

THE FLOURISHER

Discover the five areas God wants you to flourish in



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First published by Power Publishing House 2023

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First edition

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I

The Realm of Plenty

The Realm of Plenty

Deut. 28:11 *“And the Lord will grant you plenty of goods, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your ground, in the land of which the Lord swore to your fathers to give you.”*

Psalms 85:12 says *“Yes, the Lord will give what is good; and our land will yield its increase.”*

From the book of Psalm, we see that the Lord will give what is good. The book of Deuteronomy reveals that God is going to give you plenty of goods. What I really want you to see there is that God doesn't only give goods, He can give plenty of it.

Do you know that of all the trees that God created, it is only the palm tree that is given the ability to have plenty of goods? Plenty of goods as it relates to the palm tree refers to plenty of different things found in it. The orange tree can produce many oranges but

can't produce any other thing apart from oranges. The mango tree can produce many mangoes but can't produce any other thing apart from mangoes. But the palm tree is such a different tree in that it has many things in abundant form. For example, in a palm tree, you will see much palm wine, much palm oil, plenty broom, many kernel, many palm fruits, many herbal substances and many yet-to-discover substances. This reality found with the palm tree is the real expression of being granted plenty of goods by the Lord.

The palm tree didn't make itself like that, God made it that way, just as the orange and mango trees didn't make itself that way too. If your life will produce plenty of different fruits and substances, it means you have to be made that by the Lord.

There are diversities of graces, giftings, greatness, success, manifestations and so on. When you start flourishing, you will have the expression of different things in many form. As you read this book further, I want you to know that you are coming into the realm of diversities and plenty, for that is what it means to flourish. You have different things flowing out of your life and at the same times having them in plenty form.

The Uniqueness Of The Palm Tree

I wrote a book titled "*Flourish and Grow*". In

the part two of it, I shared many insights about the palm tree and you may do well to read that book. I want to share certain insight with you about the palm tree and I believe that this will surely freshen your insight.

The fact is that the palm tree often attains a height of eighty feet, but more commonly forty to fifty. It begins to bear fruit after it has been planted six or eight years, and continues to be productive for centuries. Its trunk is straight, tall and unbroken, terminating in a crown of emerald-green plumes, like a diadem of gigantic ostrich-feathers; these leaves are frequently twenty feet in length, droop slightly at the ends, and whisper musically in the breeze.

The palm is, in truth, a beautiful and most useful tree. Few facts about the palm tree are:

1. Its fruit is the daily food of millions;
2. Its sap furnishes an agreeable wine;
3. The fibres of the base of its leaves are woven into ropes and rigging;
4. Its tall stem supplies a valuable timber;
5. Its leaves are manufactured into brushes, mats, bags, couches and baskets.
6. This one tree supplies almost all the wants of the Arab or Egyptian.

The bible doesn't leave us in darkness about the palm tree. In fact, it is a bible plants because there are many places in the bible that references are made to this tree.

Palm trees consist of spongy, flexible tissue. They don't have a tap root system like many other trees. Instead, they have thousands of roots, forming a dense system—resembling spaghetti in some ways—radiating in all directions.

These characteristics make them very resilient and unaffected by seasonal changes. They can survive droughts, floods and storms.

Palm trees are able to bend 40 to 50 degrees without snapping and can even withstand hurricane-force winds. At the end of a storm, they'll return to their upright position with their root systems intact. Surprisingly, storms can stretch and even strengthen a palm tree's roots. In many cases, palm trees are stronger in the aftermath of a powerful windstorm.

The prophet Jeremiah compared the Christian who trusts in God to a tree that “spreads out its roots” and is not shaken by heat or drought, but remains green and fruitful (Jeremiah 17:7-8). This is the perfect analogy of a Christian who is unfazed by the changing seasons of life and the other dark forces or influences of this age (Ephesians 6:12). Whatever happens around him or her, the strong Christian remains consistent and continues to grow and bear

spiritual fruit.

Let's not forget the palm oil, as no African home is complete without the presence of palm oil in the house. Although it is generally used for cooking purposes, palm oil, African traditionalists argue that it can destroy charms and neutralize poison.

Certain Scripture That Mention The Palm Tree

1. Exodus 15:27 says "then they came to Elim, where there were twelve wells of water and seventy palm trees; so they camped there by the waters.
2. Numbers 33:9 says "They moved from Marah and came to Elim. At Elim were twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees; so they camped there.
3. Deuteronomy 34:3 says "the south, and the plain of the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar."
4. Judges 4:5 says "And she would sit under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the mountains of Ephraim."

Insight into Psalms 92:12

Psalms 92:12 says "*The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree...*" We understand the fruitfulness, the perpetual greenness of its foliage, or the height at

which the foliage grows, as far as possible from earth and as near as possible to heaven.

The palm tree grows from within and bears its best fruit in old age.

Another interesting thing about palm trees is that what's on the outside is the same material as what's on the inside. Most trees have an outer layer of bark, but not palm trees. What you see is what you get.

The Symbolism Of The Palm Branch During Palm Sunday

But palm branches were used by the Jews in token of victory and peace.

What Does It Means To Flourish?

The word "Flourish" is one word but have different meanings.

Few years ago, the Lord gave the theme for the year in our ministry as Flourish and Grow. That particular year, I studied and meditated so much on the subject of flourishing. I prayed it, studied and meditated on the word flourishing so much that it dominated my spirit. I believe that God wants everyone of His children to flourish.

What does it mean to flourish? It should be known that different answers will come from different people.

- In a family setting, to flourish will mean having

great spouse and children who can be emulated by others.

- To a student, to flourish will mean to be the best in all or most subjects or courses, excelling and surpassing colleagues in academic performance.

- To a pastor, to flourish will mean to be highly impactful with many notable evidence. It's also mean having many notable areas you are making wave. You are really flourishing when others can copy and understudy your work in ministry. Those who flourish in ministry are those who *frontline* for others to follow.

- To an entrepreneur or business person, to flourish means having many businesses that are thriving and considered leading in the field. When you are truly making a profit every other business in your industry will make when combined together, then, you are truly flourishing.

- To a career person or an employee, to flourish will mean becoming a do without personality and considered too important to be neglected. You're a truly flourishing when your attention and skills are demanded by those at the top.

The Hebrew word is *parah*, and according to Strong's Definitions, contextually, *it means "to break forth as a bud, i.e. bloom; generally, to spread; specifically, to fly (as extending the wings)."*

To flourish like a palm tree, patience is needed for

them to grow tall and reach maturity. Patience is also needed for the fruit. It takes five to eight years before the palm tree will bear fruit. The tree will produce approximately 22 pounds of fruit in its first crop, but then it will rapidly increase the fruit it bears, yielding upwards of 200 pounds of fruit when it's 30 years old!

It should also be noted that to flourish means to be different. Flourishing isn't about your value but your perceived value.

To flourish also means to be known for different and many things.

The Palm Tree

I read the story of a man who said:

When I was in my village, we used to make money out of every part of the palm tree. The leaves we converted into brooms and the branches were woven into beautiful baskets which we sold for a lot of money. The trunk we sawed into planks to build our houses. It is termite resistant naturally and lasts for ages.

Every part of the fruit of the palm is money. Several items - oil, kernel, other produced were extracted from the fruit of that blessed tree and turned into money. The local pharmacists made herbal remedies from the roots for various ailments. From head to toe the palm tree is blessed.

Here is the insight – a child of God is:

Blessed in every part.

Blessed in every way.

Blessed in all seasons.

Blessed at all times.

The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree.
(Psalm 92:12-14)

Let God Make You Flourish

Ezekiel 17:24 says “And all the trees of the field shall know that I, the Lord, have brought down the high tree and exalted the low tree, dried up the green tree and made the dry tree flourish; I, the Lord, have spoken and have done it.”

In the bible, God commanded man to be fruitful and multiply (Genesis 1:28). But same God told Abraham that He would make him exceedingly fruitful (Genesis 17:6) and also multiply him exceedingly (Genesis 17:2). In other words, just as you can attempt to be fruitful and multiply yourself, God can also make you fruitful and multiply. If you want a fruitfulness (success and productivity) that can't be traced to human effort, you better rely on God to make you fruitful. When God decides to make you exceedingly fruitful, your success will be more than your efforts.

If God can make you fruitful, He can surely make

you flourish. The book of Ezekiel shows that God made the dry tree flourish. In other words, it wasn't the tree that made itself flourish, it was God that made it flourish. One day, a reality dawned on me that God must make me fruitful and make me flourish. You must not just be fruitful, you must flourish. In other words, you must not just be productive, successful, impactful or wealthy, you must make waves. There are people thriving and making waves because God worked it for them. It wasn't as though such people didn't do anything, but God made it easy for them.

According to Ezekiel, the tree God made to flourish was once dry. It's possible for your life to be meaningless today but highly meaningful tomorrow. Though that tree was dry, yet God had the intention to make it flourish later. You may be dry today but certainly, God will make you flourish tomorrow. You must trust God to make you flourish. You must thrive beyond limits. Regardless of your condition today, you may need to pray to God to make you flourish. Call to God to make you thrive beyond measures. God can turn your dryness to flourishing.

You've got to believe God for this because God said He has spoken it and done it. When God wants to make you flourish, He will give you an insight of how you can do things differently so as to cause you to flourish. With that insight, you will identify the

brains and methods needed for thriving.

A dry tree that will flourish has to touch the water from the root. So, as soon as the root of the dry tree starts getting water, freshness and fruitfulness starts happening to it. You see, the water is wisdom (insight). The moment you touch wisdom (insight), your life starts flourishing. What the dry tree needs is water. So, when you see someone whose life isn't advancing, it's because there's no insight. You may think you lack connection, but you need to understand that there is an insight you will have that will drive everything you need to you. Wisdom is the way to making waves. Wisdom comes as clear direction of the path to follow to get to where you are going. You can't be wise and not rise. If God will make you flourish, you must be ready to receive wisdom from Him and engage the wisdom. It is receiving and engaging the wisdom that guarantees your flourishing. Flourishers are wiser people. They flourish because they find out how to do many things differently. If you will flourish, you must be ready to manifest your difference.

Flourishers Fill The World With Fruits

Isaiah 27:6 says *“Those who come He shall cause to take root in Jacob; Israel shall blossom and bud, and fill the face of the world with fruit.”*

I will never forget the day I encountered with this

scripture. It changed me and ignited flourishing within me. The prophetic word is that you shall fill the face of the world with fruit. God's plan for you is that your fruit should reach the world, not limited to your state or country. You should fill the face of the world with fruit. That's flourishing.

To fill the face of the world with fruit means that there is something about you that everyone in the world can see. Until your wave reach everyone in the world, you aren't yet there. What is that product, service or skill that the world really need from you? Your impact, success, progress, prosperity must be visible to all to start about. Until people begin to use their time and mouth to gist about you, you aren't yet there.

When you fill the face of the world with fruit, you will trend freely. Some will criticize you while others will complement you. You have to be mindful of what can come out of you to benefit the world. You have to come up with something the whole world will need. Let your success and achievement be too numerous to be numbered. Proverbs 11:28 says *"He who trusts in his riches will fall, But the righteous will flourish like foliage."*

Your Organization Should Flourish

Proverbs 14:11 says *"The house of the wicked will be overthrown, But the tent of the upright will flourish."*

There are people who are flourishing but their company, organization or ministry isn't flourishing. A CEO may be thriving and making wave as an individual but his company isn't thriving or making wave in the field. The reason for this is because for a company to make wave, it requires the collective efforts of brains there. The brand of a person may be stronger than that of the organization he leads or founded.

According to scripture, it's not only the righteous that should flourish, his tent (company, department, ministry or organization) should also flourish. If your tent will flourish, it means the people working with you must be insight driven. Your function determines your flourishing. How you function influences how you flourish. A tent filled with dull people can't flourish. You need inspired, creative and insightful people to flourish. A tent that will flourish will have workers and leaders who are modern in approach, strategic in planning, skilled at execution.

If you have people who are always thinking improvement and adjustment, then, you are assured that flourishing is guaranteed. Improving triggers flourishing. Flourishers are always seeking replacement for the old. You can't flourish by remaining old. You must always be new to flourish. Those who do new things are those who make new wave. If you

can't change how you are currently doing things, you can't keep flourishing.

You Shall Flourish

Psalm 92:12-14 says *"The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, He shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bear fruit in old age; They shall be fresh and flourishing, To declare that the Lord is upright; He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him."*

The palm tree is known for flourishing. The palm tree has different qualities found in it.

Let Others Flourish Through You

Psalm 72:7 says *"In His days the righteous shall flourish, And abundance of peace, Until the moon is no more."*

In the end of your life, can you boldly say that in your day, the righteous flourish? The above refers to a king who gave others the opportunity to flourish in life. In the days of that man, the wicked shall not thrive nor make wave because he would execute justice and implement right living.

You should trust God to take you to a point that others will advance and make wave through you. You are really a hero if others can rise through you.

Somebody must come into influence or affluence

through you.

Become The City Of Palm Tree

You shouldn't just be a palm tree; you should end up becoming the city of palm tree. What is the city of palm tree?

The city of palm tree is a place – a company, organization, ministry, family – where palm tree dwell. In other words, every worker and leader in your place must be a palm tree. It takes inspiration and training to end up becoming a palm tree. So, if there is any company, organization or ministry that takes inspiring and trainings of people seriously, such will end up becoming the city of palm tree.

II

Five Areas You Must Flourish
In

Flourishing in the Body of Christ

You are first on earth before you came into Christ. But I want you to know if you flourish on earth and you're not in Christ, you will later discover that thriving on earth when you are not yet saved is vanity upon vanity. So what is the essence of flourishing on earth without having Christ in you. Even if you don't flourish in the body of Christ, ensure you are in Christ because that is the guarantee for your eternity. Scripture says, if anyone is in Christ, He is a new creation. You can't flourish in the body of Christ when you are not in Christ. That you attend a church or born in a Christian family doesn't get you into Christ. You get saved by believing that Christ truly resurrected and confess Him as your Lord. That moment you confess Jesus as you Lord, you automatically become a member of the body of Christ.

If you are not yet saved, then, this chapter isn't for you. When we talk about the body of Christ, we're talking about the universal church or Christianity. God wants all men saved. You have to believe in Jesus and confess Him as your Lord so that the life of God can be imparted into you. If you are not yet saved, I will want you to pause here and open your mouth boldly to say the following:

“Lord Jesus, I thank you. Thank you for all you did for my salvation. And now, I believe that you are raised from the dead. And right now, I confess you as my Lord. Henceforth, I am yours. Amen!”

If you just confess this, then, believe that you are saved and on the spot where you are, the life of God – Zoë – has been imparted into your human spirit. You may need to write down the date of this day so you can always recall the day you got saved and became a member of the body of Christ.

Now that you are saved, you are now a member of the body of Christ. Evidently, you are qualified to flourish in the body of Christ. Right from the day you got into Christ, God expects you to flourish. You must not end up as a mere church member. There are many Christians in Christ that are unfruitful and unfulfilling. It must be in your consciousness that you must be among the flourishers in the body of Christ.

The Rising Of Flourishers In The Body Of Christ

There are two main factor that must be considered in regards to flourishing in the body of Christ. let's get into it.

1. You must be planted

Psalms 92:12-13 says *“The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, He shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.”*

The first principle that must be established is that you can't flourish in the body of Christ if you're not planted in a church. It is those who are planted in the house of the Lord (a church) that will flourish. No planting, no flourishing. To be planted in a church means you have become a member of a church or better said that you have become a son or daughter in that church.

Planting comes before flourishing. The palm tree must be planted before it can flourish. You have to be planted in a church before you flourish in the body of Christ. You don't need to be planted in church before you flourish in other areas of life, but if you really desire to flourish in the body of Christ, you have to be planted. We are all sons of God in Christianity but we are not all flourishers in Christianity. Among Christians, there are those who flourish while some don't flourish.

Many years ago, I used to teach at a primary school. While in that school, I had this teaching colleague (co-teacher) who used to profess Christianity. But if you ask him which church he attends, he would tell you that he doesn't belong to one church or denomination, he would say he belong to the body of Christ. In fact, he used to say those of us who belong to a particular denominational church or ministry are religious. That brother attended about seven different churches that particular year. He could just decide to attend any church on a Sunday. Since he didn't belong to one church, there was no way he could be planted in the house of God (that is in a particular church). I knew that that brother won't flourish in Christianity because when you are not planted, you cannot flourish.

You've got to understand that the palm tree that will flourish has to grow first. But how can a tree grow when it is not planted? In essence you have to belong to a particular church and grow there before your flourishing can take place. This process of planting shows that you must become a son or daughter in that church. Just as a tree planted will spring forth out of the earth where it is planted, so also, your rising will spring forth from the church or ministry where you are planted. If you will not be part of a particular church or ministry, you can never flourish in the body of Christ.

Let me talk to young people who are at secondary or tertiary institution, you must be planted in a local assembly before you can flourish in the body of Christ. There was a particular trend among Christian graduates and undergraduates few years ago, especially in Nigeria, that had no regard for local churches. There was the assumption that the move of God had left the local churches and moved to campuses which in a way seemed to be true. But the point was that it was the few ones who caught spiritual fire on campus that went back to local churches or start local churches that later flourished in the body of Christ. Except for few people that God called to run apostolic networks and centers. God's expectation is that all believers should have a local assembly where they functioned. If your grace, gifts, anointing, messages, books, etc. will thrive in the body of Christ, you must never disregard the power of local churches or Christian gatherings. You have to move from being a visitor to becoming a member of a particular church. You must belong to a church.

I always counsel people who really desire that God should do something extraordinary through them that they should ensure they locate their place of service rather than seeking to shine. The reason is because your place of service is your place of shining. God will cause what He puts in you to shine when you serve where He has planted you. As a

believer, you should locate the church your heart is deeply connected to. The moment you find that, you have identified where God will plant you. So, being planted in a church is the first way to flourishing in the body of Christ. You need to be planted in a church before you flourish.

2. You must be appointed

1 Corinthians 12:28 says *“And God has appointed these in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues?”*

All believers are appointed by God into different offices in the church. The fact is that you have to be planted first in a church or ministry before you are appointed into an office. During your planting season, you will be taught and equipped for the appointment God has for you. God’s order is that preparation must come before manifestation. You can never manifest in the office God plants you in if you haven’t been planted in a church or ministry. Most people talk about Paul the Apostle as though he never passes through any training in the early church. But that is not true because they have never seen that Paul spent some days with the disciples of the early church after he received his sight (Acts 9:19).

I have seen people who really desire to be like

some people but failed to discover where God has appointed them to serve. If anyone will ever flourish in the body of Christ, such person need to know where God has appointed for him or her to serve. Never expect to flourish when you are not ready to serve. Most people who are founders of ministries or churches today are destined to be assistants to some founders. Many failed to discover early that God will only cause you to flourish where He has appointed you. There are many branch pastors that are doing exploit than many General Overseers. The names of some ministers ring bell in the ears but they are not apostles or prophets. You see, it is not in the title but in the impact. When you study Christian musicians, you will discover that they are people who belong somewhere.

It is essential to know that everyone won't be apostles or prophets, but we all have a role to play in the church. You are not just planted in the church; you are appointed by God to play a role in that church. From the above scriptures, you will discover the office of helps and administrations. These two gifts are often not magnified in the church, yet we need to agree that they are highly essential. Let's talk about the office of helps and administration briefly.

The office of helps –

This we know as helps ministry. Certain units in a local assembly like ushering, choir, protocols,

medicals, sanitation, technical, media, etc. all belong to the help ministry. The fact is that a larger percentage of the church belongs to the help ministry. Too many times, we focus more on the preachers and teachers but failed to acknowledged those who swept the church and arranged the chairs. You may not be the pastor but you can be in the choir or ushering. Every member of a local church must end up having a role in the church. All of us are sons and daughters of God but we also must end up serving our God.

The fact is that all members of a church must end up becoming workers in that church. You can't flourish in the body of Christ as a member of a church, you can only flourish as a worker in that church. The real people that are actually planted in a church aren't the members but the workers. We will know you are truly planted when you become a worker in that church. If you have no role in that church, you have no root in that church.

The office of administration –

This is known as leadership and government. Most pastors also function in this office. Those who function here are saddled with the responsibility of ensuring that effective organization are put in place. Sometimes, we may not see the people working here too but they are effective ones in the church. Many of those who are involved with planning one

program or the other in the church belong to this administrative office in the church.

It is quite unfortunate that many believers remain church members all their lives. They never see the need to belong to a unit or department. The insight I want you to see is that you will only flourish where you are planted and appointed.

All Believers Have Ministry Functions

Ephesians 4:11-12 says *“And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.”*

It should be noted that all believers have functions and tasks in the body of Christ. The above scripture reveals that God gave apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers for a reason. The reason for producing such gifts among men is so they can equip believers – the saints – for the work of ministry. The assumption had always been that the apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers are the ones doing the work of ministry. But this scripture clarifies it that the saints have ministry tasks to carry out. The five-fold ministry is known as equippers designed to equip the believers for the work of ministry.

The equippers are to educate, enlighten and em-

power the saints for ministerial roles and to fit into the place appointed for them by God. Growth and maturity are streamed into the lives of believers when the equippers carry out their task properly. If you are a pastor, you have to know that you are not just a preacher expected to preach Sunday sermon to your people, you are an equipper. A pastor is expected to equip by educating, enlightening and empowering the believers for what God will have them do. A pastor who function more than preaching and carry out the task of equipping will raise giants and flourishers. Whether you are an apostle or prophet, bishop or reverend, you mustn't just be a preacher who enjoy sharing but not after the outcome and effect of what you are sharing. If what you share will not equip the people, you are just wasting both your time and the time of the people.

Scripture makes it clear that the saints are being equipped for the work of ministry. The question then is what kind of ministry are the saints equipped for? This question will drive us to find out the two sides of ministry.

Two Sides Of Ministry

1. Ministry within the church

All believers need to know that they have ministerial role to carry out within the church. With

this understanding, all equippers know that they are equipping the believers for ministry functions within the church. The fact is that all believers have something to do within the church. You should not be a believer who claim he or she has nothing to do within the church. No! All saints have a responsibility to carry out within the church. As a believer, you may not be the pastor, but you can be the usher. In fact, you may not function in a visible part of the church but have a major thing you do that brings effectiveness into the church. All of us cannot be choir neither can we all be protocols, but we all belong to a unit within the church. There is no exemption of responsibility for any saint within the church. As long as you are part of the church, you have a role to play.

The equippers need to teach people and let them know that they are appointed to function in an office within the church. If you don't see yourself in the choir, you may see yourself as a children teacher. You see, all of us belong somewhere. The pastor or apostle preaching and teaching is fulfilling the work of ministry within the church while the children teacher or crowd control officer is also fulfilling the work of ministry within the church. The issue is that in time past we have magnified the preachers and pulpit ministers above those serving in other invisible units. But that is really ending now because

a new wave is blowing and everyone will be content to serve joyfully and effectively wherever God places them.

As believers, you need to take in an obedient spirit. There will be times that the leadership of the church or ministry you belong will place you in a unit or department you may not like, you still have to be obedient and faithfully serve there. It is the faithful that God rewards. Most times, it is in the end you will get to understand the reason God moved the heart of the leader to place you where you are placed. As a believer, you must be ever ready to serve wherever you are placed and be faithful in your service there. You must never be a believer that will have no role to carry out in the church.

2. Ministry outside the church

All believers are ministers. We are all ministers of reconciliation. As a believer, you have the ministry of reconciling the world to God.

2 Cor. 5:18-19 says *“Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.”*

You remember that Jesus commanded that we should all go into all the world and preach the gospel

to every creation. The ministry we have outside the church is to preach Christ to the unsaved. In the past, we used to think that the evangelists are the ones who have the task of preaching the gospel to the unsaved but as we grow in understanding, we discover that the evangelist is also an equipper who has an assignment within the church to educate, enlighten and empower the believers on how to evangelize effectively outside the church walls.

The equippers are to train believers for ministry outside the church. And the fact is that the believer who carry out a ministry within the church and outside the church will surely flourish in the body of Christ. You must flourish in the body of Christ and this can only happen when you carry out your ministry task within the church and outside the church.

Itinerant ministers who go about ministering in word or songs across various denominations in the body of Christ are still ministering within the church. Any activity done among the saints is ministry within the church. It is only when you reach out to the unsaved that we can conclude that you carry out ministry outside the church. There are music ministers who carry out ministry outside the church. When a music minister decides to organize a music concert on the street with the aim of reaching unbelievers, such is really engaging ministry outside

the church. Great evangelists who organize crusades in stadia or various fields with the aim of reaching the unsaved with the gospel, such is really doing ministry outside the church.

Jesus Christ commanded us to go into the world to preach the gospel to every creation. Believers need to understand that they carry out ministry outside the church by going out into all the world. Believers will flourish in the world through getting the unsaved saved when they get into the world to preach the gospel to the unsaved.

Responsibility: The Way To Flourishing

Let your light so shine before men. Taking responsibility is the way to growth. Stop seeking position, start taking responsibility. Positions or titles has never made anyone to flourish. It is taking responsibility that guarantee your flourishing. Every time you reject responsibility, you have rejected flourishing. When you say you don't have the capacity to do it, you'll never have the capacity to do it.

The purpose of the grace on you is to carry out a responsibility. Grace doesn't function on your life until you start taking responsibility. We all have different graces and that automatically suggest that we will have different responsibilities. God apportion responsibility according to the grace

given you. God will never give you a responsibility that you have no grace to carry out. In God's order, it is apportioning of grace before responsibility.

Sometimes, when God moves a leader to give you a responsibility you don't really desire or think you have the grace to carry out, you need to be obedient and diligent to take the responsibility. Grace flows out of our life when we become responsible. In other words, grace flows out of our lives when we get to work not when we wish.

Most believers don't understand the fact that each of us has received a grace to carry out certain responsibility. Let's get into the book of Romans 12:6-8 –

“having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy with cheerfulness.”

The above scripture reveals that we all have the gifts of grace. Let's do a breakdown of each gift of grace we see in this verse. We see –

1. Prophecy
2. ministry
3. teaching

4. exhortation
5. giving
6. leadership
7. mercy (kindness)

You have to ensure you take responsibility to give your grace expression. The easiest way to carry out a responsibility is to belong to a department in a church.

Giving is part of what we're saying. Those who give are part of those mentioned in that verse.

The Existence Of "Replacement"

The amazing thing is that in this kingdom, there's a principle of replacement, principle of takeover, principle of overtaking.

Taking over is different from overtaking while overtaking is different from replacement. I pray you shall not be replaced in Jesus' name. You need understanding because without it, you will not be able to do what God expects of you. I remember those early days of ministry, I would be indoors for hours praying and studying. Sometimes for seven hours, reading and studying. All of that was done because a time of flourishing was going to come later.

When you see someone studying, that person is working out his path to flourishing. It's not by

praying alone, but by adding practice to your prayers. Follow the order, we say you must be planted and belong to a church before you flourish.

Take Responsibility; Give Yourself To Working Effectively

According to the book of 1 Corinthians 15:10, Apostle Paul said he labor more abundantly than they all. He has grace but he still labor.

Like Paul, you must add labor to your grace not to be in vain. You must not depend on labor alone; you must add grace to your labor. The grace on you will only manifest through your labor. To labor is to work effectively. The grace on you will waste if you are not given to labor.

Jesus prayed in the night and work in the day. Jesus is a hardworking person because in the night he would do night vigil and in the day move about working

Romans 12:11 says *“not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord.”*

You must be giving to work for your grace to manifest. Diligence enhances grace.

2 Timothy 4:7 says *“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”*

Paul the Apostle said he kept the faith. That is the faith I got from day I received salvation, I kept it.

Challenges and the earthly things didn't take it

away from him. Paul further said he has finished the race. Don't just be a starter in the Kingdom, you should be a finisher.

Flourishers are finishers. People who are finisher live long. God is going to cause you to live long and finish your race. You shall finish well in Jesus' name.

How To Flourish In The Body Of Christ

1. Flourish in your calling

When some people hear calling, all that comes to their mind is starting a church or ministry. It is needed to know that such is a small part of God's call. In fact, it has been known that God will call less than ten percent (10%) of people to pioneer or start a church or ministry while the remaining over eighty percent (80%) are called to serve in an existing work.

Let me break down certain areas of calling:

a. Called to salvation: All Christians are called into this. This is how we got saved.

b. Called to an office: You can be called into the office of an apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor or teacher. That you are called into any of these office doesn't mean you should start or pioneer a church or ministry. It only suggest that you should function in a spiritual office with specific responsibility.

Some are called into the office of helps – the choir, protocols, ushers, children teachers, etc. Many need

to know that some people already found that they were called into the helps ministry. Don't struggle to be a pastor, just find out what you are made for and you will see evidence.

c. Called to a sphere of influence or geographical location: God can call you to go to a particular location and live there. I remember a time I was told to go to Port Harcourt and I did. I didn't start a church there because God didn't tell me to do such. I knew I was sent to that geographical location and obeyed. I imparted many people there and was used by God to intervene in settling many people's cases spiritually but wasn't told to start a ministry there. I was there for over three months before God told me to leave.

You can be called to a sphere of influence. I remember I was called to focus on young people, campus students many years ago which I did. Later after about five years, I was led again by the Lord not to focus on campuses again. That clearly shows that the time of my call to that area was over.

d. Called to serve with someone: Bishop David Abioye would always say that he wasn't called to start a ministry but called to serve with Bishop David Oyedepo. The problem with many is that they haven't identify their calling. A pastor told me recently how a serving pastor in their church resigned to go and start his own ministry. The

pastor told me that that Pastor wasn't called by God to pioneer any work but his biological mother pushed him to go start his own ministry too. His biological mother told him you should not serve another forever. That clearly shows that that pastor doesn't know his call.

There are people who are called to serve with someone and that would be forever. I hope you remember that Jesus selected the twelve disciples and they were all with him because they knew they were to be with him. In fact, at a time he told them to go, but Peter said to whom shall we go. There are those who have the revelation that they are meant to be with a person forever. Such are those called to serve with others.

e. Called to pioneer or start a work: There are those called to pioneer a work. This starts churches, ministries, networks, missions and so on.

f. Called to support or succeed someone in an assignment: There are those called to support another. It may be financially or materially. Their main work is to give towards the assignment of another.

Beyond this, there are those called to succeed another. These end up as successors to another.

g. Called to an area of assignment: There are those called into singing, missions, writings, etc. Most musicians belong to this. I write books a lot because

I am called into an area of writing. I wouldn't have gotten into writing like I do if I wasn't sure of my calling because I know that if what one writes isn't correct or eternally true, you will affect the lives of many negatively and your error can't be cancelled.

2. Flourish in the church or ministry you belong

You should belong to a department or unit in that church or ministry where you find yourself.

How do you flourish in the church you belong? You flourish there by being effective in a department or unit

3. Flourish in the sight of God

Soul winners for God are flourishers. You flourish in the sight of God by winning souls for God. When you are planted in the house of God, you are bound to flourish. Therefore, as you get committed to bringing in souls into the Kingdom for their establishment, they are planted and beyond that, they flourish. When they are planted and flourish, they go forth and bring more fruits.

Counsel To Women

Women need to know that they also can function effectively in the body of Christ. There are female apostles in the Bible. In fact, women pastored churches in the Bible. I want women to know that

God can use them also and they should be willing to be used of God. Gone are the days women were told not to participate in ministry and altar role, we have seen clearly from scripture that God has a place for women in the Bible.

Do you know that the human spirit has no gender? There is no female or male spirit. That is why the concept that husband and wife can marry each other in heaven after rapture is not true. You can't marry your wife or husband in the new heaven and new earth after rapture. The reason is because gender is for the flesh. That is why all believers will be the bride of Christ. Jesus Christ will be the only bridegroom in heaven.

I want to counsel husbands to permit their wives to function in the church. Don't only restrict your wife to being members alone, let her serve God. Your wife must be relevant in your house, in a field or business and in the kingdom.

Avoid Status Mentality In The Church

The church isn't a place we claim levels. In the body of Christ, we all know that there's nothing called status, what we do is to serve. All of us are serving our Master Jesus Christ. it's by belonging to a church you can be planted. You can't be planted when you don't belong to a church.

Let me answer this question, and the question is

that how can I make effective contribution in the church where I am? As long as you attend that church and your heart is committed to that church ensure you have a responsibility you're doing. Join a department and in a short time, the question you ask will be answered through the responsibility and activities you carry out.

Every responsibility given to you is an opportunity to flourish. Never reject any responsibility given to you.

Avoid Comparison

It is unwise to compare what you are doing with what others are accomplishing. Ministers often compare the attendance in their church with the other congregation. This is unwise. If you are not experiencing results or growth as others are, you will tend to feel you are falling and ill, and not see the others successes you are accomplishing. Growth, blessing and increase occurs at certain seasons during your life cycle and your growth season may be delayed for a time in the future. what may be happening to you may be that your vision is growing in you.

The Real Flourishers In The Body of Christ

Flourishers are those whose impact can't be denied. They are people whose influence has trans-

formed the lives of many. This may happen through their songs, teachings, books, generosity, etc.

It is unfortunate that many are program driven but failed to know that programs are just channels to dispense their flourishing. You can organize conference, programs, summits, conventions, concerts, etc. but must be conscious of what happen during those programs.

You will be a flourisher in the body of Christ when your life can create the path for others to follow. You should shine so bright that another can know what to do just by studying your life.

A flourishing church will keep winning souls – growing numerically and financially. You can't flourish when you are not conscious of excellence in your church atmosphere and during your service.

You will be a flourishing church when your workforce keep increasing. The growth of your worker and leaders must be visible numerically and spiritually. Various departments must keep thriving and coming up with progressive insight without stressing the pastor.

Flourishing in Your City, Country, and Continent

Deut. 28:3 says *“blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country.”*

Any city or country you find yourself, you must flourish there.

Deut. 28:6 says *“Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out.”*

It is the part of scriptures that you believe that will work for you. If you want to flourish in your city, country and continent, engage these:

1. Do something
2. Produce something
3. Build something
4. Start something
5. Say something
6. Give something

That will bless your city, country and continent.

Another fact is that if you want to flourish in your city, country or continent, make what you do visible and accessible to your city, country or continent.

Matthew 5:14-16 says, *“You are the light of the world, a city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”*

Flourishing Sets You Above Only

Deuteronomy 28:13 reveals that God’s plan for you is that you shall be above only in your city and county.

When we talk about flourishing in the city and county you belong, it’s to be above only. Those who are above only are people who are flourishing.

I remember how God once told me that everyone connected to me spiritually shall always be above only. Right from that time, I know my sons and daughters shall always be above only.

Whatever you want to do, ensure that you practice consistency and excellence. You must be excellent in your field.

To Excel means to go beyond. If there will be act of excellence in what you do, there must be an act

of improvement. Keep improving. People aren't excelling because they failed to keep improving.

More improvement leads to more flourishing. If you keep doing the same thing in the same way, you can't flourish in the city, county and continent. You must keep improving. Those who don't improve will regularly struggle but those who improve will easily succeed.

Let excellence become your priority. Don't limit your excellence to the way you see things. Look at those ahead of you.

The secret to be highly excellent is to keep improving. It's improving that makes you great.

When you are excellent, you'll excel.

Improvement draws attention.

Whatever you're doing, ensure you are improving in it.

Transformation start with new picture in your mind.

Many believers aren't flourishing because they refuse to improve. Whatever you're doing must thrive in your city. In other words, your country must know what you are doing.

It is the people that are in your city, county and continent that you must be visible to. To be visible is to be seen and noticeable. Let whatever you do be seen and noticeable.

Use your social media space to show what you're

doing. Do you the amount of money those who are flourishing in their country spend on Advertisement?

Be intentional with doing advert. Advertisement enhances visibility. The law to adverts here is that you must never stop the moment you start. To stop doing adverts will suggest to the public that you have gone into extinction. Talk about what you're doing on social media because you must flourish in the city, county and continent.

No visibility no flourishing. Until you make what you're doing visible that's when those in the city and country will see it.

Don't despise the days of small beginning. The Lord will make you great.

Work on your visibility now. You can't be desiring visibility and hating publicity.

Take time to think about all the great products, great companies and organizations you know, you will discover that they all take publicity seriously. If those great companies are still doing publicity and advertisement, that is to prove to you that you don't stop the moment you start.

Flourishing in Your Field or Sphere of Influence

The palm tree flourish in a field where it's planted.

Your field represent your profession, career or industry.

Your sphere of influence represents the dominant space where you can easily exert positive influence.

The fact is that your field is your sphere of influence.

You shouldn't only flourish alone in city country and continent. You must flourish in your field or sphere of influence.

You must be a palm tree in your field or sphere of influence. It's only when you become Palm tree in your field that word 'flourish' can be applied to you.

Palm tree only flourish where it's planted. Any field where you're not planted, you can't flourish

there. If you've a field, you must be planted there.

You can't flourish and not draw attention. The palm tree draw attention every season because every season is its season. Other trees have their season but not the palm tree.

People who aren't planted in their field can't flourish. But how can you be planted in your field?

You are planted in your field by belonging there and being consistent there. Those who jump from one profession to another without taking time to be patient can't flourish.

The palm tree has the ability to do different things. The focus is doing different things. There could be many people as trees in your field, but be the palm tree in your field.

How To Flourish In Your Field

1. Be the only one that can do what you do.

Creativity is the key.

Be creativity to an extent that you become the only person that do something in your field. You can be trained to do something but one thing is certain, we'll not come out with the same results.

Ensure there's something that you're the only that can do it.

Develop yourself to the extent that in your field, there's something only you can do.

You have to learn to become a specialist personal-

ity. Your promotion will not be according to your certificate but extra competence you have.

If you want to flourish in your field you must be creative to a point that another 'you' can't be found. You focus on that thing so much that you keep improving it.

When you're competent, client will introduce you to one another. You should be able to do many things but have one thing that only you can do.

People don't flourish in their field because others can do what they're doing and as long as others can do it, they are unable to flourish.

2. Develop a skill that is incomparable and irreplaceable.

Some need to attend some professional trainings. Some need to go for a refresher course. Don't market illiteracy, ignorance or limitations. It is worst when you are only giving out but don't take in.

To develop a skill that is incomparable and irreplaceable, you should go for training. You maybe a believer already but not chartered in your field. You can't be speaking in tongues in your office. it's your training and exposure in your career that will advance you in your office.

People talks about Joseph that he was intelligent. People said he's not educated. I can proof it to you

that Joseph was trained. He was educated when he got to Egypt. His boss enlightened him. His boss sent him for training. There are certain heights God can't take you there if you're not intelligent-competent. Joseph didn't go to university but he was trained.

If you aren't trained you can't reign. It is incomparable skill that makes you irreplaceable. If you are comparable, you will be replaceable.

The palm tree is connected to the earth. There are things that come from heaven and there are things that come from the earth. Rain comes from heaven while Information comes from the earth. It is through training (professional education) and exposure that you get information.

3. Put yourself out there in the sight of those who need what you do or offer. If they don't see you, they can't seek you.

Wherever you find yourself, don't just register your presence, ensure you register your intelligence and competence in the mind of people so they don't forget you.

Put yourself out to those who need what you offer. Always bear in mind that if they don't see you or your product, they can't seek you.

The palm tree doesn't hide what it produces. Keep growing but never be hidden. As you are knowing

and growing, you should keep showing. Stop hiding what you do, be intentional to show and spread it everywhere. You can't flourish when you are hiding. You only hide when you have something to protect. Hiding bring protection. Showing brings flourishing. Henceforth, intentionally show your work everywhere.

The palm tree doesn't hide what it has to give or offer. Stop hiding you what you do. You don't flourish by hiding. You flourish by showing.

4. Always find out a better way to be the most demanded, accepted and recommended in your field.

Always find a better way to be the most demanded, accepted and recommended in your field. When you see people or companies spend money on advert because they want people to recognize and recommend them, that tells you that they know what they will get in return would be more than they spent on the publicity.

Two things will cause you to be the most demanded – those are favor and excellence. If you have favor on you and you are highly excellent, you will be the most demanded.

5. You must remain fruitful. To be fruitful is to be productive, successful and relational. You must never stop bearing fruits.

You must remain to be fruitful. Fruitfulness is the key to flourishing. You stop flourishing when you stop bearing fruit. To be fruitful is to be productive. If your productivity can't be stopped, your flourishing can't be stopped.

When you desire to flourish more than other flourishers, you should double your productivity. Don't complain about what is happening around you, you have to know that will more success comes more criticism. You can't be rising somewhere and not be hated somewhere.

When you don't have all the resources, you should still know what to do. Go to God in pray, God reveal to me the next thing to do.

You stop flourishing when you stop bearing fruits. If your productivity stops, your flourishing stops. Where your productivity and continuity stops is where your flourishing ends.

According to Jeremiah 17:7-8. Even if drought and famine, you must continue to bear fruits. "And will not ceased from yielding fruits."

Your challenges shouldn't hinder the consistency of your productivity, success and new relationship. Even when you don't have all the resources, you should still be productive and successful. Only the productive are successful. Productivity brings success and success brings new relationship.

Visioning For Flourishing

You can't experience growth without a vision for growth. Genesis 13:15 reveals that as far as your eyes can see unto you will I give to. At the root of every outstanding experience in life and ministry is vision. Proverbs 29:18 reveals that where there is no vision, the struggle continues.

Vision is fundamental. If you can't see it, He can't give it, you have to see it first before God can give it. Those who flourish are those who have the driven vision to flourish.

Favor And Branding

This is simply the art and science of being preferred. And branding is the key to favor. So you should develop the ability to build a brand, whether a personal brand, product brand or corporate brand.

Branding will only make people know you, like you and trust you. It doesn't mean one will automatically start earning income. To earn consistent income, you must move to sales and marketing.

Build a personal brand that is trusted and remarkable deliberately as part of your development as a leader. Find how you give unique value and let people know. They trust human faces and voices more than abstract entities. Organizations leverage such brands now. Personal branding is very crucial in this digital age, before people buy your product,

they buy you first. They buy from someone they KNOW, LIKE & TRUST. It's one way that you get spoken for yourself without using words, though it may be difficult, in the long run, it surely pays off. Many times it keeps you ahead of others.

When you brand yourself, you position yourself as an authority in your business and field and as such, you earn more respect. To do that you need to share values, because people listen to values, someone that knows better.

There is something known as brand value. Brand value is the 'perceived value', and how often people will choose one brand over alternatives. Brand value is important because when people perceive that a brand is distinct, unique and aligns with their personal values, it's a really powerful advantage.

Sales And Marketing

Selling changed my financial life! As you start building a brand and being known for something, you must simultaneously master how to sell. The only thing worse than being broke is being famous and broke. Trust me. And learning the art and science of selling is how you move people from paying attention to you and actually paying money to you.

To convert fame to credibility and income, sell. And this happens only when one has a problem

solving product or service and an evergreen offer around that product that makes people want to exchange money to get your offered solution.

The fact is that money goes when you buy, comes when you sell and grows when you invest. So, learn how to sell and find something to sell!

I want you to remember that it is stated in Chapter one of this book that everything about the palm tree from the top to root is money. So, everything about you too is money but you need to brand, convert and sell so you can get the money.

Flourishing in Prosperity

There are seven categories of people in the world of prosperity. They are:

1. The debtor
2. The lacking
3. The poor
4. The comfortable
5. The rich
6. The wealthy
7. The flourisher

The fact is that the flourisher is the richest and wealthiest in the world of prosperity. The wealthy is a messenger and worker for the flourisher. Those who flourish have many wealth and much riches. The flourisher doesn't know the amount he or she has in the bank for such don't use as many banks as available.

The flourisher is richer than the government of the richest and wealthiest nations on earth. When the flourisher speaks, governments of nations give attention to them. Flourishers are donors to countries. They give to governments of nations while the rich and wealthy give to individuals or groups. When you can give more than the entire budget of a country without feeling it, then, you are a flourisher.

You are a flourisher when the rich and wealthy keep striving to get a contract from you. You are indeed a flourisher when the government of your country and other country can acknowledge your generosity. If you still give to a community or NGOs, you are rich or wealthy, but when you begin to give to nations, then you are flourisher.

One time, I got the insight that it takes one hundred thousand rich people to have one flourisher and it takes ten thousand wealthy people to have a flourisher. In other words, the properties, money, companies of one hundred thousand rich people will have to be combined together to meet up with all that a flourisher has. And it will take all that ten thousand wealthy people have to be combined together to meet up with a flourisher.

Catch this – there are captains of fifty, captains of hundred, captains of thousand, captains of ten thousand, captain of hundred thousand and so on. This clearly shows that in a situation where you have

ten thousand wealthy people, one flourisher will be their captain. And it will take one hundred thousand rich people to be gathered to be qualified to have a flourisher as their captain.

When one flourisher in prosperity appears, it means ten thousand wealthy people have appeared because that one flourisher is ten thousand wealthy people in one. And when such flourisher appears, it means one hundred thousand rich people have appeared.

We will still examine king Solomon in this chapter but I want you to know that Solomon surpassed all the kings of the earth in riches. That means, let all the kings of the earth had be combined together, it can't meet up with what king Solomon had. You too can be a flourisher in prosperity.

You Should Be In Prosperity

All believers are in Christ but not all believers are in financial prosperity. Yet, we know of many unbelievers that are not in Christ but in financial prosperity. One day, I studied on two things which are:

- a. IN CHRIST
- b. IN PROSPERITY

As I studied, I discovered many scripture that states a person IN CHRIST. That is showing that a person can be inside of Christ.

It will also interest you to know that a person can also be IN PROSPERITY. Let's examine few scriptures that states this:

a. 1 Samuel 25:6 says "And thus you shall say to him who lives in prosperity: 'Peace be to you, peace in your house and peace to all that you have!'"

b. Job 15:21 says "Dreadful sounds are in his ears; in prosperity the destroyer comes upon him."

c. Job 36:11 says "If they obey and serve Him, they shall spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasures."

d. Psalm 25:13 says "He himself shall dwell in prosperity, and his descendants shall inherit the earth."

The above scriptures clearly show that a person can be in prosperity. In fact, one of the scriptures shows one can live in prosperity. It will interest you to know that all these scriptures that we examine are referring to financial prosperity. This clearly shows that prosperity is a realm some people live and dwell.

Now, in the realm of prosperity, there are different levels. Some people are at the lowest level while some are at the highest level. Those at the lowest level are the comfortable while those at the highest level are the flourishers. The rich are at the high level while the wealthy is at the higher level. Regardless of any level you are, you can trust God to move you

to the highest level.

A person like the palm tree is one who is full of wealth. The rich have money and with his money he can buy what he wants.

The wealthy has money, companies, properties and people. Landed properties and human capital are major wealth of the wealthy.

One company make you wealthy.

Flourishing is more glorious than being wealthy.

Glorious levels of flourishing in prosperity shows through many cars, many houses, many possession of lands, plenty money in banks, many businesses, many estates.

The person will have much riches and many wealth. You can see many workers, lands and estate, companies, etc.

The flourisher is superior to the wealthy in that the flourisher has many wealth and riches of many combined together.

You must not just be rich or wealthy, you must desire to be moved to the highest level in the realm of prosperity which is the realm of flourishing.

When you begin to begin to flourish in prosperity, you will have many and excess of all the rich and wealthy has.

The Unlimited and Uncountable level

Flourishers in prosperity have unlimited and un-

countable riches and wealth. If you can still count all you have, then you are either still rich or wealthy. But when you move to that point that you can't count the numbers of lands, houses, estates, investments, companies, workers, etc. that you have, then, you have moved to the level of the flourishers.

The interesting thing about the flourisher in prosperity is that there is a structure that enhances multiplication of all he has. In other words, even though, he can't know and supervise all, yet, all he has keep increasing and multiplying.

The insight I got about the flourisher in prosperity is that their income and profits keep multiplying regularly. Flourishers have something they get from everybody and they are shareholder in other people's wealth. They may not get it directly but the fact is that they get something from everybody.

So, when you hear the word "no limit" in prosperity, it is only applicable to the flourishers.

Who Is A Flourisher In Prosperity?

The flourisher is the person who has what the rich and the wealthy has. There is nothing the rich and wealthy have that the flourishers don't have.

The flourisher has all the rich and wealthy has.
Many companies and businesses,
Many workers and officers,
Many lands, houses or estates

Many investments and royalties
To flourish in prosperity is to have plenty of wealth
and riches.

The Fear of God and Prosperity

Psalm 112:3 reveals wealth and riches will be in
the house of he that fears God.

Prov. 10:15 - The rich man's wealth is his strong
city.

His company and property is his strong city.

Prov. 19:4 wealth makes many friends

God want you to flourish in the world of prosper-
ity.

We must not just win souls; we should invest in
human development.

And there's a difference between winning the soul
of people and training the souls of people. After
people have been won. The next is to be trained and
invested in.

The palm tree is a tree that's unique that has
many things inside of it. The palm tree is full of
wealth. Through the supply and production of palm
oil alone, you can see wealth. We got to really
understand clearly that palm tree is full of wealth.

Everything about the rich is money. But the
wealthy is such that has more than money.

The wealthy has companies, properties and hu-
man capital. One company can get you wealthy.

Psalms 112:3 reveals wealth and riches will be in the house of the man that fears the Lord. If you're such that fear the Lord you'll have wealth and riches.

What's the fear of God going to do to you?

Psalms 25:12-14 says *"who is the man that fears the Lord? Him shall He teach in the way He chooses. He Himself shall dwell in prosperity, and his descendants shall inherit the earth. The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him. And He will show them His covenant."*

Evidently from this scripture, what the fear of God will produce is that it will cause the Lord to teach what he has not taught others. He'll teach you how to prosper. The kind of thing you're not taught in institution God will teach you.

What is the fear of God? The fear of God is the reverence you have for God in your heart.

What makes the rich is their secret. Bear it in mind that God can share secret with you when you reverence him in your heart.

When you fear the Lord, He will fill you with inspiration that will produce wealth for you.

Proverbs 10:15 says "The rich man wealth is his strong City..."

Proverbs 19:4 says "Wealth brings many friends..."

The fact is that you have to be wealthy before you become a flourisher.

With wealth, you will have many friends. But when you become a flourisher, you will many

wealthy people as your friend.

Being wealthy is about having properties, companies and human capital. Wealth has many assets.

Three things that must manifest in your life at old age

Psalms 92:14 says *“They shall still bear fruit at old age; they shall be fresh and flourishing.”*

1. You must be fruitful at old age
2. You must be fresh at old age
3. You must flourish at old age.

That means from now till your old age, you become fruitful. To be fruitful means being productive.

You should flourish to a point that even after your death, you are still flourish through your works and legacy.

Age should not diminish your prosperity. Sustain the revelation that you prosperity must keep increasing even at old age. You should still be fruitful, fresh and flourish.

A flourisher has that ability to buy the wealth of others with calculation.

To flourish in prosperity is to have plenty of wealth and riches.

King Solomon Was A Flourisher

Solomon was the richest and wealthiest in his time.

Solomon was the richest man on earth during his time.

I believe the richest in our time will be God's people again.

It will happen.

The Lord already showed me how people fly private jets to our annual Connect Confluence

I already see the hanger. People are flying private jets.

1 King 10:23 says *"So king Solomon surpassed all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom."*

In the time of king Solomon, he was the richest and wealthiest king in his time. Solomon surpassed others in richest and wealth.

There are different kinds of kings.

1. Political kings – presidents of a country, governors, senators, godfathers in politics, etc.

2. Commercial kings – business moguls, CEOs, Investors, Business Founders,

3. Career kings – top engineers, Directors, Permanent Secretaries, etc.

4. Royal kings – monarchs, traditional chiefs, community leaders, etc.

5. Spiritual kings – top pastors, chief herbalists, Imams, etc.

The fact is that king Solomon surpassed all these kings in his lifetime.

2 Chronicles 7:5 says *"king Solomon offered a*

sacrifice of twenty-two thousand bulls and one hundred and twenty thousand sheep. So the king and all the people dedicated the house of God.”

He was rich to extend that when he gave out, he will never felt it. The church of Christ is coming to a point where we'll not use church money to build church again. I already see it. We're talking about the level you'll buying things without calculation.

Palm tree are known to flourish and you can flourish. In 2018, I read about Solomon who gave one thousand animals out and since then I've determined that I will build one thousand churches for God. But as at 2022, it has changed. It is no longer one thousand, it's more than that.

1 King 10:27 says *“The king made silver as common in Jerusalem as stones and he made cedars trees as abundant as the sycamores which are in the lowland.”*

In the days of Solomon. he makes silver so easy in the country.

God is ever ready to make you a flourisher if you're ready for him.

if you read the verse 1 kings 10:28, you will see Solomon was importing horses from others county.

Trust the Lord so much that in your time you'll be importing things you want to use. Wait for it.

The Secret of Flourishers

I want to share a secret with you in the dimensions

of flourishing

This is a secret. If you really want to be a flourisher. The way to becoming a flourisher.

I hope you know that what they called the Palm tree has plenty things in it. Follow me carefully.

A maize can take a limited time to grow and you'll can harvest it but for the palm tree is take a long time to grow and one thing is certain, the palm tree has reproductive ability itself.

For you to harvest maize the next season you've to plant again.

2 Corinthians 9:6 says *"But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."*

The second part is what I want you to get. Listen to this am sharing to you. He who sow bountiful will reap bountiful. Before your prosperity begins to come, if you want to move to this level of a flourisher, you must sow bountiful. This is the secret of Solomon and if you know the secret, you can reproduce it.

Your prosperity can't be calculated. Expect God to rain His blessing on your work that your harvest will be too much.

Yes, you must have a work and be diligent. You can be wise and poor, if you don't know how to commercialize your wisdom.

You can't be giving bountiful and not reap bounti-

ful. Be such that you pay attention to the vision and thought that comes into your heart after giving.

When you give, what the Lord will return back to you bountiful are ideas, opportunity and vision that can bring you plenty. Make sure you believe those ideas and visions when they come and engage it.

In Conclusion, as you're be very sensitive, always ask the Lord what you sow. Regularly be sensitive to listen to God for instructions or take the decision yourself.

And you'll be surprised how God will change your level. You know I said you must flourish to your old age. Doing it your old age. You've to know that secret. Rains comes from God. You need to be intention to sow it.

Flourishing in the Last Days

We are in the last days since the day of Pentecost.

How? God said, *“In the last days, I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh...”* The last day began the moment God released the Holy Spirit upon all at the upper room. The last days is a period of time that began from the day of Pentecost till the day Jesus will return.

There is a difference between the last day and last days. The last days is the period between the day of Pentecost till the rapture day. The last day is the day of rapture.

You should flourish in the last days. Till Jesus return, whether you are on earth or gone to rest, you should keep flourishing through your work. You must emerge among the believers that will command great exploit on earth.

You Should be a Kingdom Leader in the Last Days
YOU SHOULD BE A KINGDOM LEADER IN
THE LAST DAYS

Flourishing in the last days positions you automatically for leadership in the last days. True leadership is when your character and results compel men to follow you and your God.

Leadership is obtaining permission to influence people by deploying your gifts and abilities.

Influence is ability to compel men to buy into your ideology without using force or cruelty.

The way we live, talk, build, dress are products of external influences.

With influence, you become a voice to government and citizens. May God open the doors of those in governance to you.

If you are only heard by Christians, you are not really valuable. Your audience should not only be Christians. Your life and influence should impact both Christians and non-Christians.

People will sit under an enlightened pastor that add value perpetually to them. So also, people will sit under an enlightened person that has whatever can add value to them.

There is a kind of light you share and shine that will keep men and kings coming to you.

You don't queue in the air but on the ground. The difficulty of the plane is to lift, the moment it lifts,

there's enough space in the air.

Champions don't know where the finish line is, their focus isn't to finish but to remain. You must keep improving so you can remain a champion for long.

God willed the whole of earth to Abraham. The three most powerful religion in the world came from Abraham – Jewish, Islam and Christianity. Abraham is long gone, but his faith is still speaking today even in this last days. You also should ensure that your life and ministry keep speaking even in the last days.

You must rise, shine and reign

God delayed the blessings for you to grow into it.
flourishers grow

You have seen your throne, but you need a strategy to get to your throne.

When you have nothing, you need faith to survive but when you have something, you need management to survive.

God sets the stage, you need to set the scope.

Whenever you are attacked, go low. Don't speak or fight, be silent. The palm tree has the quality of bending when the wind comes. Sometimes, you have to bend so you are not cut off.

When the wind blows, the palm tree bends and rise again. Palm trees bend, it doesn't fall.

About The Flourishing Leader

You are not the soldier doing the work but the strategist formulating strategy. You are the *strategia*. The duty of a leader should be to regularly come up with strategy for others. Your people are your executors and implementers while you are the strategist.

Note:

Give strategy along with every assignment

Give strategy along with each department or branch

Give strategy for the work of each person

To really thrive and make wave in the last days, you must engage strategies that will keep you at the realm of victory always. Let your strength continually rely on your strategy.

Find Out What God Hides In You

There are many things God hide in the palm tree which hasn't been discovered. Flourishers have more within them than they have discovered.

God hid all the treasures of knowledge and wisdom in Christ Jesus

God hid your life with Christ in God

God hides your future and greatness in you

God hides your generations and grandchildren in you

God hides himself in unapproachable light

God hides himself in Christ and you

III

You Are a Flourisher

You Are a Flourisher

Combine Diligence with Excellence

Diligence is being consistent in everything. You can't flourish when you aren't consistent in doing something.

Excellence is performing at your highest level possible.

Excellence is being the best at what you do.

Diligence and excellence moves you faster and higher.

Know These

1. Know your fruits – Don't do or be everything. Everything isn't uniqueness.
2. Know the fruit to bear every season – be sensitive and adaptive to the flow of every new season. Know what your current season

demands.

How to Keep Flourishing Till Old Age

Every time you get a vision, you capture a future.

You can't keep flourishing when you don't know what to keep doing or changing.

Vision is God is creating 20, 30, 40 years ahead in you.

God is creating 20, 30, 40 years ahead in you through vision

Never despise the small beginning of that vision, you may not know whether the small starting of that vision is a journey of thirty years before manifestation of it.

Flourishers keep bearing fruits even till old age.

Be A No-Limit Person

Flourishers are no-limit people.

The palm tree isn't limited to one or few fruits.

Just like the world keep discovering more about the palm tree and all in it, so also, let the world discover new things in your field or industry through you.

If you will be a no limit person, you must be ready to do the unusual and uncommon.

A no limit person must be given to trying new things in the field as his creativity flows.

Engage Regular Fasting And Prayers

Prayers and fasting is not for punishment but for flourishing.

If you take fasting and prayer seriously, you have entered the realm of flourishing.

You won't suffer dry seasons again if you can take fasting and prayers seriously.

When you consistently fast, you will be continually guided on how to remain flourishing.

Use prayers and fasting to advance the work of God in your hand.

Fasting and prayers get your root downward and bear fruits upward.

In fasting, you are empowered to destroy the rulers of darkness and access light.

As the light break forth, you begin to see what you need to do to keep flourishing

What He shows you is what you show. And what you show makes you a show.

He shows it,

You show it,

You become a show.

Jeremiah 33:3 says “call on me and I will answer and show you great and mighty things which you know not.”

He will show you great and mighty things during the season of fasting and prayers and as such, you are empowered to flourish again.

God isn't just a prayer answering God but a question answering God.

Give me, give me isn't as valuable as show me, show me. Let him show you the fruit to bear.

Show me the way to go. Those who go the right way always cause waves.

Give Attention To Study

Studying is essential for flourishing.

Continuous studying grants access to fresh insight and greater secrets to continuous flourishing.

Great flourishers are disciplined readers.

They don't only read books, they read atmosphere, trends, divine signals.

Flourishers go from strength to strength not weakness to weakness.

Palm trees are flexible but powerful. Its flexibility doesn't diminish its strength.

Flourishers Are Starters

You have to be planted before you can flourish. To be planted means to have started.

Starting what you are shown is the process to bearing fruits.

Flourishers Have Backbiters

Flourishers are frontliners.

You can't be in the front and not have backbiters.

Just know that your critics and backbiters are already at your back.

Having backbiters is a sign that you are ahead.

Be A Follower Of A Flourisher

Following and flourishing go together.

If you follow the steps of a flourisher, you will end up as one.

The model you follow determines the hero you will become.

Set Goals To Flourish Each Year

If you really want to flourish, set goals that will keep you on high.

Pursue your goal and ensure you meet up with it.

Set your record breaking goals and financial goal every year.

It is through goal setting you surpass your previous achievements.

The thing about your dream is that it does not require for you to know, every single step, but what it does require is that you take the next step. It is when you turn your dream into goals that you can know the steps to take.

Learn to translate your goals into action plans and acts on them.

Invest In People

You are a limited resource as an individual. The only way to multiply impact is to multiply leaders.

A foreman still can't do the job of four men but his impact can be extended through deliberate investments in people development.

Being structure outweighed being gifted. Structure your gifts and vision.

Any system without structure has no future. An organization without structure will eventually be fractured.

Catch These Insights

1. To make new friends, treat unknown people like you've been friends before.
2. If you want to win awards, be the best. If you want to actually win, be the only.
3. Meditation upgrade your software but actions upgrade your hardware.
4. The world wants to know you for one thing. Do everything you want, but possess one idea.
5. To be heard, don't be the herd. Be the shepherd.
6. When you are good, people will tell you. But when you are great, they will tell others.
7. If you want to be ahead, create new steps. If you are following steps, you are falling behind.
8. In life, lots of people know what to do, but few people actually do what they know.

9. If we want to direct our lives, we must take control of our consistent actions.
10. Decision making is the father of action taking.
11. Repetition is the mother of skill.
12. Abraham and Isaac avoided strife. Even at personal loss, they knew strife in heart is worse than any physical loss. Abraham gave up lands and Isaac gave up his father's wells. Run the race set before you ignoring barking dogs. Avoid strife – it is a roadblock to the future.
13. Follow the path of the great and imitate those who have been supreme so that if your results don't excel them, it will equal them.
14. It is impossible to produce superior performance unless you do something different from the majority.
15. Faith isn't I will have it, I will be it or I will get it. faith is I have it, I have become it and I already got it.

Why Are Some People Doing Better Than You?

The fact is that there are people doing way better than you right now and the shocking thing is that some of these people don't know half of what you know, yet they are doing better than you. They are doing better than you not because they are more skilled, connected or more popular than you are.

No! In fact, they are not doing better than you because they are more talented or has better life opportunities than you.

Those doing better than you are simply because they took action, even when they didn't have a full understanding of what they were doing. They took a leap of faith and backed it up with a rugged determination and great work ethics. They didn't sit and analyze every day to end up doing nothing. They didn't sit to keep browsing the internet all day for more information. they took actions on the little they have learned and they got progress.

The people doing better than you right now are so because they refused to procrastinate and submit to their fears. They are more willing to test and go again without giving up or losing momentum. Stop sitting, start doing.



About the Author

Niyi Makinde is an apostle, author and crusader. He is the author of hundreds of books on multiple subjects. He writes with high inspiration and creative wisdom. Great leaders recommend his books. As a minister, he is widely known for healings and miracles.

Apostle Niyi Makinde is the pioneer and president of Rebirth Global Church, a network of churches across the globe. He is also the pioneer of Connect Global, a larger body of churches and ministries across the globe. He hosts the annual Connect Confluence, a global gathering of many believers, various churches and ministries.

Niyi Makinde is highly esteemed and respected by great leaders. He is known for simplicity, in-

tegrity and uncommon wisdom. Many great leaders consider him one of the wisest and greatest among men. He is a father-figure and oversight over many churches, ministries and Christian networks.

Also by Niyi Makinde

Apostle Niyi Makinde has written many other insightful and powerful books, among which are:

1. Divine Instructions
2. 12 Laws of Divine Instructions
3. Breaking Life Code
4. The Revolutionary Apostle
5. The Power to Prosper
6. The Power to Become
7. 53 Laws of Excellence
8. Church Shift
9. Business Sense
10. Dealing with Human Enemies
11. Wisdom for All-Round
12. Wisdom Power
13. Prayer Force 1
14. Multiply
15. Tithing
16. You Are Different
17. Phronesis for Dating
18. Dating, Marriage and Sex
20. The Power to Get Wealth
21. Spiritual Fatherhood
22. Managing Divine People
23. Understanding Honor
24. Flourish And Grow 1

25. Faith Dimension 1
26. Ministry Laws 1
27. Secrets to Supernatural (Financial) Abundance
28. Running like the Deer
29. Prayer Force 2
30. Making Things Happen
31. You Are a Seer
32. 79 Insights Into Favor
33. New Creation
34. Prayer Education
35. 20 Facts about the Human Spirit
36. Supernatural Visions
37. Understanding Church Systems
38. 11 Facts about the Human Mind
39. The Holy Spirit
40. Dominion in the Realm of Abundance
41. Soul Winning Manual
42. Maintaining Sound Health
43. Faith for Abundance
44. New Levels
45. Wisdom for Abundance
46. The Power of Meditation
47. Understanding Supernatural Dreams
48. Stop Multiplying in Affliction
49. Communication Ethics in Ministry
50. Ministry Ethics 1
51. Warfare for Honor
51. Wave of Increase

52. Praise for Favor
53. Ministers Training Manual
54. Breaking Joy Code
55. The Power of His Name
56. You Are a wonder
57. Roar and Soar
58. The Minister and the Ministry
59. Grace Factor
60. Subdue and Dominate
61. Flourish and Grow 2
62. Overtake
63. Victory over Afflictions
64. The Power of Patience
65. Stand out to Step out
66. Shining like the Sun
67. 30 Channels of Wealth
68. Breaking into Laughter
69. The Power to Dominate
70. Enjoying Health
71. Stronger than the stronger
72. Battle for Wealth
73. Wealth Transfer
74. Maximum Protection
75. The Power to Be on Time
76. Power Activators
77. The Essence of Obedience
78. The Power of words
79. Planting a Branch Church

80. Power Dimensions 1
81. The Power to Live Long
82. The Power to Deliver
83. The Power to Bless
84. Raising the Dead
85. The Power to Heal
86. The Power to Separate
87. The Power of Diligence
89. Financial Prosperity
89. Business Success
90. On Top
91. How to Live Long
92. Warfare for Long Life
93. The Hand of God
94. On Pornography
95. 11 Streams of Healing
96. Fresh Insight
97. Money Sense
98. The Power of Prophecies
99. High Flyers
100. Be Creative
101. No Limit
102. Understanding
103. Dealing with Impossibility
104. Highly Favored
105. You Can Prophesy
106. Expand
107. Entering into Fullness

108. 8 Kinds of Men
109. The Headship Anointing
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111. Church Formation
112. Ministers' Personal Development
113. Time-Planning
114. Manifesting Excellence
115. Decoding the Blessing of Tithing
116. Pastors Manual on Marriage Matters
117. Understanding Spiritual Father-Son Relationship in Ministry
118. The Art of Leadership
119. Visioning
120. People Skills
121. Forever on Top
122. The Flourisher
123. Your Reality Today Daily Devotional (for teenagers)
124. New Beginnings Today Daily Devotional (for adults)

