

WISDOM

FOUNTAIN OF WISDOM MINISTRIES

Digest

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for Kingdom Breakthroughs

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Publication Information

Wisdom Digest is published by the Fountain of Wisdom Ministries as a forum to share the ministry of Rev. Kola and Funke Ewuosho and others as God leads. It is also published to inspire, inform and cultivate the involvement of readers worldwide to share in the establishment of God's covenant in the earth through our Lord Jesus Christ. This is distributed freely and supported by partner contributions and donations. All contributions are gift-aid tax deductible.

If you have been blessed by this issue of Wisdom Digest, we would like to hear from you. Your prayers and support in any form are greatly appreciated.

Please send us names and addresses of friends you know who would benefit from receiving a copy of this magazine.

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REV. KOLA EWUOSHO

RE-PROGRAMMING YOUR HEART FOR KINGDOM BREAKTHROUGHS

“Without the development of our spirits in the life of God, we may still live as people who are governed by the dictates of the human flesh and not yield to the Spirit of God who lives within us.”

“Why do you call Me, Lord, Lord, and do not [practice] what I tell you?” In Luke 6:46 our Lord Jesus asked this question when he was on earth and it is a question that still needs to be answered today. The question, amongst other things, challenges our understanding and application of His Lordship over us as well as our recognition of the fact that His Word should have authority over our lives. In our present day world, all these have a place in our study and thoughts. I believe that in response to this question we might answer, “Lord, the things that inform what we do have been established in us before we accepted you as our Lord, so we have no place for what you say. Moreover, what you say runs contrary to what we have been programmed to do and how we live our lives. By nature we were not designed to ‘love our enemies’ or ‘bless those who curse us’.”

NEW CREATION NEEDS NEW MINDSETS

The new birth starts with the injection of God's life ('Zoe' in Greek) into our spirits. When we receive Jesus as our Lord and Saviour having repented of our sins, we have our human spirits recreated by the Holy Spirit infusing God's life into us. We now have a new identity - in Christ. We become a part of the new creation, with Jesus Christ as the head of this new creation, replacing Adam as the failed head of the old creation. This life is in our spirits but the inherited nature we had is still lodged in our souls (our mind, will and emotions). James 1:21 tells us to lay aside naughtiness, amongst other things in our souls, and receive with meekness the engrafted Word, which is able to save our souls. Work needs to be done in our souls so we can come into alignment with the way God ordained for things to function in our lives on the earth. Our souls (the seat of our personality) have been affected by the sinfulness in our world, nature and the experiences we had before we met Christ. Without the development of our spirits in the life of God, we may still live as people who are governed by the dictates of the human flesh and not yield to the Spirit of God who lives within us. The Corinthian church, in the days of Apostle Paul, were full of the manifestations of the Spirit in gifts yet they were ruled by their flesh according to 1 Cor. 3. In



Paul's letter to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 3:1-3 amplified translation), we read the following:

"HOWEVER, BRETHREN, I could not talk to you as to spiritual [men], but as to nonspiritual [men of the flesh, in whom the carnal nature predominates], as to mere infants [in the new life] in Christ [unable to talk yet!] I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not yet strong enough [to be ready for it]; but even yet you are not strong enough [to be ready for it], For you are still [unspiritual, having the nature] of the flesh [under the control of ordinary impulses]. For as long as [there are] envying and jealousy and wrangling and factions among you, are you not unspiritual and of the flesh, behaving yourselves after a human standard and like mere (unchanged) men?

God's Word is designed to train us to walk in the victory that has been granted us through the death, burial and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Many Christians are not taking full advantage of their privileges in Christ. God raised Paul to help bring us all into the fullness of what we have become -in Christ.

UNDERSTANDING HOW WE RECEIVED OUR PROGRAMMING

Our souls are programmed through observation, imitation and repetition. The advertising companies know this and are taking full advantage of it. Even a relaxed observation when it is repeated can influence us. Our nature, (inherited nature from Adam and our temperaments), our nurture (how we were brought up) and culture have been known to define who we are and inform what we do and how we go about things. Our culture is a body of accepted norms, traditions and practises that generally inform our environment. Our nurture is how we were brought up; in love and acceptance, in discipline or tyranny, to love development or cultivate self destructive habits. Our nature has to do with our inherited nature from Adam as well as our inborn temperament and general human tendencies. Each person is pretty much defined by these. Satan, the god of this world, on the other hand has our carnal mind, the worldly systems and his cohorts of evil spirits to enhance his operations in our lives. He has come to steal, kill and destroy. Most of the time he is not the one to deal with directly but the culture in which we live.

LESSONS FROM THE PRODIGAL SON AND PARABLE OF THE SOWER

The story of the prodigal son shows the influence of the environment or culture that the son allowed into his life. The thought that receiving his inheritance immediately will give him the freedom to enjoy his life without the regulation of the father came from the culture in which he lived. The same is happening today, "why wait until you are married before enjoying sex? Do it now! Get it all now!" This type of thinking does not help people to see far enough ahead to recognise the consequences that will follow such things. In this story, the

devil was not in the picture at all. The environment, prevailing thought patterns and culture informed his way of life, desires, expectations and hence experience. Thank God for a loving Father who can accept us in spite of our foolishness. See Luke 15:11-32.

"We get programmed in our souls through observation, imitation and repetition. The advertising companies know this and are taking full advantage of it."



In the parable of the sower, we see the enemy mentioned in only one case i.e. when the seed is stolen for their lack of paying attention to the Word they heard. Satan is said to be the direct cause for only one of the four types of soil that resulted in non-productivity of the seed. In the stony ground and the thorny ground we see the culture once again affecting the heart, hence the soil. The stony heart received the

Word with gladness but had no root in themselves, no time to develop a root system of understanding. The persecution or tribulation comes directly from either the environment or from wrong expectations within. In the thorny heart, the cares, the deceitfulness of riches and desires for other things all come from culture and nurture. Satan is behind all these but we are learning what his channels are in getting the Word to be unproductive in the lives of people.

"And He said to them, do you not discern and understand this parable? How then is it possible for you to discern and understand all the parables? The sower sows the Word. The ones along the path are those who have the Word sown [in their hearts], but when they hear, Satan comes at once and [by force] takes away the message which is sown in them. And in the same way the ones sown upon stony ground are those who, when they hear the Word, at once receive and accept and welcome it with joy; And they have no real root in themselves, and so they endure for a little while; then when trouble or persecution arises on account of the Word, they immediately are offended (become displeased, indignant, resentful) and they stumble and fall away. And the ones sown among the thorns are others who hear the Word; Then the cares and anxieties of the world and distractions of the age, and the pleasure and delight and false glamour and deceitfulness of riches, and the craving and passionate desire for other things creep in and choke and suffocate the Word, and it becomes fruitless. And those sown on the good (well- adapted) soil are the ones who hear the Word and receive and accept and welcome it and bear fruit—some thirty times as much as was sown, some sixty times as much, and some [even] a hundred times as much." (Mark 4:13-20 Amplified Bible)

We need to take responsibility for our future. This sense of responsibility will help us stop allowing excuses in our lives. Failure has a lot of excuses and success does not usually need any explanation. So decide to be a success with God! The decision to be a success in God is the reason why we can challenge our thoughts and examine our ways. Things only change when we decide to change.

We need to examine the philosophy at work in each person. Our inner philosophy will determine or influence the quality of decisions we make. Apostle John said he was glad when he heard that his people walk in the truth as the truth is in them.

"Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul. For I rejoiced greatly when the brothers came and testified to your truth, as indeed you are walking in the truth. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth." (3 John 2-4).

You can walk in the truth to the extent that the truth is in you. For truth to be in you, it must replace what was there before. Our lives are greatly determined by our decisions and our decisions are based on the accuracy of knowledge we have. No wonder the same Apostle had earlier said "I wish above all things that you prosper and be in health even as your soul prospers." (3 John 2). Soul prosperity leads to material prosperity and health. The soul of a human being comprises of the mind, will and emotions. All these are affected by the programming we have all received through our nature, nurture and culture. For many the process begins when we have the courage to ask why we think, say and do the things we do. The answers to these questions will reveal the internal programming at work in us. When God's reality (truth) is not in us then lies have found their way into us. Satan's greatest access into the human race is by injecting thoughts into the mind. The grafting of truth into us, as we humbly receive the truth, is what will save our souls from all the junk we have imbibed into our minds, emotions and will. James 1:21 says "So get rid of all uncleanness and the rampant outgrowth of wickedness, and in a humble (gentle, modest) spirit receive and welcome the Word which implanted and rooted [in your hearts] contains the power to save your souls". (Amplified Bible)

Matthew 15:19

For out of the heart come evil thoughts (reasonings and disputings and designs) such as murder, adultery, sexual vice, theft, false witnessing, slander, and irreverent speech. (Amp. Bible)

If our thoughts are not examined, their source may never be identified and they may continue to influence us. These thoughts can influence an entire generation; not just an individual. Many even suffer bitter experiences and yet never stop to ponder on the thoughts that led to the experience. By analysing our experiences we can derive lessons and knowledge from the experience itself.

Our programming has been filled with poverty, rejection, selfishness and pride. These all came through our nature, nurture and culture. Our motives, focus and intentions should be examined in the light of God's Word.

Joshua 1:8 and Psalms 1:1-3 are instructions designed to re-program ourselves and our lives with God's truth in His Word.

"This Book of the Law shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may observe and do according to all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall deal wisely and

have good success". (Joshua 1:8)

"BLESSED (HAPPY, fortunate, prosperous, and enviable) is the man who walks and lives not in the counsel of the ungodly [following their advice, their plans and purposes], nor stands [submissive and inactive] in the path where sinners walk, nor sits down [to relax and rest] where the scornful [and the mockers] gather. But his delight and desire are in the law of the Lord, and on His law (the precepts, the instructions, the teachings of God) he habitually meditates (ponders and studies) by day and by night. And he shall be like a tree firmly planted [and tended] by the streams of water, ready to bring forth its fruit in its season; its leaf also shall not fade or wither; and everything he does shall prosper [and come to maturity]." (Psalms 1:1-3)



"If our thoughts are not examined, their source may never be identified and they may continue to influence us. These thoughts can influence an entire generation; not just an individual."

STEPS TO REPROGRAMMING

1) Have the attitude of a winner not a loser.

Your attitude is a function of your knowledge, thoughts and expectations in life. Paul said he has learned to abase and abound and can do all things through Christ who strengthens him. His attitude was, 'no matter my financial state, I will not let the natural control me. I am regulated internally by the presence of the Greater one in me'. A winning attitude seeks to develop, improve and be the best one can be in life. No excuses are allowed and no one is to receive the blame for any circumstance in one's life. You are a victor not a victim. This

winning attitude is essential if we want to undo the past and prevent the mistakes of the past from affecting our destiny in the future. I will give my best. I will learn my lessons. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me!

2) Know the Word as the seed for all you need.

God responds to His Word. He watches over His Word to perform it and confirms His Word with signs following. Many refuse to plant the seed and wonder why there is no harvest. The seed is the guarantee for the harvest. Be seed-minded. The kingdom of God operates by seed-time and harvest. The seed is the Word. The harvest are our needs being met. Our prayers, faith, and focus all enhance the operation of the seed (the Word) in our lives.

3) Understand the place of Truth-encounter when deliverance is needed.

When things go wrong repeatedly, we may consider the need for deliverance from the forces of darkness. There is the role of exercising the power of God to cast out devils, when we use the name of Jesus Christ. We need to be established in this. There is, however, a second side to the same coin; the truth-encounter.

John 8:31-32 says "So Jesus said to those Jews who had believed in Him, If you abide in My word [hold fast to My teachings and live in accordance with them], you are truly My disciples. And you will know the Truth, and the Truth will set you free."



The truth you receive, know and adjust your life to has the power to set you free. Truth demands process, it takes time to internalise. It replaces error or wrong MINDSETS as we pay attention to it.

“If you live in Me [abide vitally united to Me] and My words remain in you and continue to live in your hearts, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you.” John 15:7 When the Word abides in our hearts,

“Many refuse to plant the seed and wonder why there is no harvest. The seed is the guarantee for the harvest. Be seed-minded.”

our prayer releases power.

4) Practices that will help

- **Develop a prayer life of intercession and supplication for the saints.** “Pray at all times (on every occasion, in every season) in the Spirit, with all [manner of] prayer and entreaty. To that end keep alert and watch with strong purpose and perseverance, interceding in behalf of all the saints (God’s consecrated people).” Ephesians 6:18.

- **Develop a Word-orientation of study, meditation and confession of the word.** “Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved (tested by trial), a workman who has no cause to be ashamed, correctly analyzing and accurately dividing [rightly handling and skillfully teaching] the Word of Truth.” 2 Timothy 2:15 (Amp. Bible). “And He said to them, Be careful what you are hearing. The measure [of thought and study] you give [to the truth you hear] will be the measure [of virtue and knowledge] that comes back to you—and more [besides] will be given to you who hear.” Mark 4:24. Romans 10:10 says “For with the heart a person believes (adheres to, trusts in, and relies on Christ) and so is justified (declared righteous, acceptable to God), and with the mouth he confesses (declares openly and speaks out freely his faith) and confirms [his] salvation.” Study is the

systematic pursuit of understanding. There are various ways to study the Word, for example, we can study topics, individuals or books in the Bible. The subject of confession has been limited to confession of sins but confession has various roles in our lives. We build images inside ourselves through what we say regularly and the image in us can be changed or affected by the words we speak. Then we can change our external situation by speaking to the mountains around us. We should confess who we are in Christ, what we have in Him and what we can do in Him. If we do these things regularly our minds and hearts will be programmed for success by God’s word.

- **Develop a regular life of fellowship with other believers.** “And let us consider and give attentive, continuous care to watching over one another, studying how we may stir up (stimulate and incite) to love and helpful deeds and noble activities, Not forsaking or neglecting to assemble together [as believers], as is the habit of some people, but admonishing (warning, urging, and encouraging) one another, and all the more faithfully as you see the day approaching.” Hebrews 10:24-25

- **Develop your heart and skill for soul winning.** One of our purposes for being on earth after we get born again is to be a witness for God hereby influencing people to know the love God has for them through Christ. If we do not make it one of our goals, we won’t do it and the effect it should have on our development will be lost. (You can order our message ‘Evangelism; the Missing Key’ to train yourself on this aspect of our assignment in God.)

- **Develop a lifestyle of obedience to the Word.** These Kingdom principles should govern your life.
 1. Thanksgiving/praise; having a thankful heart.
 2. Positive expectation-in attitude and speaking.
 3. Faith in the Word- be a doer of the Word. (James 1:21)
 4. Forgiveness- forgive anyone who offends you. (Mark 11:23-25)
 5. Cast your cares on The Lord. (Philippians 4:6. 1 Peter 5).
 6. Check your motives and focus regularly.
 7. Maintain a constant communion with God.

God bless you as you embark on this life long journey of constantly reprogramming your mind, heart and life to become all God wants you to become and accomplish His assignment for your life. Remain hungry for more of God in every aspect of your life.
Rev. Kola Ewuosho



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Rev. Funke Ewuosho

9TH FEB / UNITED KINGDOM
WOMEN'S BREAKFAST CONFERENCE (At Harvestime Church, Virginia Water)
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Rev. Kola and Rev. Funke Ewuosho

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IMPACTING LIVES IN PERU

Earlier this year, Fountain of Wisdom Ministries hosted a conference in Peru which was attended by many people including pastors and ministers from Peru, Argentina and Ecuador. We also translated our Wisdom Digest magazine into Spanish to be distributed freely throughout Latin America.



A TESTIMONY FROM A PASTOR WHO ATTENDED THE CONFERENCE

In June I was invited to a Fountain of Wisdom Ministries conference in Peru, led by Rev Kola and Mrs Funke Ewuosho. I have been to many conferences but this one made a big impact in my life. I want to take this opportunity to thank the organizers of this event for bringing these ministers of God. We heard such a powerful and doctrinally balanced Word that impacted many

lives, bringing wisdom, holiness and challenging people to a committed live of serving and advancing God's Kingdom. At the conference I asked Rev. Kola to pray for me regarding my studies which he did. Since then, I have finished my Phd and it went really well. It was such a blessing to meet this man and woman of God and be able to receive from them. I look forward to taking part in future conferences where I can hear wisdom given by God through them.

Dr Thomas Guiracocha, Minister of God's Assembly (Ecuador)

PARTNER WITH US IN FUTURE MISSIONS TRIPS

We are in relationship with many pastors throughout Latin America who are hungry to learn more of God's Word through the Fountain of Wisdom Ministries and be further equipped to fulfil God's purposes for their lives. Every mission trip to Latin America costs about £1500, which is sponsored by Fountain of Wisdom Ministries Partners. Please prayerfully consider giving towards our Latin America missions trips and the translation and printing of our magazine in Spanish. Your support will enable us to do much more.



THE AUTHORITY OF THE WORD

LIVING BY THE WORD



**“THE ENTRANCE OF YOUR WORDS GIVES LIGHT; IT GIVES
UNDERSTANDING TO THE SIMPLE.” (PS. 119:130)**



In Matthew 4:4, Jesus said: “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.” He was quoting Deuteronomy 8:3; where Moses charged the Israelites to remember the LORD their God who led them through the wilderness to humble them and fed them with manna. Interestingly, Jesus was also in the wilderness, where He has been led up by the Spirit to be tempted by the devil, when He spoke these words! Jesus didn't go into the wilderness out of disobedience, but in full obedience to God's will. Same with the Israelites; when God brought them out of Egypt, He didn't lead them by the land of the Philistines, although that was near, but led them through the wilderness. (Ex. 13:17,18). The wilderness 'experience' is to bring us to a place where we learn to live by EVERY word that proceeds from the mouth of God; that is for the word of God to constitute an authority in the life of the Believer. It therefore becomes very necessary to know what that means in practice- which is what this article is about.

To live by the word of God is:

1. To live by the **LIGHT** of God's word.

The Psalmist said, “Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path” and “The entrance of Your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.” (Ps. 119:105,130). “But path of the just is like the shining sun that shines even brighter unto the perfect day.” (Ps. 4:18). The word of God sheds light on our heart, on our situations and circumstances at different times in our lives; if we would receive it.



"THE LORD WILL ENLIGHTEN MY DARKNESS." (PS. 18:28)

That light gives us direction, helps us make the right decisions and brings solutions to our problems. The Bible says, "And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it." (Jn.1:4). Light stands for illumination, development, knowledge and vision, among other things. In Genesis 1:2,3; "The earth was without form and void, and darkness was on the face of the deep. Then God said, "Let there be light" and there was light." When God speaks, light comes and darkness disappears, because it cannot overcome that light! Darkness is the opposite of light; it represents evil, ignorance, confusion, death, and all the devil has to offer! Ephesians 6:12 says: "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." The Psalmist said, "The LORD will enlighten my darkness." (Ps. 18:28). How? By the entrance of His Word! The word of God brings vision; "Where there is no vision, (or, revelation) the people perish. (Prov.29:18). The Apostle Paul prayed for the Ephesians that the Father of glory may give to them the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of their understanding being enlightened that they may know, "what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power. (Eph. 1:16-18). When the eyes of our understanding become enlightened, we come to know certain things; this kind of knowledge is called 'revealed knowledge', as different from natural or human knowledge.

Jesus said to Peter, "flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven." (Matt. 16:17). Paul prayed for the Ephesians to 'know' the love of Christ which passes 'knowledge' (Eph. 4:19). When revelation knowledge comes to us, there is suddenly, the unveiling or uncovering of our eyes; and the discovery that leads to the recovery of many things. Like in the case of David; after he and his men had lost everything, he needed a word from the Lord. So, he encouraged himself in the Lord and inquired of Him, "Shall I pursue this troop? Shall I overtake them?" David needed direction and solution in his situation. And the LORD answered him, "Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them and without fail recover all." (1 Sam.30:8). The entrance of God's word gave David the light he needed; he pursued, overtook and recovered all they had lost! Jesus said, "If you abide (or, continue) in My word,

you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (Jn. 8:31,32). The truth doesn't make you free, until you know it! The word 'know' means, "To perceive, understand, recognize, gain knowledge, realize, come to know."

2. To be focused on the Word.

In Hebrews 12:1, we are told to run the race set before us with endurance or perseverance, laying aside every weight and the sin, which so easily beset us. But how can we, in a world that is full of distractions? In the parable of the sower, Jesus calls those distractions, "the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches" (Matt. 13:22). Those cares are mostly legitimate- "What you will eat or what you will drink;....what you will put on" (Matt. 6:25). Jesus said we shouldn't worry even about those things! But how on this earth is that possible? Firstly, if it weren't possible, He wouldn't have asked it of us. To worry literally means, "To divide into parts." The word suggests a distraction, a preoccupation with things causing anxiety, stress, and pressure. Nature abhors vacuum and it is only natural to worry, therefore, if we are not going to worry about our lives, then we must focus our minds on something else. Same applies if we will persevere in the race that is set before us. "Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Heb. 12:2). "Looking" signifies, "undivided attention, looking away from all distractions in

order to fix one's gaze on one object." - Jesus, our perfect example! He finished His race successfully in spite of all the opposition, distractions, hostility, etc, that He faced. Rather than lose heart because of all his afflictions, Paul's inner man was being renewed daily; his internal condition was completely different from his external condition. The secret was his focus! He said, "while we do not look at the things which are seen, but the things which are not seen." (2 Cor. 4:18). One, it sounds like a deliberate action not to look at the seen. Two, it isn't enough not to look at the physical things, you must also divert your energy into looking at the unseen. But how does one look at what is not seen? Hebrews 11:3 gives us the clue; "By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the WORD of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible." Therefore, the word of God is the unseen! Truly, from Genesis' account of the creation, the things which are

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"THE WORD OF GOD SHEDS LIGHT

ON OUR HEART,
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seen are not made of things which are seen. So, we look at the unseen by looking at the word of God. The word of God is our contact and our connection to the unseen realm. "We walk by faith and not by sight." (2 Cor. 5:7); by walking by the word of God; because "Faith comes by hearing...the word." (Rom. 10:17). God gave us His word, and still speaks to us today, so we can live by His word. The Bible tells us about Abraham: "And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb. He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith giving glory to God." (Rom. 4:19, 20). Considering his own dead body or the deadness of Sarah's womb, would have weakened Abraham's faith; so he didn't. He considered God's word to him instead; that he will become the father of many nations. He walked by faith and not by sight. "Now, faith is the substance (realization) of things hoped for, the evidence (confidence) of things not seen." (Heb. 11:1). "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." (Php. 4:6,7). However, the secret of an anxiety and worry free life, is in keeping one's mind on God, through His Word. "You will keep him in perfect peace, whose MIND is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. Isaiah 26:3). The Bible says the double-minded man shouldn't think he will receive anything from the Lord! (Jas. 1:6-8).

3. To be regulated by the Word.

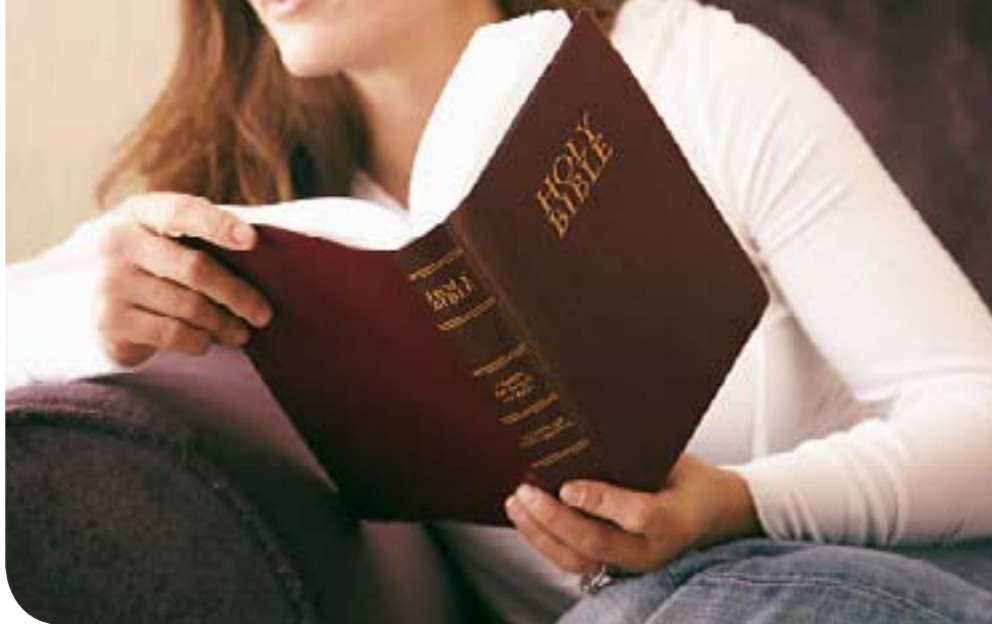
The Bible says, "Where there is no revelation, the people cast of restraint; but happy is he who keeps the law." (Prov. 29:18). The revelation or vision we receive from God's word, helps us to live a purposeful life. When God put man in the garden of Eden, He said to him: "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat; for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die (dying you shall die)." (Gen. 2: 17,18). God's word was meant to define the boundaries of Adam's operations in the Garden. When he crossed that boundary, he lost even what was legitimately his! That is what always happens when we push our boundaries, we lose our rights and privileges altogether. Proverbs 25:28 says, "Whoever has no rule over his own spirit is like a city broken down, without

walls." Can you imagine such a city? Every nation has some form of Border control, to determine what goes out and what comes in. That is what God's word is meant to do in our lives. It is meant to create godly boundaries around every sphere of our existence and every aspect of our lives. For instance, the Bible says, "Be angry, and do not sin... Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers." (Eph. 4:26,29). Jesus, during the temptation, demonstrated how His total life's operations -His appetite, His desires and even His actions- were regulated by the word of God. He kept replying the devil by what was written. (Matt. 4:2-10). The Apostle Paul charged the Thessalonians to abstain from every form of evil, and prayed-"Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Thess. 5:22,23). How will they be sanctified? By the word of course! Jesus, in His prayer to the Father for the Believers said: "I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them by Your truth, Your word is truth." (Jn.17: 14,17). To 'sanctify' means: to set apart, dedicate, consecrate, separate,

"WHEN HE CROSSED THAT BOUNDARY, HE LOST EVEN WHAT WAS LEGITIMATELY HIS! THAT IS WHAT ALWAYS HAPPENS WHEN WE PUSH OUR BOUNDARIES, WE LOSE OUR RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES ALTOGETHER."



“WHATEVER THINGS ARE TRUE,...NOBLE,...JUST,... PURE,...LOVELY,... OF GOOD REPORT, IF THERE IS ANY VIRTUE AND IF THERE IS ANYTHING PRAISEWORTHY - MEDITATE ON THESE THINGS.” (PHP. 4:8)



etc. Therefore, when we live by the word of God, we are set apart unto God and separated from the world; because the ways of God are completely different from those of the world. “Don’t love the world’s ways. Don’t love the world’s goods. Love of the world squeezes out love for the Father. Practically, everything that goes on in the world- wanting your own way, wanting everything for yourself, wanting to appear important - has nothing to do with the Father. It isolates you from Him. The world and all it’s wanting, wanting, wanting is on the way out - but whoever does the what God wants is set for eternity.” (1 Jn. 2:15-17 MSG). For instance, the disciples of Jesus had an argument among themselves as to who should be considered to be the greatest. Jesus told them that in the world, their kings lord it over them, “But not so among you, on the contrary, he who is greatest among you, let him be as the younger, and he who governs as he who serves.” (Lk. 22:26). Just do what the word says, and you will automatically be different from the world. In Peter’s sermon on the day of Pentecost, he admonished them to “Be saved from this perverse generation.” (Acts 2:40). The word of God has the ability to deliver us from the perversions of our generation. The Bible says that Christ gave Himself for the church, “that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.” (Eph. 5:26,27). We must allow the word of God to regulate our thoughts, imaginations, feelings, words and actions; for our whole spirit, soul and body to be preserved blameless at the coming of Christ. “Finally, brethren, whatever things are true,...noble,...just,...pure,...lovely,... of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy - meditate on these things. (Php. 4:8).

4. To build on the Word of God.

Building on the word is doing what it says; obeying the word!

Jesus said the man that comes to Him, hears His words and does them, is like a wise man who dug deep and laid the foundation of his house on the rock. And the house couldn’t be shaken, because it was built on the rock! On the other hand, the man who heard and didn’t do what he heard is like the man who built on the earth, without a foundation. When the floods came against the house, it fell and its ruin was great. (Luke 6:46-49). The rock on which the wise man built his house was the word of God; that is the sure foundation



“WHEN WE COMMIT TO DOING WHAT THE WORD SAYS IN EVERY AREA OF OUR LIVES.... WE WILL BE BUILDING ON THE ROCK; AND EVEN WHEN THE STORMS COME, THOSE THINGS WILL STILL BE STANDING!”

upon which we are to build our lives. Notice Jesus didn’t say “if”, He said “when the floods arose”. But when we commit to doing what the word says in every area of our lives - family, finance, relationships, health, etc, we will be building on the rock; and even when the storms come, those things will still be standing! The Psalmist said, “Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled (i.e. stand firm) in heaven.” (Ps. 119:89). Foundation, also means ‘basis’. Don’t do anything until you have heard from God concerning it or found out what His word says about it, and then do it based on that. Don’t just get married because your friends are getting married. Don’t marry someone because they are attractive or rich. Have you found out what the word says about marriage? Have you asked God’s opinion about the person? Living by the word of God involves digging deep into the scriptures to find the relevant word and building on it, by obeying what it says. God told Joshua that, if he meditated day and night in the Book of the Law and did according to all that is written in it, he will make his way prosperous and have good success.” (Josh. 1:8). Jesus came to the earth on the basis of God’s word- “Behold I have come- in the volume of the book it is written of Me - to do Your will, O God.” (Heb. 10:7). All His actions while He was on earth were based on the word of God; Jesus healed all who

were sick, “That it might be fulfilled which was spoken....” Matt. 8:16,7). To live by the word of God is to base all that we do on the word; that is our sure foundation and our guarantee for success. Base your prayers on the word: “If you abide

in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what desire, and it shall be done for you.” (Jn. 15:7). Also, “If we ask anything according to His will, He hears us” (1 Jn. 5:14). The apostle Paul told Timothy to wage the good warfare by the prophecies previously made concerning him.” (1 Tim. 1:18). The Word of God is a more sure Word of prophecy, “which do well to heed, as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns, and the morning star rises in your hearts.” (2 Pet. 1:19). Base your actions on the word: “And whatever you do, you do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.” (Col. 2:23,24).

5. To build with the Word.

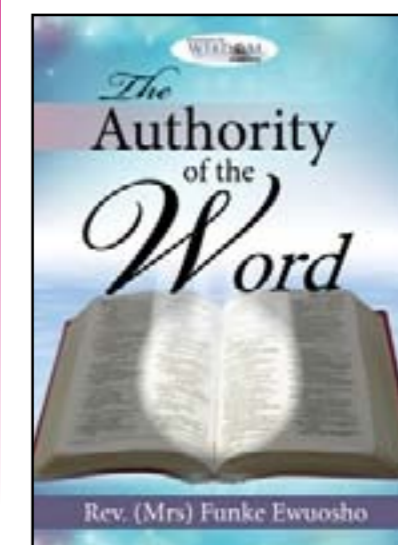
In John 1:3, “ALL things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.” God and His Word are one! Nothing was made that wasn’t made by the Word. How did God create the universe? By His word of course, according to Genesis 1. We are told that worlds were FRAMED by the word of God, “so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.” (Heb. 11:3). The word ‘frame’ also means: “To arrange, set in order, equip, adjust, complete what is lacking, make fully ready, repair, prepare.” The same word was used for the disciples mending their nets (Matt. 4:21) and for restoring a fallen brother (Heb. 13:21). That is, I can arrange, set in order, equip, adjust, prepare, repair my life by the word of God! I can complete what is lacking in my life by the word of God. I can go into the word of God and begin to frame my future according to God’s good plan for my life. (Jer. 29:11). I don’t have to wait for what life has to throw at me, I can receive all the good things God has for me -good health, a godly husband, godly kids, financial prosperity, etc- by the Word. Like God did in the beginning, I also simply need to speak His word, concerning those things. The centurion said to Jesus, “But only speak the word, and my servant will be healed.” (Matt. 8:8). Remember, God calls the things which do not exist as though they did! It is so important for us to build with the word, that is, for the word of God to be the raw material or the fabric with which our every aspect of our lives - marriage, ministry, health, finance and our entire future- is built; if we would survive the avalanche and the tsunamis of life! It isn’t really safe and secure to build with any other thing than the word of God. Your financial prosperity and health must be a product of your soul’s prosperity. (3 Jn. 2). The Bible says, the man that meditates in the word of God, “shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.” (Ps. 1:2,3). To meditate means ponder, by speaking to oneself. We must learn to keep speaking the word, even to ourselves. The word has the power to create and to change things. It isn’t enough to build on the word, it is equally important that we also build with the word. “Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay straw, each one’s work will become clear, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one’s work, of what sort it is.” (1Cor. 3:12,13). If our work endures the fire, we will be rewarded; if not, we will suffer loss; but we will be saved. (verses 14,15).

6. To Hope in the Word.

Living by the word of God is putting all our hopes in His word. The Psalmist said, “You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in Your word.” (Ps. 119:114). And “I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word do I hope.” (Ps.130:5).Where is your hope? Is it in the word of God or in the words of man? Is it in the power of God or in human wisdom (1 Cor. 2:4,5)? Time and your actions will tell! How do we hope in God? By believing His word! “Now may the God of hope fill you with joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” (Rom. 15:13). The word of God always gives us hope when we believe it. There is absolutely no hopelessness in God! You would have to go away from God and His word to be without hope in this world. The Bible says Abraham believed- “God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did; who (Abraham) contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations....” (Rom. 4:17,18). There is the natural hope and spiritual hope; and it seems we don’t usually come into spiritual hope, until we have ran out of natural hope. That spiritual hope is the hope in God’s word alone, when there is no hope in the natural. This was exactly where Abraham was when he had Isaac! The Bible says it is impossible for God to lie. God gave His word, backed with an oath, so that we can build our hope in His word. “This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast” (Heb. 6:19). So, you don’t need to wait until you have ran out of natural hope, or until there is nothing to hope for in the natural. You can be proactive, by hoping in God’s word from the beginning; knowing that “hope does not disappoint us.....” (Rom. 5:5).

God bless you
Rev. Funke Ewuosho

To learn more about living by the Word, order Rev. Funke Ewuosho’s 2-Part message ‘The Authority of the Word’ on CD or DVD. Contact your nearest FOWM office or visit www.fowm.org/store.



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MODERN DAY MIRACLE

My story begins with me riding my motorbike along roads I know well. I was following a pickup truck which suddenly braked sharply. I knew I was not going to be able to stop in time. Before the ambulance arrived, my mother who was travelling in her car a few minutes behind me, came across the crash scene and rushed out of her car when she realised it was me. I am told that as she got there she immediately started praying, declaring that I shall live and not die, and that I shall suffer no broken bones. Her voice is the first memory I have following being knocked unconscious on impact with the pickup truck.

I believe it was the Spirit of life that she carried and imparted into me which brought me back to a conscious state. The news was quickly reported to my brothers and sisters at Harvestime Church and they joined in praying for me. The next memory I have is of a paramedic cutting the protective clothing off me as

“THE PROGNOSIS GIVEN WAS OF SPINAL DAMAGE, A BROKEN LEG, MULTIPLE BROKEN RIBS AND INTERNAL BLEEDING.”



they couldn't risk me moving. The prognosis given was of potential spinal damage, a broken leg, multiple broken ribs and internal bleeding. I was rushed to Tooting hospital because it was the only hospital able to handle the severity of my diagnosed injuries. Upon arrival I was given a CT scan. The results were not as they expected so they sent me through for a second scan. At this point we realised that a miracle had taken place! I was found

to have no internal bleeding and no broken bones! The paramedics and doctors alike were amazed. The paramedics were certain that I had broken bones because they found my leg trapped under the motorbike, from my waist down, at an impossible angle! I walked away with some stitches and was discharged from hospital just three days later. Now four weeks later I am fully recovered.

Jack's Testimony



“He who trusts in the Lord, mercy shall surround him.” Psalm 32:10

SALVATION PRAYER

Are you saved? Do you have a relationship with God through Jesus Christ? Do you know whether you are going to heaven or hell when you die? (Rom. 6:23) If the answer to any of these questions is 'No', we invite you to pray something like this... *“Lord God, I ask you to forgive me for my sins and make me a new person today. I believe that Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead for my salvation. I receive Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour. I receive forgiveness, healing and deliverance today. I ask you to fill me with your Holy Spirit. Help me to know you and follow you from this day on. Thank you for saving me!”* The Bible says that whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved (Rom 10:14). If you have just prayed this prayer for the first time, please get in touch with us so that we can send you some materials to help you to grow in your new relationship with God.

DEVELOPING AN EXCELLENT SPIRIT

REV. FUNKE EWUOSHO



The Bible says an excellent spirit was found in Daniel; and he had knowledge, and understanding, he could interpret dreams, explain riddles and solve difficult problems. (Dan. 5:12). The Message Bible says, “There was no one quite like him. He could do anything.” The NLT says Daniel “has exceptional ability.” The husband of the virtuous woman praises her saying; “Many daughters have done well, but you excel them all.” (Prov. 31:29). The NLT says, “There are many virtuous and capable women, but you surpass them all.” The Message Bible: “Many women have done wonderful things, but you’ve outclassed them all.” The Oxford Dictionary defines Excellent (adj.) as being Of high QUALITY;extremely good, etc. To excel means to do better than, and also to do very well. People of excellence are not average or mediocre. God is a God of excellence. O LORD, our LORD, how excellent is Your name in all the earth.” (Ps. 8:1). Name represents Identity, Character and Authority.

1. Excellence is first of all a spirit- an internal quality.

You don't put or add on excellence. You don't just copy or transplant it from somewhere. You don't

“fake it till you make it.” The robe does not make the monk. But you can receive it, by learning and understanding it; and then begin to develop it. Jesus described he who received seed on the good ground as he “who hears the word and understands it, who indeed produces” (Matt. 13:23). Don't forget, Being precedes Doing; who are you becoming?

2. Excellence is in the quality of what you do, and not in the quantity.

People of excellence are people of quality! Quality reflects in the way - you talk (your tone, body language, etc); relate with and treat others (Please, Thank you, Sorry, Excuse me, Pardon me, etc); your dressing; the use of your time; the services you offer; the way you keep your home; your organisational abilities, etc. That is, though excellence starts from within, it can be worked out! Eg. The visit of the Queen of Sheba: “ And when the queen of Sheba had SEEN all the wisdom of Solomon, the house he had built, and the food on his table, the seating of his servants, and the service of his waiters and their apparel, his cupbearers, and the entryway by which he went up to the house of the LORD, there was no



more spirit in her.” (1 Kg. 10:4,5). Excellence attracts the right people to you. She came all the way from her country because of what she heard, which wasn’t even half of what she saw when she came- imagine that! Excellence attracts means and wealth to you. She GAVE to Solomon one hundred and twenty talents of gold, etc; though Solomon was already a very wealthy king himself. Excellence attracts quality people and things to you, because quality attracts quality. People of excellence don’t stay poor or unnoticed for long! “Do you see a man who excels in his work? He will stand before kings; he will not stand before unknown men.” (Prov. 22:29). Or, “Do you see any truly competent workers? They will serve kings rather than ordinary people.” (NLT). Clearer still: “Observe people who are good at their work- skilled workers are always in demand and admired; they don’t take a back seat to anyone.” (MSG). However, it is the way you treat the people you meet on your way up, that will determine if you will ever get there, and how long you will stay there, if you do! You must learn to treat everyone right- rich or poor; that is the spirit of excellence. Don’t always look for ‘connections’, rather look for relationships instead. Don’t look for what you can get, always look for what you can contribute, to add value to people and things. Don’t use people, rather build and invest in people- that is part of excellence.

3. Excellence is not primarily a function of Money, but a function of your vision.

The “deceitfulness of riches” tells you that your problem is lack of money, that if you had money, you would be excellent. It is a lie, an excuse, a cover-up. Money doesn’t automatically make you a person of excellence. Money only helps and enhances what you are already; it helps you do what you already have the ability and desire to do. If someone gave you some money now, you will only spend it according to your vision. Like they say, ‘Give a poor man some money, and in a matter of time, he will be back to where he was- if not in a worse place!’ You can, however, invest money to develop yourself into becoming a person of excellence.

4. Excellence is not something for the future; you can start now, and from where you are!

“Even a child is known by his doings” (Prov. 20:11). “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” (Prov. 22:6). Start cultivating the right habits now- by thinking the right thoughts, speaking the right words and doing the right things; and like it’s been said, your habits will take you into your future. Determine the kind of future you want now, and start working your way towards it. Don’t wait till you are older, or richer, or bigger, or better; start now!

5. Excellence isn’t a function of your environment.

You can determine and generate your own climate. Even in the wilderness, the Israelites carried their own climate; they had a pillar of cloud by day- to protect them from the scorching desert sun, and the pillar of fire by night- to keep them warm. You can be an oasis in the desert. You are in the world but not of the world. You can be bigger on your inside than your outside. Don’t let your environment or circumstances condition you, shape you, or determine what you do. Give

“DON’T LOOK FOR WHAT YOU CAN GET, ALWAYS LOOK FOR WHAT YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE, TO ADD VALUE TO PEOPLE AND THINGS.”

your best all the time. If you develop yourself, and grow bigger on your inside; it is either your environment changes or you are taken out to a more progressive place. “You can’t keep a man from rising, who has enough yeast in him to rise.”

How To Develop Excellence:

Remember, ‘good leaders are MADE, not born.’ The Bible says, “Add to your faith virtue” (2 Pet. 1:5). Virtue was used to describe “any quality that elicited preeminent estimation for a person.” It also means moral excellency and goodness.

1. Have a desire and a hunger.

Jesus said those who hunger and thirst after righteousness are blessed, because they will be satisfied. The Patriarchs of Faith desired a better country. (Heb. 11:16). The proof of desire is pursuit.

2. Be humble, teachable. Be open to learn.

God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. (Jas. 4:6). Don’t think of yourself more highly than you ought to. (Rom.12:3). Have a sober and realistic evaluation of yourself.

3. Get education; both formal and informal.

“Formal education will give you Living, but informal education will make you a fortune.” Be a student for life and a student of life. Learn from others. Learn from your own mistakes.

4. Get some exposure.



“FORMAL EDUCATION WILL GIVE YOU A LIVING, BUT INFORMAL EDUCATION WILL MAKE YOU A FORTUNE.”

You have been formed by your nature, nurture and culture. You need to step out of your environment, to see and be challenged by what obtains elsewhere. No man is an island, entire on its own. Widen your scope. Expand your horizon. Enlarge your coast. Stop fishing from the same river. Travel to other places, attend conferences, seminars, read books written by others. Invest in yourself.

5. Get trained.

Get a mentor, a teacher, a trainer- not just friends; and make yourself accountable to them. (Heb.13:7). You may be able to argue with friends, and reject their advice or treat it as a nice suggestion. You need a disciplined, regimented and systematic form of training also.

6. Diligence.

To be diligent is, to be careful and hardworking; showing care and effort. “Giving all diligence, add to your faith.....” (2 Pet. 1:5). “The hand of the diligent will rule, but the lazy will be put to forced labor.” (Prov. 12:24).

7. Practice excellence.

Make it your second nature. Insist on being excellent. Don’t stop until your good becomes better, and your better becomes BEST! Don’t stop trying. Don’t give up; “Winners don’t quit and quitters don’t win!” Make excellence your goal and your trademark.

8. Don’t stop growing.

Somebody said if you stop growing, you start dying. There is a price to pay for growth and development; be willing to pay the price. It will cost you money, your pride, your comfort and even what you thought you knew! Growing, however, is very rewarding. A growing leader will have a growing people or organisation; because growth challenges growth in others. People respect and commit to a growing leader, not a ‘perfect’ leader. Don’t rest on your laurels. There is always room for improvement; improve on the last thing you did.

God bless you
Rev. Funke Ewuosho.

To learn more about developing an excellent spirit, purchase Rev. Funke Ewuosho’s message on ‘Becoming a Woman of Substance’ or Rev. Kola Ewuosho’s message on ‘Becoming a Man of Excellence’. Visit www.fowm.org/store.



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20TH-24TH
MARCH 2013

AT WORD OF FAITH
CHRISTIAN CENTER,
KANO, NIGERIA

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PRODUCT REVIEWS

WHICH MESSAGE HAS IMPACTED YOU MOST?



After hearing the message **"Freedom from Fear"** I started to understand that I should not tolerate fear in my life as it will open the door to the devil in my life. In the past I didn't recognise where those fearful thoughts were coming from. Now I have learnt to take authority over thoughts of fear and speak God's Word. I have learnt how I can have peace in whatever situation I face. (CP)



One of the message packs that has impacted me most is **"Women who Overcome"**. Since listening to these messages I have begun to overcome fear, intimidation and insecurity in my life which has improved my confidence and my ability to relate to others in a healthy and godly way. Now that I understand that I don't have to put up with these things in my life, I am free to walk in the plans that God has for me, without them holding me back. (RS)

"Commitment The Key To Growth" taught me first of all that I needed to commit to certain daily habits to be successful in life. The first decision I made was to commit to listening to the message again and again until I got everything I could from it and had put into action the lessons it contained. I believe this message laid a foundation in my thinking that has helped to take me from being a school drop-out to a Uni graduate! From having no direction in life to being a man of vision. From being newly born-again to experiencing a life of growth in Christ! Buy it, your life may depend on it. (BL)



The messages **"Unleashing the Word of God's Power"** and **"The Power of the Tongue"** showed me how powerful the tongue is and how we can use it to change any situation. I used to suffer from frequent nose bleeds, but after hearing about the principle of having what we say, I started speaking to my nose to be healed. That was 5 years ago and since then I have never had another nose bleed! (NL)

When I had a small baby, I would come to our evening meetings at church and spend the night soothing my baby in the hallway. I used to hardly hear a thing! I used to cry and ask God: why am I encouraged to come when I can't hear anything? Soon afterwards, I received a copy of the messages on **"Impartation"** and I listened to them more times than I can count. It was life-changing! I realised that the Word of God is Spirit, and that by my faithfulness to come to church, even though I couldn't hear the messages, my spirit was receiving life, truth and wisdom. And truly, I began to walk in grace and wisdom that I had not laboured to enter into. Later I went on to learn about impartation through service, which opened another door of grace and blessing as I walked in that revelation by cleaning the church. (ML)



"Reprogramming the Heart" really impacted me because I realised that even when we are walking in the truth of God's Word, there are often some deep-seated things in us that hinder us from receiving the full revelation of the Word. There was a time when Pastor Kola told me that I will walk in divine health, but inside I questioned how this could be since the damage had already been done and the condition had been with me so long. This message was a turning point for me as I realised that the spirit man in me can draw down divine health from above, no matter what the situation in the physical may be. (ML)

Which message preached by Rev. Kola or Funke Ewuosho has impacted you most? Let us know by emailing office@uk.fowm.org. To purchase these messages and other life-changing messages, visit www.fowm.org/store.



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TELEVISION PARTNERSHIP

God has given us a vision to spread His Word using every available means. We are currently using websites such as facebook, youtube and twitter to spread the life-transforming message that He has given us and many people are coming into a greater knowledge of God's Word. We believe it is time for us to begin broadcasting again on television and we are praying for more partners to sow into this kingdom project. Please get in touch with us if God leads you to give a one-off gift or a regular monthly commitment towards our TV broadcasts. Help us to reach our target of being on air for a year (see left).

MAGAZINE PARTNERSHIP

Our Wisdom Digest magazine is being a blessing to people all over the world. We print close to 10,000 copies every year which are distributed freely throughout Europe, Latin America, Africa and even as far as Australia and India. Again we are looking for people to partner with us to send magazines to even more people around the world.

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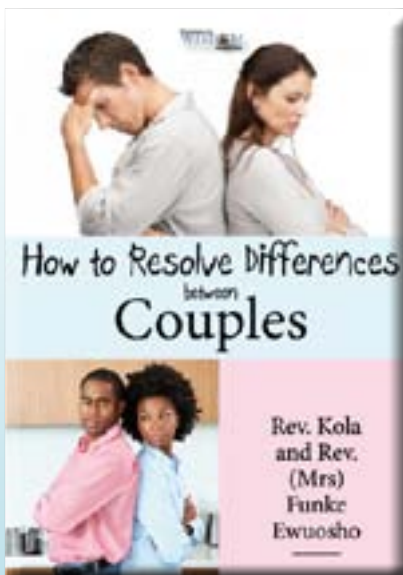
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