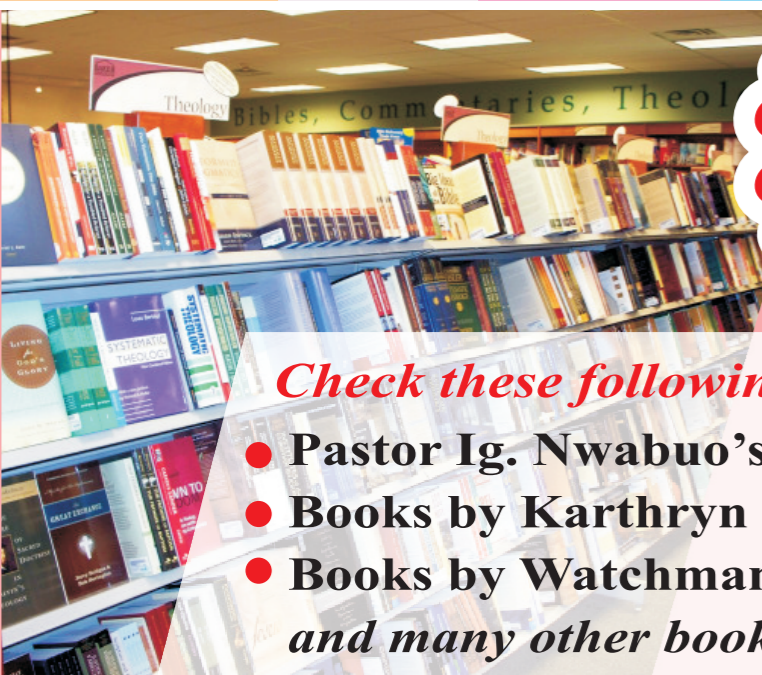


WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Pastor's Office Hour for Counseling 10:00am 4:00pm	Bible Study 5:00pm- 6:30pm	1. Charismatic Hour, Deliverance, Prayer and Counseling Program 9:00am-1:30pm 2. Youth Fellowship 5:00pm-7:00pm	Prayer Meeting Every Thursday 5:00pm 7:30pm	Flame Night Holds First Friday of Every Month 10:00pm	Sister's Fellowship 3 rd Saturday of Every Month 8:00am- 2:00pm	Sunday service 7:00am - 11:00am Special Dedication Sunday: Holds First Sunday of Every Month 8:00am 1:30pm



Visit our Resource Centre

Check these following materials:

- Pastor Ig. Nwabuo's Books and Messages on Cds
- Books by Karthryn Kulman
- Books by Watchman Nee

and many other books written by Great Authors.

INFORMATION FROM THE EDITORIAL DESK

There is no doubt that the Holy Spirit has blessed you with the messages in this month's edition Of our magazine. We shall be very glad to hear from you.

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You can also watch "Unchanging Truth" on ITV- Tuesdays @ 10:00pm
on EBS, Wednesdays @ 9:30pm and NTA - Sunday: 3:00pm

You can also call us for Books written by Pst. Ig. Nwabuo, DVDS,
CDS and other ministry materials. God bless you.

PRAISE GOD PRINTS @ 08037188351



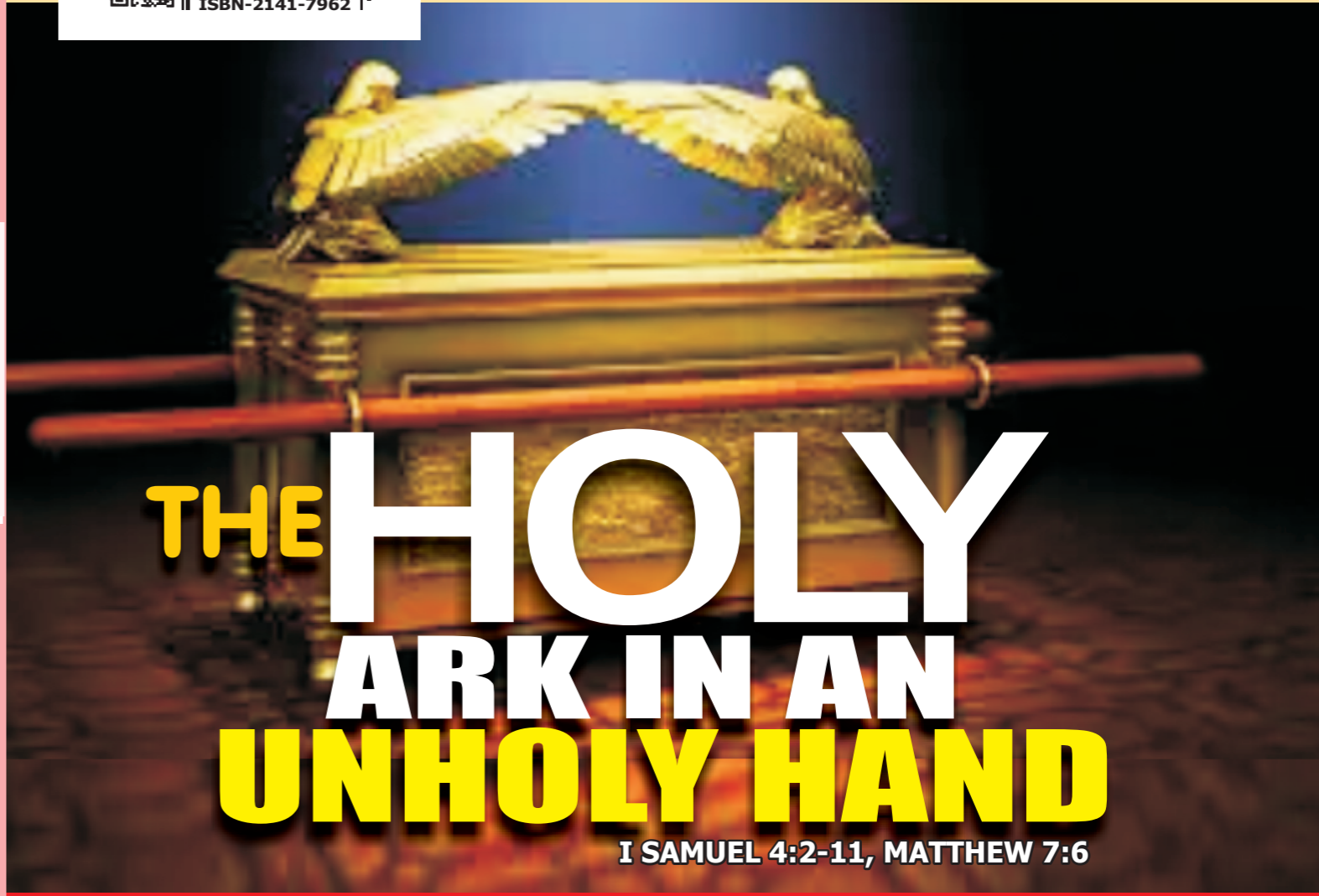
The Fishers Voice

A PUBLICATION OF FISHERS OF MEN CHARISMATIC CHURCH



▶▶ AUGUST 2021

₦150



THE HOLY ARK IN AN UNHOLY HAND

I SAMUEL 4:2-11, MATTHEW 7:6

Watch The Unchanging Truth!

With Pastor Ig. Nwabuo
of Fishers of Men Charismatic Church
Tuesday 10:00pm on ITV , Wednesdays at 9:30pm and NTA Sundays at 3:00pm



Editorial

The ark of covenant can be likened to God's promises and giftings. We remember how potent the ark was in the days of old. But a time came when that ark that was supposed to be holy was carried by unholy people; such occurrence does not only spoil the potency of the ark but endangers the life of the carrier.

So many persons in our days are so quick in wanting to

exhibit the giftings of the spirit, without possessing the fruits of the spirit. The Lord is always against those that sing the Lords song in a strange land. The Lord is a God of justice and He will not change His standard for anyone.

This Edition elucidates the requirements to bear the Ark of God, which is the mark of Christ (holiness). God bless you.

Acting Editor in Chief
Nwabuo I.G. Promise
07061952031

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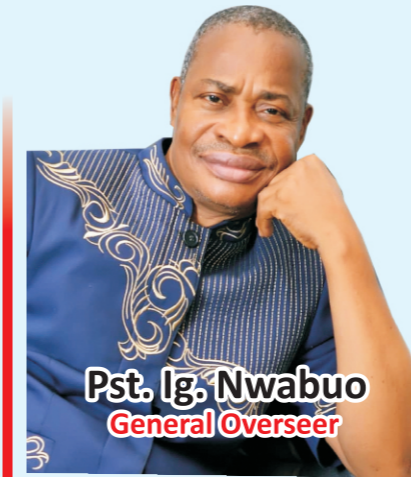
THE FISHERS VOICE

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Pst. Ig. Nwabuo
General Overseer

The word of God is true, dependable and eternal. In Psalms 119:160, the psalmist declares that, God's word is true from the beginning: and every one of his righteous judgment endureth forever. God's word is everlasting and firmly established, because God doesn't renege on His word. He will ever be faithful to it.

The scenario painted in our text shows, a breaking of confidence and trust. It's more like a betrayal of trust. Before now, the Israelite were sure of the efficacious power of God's presence in the Ark. They had absolute confidence that the presence of the Ark in the battle field meant total victory. The potency of the Ark has never been in doubt.

No wonder they shouted when they saw



THE HOLY ARK IN AN UNHOLY HAND

I SAMUEL 4:2-11, MATTHEW 7:6

that the Ark was brought into the battle. For them, the ark was a representation or signal that God has come into the battle, so they were assured of victory. But when they went to the battle the next day, their confidence and enthusiasm was dashed. What could have happened? Has God lost his efficiency? Of course not. God and His word is true and infallible. He will not bend his standard for anyone. The vessels that must bear the Ark must be holy (Isaiah 52:11). Bible speaking in Habakkuk 1:13-15 Says, "God is of a purer eyes than to behold evil and canst not look on iniquity. In Deuteronomy 23:14. Moses reaffirms the people of God's commitment and have a determination to deliver his people from their enemies, but the condition remains that they should be holy, and ensure that God sees no unclean thing amongst them.

In Isaiah 59:1-2, the prophet Isaiah declares; "The Lord's hand is not shortened that it cannot save, nor his ears heavy that he cannot hear, but

your "iniquity" have separated you from your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear." God's judgment in Ezekiel 18:4, is that the soul that sins shall die. But the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, felt they were above God's principles and ordinances, they felt that by being the sons of the Prophet Eli they could be excused. In 1st Samuel 2:12, we could see that they were referred to as the son of Belial (The devil). They knew not the Lord nor did they have respect for His commands (1st Cor. 6:9-10). The Priest have a custom and an order for operation, but for these two men they were not concerned, they did the opposite and felt they could be exempted. So when they carried the Ark with stained hands, the one who could not condole iniquity left the Ark. And the Israelite in their ignorance shouted for joy,

not knowing that their shout was empty. The one who makes the difference had left the Ark, and Hophni and Phinehas were to be disgraced. So they fell with the Ark in their hands and there was a great slaughter. The Ark also was captured. What an abnormality. The same Ark that wrought great wonders in the hands of Moses, discomfited their enemies, is now being captured by the enemy?

What could have happened? Why was it different this time? Could it be the hands that carried the Ark? The prerequisite for those who must host the divine presence of God is that they must be pure inside-out. They must possess purity in and out, in character, appearance, disposition and all. But Hophni and his brother Phinehas chose to bear the Ark with unclean hands and they faced the consequence for that action.

Today, the Ark is no longer a wooden structure, it's you and me and just like God left the Ark bored by Hophni and Phinehas, he will leave if he traces any unrighteousness in us. God cannot be hosted in an unregenerated heart. Our God is a God of principles.

We can see David, a man after God's heart, trying to do a good deed. His intention was to bring back the Ark and build an altar or a house for the Ark of covenant. But because God's principle was not followed, Uzzah the son of Abinadab tried to help keep the Ark from falling. This kindled the anger of God and he was struck dead. This brought fear upon the people and

David also (2 Samuel 6:5-8). Now, despite his zeal to bring back the Ark, God interrupted him because he must have to follow the procedures.

- (i) The Ark was to be borne by sanctified vessels, not just any zealous believer. **I Chro. 15:15.**
- (ii) It should be carried on their shoulders. **I Chro. 15:13**
- (iii) It is the Levites that must bear it. **I Chro. 15:14**

After all of these procedures were carried out, the Ark was brought back.

Today, a lot of persons get busy in the house of God, occupying several positions yet unsanctified they are actively participating in the things of God, when their lives need to go through the cross for cleansing. They ignore the vices in their lives thinking they can fool God with their many activities.

God is watching. He is not a respecter of persons, whatever a man sows, that he shall reap also. If you don't repent now, a day of disgrace is coming.

The children of Eli were rejected, and their priesthood ended in one day. As a church worker, teacher of the word, head of organ or department, you cannot go about polluting and disregarding the holy ordinances of God.

God is watching you! My advice is that you drop whatever you are doing, and as a matter of urgency return to God in true repentance and be restored.

2nd Corinthians 6:2b says: "Behold, now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation. "tomorrow might be too late. Do the necessary Amendments now.

Remain Rapturable



**Sis. Delight
NWABUO**



Saul's rejection of God's word came after he had already been confronted for his disobedience.

"And Samuel said: Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being King" I Sam. 15:22-23. Obeying God's word out of a pure heart is better than any outward form of worship, service or personal sacrifice. Saul's primary sin was placing his own idea of what was right above what God had already stated. This has become the attitude of men toward sin in our generation, and toward its rebellion against God. And this will continue till the final period before Jesus returns to the earth. People will be

set on deciding what is right for themselves, boldly rejecting the standard of the truth God clearly declares in his word. We must always remember that worship, prayer, praise, spiritual gifts and service to God are meaningless if not done in obedience. Obeying God entails doing what He says is right. Isaiah 58:2.

Thus, rebellion is refusal to do what God says is right which is same as the sin of witchcraft. We should not expose ourselves to the devil by disobeying. It is either we obey God or we obey the devil. We are the offspring of whom we obey.

"So David inquired of the Lord,

saying, "shall I go up against the philistines? Will you deliver them into my hand?" And the Lord said to David. "Go up, for I will doubtless deliver the philistines into your hand". 2 Sam. 5:19. One of King David's greatest strength was his strong conviction that God's help and direction were absolutely necessary for success in battle. David made it a habit to – check with God before he made major decisions. Fulfilling God's plans for our lives depends on his guidance. For this reason, we should follow David's example of frequent and regular prayer, as well as submission to the Holy Spirit who now lives within Jesus' followers and leads them in God's direction.

"Therefore David inquired again of God, and God said to him, "You shall not go up after them: circle around them, and come upon

them in front of the mulberry trees". I Chron. 14:14. King David did not assume that because it had been God's will to attack the Philistines before that it should remain so on this occasion. David's example teaches that we cannot succeed in life if we do not depend on God and continue to ask Him to reveal His intentions to us per-time. Calling on God for help and guidance is a daily necessity in our lives. Failing to pray and trust God will cause us to face life's troubles and demands alone.

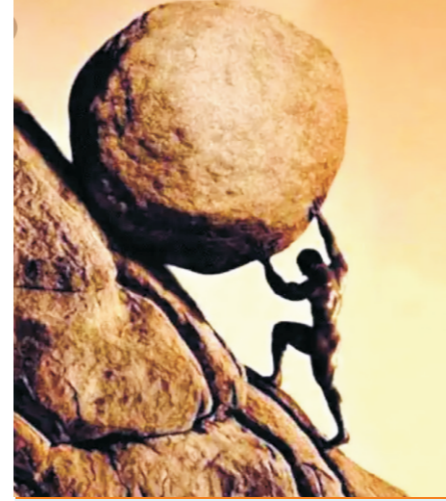
"As the Lord had commanded Moses His servant, so Moses commanded Joshua, and so Joshua did. He left nothing undone of all that the Lord had commanded Moses". Joshua 11:15. God gave instructions to His servant Moses, and Moses passed the commandment on to Joshua, who did as he had been told, he carefully obeyed all of the Lord's instructions. As it was in Bible days so it is today. God still passes instructions to His children through His servants. We should not look down on God's servants or despise their instructions. Note we should subject their instructions to the Holy Scriptures. God instructed Moses, Moses obeyed and

pass the instruction to Joshua who did according to all he was instructed. "Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses my servant commanded you: do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go". Joshua 1:7. "You need only to be strong and courageous and to obey to the letter every law Moses gave you, for if you are careful to obey every one of them, you will be successful in everything you do". TLB.

In order to possess the Promised Land, God's written word was to be their primary authority. They could not depend on human ideas, traditions, or religions. This principle applies to God's followers under the old and new covenants. In order for us to make it to the parley gate, we should pattern our lives according to God's word. Let us imitate king David, Moses, Joshua, Jesus e.t.c who never did their will or borrowed ideas from fellow men or women. Jesus did God's will, he obeyed His father's instruction when He was physically here. We should search the Bible to know God's mind so as to do

it. "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me". John 5:39 teaching or preaching the Bible is not enough. We must accept Jesus personally and devote our lives to following him. This includes living by the principles and purposes revealed in His word. It also involve patterning our lives after Him. Doing His will as He did His father's will. "I can of mine own self do nothing as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just, because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the father which hath sent me". John 5:30 I can do nothing on my own: I listen, then I decide, you can trust my decision because I'm not out to get my own way, but only to carry out orders". (The message Bible). Jesus carry out orders of His father. We should do the same. Let us model our lives according to God's word. Our inner man and outer man should be preserved blameless. Doing our own will or conviction is not in God's record.

Jesus trained His disciples to do God's will not their own. He imparted His nature into them. He called peter and disciplined him. Matt. 4:18. He equally called Saul and made him a chosen vessel. Acts 9:15.



WEDNESDAY YOUTH FELLOWSHIP YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM **STRENGTH** (KNOWLEDGE) DANIEL 11:32(b) Continuation From Last Month



In the last edition, we began looking at strength. Now, we will be looking at the lives of a few people and how they were able to congregate strength in them... Firstly, 1 Kings 17:1-6. Reminds us that, "...A man of knowledge increaseth strength,". There is a particular strength we find in Elijah, because for you to come before a king and say, "According to my word, there will be no rain for three and a half years," it means that you have amassed strength. A weak man cannot do that. But after he did this, he knew that the king would come after him, so he needed to take sometime out of that vicinity. God actually told him to go somewhere that he was going to be fed by ravens. Later on, in verse 9, we see the Lord again telling him to go to Zarephath where he would be sustained by a widow (at the command of God). Then moving on to the next chapter, we see a different Elijah. Note, it says, "...I am: go, tell thy lord, 'Behold, Elijah is here.'" And I ask, what is the difference between the former Elijah who ran and this one who said, "...Elijah is here?" I'll say that the difference was 'the food he ate'! (1 Kings 18:8).

A man cannot eat angel's food and still be without strength. The Lord commanded that Elijah dwelleth by the brook Cherith where he would be fed by ravens. Who baked the food? Angels... And again he was sent

somewhere else to be sustained in a time of famine... What am I saying? After both experiences, he came back to Samaria and said, "Go and tell thy master, that Elijah is here." Something had happened in between. Firstly, when Elijah got word and went to Zarephath, he was led to a widow who had nothing; but this widow knew the God of Elijah. Now, when he asked her for water, she was quick to respond, but when he asked for bread, she had to tell him to be considerate, that little food remaining was for her to make, for both her and her son to eat and die. And when Elijah spoke the word of the Lord to her, concerning her sustenance till the famine was over, this woman who had knowledge of the God of Elijah obeyed his words. Bringing this story down to our day, I'll say you should imagine a scenario of serious lockdown, wherein you have just a cup of rice left and a pastor tells you to prepare it for him, as he also has nothing to eat, yet he pronounces a word of faith that the cup of rice wouldn't go down, wouldn't you feel an iota of doubt? The first thing to come to your mind

is, the famine affected you till your supplies got finished, and then you came to me to take mine, stating that it won't go down... so after eating my food, you'll do your abrakadabra and if nothing comes out you'll only apologise, telling me, "Sorry o?" This is the Scripture broken down, because many times when we read, we don't bring such stories to our own time! This widow had just so little left to eat and then die, and the prophet didn't even say, "Eat and remain for me," instead he said, "Bring for me first, and then the remaining will be for you and your son." And the woman had true knowledge; she knew that if that word was from the mouth of the Prophet of the Lord, it would be true. Same also was it for Elijah, because by this time, his knowledge had increased; for after he ate of the angel's food, there was a rhythm connected to him. And

after these experiences and knowledge, he came to face Ahab.

Reading further in chapter 18, we see Elijah's challenge of the prophets of baal and the conquest at Mount Carmel. But before the mountain challenge, let me tell you that there is no way the prophets of baal could have been serving him if he hasn't shown its potency. So Elijah requested that they be first to call down fire, by first calling down baal. But do you also know that if baal had answered, they wouldn't wait for Elijah to call upon his own God, rather they would kill him instantly, Are you aware? So what did Elijah know that he made sure that as far as such a battle was to hold, baal would be asleep? Sometimes, God doesn't just respond to your voice, He responds to your knowledge. Elijah's dealings with God gave him courage and strength that he could say, "Call on baal..." He gave them till evening, and they called on baal and baal could not answer. There is a possibility that if they had called upon baal days later, its possible he would have answered; but as long as that particular time was concerned the knowledge Elijah had of God had sacked the power baal had. I'm not telling you of the fact that Elijah knew his God could

answer prayers, instead I'm telling you that 'he also knew that for the situation at hand, baal would not answer.' What confidence! And it was that same confidence that made him pour water on an altar, expectant of fire- That's Strength!

Sometimes, when we do things with the spiritual strength, man will think you are lazy.. Sometimes, when God wants to draw you to His secret place, you'll begin to ask, "Lord, what about my business?" Please hear clearly from Him. If He tells you leave so you can stay with Him for some time, please do so; shut that business till He's ready to let you go back. People may tell you that things at that moment has been going very well, but please obey the Lord and shut it down, because when you come out of that secret place, you can tell Ahab to go in the might of his chariots and horses while you run with your legs! What transported Elijah, so much so that he could outrun the chariots of Ahab was his knowledge, which begot the Strength used. As your knowledge begins to increase, your strength also increases.

Elijah's dealings with God made him understand that "God can do all things!" You cannot be afraid, when you've eaten from angels' food. You cannot be afraid when you've had dealings with God, because your knowledge of God gives you Strength. He that kneels before God can stand before any man! And Job 22:21&28-29 tells us that 'As seekers, first acquaint yourself with the Lord...Then you will be able to decree a thing which will be established (settled).' And verse 29 tells us that 'no knowledgeable man is permitted to be cast down with other men of the world, and even if they try to cast you into the furnace, you shall decree a lifting up.' It is in the very midst of trials, the Lord wants to see your knowledge of Him...how much you can rely, trust and depend on Him. And when its time for you to be thrown into the fire, the Fourth man will appear; that is your Strength! If only you will know the ways of God, then you will understand that you can be a mortal-immortal, operating in realms. "They that do know their God shall be strong..." If you study Daniel 1:8, Daniel proposed in his heart that he wouldn't

defile himself with the king's meat; he wasn't the only Hebrew child there, but the point is, some of those children only knew the God of their fathers. But for Daniel, he knew his God! So also it was for Joshua who stilled the sun and moon- it took the knowledge he had of the Lord to both do this and to also cause the enemies to flee. This was the same knowledge both he and Caleb possessed which caused them to give a good report of the land they went out to spy. It wasn't about the size of the men there, but about the Knowledge they had of their God.

A special characteristic to note of Elijah is this- He knew God, more than he knew men, so even the idea that "These people's god might answer them, didn't bother his mind." Also, studying the lives of the three Hebrew children, their statement to the King proved that they had knowledge of their God. They said, "We are not careful to answer you in this matter; and even if He doesn't answer us, we know we have a God." These men were speaking to an angry king, yet spoke in such a way- That is knowing God more than you know man! What experience did they have? Know that, the Lord will not distort anyone who has such knowings about Him. "They that do know their God... As long as you DO KNOW Him, Strength will be emitted!" For these men, strength came upon them, so much so that even when thrown into the fire, they became immortals.. They became fire... They were strong... And its one thing 'to be thrown into the fire' and another thing entirely 'when the fire doesn't burn you. 'You might be in the midst of fire unhurt because of a charm you possess, yet at the same time worried that such a situation be over before the powers in that charm runs out. But for these men, they remained still, praising the Lord in the midst of their fire because of the fourth man. And as long as they knew the Lord, there was a lifting up!

You know, the Lord can sow you as a seed in your family and give you Knowledge (not Strength), that when men are cast down, your family will then look up to you to decree a lifting up.. They will be able to say to their problems, "Its okay, tell your master that Elijah is here!" This was the same scenario with David who came to the battlefield with his knowledge of God higher than his knowledge of men, and despising the Philistine, he said, "Who is this one?" Though he saw physically giant, yet he knew his God; that though the king and his brothers doubted his ability to bring down the giant, he boldly spoke of his testimonies in the field, and could say, "Who is Goliath? Tell him - David is here!" David wasn't careful when addressing this giant, but rawly called him an 'uncircumcised philistine' because he (David) was coming from the presence of God- he dwelt there and so had received knowledge, then afterwards- Strength.

For Paul, a certain prophesy came of him that once in Jerusalem, he would be bound by the enemies; his fellow brethren began to plead that he shouldn't go. But instead of fretting, he insisted on going on to preach, because he knew the Lord who had called him. These are men who knew their God! Thy knew and then had strength!!

And on this note, please know that, we don't just say, "If I perish, I perish"; rather, we act out, "If I perish, I perish." We DO and not just 'say.'

But before then, don't pray for Strength first; rather pray first for Knowledge: and Strength will fall!!!

BRO. PROMISE NWABUO

Achieving A GOOD ORAL Hygiene



According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Oral hygiene is the practice of keeping the mouth, teeth and gum clean and healthy to prevent disease".

Research shows there is a proven relationship between oral and general health. The global burden of disease study 2017 estimated that oral diseases affect 3.5 billion people worldwide. According to the international agency for research on cancer, cancers of the lip and oral cavity are among the top 15 most common cancers worldwide, with nearly 180,000 deaths each year.

Oral diseases include dental caries (tooth decay), Gingivitis (inflammation of the gum), Periodontitis (inflammation of the tissues surrounding and supporting the teeth), Oral Cancer.

Some risk factors associated with oral diseases include tobacco use, alcohol consumption and unhealthy diets high in free sugars though there are also modifiable risk factors like cardiovascular diseases, cancer, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes, for example, diabetes mellitus is linked the development and progression of periodontitis (inflammatory disease of the tissue surrounding and supporting the teeth).

Good Oral hygiene should start at the very beginning of your child's life even before his/her first tooth emerge. Drugs like tetracycline can cause discoloration in infants; if you are pregnant or a nursing mother, endeavor to speak to your doctor

before using such medication. A good oral hygiene can be achieved by taking the right steps everyday. Breastfed children should have their gums and teeth wiped with a clean, damp towel, cotton wool following each feeding. Brush your teeth without neglecting your tongue thoroughly twice a day and floss daily between your teeth to remove dental plaque; brush with fluoride toothpaste while pea-sized should be used for children, the use of mouthwash is very important. Visit your dentist at least twice a year, even if you have no problem with your teeth.

Quit smoking and drinking of alcohol. If you have illnesses such as diabetes, endeavor to control the condition as it will decrease risk for complication including gum disease. Limit sugary food and drinks. Dairy products such as milk and yogurt are rich in Vitamin D and studies have shown that vitamin D helps in absorbing calcium and phosphate from food which are important for strong and healthy teeth. You can also get vitamin D from the sun, talk to your doctor about vitamin D supplement. Drink plenty of water as it is considered a best beverage for your overall health - including oral health.

Good oral hygiene remains important for everyone, including your children. As a parent or guardian, talk to your children/wards about how important good oral hygiene is in preventing not only tooth decay, but teeth stains, bad breath and other oral problems.

Nicodemus, who was a ruler of the Jews came to JESUS by night seeking to understand the means by which He does "...these miracles...", knowing that no man could do the miracles he witnessed without being sent by God - John 3:1-2. Probably, he had heard JESUS preach in the synagogue, and thereafter encountered the miracles... Note: he called JESUS' Rabbi' which literally means Teacher. But then, the teaching of JESUS was not his primary concern or focus of approach but the miracles.

Ordinarily, I thought JESUS would have indulged him on the rudiments of commanding miracles; but JESUS, knowing all men, saw that exposing a man to power without the basics will eventually destroy him. So He firstly told him of the essence of His birth, which is - saving men from their sins; Matthew 1:21. Though JESUS' reply was

straight forward and explicit "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God, "yet it took this teacher of the Jews by surprise. Why? He had been a teacher in the synagogue without knowing the Messiah. And come to think of it, the situation of Nicodemus is rampant these days.... We have much people seriously busy in the work of God, yet without experiential knowledge of the Master whose work they do.

Another important point - JESUS' reply took Nicodemus's attention from "...do these miracles..." to "You must be born again." "What have you been hearing in your local Church? Is it just the principles to observe in order to attract unusual wealth? Is it just uncommon ways to keep or have an

healthy marriage? Oh, Is it possible ways to influence and affluence the business and economy sector? Wait, is it only how to navigate supernatural miracles and blessings? This is actually not the first thing! Have you encountered the saving Messiah? Or have you just been encountering His other secondary dimensions? Nicodemus 'motives were not in order. He ought to have asked first the SOUL

QUESTION.

There are several persons in the house of God whose motives are not genuine; they come seeking for miracles, power, anointing, gifts, and not necessarily eternal life. Though very zealous in God's vineyard like Nicodemus who came to JESUS by night, they are yet to be regenerated! Can you put aside your desires for fame, money, miracles, power, etc and listen/ adhere to the words of JESUS - "You must be born again." John 3:7. If you are not born again into the kingdom of God, you can get the blessings and not enter the Kingdom. You can perform signs and wonders, and yet take no part in eternal glories.

It's high time, you seek for what is eternal. It is important you set your priorities right and in order. Check: Are you born again? Please, I didn't ask for your position in church?

*Carefully consider this matter....
Let us pray!*



The first set of sounds edged into the church temporarily disrupting the flow of attention from the preacher. It was subtle and precise I was like the orphic beats of a drums. Almost half of the congregation shifted their gaze to the figure walking majestically from the church's entrance towards the aisle, heat burned my insides, seems the church where do not have their work. Immediate, slow my face back to the pastor what does it take to trim the excesses of this woman? Always acting like Queen Elisabeth inside a Nigerian church. Suddenly our long chair cramped welcoming the new weight added to it. I blocked my nose with a finger as my attention drifted from the preacher and

writing materials to the harsh perfume now piercing the air. I learned to the other lade beside me and whispered can't they just control and curb the excesses of this woman, is she the only person that will get rich in life?. What kind of nonsense is this now?" I murmured and abused under my breath and visibly on my face one could read that I was irritated by her walking. Same goes to the lady sitting beside me. My attention has been drifted from the preaching because of her and that made me lose interest in what I was writing before. I turned to face the lady beside me and bend a little close to

her ears in order to gossip which I started like this." Hello sister, don't you see that this woman that just entered shouldn't be allowed to stay at the front anytime she comes late to church, she should be staying at the back, she is always distracting someone or what do you think I am saying, don't you get me?" I said and stared at her reaction and noticed that she felt the same and with that I got a gossip partner in church. That was how we became friends. After the pastors sermon, offering and tithe session followed and I was marveled at the way this young rich woman stood up, the clothes she was putting on, if I am not wrong worth N200,000 not to talk of her Gucci bag and the designer shoes she was wearing. Immediately, I saw that again, I became jealous and envious as hatred was clouding in my heart and this time, I said within me."But God why are you partial when you were creating humans? See how rich this woman is, she is not even a Christian like I am o, she doesn't attend Sunday school, nor do she attend the bible study, she comes late to church and all that but I

that is dedicated to you, see how you decided to treat me, ehn, no money" I grumbled as they were dancing to give the offering. It was then I started to look at myself and give the price of the clothes I was wearing that Sunday."My shoe is just N800, the top is N300 from bend down and select market in Terminus, Jos. I dropped my offering into the box but I knew it was not accepted because I did that with a confused and jealous mind...I was just dancing in front, I was not myself. I was smiling but deep down, I was having other thoughts.

I gave just N100 as offering but this woman dropped N5,000 as offering" What...?!!! That's my tithe combine for two months...Jesus" I was monitoring this woman, I really wish to be like her. We went back to our seats and it was time for testimonies and Thanksgiving.

Before the testimony, I had cursed and murmured that God hated me "Why can't I just be like this woman and have all she has and be like her? How I wish I could change with her and be like her in all things. You need to see her skin, so glowing and shining...very lovely My heart was divided and my prayers was just to be like her...The testimony started and she stood up to talk. I was full of this envy."I am here to testify for what I believe that God would do in my life" She said and I stared at her...what else does

she want God to do after all he has done for her? "You see most people will look at me and say ma, you are looking fresh and beautiful but I am not as I am still believing God to be " she said and by then I began to cough."WHAT IS HER PROBLEM, is she trying to say she is better than us and making mockery of us indirectly?" I murmured within me and squeezed my face. She continued... "You see, I do ask God to take my money and give me Peace of mind and health which most people enjoy." She said and by the time of talking, she lifted up her long gown to show the church something."Oh My God! What is this? There is a big wound like sore on her legs, what is this?" I exclaimed.

"I have been suffering from Cancer for a very long time but it is God that is still keeping me, in spite of my money, I have no rest, I am always jumping from one hospital to another. You see I am also having, (she pointed to place the. I saw this bag which people that could not excrete on to urinate and sometimes pass excretes.)I use to go to hospital daily...I am not happy but when I come to his presence I try to dance and look happy because I know my suffering is temporary." She said and shouted "Praise the Lord" and sat down."Ahh, I Can't for forgive myself, so the person I was envying was sick, I was

hale and hearty but didn't know the value of what God did for me....ahh, God have mercy "I prayed but a voice asked me loud and clear..." Do you still want to be like her?" The voice asked but I shook my head vigorously."It is true I may be poor or not having enough for now but I have to be grateful to God and thank him always, you don't know what the person you are admiring and wishing to be like is passing through but because of the physical appearance you are taken aback and not yourself anymore...be careful of your wish...If God decides to answer all our heart desire, am sure that by now we might have choose wrongly...but he is everywhere merciful, kind and just."Please, my brethren be careful of what you wish and never compare yourself with another person...work and pray...
God bless you.

SIN AGAINST GRACE

Romans 6:1-2, John 8:10-12

Grace is a product of God's riches at Christ's expense. It has nothing to do with your works, efforts, disposition, compartment, intelligence or gifts. It is God's gift to us: we did nothing to deserve it so there's no boasting. We did not work for it, Jesus did. "For by Grace are ye saved, through faith: and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God; not of works lest any man should boast". Ephesians 2:8-9.

Now, having established that grace is a gift from God and nothing of man, should it (Grace) then be a license for sin? The Apostle Paul in his writings to the Romans answered with a rebuke "God forbid!" and in verse two he asked again. "How can you say you have died to sin and still continue in it? Peter in his second epistle likens it to the proverb. A dog returning to its vomit, and a sow that has been washed to her

wallowing in the mire. 2 Peter 2:22 (Paraphased)

But grace has a work which it does in the life of a believer. Titus 2:11-12, puts it this way, "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lust, we should live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world".

From the passage above, we can deduce that the grace of God did not appear for man to continue in sin or does it excuse man from the punishment that comes with denying this grace.

From Titus' admonition, we could see that the grace of God first appeared to give salvation from sin; like in the case of the woman caught in adultery, the Lord instructed her after saving her from her accusers to go and sin no more. From the same passage we see that grace is also a teacher. It teaches us to

- i) **Deny ungodliness**
- ii) **Deny worldly lust**
- iii) **Live soberly**
- iv) **Live righteously**
- v) **Live godly – in this present world.**

If we are good students of grace we would have learnt that grace help us to live soberly and patiently in waiting for our savior and Lord's return. (Titus 2:13).

Grace is an enabling power. It came to aid us, to help our inabilities and to stabilize us. As we confess our weaknesses and helplessness, grace supplies strength to help us live up to God's standard for our lives. It guides us to live daily in truth, holiness and righteousness even as God commands us.

Paul in his letter to Timothy expressed his gratitude to God for his saving grace upon his (Paul's) life. He also showed the infallibility of this grace. Grace helps us to see Jesus as he is; "the saviour of the world". I Tim. 1:12-15. So

many today have so abused grace that they now see it as an excuse for sin; they tell you God's grace is sufficient and inexhaustible. As true as that is, the bible warns us in Galatians 6:7. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for what so ever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

Many in Church today are careless. They claim they want to serve God but are unable to yield. They actively participate in church activities, working in various department, just to fill they void they feel inside.....if you belong to this category, the Lord is calling you to the baptism into his death, for Paul said, any man who is dead, can no longer live in sin. By dying, you are yielding to the power of the cross and appropriating the finished work of Grace. Only then can you truly live above sin (Romans 6:1-18). In verse (18). Paul said, that individual is made free from sin and is now a servant of righteousness. See 1st Peter 2:24).

Beloved, if after hearing this message, you choose to remain in your sin, you are committing sin against grace. If you choose to love the world and all of it's lust and unrighteousness, you are sinning against grace. (I John 2:15-17, James 4:4, I Peter 1:15-16).

Be wise, make a quick decision for Jesus and be saved for soon he that must come, will surely come (Heb. 10:37).

Save yourself from the terror which will come upon all who have abused and sinned against grace.

Don't be found wanting. Receive grace to heed to his warning and be counted worthy when he comes.

Remain Rapturable.
Pst Ig Nwabuo

TESTIMONIES

Praise God. Some weeks back noticed a bole in my leg. Before I knew it, it developed the more causing me to feel pains in some other parts of my body. I prayed and believed God. My leg swollen up even the more as though the devil was up to something. People began to ask questions, well I believed my God. A day came that as the man of God was ministering, my case was mentioned, I claimed my healing. Today, that growth has dried up. May the Lord be glorified.

Sis. Delight Nwabuo

I got born again in Deeper Life church as a young girl. A year came that I went for a holiday in my relation's house. There, I learnt to wear ear rings, perm and plait my hair. As I came back the Lord warned me. I managed to stop putting on earrings and perming but for plaiting of hair I could not. When I got married and became a member of this church, the Lord kept on warning me but I would not listen. In one of my dreams, rapture took place, I saw myself ascending but suddenly, I was suspended while others kept up transiting. I began to ask, what is happening? A loud voice spoke from heaven saying, you cannot because of your hair. He said, yes, we don't do such over here. I woke up, waved the dream and kept on plaiting even my children of which in one of the revelation, a child was not taking because the mother wore her ear rings. Last month, the lord dealt with me, one of the night, my whole body was inching me, non stop I got ministration that the hair I made is the problem. I loose the hair that night. The problem. I loose the hair that night. The moment I was done, I was able to sleep. It still did not stop. I even beg Holy Ghost to permit me to plait a little more of which I did promising to loose it on a particular day. The day came and passed but I refused to loose it. The Lord came with headache that defiled drugs and prayers, I was asking for prayer here and there one of those people out rightly told me that she perceived that my problem is disobedient. I agreed but would not loose the hair until the headache became completely unbearable. I started loosing the hair. The moment I was through, I was free from the headache. If not for mercy, I do not know where I would have been. I let go the world to his glory.

Sis. Sunday Igwe

To God be praise for ever for his faithfulness towards me and my family. My two children traveled to Onitsha for business. As they entered Onitsha, robbers came after them. Passengers began to jump out of the long bus and landed inside the big Onitsha gutter. By God's grace he sustained no injury. The other laid flat in the bus speaking in tongues. When the thieves came in and saw him, they said, this one is mad and passed him. This was how God preserved my children and their belongings.

Secondly, I was attacked in one of my legs. The leg kept on inching me. When I scratch, it will turn to sore. As I kept on praying, it would dry up but it seem there is reinforcement form the pit of hell against the leg. Recently, the legs inched me, I could not but scratch it. Next was bore here and there. I took the case to God in prayer and he dried it up. To him be the glory.

Sis. Eze from Uselu

Praise God, I want ot thank God for my family in village we have no house and so we started building. Along the line, fire raised down our shop leaving us with nothing. We started buying good on credit. The project in village paused. Every year we will go, squat in a room and built the house a little. People in village targed the house one year one block' but we did not mind. Today God has completed the project. We packed in last year, cooked and called then to eat. They that mocked us joined us to rejoice. To God be the glory.

Sis. Ukagha

Praise God he is a miracle worker. Growth called witlow started growing in my hand. It was not something we pray to witness at all. When it gathered pore, I was afraid to open it at that time our pastor saw it and prayed saying you evil seed vanish (3x). In an hour time I looked at the hand and could not found the problem again. I was amazed. To God be the glory.

Sis. Unoka Evlyn

Many months ago, I sent down my good to printing factory for printing. By the time they brought back the goods, material worth sixty something thousand naira was missing. I could not trace it because they said they cannot find it. I told God to remember I just sowed many of the materials to the less privilege. He should help me to trace the missing ones. After four to five months a big bag was brought to me and it was the very materials from those that weaved them. They said, that bag was forgotten when they were sending the goods to the printing factory. God is faithful. He made me to recover all. Secondly, my child made a business tripe through a road where herds men operate every moment. God led him through and fro. I give God thank.

Sis Delight Nwabuo

I am testifying of God hand upon me. I came to this Benin as a single poor girl. God established me in faith and in business. I have money for my needs nad to serve God today. Not quite long God gave me a house and a car. He also drive me in the peaceful car he gave me. Yesterday the enemy rose his ugly head to take my family through accident. God saved our lives. To him be all the glory.

Sis Joy Umeanor

Praise God, I am testifying to the glory of God. I have been sick. For that reason I fear 48 hours program: I always except myself. If I venture it, I will kie down from the beginning to the last day of the program. This years own was different. As I summoned courage to do it, God gave me the strength. Again my daughter is a testimony. When I gave birth to her, the report that followed was that she has two holes in the heart. I was asked to fly her abroad for the operation. Hwen I ask people they will say such issue cost millions nad I have no such mney. When I take her for some small treatment or checking, I will see other people with such case looking too sickly that you will doubt whether some will survive it. For my daughter, she is looking healthy. A day came that as the doctor checked her up, he was confused and began to ask if the child is having some symptoms. I explained the child is living a normal life. He opened up and told me that he could not find trhe big hole in the child's heart any more. I know it was my God's hand work. If he could cover the big hole that would have cost me millions, the small one will cover also. As for me, my daughter is healed. I bless my God.

Sis Edith Asuegbu

I thank God for bringing me to this church, I would have backslidded for what I passed through. My husband traveled abroad and promised to return in two years time. He was not granted visa to visit home. Before I knew it, nine year passed. God helped me to remain faithful. He promised to bring him and then to bless me with a baby boy. He finally did it last year that my husband was granted the visa for one month stay. The moment, he arrived, the boarder was closed due to covid-19 pandemic. He had to stay for months. God blessed me with the fruit of the womb who is now in my hand as a bouncing baby boy. He help my husband to return safely when some till today are unable to return. All that mocked me now testify I serve a living and faithful God who did not fail me after many years of hopelessness.

Sis. Confidence (Oliha)

Congregational Hymn

SOFTLY AND TENDERLY JESUS IS CALLING 1/8/2021

1. Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling
Calling for you and for me;
Patiently Jesus is waiting and watching
Watching for you and for me!

*Come home!..come home!...
Ye who are weary--- come home!
Earnestly, tenderly Jesus is calling
Calling, O sinner, come home!*

2. Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading
Pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not His mercies
Mercies for you and for me?
3. Time is now fleeting, the moments are passing
Passing from you and from me;
Shadows are gathering, deathbeds are coming
Come for you and for me!
4. Oh for the wonderful love He has promised
Promised for you and for me!
Though we have sinned, He has mercy and pardon
Pardon for you and for me!

CHRIST HATH REDEEMED US 8/8/2021

1. "CHRIST hath redeemed us": sing the glad word!
Mercy's sweet message be telling,
How, through the ransom made by His blood,
Christ now within us is dwelling.

*"Christ hath redeemed us"; Praise to His name!
Praise Him, ye angels in glory!
"Christ hath redeemed us"; bearing our shame;
Tell out the wonderful story!*

2. Christ hath redeemed us," making us free,
Free from the sins that enslaved us;
Never in bondage more can we be,
Trusting in Him who hath saved us.
3. "Christ hath redeemed us": we are His own,
Purchased by blood—He will hold us;
Nor will He ever leave us alone,
Safely His arms shall enfold us.
4. "Christ hath redeemed us": soon with the throng
Gathered in glory we'll meet Him;
Oh, with what rapture join in the song,
When face to face we shall greet Him

GOD IS HERE 15/8/2021

1. God is here and that to bless us
With the Spirit's quickening power,
See, the cloud already bending,
Waits to drop the graceful shower.

*Let it come, O Lord we pray Thee!
Let the shower of blessing fall
We are waiting, we are waiting
Oh revive the hearts of all.*

2. God is here! We feel His presence
In this consecrated place,
But we need the soul refreshing
Of His free unbounded grace.
3. God is here! Oh, then believing
Bring to Him our one desire,
That His love may now be kindled,
Till its flame each heart inspire.
4. Saviour grant the prayer we offer
While in simple faith we bow,
From the windows of Thy mercy,
Pour us out a blessing now.

WHEN THE ROLL IS CALL UP YONDER 22/8/2021

1. When the trumpet of the Lord shall
sound and time shall be no more
And the morning breaks, eternal,
Bright, and fair;
When the saved of earth shall gather
Over on the other shore
And the roll is called up yonder,
I'll be there

*When the roll..... is called up yon...der
When the roll..... is called up yon...der
When the roll.... is called up yonder.
When the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there*

2. On that bright and cloudless morning,
When the dead in Christ shall rise,
And the glory of His resurrection share
When His chosen ones shall gather to
Their home beyond the skies
And the roll is called up yonder,
I'll be there
3. Let me labour for the master from
the dawn till setting sun
Let me talk of all His wondrous
Love and care;
Then, when all of life is over, and my work on
earth is done,
And the roll is called up yonder,
I'll be there

COME WALK WITH ME 29/8/2021

1. Along life race you stumble in the darkness your
blinded eyes,
Cannot see the light of God,
on that same road if you listen to Jesus calling,
come walk with me and I will see you through.

Chorus:
*Come walk with me, the road is rough and narrow,
Come walk with me, you cannot be alone,
the way is rough and there are many dangers,
come walk with me and I will see you through*

2. Come walk with me, for there are many dangers,
The path is rough, temptation everywhere,
Look unto me, your only blessed savior,
Come walk with me, and I will see you through.
3. On that same road the waves and storms are
heavy is full of trials,
My friend I'm out for you,
My yes is yes I'm ready to take you heaven,
Come walk with me and I will see you through

DEVELOPING MENTAL CAPACITY

S	D	F	G	S	F	G	H	R	W	R	T	G	O	P	J	N
K	J	F	H	A	S	D	V	E	D	E	A	D	N	G	J	I
H	K	K	T	D	S	N	O	I	T	A	R	E	N	E	G	T
S	S	E	N	T	A	E	R	G	F	A	F	F	H	F	H	A
E	K	Q	W	A	S	N	S	G	N	X	V	C	V	B	M	C
T	U	W	F	S	Q	V	N	S	A	N	C	T	I	F	Y	Y
E	K	Q	W	F	S	X	V	Z	E	Z	Z	C	B	B	S	F
E	L	Q	F	X	G	O	D	L	I	N	E	S	S	C	T	I
T	P	W	V	G	E	D	G	D	F	F	H	D	S	D	E	T
E	O	W	S	G	N	O	I	T	U	T	I	T	S	E	R	R
T	U	F	W	D	T	D	G	D	S	A	F	S	I	S	Y	O
R	Y	W	A	D	L	S	E	S	S	E	N	T	I	W	F	F
E	T	D	X	T	E	S	T	I	M	O	N	Y	S	S	F	S

- | | | | |
|-----|-------------|------|-------------|
| (1) | Witnesses | (6) | Greatness |
| (2) | Sanctify | (7) | Fortify |
| (3) | Mystery | (8) | Gentle |
| (4) | Godliness | (9) | Generations |
| (5) | Restitution | (10) | Testimony |