the Lord.

Friend, no one succeeds by accident. Success is a product of labour, for, "In all labour there is profit." Profiting in life comes as a result of labour. What you don't put into life, don't expect to get out of it. I believe that you are only guaranteed good success after you have poured yourself into your work. Without a personal input, you will never experience personal success.

Failure and poverty are curses caused by laziness, not Satan. The Bible says, "A little sleep, a little slumber..." not, "A little Satan, a little demon..."

Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.

Proverbs 6:10-11

The cheapest way to fight failure is to work hard. There is no substitute for hard work, if you must succeed. When you despise hard work, you have made a choice for a hard life. If you don't work, you will beg and begging is contrary to righteousness. The Bible says the sleep of a hardworking man is sweet (Eccl. 5:12). Get excited with work, and failure will leave you alone. Approach that your little kiosk as though it were a big supermarket. Get up early in the morning and be there. Have an account book for your sales.

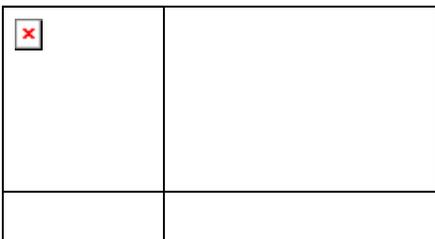
You have a great future! It is impossible for God not to bless you, but it has to be through the work of your hands. If you do nothing, multiply nothing by one thousand, what you have is nothing, that is, no blessing. Many of us will flow in billions, but we need a billion range diligence to see this. Be sold out to the assignment you have on hand. Things will never work by you watching them, they will only work for you by you working them out.

Your destiny is determined by what you do with your hands. Be determined to keep your destiny alive. Don't wait for life to deliver what it wishes to you. By your hands, you must make your life count



according to God's purpose for you.

essc0700.htmessc0700.htmessc001.htmessc001.htmessc0900.htmessc0900.htm



..index.htm..index.htm

ess001.htmess001.htm

Chapter 9

It Takes Courage

Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them.

Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Joshua 1:3-9

Outstanding success is for strong-hearted men. It is the heritage of men who will rather burn than bow. It takes toughness to taste triumph.

Courage is the key ingredient required for the fulfilment of God's success formula. The success promised in verse eight can't be achieved without courage, hence God's strong admonition to Joshua: "Be strong and of a good courage...", "Only be thou strong and very courageous..." and "...Be strong and of a good courage."

The dictionary defines courage as the quality of mind enabling one to face danger or hardship resolutely. It is the ability to control fear and to deal with danger, pain and uncertainty. It also means bravery, fearlessness and gallantry.

You require inner strength to succeed, a face set like a flint towards your expected end and ears that don't hear, "It is impossible." I don't mean bold face, but a bold heart. Without a heart, you will never make a mark. You need a bold heart, a heart that is set not to bow to failure, but rather stand violently on the Word of God.

Good success only answers to strong and very courageous people, because you can't go far without that force of courage.

And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.

Matthew 11:12

It takes force to be first. Your inheritance in the kingdom will not be delivered to you without the application of the relevant force; that's why you need courage.

Rise ye up, take your journey, and pass over the river Arnon: behold, I have given into thine hand Sihon the Amorite, king of Heshbon, and his land: begin to possess it, and contend with him in battle.

Deuteronomy 2:24

You have a heritage of success, true. But you need the force of courage to make it a reality. Caleb possessed this quality, so he couldn't see why the others felt they couldn't possess Canaan.

And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes:

And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land.

If the Lord delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey.

Only rebel not ye against the Lord, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the Lord is with us: fear them not.

Numbers 14:6-9

Numbers 14:24 records that Caleb possessed another spirit (a courageous spirit), which was why he didn't see things the way the others saw them. While the others saw themselves as grasshoppers before the sons of Anak, Caleb saw them as bread for the children of Israel. His face was set as a flint towards the land flowing with milk and honey, that he couldn't see the obstacles on the way to getting there.

Caleb was full of courage, even in old age, hence he could ask to be given the mountain as his inheritance.

...Behold, the Lord hath kept me alive, as he said, these forty and five years...and now, lo, I am this day fourscore and five years old.

As yet I am as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me: as my strength was then, even so is my strength now, for war, both to go out, and to come in.

Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the Lord spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakims were there, and that the cities were great and fenced: if so be the Lord will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the Lord said.

Joshua 14:10-12

He didn't see anything as impossible before him. Your inheritance of good success is real, but it takes the force of courage to possess it. Not physical strength, but inner, spiritual strength. Your face is set on your success goal and a divine strength is deposited in you through courage, enabling you to accomplish it.

Outstanding success will remain a daydream without that inner force of courage. Your position may never change, until there is that inner force propelling you towards your desired goal. "...Take it by force." Courage is that force of the spirit-man, that keeps propelling both your body and soul in the direction of your desired goal.

Outstanding success is for only forceful saints. There is, however, a major leakage of this inner strength. Whenever you see the situation you are confronted with as being stronger than you, then failure is inevitable. You begin to lose inner strength. But hear this:

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

1 Corinthians 10:13

That problem is not special, it's common. You don't have a special problem, only a special ignorance. That problem is smaller than you. God won't allow what is bigger than you to come near you. It is your lack of light that has made you a victim of failure.

As a covenant child of God, you can never have a special problem. God sees you as superior to every challenging situation that confronts you. So, when you start crying over such situation, He is disappointed. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego possessed a strange kind of courage, that caused them not to bow before the fiery furnace of fire, but to sing their way into it. Courage was Daniel's backbone, making him walk boldly into the lions' den. They all became outstanding successes even in the land of captivity. Daniel was the first of the three presidents in Babylon; he was preferred above the others and the king even sought to set him over the whole realm. Why? Courage!

HOW TO BE COURAGEOUS

By The Holy Spirit

You need a baptism of that inner force of courage to deal with sickness, failure and embarrassments of life. Paul said:

That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;

Ephesians 3:16

Courage is infused by the Spirit of God. If you are baptized in the Holy Ghost, you are no longer expected to be lily-livered, but lion-hearted.

In **Acts 1:8**, Jesus promised the apostles a baptism of power.

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

This baptism came in chapter 2, and we saw boldness and courage come upon them. A strange courage came upon Peter (who had earlier denied his master thrice, even before a maid), that he stood up boldly to declare the gospel and three thousand people gave their lives to Christ in one day!

From that day on, the apostles, who previously hid themselves in the upper room, for fear of the authorities, went about boldly declaring the gospel. They were also able to openly confront the authorities to their faces.

Paul telling us to put on the whole armour of God, with which we would be able to stand against the wiles of the devil hinged it on verse 10:

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

Ephesians 6:10

That is courage! It takes courage to stand against the wiles of the devil. No matter how many Scriptures you know, it is that inner strength that determines their effect.

In the battle against Goliath, David was strong in the Lord, whereas other members of Israel's army merely put on the armour, without the required strength in the inner man. So that when Goliath was slandering them, they had no force inside them to move against him; but David ran with that force and brought down Goliath's head.

Knowing all the secrets for success without the required courage to make it work is like being dressed in the armour of war without the force to fight. You want to succeed in life? Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might! You need that force, in order to take delivery of good success.

Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward.

Hebrews 10:35

Confidence or courage is a carrier of great rewards. The Holy Spirit is the One that infuses that courage in you, that keeps your heart from wavering, enabling you to reach God smoothly.

Courage — your access to outstanding success! Hebrews 11 is a catalogue of the heroes of faith, men and women who became successful through their courage and confidence in God.

Even though it did not rain for a long time, Noah still went on courageously to build the ark as God had instructed him. He despised all the mockeries that came his way as a result, and at the end, he laughed last, as only him and his family were saved.

Men of courage are men of good reports. Without this inner force of courage, your place on the earth is doubtful. You must get to a point where you know there is no turning back, then will things begin to turn in your favour. It was only when Queen Esther said, "If I perish, I perish", that success became hers. Reuben lacked this inner strength, and he failed.

Reuben, thou art my firstborn, my might, and the beginning of my strength, the excellency of dignity, and the excellency of power:

Unstable as water, thou shalt not excel...

Genesis 49:3-4

Everything to make him a resounding success was in him, but he lacked the heart with which to make a mark on the earth.

Boldness infused by the Holy Spirit is the trigger for success. Consider the Apostles here:

Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

Acts 14:3

The stronger you are on the inside, the more sign you command on the outside. Jesus was anointed with the Holy Ghost without measure, so His success on earth is still speaking till now. May this force be infused into you right now, in Jesus' name!

By Knowledge

And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits.

Daniel 11:32

A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength.

Proverbs 24:5

Knowledge infuses strength and courage into the inner man, making you accomplish much in life. The knowledge of your covenant right to succeed in all areas of life and your knowledge of God will infuse in you the required courage to go forward.

The Holy Ghost helps to expound the truth and both the Holy Ghost and the knowledge of the truth infuse



strength that makes you a forceful citizen of the kingdom, whose inheritance cannot be denied or stolen.



<..\index.htm>..[index.htm](..\index.htm)

<ess001.htm><mess001.htm>

Chapter 10

Talk Your Way Into Success

The words of your mouth determine your ultimate worth in the school of success. It is impossible to encounter success without talking success. This is because the words we speak are seeds. So, you can't lay hold on success if you don't talk success. The louder you talk success, the brighter your encounter with it. Let me show you how the words you speak affect you.

Your Words Are Seeds

The words you speak are seeds, which bring forth fruits after their kind.

...The seed is the word of God.

Luke 8:11

The seed is the Word of God. That means, how much of the Word of God that is expressed through your lips in any area of your life determines your harvest in that area. So, when you stuff your heart with words of success and you give them expression through your mouth, you are sowing seeds of success. And in **Genesis 8:22**, the Bible says, "*While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest...shall not cease.*"

Until you speak success words, you can't see or enjoy success. But by the way some people talk, no matter how hard they work, they can't succeed. This is because despite the fact that they are great givers and diligent workers, they sow seeds of failure with their mouths, and the Bible says:

For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

Mark 11:23

When God gave Joshua the success formula in Joshua 1:8, He said, "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth..." There are many great doers, but poor talkers. So, in spite of their great doings, they still remain small.

In the world of the spirit, your mouth is what gives expression to your choice — "For he shall have whatsoever he saith", whatever he doeth notwithstanding. God regards what you say as the conclusion of your expectation.

Remember when the children of Israel were about entering the land of Canaan? God had promised to give them the land, Yes! In fact, that was why He took them out of Egypt, to take them into a land flowing with milk and honey. But just as they were about entering, the people made their choice with their own mouths.

But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we.

Numbers 13:31

And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness!

And wherefore hath the Lord brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt?

Numbers 14:2-3

What did God do?

Say unto them, As truly as I live, saith the Lord, as ye have spoken in mine ears, so will I do to you: Your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me,

Doubtless ye shall not come into the land, concerning which I sware to make you dwell therein, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun.

Numbers 14:28-30

You can't enter into a land flowing with milk and honey talking failure and poverty. You can't keep saying words such as, "You see the state of the country and the economy now? You see how devalued the naira is to the dollar?" and expect to taste success. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! It sets on fire the course of nature (James 3:5). Your mouth can burn off in a very short time all that took you a long time to heap up.

No matter how many people are angry with me, I will never talk failure and poverty. When poverty was my next door neighbour, I didn't talk it, how much more now that it has left me alone. Until you talk success, both publicly and privately, you will never succeed. So, stop all those secret tales of woe now! I command your tongue to be sanctified, so it will not block your access into the land flowing with milk and honey.

When people ask me, "How is it?" I say, "Great!" When our ministry just started, some other fellows who were in ministry before us would come to our office and when they ask, "How is everything going?" Our answer would always be, "Fantastic!" "Wonderful!" This reply always surprised them, especially as we were always well dressed in our suits.

One of them came to us one day, asking for a loan of money. The figure he called was one we had never seen ourselves, but because of the way we always spoke, he couldn't believe we didn't have such amount. In our characteristic way of speaking the right words, we only told him we couldn't give it to him then; we couldn't tell him we ourselves hadn't seen such amount before.

Let me show you other ways by which the words you speak affect your success rate.

A man shall be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth: and the recompense of a man's hands shall be rendered unto him.

Proverbs 12:14

A man shall eat good by the fruit of his mouth: but the soul of the transgressors shall eat violence.

He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life: but he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction.

Proverbs 13:2-3

That is, the rewards of the work of your hands are released through the words of your mouth. What your hand does will only be delivered to you through what your mouth speaks. So, if your hands are busy working and your mouth is destroying the good results through speaking negative words, then you will never taste success. Stop saying what is happening; rather, start emphasizing what is written in God's Word!

Your Words Likened To Rainfall

Also, the words you speak are likened to rainfall from heaven.

For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Isaiah 55:10-11

Just as the Words God has sent forth out of His mouth never return to Him void, so also the words you speak never return void. They are like rainfall, that causes a sprouting forth of whatever seed is sown in the earth.

No matter how much seed a farmer puts in the ground, if there is no rain, the seed would perish in the earth. Likewise, the words you speak either bring down the rain to water the seeds sown or establish a drought that will destroy the seeds. If you say, "It cannot", you are establishing a drought. But if you say, "No matter what, it will produce", you are bringing down the showers from heaven.

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

1 Corinthians 3:6

To attain success in life, you don't just stop at the success keys we discussed in chapter four — purpose, pursuit, persistence and possession. Those are the inputs or the seeds sown. But they need to be watered, so they can spring forth from the earth. This you do with the positive words you speak with your mouth. It is only after these first two have been done that it is then God's turn to give the increase.

The words we speak represent rainfall in the world of the spirit. Many are suffering drought today because they speak dry words always. "Nothing is working in Nigeria", they say. But until you have watered the seed sown, it's not God's turn to bring the increase.

When there is no rainfall, there is bound to be drought, no matter how hardworking that farmer is. That's why the words you speak determine your worth in the kingdom. It's time to begin to water the labours of your hands by speaking the right kind of words. There is nothing wrong with the country or the economy, because others are building houses daily in the same country. There are more car dealers in town now than in the eighties, because more people are buying cars. There is nothing wrong with the system. You are in a very lovely country, a very fertile land. This is Goshen, the place of mysterious increase. You don't have a problem.

Stuff Your Heart With Right Words

How can you talk success? You talk success by being stuffed with success words and thoughts, "for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" (Matt. 12:34). Your mouth speaks forth the overflows of what is in your heart.

When you are drunk with the words of success, they will issue forth out of your mouth naturally, just as the smell of alcohol is what naturally comes forth from the mouth of a man drunk with wine.

The knowledge of this secret is what led David, a man after God's heart, to pray this prayer:

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer.

Psalm 19:14

He had to say this prayer because he knew that a lot of the troubles people get themselves into are traceable to the things they meditate upon and utter from their lips.

A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled.

Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

Proverbs 18:20-21

Death and life are in your mouth, so speak life, that you may enjoy success in life! Your mouth is the trigger for that success you so earnestly desire.

In that testimony I shared earlier, about the pastor who wanted us to loan him some money, our positive words were not because we were trying to impress anyone, but because there was something on our inside (success words stuffed in our hearts), that could not but come out on the outside.

You speak out of the abundance of what is on your inside. Success words and thoughts have to be abundant in your heart for you to be able to speak them forth naturally. One doesn't get drunk with wine by taking just a sip. An established drunkard needs to have taken about eight bottles before he can be said to be drunk.

Talk success! Until you talk it, you can't take it! Until you talk it, you don't believe it and until you believe it, it cannot be performed in your life.

We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;

2 Corinthians 4:13

Faith is given expression through the words of your mouth.

For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Romans 10:10

You believe in your heart, and give expression to your belief through your mouth. But very few talk it, particularly when they come among unbelievers. The reason you can't say it with your mouth is because it's not in your heart. If it's in your heart, your mouth can't keep it.

I came out one day and boldly declared, "I can never be poor!" I had never been taught that, nor had I read it from any book. But when the light on my inside became abundant, my mouth had no choice but to say it out. It couldn't keep it. Drunkards don't plan or think of the rubbish they say when they are drunk. The alcohol pushes them to say whatever comes to their mouths.

Likewise, when your heart is loaded with success words and thoughts, your mouth will issue them forth naturally.

Now, let's have a look at what happens to the words you speak. Like I said earlier, your words determine your worth.

God Is Committed

In the school of faith, what you say with your mouth is as important as what God says. Why? God is committed to what you say, just as He is committed to what He says.

That confirmeth the word of his servant, and performeth the counsel of his messengers...

Isaiah 44:26

Who are His servants? Everyone that serves Him. You don't need a title to be a servant of God. As long as you worship Him with your tithes and offerings, doing one service or the other in the church, you are serving Him and He is bound to confirm your words.

That is why **Mark 11:23** tells us, "... *He shall have whatsoever he saith.*" We saw God confirming what the children of Israel said in the wilderness, just as they were to enter Canaan (Num. 14:28). They had travelled through the wilderness for forty years, but their mouth stopped them from entering!

Stop sharing trials, because what you talk is what you possess. Rather, start talking testimonies and you will stop seeing trials and failures. Don't kill that business. Don't destroy that enterprise. Don't bury your destiny through ignorance. It's time to fall in love with God's covenant of blessings. No one enters the land flowing with milk and honey until he talks it. Tell yourself, "Enough of stopping my access into the land flowing with milk and honey. I must get in there!"

God is committed to whatever you say, whether it is said in the public or privately. He can't act until you have uttered the words.

God's Words are spirit and life (Jn. 6:63). So also are your words. From the encounters I had with God's Word, I said so much about this ministry, even before it started officially; and none of those words have failed. When we were building the overflow facilities in our church, I said, "This wing will be ready by July 16. We shall build one floor per week." I was there on July 15, to be sure that the doors had been fixed, and lo, they all had been fixed! "He confirmeth the word of his servant, and performeth the counsel of his messengers"!

Fill up your environment with success words and keep the spirit world busy in your favour! The words you speak are spirit and they get things done; so speak the right words and you will never lack the right results.

After Jesus had been received up into heaven, Mark 16:20 records that His disciples went forth and preached everywhere, with the Lord working with them, by confirming their words with signs and wonders following. If they had not preached the Word or opened their mouths, there would be nothing to confirm. Hence God admonishes us to open our mouths wide (Ps. 81:10). God has nothing to confirm until you have said it.

Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

Acts 14:3

God has not changed and cannot change. Until you learn how to speak, you are not a candidate for success. Death and life are in the power of the tongue. Every fortune you enjoy is as commanded by your mouth and every misfortune is equally as carelessly uttered by your mouth.

So, stuff your heart with success words, so that your mouth can speak success always. Let your mouth be Word-bridled, so that you no longer speak anyhow, but speak only those things that God's Word commands to be spoken. Then things will begin to happen for you. When your tongue becomes Word-ruled, guarded and guided, then you will become a resounding success on the earth.

Angels Attend To Your Words

Every Word you speak, whether negative or positive, are instantly obeyed and carried out by the angels. You know that they are your messengers (Heb. 1:14) and they excel in strength and hearken to the voice of your words (Ps. 103:20), to ensure that they are done just as you have commanded them. Hence the preacher warns:

Suffer not thy mouth to cause thy flesh to sin; neither say thou before the angel, that it was an error: wherefore should God be angry at thy voice, and destroy the work of thine hands?

Ecclesiastes 5:6

That is, no matter what you say, as soon as they are uttered, the angels pick them up and enforce them. So, speak the right words always, that the works of your hand be not destroyed.

The heavenly Father is full of mercy, but the angels are not; they only obey commands (Ex. 23:21). They hearken to the voice of your words and carry them out exactly as you have commanded, whether negative or positive. So when you say things are not working, they ensure that they don't work. But when you speak success-filled words, they ensure that only success comes your way. When I scream, "I can't be poor", the angels are on the alert, ensuring that I don't ever become poor.

Speak right always, because the angels work round the clock. And no matter where you say it, that which has wings (angels) will tell the matter (Eccl. 10:20). So, give them positive assignments.

The words from your mouth declare your choice in life. So, choose life and speak right. Look at that venture or business in your hand right now and say, "It is impossible for this one to fail, for God's Word

says whatsoever I doeth shall prosper. He also said He shall rebuke the devourer for my sake, because I'm an investor, a tither and a covenant child."

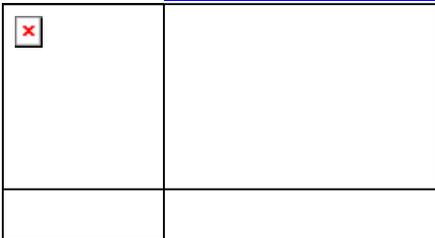
Mind what you say by minding what you think. Mind what you think by minding what you store up in your system. The information you receive is what determines the way you think, and subsequently, what you say. You shall not have it before you say it, but shall say it before you have it, because, "he shall have whatsoever he saith."

So, you don't wait for success to drop upon your laps; you talk your way into it. Pray this prayer, "Lord, purify my tongue, deliver me from the trap of the tongue, in Jesus' name." There is a bright future for you, in Jesus' mighty name.

Begin from where you are now, speaking good words always, words you desire. Don't say what you don't desire, because what you say is what you get. Keep on saying what you mean, despising whatever mockery may come your way as a result. But when the results start coming, even your mockers will know that you were operating the wisdom of God.



essc0900.htmmessc0900.htmmess001.htmmessc1100.htmmess001.htm



.index.htm.index.htm

ess001.htmmess001.htm

Chapter 11

The Place Of Favour

Success in life is a direct function of God's favour. Outstanding favour is what we call outstanding success, hence favour is a fundamental requirement in the school of outstanding success.

The dictionary defines favour as an act of kindness. Something given as a token of love, affection, or remembrance. That is why apostle Paul could boldly declare in 1 Corinthians 15:10:

...By the grace of God I am what I am...

He is here saying, "I'm an expression of God's favour; God's favour at work in me is what you see, not my abilities."

Favour delivers to you those things that by right don't belong to you, but which God brings your way, just to prove that you are in favour with Him. For example, Joseph had favour with his father. He was the only child Jacob made a coat of many colours for. His father favoured him so much that he became the envy of his other brothers.

Every outstanding accomplishment in life is traceable to the flow of favour.

We have heard with our ears, O God, our fathers have told us, what work thou didst in their days, in the times of old.

How thou didst drive out the heathen with thy hand, and plantedst them; how thou didst afflict the people, and cast them out.

For they got not the land in possession by their own sword, neither did their own arm save them: but thy right hand, and thine arm, and the light of thy countenance, because thou hadst a favour unto them.

Psalm 44:1-3

Our blessings and liftings in life are all functions of God's favour. Jesus was an outstanding success while on earth here because He enjoyed God's favour, which also brought about men's favour.

And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

Luke 2:40,52

However, this favour is a common grace that has a price tag. It is not free, it is earned. The question now is, "What does it take to earn God's favour?" "What must I do to be robed in His favour?"

For thou, Lord, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as with a shield.

Psalm 5:12

Who is this man that God would bless and encompass with favour, so failure can't gain access to where he is? The righteous! Who is righteous? "Be not deceived, he that DOETH righteousness is righteous" (1 John 3:7).

The righteous man is he that doeth righteousness, not he that confesseth, thinketh or preacheth righteousness. Somehow, the enemy has sought to water down the meaning of the word, "righteous" in the Charismatic circle. We agree with the finished work of righteousness, but don't seem to lay much emphasis on the practice of righteousness. But then, there is no place in heaven for the unrighteous.

Also, our access to God's favour, which causes one to be outstandingly successful on the earth is righteousness. No matter where you are, righteousness will bring you encounters with favour. When Joseph was in the house of Potiphar, he found grace (favour) in his sight, causing Potiphar to entrust all that he had in Joseph's care. Even in prison, Joseph continued to enjoy favour. Why? He walked in righteousness, which attracts favour (Gen. 39-40).

Daniel was another man who enjoyed favour.

Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs.

Daniel 1:9

Why was this so? He lived righteous and purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat or wine.

Jesus enjoyed so much favour with God and man because He lived righteous. He could boldly ask, "Which of you convinceth me of sin?" (Jn. 8:46). Writing about Him later in 2 Corinthians 5:21, Paul said:

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Jesus knew no sin, hence favour knew no bounds in His life. Talking about Him in prophecy, the Psalmist said:

And in thy majesty ride prosperously because of truth and meekness and righteousness; and thy right hand shall teach thee terrible things.

Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

Psalm 45:4,7

To further prove the righteousness root for favour, look at this:

Good understanding giveth favour: but the way of transgressors is hard.

Proverbs 13:15

The transgressor has no access to favour; so he lives in hardship all the days of his life. Hardship is not your portion, so live right before God and enjoy His favour and outstanding success on the earth. The Psalmist enjoyed God's favour and so could declare, "In thy favour is life...Lord, by thy favour thou hast made my mountain to stand strong" (Ps.30:5,7). He became outstanding because of the favour he enjoyed. Life is colourless when you don't enjoy God's favour, as His favour is what gives colour to life.

For thou art the glory of their strength: and in thy favour our horn shall be exalted.

Psalm 89:17

So, your height in life is a function of the degree of God's favour you enjoy, which in turn is a function of your walk in righteousness. There's no price too great to pay in order to secure God's favour, moreso as it's the mystery behind outstanding success.

He that diligently seeketh good procureth favour: but he that seeketh mischief, it shall come unto him.

Proverbs 11:27

A good man obtaineth favour of the Lord: but a man of wicked devices will he condemn.

Proverbs 12:2

These Scriptures prove that it is you that determine your access to favour — "A good man", "He that diligently seeketh good." Do you want favour from heaven? Then position yourself in His righteousness.

Provokers Of Divine Favour

There are certain things that provoke God's favour upon a man.

Knowledge

Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

2 Peter 1:2

You multiply grace (favour) through knowledge. A sister gave a testimony in church one day. She had been in business for seven years, but nothing seemed to be working and so she packed up the business. But she was in church one day and heard the Word like fire, that "things only work for workers. Until you work, nothing works." With these words burning in her heart, she went to her husband and borrowed three thousand naira, with which she started business all over again. A year later, she could testify thus: "Now, apart from the machines and tools we have as asset, we now have two hundred thousand naira in cash!" This favour and breakthrough came as a result of the insight she gained from the Word of God she heard that day in church, and which she acted upon. If that knowledge had not come, she would still have been on the floor till now.

Good understanding giveth favour: but the way of transgressors is hard.

Proverbs 13:15

The way of the ignorant is hard! Knowledge multiplies favour. That sister could not pay her shop rent before knowledge came. But when understanding came, it opened the door of favour unto her. Ignorance equals hardship. There is no mountain anywhere; every man's ignorance is his mountain. So, awake thou that sleepest, arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. Light (knowledge) will always attract favours, just as natural light attracts insects. The Bible says:

My son, eat thou honey, because it is good; and the honeycomb, which is sweet to thy taste:

So shall the knowledge of wisdom be unto thy soul: when thou hast found it, then there shall be a reward, and thy expectation shall not be cut off.

Proverbs 24:13-14

The knowledge of wisdom attracts rewards. You can't find the good Word of God and not attract favour. No, you can't find the good Word of the Lord and miss goodness. In majesty ride prosperously because of truth, and thy right hand shall teach thee terrible things (Ps. 45:4). Wonderful favours are attracted by the knowledge of the truth.

Righteousness

As we earlier said, the righteous has a heritage of favour with God. Whereas God compasses the righteous with favour (Ps. 5:12), He is angry with the sinner everyday (Ps. 7:11). When you give in to sin, you step out of favour with God. And when God is angry with you, you can't enjoy His favour, which establishes you as an outstanding success on the earth.

Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

Psalms 45:7

Righteousness causes you to enjoy favour first with God, and then with men. Joseph feared the Lord, and God caused His favour to billow upon him, causing him to enjoy favour everywhere he went — in Potiphar's house, in the prison and finally in Pharaoh's palace.

You are only what you are by the favours of God. "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain." So, the grace of God is the moulder of the destinies of men; and it takes purity to be connected to this fountain of favour.

Watch every Christian that goes about in bitterness and hatred, one that enjoys immorality and sin; he just begins to stink. When you want to do him a favour, the Holy Spirit says, "Don't." God the Father says, "Don't", the angels don't allow you either. Why? He doesn't have divine approval, so he is not permitted to enjoy human favours.

And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Acts 2:46-47

The purity of the early Church was in peace, so they enjoyed favour unlimited and God added to them daily. May the favour of God locate you from henceforth. May it find you wherever you are — at your work-place, home, in the city or on the road, in Jesus' mighty name.

The Anointing Of The Holy Spirit

Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

And the daughter of Tyre shall be there with a gift; even the rich among the people shall entreat thy favour.

Psalms 45:7,12

The anointing of the Holy Spirit carries supernatural favour. It naturally attracts favour to who or wherever it is found. When you are anointed with the Holy Spirit, you naturally smell favour. It causes all manner of favours to flow to you; you enjoy unusual affection from people, making them to go out of their way to favour you.

You don't need to be a preacher to be anointed. Moses, Aaron and Miriam were not the only ones God forbade people from hurting when they were in the wilderness. He forbade kings and nations from doing the whole nation of Israel any wrong, calling them His anointed (Ps. 105:13-15). Every covenant child has the anointing of the Holy Spirit upon him. An anointed businessman will naturally excel without sweat or stress. An anointed career man will excel in his career without struggles.

The anointing of the Holy Spirit puts on you an unction for divine enabling. A career person or trader who operates under this unction will definitely have a different result among his contemporaries. He will be such an outstanding success that he will command respect from all around him.

I remember a brother once came to me to report that he had a shop full of building materials, but nobody was buying them. I told him to stretch forth his hands and I laid mine on them, saying, "Go and lay these same hands on the goods and they will all be bought tomorrow." He did just as I told him and came back to testify that just as I said, the following day, somebody came to his shop and bought a trailer-load of the materials before 12 noon! Can you imagine what it would have been, if this brother carried this same unction himself? Of course, he would never have cause to complain of lack of sales.

Another woman came to me in Kaduna, with the same complaint. She traded in clothing materials and had stocked her shop full of them, but people were not coming to buy them. I went to the shop and laid my hands on the materials, saying, "Go, go, you are not meant to be here." According to her, the following day, someone from Katsina needed those materials and bought up everything! She had to struggle with the person to get one, which she wanted to give as an offering. What if she carried that unction?

You need a new smell of favour! You don't only need the anointing in church, but outside the church. Everyone needs the anointing of the Holy Spirit (that provokes favour) in order to excel or become outstandingly successful. Pray to enter into a new realm of the anointing, so you can enjoy a higher level of favour.

Kingdom Addiction

Thou shalt arise, and have mercy upon Zion: for the time to favour her, yea, the set time, is come.

Psalm 102:13

What is it that provokes God to favour you? It's found in the next verse:

For thy servants take pleasure in her stones, and favour the dust thereof.

Psalm 102:14

Kingdom addiction triggers off divine favour. When you are addicted to the kingdom of God, you compel favour to come your way.

But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth:

Matthew 6:3

As you want others to do to you, do to them. So, if you want God to favour you, then show favour to His kingdom. It's more blessed to give than to receive. When you favour His kingdom, you are blessed with more favour from Him.

How do you favour His kingdom? When whatever is done in the kingdom touches you, when whatever affects the kingdom affects you. You can decide to enter into a covenant with God right now. You can say, "Lord, I will forever take pleasure in the events of Zion. I will favour everything that goes on in Zion."

When you take this stand, favour naturally follows you, you get God committed to your own welfare.

And ye shall serve the Lord your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.

There shall nothing cast their young, nor be barren, in thy land: the number of thy days I will fulfil.

Exodus 23:25-26

The time to favour you with outstanding success will come when your record of favouring the stones of Zion is full. When your record of service to the kingdom of God is full, then your rain of favour will fall. Until the cloud is full of rain, it doesn't empty itself upon the earth. So, keep on in your service to the kingdom.

Locate what to do, in order to remain in this covenant with God and the rain of favour will not stop falling upon you. "By thy favour, thou hast made my mountain to stand strong." I see you standing strong from now on. I see you become a mountain taker, by the favour of God upon your life. By His favour, may you find your place in the realm of outstanding success, in Jesus' precious name!

The time to favour you has come!



[essc1000.htm](#)[essc1000.htm](#)[mess001.htm](#)[mess001.htm](#)[essc1200.htm](#)[essc1200.htm](#)



[..index.htm](#)[..index.htm](#)

[ess001.htm](#)[mess001.htm](#)

Chapter 12

Stay Excited!

You need to be joyful in order to be successful. Not only do you need joy to be successful, you equally need to be overjoyful to maintain that success. Excitement is one of the cardinal laws that guarantee outstanding success in the kingdom. This is because until you are excited, you don't excel. Your high places in life are inaccessible without joy.

Joy is a feeling of great happiness and contentment. The Bible calls it joy unspeakable, that is full of glory. It is the trigger for accomplishments in life. You need it, that's why it is one of Jesus' principal mission.

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;

To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified.

Isaiah 61:1-3

God knows that the more excited you are, the more you excel on earth, hence Jesus was heavily anointed to bind up the broken-hearted, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning and the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. Then shall you have a name — "The trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord."

And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations.

And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the alien shall be your plowmen and your vinedressers.

But ye shall be named the Priests of the Lord: men shall call you the Ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves.

For your shame ye shall have double; and for confusion they shall rejoice in their portion: therefore in their land they shall possess the double: everlasting joy shall be unto them.

Isaiah 61:4-7

Your success or possession of that which belongs to you is tied to the appointment of everlasting joy. This is because in the kingdom of God, only the excited excel; the depressed are always victims of the devil. So, how excited you are determines how much you excel.

Being aware of this secret, Apostle Paul could boldly say, "None of these things move me." In fact, he goes ahead to ask in Romans 8:35-39:

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

He means to say, 'Though my outward man wears out, my inner man is constantly being renewed, because I am always excited about everything that is committed into my hands.' Paul lived a life full of excitement; most of his writings were done in the prison. He did not allow the situation he was in to depress him. David did not allow the fact that his mighty men had deserted him to discourage him. Instead, he encouraged himself.

And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the Lord his God.

1 Samuel 30:6

Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.

Psalm 42:5

Excitement or joy unspeakable is the pathway to exploits on the earth. It is God's mystery for taking you to the top. If you do all that have been discussed in this book so far, but you are not joyful, you may still not succeed in life. This is because the constant oozing forth of the joy of the Lord from you keeps you fresh, enables you carry His presence always and brings you fresh insight and strength.

God has reserved the top of the success ladder for you; but depression or lack of joy can stop you from getting there. Depression is Satan's trap for stealing your joy, so he can steal your colourful destiny. Don't allow him.

A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.

Proverbs 17:22

A broken spirit not only dries the bones, but also robs you of your colourful destiny. Knowing this fully well, prophet Habakkuk refused to be broken down.

Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls:

Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

The Lord God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places.

Habakkuk 3:17-19

"Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation." Get excited! Come out of every mourning and open up to the joy of the Lord. Be excited about your spouse, career, business and children, because that is the highway to exploits in life. Only then will He make you to walk upon your high places. I have not needed encouragement since God called me into full-time ministry. I am ever excited, giving no room to depression. In January 1984, our average Sunday attendance was six people. But I was ever joyful. I would still preach to them as though there were thousands of people in church. One day, after having jumped up and down, preaching to the people, I said to them, "Don't mistake me for a fool; I see crowds outside there."

Our highest attendance in church in 1984 was 154. This was after series of seminars, about thirty of them. In fact, six books came out of the teachings of those seminars. Our total annual income worldwide was slightly above eighteen thousand naira. My salary per month was three hundred naira, as the President of the ministry! But like Paul, I could boldly declare, "None of these things move me."

The first day my wife attended church service in Kaduna (we were still living in Ilorin then), she couldn't believe service had ended when we closed. This was because she couldn't match the excitement she always saw in me with the reality of the number of people in church that day.

Get excited over your job! Many are not excited over their jobs, that's why they are not excelling in it. Sit joyfully behind those planks you are selling and see people mysteriously coming to buy from you. Get excited about your home and see God perfect everything that needs perfecting in it. Once you are able to master this secret for exploit, you will stay above always, never beneath.

When you get excited over the provision of one hundred naira, you will provoke God to multiply it for you. Every outstanding thing that happens comes out of excitement in the Lord. Faced with a four-day old

corpse, Jesus merely said, "Father, I thank You because You hear me always." This moved God, and Lazarus came forth from the tomb! Again, when faced with 5,000 hungry men, thanksgiving caused the five loaves and two fishes to multiply.

You can move God by your excitement. Whatever position you may be now is worth being excited over. The fact that you are saved and a child of God should excite you. You should be grateful to God that you are heaven bound. Excitement is a cardinal law for outstanding success. Every form of depression makes you a victim of the enemy, but excitement guarantees you a place in the high places of the earth. Joy will never cease from your habitation, in Jesus' mighty name!

Why You Need Joy

You need joy to be outstandingly successful, yes. But why?

To Carry His Presence

Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

Psalm 16:11

When you are joyful, you attract God's presence, because He dwells only in joyful places. And with God dwelling with you, you can't but succeed, because every obstacle bows at His presence (Ps. 114). This is why joy is an asset in the quest for outstanding success.

God's absence equals failure, whereas His presence guarantees victory unlimited. This truth is the reason why the devil always seeks to depress you, so you can miss His presence. The devil knows he can't get you or steal your joy and success, until God's presence leaves you.

Can God be with you in your business or office and it goes down? Can He be in your home and it be crisis-laden? No! But you can keep Him away by being depressed and ungrateful. You don't know what you miss when you allow the devil to depress you. You get into trouble. But when you carry His presence, like the Psalmist, you can say:

For by thee I have run through a troop; and by my God have I leaped over a wall.

Psalm 18:29

Watch any Christian that is never excited, he never advances. Joseph was excited, so he prospered in the house of Potiphar, and when he was thrown into prison, he was still excited. That earned him favour before the keeper of the prison, who committed all other prisoners to his hand. Until you are excited, you don't excel in life. Good success is only for the excited among God's people.

A pastor who is not excited over the two people in his church this Sunday will not see them again next Sunday. Why? The Bible says God is the One that draws everyone to church (Jn. 6:44). His ingratitude and complaints over the two this week will anger God, driving away His presence, and thus, bring about failure. But if he is excited over the two that came and minister to them as though there were thousands in the hall, God will draw more to the church the following Sunday.

Whatever doctrine you have, if you lack joy, you have missed it, because you miss God's presence. If you are born again, you have the fruit of the spirit, one of which is joy. All you need do is to stir it up.

Remember, God's presence is the greatest asset of covenant people. So, be ever excited and joyful. Stop talking depression and walking with depressed people. It is very contagious. Be ever joyful!

For Inspiration

Every success is a product of information; and the richest information is equally a product of inspiration. Joy is the mother of all inspiration, because your spirit-man, the source of inspiration, is at its best when you are joyful. When you are depressed, your spirit-man is broken, but joy is the health of the spirit-man; and the healthier your spirit-man, the more alert you are to receive information and insight.

Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

Isaiah 12:3

Christ dwells inside you and in Him are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge (Col. 2:3). But you need joy for you to be able to enjoy Christ's rich deposit of wisdom and knowledge inside you. Note that it is the same Christ in every born again child of God, and the same measure of wisdom and knowledge. But we are not equally enjoying it. Why?

What makes one star shine brighter than the other is his ability to draw from that rich well than the other; and it takes joy to draw. So, the more joy you have, the more wisdom and knowledge of Christ you enjoy. This is the reason why excited people naturally possess excellent abilities. They are blessed with strange insight, which when put to work make them outstanding successes.

Joy — the mother of all inspiration and the factory for all insight! You miss insight when you give room to depression. You miss receiving the next gallant step when you allow cloudy atmosphere around you.

No matter how educated you are, if you lack inspiration (which I define as an inner guide to result-oriented steps), you are bound to suffer frustrations in life. But it is with joy that you draw out this inspiration. Every invention on earth today came out of inspiration. No wonder then that most of the great scientific inventions were by Christians, men who had covenant access to all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. It is a shame for any Christian to be a failure on the earth, whereas the wisdom that created the whole earth dwells inside him. The only wise God couldn't have given birth to failures, people who can't create their simple world. It takes joy to draw from that rich deposit. So, send depression far away from your tabernacle, so you can get to the high places of life!

For Strength

A characteristic feature of every outstanding winner is his unique strength. That kind of strength has a source — the joy of the Lord! That's what enabled David to face the lion and the bear and kill them with his bare hands. Jesus was full of strength while He was on earth, that He described work as His meat. Joy is the divine fountain of this strength. You will never have the needed strength for your work, except you rejoice over it. When you are not excited over your job, the strength for accomplishment is gone.

...Neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the Lord is your strength.

Nehemiah 8:10

When you lose touch with joy, your strength begins to diminish. Joy is a kind of medicine that energizes the inner man for extraordinary feats (Prov. 17:22). A broken spirit drieth the bones, sapping all the strength that is in a man.

Strength is not generated in prayer or fasting, but by joy. When you are depressed, you can't but be weak. But an overflow of the joy of the Lord gives you strength, which is required for exploits.

Joy Stimulants

There are certain things that stimulate joy inside you and help keep you ever joyful.

See A Bright Future Ahead

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:2

You can't see a bright tomorrow ahead and be depressed today. Jesus could see the end, so He could endure the cross, despising the shame.

...Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning

Psalms 30:5

When you know this, you won't give room to depression, you won't allow the devil cheat you with his lies anymore.

The excited man and woman in the kingdom is someone who has a clear vision of what lies ahead of him; he doesn't allow the situations and circumstances that surround him today becloud his vision of glory. He sees a future ahead and is excited about it, working towards its realization.

There is something great and enviable at the end of the road for you. The devil knows it and is envious of it, so he seeks to steal it from you by casting you down. Don't let him.

Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:

1 Peter 1:8

Believe

The Bible says the just shall live by his faith (Hab. 2:4). When you stop believing God and His Word, you stop living. But faith in His Word gives you something to rejoice over. Crossroads and mountains don't frighten you; rather, you confront them rejoicing, with your faith in God.

Insight

Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O Lord God of hosts.

Jeremiah 15:16

Every new light that comes your way adds new joy to you, because it puts in your hand a fresh key of victory. The Bible says light is sweet and it's a beautiful thing for the eyes to behold the sun (Eccl. 11:7)

Ultimately, you discover that joy is the crown of your success. With it you provoke divine presence, without which you can do nothing. Joy also provokes insight, which delivers the secrets for success to you and the strength to accomplish that success. It takes God to become an outstanding success and it takes joy to have Him. It is the excited that excel, so stay ever joyful and excited.



[essc1100.htm](#)[essc1100.htm](#)[ess001.htm](#)[ess001.htm](#)[essc1300.htm](#)[essc1300.htm](#)



[..index.htm..index.htm](#)

[ess001.htm](#)[ess001.htm](#)

Chapter 13

Enemies of Success

Success is God's will for you. His plan for you is all-round success in your finances, home, health, academics and all areas of your life, because it glorifies Him. God is happy when you succeed. But He is no respecter of persons, title or age. When you do what He has commanded, you are entitled to His blessings (Deut. 28:1-13).

There is a covenant of success in place already. All you need do is to locate it and comply with its demands. What it takes to be a success is what we have discussed in the preceding chapters. A wise man said, "Let your learning lead to knowledge and let your knowledge lead to action." God's Word also says, "And be ye not hearers only, but doers." So, get to work with all that you have learnt.

Success is not an issue of chance, but of choice. What you do with what you have learnt reveals your choice — success or failure. No one can stop a covenant man from arriving at his ultimate. The covenant works wherever the sun shines. The devil is not your problem, neither is any mortal man. No one but yourself (by what you choose) can stop you from getting to that glorious place God has in store for you. You will succeed in Jesus' name!

Every wise woman buildeth her house: but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands.

Proverbs 14:1

There are things you must guard against, if this success God is bringing you to must last. We shall be discussing certain cautions you must take heed to, if success is your goal.

Self-Reliance

One big barrier between you and God's blessings is reliance on self. When God wanted to bless Abraham, He said to Him:

...Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will show thee:

And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

Genesis 12:1-3

Abraham's success is still being celebrated today; but God made him! "And I will make of thee a great nation and I will bless thee, and make thy name great..." God's blessing was what made Abraham a success, not his expertise or hard work. Likewise, it is God's blessings that will make you a success, without adding any sorrow with it (Prov. 10:22).

So, stay connected to God always. A reliance on your expertise, "wisdom" or hard work alone will disconnect you from His blessings. The story is told in 2 Chronicles 26 of King Uzziah. The Bible records that He was marvellously helped of God till he was strong (verse 15). But in the very next verse, the Bible says, "But when he was strong his heart was lifted up to his destruction: for he transgressed against the Lord his God..." Uzziah who God prospered so much and strengthened ended his life in misery.

And Uzziah the king was a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt in a several house, being a leper; for he was cut off from the house of the Lord: and Jotham his son was over the king's house, judging the people of the land.

2 Chronicles 26:21

The race is not to the swift, neither is the battle to the strong. Favour is not to the skilful or men of understanding. It is God that determines the events of every man's life. Look up to Him and rely on Him always. You shall not fail!

Disobedience

God leads by instructions.

I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.

Psalm 32:8

He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye.

Deuteronomy 32:10

Instructions are the highways of distinction. Direction plus instruction equals distinction. So, if you are busy praying, "Oh Lord, let peace reign in my home", all you need do is ask yourself, "What has God instructed that guarantees peace and harmony in the home?" Locate His instructions, comply with them and you will definitely enjoy family success on the earth.

Until you do what you are expected to do, God will never do a thing in your direction. Every act of God is initiated by man; and you initiate it by complying with His instructions. Do you want to be a financial success? Give, work, be disciplined and be ever joyful. What becomes of you is determined by what you do with His instructions.

"He instructed him..." and by those instructions, He made him to ride upon the high places of the earth. Whatever He tells you to do, do it and you will never have to struggle to get results; because when you act on His instructions, you commit Him to action.

Envy

Curse not the king, no not in thy thought; and curse not the rich in thy bedchamber: for a bird of the air shall carry the voice, and that which hath wings shall tell the matter.

Ecclesiastes 10:20

When you see people rising around you, don't wish them evil, or you may never rise. Everyone that comes against a man who is enjoying a covenant rise from God comes under a curse. Remember God told Abraham, "I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee."

Many are under such curses today. The man you wish evil doesn't need to know it, but God will step in on his behalf and fight for him. When Miriam and Aaron ganged up against Moses, he didn't hear their complaints, but God did and stepped into action on his behalf (Num. 12)

The thoughts of your heart are as important as the words you speak, because God is committed to performing both (Eph. 3:20). So, every evil thought against any man lifted by God brings an evil upon your life. Therefore, gird up the loins of your mind. Rejoice from the depth of your heart with that friend that the Lord is lifting.

When God makes somebody your head, if you curse him, you go down. No matter how hard you work, if you say or think evil thoughts against those above you, your lamp is put out in obscure darkness. Whereas some are rising, others have no testimony. Why? God is no respecter of persons. Your attitude is what determines your altitude, so watch it. No one knows the thoughts of a man, except the spirit of the man. So, search your heart and make it right, to allow God's blessings flow to you.

May every negative thing in you, which is blocking your access to the great success God has reserved for you drop off you right now, in Jesus' mighty name!

Listen to the conclusion of the whole matter: do you want to enjoy covenant success? Then mind covenant



details, for he that keepeth himself, the wicked one toucheth him not (1 Jn. 5:18).

[essc1200.htmssc1200.htmssc001.htmssc001.htmssc1400.htmssc1400.htm](#)

 dex.htm..index.htm	

[ess001.htmssc001.htm](#)

You Are A Choice Vine!

Now will I sing to my wellbeloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My wellbeloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill:

And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and he looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes.

And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem, and men of Judah, judge, I pray you, betwixt me and my vineyard. What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild grapes?

Isaiah 5:1-4

God views failure very seriously. It is a form of betrayal to Him, because all that is needed to make you a shining star on the earth has been done. If those under the old covenant were outstanding successes, how much more you, who is under a better covenant of excellence and exploit.

You are the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified. Jesus said He is the Vine and you the branches. So, you are God's choice planting, planted upon a most fruitful hill. There is nothing that needs to have been done for you that He has not done. So you disappoint Him when you fail to live up to His expectations of you.

You have no reason on earth to be a failure, no reason whatsoever to be pitied or to become a by-word and a proverb. As a born again child of God, you have been redeemed by the precious blood of His only begotten Son, Jesus. Also, you have the mind of Christ, His Spirit and He lives inside you. Everything to make you a success is right on your inside, so you frustrate grace if you don't succeed.

Failure is wickedness against your destiny and God judges it.

Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed:

And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.

His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:

Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.

Take therefore the talent from him...

And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 25:24-30

The stuff you are made of is immune to failure. You can't fail unless you allow it. Until you react against failure, you will never see and taste success. Failure is not a blessing, neither is it a lesson. It is a curse and a captivity, just as sickness and demon possession are. Don't nurse failure or explain it. If you are not going forward, you are on your way backwards, so react against it.

God is for your success, you won't disappoint destiny. Success is God's will for you, it will become a reality in your life, in Jesus' mighty name! See yourself become an outstanding success on the earth, for as far as your eyes can see is what you will get. You can't carry eternal life inside you and have no place on



the earth. You shall not fail! You shall succeed, in Jesus' mighty name!

essc1200.htmessc1200.htmessc001.htmessc001.htm

