



LFC Ikorodu Digest

SEPTEMBER 2023

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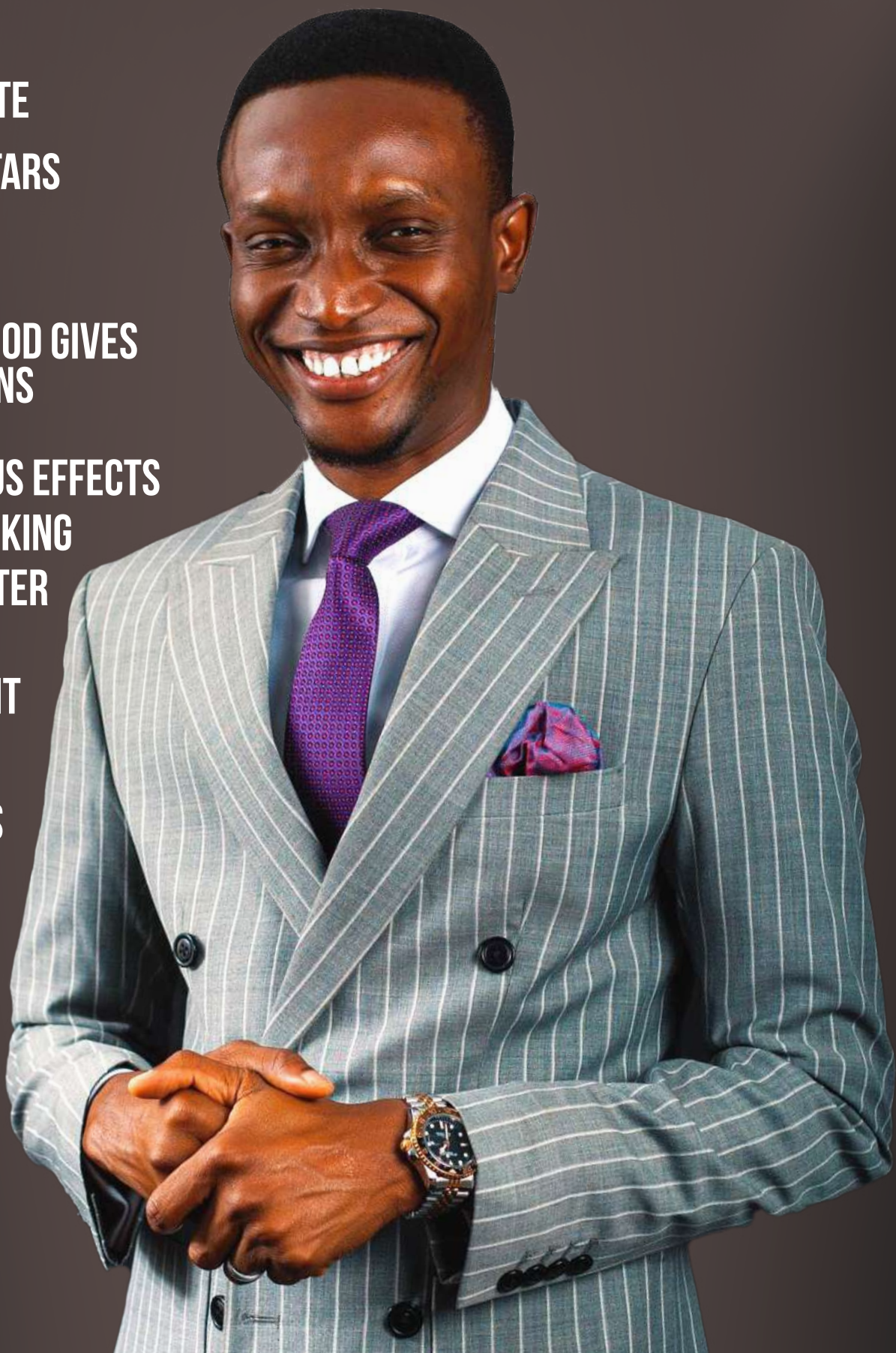
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Editors' Note

Dear Beloved Members of the LFC Ikorodu Family,

I trust this newsletter finds you well and thriving in the grace of our Lord. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to you for your unwavering support and commitment to the vision of digitalizing the spread of the gospel. As we step into October, I invite you to embark on an exciting adventure with us.

In this edition of the LFC Ikorodu Digest, we are thrilled to introduce a brand-new column, 'Winners Style.' This column will showcase some men and women of our congregation beautifully adorned in their Sunday best, exemplifying the elegance and grace that comes from walking in the light of God's Word. It's an opportunity for us to celebrate not just our outward appearance but also the beauty of our hearts, transformed by the love of Christ.

But that's not all! We have a special treat for you. We have captured the essence of our recent event, Upgrade 2.0, where leaders from various sectors of the economy graced our congregation with their presence. The pictures and stories from this event will inspire and uplift your spirit as you witness the intersection of faith and excellence in the real world.

I encourage you to read this newsletter with an open heart and a keen spirit. Let the

words and images within bless and elevate you in every area of your life. Our aim is not just to inform but to transform, and this edition will do just that.

Furthermore, I implore you to share this newsletter with your family and friends. Let them partake in the blessings and inspiration it holds. Together, we can spread the love and teachings of Christ far and wide, making a positive impact on our community and beyond.

As you dive into the pages of this newsletter, remember that you are part of a remarkable family, Winners Chapel Ikorodu, where love abounds, faith is unwavering, and excellence is our standard. Thank you for being an essential part of this journey.

May this month bring you divine favor, unending joy, and a deeper revelation of God's boundless love.

In His Grace and Glory,

Eniola Adejumo



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KINGDOM STARS SPOTLIGHT

Pastor Stephen Ogah

We are blessed to live in a generation where God is raising a mighty army for Himself. In this episode of Kingdom Stars Spotlight, we have the privilege of shining a light on Pastor Stephen Ogah, who is married to Bishop David Oyedepo's first daughter, Love Oyedepo. This read promises to be informative and inspiring.

Who Is Pastor Stephen Ogah?

Pastor Stephen Ogah serves as Special Assistant to Bishop David Oyedepo. His deep passion for the Word is evident, and his sermons reflect a profound understanding of the Scriptures. He communicates in a relatable manner, making his messages easily understood. He is, indeed, a servant leader in a time when many aspire to lead without serving.

Passion for Youth and Education

Pastor Ogah holds a deep concern for the youth and places significant emphasis on education. He believes that equipping the younger generation with the Word of faith and knowledge is essential for the growth of both the church and the community.

Faith in Action

Pastor Stephen Ogah's faith extends beyond the pulpit. He engages in charitable endeavors, such as his recently concluded outreach in partnership with the Love in Action Global Foundation, of which he is the founder. Through this outreach, men and women experienced the tangible move of God.

actively
medical

In Conclusion

Pastor Stephen Ogah is an exemplary preacher. His unwavering commitment to the Word of God, his compassion for others, and his dedication to servant leadership make him a beacon of faith and virtue in our community. As we continue on our spiritual journeys, may we be inspired by his remarkable example of what it means to live a life dedicated to the service of God and others.



You can follow
Pastor Stephen Ogah on
Instagram @officialsteveogah.



WHY DOES **GOD** Give INSTRUCTIONS?

For many of us born into Christian families, especially in this part of the world, we accepted certain beliefs without questioning them. However, questioning the rationale behind these beliefs is not rebellion; it's an attempt to gain understanding and appreciate their consequences.

In our spiritual journey, the concept of divine instruction holds immense significance. This seemingly simple question delves into the very heart of our faith and relationship with the Almighty. In this exploration, we will uncover the profound reasons behind God's instructions and how they shape our lives.

How It All Began

Genesis 1 and 2 lay the foundation for understanding why God gives instructions. After creating humanity, God did not leave us to wander aimlessly. Instead, He blessed us with purpose and provided instructions to guide us along the path of righteousness. This is a testament to His love and care for His creation. But why doesn't God leave us to explore life's mysteries on our own and discover things for ourselves?

The Wisdom of Divine Guidance

The fundamental reason behind God's instructions lies in His omniscient nature. We, as humans bound by time and limited knowledge, often overlook potential pitfalls and consequences of our choices. God, on the other hand, possesses perfect knowledge of our past, present, and future. He understands the intricate workings of our lives and is aware of the challenges that lie ahead. Thus, His instructions are like signposts on a treacherous road, guiding us away from delicate traps along the way.

Lessons from Israel's Journey

The books of Exodus, Numbers, and Leviticus vividly illustrate God's instructions to His people, Israel. As a nation forming after their exodus from Egypt, the Israelites received detailed instructions for various aspects of life, from worship rituals to moral conduct. This was not an arbitrary imposition but a deliberate act of divine wisdom. Through these instructions, God sought to mold them into a nation that reflected His holiness and righteousness.

What Instruction Has God Given to You?

Scriptures reveal both general and specific instructions, depending on circumstances and individuals. God reveals specific instructions to us in due season, aligning with His nature as a patient and understanding Father. He recognizes our capacity to absorb and implement His guidance, ensuring that we are not overwhelmed by the weight of His instructions. Jesus, in John 16:12, mentioned having many instructions for the disciples, but their level of growth couldn't bear them, so He delayed for a season.

Think of Joseph, who received specific dreams foretelling his rise to power, and Moses, who was directed to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. These instances highlight the personalized nature of God's guidance. He intricately weaves His instructions into our life stories, guiding us toward the purpose He has ordained for us.

Analogy with Parents: A Glimpse of God's Motives

Throughout the Bible, instances of parents providing instructions to their children align with God's motives – to protect, nurture, and shape the child's character. Proverbs 1:8 (KJV) states, "My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother." Here, the intent behind parental guidance mirrors God's motives – to guide and nurture out of love. God corrects and instructs us to help us grow spiritually and better fit into His plans.

Instructions as God's Strategy for Transformation

We see this illustrated in the battle for the freedom of the Israelites from slavery. The children of Israel had no part in the first nine plagues. However, when the time came for them to change levels and possess their inheritances, a strange instruction came: to slaughter an unblemished lamb in a unique way. In that seemingly senseless instruction lay the key to their liberation. When they were to take over Jericho, they were instructed not to fight but to walk around the city in a peculiar pattern and shout on the seventh day. The miraculous happened to their amazement.

*It does not matter how instructions from God sounds to your mind, **JUST DO IT!***

Are you fond of disobeying instructions because they seem insignificant?

Conclusion

The question, "Why does God give instructions?" leads us on a journey into the heart of our faith. Please note that God's directives are designed to guide our freedom toward righteousness and purpose, not to stifle it. Just as a loving parent guides their child, God imparts instructions out of His deep love for us. His instruction to Adam was for protection, not deprivation. As members of Winners' Chapel Ikorodu and the larger body of Christ, let us embrace these instructions with humility and gratitude, recognizing that they are the threads weaving the beautiful garment God intended from the beginning.

7 Dangerous Effects of Not Drinking Enough

Water

Do you find it very uneasy to take a cup of water even when you just had a meal?

What do you usually go for when thirsty, a soft drink or a bottle of water?



Someone once said, "If only water tasted sweet, I'll drink it regularly". If you're this person, it means you barely drink enough water.

Water is essential for the optimum function of the body in diverse ways. The importance of water can never be over-emphasized.

Here are pointers to why you should always have a water bottle wherever you go:

Wrinkled Skin

The skin serves as a barrier protecting internal organs.

It is exposed to the ever-changing weather daily which is why we need to take good care of it by drinking sufficient water to nourish it from the inside out.

Also collagen, an essential protein that maintains the integrity of the skin will break when you don't take enough water. This would make the skin crack and thin white lines will form causing wrinkles.

When we do not take enough water, the skin will look aged, flaky and saggy. Dry skin also makes you prone to injury, delays wound healing and is favourable for acne.

Headaches

Do you know the brain is made up of 73% of water?

Before you go ahead to take pain relief for a headache, ask yourself if you have taken enough water for the day because dehydration can cause headaches.

If you haven't, take water as it provides relief without taking medicine.

Weight Gain

As surprising as it sounds, it is true.

Remember when I asked earlier about the choice of drink you would go for when thirsty (soft drink or water)?

We sometimes confuse thirst with being hungry and go for food over water; this is because lack of water in the body makes us crave sugary things and also interferes with the body's ability to get energy stored in the body from previous meals.

Taking sweet things when your body has enough puts you at risk of gaining weight which is why it is advisable to drink water before eating as you may eat less, especially if you are trying to lose weight.

Taking enough water daily gives insight as to whether you're hungry or thirsty hence controlling the amount of carbs that get into your system.

Kidney Stones

One of the functions of the kidney is to remove toxins from the body, thereby producing urine as a medium to pass them out of the body.

When water is insufficient to make urine, these toxins deposit in the kidney and form stones which cause severe back pain.

The large stones often require surgery to be removed while the smaller ones will be urinated out of the body (which is quite painful) provided the person affected drinks a lot of water as recommended by the health provider or might even take IV fluids (drips).

Bad Breath

Suffering from bad breath lately? Have you considered the amount of water you take daily?

Water is important in the production of saliva that helps to rinse bacteria away from the mouth to maintain healthy tongue, teeth and gums. If you don't like drinking water and you have bad breath, you need to hug water closely.

Poor water drinking habits negatively influence the production of saliva to be little and cause bacteria to build up in your mouth. By drinking enough water daily, you may notice a change.

If bad breath persists, see a certified health provider for a check-up to rule out other possible causes such as diabetes.

Urinary Tract Infection

When your body lacks water to sustain metabolic activities, the kidney tries as much as possible to reabsorb water into the body thereby reducing the amount of urine you make..

When you pee in small quantities and the urine looks darker in colour, has a bad odour and is cloudy in appearance, you may be dehydrated.

This also means your body lacks enough water to remove toxins and harmful bacteria along the urinary tract thereby predisposing you to urinary tract infection.

Boosting your health by taking enough water daily is proven to keep urinary tract infections away.

Constipation

Are you passing hard stools lately?

To promote good digestion and keep your stool soft, you need to take a sufficient amount of water.

Your body hydrates itself by absorbing water from stool and that makes it hard, dry, firm and difficult to pass.

This could make you strain and stress all your muscles when you need to pass stool and put you at risk of haemorrhoid also known as piles

In conclusion

Do you find it difficult to take water? Try adding a squeeze of lime or any fruit of your choice to give it a taste.

Take at least 3 litres per day, which means If you take sachet water, popularly known as pure water, (50CL), taking 6 of them daily is the right way to go. If you prefer table water (75CL), you need to take at least 4 bottles daily. If the weather is hot, you should take more.

Except if you are allergic, water is a must-have in your daily activity as it revitalizes and helps to flush away toxins from the body.

Water is so important and should not be overlooked when eating, working, exercising or partying. You can tell if you are taking a sufficient amount of water daily when your urine is looking clearer, lighter and has less odour.

Proverbs 25:25 Good news from far away is like cold water to the thirsty.

MOSAIC OF SERVICE

WHY Join a Service Unit in Church?

In a world where your sense of belonging and connections define not only your worth but also your trajectory in life, stepping into a service unit within your church family is the best transformative choice. You might already be a cherished member of an active local congregation, but have you ever dared to imagine the extraordinary possibilities that await when you leap to join a service unit? Read on as we uncover the wonders of serving within the body of Christ.

Understanding the Significance of Joining a Service Unit

To comprehend the significance of joining a service unit in church, let's start by defining what a unit represents. A unit, in its essence, can be seen as an individual entity or person, complete in itself, yet capable of forming an integral part of a larger, more intricate whole. This notion beautifully mirrors the dynamics within the body of Christ, where each member possesses unique potential, gifts, and capacities.

Imagine a mosaic, though every piece varies in size, is unique in shape and color, and fits perfectly to create a stunning masterpiece. Likewise, a tree is not itself without the componential connection of the branches, leaves, and stems which eventually make room for the fruits. This is the essence of a service unit in church - an assembly of individuals, each a distinct masterpiece, yet harmoniously working together to craft something greater than themselves. Just as a single tile contributes to the grand mosaic, you, too, possess unique potential, gifts, and capacities that can interlock with others to create something extraordinary.

Biblical Foundation for Service

Apostle Peter reinforces this idea in 1 Peter 4:10-11 when he says, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." This scriptural admonition resonates immensely, underscoring the fundamental principle that every believer is endowed with distinct talents and abilities intended for service to God within the Christian community.

The Witness of Christian Community

Francis Schaeffer, a renowned theologian, once articulated a profound truth: "Our relationship with each other is the criterion the world uses to judge whether our message is truthful. Christian community is the final apologetic." These words encapsulate the tangible expression and acknowledge the essence of the body of Christ as a vital tool, beautified and adorned to perfection, revealing the truth of the gospel in deeds and

The Call to Serve

Mark 10:45 says, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Benefits of Active Service

Practical faith has been established long before now; we have learned and seen that God is not a user of men but he is a rewarder of those who diligently seek him (Hebrew 11:6), and serving God pays the most. In the soul search for meaning, to live a fulfilling and impactful life, serving in a unit guarantees priceless platforms and empowers for Spiritual Growth and Stability. Below are some benefits of being an active member of a unit:

1. **Exercise of Faith:** Serving within a unit is akin to embarking on an exhilarating adventure of discoveries. It's the thrill of discovering your unique role within God's grand narrative and experiencing the joy of fulfilling it. Hearing the word, you get to put it to work on the platform of service (Acts 2:44-45).
2. **Operating Kingdom Mandate:** As instructed by Christ, we are called to serve one another. Joining a service unit is a formidable platform where you could engage in a divine brainstorming session and give your time to God in watering others. Your ideas, talents, and contributions mingle with others, sparking innovative solutions and initiatives that bless the church and community (John 13:14-16).
3. **Pace Setter:** When you serve God through a service unit, you're setting a pace, contributing to an eternal legacy. Your acts of love and service create ripples that extend far beyond your immediate sphere, impacting generations to come.
4. **Covenant Life Insurance:** A covenant deal as sure as dawn is set to become operational on the altar of service in a unit. The God of heaven promised to bless us as we are committed to doing our part by serving (Exodus 23:25-26).
5. **Glorified Church:** The church is not the physical building but men and women who come together for the sole interest of worship. Joining a service unit fosters deeper connections within your church family. You form bonds with like-minded individuals who share your passion for service, creating a supportive network of friends who uplift and encourage one another (Romans 15:6).
6. **Assured Spiritual Growth:** A mustard seed is never considered great or tangible until it becomes buried deep in the soil, embracing its lowest point and undergoing transformation. In the context of spiritual growth, a service unit serves as a fertile ground for this process. Engaging in acts of giving and serving aligns you with God's purpose and His transformative power. As you immerse yourself in service, your faith deepens, your comprehension of God's Word expands, and your relationship with Him flourishes (2 Peter 3:18).

7. Joy and Fulfillment: It is blessed to give than to receive. There's a unique joy that accompanies serving others selflessly. Witnessing the positive impact of your actions on individuals and the community at large brings an unparalleled sense of fulfillment (Acts 20:35).

A Testimony of Transformation

In conclusion, here is a shared testimony with proof of the great grace and rare privilege of God via joining a service unit. I pray you are stirred up to take your own miracle by answering this call for your change of story and level:

TESTIMONY: SUPERNATURAL CHANGE OF LEVEL VIA SERVICE UNIT

I joined the commission in 2013 and ever since, I engaged in one service unit or another based on my location at that time but was always genuinely active. Whenever I gave my time and resources to service, I saw divine strength and enablement, and I would get carried away and back down for a while then return again. This was my story until I was persuaded to join a unit again. Before joining a unit, I was out of a job for no serious reasons, things were not going so well around me. I joined the Publicity unit in August 2023 and actively engaged as much as I could. Within the same month, God changed my career story around, gave me clarity of vision, and surrounded me with men who are passionate about my growth and well-being, and more numerous growth channels opened up. To God be all the Glory.

-Janet. A.O.

The space of joining a service unit in the church is not just an option but a compelling invitation to a transformative journey. It is a pathway to spiritual fulfillment, personal growth, a deeper connection, and a practical walk with God. Moreover, it offers an opportunity to be a living testament to the Gospel message, reflecting God's love and grace to a world in need. So, if you're wondering whether to take that step, remember that in serving God, you reap rewards that are beyond measure, for "serving God pays, and it pays the most."



IS CHRISTIAN DRESSING TOO STRICT OR FORMAL? IS IT RIGHT FOR CHRISTIANS TO WEAR REVEALING CLOTH?

By Afolake Togun

Dressing is a piece of material used to cover and protect the body. Modest dressing refer to a fashion trend in women of wearing less skin revealing clothes, especially in a way that satisfies their spiritual and stylistic requirement for reason of faith religion or personal belief.

What we wear on the outside should be befitting or proper for women who profess godliness. The external should express and match the internal (1 Timothy 2:10).

"Modesty has a lot more to do with the condition of our hearts than with the specifics of our wardrobe.

In church settings, discussion about modesty focus predominantly on female clothing. Many teachers emphasize that men are visually stimulated. Women are told if they dress in a way that is overly sexual, they can tempt their Christian brother to sin and may end up in sexualizing themselves.

Women who were raised in the church are well aware of the bible instruction to dress modestly. Women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel with modesty and self-control.

Dressing modestly mean first that we are not defiant toward God. We choose clothes that are decent in the eyes not clothes that are provocative, seductive and honour nakedness.

"God ordained clothes to cover and not draw attention to our naked skin."

Modesty is not just applicable to women or women clothing. It is also a trait that the bible promote for men.

UPGRADE 2.0 (e-merge) - A Triumph and a Resounding Success!

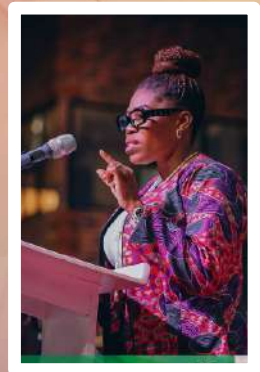
YAF CORNER

One of the most highly anticipated events in Ikorodu took place on September 16, 2023, at Winners Chapel Ikorodu, and it exceeded all expectations. Upgrade 2.0 was a dream realized for both participants and the audience. Despite heavy rain, enthusiastic and creative young minds flocked to the event in large numbers to gain knowledge and insights from our seasoned keynote speakers and panelists. They actively engaged in every session of the event.

As you peruse the pictures below from various segments of the event—from the red carpet session to the live session, panel session, sales and exhibition session, award session, and much more—it's evident that your anticipation for Upgrade 3.0 will soar even higher.



YAF CORNER

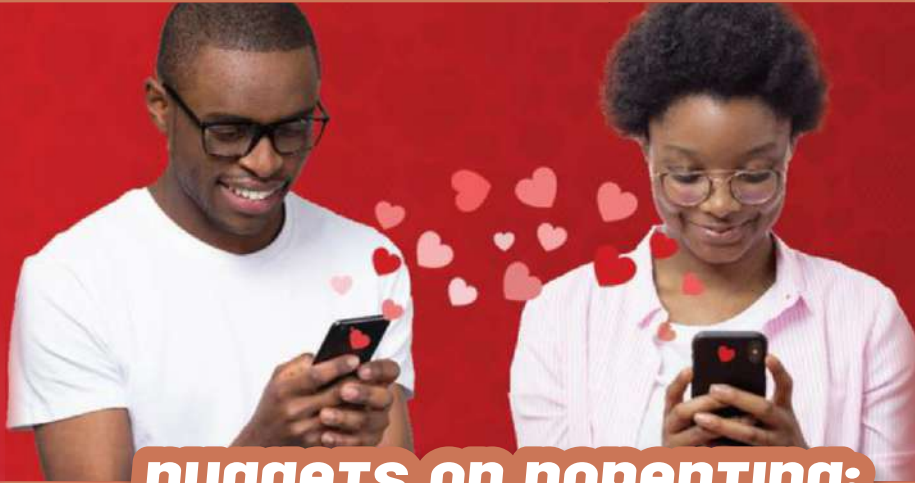




YAF CORNER



YAF CORNER



nuggets on parenting: **SEX EDUCATION FOR YOUR TEENAGERS**

Sex education serves a dual purpose: it equips both boys and girls with information and materials to prevent unwanted pregnancies and protect themselves from

STDs, while also empowering and enlightening them.

Sex education encourages open communication when their sexual rights have been violated or, at the very least, helps prevent such violations. With this knowledge, they will know whom to approach and seek help from. Many children become victims of sexual predators, experience violations of their sexual boundaries, and struggle to discern when or to whom they should turn.

Teenagers can be more open about sexual threats, harassment, or discomfort they may encounter without fear or shame.

Parents should play a crucial role in educating their children—both male and female—about their bodies, including their genitalia, as well as the risks and dangers of early sexual activity. These conversations should occur well before they reach their teenage years. Avoid shielding them from reality, as this may only pique their curiosity, which can be dangerous at a young age.

It is the responsibility of parents to ensure their children have a basic understanding

before they venture out into the world. Ignorance has been identified as a major root cause of high rates of sexual abuse and early pregnancies in minors.

Absolutely sit down with them and find out what they already "know"; some of their knowledge may be inaccurate. Provide them with books that explain how bodies mature, what infectious diseases are, what pregnancy entails, and the stages of pregnancy. Be honest and use accurate medical terminology for body parts rather than vague euphemisms. This approach keeps them informed and aware.

Become comfortable discussing sex education with your teenage boys and girls. It should not be perceived as an awkward or taboo subject. Fostering open communication will result in having children who feel comfortable sharing everything with you, even when you might find it challenging to hear.

Consider who else you believe should educate them about their bodies and related issues—someone in a back alley or perhaps in the back seat of a car? Reflect on this and take immediate action.

Winners' Style



12 Pillars Of The Commission

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

Do you know the 12 Pillars of the commission?

scan the QR code below to join and send answers to Winners Chapel Ikorodu Telegram and the first five people to correctly answer would be published in the second edition of the newsletter.



SCAN this or click
the link below to
send in your attempts

<https://t.me/winnerschapelikoroduchathub>



**Winners' Chapel Int'l Ikorodu
is now on**

Spotify

Winners' Chapel Ikorodu

Appreciation

The editorial team appreciates the support of every member of the Media & Publicity Unit that contributed to the success of this maiden edition.

We appreciate our unit pastor, Pastor Kolawole Abraham and all past and present leaders & executives of the unit.

May God bless you all.



LIVING FAITH CHURCH

AKA WINNERS' CHAPEL INT'L IKORODU

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