




APOSTLE TO THE NATIONS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY REV. KOLA EWUOSHO

THIS ISSUE:

A SIT DOWN WITH THE REV.
3 REASONS WHY JESUS CAME
SPIRITUAL DETOXIFICATION



heart to heart

Dearly Beloved Friends and Partners,

This is wishing you a very special Christmas and a fulfilling new year.

As we round up this very eventful year, we want to thank God for His faithfulness and mercies in preserving our lives and the lives of our families. God is good and His mercies endure forever. The mercies of God are new every morning, great is His faithfulness. It is by His mercies we are not consumed by all that's happening around us. To Him be all the glory!

We are glad we have received grace to continue the race set before us. We also celebrate our friends, partners and believers generally as we reach for greater heights in Christ. God has great things in store for us as we prepare for the coming year. It is the year of the Manifestation of the Sons of God.

We are in the end of times and part of God's program is for us to give expression to the manifestation of Christ in His fullness on earth.

We want to encourage everyone to get into preparation mode as we enter this new season. Heaven is geared towards the manifestation of the sons of God on earth.

As we take advantage of the messages produced through this ministry and internalise the truths contained therein, we can then act on the realities of our new birth and operate as the new creation that we are. We shall see signs and wonders like never before.

Welcome to your year of manifestation, and enjoy the latest edition of our magazine. God bless you and your families richly.

*Jesus is Lord,
Rev. Kola and Rev. Mrs. Funke Ewuosho*

WISDOM DIGEST

Wisdom Digest is published by the Fountain of Wisdom Ministries as a forum to share the ministry of Rev. Kola and Funke Ewuosho. 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 magazine is distributed freely and supported by partner contributions and donations.

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

With their consent, please send names and addresses of friends you would like to receive a copy of this magazine to office@uk.fowm.org. If you would like Fountain of Wisdom Ministries to be a blessing to your church, fellowship or region, please contact a FOWM office:

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WISDOM

Fountain of Wisdom Ministries
Issue WD20212

DIGEST

Dear reader,

In this special edition, we reflect on 60 years of God's faithfulness in Rev. Kola Ewuosho's life. We are blessed to know such a man, whose zeal and hunger for God has made him a blessing to the nations. One God-inspired vision to create a forum where God's people could flow with Him in understanding, has led to decades of global kingdom building and uncountable testimonies of lives that have been transformed.

In this edition, we take a look back at Rev. Kola's life and hear from those who are close to him, and those who have been impacted by him. We hope you enjoy reading!

Magazine Editor



REV. KOLA'S BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION (UK) IN
OCTOBER 2021.



THE BEGINNING

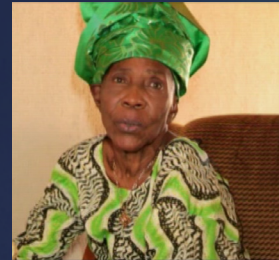
Rev. Kola was born to late Sir Samuel Tanimowo Ewuosho, a retired assistant commissioner of police, and Madam Patience Ewuosho, a retired school teacher, on the 29th October 1961.

His early years were spent in the Mushin area of Lagos, Nigeria; he learnt how to live in a world where only the strongest survived. His education began at K.Kotun nursery school, and later moved on to the Baptist Academy School. Engineering and ministry were not strange words to young Kola – his dad started an engineering company (STEW Engineering) just after retiring and also played a major role in the building of a local church in the area. Though born into a very large family with several kids, he had a strong family bonding with his three brothers and one sister.

As Rev. Kola got older, his zeal for engineering and hunger to find more to life grew stronger. He found himself in the southern region of Nigeria where he received admission into the University of Benin. Regardless of the fear of cultism which was increasing throughout universities in Nigeria at the time, and pressure from those around him, Rev. Kola was able to secure a degree in Engineering. He also came to experience a faith in God that would eventually change the world around him. Prior to Rev. Kola starting his undergraduate programme, the Christian students at Benin University had prayed and fasted and so stirred up the environment on campus for souls to be saved. This created an atmosphere conducive for a revival on campus; Rev. Kola gave his life to God during his first year at university. Rev. Kola says that from then on, his passion for God began to consume him, more than anything else.



REV. KOLA'S PARENTS



TRIBUTES FROM SIBLINGS

Happy birthday once again to my darling brother, Rev. Kola Ewuosho. I am the first and only female of our mother, late mummy P.A. Ewuosho, while Rev. Kola is the third born and second male.

I am so proud of what he has become and I thank God that he is my brother. His wife, Rev. Mrs Funke Ewuosho, is a great blessing to our family. I am happy that she is part of our family and I pray that God will never forget her labour of love. She's a pillar of support and I thank God for both of their lives. I wish I was in England to celebrate this humble, gentle, loving and caring brother of mine. As it has pleased God to make you live up to 60 years, He will uphold you and satisfy you with a long and fruitful life in good health, abundant prosperity and great happiness in Jesus' Name. Your labour in God's vineyard will be rewarded by God in Jesus' Name. Congratulations once again.

Your sister, Mrs. Dupe Oredein

Rev. Kay, a brother, a friend and a mentor. Although we grew up in a modest and arguably less than perfect household, I saw from early on that you were a focused, disciplined and courageous individual. It's obvious to all that you're a man of integrity, faith and wisdom; more than just a Pastor or Reverend to us. You're a dependable brother and a pillar of support and advice to all the family. We are all proud to have you as a brother. Personally, my family and I appreciate you very much. May our good Lord continue to bless and honour you.

All the best, Victor

On your special day I celebrate you and appreciate you in my life.

The whole world knows you as a preacher or simply as a man of God, but I know you even more; not only as a brother but as someone who inspires me. You are a man who practices what he preaches.

Growing up as your kid brother, I had the opportunity to see a man, contrary to what we all were expecting in the family, who decided to completely depend on God and was convinced of his calling very early in life.

At that young age I could not understand why after graduating from university, you decided not to practice the profession you studied. You had in your wife, and my dearest sister in-law Rev. Sis. Funke, a woman by your side who believed in you and your calling. You both in turn completely believe in our Almighty Father in heaven. This observation has always been an inspiration to me and my spiritual development. Seeing how everything turned out to be now, I am just grateful to have witnessed it all. The end justifies the means and even though both of you have still not reached the end, I praise God for your lives thus far.

Distance has always been part of our journey: you were in Kano while we your siblings in Lagos - and for many years now you have been in the UK and myself in Germany. This distance though has never stopped you from showing your love, care and concern towards me. Our numerous telephone conversations have ended not only with you promising to remember me in your prayers but actually taking the time (despite of your tight schedules) to pray with and for me on the spot. All these experiences are God's doing (and it is marvellous in our eyes - Psalm 118:23). I am privileged to have you not only as a father in the Lord but as a role model.

You have been a blessing to me and I celebrate and rejoice with you on this special day of yours. May the Lord Almighty perfect all that is yours. The Lord is your strength.

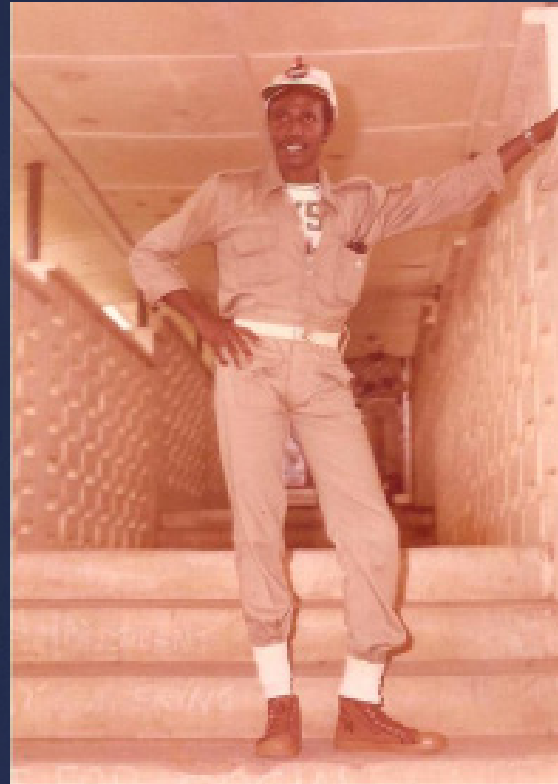
Happy birthday to you, remain blessed today and always.

Lots of love from Mathew and family in Germany



FINDING THAT GOOD THING

In a country where the government had a scheme for graduates to serve their country, Rev. Kola was no exception. After graduating from the University of Benin, He was posted in the south east region of Nigeria, Owerri. He served and lectured in a Polytechnic there. He began a Bible study group in his apartment at the time where fellow colleagues would gather to study the Word. Rev. Kola recalls how his friends would say, "hey you could become a preacher", to which he would always laugh off, as he never thought he would go into ministry (at least not full-time!). It was in one of the Bible Study meetings in his apartment in 1985, that Rev. Kola met a beautiful young woman, who would eventually become the love of his life, his wife, and mother to their three lovely children. He recalls the moment that she caught his attention – during one of their Bible study meetings, Rev. Funke answered a question that really struck his heart. Her boldness and sincerity got his attention. They soon began relating, and the rest, as they say, is history!



REVS. KOLA & FUNKE DURING
THEIR YOUTH SERVICE



THE CALL

As a young graduate, Rev. Kola had his eyes set on a career in Mechanical Engineering. He had a master plan, which was to form his own engineering company and further his career. Unknown to Rev. Kola, that plan would soon be transformed into the Master's plan for his life: engineering the lives of others, to fulfil their purpose in God.

It was during his youth service that God spoke to him in the place of prayer. God had put in his heart a call to ministry. Rev. Kola's internal drama began – he recalls asking God during his youth service– how will you meet my needs if I went into full-time ministry? God showed up for him throughout his year of service, and the call of God on his life became very clear to him. More things continued to unfold that made it very clear that God was calling him into ministry. He felt called by God to start a fresh work in the north of Nigeria (Kano). This was not a popular decision with friends and family who felt he was making

a big mistake by uprooting from the metropolitan and bustling city of Lagos, to the predominantly muslim city of Kano. Not only was he not pursuing a career in engineering like his family had hoped, he was now going into full-time ministry. Also, questions about how God would provide for him, his family and the church, were also very real. But one person who stood by him from the very beginning and became a strong support system for him, was his fiancée at the time, Rev. Funke Ewuosho. Rev. Kola recalls how she was used by God to encourage him every step of the way, from the time God called him, to settling in Kano. He recalls one of many times that God used her to speak to him: they were at a crossroad during those early days of ministry when she told him, "If God is the one who called you, why not focus on Him who called you?" God has continued to use Rev. Funke to be a source of strength and wisdom for Rev. Kola throughout the years.



REV. KOLA DURING A BIBLE SCHOOL CLASS



God later called Rev. Kola to the UK, and in the year 2000, the family relocated. Harvestime Church in Virginia Water, UK, was birthed in 2003. The Church has been a forum where thousands of lives have been touched, through its services, TV broadcasting, online streaming, publications and more.

Today, FOWM speaks of church installations in Nigeria, Kenya, Cameroon, Ghana and the UK.



THE START OF SOMETHING NEW

After courting for two years, from 1986-88, Revs. Kola and Funke got married in 1988 in the African Church Cathedral Bethel, on Lagos Island. Their early days together and in ministry was a journey of faith, and was everything but comfortable. In the beginning, Word of Faith Christian Centre in Kano, the founding church, (then called Word of Faith Bible Church) moved its location about twelve to thirteen times in a short space of time. There were times they did not know where the next church service would be held. God came through for this young church and it wasn't long before their own space was bought. God has since blessed the Fountain of Wisdom Ministries (FOWM) with churches all over Nigeria, and installations were later established in Ghana, Kenya, Cameroon, and the UK. FOWM also has outreach arms in the USA, East Africa and in Latin America.

In 1989, their first child, Samuel Kola Ewuosho was born, followed by Morenikeji Ruth who was born in 1991, and Joanna Kanyinsola in 1993.

REVS. KOLA & FUNKE GOT MARRIED IN 1988 AT THE
AFRICAN CHURCH CATHEDRAL BETHEL (LAGOS)



LIFE WITH THE REV.

A TRIBUTE FROM REV. FUNKE EWUOSHO

Celebrating my dear husband of 33 years (and my boyfriend of 35 years) on his diamond birthday.

Celebrating a life that is totally sold out on God, His Word and the fulfilment of His purpose on earth.

Celebrating a life of obedience, faithfulness, fidelity and integrity.

Celebrating God's General.

Celebrating an achiever.

Rev. Kola and I first met in Owerri, Imo State, Nigeria; at the orientation camp, during the National Youth Service Corps program in 1985! I remember this guy coming up to me at the end of the fellowship, and asked what my name was. When I told him my name, he said it sounded familiar; of course I didn't believe that was true. I told myself, 'this guy is trying to play the same old game guys play' (lol!). Anyway, we became friends from then.

He was later elected to be the General Bible Secretary of the State Christian Fellowship, and I became a Zonal Treasurer of the fellowship; which also increased our chances of seeing each other. I still remember the first message I heard him share with the fellowship, titled: 'The Word and the Spirit.' I was very intrigued and impacted by the message; it was indeed a breath of fresh air!

Rev. Kola's passion for the Word and for believers to be built on the right foundation of God's Word wasn't only visible, but was also tangible and contagious. It was also something that drove him into doing so much in the one year we were in Owerri. In addition to being a lecturer at the College of Technology and his role as the Bible Secretary, Rev. Kola also started a 'Word' Fellowship at the flat he shared with two other brothers, who were also Corps members. I was a committed member of the fellowship, actively inviting new members to the fellowship. We soon 'formed' a team, going around with Rev. Kola whenever he was invited to minister at different Christian fellowships around, and on a couple of occasions, outside of the state.

Rev. Kola was completely sold out on God and on His purpose for his life. He wanted to step out to do what he believed God would have him do, while he was still young; he loved to prove the veracity of God's Word in his life. When he sensed God was calling him into full-time ministry (contrary to his own plan to establish a business company as an engineering graduate and doing ministry on the side), he began to 'prove' God's Word, especially in the area of provision!

Having answered God's call into full-time ministry; he went to Bible school in the northern part of Nigeria (WOFBI, Kaduna), straight after his National Youth Service year in 1986 (we had both gotten engaged earlier in the same year!). At the Bible school, Rev. Kola also distinguished himself; he was made the 'Class Prophet' of his set. He's always had an insatiable desire for souls to be saved and to be grounded in the Truth of God's Word. Evangelism was a passion and a lifestyle for him. I remember visiting him during his year at the Bible school; I had the opportunity to attend the cell fellowship he was leading in the home of a Nigerian Army General. He was doing what he loved to do best - teaching people how to lay the foundation of their lives on God's Word!



REVS. KOLA & FUNKE AT HIS
BIBLE SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY



Rev. Kola moved to Kano towards the end of 1987 at the completion of his time at the Bible school, as led by the Spirit, to start a fresh work. While he was doing the spade work, he preached regularly at a small fellowship; however, a divinely orchestrated opportunity to preach at the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship Meeting was like his 'showing to Kano'!

I can recall when my dad (now late) asked if I was going out with anyone (I had been looking for the 'right' time to tell my dad about Rev. Kola), and I said I was. During his meeting with my dad, my dad asked Rev. Kola why he chose to be a pastor; and in response, he quoted Romans 10:14 ("How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?"). Guess what my dad did? He stood up and shook Rev. Kola's hand! My dad used to say about their relationship, "it was love at first sight".

I visited Rev. Kola in Kano the following year in 1988; and later in the same year, on the 22nd of October (exactly a week before his 27th birthday), we both got married in Lagos. After our modest honeymoon in Badagry, Lagos State, we both went back to start our lives together as a married couple, in November 1988.

I can recall those early days and years of marriage; Rev. Kola was so committed to the work of ministry, and was determined to succeed in the Lord's work. He had his heart at home and also on the field; he did a lot of travelling around, preaching. I remember a sister in church asking him how he expected the church to grow, while he was doing so much travelling!

I think one of his greatest frustrations is realising that "not everyone wants to fulfil destiny"! Another one is, the churches not 'growing' as he would have loved them to.

Rev. Kola is very 'ambitious' in his desire for souls; he talks about releasing his faith for 10,000 souls (globally) in a year! He believes that each member setting a goal to win 2-3 souls every month is modest enough. Rev. Kola wears many hats (apostle to the nations, pastor, a strategist, mentor, trainer, personal development consultant, etc.) and you often wonder if all he desires to accomplish can be achieved in one lifetime!

I commend my husband's determination and commitment (given his driven nature) to keep me and our children happy. Never mind the fact that when we go on family holidays, the kids and I are used to him taking enough books with him. However, when we went to Dubai with the girls, he managed to spare some time for the Desert Safari, riding on a camel, etc. When he comes with me to the shops, he would have his iPad and a book, then sits in a café, while I shop! There are many family jokes by our kids about dad: like dad travelling in suits and packing a set of suits when going on a holiday! The kids said they would love to see him travel casually. Joanna said when the grand kids start coming, she will get dad some activities he'll be doing with them. Rev. Kola also has a huge sense of humour, which balances out his serious approach towards life. We've learnt to enjoy pleasure and business (ministry) together, as they both seem inseparable in our family life!

One thing my 'Bunchi' never fails to do is to say, "Love you Bunch" every morning, and as many times as possible in the day.

Happy 60th birthday, my one and ONLY Bunchi.

I thank God for sparing your life over these 60 years.

I thank God for your exemplary life.

Thank you for being such a great husband and a wonderful father to our beautiful kids - Sam, Keji and Joanna.

Thanks for being my Bunchi.

The days of man is 120 years (Gen. 6:3), so you're just halfway; I pray that the next 60 years of your life shall be better, greater, richer, healthier, more glorious, more prosperous and more fulfilling than the past. And may all your dreams, desires and aspirations be fulfilled, in the Name of Christ Jesus.

I love you and ever so proud to be your wife.

I look forward to our many more beautiful years together in Jesus' Name.


Rev. Mrs Funke Ewuosho




EARLY DAYS OF MINISTRY



SEMINAR
YOU ARE INVITED TO ENJOY THE MINISTRY OF
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Host - Kenya


Rev. Kola Ewuosho
President of Fountain of Wisdom
Ministries-Kano Nigeria
Main Speaker

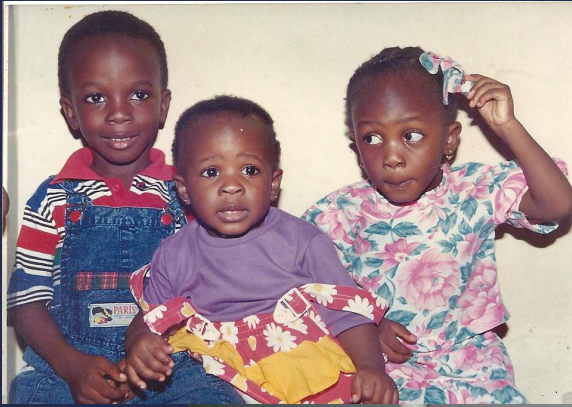
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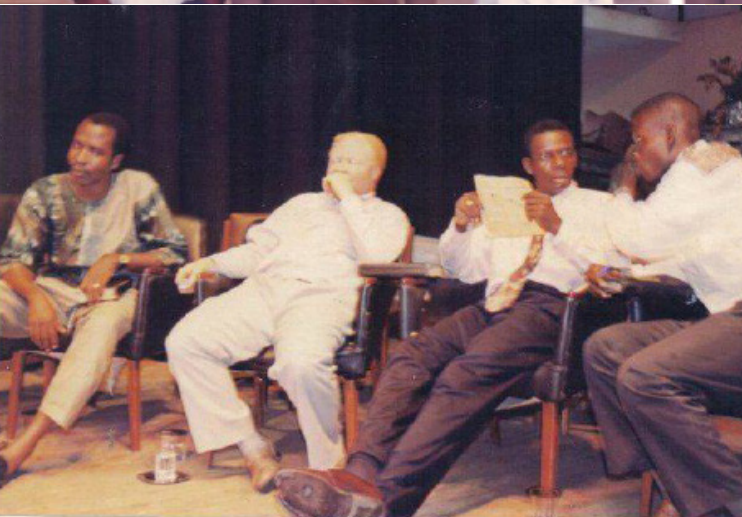
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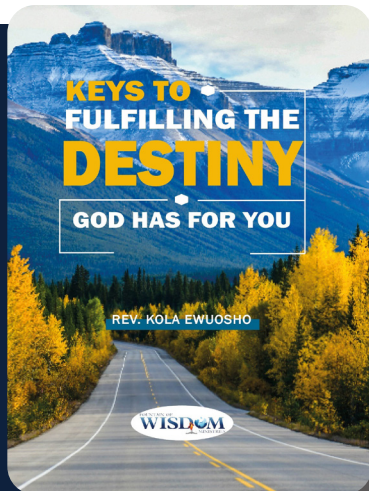
For your nearest FOWM office see page 3 of this magazine or visit www.fowm.org)





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NEW SEASON MESSAGES JUST FOR YOU



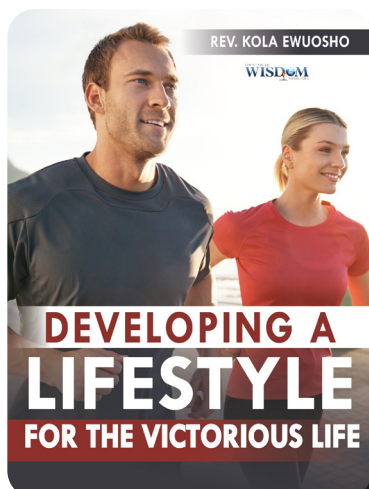
Destiny is when your life fulfills the purposes that God has ordained for you. It is a place where your potential is discovered, developed and deployed. It is a place where you are fully pleasing to God! It all boils down to one word: Christlikeness. Christlikeness in character and power are essential to fulfilling destiny. In this apostolic message, Rev. Kola breaks down the keys that will lead us to this place.

6 CD/MP3 pack - £18 / \$24



God has not forgotten about you! He has promised to restore you, to give you double for all your troubles. Joel 2 talks about God's promise of restoration. Verse 27 (NLT) says, 'Then you will know that I am among my people Israel, that I am the Lord your God, and there is no other. Never again will my people be disgraced.' In this powerful series, Rev. Funke shares with us God's plans for restoration, and how restoration takes place in our lives

3 CD/MP3 pack - £9 / \$12



The secret to success is not what you do occasionally, but what you do as a lifestyle. Do you know that you can key into a life that allows the power of God to keep flowing endlessly? As needs arise, the power of God can be made available to meet them! There are certain habits to learn in order to attract and walk in success every day.

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BECOMING ALL THAT GOD WANTS YOU TO BE



What does it mean to become all that God wants you to be? What does that look like? In this message, you will be challenged to no longer look at things from an activity or religious point of view. You will be inspired to know who you are in Christ, what you have at your disposal, and in doing so, commit to becoming all God wants you to be!

8 CD/MP3 pack - £24 / \$29

HE KNOWS THE WAY THAT I TAKE

REV. FUNKE EWUOSHO

Whatever you are going through in life, you can be comforted and encouraged by the Scriptures. The Holy Spirit is our helper, who guides us in all truth. God has something in store for you, and you are about to birth something great! In this powerful 3-part message, Rev. Funke takes us through a journey to understand why God takes us through some paths, and how we can participate with Him.

3 CD/MP3 pack - £9 / \$12

Job 8:7 promises that though the beginning may be small, the latter end shall greatly increase! We need faith more than ever before in these end times! We must rise up and speak to the things coming against us saying, 'your end will be greater than your beginning!' Whatever you are going through, God wants to do you good in the end. In this powerful message, learn how to hold on to God's promises and strengthen your faith!

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the *end* of a thing is **BETTER** *than* its beginning

Rev. Funke Ewuosho



God's plan for humanity is that we experience the power of the transformed life. In order to live this life, we must understand our warfare, know who we are in the spirit, and be determined to walk in that reality. We cannot be ignorant of the demonic realm, or of our human reality. Praise God for our spiritual identity in Christ! In this message, learn how to exercise your authority in Christ, so that all that we are in Christ becomes our reality!

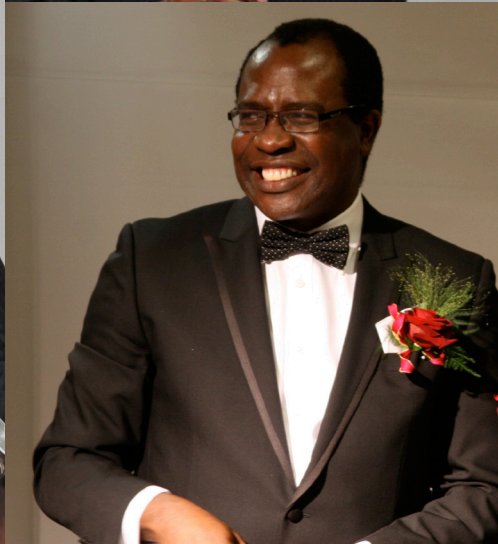
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living the transformed life

Rev. Kola Ewuosho



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A SIT DOWN WITH THE APOSTLE TO THE NATIONS

We sat down with Rev. Kola Ewuosho to ask him a few questions. As we celebrate his diamond year, we invite our readers to get a glimpse into the Reverend's life of perseverance, faith and purpose.

What was it like growing up in Lagos, Nigeria, with your parents and siblings? What major lessons did you learn growing up, and what are your fondest and most interesting memories from that time?

I was born into a family of many big brothers and sisters (who were born of different mothers), some of whom were old enough to have had me as a baby. My natural mother was no longer living with us when I turned three years old. I grew up under a step mother who was very strict; household chores were a major aspect of our lives growing up. There was a 'military' climate in the house where one was expected to behave in certain ways, or face punishment for not living up to those expectations. Wake up times were early and the day would start with strict adherence to performing chores, which included fetching water and cleaning a relatively big house.

The area I grew up in demanded that I was trained in survival skills: from fighting for my safety on the streets to being able to take part in gangster fighting when different groups fought each other. My siblings and I would walk long distances to school regularly as the money given was not going to take care of feeding and transportation to and from school. Life was simply tough and one needed to think, act and grow tough to survive. We developed 'street wisdom' under such circumstances. We were not conditioned with love, but rather, we were forced to perpetually be in survival mode. When I left secondary school, I got a job as a clerk in a company and learnt to feed myself while living in my father's house from about age 14. I bought and cooked my food for myself from that age. I got a salary and learnt how to separate my transportation costs from feeding costs monthly. It was tight but survival demanded that I should learn these lessons the hard way.

As I recall and reminisce, I count my blessings. Amongst all my father's children, I belonged to the generation of children who had the privilege of attending a fee paying school; the older children did

not have such benefits. Many were even schooled in rougher environments. Education was a great privilege for me in the family. In such an environment, you developed tough skin to handle life as it came. Love, family life, acceptance, etc., were all luxuries I did not have the privilege of enjoying. The expectations, and the frequency and rigorous approach to chores all amounted to living life purely from a surviving soldier's mentality. Whether on the streets or at home, you had to figure out how to survive, how to fight, and how to stay safe.

Can you tell us about your born again experience and your encounter with God on campus? What else can you share with us about your time at the University of Benin?

I worked for three years after my secondary school. During this time I retook some of my exam papers and took entry exams in order to secure a place at a university in Nigeria (called JAMB). I desired to further my education and make something out of my life. So those three years gave me room to think and ask questions about life in general. I somehow knew that I needed divine help if I was going to amount to anything in life, but I was not too sure how to make the connection with the divine help I needed.

I started at the University of Benin in the September of 1979, to study Mechanical Engineering. I left university after the 1984/85 academic session. I encountered Christ in the very first year at university. The Christian Union there was very vibrant. They had done a lot of praying and fasting in preparation for the new students coming in that year. At one of their meetings, I went right into the experience and I responded to an altar call to receive Christ as my Lord and Saviour. That was the beginning of my walk with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. I wanted to be real, not religious. I wanted a real relationship with God and was hungry to see God in reality, not just a figment of my imagination. Somehow through my life before university, I had known that there is a God in heaven and He had some plans and purposes for my life. I did not know how to connect with Him, but after my born again experience and the follow up teaching I received, I began to prove God in my life. I told myself that I wanted to prove that He is real while I was still young so that when I got old, there was going to



be no doubts in my mind.

I started acting like the Word of God in the Bible is true. I started praying for the sick and so many were getting healed. I started doing evangelism with my friends and we were getting results. I simply took God at His Word and had a first-hand experience with the God of the Bible, our Father God who sent His Son to die for our sins. I got exposed to the teachings on faith called, the 'Word of Faith'. I learnt the power of decision making where the Word is concerned. If we do not decide to be who God says we are, receive what God says is ours and do what He says we can do, then the fault is not His if we do not see the results He wants us to have. My confession became, "I am who God says I am, I can do what God says I can do, and I have what God says I have". There was a change of lifestyle for me: believing, speaking the Word of God and acting like it is true. I walked around confessing God's Word, saying what the Word says about me! This helped build in me the consciousness of the reality of the new birth in Christ. I spent time interceding for people as I wanted to see many get saved and come to the knowledge of the truth.

Knowing God, learning to fellowship with His Spirit and giving the written Word of God the final authority in my life; all the rudiments of the truth of the Word were planted in my heart during the early years after my born again experience. I began seeing the gifts of the Spirit manifesting in my life. There was a challenge in balancing the study side of my life at school and the spiritual side of my walk with God. I could preach in front of the class before the lecturer gets into the class. My friends and I became so bold that we would go to 'joints' where the other students were smoking and drinking alcohol, and we would just share the gospel of Jesus Christ with them there. I saw the grace of God in action.

Life after university: tell us about your National Youth Service (NYSC) year. How did your year as a Youth Corps member in Nigeria shape you and your outlook to life?

I left university for the National Service in the eastern part of Nigeria. There I met my lovely wife, who also began her youth service after graduating from Law School. I started a fellowship in my house during that time. I was also appointed the Bible Study Secretary for the youth corps' fellowship in the state where we served.

I had also been praying about my future plans to set up my engineering company. It was during the service year that God let me know that there was a call on my life that would change my original plan I had for myself. I did engineering and got told that I was to 'engineer' people's lives to fulfil God's purposes for their lives: God has plans for His children and He wants to take them through process so they can come into maturity to fulfil their destiny in Him. He has an expected end for each of us! Destiny is fulfilled when we have been processed through our knowledge of the Word and through our walk with Him. We come into some maturity to handle the fullness of His purposes when we tap into the grace that He bestows for everything He wants to see done in and through us on earth.

This season was an eye opener for me. I needed to be trained to take on the call of God with all integrity, sincerity and purity. To avoid hypocrisy and pretending to be who I was not, I needed to take things in reality. This led to my many questions that I had asked the Lord about the call I was sensing: questions like, "How will I be sustained if I leave everything and go into the ministry?" I also told God, "I don't want to beg for money for my upkeep". I was assured by God that, He who called me to leave everything and follow him, knows how to take care me.

What attracted you to Rev. Mrs Funke Ewuosho? Tell us about your meeting and courtship.

Rev. Funke and I both belonged to the Christian Fellowship, while serving in Owerri as youth corpsers. I was drawn to her sincerity and forthrightness as she conducted herself within the fellowship. My heart was opened to the unique lifestyle that she had. The genuineness of her walk with God stood as a major attraction. She was always winning souls and inviting different people to the fellowship. Being downright honest in her walk with God was really attractive to me. My heart leaps with joy whenever I think of God's goodness in bringing me to meet her and her agreement to take the journey of life with me in marriage. That was (and is still) one of the greatest blessings from God in my life.

She was the one who heard that there was a conference in the north of Nigeria, in which one of our friends was a guest preacher. I made plans to attend the conference. When I began to sense the call of God on my life, she was in full agreement.



Tell us about the journey to full-time ministry. And can you share how your experience was at the Word of Faith Bible Institute (WOFBI)?

When I went to the conference in the northern part of Nigeria, the organisers mentioned the launch of their Bible School that same year. That was how I felt the leading of the Holy Spirit to be a part of the school. I have always known that I needed to be trained for the assignment ahead of me. It was in one of the sessions that the Lord reminded me that the manifestation of the gifts of the Spirit in my life was just to pre-empt me to know that there was an assignment for me.

I attended the Word of Faith Bible Institute (WOFBI) in Kaduna, from 1986-87. I was the Bible School class captain in my set. It was a time where I asked questions about what it would be like to go into ministry. I had the opportunity to ask the founder of the school questions about living by faith and doing the work of the ministry. The answers helped me to understand how to go about things in the ministry when we started. The foundation of the ministry was laid at that time. I got practical answers to my questions.

Can you share some of the challenges as well as the high points of the early years in ministry in Kano, Nigeria? You are known as one of the pioneers of faith of our time: how were you able to start out in Kano with nothing but faith in God?

My faith was put to test from the very beginning, as we were to start with no physical means of support - just obedience to God to start, in the north of Nigeria. I remember that during Bible School, I shared with my wife-to-be at the time, that I had an offer to go pastor an existing church in Lagos. It was either take this option, or take a step to plant a church in the north of Nigeria. She prayed and said the north settled well in her heart. Faith in God's Word informed the vision, as well as the scope of the work. I remember that when I was at university, I had seen someone give a special number in a service. As the person returned to their seat, I heard in my spirit, "Many of My children will not fulfil the destiny I have for them. I want you to go and create a forum where My people can flow with Me in understanding". I later realised that that was the instruction for the vision of the ministry. Somehow I saw myself pioneering the work from grassroots. With assurance of faith in God's Word, I was able by His grace to step out, with the agreement of my wife-to-be. Looking back I attribute the stepping out to the grace of God. He who called me, gave the grace to be bold to step out without any physical support established. Not only was there no support in the natural,

there was hardly anyone known by us in Kano, where the work began. It was a step of faith into the unknown - except that God knew what He was going to do.

In early days of the work in Kano, I learnt to trust God for everything from the finances to the church building. We moved about twelve times in two years in search of a church hall to use for our services. There was a Sunday service that I was alone in the primary school classroom we were using for service at that time. I remembered what God did at creation; the Bible says that the earth was without form and void and God said, "Let there be light". I also said, "I call Word of Faith Church to be in Jesus' Name". The name of the church was later changed to the Word of Faith Christian Center (WOFCC).

In the early days, how were you and your wife able to work together and juggle everything on both the home and ministry fronts?

As the church began to grow, we began to build structures that would sustain the work. The work took a new turn after we got married as my wife contributed a whole lot to the work. She helped in creating the structures of administration and other structures within the church. She especially trained the worship and prayer teams and in doing so, made a difference in the lives of church folks.

My God shall supply all my needs according to His riches in glory, not according to anyone's giving!

Thank God for creating an administrative arm of the work. This helped in recording the messages, duplicating them and making them available to many other people who were not members of our church. My heart was (and still is) in the nations and my approach has always been one of an itinerant preacher/teacher. My wife has always had more of a pastoral heart, while my heart is on the field, moving around. She brought about the balance in the home and in ministry. She did not place any extra demands on me but managed the situation very well, especially in those early days. She practically raised our children almost all by herself in their younger years.

I had little understanding about the call to be an apostle in those early days. We only heard about pastors and evangelists. God had an apostolic assignment for us and I needed to understand what it entailed.

As the years went on we established the ministry administrative base as a separate entity to the church administrative base in the Kano office. Today, the ministry base takes care of partners, publication of our



magazines as well as sales and distribution of our products. Lately, our social media presence has also been taken care of by the ministry base. The church base takes care of the church members, the various departments of the church as well as all necessary publications for church services.

You and your family took a leap of faith to relocate to the UK in 2000, after God called you there. How would you describe those days of breaking ground in the UK, in light of how you broke ground in Kano in the late 80s?

After a number of visits to the UK, preaching in different churches and fellowships, the Lord made it clear that He had a work for us to do in the country. I told my wife and she prayed about it and God confirmed the call in her dealings with Him. It called for some major adjustments as the prevailing spiritual climate in the UK is very different from the one in Kano, Nigeria. Coming out to the UK by faith in God under strict obedience to His instructions, was not child's play at all. We thank God for the support we got from our initial contacts in the country, the pastors and staff in Kano, and our pastors in other African nations, where we had initiated the work of the ministry at the time. When I reflect on the start of the work in Kano and then later in the UK, I see that the same dependence on God was a major factor. Thankfully, by the time we were relocating to the UK, we had more people who joined their faith with ours. As mission minded apostles that we are, we had to learn the difference in culture, expectations of the people and relevant emphasis in messages, for the new terrain we were in.

Can you share some of your key moments and highlights in ministry, over the past 30+ years?

A key moment was when we first had the money to pay for the ministry's first set of buildings in Kano. Another highlight is seeing lives transformed and people testifying to the glory of God. God has blessed people outside the boundaries of the church and ministry and their lives have been so affected by the grace of God through the teachings and impact of the ministry. When we hear such testimonies, we ourselves are blessed. To imagine that God wanted to use this ministry to touch lives in Latin America as well as other parts of the world, has been a joy. Our other installations have gone on to buy their own buildings both in Nigeria as well as in Ghana, to mention a few.

The birth of our three children and watching our girls get married, are moments I will always cherish.

What major lessons and wisdom nuggets have you learnt in the past 60 years, that you can share with us?

Let God prepare you for what He has prepared for you in life and ministry. Stay in close touch with the Holy Spirit of God who is your teacher and guide.

Always be battle-ready for you have an enemy who will stop at nothing to stop, abort or derail God's purpose in your life.

Never give up on your faith life. Keep calling the things that be not as though they were. God watches over His Word to perform it. He may not do it immediately but watch this space; He will come through for you.

Keep your motives pure. Avoid selfishness and pride; let Him take the glory for all He is accomplishing in and through your life and ministry.

Your prayer life is a reflection of your intimacy with God and demonstrates your dependence on Him.

Be sure you are in obedience to God's instructions for your life.

Learn all you can as you prepare for the different phases of life and ministry.

Always be quick to repent, to apologise and learn the necessary adjustments to keep relationships and your environment healthy.

What are you looking forward to as you enter this new chapter in your life?

In this new chapter of life, I am looking forward to fulfilling all God had in mind when He called one to "go create a forum where My people can flow with Me in understanding and wisdom". We want to do this in many more nations. We want to raise more leaders, plant more churches, and see more lives transformed by the power of God. We want to see more miracles happen to bring about transformation and healing of many lives throughout the world. God has a purpose for every person on earth. He built some potential into every life. The discovery, development and deployment of these potential is up to each person as they cultivate a healthy relationship with God through the Word of God, and as they walk in obedience to Him. We fulfil destiny when His purposes for our lives come into fruition. We have our part to play and He is willing to play His part when we are rightly positioned. We want to see many more lives fulfil God's purposes for their lives. By His grace we shall see this come to pass. Amen.

Rev. Michael Kola Ewuosho



CHILDREN'S TRIBUTES

We celebrate our dad on his 60th birthday! We celebrate a man of honour, a man of commitment, a man we call our father. He does his best to provide a home filled with love, acceptance and security. That is truly a remarkable quality of our father. We are grateful for all the sacrifices our parents made to ensure we grew up in a godly, privileged and well-rounded home. Resilient and fearless – describe our parents well. Dad always challenged us to believe we could achieve anything we put our minds to; Mum constantly encourages us in everything, and is always the voice of reason and wisdom whenever we are going through situations. Even till this day, she continues to encourage us to keep on going! We grew up knowing nothing was impossible for us.

We thank God for your life dad, and for all you've been able to accomplish so far - by faith and courage! Your life is a testimony of total trust in God, and it is such an inspiration to us.

Thank you for being the best father to us.

Thank you for your love, honesty, and patience.

We pray for you everyday, that God will perfect all that concerns you; that you will enjoy the fruit of all your labour in the kingdom; and that you will experience all that God has in store for you! May God honour you and reward you in a big way. Your many years of labour in the Kingdom and in the lives of others are truly remarkable and worthy of emulation. We pray that God grants you your heart's desires. May you live long, in perfect health and strength. May you see your children's children's children and enjoy them in good health!

Welcome to 60 and a new season of rest. You deserve it!

We love you!

Sam, Keji & Joanna



3 REASONS WHY JESUS CAME

There seems to be a three-fold pattern for most of the things of God in the Bible.

For example, we see God revealing Himself as the Father of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob - each revealing a part of God's nature and purpose in His processes for the human race. Each of His revealed identity captures something of His purpose and all three give us a more correct picture of God's plans and purposes.

The God of Abraham reveals the aspect of God as One who provides even in the most impossible situation. He is more than able to do the impossible when we believe, have faith in His Word (like Abraham) and participate in His plans for our lives. The God of Isaac is the One who expects us to walk in submission and obedience. Isaac was revealed as one who was in subjection to his father and all through his life God's purposes were fulfilled as he stayed in submission, even to the point of submission to death. To walk with the God of Isaac is to walk in submission to His will for your life. The God of Jacob is He who changes natures to fulfil His will for our lives. Jacob received the blessing through deceit but did not experience the fullness of it until some price had been paid and his nature changed with a name change.

These all reveal the different aspects of God's processes that need to be taken together to interpret the seasons in our lives and how to respond to them. This will also help us know how to understand what we are going through and how to participate with God's purposes in the seasons of life we find ourselves in.

There are three known motivations for anything we do in life: fear, duty (obligation) and love. These represent the must-do, have-to-do and want-to-do motivations. All three have their place in our developmental processes. The fear of punishment is the usual motivation we see in the Bible when people are faced with the consequences of disobedience. Then we see the sense of obligation (duty) to obey God. This is followed by the love motivation which pleases God. This is where God's full purposes can be experienced. Our greatest motivation is and should be love.

We see something similar in the Words of Jesus when He said He is the way, the truth and the life. He is the way to the Father, because through his sacrifice on the cross, we can be accepted and become God's children. He gives us a new identity and authority as believers. This elicits our thanksgiving. He is the Truth. Truth is a person as well as reality. When we come to God through the Way, we encounter the Truth, who challenges us with the Word and the Word confronts the true state of our hearts. This is

when we begin the transformation process - we let go of the lower life in favour of the higher life. Our humanity and self life is challenged as we progress from the 'outer court' to the 'holy place'. He is the Life when "it is no longer I who lives but Christ lives in me" and "the life I live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God". This is where it is none of me but all of Him. He is the life. Once again we see progression in the process of God captured by the three dimensions of the outer court, holy place and holiest of all. In each dimension we can see the difference between thanksgiving, praise and worship. Sometimes we experience different dimensions in the different aspects of our lives.

These are the three reasons why Jesus came: He came to take our place in a DIVINE EXCHANGE; He came to show us the pattern for living as a DIVINE PATTERN; and he came to show us the true nature of the Father-God as the DIVINE REVELATION OF THE FATHERHOOD OF GOD.

DIVINE EXCHANGE

"For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Cor. 5:21). This is the aspect of His substitution on the cross. He became poor so we can become rich. He took our place in rejection so that we can gain acceptance from the Father. By the stripes He took, we are promised healing. Our faith in the finished work of Calvary helps us appropriate the benefits his suffering made available to us. The streams of teachings on faith, spiritual warfare, pulling down strongholds, prosperity and new creation realities all come through this aspect of Jesus coming to the earth. God's attitude to sin is seen here: He sees sin as that which needs the blood of His Son to cleanse the human race.

The Son carried the judgment of sin on behalf of the human race. This aspect also helps us to see how Satan operates in utilising sin as a means to deceive humanity and to see the power of the blood of Jesus over the works of darkness. We also see the concepts of authority and how the choices we make determine whose authority we are under. The finished work of Calvary gives us a new identity, a new authority (in His Name as believers) and a power to choose to live above sin by the Holy Spirit. How well established we are in this is very much dependent on how we are taught and how much we meditate, internalise and act on these truths to effect the renewal of our minds so we can walk in the will of God. We come into a new position in our relationship with God simply because we accept what Jesus Christ did for us at His death, burial and resurrection. This is the divine exchange. We need to be strong in the grace that this dimension brings to us.

DIVINE PATTERN OF SONSHIP

“For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren” (Romans 8:29). Jesus died to set us free. But His life, death, burial and resurrection also shows us a pattern for us in living according to His will. This is the aspect of character formation, where inner attitudes and attributes like humility, intimacy and faithfulness are cultivated. The main issues here are that character-tests precede kingdom promotions. He died and we are supposed to die to ourselves.

Our flesh needs putting under. He carried His cross and we are supposed to be ready to carry ours. A body was prepared for Him as He was to lay His body in death, and we are to present our bodies as a living sacrifice. Our motives and focus come to bear on our servant heart for God’s kingdom purposes. The death process of the grain of wheat comes into focus here. We undergo the process of denying self, taking up our cross and following Him (see John 12:24-26). In our death process, all the trappings of the old nature and its effects on our souls undergo death. Paul says, “I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live, yet not I but Christ lives in me and the life I live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God who loved me and gave Himself for me” (Galatians 2:20).

This aspect is not popularly preached because dying to self is not always palatable; neither is it found when happiness is our ultimate goal in our Christian faith. Our motive in life should be our love for God and our focus should be Christ and His Kingdom.

DIVINE REVELATION OF THE FATHERHOOD OF GOD

He is the way to the Father-heart of God. God is a Father and He sent His Son to reveal His fatherhood nature. Christ lived his life to show us how to live with the Father and to reveal how the Father thinks and functions. God is a Father and His goodness far surpasses the best of fathers on earth. Scripture says the family in heaven and earth is named after God the Father (Eph. 3:14-15). Understanding God as a Father implies some maturity in us as we mature into sonship. In spiritual growth we have children, young men and fathers (1 John 2:12-17). We also have carnal and spiritual Christians. Maturity helps our appreciation of the fatherhood of God. Our knowledge of God is incomplete if we do not come to the realisation that He is the Father of all who come to Him through Christ. In the story of the prodigal son, we see the fatherhood of God exemplified (Luke 15:11-32). He seemed to be more interested in restoring His son than in what His son did. This insight into the nature of God should not be seen to negate the other reasons why Jesus was sent to us. Many such acts make some people erroneously believe that they can play with sin, that God is not so interested in counting sin, and that He simply winks at it because He is a loving Father. Nothing could be further from the truth. Sin destroys everything in its path. We need to confess and forsake it so we can enjoy our fellowship with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ. Pleasing the Father should be uppermost in our affections for everything in life. Sons train their affec-

tions to come into alignment with the Father’s pleasure.

Knowing God as your Father will minister a deep sense of destiny and acceptance. You will understand how to walk with Him and take initiatives where necessary in your walk of faith. Our prayer life will take on a new level of boldness, intimacy and clarity. The Father commits more to faithful sons who by practice have exercised and trained themselves to discern between good and evil. They can carry command and execute God-given assignments as sons who know the will of the Father and His times and seasons. Jesus came to show us the Father-God. We need to have a face-to-face relationship with God when we know Him as our loving heavenly Father. We must cultivate a heartfelt passion for God. This will lead to us having quality time in His presence. Many things happen when people have a real relationship with God as their Father.

MANY STREAMS FLOW INTO THE RIVER OF PURPOSE

Many have majored on only one aspect and think that they have the whole picture, only to find out later that they do not have answers to the challenges they face. They need all three aspects or streams of knowledge to successfully navigate in the river of God’s purposes on the earth. Each aspect is important. Even when going through process, I see three things: revelation, responsibility and relationship. If you read through the whole book of Ephesians, you see the progression: revelation of who we are in Christ, what we have in Him and our need to take responsibility for our thoughts, words and actions. These all flow into our ability to build godly relationships that will enhance God’s will on earth. The three aspects why Jesus came can be seen in this light. Jesus came as an exchange for us; we need the revelation of these issues. As our divine pattern, we take responsibility for our development into the nature of Christ. All these flow into our relationship with the Father God.

Many sons will come into the glorious liberty of being sons of God, if they comprehend, appropriate and demonstrate these realities. We have our part to play and God will play His part; but coming into this fullness is our privilege and responsibility. May we bless the heart of the Father as we honour all that the Son has done, and may we come into the full pleasures of the heart of God.

Rev. Kola Ewuosho

**HE BECAME POOR SO WE CAN
BECOME RICH. HE TOOK OUR
PLACE IN REJECTION SO THAT
WE CAN GAIN ACCEPTANCE
FROM THE FATHER.**

TRIBUTES FROM FRIENDS & PARTNERS WORLDWIDE

We celebrate God's gift packaged in the person of Rev. Kola. He is truly a great man of God and I am a direct beneficiary of the grace and the anointing of God that is upon his life. I met him back in 1987 when he came to plant a church in Kano, Nigeria and since then his life, marriage, and ministry have been an inspiration to me.

He has taught the Word faithfully over these many years and lived it. He set an example for us on what it takes to follow and live for Christ. Personally, he taught me about how to obtain and exercise faith in the Lord and how to navigate in wisdom through the storms of life.

Rev., we rejoice with you on this occasion and pray that the Lord will continue to bestow more grace upon you and Rev. Funke so you can continue to bless God's people and create forums where God's people can flow with him in understanding.

Pastor Kenny Ogunfunmi
(Rejoyce Christian Centre, California)

SIX DECADES OF WISDOM AND GRACE!

This is a birthday and love tribute to a father in the faith. I join the countless lives to wish you a hearty 60th birthday. You have been and still are a loving, caring and supportive father in the Lord and the faith. I will never forget how God connected me to you in 1989 through a cassette tape with the title, "The Authority of the Believer". After listening to that message, the next day the Holy Spirit told me to call the number provided. I remember when I called you, you were gracious enough to speak to me and warmly receive me; this was the beginning of a father-son relationship that has spanned over 32 years. All these years you have loved, taught, rebuked, disciplined and most importantly, showed me by character and conduct what it means to know and follow Christ as a believer and a minister. You have loved me through thick and thin. In crisis you stood as a pillar of fatherly love and support. Through your exemplary character and conduct, you have shown me your doctrine, wisdom, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience and persecution. You are a father who is never ashamed of his son; he loves me in spite of my mistakes. Thank you!

Today on behalf of my family and the Refuge House Church, we wish you a glorious diamond jubilee. May you continue to grow from strength to strength. The Lord will continue to uphold you and all that concerns you. Happy birthday Sir.

Your Son, Parolly.
Pastor Roland Akporiaye (Refuge House Church,
Port Harcourt)

Pastor Kola is a great friend, a dynamic leader with a wonderful apostolic call, a devoted husband and father, and a great laugh!

I met Pastor Kola in the year 2000 via his cousin, my associate Pastor, Temi Ewuosho. Since that meeting, our times of fellowship together have been heart warming, encouraging and edifying. Our entire ministry is continually uplifted by his regular ministration at Harvest Church, Wembley. The affinity and harmony between us is reflected in the common bond of love and fellowship both ministries enjoy at each other's functions, conferences and meetings. We continually encourage one another and steal each others' best ideas!

We are so grateful for such great people down the road in Medina (my affectionate name for Virginia Water!) and thank God continually for the lives of Pastors Kola and Funke. They are true agents of breakthrough in so many arenas and we look forward to many more years of blessing.

Pastor Paul Naughton (Harvest Church, London, UK)

Having been a spiritual son to Rev. Kola for several years now, I have come to understand the heart of Servant Leadership in so many ways.

Rev. Kola has been and continues to be an epitome of what it takes to be a successful leader especially in ministry and I am proud to have him as my spiritual father and mentor. Despite his very busy and tight schedule, he still finds time to reach out to me, wanting to know how I'm faring personally and in the ministry; and I know this is also the testimony of all his other spiritual sons around the globe.

Your spirit of excellence in ministry will continue to be a model for us all to keep following after.

I celebrate you sir on your 60th and know that you haven't seen anything yet.

The next 40 years of your life will be lived in the glory and manifestations of God's faithfulness over your life, home and ministry.

We continue to partake of the apostolic grace upon your life and ministry sir; I can see the impact taking root in my life and ministry as we see God take us from grace to grace.

I pray the Lord keep you sir in good health and continue to renew your youth like the eagle's.

Happy birthday and many happy returns of the day sir.

Your Son
Pastor Ishola Familusi (RockChurch, Kent, UK)



I first came to know about Rev. Kola Ewuosho sometime in 1992 when one of my room mates at College of Medicine, University of Lagos (CMUL) (while I was studying physiotherapy), brought a tape to the room and played 90+ minutes message that the Rev. had preached to Loveward Fellowship of CMUL at the time. I was awe struck at the richness and the excellency of the voice as well as the message preached from just three verses, John 1:1-3.

From that one message I heard in 1992, I continue to know that nothing is made to last unless it is made by the Word of God. Here I am today: it was under Rev. Kola's ministry that I got married to my wife who similarly was led to the ministry same year as I was (1994). We had both been brought by God to serve the ministry.

Rev. Kola, or Daddy, as we fondly call him, has been a tremendous blessing to the Body of Christ. The impact of God's grace, the wisdom, revelations, knowledge and understanding of the scriptures, and allowing the Word of God to explain our life's story, and reshape our crooked pathways is profound, and unusual. One of the most evergreen themes I learnt from Rev. Kola's ministry is found in Psalm 11:3; "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?". Rev. Kola taught us that whenever a scripture verse asks a question, and there was no answer, believers are to find the answer(s). So, Rev. Kola, taught us that the answer to that verse of scripture is "...the righteous should build a fresh or new foundation on the Word of God". We learnt to build a new foundation and build up our lives based on Jesus' parable about the wise versus foolish builder; digging deep, and building on the rock (the Word of God, Christ Himself), so that when the flood and the storms of life come, whatever we build on Christ the solid rock, will stand (Matthew 7:24-29).

Papa, Daddy, Father, and Reverend Gentleman, and most importantly, our own Man of God, we salute, and celebrate you today sir! We pray that as your days are, so shall your strength be (Deuteronomy 33:25). You will continue to grow from one level of glory to the other as you behold His face (2 Corinthians 3:18). As constantly prophesied when we were in Kano, your seed shall continually multiply, and spread abroad (Genesis 28:14). May the Lord continually surround you with the songs of deliverance, and may He ever remain your Rock and Hiding Place (Psalm 32:7). May the Lord bless and keep you, cause His face to continually shine upon you, and give you peace (Numbers 6:24-26). May the Lord grant all the desires of your heart, even as you delight yourself in Him always (Psalm 37:4). We pray blessings upon blessings, and a million fold returns of all the seed you have sown in the lives of sons and daughters all over the world. May you see you children's children, and fulfil your purpose on earth, for God and His Kingdom. May the next phase of life you are entering at 60, become a phase of rest, tremendous and bountiful harvests of seed sown, and may you wax stronger and stronger, and may the Lord multiply your influence in the land and in His presence (Genesis 26:12-14).

We celebrate you sir.

Your son in the Lord
Emmanuel Babatunde John

Happy 60th birthday Daddy. I came to know you as a university student, when you preached at a conference my campus fellowship held. You brought life to the Word of God in a different way, and it was truly refreshing. A couple of years later, it was not difficult for me to say yes to an invitation by Pastor Bisi Ilori, to attend your church at Word of Faith Christian Center (WOFCC) Kano branch, when I came to Kano State to do my NYSC.

I developed a deeper relationship with the Word as your teachings brought many things to life. I was also privileged to live with the family and got to experience the practical aspect of what it truly means to live by the Word. I watched both you and my mother in the Lord (Maami) uphold the Word in every situation. This made an indelible mark in my life and set the course for me to do the same. The commitment you both demonstrated in your marriage created a desire in me to pray for a Christ-centered marriage.

I am forever grateful for your life Dad. I pray that you will continue to reap many bountiful harvests because of the seeds you have sown in my life and in the lives of many. May you and the generations after you never lack anything good in Jesus' Name. May you experience the fullness of all that God has for you as you are ushered into this new decade. May your light never go down and may your oil never run dry in Jesus' Name. Thank you for the mighty impact Dad, you are truly a gift to the Body of Christ. Happy 60th Birthday sir!

Toyin John

Reverend Kola – An Exemplary Leader

I recall with joy my first encounter with Rev. Kola Ewuosho. The day was Sunday 4th June 1995. This was my first Sunday at the WOFCC, Kano. There, I met a man of the Word and wisdom. I remember being astonished by the level and frequency of godly wisdom that proceeded from Rev. Kola as he ministered. Indeed, those wisdom nuggets were neither enticing words of men nor theoretical jargons as I was fixated on many from day ONE! I have learned consistently under Rev. Kola's visionary leadership, spiritual guidance and mentorship over the past 26 years. I have been guided over the years by an understanding that godly wisdom transcends the realms of human understanding. Its transformative power influences the way I see and confer stability and strength of various dimensions upon my life. Through Rev. Kola's positive influence, I have embraced regular mind deprogramming and reprogramming processes by the Word; allowing godly wisdom to permeate every sphere of my life, especially in marriage, ministry and the market place. My spiritual father and mentor is a man of integrity who places a high premium on character development, diligence, and excellence. Rev. Kola is a selfless leader, an embodiment of courage and charisma with result-producing, 'stick-to-it-ive' attitude. He is completely sold out to God! What a high privilege and distinct honour to learn from this servant of the Most-High! Sir, as you celebrate this milestone, may you step into new graces for your next phase in ministry. Happy 60th Birthday!

Dr Victor Ola-Akande



TRIBUTES FROM FOWM GLOBAL

Happy Diamond Jubilee Daddy! These past 33 years that my path divinely crossed with yours have been indeed a season of unveiling of the destiny of God in my life. Thank you for being a gentle and kind mentor to us all. Your birthday has given me this special opportunity to thank you for all these years. You have been more than a father, mentor and teacher to me. Your life has impacted me in a way that words cannot explain.

A man of wisdom, care and love. You are many things to others but to me you are indeed a father. God richly bless you daddy for the opportunity you have granted me to serve in this commission. I am eternally grateful.

As you turn 60, may the good Lord continue to keep, bless, strengthen, favour, prosper and multiply His wisdom upon your life. May nations open up to you. May people you never knew serve you. And may resources not be a problem in fulfilling your heart's desires. May your sons and daughters all over the world rise and call you blessed. May Job 5:19-26 be yours in Jesus name.

Job 5:19-26 (NLT)

"From six disasters he will rescue you; even in the seventh, he will keep you from evil. He will save you from death in time of famine, from the power of the sword in time of war. You will be safe from slander and have no fear when destruction comes. You will laugh at destruction and famine; wild animals will not terrify you. You will be at peace with the stones of the field, and its wild animals will be at peace with you. You will know that your home is safe. When you survey your possessions, nothing will be missing. You will have many children; your descendants will be as plentiful as grass! You will go to the grave at a ripe old age, like a sheaf of grain harvested at the proper time!"

Once again Happy 60th birthday. God richly bless you Daddy.
Pastor Kofi Freduah-Agyemang (FOWM Ghana)

Happy Birthday Daddy!

I bless God for your life and for His abundant grace upon you. I thank Him for how far He has brought you - 60 glorious years of God's goodness and faithfulness indeed.

Thank you daddy, for your obedience to God's divine call that has been instrumental to uncountable transformed lives throughout the globe of which I am an evident testimony of. I cannot quantify how much my life has been transformed from my Youth Service days till date. I am grateful sir.

Thank you for your selfless service to humanity. Thank you sir, for your great leadership and mentorship. Thank you for being a great father to my husband and I, our children and the Ghana Church family. It is my prayer that God will crown your new season with His everlasting goodness. May the Lord continue to strengthen you within and without. May you reap every fruit of your labour in the Kingdom with joy, in health and in strength, in Jesus' Name. May your youth be renewed like that of the eagle's. May God's anointing be multiplied upon your life. May you flourish like the cedar of Lebanon and may innumerable nations be blessed through you in Jesus' Name.

You are celebrated today and always daddy. I say a resounding, "Hip, hip, hip, hurray!!!"

Pastor Arabah Freduah-Agyemang (FOWM Ghana)



Rev. Kola Ewusoho, my spiritual father, my boss and my mentor.

I first heard of the ministry while on NYSC camp in 1989 (Gomel, Kano). There was a fellowship in the camp and lots of my friends were always inviting me. I eventually came to WOFCC, Kano in 1991 and got born again there.

My first close experience with Rev. was in January 1992, when I was interviewed by him prior to securing a job in the ministry; I was to replace the person that was previously in charge of the Tapes Department. This was my first close experience of witnessing the Rev.'s faith life.

He said to me, "Wole don't look to me for your salary". I asked him, "Who should I look to?", to which he replied, "We must both look to God" and quoted Jeremiah 17:5-8. Wow!

I reflect on that initial encounter and so many other fantastic and life changing experiences. Knowing you sir is truly an adventure of faith with God, and I'm eternally grateful.

The words of wisdom that flow from you are truly life changing and they have been used of God to unlock great things within me. Many words from you that are on marble include:

- "Wole, never go to God only because of your needs, always go to God based on His provisions."
- "No man will enter destiny with undeveloped potential."
- "Challenges are designed to reveal your potential; never run from them."
- "Process is designed to unveil and deal with the state of our heart."

I can go on and on sir. Thank you sir for modelling faith, commitment and obedience to God and family. Your humility is on another level sir, you are truly a man that trembles at God's Word.

Pastor Wole (AKA Woleros) (WOFCC, Kano)

I'm privileged to learn from you; I'm still always learning and working with you sir. My family and I deeply appreciate your role in our lives and journey of destiny. We pray that you will not lose your reward and as your days are so shall your strength be sir; you shall continually enjoy God's best in every area of your life, family and more nations in Jesus' Name. Happy 60th birthday 'Ogas'!

This is to say a big happy 60th birthday sir, on your diamond jubilee. May you experience the radiance of God's presence sir in this new season. Thank you for bringing sons into destiny, of which I enjoy one of them. Thank you 'Ogas' for your dedication to God and His Word, you are a light set on high for all to draw light from. May you shine brighter sir. God bless more and more.

Pastor Simi Ogunnaike (WOFCC, Kano)

Happy 60th birthday to you sir. Your commitment to kingdom values and dedication to your calling is so contagious, due to the purity of your heart of service. Thank you for your consistency sir. I remember the first time I saw you in 1997; you impacted my life so much without even saying a word to me directly. It was your appearance on the podium that ministered to me. I saw that it is possible to serve God and still look good, unlike what we saw around in those days. From then on, each time you minister either in church or one-on-one, you always make deposits that reinforce my conviction of the call of God upon my life. Thank you for creating many unique platforms that enable Emilia and I to put expression to the giftings of God in our lives. Your impact in our ministry and family life are immeasurable. We pray continued renewal of strength for you sir. As you enter this new phase may you experience a new level of anointing for greater exploits in Jesus' Name.

We truly love and appreciate you sir.

Pastor Remi Owolabi, Minister Emilia Owolabi and the children (WOFCC, Kano)

TRIBUTE TO A TRUE FATHER AT 60

Happy 60th birthday to a true servant of God – Rev. Kola Ewuosho. What a joy to celebrate this landmark occasion with you sir. It's a great privilege to appreciate your fatherly role in our lives. We are thanking God for your ruthless obedience to God's dealings over the decades, which has opened us up to service in the kingdom like never before. Before we joined the ministry in 1997 we were so timid, but you helped us to discover our giftings and develop them; you also provided a forum where we could deploy them. We cannot but mention Rev. Mother who has stood by you all these years. We pray for more grace to fulfil all that our Master Jesus has destined for you sir. We have enjoyed and still do partake of your transparent leadership style hinged heavily on trust. We commit to standing by you, God helping us, to see His kingdom come in Nigeria and the nations of the earth, both in character and power. We love you and deeply appreciate you sir.

Enjoy this new season!

Pastors Bode and Bolajoko Bankole (WOFCC, Lagos)

CONNECT WITH FOWM

WATCH

Tune into FOWM on YouTube every **Sunday at 10.30am (GMT)** and **Wednesday at 7pm (GMT)**, to watch our live broadcasts with powerful messages by Rev. Kola and Rev. Funke Ewuosho, preached from Harvestime Church, UK.

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TRIBUTES FROM FOWM GLOBAL

I came in contact with this ministry sometime in October 2002 when deployed to serve the country in Kano State as a Youth Corps member.

Sometime in 2003, I was privileged to be a part of the protocol team at WOFCC, Kano, that received the Rev. at the airport and recall seeing a picture flash of an 'Elijah and Elisha relationship'. I knew deep within that I would serve, learn and grow under his leadership.

Rev. Kola is deep, sound, anointed yet humble, content, ready to listen, teach and learn from whatever process God opens his eyes to. His hunger and passion to serve God, to see God's purpose be fulfilled in the lives of others and to see lives transformed, are insatiable and contagious. His love, respect and honor for his wife (our dear mum – Rev. Funke) is matchless and exemplary.

As you turn 60, I reckon with the faith and prayers of FOWM family worldwide for longevity, more depths in wisdom, insights and an unrestricted outflow and outpouring of God's favour and anointing. Certainly sir, the PJ would land soon.

Love from Kemi, Aviel and Adiel
Pastor Caleb Izedonmi (WOFCC, Lagos)

Sir, I salute the soldier in you - always overcoming evil and ready to do the Master's bidding.
I salute the athlete in you - abiding by the Master's rules, focused on the joy set before you.
I salute the farmer in you - always sowing choice seeds, grooming them and partaking of the harvests. May grace empower you more and may you be inspired continually by wisdom.
Thank you for being God's channel, and for creating a forum where diverse gifts can find expression.

Happy diamond jubilee.

Pastor Olabisi Akinwande (WOFCC, Abuja)

Happy birthday sir on your 60th birthday.
I praise God for your life and I use this opportunity to say a big thank you for all these years of impact and being a blessing to my family and I.
You will continue to celebrate many more years of glorious service in health and wealth, in Jesus' Name.

God bless you.
Pastor Mike Elias (WOFCC, Abuja)

I look back over 15 years, when I first met Rev. Kola Ewuosho in Kampala Uganda, ministering in a small church. At that time, my ministry and my life in God had literally come to a standstill. Myself and a few friends were seeking for a future God had for us both in our lives and ministry. God in his mercies orchestrated a divine connection with the Rev. and the grace he carries. Within the few minutes of listening to him, my heart rested. The witness in my spirit persuaded me that what I have been seeking God for, God in His goodness had led me to it. For several years now, myself, my wife, our children, and the entire FOWM family in Kenya – along with our partners in Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania and the USA – are just a few of the many hearts Rev. Kola and Rev. Funke have touched. This is evidence of the apostolic grace at work in them and through them. We can confidently say by God's grace, that the life of Rev. Kola and his ministry made us discover our destinies in ministry, vocation, family and financially. Rev. Kola's humble heart is a jewel in the hands of Christ, and through it we have been energized without being limited by any principalities of darkness to preach, declare, proclaim. We have the confidence to heal the sick through the power of God.
May God bless our father, Rev Kola Ewuosho

You son,
Pastor Job (FOWM, Kenya)



To my dad, mentor, friend and Reverend,

I appreciate you sir, for your great contribution to my life, family and the Fountain of Wisdom Ministries (FOWM) work in East and Central Africa. As I look back as far as 2005 when we first met at the Sirikwa Hotel in Eldoret, Kenya, I vividly remember you speaking prophetically concerning Kenya and the assignment God had laid in your heart for the region. You said that there were three horns (principality of darkness) that were causing the church in Kenya not to progress, according to Zachariah 1:21 (speaking of the horns that scattered Judah). These horns are principalities of darkness regulating activities in the land: immorality, poverty and sudden death. Nevertheless, through FOWM, God was going to raise craftsmen with skills (apostolic grace) to counter those horns. Now more than fifteen years have passed and indeed, we have witnessed God establish FOWM in this region, and none of those horns have hindered us from progressing with our divine assignment. Many sons and daughters are flocking in and the work is getting more established - we praise God!

Daddy, through your mentorship sessions, you have taught us balance in all aspects of life (spirit, soul and body). This has enhanced my development, resulting in a positive impact in my relationships, especially at my work place. Many are now looking up to FOWM Kenya because we too are developing. Sir, through your leadership training you have helped us to establish structures in our installations in Kenya, causing us to experience remarkable levels of stewardship, increase, accountability, faithfulness, commitment, teamwork and consistency, just to mention a few.

Indeed God has used you and our mother (Rev. Mrs Funke Ewuosho) to decipher the purpose of life for many of us. I am amazed by your genuine love for God, and more so people, irrespective of their backgrounds. You are GENUINE sir. Even as you celebrate your 60th birthday I pray that the grace that was on Caleb, the servant of God, be your portion in Jesus' Name. He said, "So here I am today, eighty-five years old! I am still as strong today as the day Moses sent me out; I'm just as vigorous to go out to battle now as I was then. Now give me this hill country that the LORD promised me that day".

Sir, take more mountains in Jesus' Name. Happy Birthday Dad.

Pastor Sammy Shitote (FOWM Kenya)

We want to wish our dear Father in the Lord a happy 60th birthday. On this special day, we want to thank you for giving to the Lord so selflessly. Thank you for being a true shepherd to the congregation, accepting us regardless of our flaws and differences, walking and guiding us, and picking us up when we stumble and fall. By meeting you, the course of our lives have changed forever. We are more than happy to partner with your exemplary and visionary leadership, and a life dedicated to churching the unchurched and winning souls into the kingdom of God. As you attain this new level and age, we pray God continues to increase your wisdom and knowledge of him and his Word, and that your health and strength waxes stronger in the delivery of God's Word and in the guiding of his saints. Happy Birthday sir! We love you dearly.

Word of Faith Christian Centre (WOFCC), Suleja

Dear Pastor Kola,

God bless you abundantly! Happy 60th birthday to you. May you continue to grow from strength to strength in Jesus' Name. May you walk in divine favour, wisdom, health, and may your latter years be greater and more fruitful in Jesus' Name.

I'm grateful to God that I know you personally. You have been a blessing to me in several ways. I remember our one-on-one times where you discussed self-worth with me and how that's the key for personal growth and leadership development. Looking back, I can say I am a better person (beyond the nature, nurture and culture limitations) today at home, at work and at church. All glory to God. I learnt faith from you, and I have been benefited by the teaching grace you carry. I pray that you will continue to impact many more lives and glorify our Father God. Every blessing to you, in Jesus' Name!

With love,
Robert Thanaraj (Harvestime Church, UK)





SPIRITUAL DETOXIFICATION

BIBLE STUDY

(REV. FUNKE EWUOSHO)

By definition, detoxification basically means cleansing the blood. It is a process that requires the circulation of detoxifying liquids through the body, so that the organs which are responsible for these functions (like the liver, kidneys, lungs and skin) can fulfil their tasks more easily, without being overloaded.

Signs that your body needs a detox:

1. Fatigue- no energy
2. Constipation
3. Lots of headaches
4. Muscle pains
5. Joint pains
6. You can't focus
7. Skin problems such as, acne, blemishes, rashes
8. You actually rely on caffeine to function
9. You are getting fat (bloating)
10. You eat lots of pre-packaged food

I believe we can apply the same thoughts to the spiritual, to a large extent.

The Need for Spiritual Detox

"Why have we fasted,' they say, 'and You have not seen? Why have we afflicted our souls, and You take no notice?' Indeed you fast for strife and debate, And to strike with the fist of wickedness. You will not fast as you do this day, To make your voice heard on high" (Isaiah 58:3a,4 NKJV).
NLT: "This kind of fasting will never get you anywhere with Me."

MSG: "The kind of fasting you do won't get your prayers off the ground."

Also read Psalm 24:3-10 and Psalms 15:1-5

"Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God" (Matthew 5:8 NKJV).

How To Detoxify:

i. Repentance and Confession

"Now, therefore,' says the Lord, 'Turn to Me with all your heart, With fasting, with weeping, and with mourning.' So rend your heart, and not your garments; Return to the Lord your God, For He is gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, and of great kindness; And He relents from doing harm" (Joel 2:12c-13 (NKJV).

Sackcloth is a coarse, black cloth made from goat's hair that was worn together with the burnt ashes of wood as a sign of mourning for personal and national disaster, as a sign of repentance and at times of prayer for deliverance.

Sackcloth and ashes were worn as a sign of repentance for sin. See biblical examples below:

Ahab (1 Kings 21:27); David and the elders (1 Chronicles 21:16); the Israelites (Nehemiah 9:1); and the Ninevites and their king (Jonah 3:5-9) - even the animals were to wear sackcloth.

See more examples here: Isaiah 15:3; Jeremiah 49:3; Ezekiel 27:31; Matthew 11:21; Luke 10:13

NOTE: Interestingly, one of the recognised ways of physical detox is fasting!

Spiritually, fasting was one of the outward means of showing inward repentance; it's therefore a means of detox! Though, unfortunately, it became a mere religious practice - hence Joel 2:13 says, "So rend your heart, and not your garments".

We see also in Isaiah 58:5 that God wasn't impressed by their mere outward show of repentance; He was more interested in their hearts.

Read: Matthew 3:8; Hosea 10:12; 1 John 1:6-10; James 1:21; 1 Peter 2:1-3.

NOTE: The role of the Word in spiritual detoxification can be likened to how water helps in physical detox! Like water, the Word of God is also a cleansing agent (Ephesians 5:26-27).

Psalms 19:12-14

"Who can discern his lapses and errors? Clear me from hidden [and unconscious] faults" (Psalm 19:12 AMPC).

NOTE: God knows our heart, and rewards our actions by the contents (motives) of our heart!

Read: Jeremiah 17:9-10; 1 Samuel 2:3; Hebrews 4:12-13; Psalm 51

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me" (Psalms 51:10).



ii. *Walking in Love - Forgiving Others*

"Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you" (Ephesians 4:31-32).

Mark 11:24-25; Matthew 18:21-22.

NOTE: Jesus then went on to tell the parable of the unforgiving servant, and concluded saying- "So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses" (Matthew 18:35).

a. **Resolving Conflicts:**

"Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God" (Matthew 5:9).

NOTE: The importance of making peace with a fellow believer - whether you are the offender or the offended!

Read: Matthew 5:23-24; Luke 17:3-4; Matthew 18:15-20

Pursuing Peace

"He who would love life And see good days...Let him seek peace and pursue it" (1 Peter 3:10-11).

Read: Romans 12:18; Romans 14:19; Hebrews 12:14-15

NOTE: Pursue peace with all people.
Ephesians 4:1-3; Psalms 133:1

b. **Don't Retaliate:**

"Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "'Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,' says the Lord. Therefore 'If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good'" (Romans 12:17-21 NKJV).

Also read: Matthew 5:44; Romans 12:14; 1 Peter 3:9-12

c. **Watch Your Words:**

"Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; You shall cry, and He will say, 'Here I am.' "If you take away the yoke from your midst, The pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness" (Isaiah 58:9).

- Don't judge! Matthew 7:1-5; Luke 6:36-38

- Mind your language! Colossians 4:6; Ephesians 4:29-30

- Control your anger!

"And 'don't sin by letting anger control you.' Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, for anger gives a foothold to the devil" Ephesians 4:26-27 (NLT).

Note the connection of anger and corrupt (foul and abusive) words!

"Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires" (James 1:19-20 NLT).

d. **Guarding Your Heart:**

"Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life" (Proverbs 4:23).

Guard your heart from offence, hatred, bitterness, unforgiveness, strife, etc. It's your responsibility!

"Then He said to the disciples, 'It is impossible that no offenses should come'" (Luke 17:1a).

Read: Psalms 119:165; Hebrews 12:15; James 3:14-18 KJV; Titus 1:15

"Love...thinks no evil...bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things" (1 Corinthians 13:5c,7).

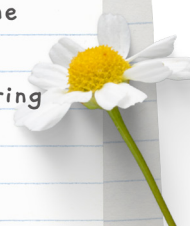
Amplified Bible Classic Edition: "it takes no account of the evil done to it [it pays no attention to a suffered wrong]...Love bears up under anything and everything that comes, is ever ready to believe the best of every person, its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances, and it endures everything [without weakening]."

"Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things" (Philippians 4:8).

Your Notes

STUDY QUESTIONS:

- Read Joel 2:12-13 again - what do we learn about turning to God with sincerity of heart?
- What is the connection between fasting and spiritual detoxification?
- In looking at Proverbs 4:23, what are the things to guard your heart against?
- Which scriptures have stood out to you during this study, and why?



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