

AYO CHARITY

The background of the cover features a silhouette of a person on the right side, pulling a net that stretches across the frame. The background is a gradient of colors, transitioning from a light green at the top to a warm orange and red at the bottom, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The text is overlaid on this background.

LET  
DOWN  
YOUR  
NETS

How to fulfill your Divine Destiny

LET DOWN YOUR NETS

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## DEDICATION



This book is dedicated to the  
**MISSIONARIES OF  
THE MEN ISSACHAR VISION INC.**  
who have given themselves to the service of  
God in foreign lands to see that  
souls are saved.  
The Lord will not forget them and all  
their loved ones.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS



Dedication	iii
Aknowledgements	v
Foreword	vii
Introduction	ix
<b>Chapter One</b> THE TRUE FACE OF CHRISTIANITY	1
<b>Chapter Two</b> THE TASK BEYOND ALL EXPECTATIONS	11
<b>Chapter Three</b> THE TASTE OF DIVINE SATISFACTION	21
<b>Chapter Four</b> THE TINGLING WARNING SIGNAL	31
<b>Chapter Five</b> THE TRAILING TEST OF LIFE	41
<b>Chapter Six</b> FINAL WORDS	61

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



**E**ach time I come to the point that Jesus Christ suffered and died for our sins, it is always amazing. If there is anything we can do to appreciate Him, it should be that we will live for Him and do His will. To Him be all the glory forever. I acknowledge the Holy Spirit for enabling me to write this book. Without His help the writing of this book would be impossible. I give Him praise.

I want to specially appreciate the MIV Mission Directors, Rev. Samson and Rev. (Mrs.) Stella Ajetomobi for two reasons; one, for being given to missions, and two, because I actually caught the vision of writing this book while in training at the MIV School of Missions, Ibadan in the year 2014/2015. God will continue to increase you. I thank all our trainers. You all are a blessing to this generation.

### Let Down Your Nets

I thank Prophet Sam O. Victor for his leadership impacts over the years. May the pleasure of the Lord continue to prosper in your hands. I thank Evangelist Wale Adeleye for his contribution to this work and for writing the foreword to this book. May God continue to strengthen you for His work.

I will continue to appreciate these men and women that I always see around my life and ministry. I thank Engr. Bunmi and Mrs. Ronke Filani, Pastor and Pastor (Mrs.) Akinseloyin, Barrister Kehinde Aladedutire, Barrister I. O. Aladedutire, and others. God will not forget to reward your labour of love.

It is very important to thank my wife for her commitment and support given to God's purpose for me. Indeed, you are my helpmeet. I thank God for giving you to me. Since there is no better thing to live for in this world than to serve God's purpose, together with the children whom God has given to us we shall live to fulfill God's purpose.

## FOREWORD



**T**his book, LET DOWN YOUR NETS is an inspirational masterpiece which shall be of tremendous benefit to all who will care to read it.

When Jesus told Peter to let down the nets having toiled throughout the night without any catch, he reluctantly let down a net, believing that the best God would do was to give him some fish into the net. He however had two ships load from that one net. Imagine if he had obeyed Jesus fully by casting his ten nets, he probably would have gone home with more than enough fishes, hundreds of ship loads of fishes.

Bro. Charity in this book is inspiring believers, workers and ministers to give full obedience to

the word of Christ and is assuring all maximum result as a result of full obedience. Non-obedience equals disobedience so is partial obedience. Every Christian should obey every word of Christ with all seriousness and give it an undivided attention. The work of evangelism, discipling and follow-up should be treated with utmost urgency as the coming of our Master is at hand.

Every believer should take the assignment of preaching, teaching and discipling personal (take it as if it is given to you personally). Jesus said I come quickly and My reward is with Me to give to everyone as his work shall be.

It is my belief that you shall not remain the same after you might have gone through this book.

**Evangelist Wale Adeleye**  
Reconciliation & Liberty Bible Church  
Akure, Nigeria.

## INTRODUCTION



**I**t is the Lord's custom to talk about spiritual things to a natural man, first in a natural way he can understand. Simon Peter was found in this situation when the Lord was calling him to ministry. Knowing what the Lord was doing he did not hold on to the natural to let go off the spiritual.

This also is seen in the life of Daniel when he determined that he would not defile himself by eating the king's food or drinking his wine being made available for them. Truly, life is more than meat.

**“For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life [his blessed life in the kingdom of God]? Or what would a man give as an exchange for his [blessed] life [in the kingdom of God]?”**

Matthew 16:26 (AMP)

## Let Down Your Nets

The truth is that God does not want our lives and destinies to be tied down to myths. We have a divine destiny that our physical life represents. That is the real life to live; a life that influences the world, a life that will not leave the world the same.

*“Let Down Your Nets”* is a book filled with God's passion for souls. The book in your hand shows that you are gifted with some talents. God wants you to use these talents to profit His kingdom. After all, you belong to Him. He paid the price.

The book is an encourager to soul winners. It is a strength booster to those labouring on the mission field. But it is a warning signal to those staying idle. It gives basic knowledge about missions and evangelism. It provides reasons you should not shy away from the preaching of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, regardless your profession.

The Lord bless your soul as you read on.

**Ayo Charity**

December 2016

## Chapter

# 1 THE TRUE FACE OF CHRISTIANITY



**“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying,  
All power is given unto me in heaven and in  
earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:  
Teaching them to observe all things  
whatsoever I have commanded you:  
and, lo, I am with you always,  
even unto the end of  
the world. Amen.”**  
Matthew 28:18-20

**P**urpose can be very important in giving approach to life. To ask why we are Christians is as relevant as asking why are we here on earth. It is an important thing to

know why we are here on earth as Christians. It will help in getting bearing and in setting priorities right. When a person knows where he is going he will follow in the right direction. Concentration then will be a matter of necessity. Purpose will give drive to life and guides from living such a life that cannot bring fulfillment.

A person can be living doing several things that seem to bring pleasure. But there is a vacuum in his life that cannot be filled with mere pleasure. Unless a believer discovers purpose for being a Christian or being in ministry he may never find fulfillment.

A Christian should know why he is a Christian. When people come to the Lord they come the way they are. But the Lord is not going to let them remain the way they came. He brings them into His own purpose. He brings them into the business of the Father. The Christian should know definitely that he is in for a divine purpose.

A person becomes a Christian when he believes on the Lord Jesus as Saviour and Lord, and steps out to live for the eternal purpose of God. Although he has come to the Lord to find rest for his soul, then he has to take the Lord's yoke on him. He does not find rest for his soul without taking the Lord's yoke on him. He will not be allowed to continue to do his own will and live for himself but for the will of God. The Lord Jesus said,

**“Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.”** Matthew 11:29

### **The Sure Foundation**

Christianity is a mission on purpose. That purpose is definite. The purpose must not be defeated. When the purpose of a thing is defeated it loses worth and gives no fulfillment. If the purpose is defeated God would no longer be interested in the practice. Then God would no longer be satisfied with our service.

When God is not interested then it becomes our work and no more God's work. It does not matter what effort we put in. Even though we are still doing the work but God is not pleased again. It does not matter the running ups and downs the moment our labour fails to provide God with the desired pleasure, it becomes unacceptable.

Christianity is authentic only when it is practiced as God wants it. Not everyone you see busy in the name of doing God's work is doing the right thing. But everyone's work will be tested by fire and the fire itself will make clear the quality of everyone's work. Everyone's work will be put through the fire to see whether or not it keeps its value. If the work survives the fire, that person will receive a reward.

Some people's work will be destroyed by the fire. This is why your service must be acceptable to God. There is no benefit to being busy doing nothing acceptable. There are enough reasons why we must be Christians

and ministers God wants us to be. His mind is that we will be Christians that will bring fulfillment to His divine purpose.

**“For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.” 1 Corinthians 3:11-15**

What a priviledge to labour in God's vineyard!  
What a priviledge to serve Him! God is delighted. He created us for this purpose. It will be pleasurable to Him if we can do more

than we are doing now, but more than that is how glorious it will be when we can serve Him acceptably.

We must be sure that it is His work we are doing and not our own. And if it is His work, we must do it the way He asks us to do it. He will be glad to see us doing the right thing in a right way.

This implies that it is right that we should have correct mindset about the divine way of Christ's life called Christianity. It is going to be a correct mindset to walk in His steps. Discipleship is a crucial concept of Christianity.

Christianity is an extension of Christ's life. It is to live as He lived and walk as He walked. We are Christians when we are doing the things that Christ did. The best way to defend a thing is to keep its purpose. So, the best way to defend Christianity is to live to fulfill the purpose of Christianity.

**“He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.” 1John 2:6**

### **God's Intention**

God personally is in the business of soul winning and He's a good manager of the resources of His kingdom and does not joke with accountability. It is known to all that “many are called” yet the Bible says, “the labourers are few” so that we have to pray that God will bring in more labourers to the harvest field.

What exactly is in the mind of God that makes Him to act the way He does? Is it not to fulfill His mandate for regaining the lost world? I think He has not called us to please ourselves.

Meanwhile, men are not created originally to do things contrary to God's purpose for living. It is arbitrary to live to please yourself. You are not created to take arbitrary decisions. You are made to live a life that will fulfill God's purposes.

I think it is worthwhile then, to consider that whatever we are doing and whatever means or method we are using in ministry is not worth employing, if it would not satisfy God's intention and purpose. God's labour of love is to redeem man back to Him and this should draw out our basic objectives.

### **The Challenge**

Please, permit me at this point to ask, what should a servant of God understand his calling into ministry to mean? I think it is to let down his nets into the ocean of the world of unbelievers and truly turn men to the Saviour and to please the One who has called him to ministry by doing it in His own way.

Thank God for miracles, signs and wonders. But, to be factual, is it worth it using all the gifts and the anointing of the Holy Spirit without the result of souls being won into the kingdom of God? No! Is it a matter to you that souls are genuinely saved? If one is called to define his ministry, what would he say God has called him to do? We must be able to answer these questions.


On the last day it is going to be an impossible thing for anyone in whom God has invested and entrusted the resources of His kingdom to come up with an excuse for failure when called for accountability. What will a man say before God that has not allowed him to do ministry in the way God is pleased.

One important thing God has called us to do is to win souls and draw them so close to God in relationship. You may need to measure your ministry in a balance with biblical standard following the example of Christ and see whether or not the kingdom of God is truly profited. We have to go back to the basics.

Let Down Your Nets

## Chapter

# 2 THE TASK BEYOND ALL EXPECTATIONS



“When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?”

And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

Acts 1:6-8

**N**o doubts, the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ raised His name above

all names. His name now works miracles; signs and wonders happen at the mention of His name. There is power in the name of Jesus. The function of His name gives glory to God (Philippians 2:8-11).

The blood He shed speaks still. It speaks better things than that of Abel. The blood is a weapon to destroy the activities of Satan. The same blood gave victory and freedom to the children of Israel in Egypt, the land of slavery and bondage.

The blood of Jesus is active and efficient. By the blood we overcome the devil (Revelation 12:11). There are many more benefits to enjoy because Jesus died and was resurrected. But it is not good enough to enjoy all these alone. It does not make us fulfill our calling as Christians.

#### **For what Purpose?**

Nevertheless, the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ can be important to people in different ways. There can be different reasons

why people celebrate the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Of a truth, if Christ was not raised from the dead, Christianity would not have been preserved. It does not matter the miracles He performed during His ministry on earth, many who believed on Him then would have denied faith. Our faith would have been in vain.

**“And if Christ be not raised,  
your faith is vain; ye are yet in  
your sins.” 1 Corinthians 15:17**

The resurrection of Christ validates Christianity. Today, when we are celebrating the resurrection of Christ we are celebrating the legality of our faith. It is worth it to be happy and rejoice.

Unfortunately, there are many people today who do not even have the knowledge of what resurrection is all about. It is not wrong that people eat and drink during Easter. It is just that eating and drinking does not move the devil. But the devil is happy when people act

in ignorance. He is happy when people are ignorant of the truth. He does not want people to know the truth. This is because people can be free only when they know the truth. And it is the truth that gives freedom.

However, when people accept Christ as Lord and Saviour their celebration will be meaningful and glorifying. They will not have anything to lose after all. Their hearts will show gratitude to God genuinely, and not depart from Him.

### **His Will; not our Wish**

Before His resurrection the disciples of Jesus Christ were hiding for safety. They feared for their lives because the Master was arrested, condemned and killed. The ripple effects of these were heavy on them so much that Simon Peter had to act against his wish and denied Him. His faith could not withstand how Jesus Christ was being beaten and banished to death.

But When Christ was resurrected and seen of

His followers they believed and were filled with joy and great expectations. They had had sorrows and sufferings but at last their sorrows turned to joy. For them the resurrection of Christ was a great victory.

The apostles would have loved to see Christ reign on earth at that time but it was not time to do that. Although it was a good prospect and great expectation, the timing was not subject to human ideology. There are times we think God should have come and do something that will favour and please our intentions and concerns. But issues with divine purposes do not happen as whims. They are ordained for the time appointed.

There is always time and season for everything. Every agenda of God is organized from above. Anxiety and impatience do not stand a place in the programme of God. If we are in the plan of God we are going to stay in His line of action.

If you have laboured with God in His service,

you are going to wait till He brings your rewards to you. Yet, you cannot go to rest in a hurry. Although, human beings are motivated by rewards and it is in the human nature to settle down for enjoyment after a period of labour. You must get to know what is next in His agenda for your life.

### **The Mandate**

Thus the apostles got to know that there was a task ahead of them. The show did not end at Christ resurrection. Although they ate and drank together when He appeared to them, He left with them the mandate to spread the gospel of salvation all over the world.

**“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”**

Mark 16:15

We have got to be reminded time and again that Christianity is not a matter of personal interest. It is about the will of God. It is about pleasing the One who has chosen us. Many

believe in destiny. The fulfillment of our glorious destinies is not without the divine mandate.

The Christian life has a mandate of taking the gospel to everywhere it is needed, for the salvation of all mankind. It is centered on evangelism and discipleship. The Christian life is about living in accordance with the teaching of the Lord Jesus Christ and teaching people to live by the same; doing the works He did, even greater works.

### **Divine Follow-up**

At the time, the disciples had returned to their former way of life. Simon Peter had led them back to fishing. But the Lord came to restore and bring them back into the business of the gospel. God has to visit and follow up His work in our hands to see whether or not we have gone back doing our own business.

It is evidence to tell us that it is possible to live away from doing what the Lord has called us to do. It does not take a long time to depart

from doing the will of the Father and start to pursue one's own interest. The Lord needs to appear again to put an end to our fruitless labour. The future holds more than we can see or think now.

Meanwhile, a prophetic declaration was hanging on Simon Peter already that he was going to be an important instrument in the building of His Church. The Lord put a huge value on Simon Peter to lead other apostles to birth His Church. Simon Peter's life after the Lord's departure then was a concern to the Lord Jesus. Thus Simon Peter's future was paramount to the building of the Church, the "called-out ones" of God.

### **The Value**

This is one reason souls are dearly to leaders and they do not find it easy to lose hope over members. You cannot tell what a young member will become tomorrow. That one member may be the one who is meant to promote the work of God in the future. At the first sermon of Apostle Peter three thousands

souls were saved. A member of a local church can be very important, as far as God is concerned.

**“And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone.”** John 1:42

From the instance Simon Peter was brought to the Lord, he was noted to be a good material to the Lord. Peter would have remained and died a fisherman if he was not brought to the Lord. Many of us can tell what could have become of us, if we were not saved. We had been without hope in the world. The implication is that there are hundreds of thousands who except they are brought to the Lord they cannot become the people the Lord wants them to be. They will only continue to live in their shadows.

There is “thou-shall-be” declaration waiting to be pronounced upon that common street

person you see around you everyday . It is a declaration that will bring about transformation. You just bring him to the Lord. The story is not going to be the same. Unless a man is led or brought to the Lord he will remain in limbo.

His destiny is suspended and inoperative. He is divided and prevented from living a real life. He lives in obscurity no matter the potentials wrapped in his destiny. Though, there are things that eyes have not seen which he should enjoy, he cannot access them unless he chooses to love the Lord. What a privilege to know the Saviour!

## Chapter

# 3 THE TASTE OF DIVINE SATISFACTION



“Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought, and on the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun.”

Ecclesiastes 2:11

The Bible recorded it that God looked over everything he had made, and He saw that everything was very good (Genesis 1:31). Life can only be good when it fulfills what it is designed for. But when it is abused it will turn to be abnormal. Its enjoyment will turn sore.

When you are talking of enjoyment of pleasures, King Solomon had seen it all. He knew what pleasures really were. At a time in his life, he said to enjoy pleasure was vanity. Amassing wealth to oneself does not in any way bring satisfaction. Life should be invested to fulfill its purpose. When life becomes excess it will not give its real meaning any longer.

**“I said in mine heart, Go to now, I will prove thee with mirth, therefore enjoy pleasure: and, behold, this also is vanity. I said of laughter, It is mad: and of mirth, What doeth it?” Ecclesiastes 2:1-2**

Although, he did great things: built houses, planted vineyards, designed gardens and parks and planted a variety of fruit trees in them. Satisfaction was not found in them. He acquired large herds and flocks, larger than any before him. He piled up silver and gold, loot from kings and kingdoms. He became very rich and famous. But something was yet missing!

He hired wonderful singers, both men and women, and had many beautiful concubines. He had everything a man could desire! Anything his eyes saw and wanted, he got for himself. But it is vanity upon vanity. What exactly was missing?

**“Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought, and on the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun.”  
Ecclesiastes 2:11**

### **A Serious Way to Live**

It may sound strange to hear that the good part of king Solomon's life was not in all that he did for himself, regarding all that he accessed and enjoyed as a man. But that is the truth. The good part of his life was neither in the abundance of the things that he possessed, nor in any of his personal enjoyments.

However, his service to God was a landmark.

If there was a great accolade in his life it was going to be on his service to God and to His people. Not for himself. He offered the best to God. There had not been such before him. He offered the best to God. He gave the best to God's work. The joy he so much sought for that he could not find in all his personal enjoyments, his sacrificial service to God handed it to him. What your money cannot buy your service to God will give it to you. What a serious way to live!

**“Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, the fire came down from heaven, and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the LORD filled the house.”**

2 Chronicles 7:1

The rich also can have the advantage of bringing down the glory of God, if they would give themselves to the service of God. Acceptable sacrificial giving can bring fire from heaven. There is a reason the rich are

really rich. Whatever God gives to man is useful to God. If it is not useful to God, God would not provide you with it.

Even the gift of life; God gives it so that we can be useful to Him. At this point, I think you have to thank God for being alive and for who you are, even for what you have and what you can do to show forth His praise. You and your family can mean so much to God in His service.

#### **Not in Self Gratification**

The best of a man's life is in his service to God. It is not in self gratification. You can only live to fulfill God's master plan for your life when you key into it. It does not matter the things you do for yourself, as long as you continue to do them you are going to meet with dissatisfaction at the end of the day.

Any child of God who is living for himself is not going to meet God's expectation for his life and this can be very disappointing and costly. When God puts people in position he puts them there to serve His purpose. He does

not put men in position for selfish interest. That is why He can remove one and enthrone another. God is steely interested in those who will do His will and fulfill His purpose.

**“And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.” Acts 13:22**

#### **Get not Carried Away**

The children of Israel did not discover early the reason God told them to borrow jewels of silver and jewels of gold from the Egyptians while they were coming out of the land (Exodus 11:2). They had no idea. They could only think it was for their personal use and pleasure alone. They did not see ahead to the future.

The children of Israel did not know that a time was going to come when God would ask them

to willingly give to His work. Many today cannot discern why God is blessing them. Even when they can see or are asked to give they are not ready to give willingly to God's work. It should not be so.

**“And Moses spake unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying, This is the thing which the Lord commanded, saying, Take ye from among you an offering unto the Lord: whosoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it, an offering of the Lord; gold, and silver, and brass.”**

Exodus 35:4-5

#### **A Rare Privilege**

The Christian life is a life that is bought with a price. What is that price? It is the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

**“Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and**

**gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.” 1Peter 1:18-19**

Our lives would not have been meaningful at all if the Lord had not come down to save us. Imagine someone who is saved from smoking and drug addiction; what do you think will be better than using the rest of his life to serve the Lord? What could be famous for the man of the country of the Gadarenes than to live the rest of his life to serve the interest of Him who set him free from being possessed of demons?

Should the woman with an issue of blood who spent all that she had looking for solution where she could not get it, have access to money again, you can be sure she would use it to support the spreading of the good news all over the land. The Bible says,

**“But ye are a chosen generation, a**

**royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.”**

1Peter 2:9-10

Jesus has done for us what we could not do for ourselves. Money could not save the rich man from hell. It is the blood of Jesus that saves from destruction. The woman with an issue of blood for twelve years must be rich, but money failed her. There are problems money cannot answer to.

Although there are names when you hear them you know they are authorities and powers in the world. But the big names cannot save the bearers when they run into troubles. The name of Jesus is above all names.

### **Living for Him is worth it**

There are people who would not have been able to lift their heads up among men but today they have become great in their generation. There are believers today who by the power of God have been brought out from accumulated darkness which had swallowed great men in their generations.

Those generations suffered defeats from enemies' invasions. They had no saviour until Christ came. If Christ had not come to deliver them, they would have been doomed forever.

**“The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.”** Isaiah 9:2

It is worth it to live for the One who gave Himself for us and saved us from destruction.

## *Chapter*

# **4 THE TINGLING WARNING SIGNAL**



**“And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.”**

Act 1:10-11

**A**t His last appearance to the apostles, the Lord Jesus Christ commanded them to go and preach the gospel to everyone, everywhere (Mark 16:15). Every Christian is called to this responsibility.

It is mandatory therefore, that every believer of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ should rise up to this challenge. Mission is worth living for. And if the need be, missions is worth dying for. The Lord is not expecting any Christians to fold their hands at this time. The Lord wants us to occupy till He comes.

### Face the Reality

In Acts 1:10-11, the apostles had just seen what they had never seen happen before. The miracle of Christ's ascension should not distract them from doing the next thing in God's agenda. That was to the apostles. In the same vein, miracles in the name of Jesus are not allowed to hinder us from doing the right thing.

The programme of God is ultimate, irrespective of what we can see happening now. There are things Christians do today that are not relevant to the great commission. Those things are mere distractions. But distractions are not permitted. Further delay can be costly. Time will close in.

To every assignment given by God there is a time limit attached. We cannot be here on earth forever. Human beings have limited life span. There is time frame attached to our lives. Many people do not complete theirs. There are things if you do not do them now you may never do them again. Every bit of life must count.

**"And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."** Act 1:10-11

### Answer the Question

Why stand you here gazing? The question could mean an alert not to get carried away by the miracle they had seen. This is the same question God is asking those who are carried

#### Let Down Your Nets

away by miracles they see and enjoy in the name of Jesus. Miracle is an event that happens beyond natural abilities. Miracles are good for the work; especially when they occur in the lives of those who are just coming to the Lord.

However, we should not stop at seeing miracles happen. Rather, if we are to celebrate miracles we should just believe that God can and wants to do more than we have seen, and then have boldness that we have a God who is unlimited in power and can do all things, as we move forward to the next level. Miracles should only thrill us to win more for God.

#### **The King's Business**

Even though the announcement of His ascension by the two angels gives an assurance and indication that the Lord Jesus will surely come a second time and to become conscious of what manner He should come. The message of the angels to the apostles seems to be more importantly about the next line of action and the urgency of God's

#### The Trailing Test Of Your Life

programme for the apostles, and the danger of staying idle.

This is because when they had the message they returned immediately to Jerusalem from Mount Olivet and went straight to an upper room (Acts 1:12). The implication is that they did not have all the time to carry out their assignment. The matter can mean that the king's business requires haste.

#### **Time is Everything**

Note then, that whatever the Lord has commanded you to do must be done in time. There is a period of life when you are full of strength and can do almost everything that comes your way. What you do with your time at such period of life will go a long way in finishing your assignment. However, when you are old strength will fail you in achieving much. There will be things you will no longer be able to do. Also, there are things if you delay to do them today they are likely not going to give you the required result tomorrow. There is time for everything.

**“He that gathereth in summer is a wise son: but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame.” Proverbs 10:5**

Procrastination is the thief of time, they say. Someone has said that delay is the deadliest form of denial. It is said also that you never leave that till tomorrow which you can do today. The irony of it is that you do not know what tomorrow will be. Tomorrow may not even come! It is a dangerous thing to stay idle.

### **Dangers of Idleness**

Apart from the fact that idleness is an enemy of success, it is a waster of opportunities, priviledges and endowments. It gives room to immoral and ungodly involvements and opens doors to the activities of the enemy. This also leads to wastage of assets. When a man neglects his divine endowments he will become irrelevant in the spheres of life and influence. Neglect of skills, advantages and talents will result in a drawback.

**“Slothfulness casteth into a deep sleep; and an idle soul shall suffer hunger.” Proverbs 19:15**

### **Between Urgency and Patience**

Why did God need to immediately send the angels? It is so because the king's business requires haste. Every agenda of God is programmed and God is not slow about His programme. As an individual, His agenda for you is programmed. Now, the matter is not even about you personally. It is about God.

It is about God's kingdom and the entire humanity. It is about the salvation of mankind. But you are fortunate. You have a role to play in the programme of God. For human beings, to live for a hundred years is like everlasting. But with God a thousand years is like a day. But if we play our short role well and effectively we can be remembered for eternity.

However, God's patience with humanity is not buying time. God's programme for the entire

world is fixed. But God's patience with humanity is giving enough room for repentance. No man can live beyond his life span. Every sinner that dies in sin will go to hell. It does not matter how long the wicked may live, all their years are as nothing if they do not repent. Eternity has made all time, both short or long to be the same before God. God's patience now is calling for urgency in His business. God's army must be at duty post. God is not willing that sinners should perish.

**“But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”** 2Peter 3:8-9

### **Combine Love with Obedience**

The urgency was high that God needed to send

two angels to alert the apostles. Perhaps, if the angels had not appeared to them they would not have returned to Jerusalem at the time.

The apostles loved the Lord so that they felt like He should not leave them or that they should go up into heaven with Him. They really wanted the Lord. Likewise, there are people who have known the Lord and have being with Him. There are men and women who are friendly and truly love the Lord and feel that they should enjoy fellowship with Him ceaselessly. They want the Lord to be with them forever.

There are believers who want uninterrupted fellowship with the Lord. Others have forgotten themselves where they are. There is nothing meaningful they are doing. They just count themselves to be among His people. But the matter of urgency is the business of the Father.

Are you a lover of God? Are you a follower of Christ? Obedience to God is a proof of His

Lordship. Your obedience to God will show how much you love Him. To love God is to keep His commands. If you truly love Him you would keep His commands. You have to be where God wants you to be. You have to do what He wants you to do. You have to go round and show to others the things you have seen of Him. You have to preach the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Combine love with obedience. Remember, the command is "Go". The mind of God for you is that you go forward. Do not build another tower. The programme of God is progressive. Go forward do not become a lake. Go about witnessing! Occupy till He comes. Be in charge. Take lands for God. Press on to the finishing point.

## Chapter

# 5 THE TRAILING TEST OF LIFE



**"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying,  
All power is given unto me in heaven  
and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all  
nations, baptizing them in the name of the  
Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:  
Teaching them to observe all things  
whatsoever I have commanded you:  
and, lo, I am with you always,  
even unto the end of the  
world. Amen."**

Matthew 28:18-20

**W**hen the Lord was going He left three things with the apostles. He left His power, His programme and His presence with them. These are things that

make life meaningful to responsible Christians. Everyone who will live up to expectation as a child of God must plunge into them. They help Christians to be focused. They distinguish Christians from the others. The destiny of a Christian is defined by them.

Those who settle for only the things they can take from God are easy-to-catch by the enemy. Their lives have no guide. They are travelling without direction and destination. But devotion and commitment to God is the way. However, plunging into these divine avenues does not mean you are going to exploit them for personal gains. It is about living your kingdom life and fulfilling God's purpose.

### **No Exception**

The preaching of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is unavoidable to Christians. This is the ministry of the believers. And it is a test of their lives. In this case, as a Christian, yours is no exception. It is the test of your life. It is a test that you cannot run away from. It is a test that you must pass. There is no justification for anyone who fails the test.

People would be comfortable if the Lord just saved them only to enjoy life without taking the responsibility of the gospel of Christ upon them. But, unfortunately, there is no room for such in God's plan. That will be a life that does not affect others. But only those who follow and live for Him are those who have a place in Him. They are daily refreshed. They are not like a dam. They are like a flowing river. They are a blessing to their generations.

### **THE MEANS OF HIS POWER**

One of the three things the Lord left with us is His power. The Lord knows the importance of His power to the great commission. He gave His power for the work because effective preaching is accorded with power, the power of the Holy Spirit. Without the power of the Holy Spirit it is going to be difficult to witness effectively for the Lord.

You will need the power to influence the world and set the captives free. It is by the power of the Spirit of God that sin can be

judged (Micah 3:8). You may try as a man, but you cannot fully preach the gospel without the power of the Holy Spirit. When the power is not there you are going to struggle to do the work in your human strength and there will be no good result. But when the power is there, doing great exploits will not be an impossible thing. Paul, an apostle of Christ testified to this:

**“Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.”**

Romans 15:19

Great transformation will come upon you when you receive the power of the Holy Spirit. Before the Spirit came, Simon Peter was afraid of the opposition but when he received power he was ready to confront the persecutors. When the power of God overshadows you, you can never remain the

same. When you are filled with the Holy Spirit you cannot be short of ideas that will open the door of the gospel to you.

**“And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.” Luke 1:35**

#### **Eligibility Factors**

Meanwhile, there are keys to receiving the power of the Holy Spirit. The first thing is that you must belong to Him. Anyone who does not belong to Him is not eligible to receive His power. Being religious is not a factor to receiving the power of the Holy Spirit. Even though the Bible recorded that the apostles gathered together in one place with one accord praying, waiting for the power.

This does not mean that all it entails to receive the power of the Holy Spirit is prayer and

fasting. Non-Christians also do pray to God. In Acts chapter ten, it is said that Cornelius was a very religious man and prayed to God. But he could not receive the power of the Holy Spirit until he was saved. Genuine salvation is the gateway to the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

### **Obedience**

Obedience is a major key to receiving the Holy Spirit into your life. The Word of God is opposed to the act of praying and disobeying the Word of God. The Word of God says it is abomination to pray to God while you have no regard for His Word (Proverbs 28:9). But the Holy Spirit is given to those who obey God (Acts 5:32).

Only those who are ready to submit to the leadership of the Lord Jesus are eligible candidates for the power of the Holy Spirit. Your obedience will be proven. There is a level of obedience that is proven by inconveniences and sufferings.

**“Take my yoke upon you, and learn**

**of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”**

Matthew 11:29-30

As far as God is concerned, you must be under authority before you can exercise power or delegate some authority. In other words, if a man cannot be submissive to the divine authority he is not qualified to be a custodian of the same. No one can win with God when he cannot obey divine injunctions. Power does not come so cheaply. You cannot confer it upon yourself. It is given by God. You have to obey and wait on Him. You will need to obey instructions in righteousness to pass the test of your life.

### **Humility**

Humility is another key. Humility is a proof of obedience. I once wrote that humility is a forerunner of love. In this case, humility is a forerunner of grace. God gives grace to the humble. The humble can assess the power of

God. Though God is great, He cares for the humble. Only those who are humble can serve God acceptably. The reason is that they are not going to live for themselves. They are going to live to serve God's interest in the lives of other people regardless their own status.

It is not going to be if or when they like to do so because that is what they are called to do. They are going to prefer others than to serve their own interest. Another reason for humility is that arrogant people cannot handle God's power. Else they destroy things.

God forbids that His servants begin to destroy the flock they are sent to keep, by the power given to them. Humility puts us in shape to serve God's purpose. Humility also is judged by inconveniencies caused by circumstances and situations. You have to be humble to pass the test of your life.

**“And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.”**

Philippians 2:8

### **Pure and Right Motive**

The Lord said in Acts 1:8:

**“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.” Acts 1:8**

God's plan for outpouring of His power to His people is solely for the preaching of the gospel. It is to bring people into His Kingdom. And this is the way we have to see it. We cannot be wiser than God. The counsel of the Lord is that people will come to worship His majesty. We have to do things and handle His resources in accordance with His will.

However, we are in a generation where people like to do things for vain glory. It will be a wrong thing to take advantage of God's work to make name for oneself. It is wrong to use the divine mandate as a venture to promote personal interest. Many others are out there

who are bent on using God's power to enrich themselves and secure a fat bank account. This is wrong.

The human heart can manufacture many devices within a limited time. This is why God asks everyone who comes to Him to give his heart to Him. The love of Christ must dwell in our hearts. Doing the work of the Lord requires a pure heart. The basis for receiving His power is to preach the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

There are people in church and in ministry who seek their own things and not the things of God. This is why Apostle Paul lamented and said,

**“But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send  
Timotheus shortly unto you, that I  
also may be of good comfort, when  
I know your state. For I have no  
man likeminded, who will  
naturally care for your state. For  
all seek their own, not the things**

**which are Jesus Christ's.”**  
Philippians 2:19-21

### **THE COMMAND OF HIS PROGRAMME**

The second thing the Lord left us with is His programme. The programme of God for His people is to take the gospel to the entire world. Now, when some of the children of God hear this command it does not really make sense to them. This is because they see the command as too good to be true. Some of them do not see the need to embark on this. Others think it is impossible because they do not have access or means to achieve this. Others still do not know where to start.

Actually, you do not need to start where you cannot reach at the present. God knows your means. Your neighbourhood is a world close to you. The Christian life is using all available means to preach the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. The means also includes your daily business. Wherever you go by means of travels, relocation or transfer from your

workplace, all this will afford you the access to witness for the Lord.

The command is "Go". There is no alternative to it. We are commanded to go and reach out to neighbours in villages, towns, cities and nations. This is achievable by taking it a step after another. We cannot be everywhere at a time. But God can help us to be at the right place at the right time. We should be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

The world is waiting to see the salvation of the Lord. What God promised the nations of the earth has not fully got to them. Not all have seen the salvation of the Lord (Isaiah 52:10). The promise of the Holy Spirit has not been received by those who are far away (Acts 2:39). What Christ died for should not be underestimated.

**"For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth."** Act 13:47

### **Discipleship Mandate**

The mandate is that God wants all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. Everyone who is involved in the business of the Father must be conscious of this. It is rewarding to hit target while doing the work of God. Everyone who claims to be in His work must go out to preach and teach.

Discipleship is mandatory. There can be no enduring work without making disciples. The command is to go and bear fruit and that our fruit should remain. The beauty of being in the ministry is bringing joy to God's heart, in heaven. It is to see that His pleasure prospers in our hands. Our service must bring glory to God. Our fruit must remain.

The way forward to achieving success in ministry is by training others to labour with us. There are leaders who are not so much concerned about the spiritual growth of the church members. They are happy at seeing people coming to church programmes. But it should border on them that training is

necessary. They should not merely serve the multitudes. They should make the people to serve the Lord.

When people come to the Lord the work has just started. You do not leave the crowd the same way they come. Those who give their lives to Christ should be taught in the Word of God. Those who join the work force should be shown the right way to do it.

### **THE BENEFIT OF HIS PRESENCE**

**“And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.”**

Mark 16:20

The third thing the Lord left us with is His Presence. This is one aspect that should trill and turn us on in the work of God. God does not ask us to go alone. He Himself goes to work with us. He does not stay back. He gives us His backing.

God wants to be there with us. God's power is a weapon in your hand but God's presence is influence. Having possession of His power is not the same as having His presence.

Moses already had possession of the power of God but cried out still for God's presence. There is a difference between His power and His presence.

As a warrior, you may give your sword out to fight in a battle and decide to stay back at home. But when you release your sword and follow to the battle front, your presence will make a great difference. That is what the presence of God means to His people.

The beginning of prosperity in all that a man does is the presence of God with Him. Particularly in ministry, the place to start is securing God's presence. Ministerial prosperity begins at securing the presence of God.

As a Christian, you will begin to thrive in your

Christian experiences the moment God pitches His tent with you. Nothing will be difficult for you. You will be like a fruitful vine. As long as you choose to be on the Lord side, you will be as fruitful as a tree planted by the rivers of water.

**“And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.”** Psalms 1:3

#### **Divine Companionship**

At a time the Lord spoke to Joshua in Joshua 1:9:

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

One of the reasons God gives His presence and backing is that the assignment is usually

bigger in size than the messenger. In other not to be scared and lose heart the Lord gives His presence. His presence gives strength and courage. Therefore, location is not a barrier as far as you are in God's programme.

Wherever you go the Lord will be with you. When the Lord goes with you He will work with you. The work will not be burdensome. He will bear along in all situations. He will deliver you from the hand of the enemy. It is not going to be for a while. He will be with His own to the end.

**“And he said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest. And he said unto him, If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence. For wherein shall it be known here that I and thy people have found grace in thy sight? is it not in that thou goest with us? so shall we be separated, I and thy people, from all the people that are upon the face of the earth.”** Exodus 33:14-16

More on the benefits of His presence is found in the story of Joseph. The story of Joseph is important here not because his brethren hated him but because when left with none of them **God** was his companion. His brothers thought **by** the time they throw him away, his destiny will be over.

**So** they sold him to slavery so that he was separated from all who could help him to fulfill his dreams, particularly from his loving father. They shut all doors against him. But they could not shut God out of his life. God allowed them so that He could stand by him to fulfill his dreams and that Joseph should know and fear God.

God's presence is indispensable! It is the need of every man that God sends. The work of the ministry particularly needs that God be with you. God's presence will make a difference in your life and ministry. God's presence will answer for you wherever you go. Your duty will be your availability to let God use you.

God will be with you to do good works. You will just need to listen to receive direction from Him. Surely He will instruct you and teach you how to do His work. He will watch over you and your testimony will be that you have enjoyed God's presence. The scripture shows:

**“How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.” Acts 10:38**

## Chapter

# 6 FINAL WORDS



“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter:  
Fear God, and keep his commandments:  
for this is the whole duty of man.  
For God shall bring every work  
into judgment, with every  
secret thing, whether it be good,  
or whether it be evil.”  
Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

**B**eloved, there are tools and talents God has given you to profit with. You cannot afford to be a disappointment because the Word of God says,

“The servant who knows what his master wants and ignores it, or

**insolently does whatever he pleases, will be thoroughly thrashed.”** Luke 12: 47 (MSG)

The table is set for you to win big for God. You have got to use all that you have to win for God. The Lord wants you to invest all that you have for the furtherance of the kingdom of God. We are redeemed to be zealous of good works. Your time, talents, money, energy and position are useful to God. This is what we are here on earth for.

This is why the Lord did not take us home immediately we believed and surrendered our lives to Him as Saviour and Lord. He saved us, to work for the salvation of others. This is one point Apostle Paul was making in Philippians 1:21:

**“For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”**

Believe you me, according to the Word of God, to die is gain. If you die, it means you are

going to rest from your earthly labour and go to heaven, your eternal home. But as long as you are here you must occupy till the Lord comes, you have all reasons to let down your nets.

We do not have all the time here. Now is the right time to do it. Do it now. Do it today. Do it at all times. Do it everywhere. Do it with all of your life. Live it. Your rewards are loaded in heaven.

#### **Find your purpose**

You have got to know the reason for your salvation. Saul of Tarsus was a lawyer but God wanted him to be an apostle. Matthey was an accountant and a Tax Collector but that was not what God wanted him to be. Simon Peter was a professor of fishery but had to leave all to become a fisher of men.

God has an idea for you. He has a designation for your life. You need to discover His purpose and enter into it. When a man fails to understand purpose he will struggle all about.

### Let Down Your Nets

There would be a vacuum and a deep hole in your heart, if you fail to live to fulfill His purpose for your life.

You have nets to let down for a catch. As a believer and a minister of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, you have no excuse not using them. Your spiritual destiny is at stake and it is left to you to decide your fate. But you stand a chance to be a blessing to the kingdom of God. The kingdom of God will be blessed to have you.

Meanwhile, the One who tells you to let down your nets knows that you cannot do it successfully on your own. He will give you His backing. All you need is to act in obedience in accord with His Word and the result will be amazing. Now is the time! Let down your nets.

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### Books by Word and Fire House Publication

- Let Down Your Nets
- Spiritual Credibility
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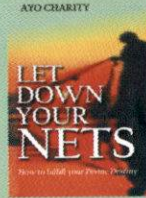
## THE BOOK

This book, LET DOWN YOUR NETS is an inspirational masterpiece which shall be of tremendous benefit to all who will care to read it.

Bro. Charity in this book is inspiring believers, workers and ministers to give full obedience to the word of Christ and is assuring all maximum result as a result of full obedience. Non-obedience equals disobedience so is partial obedience.

Every Christian should obey every word of Christ with all seriousness and give it an undivided attention. The work of evangelism, discipling and follow-up should be treated with utmost urgency as the coming of our Master is at hand.

**Evangelist Wale Adeleye**  
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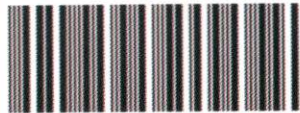


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